

THE AMMONITE

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Issue 930 7th June 2019



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	Inset Day	Monday 17 th June	
7	Parent/Carer Evening	13 th June	Various - 4.00pm-7.00pm
8			
9			
10	Internal Exams	WC 24 th June	Various
11			
Sixth Form			

Year 11 and 13 have just one week left to go with their external exams and I'd like to take this opportunity to congratulate them on how well they have conducted themselves this week and to thank parents for supporting with their attendance and revision programmes. Year 11 have been especially respectful and focused in the Walking Talking Mocks that we have been running in English, maths and science, where they have had a run through of exam question technique for all of their papers – and I know teachers in other subjects have been running similar sessions in classes. I'd like to thank the time teachers have taken not only to plan these sessions but also to thank them for often giving up time to run the sessions. This morning was a particularly wet start for the Year11's last English exam, but the year group entered really well and managed to keep up a positive attitude despite the rain!

I'm sure parents and carers will have noted that Monday 17th June is an INSET day – teachers will be working in curriculum teams for a lot of this day looking at the curriculum offer for Key Stage 3 students in particular and amongst other things, will be considering how to continue to widen the experience for students by adding more curriculum enrichment and more explicit links to careers. For those students who have exams this day, exams will run as usual with teachers on hand as students enter the Sports Hall and Year 11 will be expected to come in school uniform as per any other exam.

I'm really proud of the work we do to support students at Wellsway and we are extremely lucky to have such an excellent group of staff working in Student Support who tirelessly work with students to manage their physical and mental health. We have always provided first aid training for staff, but were pleased to introduce a fuller programme for this in September, with all staff being trained in first aid basics, epipens and around diabetes. Alongside this, I know many parents/ carers and students have received attentive and caring support from our Student Welfare Officer, Sarah Dursley, and it is mainly down to her work that we were one of under ten secondary schools in the country to be awarded the Good Diabetes Care in School Award this week. This is a great honour and success for Wellsway School and I look forward to the next stage of our work in this area, which involves us acting as a beacon school by supporting other schools to develop their practice.

Matthew Woodville
Principal

News

BANES School Funding Crisis

You may have seen coverage in the national and local media about the situation with schools funding. This is directly affecting our schools now. Schools in Bath and NE Somerset (BANES) are experiencing unprecedented cuts to school budgets. Between 2013/14 and 2018/19 spending per child in BANES schools is down in real terms by -8.8% in Bath Constituency and -6.7% in NE Somerset¹; while pupil numbers and costs have gone up.



If you would like to support a BANES-wide campaign, led by parents and carers - and supported by head teachers and chief executive officers please read the letter attached.

Year 7 Parent/Carer Evening – Thursday 13th June 2019

Just a reminder that Insight will close on Monday 10th June at 8.30am therefore please ensure all appointments are made prior to this. Please click on this link for instructions of how to book [How to book appointments](#)

Please note that appointments can only be made using the parental account, therefore if you need a reminder of your username please email insight@wellswayschool.com

SMSC and British Values Update

During Term 5 we had plenty of interesting topics to debate and discuss during the Votes for Schools tutor session for SMSC and British Values. This included whether we should have a three day weekend (83.2% of students voted yes) and if it's fair to shut down a city like London over climate change protests (70.4% of students voted yes). Students explored whether superhero films create unhealthy expectations about body shape, and surprisingly, 88.3% felt that they didn't. We also looked at the anti-vax movement and discussed whether parents should have the final decision over vaccinations and 63.4% of students voted no.

For Term 6 we have a new community action theme based around organised acts of kindness. Our community action week, beginning 15th July, will link with this theme of organised acts of kindness with Refugee Week 2019. Stanton House will be organising and leading on activities to promote the cause and raise money for their chosen charity. More information on this will follow in the coming weeks.



Humanities Challenge Session

As part of the Challenge Programme, we have been doing a series of school events which have been aimed at bringing out the best of our ability and helping us to think about our futures. In the Humanities session we looked at Roman battle strategies and historic battles. We enjoyed being able to create our own strategies and talking about our ideas in groups, with students from other years.

Music

Summer Concert on Tuesday 2nd July

Our summer concert is fast approaching and therefore a few extra rehearsals will be taking place next week. Choir will be rehearsing on Thursday 2.00pm-3.45pm. Orchestra will be rehearsing until 2.00pm-4.00pm on Friday. Watch this space regarding ticket sales!

Tea-Time Concert

A group of KS3 musicians will be performing a Tea-Time Concert at The Chocolate Factory on Tuesday 18th June 3.00pm-4.00pm. Please do come and support if you are free.

Instrumental Lessons

We have a few free taster drum lessons available in the next couple of weeks. Please contact Ms McLean imclean@wellswayschool.com if your child would like a lesson. In addition to this if you wish for your child to learn an instrument in September please contact Ms McLean.

Any keen Drummers?

A call for anyone interested in drumming! Our drum teacher, Justin Fellows, is running drumming workshops in Q03 on Tuesdays 3.15pm-4.00pm for the next three weeks. This is open to anyone – no experience necessary.

Sport

Year 8 Cricket v Oldfield

On Wednesday 5th June, the year 8 cricket team played at home against Oldfield. Wellsway went in to bat first and scored an impressive total of 105-3, with Charlie Husband scoring 22. This gave Oldfield quite a target, but Wellsway demonstrated some excellent bowling and fielding strategies to get them all out for 65 runs. This was an excellent performance from the year 8 team. Our next fixture is next Wednesday 12th June at home against Chew Valley.

Mr Evans

Careers



Careers Hub (Located in the Sixth form corridor next to M32)

Open to ALL STUDENTS Monday – Thursday 8.45am – 3.00pm

Either pop in OR Email; amillard@wellswayschool.com

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

Informal information and advice direct from employers, no need to book, just come on in

UPCOMING EVENTS –

<https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk>

Friends of Wellsway PTA

Please be reminded that the Friends of Wellsway PTA are holding a used uniform sale on **Saturday 8 June 2019**, 10.30am to 1.00pm in the languages block (Claverton Building). Only cash or cheque can be accepted. We'll also have a lost property box containing some coats left by students this year if anyone with missing coats wants to look through it.

If you have any out-grown uniform - please donate it to us! Just pop the clean clothing in a bag with 'PTA uniform donation' written on it and hand it to student support. Thank you for your support!

Staff Vacancies

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