

The Ammonite

A weekly newsletter for students, parents, carers, families and friends of Wellsway School

Issue : 1042 16th September 2022

Message from the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers

Within our dreams and aspirations, we find our opportunities.

I would like to thank Wellsway students for their efforts in school to make the start of term such a positive one - in this week's edition we celebrate some of the many things that have happened in school since Monday.



Whether in lessons or in attending a new activity after school, it is clear students are building for their futures in the true spirit of our school. Our wonderful young people have been demonstrating our values of respect, opportunity, collaboration and aspiration **to be the best they can be.**

This spirit was very evident in the performance of the Futura Oratorio on Tuesday evening, such an inspiring event and one which was dedicated to the memory of Queen Elizabeth II. Students from all of the Futura schools came together and created such a professional performance with the support of teachers, parents and carers.

This week we have also spent time in school discussing the death of Queen Elizabeth II with our students. Staff have been calmly helping children and young people to understand why and how we mourn; what it might mean to live through the end of the second Elizabethan age; and to understand how to cling to optimism even when life feels ever more challenging.

On Monday 19 September, all schools will be closed for the State Funeral for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II as a mark of respect.

We look forward to welcoming our students back to school on Tuesday and to the opportunities the rest of this term will provide; now when we pause our daily life to reflect, this quote seems apt:

"We all need to get the balance right between action and reflection. With so many distractions, it is easy to forget to pause and take stock." Queen Elizabeth II

Best wishes

Rob Pearsall
Principal & Executive Head of School
Wellsway School and IKB Academy

Key dates

Monday 19th September

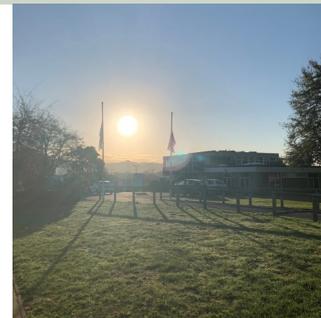
School closed for state funeral of Queen Elizabeth II

Thursday 22nd September

Year 6 Open Evening 6-8pm

Tuesday 27th September

Year 6 Open Morning 09:05-10:45am



Student Attendance

Attendance—A reminder that when sending emails regarding student attendance, please send them to our enquiries email inbox -

enquiries@wellswayschool.com

with the subject FAO Attendance Improvement Officer Ms Louise Fox or email direct to Ms Fox

lfox@wellswayschool.com. Please do not email direct to Miss Lucy Fox - lfox@wellswayschool.com who is one of our science teachers.

We realise that this is an easy mistake to make and thank you in advance for your support with this request.

Mr Ive



'HM Queen Elizabeth II, 21 April 1926 – 8 September 2022'

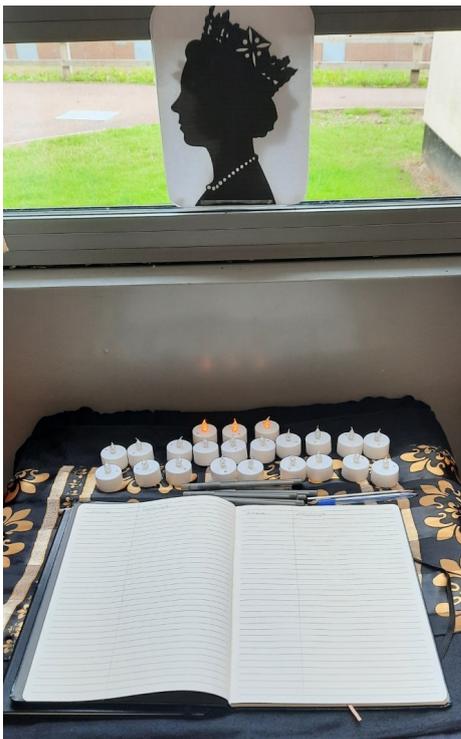


On behalf of our entire school community, we offer our sincere condolences to the Royal Family on the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

We are profoundly grateful for the life and legacy of Her Majesty and we offer His Majesty King Charles III our very best wishes as he becomes our Sovereign.

