

THE AMMONITE

www.wellswayschool.com

Issue 878 * 2nd February 2018



WELLSWAY
SCHOOL



Student absence line 0117 9161030

Dates for the Diary

Parent, Carer and Student 'Need to Know' Dates			
Year	Activity	Date	Start Time and Venue
For All Year Groups	End of Term 3 INSET DAY – School Closed	08/02 09/02	3:30pm finish
7			
8			
9			
10	Ski Trip to Italy	09/02	Return 17/02/18
11	Support for Success Evening	06/02	6:30pm – 8:00pm
12	A Level PE Revision Course	07/02	Prior Park School, Bath
13	A Level PE Revision Course	07/02	7.45am-12.45pm

A 'Good' from Ofsted

I was pleased to announce this week that Ofsted have confirmed that we continue to deserve the rating of good, which we received in February 2014. Their letter which highlights a number of strengths is available on the school website as well as the areas that we are already working on to improve.

As parents of children who are at the school, I trust that you are pleased with the report and I thank you for your continued support and cooperation. Looking ahead, I can assure you that the staff here and across the Wellsway Multi Academy Trust will do all that we can to ensure that the students' experience at Wellsway School is even better.

Non-Uniform Day – Thursday 8th February

Students often ask me to authorise a non-uniform day. In recognition of their efforts this term we would like to have a non-uniform day on Thursday 8th February. This is the last day of Term 3, but may I remind parents/carers and students that there is no early closure, we finish at our usual time of 3.30pm. There is a suggested donation of £1 with 50% of funds raised going to the PTA and 50% to a local charity yet to be decided. Thank you for your continued support.

Developing Confident, Respectful and Successful Young People

Our mission at Wellsway School is to "develop confident, respectful and successful young people." This week I have witnessed examples of all three of these attributes.

It was a pleasure to welcome so many parents and friends to Wellsway this week to enjoy our school production of A Night at the Musicals. The students were extraordinary and gave an outstanding performance. There is clearly some considerable talent in Performing Arts at Wellsway School. The performances from Amy Nicholls and Beth Mitchell I found particularly impressive and moving. What I was most pleased with was the inclusivity of the show; its breadth and depth with around 100 students participating in some way! Taking to the stage in front of a full house every night is a fantastic opportunity to build confidence and shape character. A massive thank you to staff, especially, Miss Davies, Miss French and Ms McLean (giving up many evenings and even weekends for rehearsals); and parents, carers and students for their support for this year's school production.

At Wellsway School success is not just about securing academic success through excellent exam results. Success in all facets is just as important for the young people we serve. Last weekend we saw Wellsway School's Under 19 netball team compete in the Regional Schools' South West Tournament in Bournemouth. There were 14 schools in each age group, with two teams qualifying from each county in the South West. Wellsway was one of only two state schools in the Under 19 age group, so even qualifying for the event was a great achievement. The girls played exceptionally well, winning the first four matches, then narrowly losing their fifth match and losing their sixth. These results meant that they just missed out on qualifying for the semi-finals by one point, finishing joint fifth. This is the fifth year in a row that Wellsway has reached these finals and four of the team have played in this event for five years in a row. Congratulations to Millie Stanford, Freya Money, Kim Knight, Gemma Knight, Lucie Harrison, Sophie Haskins, Georgia Hennessey, Erin Hanratty and Sophie Martin. Not forgetting Lucy Brown and Amy Dixon who played in earlier rounds to reach the tournament, but were unable to attend.

Special thanks go to Miss Randall and Mr Evans who gave the team the opportunity to compete by travelling to Bournemouth and ensuring all the organisation involved with such an event was carried out. Without such strong commitment from staff we would be unable to offer these experiences.

We continue to work to ensure that students show respect, to their community and also their environment. We were delighted on Sunday to welcome the Keynsham Wombles to our family of schools: Wellsway School, IKB Academy, Chandag Juniors and Chandag Infants. A number of staff and students came out to join the Wombles in a litter pick around the perimeter of the schools. It was a fun few hours and showed the schools to be a strong part of the local community. Thank you to everyone who was involved.

Mr Woodville

Exam Information

Year 8 Maths & English Tests - Tuesday 6th February

On Tuesday 6th February, Year 8 students will take hall based Maths and English tests. These tests are of vital importance as they help teachers, students and parents/carers to gauge progress. They allow us to identify strengths and areas for development, an essential process in improving learning and achievement.

Students will need to go directly to the hall where they are taking the tests 15mins before the scheduled start. See below start times and a list of which classes are in which hall.

8:45am Maths (1hr)

Mendip Hall: Classes - Dr Watson (8LW/Ma), Mrs Morgan (8MW/Ma), Ms Gosrani (8ME/Ma)

Drama Studio: Classes - Mrs Mitchell (8LE/Ma), Mr Breathnach (8LL/Ma), Mrs Wilson (8LS/Ma)
Glastonbury: Classes - Miss Nambiar (8LY/Ma), Mr Carl (8ML/Ma), Miss Taylor (8MS/Ma)

11:05pm English (1hr)

Mendip Hall: Classes - Miss Grout (8LW/En), Miss Kurton (8MW/En), Mr Cooke (8ME/En)

Drama Studio: Classes - Miss Kurton (8LE/En), Mrs Bayliff (8LL/En), Miss French (8MS/En)

Glastonbury: Classes - Mr Thomson (8LS/En), Mr McGettigan (8LY/En), Miss Swinscoe (8ML/En)

Exam timetables

2018 season is now available on the school website and can be found by clicking on the following link:

www.wellswayschool.com/student-area

This will provide you with the date, time and duration of exams taking place. Students' individual timetables detailing just the subjects and exams they are taking will be given out in March 2018. **Mr Yockney**

Parent / Carer Evenings

Year 8 Parent/Carer Evening

Our Year 8 Parent/Carer evening is taking place on Thursday 8th March. You will be notified nearer the time but please remember

appointments can only be made using the parental login and **NOT** the students therefore please check your Insight, should you need a reminder of your username or have any questions please email

insight@wellswayschool.com

Mrs Pells

Insight – Parent Portal

We have a small minority of parents/carers not yet engaged with Insight; therefore if you need a reminder of your Username or require any advice or guidance please contact insight@wellswayschool.com where we will be happy to help you.

