

## WellsWay Sixth – What have we been up to?



**A message from the Publications Team – Jess and Joe**  
Welcome back to Term 5!



It has been a very busy time for us in Terms 3 and 4 with mock exams in January and preparing for our final exams this term and next; and the Sixth Form has been up to much more besides.

Over the past term there have been two rounds of the Challenge Cup - the Apprentice and Bake-off rounds, a Supporting Success Evening for Year 13 Parents; Parents Evening; Sixth Form interviews; a UCAS Fair; Oxbridge Conference; sports fixtures; a fundraiser; the royal *Concorde50* dinner; the school musical and lots more! Alongside this we continue to work with the School Council and House Leaders and helped support another Community Action week.

### Being part of the Officer Team

Being an elected Officer/Ambassador has been a very rewarding experience. I have been able to raise money for causes I feel passionately about and run fun activities for the whole of sixth form; being involved in the whole school musical *Grease* was also a great experience. It has helped me to develop my leadership skills, and is something that I also talked about in my personal statement when applying for university.

- *Hannah, Year 13, PVA team*



### Iceland Trip

When the plane came in to land, Iceland's landscape almost seemed like another world; almost the polar opposite (sorry, really bad joke!) to Britain - it seemed flat and barren with little to no wildlife. How wrong I was - the sightseeing on this incredible island was absolutely spectacular with a new and exciting photo opportunity at every stop; we passed so many mountains in the coach that you almost got used to the sight of them! Whilst there were many highlights, the places that stood out for me were the Secret Lagoon, black-sand beach, Gullfoss and David's (tour guide) folklore tales that were equal parts amusing and disturbing.

The trip was a unique and exciting experience that I am glad I got the opportunity to take part in. A special thank you goes to all the staff who took time out of their holidays to take us.

- *Rachel, Year 13*



### A royal date with Concorde

Attended by HRH Princess Ann, our Director of Sixth Form Mr Bray and three sixth formers aspiring to be aerospace engineers were invited to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first Concorde flight from Filton on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April. A chance to go on Concorde itself, chat with senior figures from the aerospace industry and government was followed by a formal dinner set under the wings of the amazing feat of engineering and imagination that is Concorde. It was an incredible experience, and a big thank you to Airbus and Aerospace Bristol for this fantastic opportunity.

## UK Champion – Taekwondo

Congratulations to the truly outstanding Jasmine in Year 13 who has just become UK Taekwondo Champion in both adult female (18-35yrs) patterns & sparring. She attended the UKITF Finals Championships in Reading, which sees those ranked in the top three of each category compete for the title of UK Champion, and Jasmine won both categories! This means she has finished the qualifying year ranked no. 1 in both disciplines and will now represent the UK at the European Championships in Cork, in July. This is the third consecutive year that she has won a UK title.

## Sixth Form Football

### *Wellsway vs Churchill*

We played well and deserved the win in normal time; however, playing in excessive surface water in a waterlogged goalmouth stopped the ball from going in the goal a couple of times! However, we kept persisting and at 3-2 down in the final minutes we got a corner from which Sam Parsons scored a header to equalize.

In extra time I saved a penalty, as did the opposition's goalkeeper; unfortunately we eventually lost on penalties.

### *Wellsway vs St. Gregory's*

We made a very quick start to the game and had a great first half all around. Will H scored 2 goals in quick succession and we finished the first half 4 - 0 up. We then changed the team around, experimenting with players playing different positions; whilst we conceded some high-quality goals we managed another ourselves and ended on the right side of the score line, winning 5-3.

Thank you to the PE Department for supporting us and making this possible.

- *Charlie, Year 13*



## Enrichment – Healthy Living

As part of our offer here all Year 12 students take part in a 6 week *Healthy Living* course.

Students learn about nutrition and, every week, cook a healthy meal inspired from cuisine from each of the continents!



## Grease IS the word– School Production

In my time performing at Wellsway (since Year 7!) I have always looked up to Sixth Form students to follow and help me through past shows.

As Grease is my last musical here at Wellsway it gave me the opportunity to give that back to the many younger students who got involved in what was a very successful show and one we are all immensely proud of. Students were involved in every aspect of the show from backstage, performing or being part of the brilliant live band. We worked so hard to create an amazing show, and it was a real honour to be part of it.

Now it's over, those who will leave Wellsway before the next musical know that the future of the performing arts at Wellsway is safe as the number of younger years getting involved in not just the shows, but every part of the performing arts, continues to rise.

- *Tom, Year 12*

## Year 12 UCAS Fair

When going into the UCAS Fair in March, I had a rough idea of the course I wanted to take after A Levels. However, having little knowledge of where to go and what universities are best for my course, this event really helped me find universities of interest; I am now busy organising visiting them at their Open Days.



The best thing was that all the stands were different. There were some with television screens and lots of things to look at and people to talk to, however there were some much smaller stands with either one or two people where you could have longer conversations. They were all engaging and helpful in finding out about university life.

## My experience of an interview at Oxford University

Firstly – not as scary as I thought it was going to be! So if you are thinking of applying, make sure you do!

In the days spent at Oxford during my interviews, I stayed at the college I applied to through UCAS. I was welcomed by student helpers and was delighted that the college had a very friendly atmosphere; the common room was always open if I wanted to meet and chat to other interviewees.