Assemblies this week

Assemblies this week celebrated the life and dedicated reign of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II. Students were given the opportunity to reflect on the 70-year reign of Her Majesty and how the country has changed within that time. Operation Unicorn and Operation London Bridge were explained and how this provides the public with a platform if they want to express their grief in the build-up to the funeral on Monday. There was a final reflection on potential changes during the reign of King Charles within England and the Commonwealth over the next few years.



Book of Condolence

In remembrance of Queen Elizabeth II, a book of condolence has been opened in the library.

Since her death, leaders of other countries have described her as "warm", "kind", "funny", "wise" and "dignified". "She will be sadly missed." If you would like to sign and leave your own message, the book is available to all staff and students.

If you are unable to make it into the library, but still wish to leave a message of condolence you can also do so online:

<https://www.royal.uk/send-message-condolence>



Remembering our Queen

On Friday 9th of September, and early this week, the humanities department dedicated tutor and lesson time to pause and reflect on the life and achievements of the late Queen Elizabeth II. Wellsway students covered some of The Queen's wide range of achievements, from her meeting with her first Prime Minister, to her ground-breaking visit to Ireland in 2011.

Mr Whittle

Queen Elizabeth II



Life

Born: 21 April 1926, London

Died: 8 September 2022, Balmoral Castle

Monarch

1952 to 2022



Elizabeth Windsor, born 1926



Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II
1952 to 2022

Ruled for 70 years



Wellsway School

Developing confident, respectful and successful young people

The life of Queen Elizabeth II



World War 2
1939 to 1945
Driver



Her First Prime Minister
Sir Winston Churchill
1952



Handed Bobby Moore the World Cup 1966



Meeting
Nelson
Mandela, the
President
of South Africa



Meet the Tutor Evening

Last night, we welcomed parents/carers and students for our now annual Meet the Tutor Evening. We believe this is a really important opportunity at the start of the year for parents and carers to be able to put a name to the face and have someone they know they can contact. We look forward to building on these relationships and want to thank parents for their feedback and comments. In the coming weeks we will be sending out further information on key dates for each year group and documents which cover our curriculum journey for each year.

It was a lovely evening and our Year 11 prefects deserve a special mention for their confident hosting of the evening. We believe that Wellsway School is a unique community, one that believes in and actively promotes the traditional values of courtesy, respect, and compassion. Our prefects demonstrated that last night in the way they conducted themselves and interacted and supported parents and made us all incredibly proud.

Mr Pearsall



Proposed Merger with Clevedon Learning Trust – Information Sessions

A reminder that we will be holding two information drop-in sessions for parents/carers and governors. These will be informal sessions and members of the Executive and Trust Board will be in attendance to explain the merger process and rationale, and answer questions. Please pop in between 4pm and 6pm if you would like to find out more or have any questions. They are taking place at the following times:

Tues 20 September 4pm – 6pm Wellsway School (Mendip Hall)

Thurs 22 September 4pm – 6pm Cheddar Grove Primary School (main school hall)

If you have any questions at this stage you can also email them to proposedmerger@futuralearning.co.uk



Mrs Arlidge



Music News

We were thrilled to take 100 Wellsway students to perform the Futura oratorio at Bath Forum, alongside other students across Futura Learning Partnership on Tuesday. 400 students from across Futura gathered for an afternoon rehearsal followed by an evening performance. It was an incredibly special performance and received no less than two standing ovations!

Learning an instrument: We were particularly proud to see so many instrumentalists from Wellsway in our orchestra at the oratorio and they have inspired the next generation! Already students have been asking about learning an instrument. We use BANES Music Hub as our instrumental teacher provider. Use the following link to sign up your child. <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/BANESMSAutumnLessonApplication2021> Ignore the 2021 reference in the link, it updates when you click on it!

Music Clubs

We are delighted to be launching our Music clubs from next week. Feedback from last year has inspired us to run two additional choirs. Students do not need to attend all choir rehearsals which run throughout the week! We are renaming our Friday 8am choir a Chamber Choir. It is open to any student who enjoys singing. We will be focusing on four part harmony. However we became aware that not everyone who enjoys singing could make that rehearsal. Therefore we will now run a choir on Week A Thursdays after school. This is also open to everyone from Year 7-13. We will cover the same repertoire as the 8am choir, plus a few more pieces. Finally we shall now run a Year 7 choir every Monday lunchtime, which will be supported by some of our KS4 students. **Please note that there will be no Choir on Thursday next week due to Open Evening and no Chamber Choir on Friday due to the previous late night.**

Here are the clubs running this term:

Monday lunchtime M03 Year 7 Choir - Make friends with like-minded people! Bring your lunch.

