



Wellington Weekly

20th September 2024

Master's Voice



Dear Parents and Wellington Community,

Welcome to this edition of the Wellington Weekly and I hope it finds everyone in very fine fettle!

Well, if a week is a long time in politics (as attributed to a former British Prime Minister), then a year is a delightful eternity in the evolution of a new Wellington College in Pune! Thank you to all families who attended last Saturday's Founders' Day and, if you were unable to attend, I hope that you have enjoyed the subsequent pictures and videos of the day's proceedings.

The build up to the day, and indeed its aftermath, has been a reflective period in school and I personally have marvelled at the contrast between the events of the 14th September in 2023 and then 2024. At face value, the comparison is overwhelming (great pupils and parents, hugely talented and supportive colleagues) – however it is the differences that really were pronounced for me in the event on Saturday 14th September.



The wide array of pupil performances and speeches, from across all strata in the Wellington community, showcased the depth of development at the College over the past year. The cultural advancements and sense of pride were abundantly clear, and Founders' Day 2024 is certainly now one of my highlights in my time in Pune. From Mr Anuj's speech to the words of Sir Anthony Seldon, from the unveiling of the plaque to the joyful games experienced by the pupils, the sense of partnership, camaraderie and 'belonging' were to the very fore of Saturday's event. I felt, once again, that we are a pioneering and innovative community and, in many ways, as one of Wellington College's most illustrious Masters, Sir Anthony represents the finest elements of that global Wellington pioneering partnership.



Founders' Day events, and I have attended many in my long school career!, are always enhanced by parental involvement and they are super occasions in which to thank families for their unstinting support of the College. I loved seeing the involvement of parents on Saturday, most notably at the podium delivering an outstanding presentation (and thank you Ms Shah for that!) but also with the quiet hum of family enjoyment at the sumptuous lunch.

I must conclude though, as I did on Saturday, with a commendation for the pupils. It is difficult to not be proud, even as a chap with an unfortunate granite expression as his 'happy face'!, when surveying the audience from the auditorium lectern on Founders' Day. It is wonderful to see pupil numbers grow and then to witness such outstanding performances with their peers on these types of special occasions. As intimated previously, I always stress the mantra to pupils of 'Don't Worry, Be Happy!' – easy to say I know but I can vouch that everyone at Wellington College Pune is committed to such aspirational wellbeing goals.

I hope you enjoy perusing this edition of the 'Weekly'.

With best wishes,

Dr Murray

Early Years Coordinator

Dear Early Years Families,

I cannot believe that a year has already flown by! It feels like only yesterday we were beginning this exciting journey together. We are incredibly proud to announce that our Early Years team has achieved the prestigious Curiosity Approach accreditation. This recognition highlights our commitment to creating an inspiring, play-based learning environment that encourages children to explore, discover, and use their natural curiosity. This achievement reflects our dedication to fostering creativity and independent thinking in our children.



The recent Founders' Day celebration was a beautiful reflection of our shared commitment and the strong sense of community we've built. It was wonderful to see so many of you in attendance, and I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who participated and made the day so special. Here's to many more celebrations ahead.



A big thank you to all the families who attended our parent information session on Friday 20th September, regarding how we support multi-language learners. The session was very insightful, and we hope it provided valuable information on how we work together to enhance language learning for your children. A special thanks to our Head of Learning Support, Ms Claire Herault, for leading such an informative and engaging presentation.



I hope that the recent settling-in meetings with your child's teachers were helpful and provided valuable insight into how your child is adjusting to the new school year. These meetings are a great opportunity to strengthen the partnership between home and school, ensuring we are working together to support your child's development and well-being.

We would like to make a special appeal to all parents to send books from your home countries to help us celebrate and honour the rich cultural diversity within our school community. Reading books in your native language is an important way for children to maintain a strong connection to their cultural roots, while also developing language skills and a deep sense of identity. It fosters pride in their heritage and allows them to share their stories and traditions with their peers. This provides opportunities for all children to appreciate the beauty of languages from around the world.

Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes,

Rashmi Dixon

Head of Junior School

Dear Parents,

We are already half way through the first Term! We have enjoyed sharing information on your children's settling and progress during Parent Teacher Meetings this week. Thank you for your time and valuable insights and feedback.

There is much to look forward to in upcoming weeks. With pupil direction, we have redesigned the menu, which is now in full swing and will begin new activities across breaks and lunch times from next week.



Upcoming Events for Parents:

WCI Pune Garba – Friday 11th October, 4.30 pm – 6.00 pm

A short performance from the dance CCA will be followed by a guided Garba, then time to play and enjoy some food stalls.

Lessons for parents to learn the basic steps will be held on Mondays 3.30 pm – 4.00 pm from the 23rd September until the event. There is no performance, this will just give you an idea of the format so you can join in at our, or any of the other, events around Pune. Please meet in the Block A Parent Lounge.

Parent Information Session: WCI Pune Curriculum – Wednesday 25th September, 8.15am

This is a new session. We will be sharing information on the content and outcomes of what we teach in the Junior School. Please meet at the Block B Parent Lounge (opposite the coffee shop).

Year 3 Sharing Learning Assembly: Friday 27th September, 11.45 am – 12.15 pm

Parents of Year 3 are invited to join us for assembly to hear about what children have enjoyed so far this Term. This is designed and directed by the pupils and gives an opportunity to begin to develop presentation and public speaking skills. Please meet in the Block B Parent Lounge (opposite the V & A Café).