I had two interviews over two days, and before each one a student from the subject walked me to the Earth Sciences department. The interviews themselves were very fast paced and intense, taken by two academics – one asking the questions and one writing down notes. The interviews were quite short, about half an hour each. The questions were mostly academic; some questions were around subjects I had learnt in school but others were completely new concepts. They weren't expecting me to know everything, but they were interested in how I tackled and worked through problems and never gave up.

I was delighted when they made me an offer and can't wait to go.

- Alice, Year 13

The universities I spoke to offer a lot of support in finding employment and work experience during their courses. I also found out about gap years and apprenticeship opportunities which was helpful to know making it an option for me post A-Level. As someone who is still indecisive about what to do after A-Levels, I found the event very helpful because it was an opportunity to find out about potential courses at a higher level. I would very much recommend this to someone going next year even if they feel university isn't for them. It would be a great opportunity just to have a look and see different options for them.

- Year 12



## Year 12 Oxbridge Conference

On March 8th a group of Year 12 students attended our Oxbridge Conference where we learnt more about Oxbridge and its application process.

Whilst also having the opportunity to speak to current Oxbridge place-holders we experienced a lecture from a Cambridge lecturer, and gained insight into the structure of Oxbridge and how the two universities differ.

We were also given time to talk to a large variety of local Oxbridge place-holders where we could ask any questions, such as those regarding the application process/interviews and their tips on how to prepare; this was particularly useful as it put into perspective how achievable getting into Oxbridge is.

Overall the trip was very useful and I would recommend it to anyone considering applying to Oxbridge in the future.

- Alyssa, Year 12

## The Challenge Cup

The Challenge Cup is a year-long inter Sixth Form tutor competition. 12 events, plus bonus ones all leading to the final result – and as Highlander said, “There can be only 1.....”

- *Mr Shafto, Deputy Director of Sixth Form*

Apprentice Results	
NLN	250
SRV	200
LWS	160
OST	130
RTH	110
CMC	100
HKS	90
JSF	0
SWL	0

Bake Off	
RTH	250
OST	200
NLN	160
CMC	130
JSF	110
SRV	110
LWS	90
HKS	80
SWL	0

### The ‘Apprentice’ Round

Another strong performance from NLN, who managed to complete the vast majority of the 20 Apprentice challenges.

This has put them in a healthy lead for this competition. It is still close with double points up for Sports Day and at least 2 other challenges to come in.

The ones to watch? Perhaps SRV, making a concerted push for the title in recent events.....



### The ‘Bake-off’ Round

The results are in!

Firstly, thank you to all who took part in our first ever Sixth Form Bake-off, and created such delicious creations! Whilst it was close, and judges were noted having to take a second or even a third portion of cake just to be absolutely sure that their judgment was accurate, the honours in the end were taken by Mr Thompson’s group (courtesy of Rosie H), Miss Cox’s tutor group (through Lea T) and Miss Long’s group!



#### Next event

Fancy dress netball

Sixth Form Challenge Cup Standings		
	Tutor	Points
1st	NLN	1274
2nd	HKS	1170
3rd	SRV	1040
4th	RTH	945
5th	JSF	820
6th	OST	801
7th	SWL	733
8th	CMC	621
9th	LWS	573

## Where are they now?

Since leaving WellsWay last year, I have started an apprenticeship at Vaultex UK Ltd as an Operations Manager.

Vaultex is a leading cash processor in the UK and we work directly with the Bank of England. Whilst having all the benefits (and stress) of a manager within this employment, I am also undertaking a Business Management degree! This apprenticeship has already opened up to me a whole new world (including real life – which I’m still getting used to!). Facing day to day challenges of study and work has taught me how to deal with difficult situations, developed my people skills, common knowledge and most importantly has made me understand that drive and determination will get you a lot further.

On a personal/social level I am still run a Brownie Unit and recently opened a Rainbow Unit in Bitton within Girl Guiding.

- *Lucy, ex-Wellsway student*

## Where are they now?

Studying in Tokyo at Musashi University!

I am studying for a degree at Kent University. It has been a great course and I have taken the opportunity to spend one academic year in Japan. Here I am able to study different modules – like politics, business and history – as well as learn some Japanese!

I’ve been up to so much here, so I decided to keep a blog to keep track of it all. You can find [it here](#).

- *Becky, ex-Wellsway student*



## Careers

Every week we have ‘pop-up’ sessions in our Careers Hub where employers and providers come to talk to our students (of all year groups) about a range of career opportunities. Most recently, Sixth Formers have been able to talk directly with them about post-A Level Higher Apprenticeships, Psychology, Construction, Civil Engineering, HMRC, the Royal Navy, careers in the Creative Media, Deloitte, medicine (GP and surgical), the MoD, KPMG – and more besides.

- *Mrs Millard, Careers co-ordinator*



## Coming Up Sixth Form Induction Day Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June



We are looking forward to seeing all our applicants for this exciting day in June. It is a great chance for all applicants to meet and get a taste of sixth form. Further details will be in the post shortly.

## Applying to Wellsway Sixth Form

If you would like to study with us next year, please contact us at [sixthform@wellswayschool.com](mailto:sixthform@wellswayschool.com).