Mrs Pells

Student Support

Diphtheria/Tetanus/Polio and Meningitis ACWY vaccinations for Year 9 students

Last week your son/daughter brought home a consent form, letter and information leaflet. Please ensure the consent form is completed and returned in its entirety to Student Support AS SOON AS POSSIBLE even if you do not consent to the immunisations.

Immunisations will take place on Thursday 8 February in the morning. If you have any specific requests concerning this immunisation please contact the School Nursing office on 01225 831666 Monday - Friday during school hours.

On the day please ensure your son/daughter has eaten breakfast and that he/she wears a top that can be easily rolled up. **Mrs Dursley**

English News

The Return of Christmas

Year 10 and Year 11 students were treated to a momentary return to Christmas when Quantum Theatre company visited the school to present *A Christmas Carol*.

With only one set, three actors and a variety of props, the company re-told Dickens' famous novella, proving a useful revision opportunity for all of the students in Key Stage 4.

Some of the comments made by students include, 'I think it was good because it stuck to the original story', 'It was useful that quotes from the actual story were included because this really helped me revise', 'Some of Dickens' language was easier for me to understand'.

Overall, an entertaining hour that has given students even more confidence about the summer exams.



Miss Brooks

Music News



Extra-curricular activities in Music will resume after half term following the changes made to accommodate school production rehearsals and performances. **Ms McLean**

Careers Update & Information



The Careers Centre is open to all Wellsway School students on Mon - Thurs, 8.45am - 3.30pm. Please just drop in or you can email me with any queries or to book an appointment:

amillard@wellswayschool.com

Mrs Millard

Burges Salmon are holding a **free Law Information day** specifically for GCSE students Tuesday 13th February 2018

<https://www.burges-salmon.com/careers/trainee-solicitors/insight-days/>



Access to Music (Media, Music and Gaming specialists) – Taster Day
Saturday 24th February
www.accesstomusic.ac.uk

ULaw –(University of Law) are running a variety of free events for next year;
Explore Law; Wednesday 14th March 16.00 – 18.45 (year 10, 11, 12 students)

Get Into Law; Wednesday 11th July 10.30 – 16.00 (year 11 & 12 students)
<http://cc.law.ac.uk>

Trips and Visits

Strasbourg Visit

Many thanks to all parents and carers who have already paid the third instalment for Strasbourg and a polite reminder to anyone who hasn't yet! A stage payment of £150 was due on 1st February bringing the total paid so far to £400 with a remaining balance of £164.50 due by 9th April. **Mrs Ewins**

Year 12 and 13 A Level PE Revision Course - Prior Park School, Bath – Wednesday 7th February, 7.45am-1.30pm

Year 12 and 13 Berlin Visit 2018 Information Evening

A reminder that an information evening for students and parents/carers will take place in C05 on Tuesday 20th February, 6.00-6.30pm.

Please ensure you bring your passport and EHC with you to be checked by staff; we will not keep these documents after the meeting. We look forward to seeing you there.

Sport Wellsway

Wellsway Sports Ambassadors and Sports Leaders are Superb!

Wellsway hosted a Tag Rugby festival last week for 120 Year 6 children from our local primary schools. The festival was organised and run by 20 Sports Ambassadors and 10 Sports Leaders from Years 8 and 10. The students took responsibility for planning their own coaching sessions which they delivered to a group of ten primary children. They led the sessions confidently, demonstrating excellent communication skills and using their initiative when things didn't quite go to plan! The children then had the

opportunity to put these skills into practice in competitive games, playing alongside team mates from other schools.

A particular mention to Charlie Hodges, Will Brookes, Lucas Bennett and Brandon Baker, who did an excellent job of refereeing these matches. Well done to all the leaders involved who were, as always, superb role models for our primary children.
Mrs Burston.

Fundraising



Please support your Friends of Wellsway PTA by signing up with Easyfundraising.org

There is lots of free money out there available to the school; but we can only get it with your help!

You may remember last month we asked you to consider signing up with Easyfundraising.org so that every time you shop online, your retailer can send us a donation. We have already raised £18.79 - all the more remarkable because we only have 8 parent supporters who have signed up to this. Imagine if we had 80 supporters – after a year we could raise close to £2000. This is money that would be put to good use supporting our children and improving their school experience.

So please help us! All you need to do is:

1. Go to:
<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/wellswayschool/> and join as a supporter.
2. Search for your online retailer on the Easyfundraising.org site and click on the retailer's link provided.
3. Do your shop as normal and after you've checked out, that retailer will make a donation to us for no extra cost whatsoever.

Thank you, and please encourage family and friends to sign up too.
Friends of Wellsway PTA



Wellsway School – Lunch Food Serving Pod

Tesco Bags of Help Scheme
Wellsway School PTA are pleased to announce that the application for the Tesco Bags of Help grant scheme has been successful and the project was been put forward to a customer vote in Tesco stores during January and February 2018. We are delighted confirm that we have secured £2000; thank you for helping us achieve this and for your continued support for our school.

Friends of Wellsway PTA