

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

THE AMMONITE

www.wellswayschool.com

Issue 912 * 20th December 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	End of Term Return to School for students	Thurs 20 th Dec Tues 8 th Jan 2019	Early Closure at 12.35pm 8.40am
7			
8			
9	Pathways Evening	Thurs 31 st Jan	6.00pm Mendip & Lansdown Hall
10			
11	Parent/Carer Evening	Thurs 17 th Jan	4.00pm



The evenings at Wellsway have been busy this week – with Christmas Concert on Monday and Tuesday and the KS5 Celebration and Reunion evening last night. The Christmas Concert is always a real highlight for me and I look forward to it each year – and this year's was no exception. Ms McLean did a wonderful job of comparing and it really was a team effort to put on such a varied programme that demonstrated just how talented a student body we have – I was especially impressed at how many of the items and clubs are student led and the students involved should feel really proud of their involvement. Thank you to all involved.



My week ended with a less relaxing piece of news, which our keynote speaker for the Key Stage 5 Celebration Evening was no longer able to attend and so it fell to me to lead the closing remarks. It was a privilege to do this and I know many of the parents who were there were in agreement with my final comments that the students already have a head start in life compared to many of their peers having spent time at Wellsway School and I'd like to reiterate to the whole student body my firm belief that they should be proud of who they are and what they mean to others.

And a final thank you to all the parents who have got in touch over the last couple of weeks about their children's experiences at Wellsway – we take all feedback into account when we review our practice, policies and procedures and always pass on thanks that are sent in. I'm sure you can imagine how much I have enjoyed passing on praise to many of our new members of staff who are looking forward to a well-deserved rest this holiday and to have shared with staff an email from a Year 7 parent about how their child 'regularly comes home from school buzzing with excitement about her lessons' and 'clearly feels completely safe at school and has therefore had the confidence to throw herself into some of the many opportunities that are on offer'. This, along with the other positive feedback about vertical tutor groups and support from staff made me feel immensely proud of the work staff are doing at Wellsway and I urge the whole student community to look at what's on offer next term that they can get involved in (please see the website for an updated extra-curricular offer, which will continue to be added to across the year).

Matthew Woodville
Principal

News

Science Challenge Session

On Tuesday 11th of December students involved in the Challenge Programme took part in the Science Subject Session. A year 11 student said: "It was enjoyable to be able to look at slides under the light microscope, and to make our own fire extinguisher! We loved being able to explore independently and discover what we could do."

Our Challenge Leaders will be meeting on Tuesday 29th of January to support with the preparation for the next Subject Session. To find out more about Challenge at Wellsway, please see the Challenge section on the school website.



Christmas Tree competition

We held our annual Christmas tree decoration competition this week. Students enjoyed decorating their trees in their House colours.

Our judges this year were Jenny Lodge, Attendance Officer and Sarah Dursley, Student Welfare officer.



Burnett

Burnett were the winners this year, with a splendid tree, with clear heart felt messages on of support relevant to this time of year from students and staff and cut out shapes of little people and Christmas baubles.

Newton

A very colourful tree covered in Newton Coloured tigers showing a house united, and each tiger drawn by numerous pupils displayed beautifully



Stanton

A tree covered in recyclable plastic homemade ornaments in the shape of fishes and sea creatures sending a clear message relevant to today's crisis within our oceans



Compton

This tree was very eye catching and clearly covered in Compton blue. Aim High was the clear message with ribbons showing Christmas message from students



Year 9 Parents Evening – 24th January

The year 9 Parents' Evening will take place from 4pm to 7pm on Thursday 24th January 2019. Appointments for this event will be available for booking through Insight Parent Portal from 5pm on Wednesday 9th January. The booking system will remain open for booking until 9.00am on Monday 21st January.

Mrs Waldock

Year 9 - Pathways / Choosing options for Year 10

All Year 9 students should now have received their Pathway letter. This letter included the recommended pathway for 2019-2021. We also sent a link to our pathways booklet which has now been uploaded onto our website and recommend you look through this prior to our Pathways Evening being held on the 31st January 2019. If you have any queries please contact enquiries@wellswayschool.com

D of E Expedition Teams

All participants were e-mailed an Excel spread sheet showing the 14 expedition teams and which day each team was expected to meet. Please note that I have recalled this e-mail because numerous changes have been made to the lists. If you have already opened Monday's e-mail, please can I ask that you delete it as a matter of urgency. Information about amended groupings will be provided well in advance of the first meetings.

The first meetings take place on **Tuesday 8th January** and **Thursday 10th January** 2019 from 3.15 - 5.00 pm, in M19. They will then continue weekly throughout terms 3, 4 and 5, in order to prepare for expedition training in March, practice expedition in May and qualifying weekend in June. Regular attendance is expected by all team members. Happy Christmas! Mr Sage.

Happy Christmas

Mr Sage.

Parent Governor Results

"Thank you to the parents who put their names forward for the parent governor vacancies. We were really pleased to have such a good response. The following two candidates were elected: Caroline Britton and Alastair Moir. Thank you to all parents who participated in the vote."

Careers

CAREERS UPDATE & INFORMATION

'Careers Hub' - Based in the sixth form corridor next to M32



Open to ALL STUDENTS Monday – Thursday 8.45 – 3.00



Drop in to make an appointment, pick up information, ask a question OR

Email; amillard@wellswayschool.com

**** Wednesday Lunch-time Employer 'Pop-Up' sessions****

Employers for 2019 !

DATE	EMPLOYER	VENUE	Suggested year groups
19.12.18	No Session School Christmas Lunch	Careers Hub 1.30 – 2pm	
09.01.19	Everything Engineering – General information for careers within Engineering. Information from Dyson, MoD, Atkins, Wessex Water, Integral and more.	Careers Hub 1.30 – 2pm	Yr 7 - 13
16.01.19	Institution of Civil Engineers – Civil Engineering, what is it and how do you train.	Careers Hub 1.30 – 2pm	Yr 9 - 13
23.01.19	To be confirmed	Careers Hub 1.30 – 2pm	Yr 7 - 11
30.01.19	Deloitte - audit, consulting, financial advisory, risk management, tax, and related services	Careers Hub 1.30 – 2pm	Yr 9 - 13

If you are interested in any of the employer sessions please email amillard@wellswayschool.com

For further information on any of these events just drop in to the Careers Hub.

Looking for careers inspiration – www.careerpilot.org.uk OR <https://nationalcareerservice.direct.gov.uk>

UPCOMING EVENTS –

- **Interested in Law ? Burges Salmon** are holding a **Year 10/11 information day** for their Higher apprenticeship roles – Tuesday 19th February 2019 (10.30am - 3pm) Places are limited so book early ! Corporate.resp@burges-salmon.com
- **Bath College Pre-apprenticeship workshops and taster sessions running throughout the February half term** – Monday 18th February to Friday 22nd February, 9.30 – 1.30pm For further information <https://www.bathcollege.ac.uk/event/experience-bath-college-week>
- **Industrial Cadets – Girls between 15 – 16** who are interested in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths) subjects. Local universities are running hands-on and activities courses straight after GCSE's to provide inspiration and support your applications to University. For further information www.etrust.org.uk/inspirecourse

Staff Vacancies

For more information please go to <https://www.wellswaymat.com/careers>

