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Wellington Weekly

13th October 2023

Master's Voice

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the new format of our regular, whole school, parental communication platform. The purpose of the Wellington Weekly is to inform parents of ongoing and forthcoming events in the school, and also to celebrate achievements and pupil success.

As WCI Pune grows and becomes more established, it will be excellent to project these developments in our parental communications. I hope you enjoy this first edition, highlighting all the activities and accomplishments in Early Years, Juniors and Seniors. At the outset the 'Weekly' will actually be circulated fortnightly on Fridays, although we anticipate more regular editions as WCI Pune develops.

As I noted at our official school opening on Thursday 14th September, which now seems a very long time ago!, parents are at the very heart of our Wellington community and we always welcome their involvement. It will be exciting to witness the growth of our community and the depth of parental contributions to that progression. We have several initiatives planned and I will report more fully in the next edition of the Wellington Weekly.

Lastly, to refresh memories on our excellent launch event, please do click on the 'Aftermovie' at the conclusion of this edition.

For now, thank you for all the ongoing support and involvement in the school; it is much appreciated.

With best wishes,

Dr Murray Tod
Founding Master

Mr. Conrad Botha (Head of Early Years)

With great anticipation and excitement, the opening of the Early Years arrived as we welcomed our founding families and children to begin their educational journey with us. The first few weeks of school can only be described as a big success with our children settling in and beginning to fully immerse themselves in this unique environment filled with unlimited potential that only a Wellington Early Years education can offer. As an Early Years, we remain steadfast in our continued commitment to academic excellence, innovative practices, school safety and inclusive excellence. We are proud of our achievements with the establishment of our founding community and grateful for all the opportunities that our new host country brings.



As the first full week began so did our children's curiosity for the experiences ahead. We cannot help but feel proud of our children, the way they have responded to the environment and how they are taking full advantage of the excellent facilities and opportunities we are able to offer. Transition into school life at this young age is pivotal to the success our children achieve during their time at Wellington and it is important that we, the Early Years team and families, work collaboratively through shared experiences and open communication to ensure the smoothest transition into life at school.



Please visit our college website for the latest and most updated information about our daily happenings. Also, to keep updated with the most current trends in Early Years education, especially as it relates to our journey towards obtaining the Curiosity Approach accreditation, please visit www.thecuriosityapproach.com. This website has a plethora of resources that will be of great value to you as a member of the Early Years community.



Ms. Katie Byrne (Head of Junior School)

In Harry Potter, we have seen the sorting hat placing children into one of four magical houses, which will determine much of their future and time at school. Wellington pupils also join one of Benson, Apsley, Anglesey or Raglan House on arrival but what is the importance of the House system? It's definitely not just a trend from a movie...



The House system does exist in the real world. This unique aspect of pastoral support in education has been passed down through generations and gained widespread adoption by international schools worldwide. Often, it supports the sporting calendar with competitive opportunities and whilst we do take opportunities to build team spirit through House challenges and competitions throughout the year (stay tuned for details of an upcoming Diwali challenge!), the House system is not purely for competition. Rather, it underpins our pastoral support and development programme. Houses allow pupils to grow up together by learning from each other. The younger members of the community can see the older ones as their role models, and those older pupils can also realise how to become kinder and more responsible. In this way, the House system helps develop strong, positive relationships and reduces the chance of bullying in the school.



Apsley



Raglan



Benson



Anglesey

In the bigger picture, the Houses grow the tie among parents, class teachers, and students. The approach encourages the sentiment that they are part of the same family.

The House system benefits children in terms of social interaction, personal development and the individual focus which each pupil gets from the House. The power of friendships, relationships and learning together in the House structure is more powerful and valuable than any magic spells!

One of the key parts of a Wellington education is the provision of a broad and diverse co-curricular programme designed to develop the transferable life-skills of students. We believe whole-heartedly that a strong commitment to the co-curricular life of the school goes hand in hand with strong academic performance and positive mental health. We want every single student to develop their interests and passions, whether that is in sport, music and the performing arts, global citizenship or academic enrichment.



Within this programme, a key focus is on how we develop globally-minded citizens who are committed to serving others, living sustainably, and making positive contributions to their communities. During CCA time on Wednesday afternoons, the sustainability club, for example, has been carefully observing and evaluating the sustainable practices that we are currently pursuing around campus, and have identified areas for improvement. Moving forwards, they will be formulating sustainability initiatives to raise awareness and change behaviours at the College, working alongside key stakeholders. This will undoubtedly help develop their leadership skills and attributes – another key priority in a Wellington education.



On Thursday lunchtimes, The Science Club have been preparing a proposal to launch a Science Fair based on themes related to space, the science of AI, the science of food, reactions and science literature. This is another great example of how CCAs can help develop intellectual curiosity and leadership skills. Moreover, the Debating Club have been focusing on identifying and working on the first three skills required for good debating: communication, research and critical thinking. They have examined great speakers to learn how they use their voices to keep listeners interested and will shortly be applying what they have learned thus far in real life debates.

There is certainly a buzz around campus when CCAs are on and I have no doubt that the students can benefit hugely from our co-curricular provision as they begin their journey towards self-discovery.





EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES, NURTURING FUTURES.

Join **Adina Curca**, Early Years Teacher at Wellington College International Pune, to explore '**Positive Parenting Strategies**'

Date : **Friday, 20th October, 2023**

Time : **9:00 - 11:00 am**



SCAN TO REGISTER



WELLINGTON
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Meet the **Master**

“Learn about the value of a
Wellington Education in Pune”



25th October, 2023

9:00 am to 11:00 am



Dr. Murray Tod

Founding Master
Wellington College International Pune



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[Click to watch The Opening Day Aftermovie](#)



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