All year groups will be sharing their learning during assemblies this Term:

Friday 4th October, 11.45 am – 12.15 pm: Year 4 Sharing Learning Assembly

Friday 15th November, 11.45 am – 12.15 pm: Year 5 Sharing Learning Assembly

Friday 22nd November, 11.45 am – 12.15 pm: Year 6 Sharing Learning Assembly

Thank you,

Katie Byrne

Head of Senior School

Dear Parents,

I hope that this note finds you well. It was so nice to see so many of you at the Founders' Day celebration – I hope you enjoyed the day. I thought the students performed brilliantly, showcasing the importance the Arts at the school. It was great to welcome Sir Anthony Seldon to Pune and I know he was really impressed by what he saw at the school. His presence illustrated the genuine connections that exist between WCI Pune and the Wellington family of schools.



We are currently exploring opportunities by which our students can connect with other Wellingtonians around the world. One such opportunity which I would like to bring to your attention is that we will be shortly advertising the Wellington Family Summer School offering, based at TWC (UK), which will be open to Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9 students. The 2 week immersive programme commencing in early July is designed to foster a global community of learners, providing students with the opportunity to engage in a diverse range of academic and extracurricular activities. There will be students partaking in the programme from all the Wellington family of schools. Set in the idyllic location of TWC, students will be accommodated in boarding houses where there will be 24/7 exceptional pastoral care and medical provision.

Teaching and learning will be delivered by experienced Wellington practitioners, and there will be an extensive range of sporting artistic and leadership activities. There will also be excursions to royal and historical sites of cultural significance – a truly enriching experience. David Wilson from TWC is in charge of running the Summer School programme and he will host an online session shortly for any interested parents/students. I will send through a confirmed date next week.

There is no doubt that a comprehensive trips programme will form a key part of our educational provision moving forwards. The IGCSE Art class have just been on an academic day trip to a ceramic workshop, and there will be more trips, both day and residential, in the pipeline. More details to follow in due course.

I hope that you have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards,
Iain Sutcliffe

Events Gallery

Curiosity Approach Accreditation



We're delighted to announce that our Early Years at Wellington College International Pune has received the prestigious Curiosity Approach Accreditation! In fact, WCI Pune is the first school in India to achieve this outstanding recognition! This contemporary educational approach promotes active learning and critical thinking with the goal of nurturing a generation of thoughtful, proactive and inquisitive learners.

In practice, our children are empowered to lead their own educational journeys. WCI Pune teachers inspire their natural curiosity, supporting their growth through exploration with real and meaningful resources throughout the school environment. Our setting provides a comforting, respectful space where children can freely share their ideas and personalities. Teachers play a crucial role as facilitators, preparing stimulating activities and observing to enhance each child's learning experience. We are so proud of all our pupils, EY colleagues, and parents, who all thoroughly deserve this Curiosity Approach Accreditation!

Junior School Parent Information Session – 4th September 2024



The Parent session on Wednesday 4th September, led by Head of Juniors Ms Byrne, provided an excellent overview on some key teaching and learning themes. The presentation focused on some of the main aspects of Junior School assessment procedures, including the 'High Ceiling, Low Threat' approach and also the nature of aspirational target setting and attainment grades.

Teachers' Day Celebration – 5th September 2024



WCI Pune was delighted to celebrate Teachers' Day on Thursday 5th September, highlighting all the commitment and great work of our teaching colleagues. Treats and gifts were provided, and there were many smiling faces on show!

WCI Pune's 1st FOUNDERS' DAY – 14th September 2024



Founders' Day was a remarkable occasion, highlighted by vibrant dance performances and stunning band music that truly made the event unforgettable.

A special thank you to everyone who joined us, including Sir Anthony Seldon, Mr. Anuj Aggarwal, our Board of Governors, our incredible students, devoted staff, and supportive parents. Your presence and enthusiasm made this milestone even more extraordinary.



It was a day filled with inspiration, talent, and joy, from heartfelt speeches to captivating performances. We celebrated the true Wellington spirit as a family, and we extend a big thank you to everyone who joined us in commemorating this special occasion. We look forward to many more milestones!



Senior School Parent Information Session – 18th September 2024



On Wednesday, September 18th, Iain Sutcliffe delivered a Parent Information Session to Senior School parents on Wellington's sports vision and philosophy. He discussed short and medium term aims, the coaching ethos, the links with external partners, and how to balance the dual aims of supporting the participation and performance strands.

EY Nursery Learning Moment (Dinosaur Nestlings Play) – 20th September 2024



In the Early Years, learning blossoms through discovery and play, where each moment of exploration ignites deeper understanding and growth.

At the Early Years Nursery, children inspired by their sense of wonder, became "Nest Builders," crafting cozy homes for dinosaur families. With twigs, leaves, stones, sand and a variety of loose parts, they created nests for dinosaur eggs, fostering a sense of belonging and sparking imaginative conversations about the giant creatures, care for animal babies, families, and the different types of homes we all need. Their creativity and collaboration brought these shelters to life, showing how play fuels curiosity and meaningful learning.

Multi Language Learners (MLL) and Learning Support in the Early Years – 20th September 2024



Early Years parents enjoyed an insightful and interactive session, concerning MLL and LS matters, on Friday 20th September. Ms Claire Herault, Head of MLL and LS, provided expert guidance on all aspects of multi-language learning and how the school supports young learners in this regard.

Upcoming Event

Swimming Meet



Swimming Meet

at Wellington College International Pune


 Saturday, 21st September 2024


 08:30 am onwards

Early Years Taster Morning

Experience the joy of learning
at WCI Pune during our

Early Years Taster Morning

 Friday, September 27th 2024

 09:30 am - 10:30 am



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