

THE AMMONITE

www.wellswayschool.com

Issue 931 14th June 2019



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			
8			
9			
10	Internal Exams	WC 24 th June	Various
11	Celebration Day (Students only) Prom	19 th June 20 th June	Bowling Somerdale Pavillion 6.30pm
Sixth Form	Year 12 UCAS Information evening for Parents/Carers	19 th June	4.30pm – 7.30pm – Lansdown Hall

First thing Monday morning, I was at Taunton Racecourse attending a Department for Education Secondary Partnership event to conclude the support Wellsway has been providing to another secondary school. I'm sure you can imagine how quickly I got in the car upon receiving the message that we'd received notification that we were being inspected by Ofsted the next day!

Over the next couple of weeks, the report will be written, quality assured and finalised and I'm sure parents and carers will understand that although frustrating, the judgements are strictly confidential until that point. I will, however, be pleased to write to the whole school community and parent body as soon as the report has been published to share the inspection team's findings.

Tutors were asked to pass on the school's thanks to students on Thursday morning for their conduct over the two day inspection – they were respectful and displayed the school's values and I'd like to thank all the parents who supported the school by ensuring children were punctual and prepared for learning. I'd also like to say a really big thank you to all the messages of support we received and to Year 7 parents who attended Parents' Evening last night for their positivity and empathy with staff who were here until gone 7pm last night after an extremely intensive week at work! You might think today (Friday) would, therefore be a quiet day, but the school has been buzzing all morning with the last whole cohort GCSE exam (physics) and a Challenge Activity morning involving almost 80 students working with sixth formers looking at how to conduct an independent project and hearing from sixth form students about their Extended Project Qualifications.

The other thank you I'd like to extend this week is to Year 11 and all the staff who have been supporting them with their exams over the last month or so. The students themselves have been so good humoured and attended revision sessions in a positive and respectful frame of mind and we are lucky to have an exams team of support staff and invigilators who ensure an extremely smooth start and end of exams and work tirelessly in the background. I look forward to celebrating the hard work of Year 11 at next week's Celebration Assembly and Prom and am sure those attending the trip after the assembly on Wednesday will have a great time.

Matthew Woodville
Principal

News

Tutor group adjustments for the academic year 2019-20

Towards the end of every academic year, we review systems, groups and structures in consideration of student welfare, development and progress. As part of this year's evaluation, the Senior Leadership Team and Heads of House will be reviewing the combination of students in each tutor group.

Tutor groups are continually monitored to ensure the best possible tutor group experience for students. Changes are sometimes needed to ensure an optimal combination of students for both student welfare and to allow tutors to monitor and support their tutees' academic progress – a key aspect of tutoring at Wellsway School, where tutors work



closely with Heads of House and Learning Mentors to identify underperformance and implement a wide range of support strategies.

Students will be informed of the changes by their tutors during week commencing Monday 17th June and the changes will be made during week commencing Monday 24th June. Tutors will prioritise getting to know new tutees during term 6 and identifying any support required to ensure they reach their potential at Wellsway School.

Sixth Form

Sixth Form Induction Day and Applications

We are really looking forward to seeing Year 11s at our Sixth Form Induction Day on Wednesday 26th June. This year's event will be taking place at the University of West England (transport will be provided to and from Wellsway on the day) where you will get to learn a lot more about sixth form life and much more. More details will be with you early next week.

If you have yet to reply to our invite (or have yet to apply to Wellsway Sixth but would like to) please email aturner@wellswayschool.com.

Sixth Form – What have we been up to?

A quick reminder that you catch up with what has been happening throughout the year in Sixth Form in our student newsletters published throughout the year [here](#).

Year 13 Leavers' Breakfast, Assembly and Dinner

This year we say goodbye to our wonderful Year 13 students on Thursday 27th June. We start with the Leavers' Breakfast at 8am in Lansdown Hall, have our Leavers' Assembly from 8.45am and then move into town for the Leavers' Dinner.

Students should aim to arrive at the Leavers' Dinner from 7.00pm at The Bristol, for a 7.30pm start. The event will finish at 11.00pm.

UCAS Information Evening – Year 12 Parents/Carers

On Wednesday 19th June all parents/carers are invited to a presentation about the university application process from the Director of Sixth Form. The evening is designed to inform you about how the UCAS process works, what students will need to do and by when, and how parents/carers can support them.

It will start at 6pm in Lansdown Hall, please arrive from 5.45pm.

Music

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.

Visits

BBC Good Food Show

Late yesterday, Year 10 Food and Nutrition students returned from this visit which gave them the opportunity to learn more about the wide variety of careers available in the food industry and be inspired by this huge event. More details in next week's Ammonite!

Paris 2019

Don't forget to attend the meeting on Tuesday 18th June, 6.15-7.00pm in Lansdown Hall. The meeting will be led by Mrs Wharf, Curriculum Director for Languages & Business. This meeting will clarify final details about the trip and aims to answer any questions you may have about the trip. **Please remember to bring a copy of your child's passport and EHIC (European Health Insurance Card) to the meeting;** students will need to hand the actual passport and EHIC to

their group leader on the day of departure. The link to the online passenger information form will be sent this afternoon via Insight; it is essential parents/carers complete this form. This should take around 20minutes to complete, as long as you have the passport, EHIC and medical details to hand; you will need to do this in one sitting.

Nature by Numbers – Year 7

Thank you to everyone who has responded to the invitation to the visit to We the Curious. Please remember the deadline for payment and forms to be returned is 9.00am, Tuesday 18th June.

Year 12 Biology Fieldwork Trip

On 3rd July, students will visit Berrow sand dune system and Weston-Super-Mare rocky shore to study at first hand the processes of succession and zonation, which are key elements of the A2 Ecosystems module. Make sure you have returned the consent form and made payment no later than 9.00am, Thursday 20th June.

Sport

Sports Day 2019

This year our Sports Day will be split over two days, Wednesday 3rd July and Friday 5th July. Both days will involve athletic events, with the Friday afternoon comprising of house relays and results. The event details will be advertised to students during PE lessons and tutor time, with sign up starting next week.

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

Success at school uniform sale

I especially want to thank the ladies on the PTA who spent around six hours of their time sorting and washing the donated clothes, and setting up the sale on Saturday. It was quite a bit of work but well worth it as we made a lot of money!

Many thanks

Natasha Leeper

Vice Chair, Wellsway PTA

Staff Vacancies

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