Tuesday after school saxophone Choir 3.15pm-3.45pm M03

Wednesday 8am-8.30am - Orchestra M03

Wednesday after school 3.15pm-4.30pm, Soul and Funk Band, auditions M03

Thursday **week A**, after school, 3.15pm-4.15pm - Whole School Choir, everyone welcome M31

Friday 8am-8.30am - Chamber Choir, all welcome, four part harmony M31

Friday lunchtime Q03, Year 11 GCSE Composition support

Friday lunchtime Brass Ensemble M03

Ms McLean



Futura Oratorio - We did it!

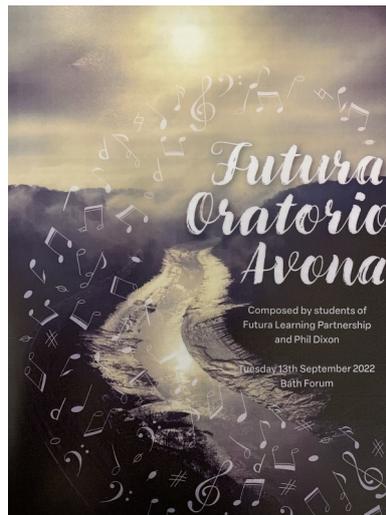
On Tuesday we had children from ten Futura schools perform the Futura Oratorio at the Bath Forum. The final performance was fantastic and Phil Dixon the composer was utterly delighted and asked me to pass on his thanks to you all.

Feedback has been wonderful and it's clear we created a unique, memorable experience which will stay with pupils and students for a lifetime.

It has been such a huge pleasure visiting schools, meeting staff, singing with students and creating a musical community.

I know that many have given up their time to support this and I am hugely grateful for everyone's positive, can-do attitude!

Ms McLean



I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff and students involved. It was a wonderful and inspiring performance. I received this lovely feedback for Ms McLean and the children and wanted to share this as it summarises the commitment and performance exactly.

"We thoroughly enjoyed the evening and were so impressed with the polished, professional performance.

It really did sound amazing and the standard of musicianship of the orchestra and choir was so high. The intricacy and complexity of some of the harmonies and the effects created with the instruments, vocals and even use of hands was exceptional, especially for children to get to grips with, remember and perform so flawlessly.

Everyone was brilliant and I can't believe how well it all came together especially after such a long break because of the delay.

Your commitment, enthusiasm and talent as always has resulted in such a memorable experience for so many - one they will never forget."

Mr Pearsall



Netball Club

We had an amazing number of girls turn out for Year 7 Netball Club this Wednesday. 44 girls in total attended the practice on Mendip courts in the sunshine. It was fantastic seeing them working together, learning names and making friends with students from other primary schools. If you didn't attend this week, please feel free to come along next Wednesday from 3.15-4.15pm.

Mrs Burston



Sport extra-curricular programme for lunchtime 2022 - 2023			
Term 1			
	Sports Hall	Astroturf	Activity Studio / Glastonbury
Monday	Badminton Examined PE (Years 10 - 13) Miss Barron	Football – Rota (Duty staff)	
Tuesday	Indoor cricket – All years Mr Barter	Football – Rota (Duty staff)	
Wednesday	Badminton – All years Mr Evans	Football – Rota (Duty staff)	Year 7 Transition Glastonbury Mrs Burston
Thursday	Sports Hall Athletics – Years 7 and 8 Miss Spink and Mr Barter	Football – Rota (Duty staff)	Dance – KS3 Mrs Leader
Friday	National Schools Netball / GCSE PE Netball Miss Barron and Mrs Leader	Football – Rota (Duty staff)	

Other lunchtime clubs available



Developing confident, respectful and successful young people



Other afterschool clubs available



Sport extra-curricular programme for afterschool 2022 - 2023			
Term 1			
	Sports Hall / Netball Courts	Astroturf / Field	Activity Studio / Glastonbury
Monday			
Tuesday		Hockey - Years 10 – 13 Miss Barron KS3 Girls Football Mr Knowles Rugby – All Years Mr Barter, Mr Bye, Mr Doherty, Mr Evans, Mr Ive	
Wednesday	Netball – Year 7 Mrs Buston		
Thursday	Netball – Years 8 and 9 Miss Spink Netball National Schools – U16 and U19 Mrs Leader		
Friday			Dance – Years 10 -13 Mrs Leader



Developing confident, respectful and successful young people





School Production

We are really excited to start rehearsing our School Production next week which will be a showcase of musical songs and scenes through history! If you want to be involved in the show as either a chorus member or a dancer, then please come along to our first rehearsal next week on Tuesday 20th 3.15-4.30 in M31 as we will be starting to rehearse our big chorus numbers.

Everyone is welcome and we can't wait to see you then!

Bristol Schools Rugby U18

Good luck to year 12 student Dan F who has been selected to represent Bristol Schools Rugby U18 against an Argentinian touring side on Thursday 29th September. We wish him the best of luck and look forward to hearing how he and the team get on.

London TCS Mini Marathon

Good luck to Ewan S who has been selected to represent the South West of England road running team at the London TCS Mini Marathon Championship in October. We wish Ewan and the team the best of luck and look forward to seeing how they get on.

Archery

Congratulations to Liam B in year 7 who recently represented Somerset in the Gran Western Archery Society (GWAS) Intercounty Youth Championships.

PE

It has been fantastic to see so many students taking part in extra-curricular sport over the last couple of weeks. Next week our fixtures begin and they are identified opposite. Parents/carers are more than welcome to watch their children taking part.

Next Week's Sports Features

Tuesday 20th September:

Year 8 and 9 Netball @ St Gregory's

Under 16 Hockey @ St Gregory's

Year 7, 10 and 11 Rugby v St Gregory's @ Wellsway.

Wednesday 21st September:

Year 7 Netball v Oldfield @ Wellsway

Year 8 and 9 Rugby @ St Gregory's.

Lockers

It has been good to allocate so many lockers to Year 7 students this week. Next week we will be allocating lockers to students in any year group so it is not too late for any Year 7s who do not yet have a locker. Students should bring their padlock and proof of payment (they will be allowed to turn their phone on briefly to show evidence if necessary) to meet Mrs Rogers at the times below. Students who are eligible for Free School Meals are only required to bring their padlock and say "My name is on the list" when asked for the receipt. Please ensure your child is familiar with how the padlock works - this includes removing it from the packaging and setting the combination code if relevant.

Come to the session in the building in which you prefer to have a locker ie Lansdown or Mendip. To enable us to do this as swiftly as possible, only students who will be leasing a locker should come along at these times. Whilst we have needed to cancel the session planned for Monday, we are confident we can accommodate all Lansdown requests on Tuesday.

If you have not paid for a locker, it is not too late! Go ahead and make the payment of £10 online now.



ALL YEAR GROUPS WELCOME

LANSDOWN BUILDING Outside the library	Tuesday 20 th September – 1.30-2.00pm
MENDIP BUILDING Outside M09 & M10	Wednesday 21 st September – 1.30.2.00pm
MENDIP BUILDING Outside M09 & M10	Thursday 22 nd September – 1.30 -2.00pm



HOCKEY ACADEMY

Secondary Academy (for those in years 7-11)

Wednesday 5.30-6.30pm during school terms 1-4

Friday 3.20-4.20pm during school terms 1-6

Primary Academy (for those in years 2-6)

Friday 4.30-5.30pm during school terms 1-6

Hockey Heroes (for those aged 5-8)

8 week introductory programme running once or twice a year. Dates published on club website as and when available.

ALL SESSIONS HELD AT WELLSWAY SCHOOL SPORTS CENTRE ON NEW ALL-WEATHER PITCH.

New members welcome at any time of the year.

We are happy for new players to come along and give it a try for a week or two before committing to joining.

Membership subs currently £75 for the entire winter season (terms 1-4) including all training and match fees.

50% discount for those joining after Christmas.

Please see club website for further details.

www.keynshamhockey.club



England Hockey Level 3 coach with over 25 years of experience



Friendly, community-based hockey club



Dug-outs for parents to sit in during sessions