



Wellington Weekly

18th October 2024

Master's Voice



Dear Parents,

Welcome to this edition of the Wellington Weekly!

Firstly, thank you to everyone who attended the Garba event on Friday 11th October – it was a splendid occasion, orchestrated by Ms Byrne and Ms Prerna (and the respective non-academic and academic teams), and it was great fun! Thankfully the rain held off in Kharadi and it was actually a rather majestic affair, as the pictures illustrate, with the sun setting over the football field and the dancing continuing well into the early evening. Blessed with two left-

feet, I find even the most simplistic steps a rarefied challenge, so I marvelled at the sequence of impressive twirls and twists that the pupils, staff and parents accomplished. Well done all involved and it was, I feel, another super example of the community coming together in our second year of operation (and displaying the functionality of twinning sporting venues to cultural endeavours...excellent multi-tasking!).



This is the last Wellington Weekly before the start of the Diwali break (as per my recent note, school closes from 15:00 hrs (for all pupils) on Tuesday 29th October and reopens for pupils on Monday 11th November). This is a long break, a traditional half-term in UK parlance, but it is richly deserved for all in the school. It has been an uplifting Term thus far, embedding the academic, pastoral and co-curricular practices of last year, whilst celebrating occasions such as Founders' Day too. It is also rewarding to see the plethora of Parent Information Sessions occurring, in the backdrop of the auditorium, and all the academic parental meetings too.

We have a football competition this weekend, so good luck to everyone involved. I always love the occasion of weekend sporting matches and, for me, it's simply a welcome extension of the regular week!

Like all at WCI Pune, I am tremendously excited by all that Diwali offers and the host of activities planned at school. I look forward to joining in all the celebrations, across the schools, and I hope that all families are buoyed by the festivities!

Thank you, as always, for the support of the school.

With best wishes for the weekend,

Dr Murray Tod

Early Years Coordinator

Dear Early Years families,

As we move further into October, the seasonal changes in Pune are becoming more noticeable. The days are cooler, mornings bring a breeze, and we occasionally see overcast skies. This transition is a welcome relief from the monsoon heat, but it also brings challenges for young children. We encourage all families to ensure children wear appropriate layers to stay comfortable throughout the day and carry a water bottle to stay hydrated. As temperatures shift, it's also a good idea to monitor children's health and prevent seasonal illnesses by practicing good hygiene and dressing them appropriately for early mornings.

October is a festive month, and we are excited to dive into the preparations for Diwali, the Festival of Lights. This is a time of joy, tradition, and togetherness. We are thrilled to invite you to our EY Diwali Celebration on Tuesday, 29th October, where the children will showcase their songs, and dance performances. Your participation will make this celebration even more special, and we look forward to sharing the last day before Diwali holidays with you.

Loris Malaguzzi, the founder of the Reggio Emilia approach, highlighted that 'children learn best through experiences and meaningful exchanges'. He believed that learning involves children actively constructing their understanding in partnership with their peers and adults, making celebrations a valuable tool for social learning. Festivals offer opportunities for children to explore different "languages" of expression—such as Art, Music, and Dance—while embracing cultural diversity.



Our children are fully immersed in the festive spirit, learning about the significance of Diwali through stories, music, and dance. The festive break is just around the corner, offering families a chance to pause, reconnect, and celebrate together.

A heartfelt thank you to all the parents who joined us for the Key Stage 1 'Book Look'. It was wonderful to see the children proudly sharing the work in their books with you and discussing their progress. Moments like these highlight the importance of our home-school partnership, where children feel supported and celebrated both at home and in school. Your engagement fosters their confidence and sense of achievement, which we are incredibly proud of. I look forward to seeing you soon for more exciting events and wish you a joyful lead-up to Diwali.

Please note that school shall remain closed from October 30th till November 10th. The first day of school is 11th of November. I wish you all a restful and fantastic Diwali break!

Best wishes,

Rashmi Dixon

Head of Junior School

Dear Parents,

It was an absolute delight to dance alongside so many of our families during the recent Garba celebration. A heartfelt thank you for your support, enthusiasm and of course stunning outfits! Your contributions made the event truly enjoyable and beautifully showcased the strength and spirit of our vibrant community.

We still have one more festival coming up before the eagerly anticipated break. On Tuesday 29th October we will recognise Diwali with traditional food and dress. School will finish at 15:00 hrs for pupils (there is no CCAs on this day).



Next 'half' term is relatively short but none the less packed with more learning, more festivals, more performances and one of our favourite events of the year: House Singing! We'll share the details once we return in November.

We enjoyed sharing more about our Maths teaching with parents during our workshop on Wednesday. As a school we are constantly engaging in the most up to date research and best practice recommendations for all areas of learning and ensuring that our teaching is progressive and future focused. We aim to share this with parents through events like these workshops. We have more new topics planned for next term, but we would love to hear any suggestions or requests from our parent community.

Thank you,
Katie Byrne

Head of Senior School

Dear Parents,

I hope that this email finds you well. Please note that we have introduced the concept of College Recognitions and College Concerns in Senior School, which is outlined in the policy below:

Sanctions and Rewards Policy

Our Sanctions and Rewards Policy emphasises the concept of care for our students and communication between staff, students and parents. It places significant value on the importance of meaningful conversations and dialogue to ensure that the values of kindness, respect, integrity, responsibility and courage are learned and upheld.

The concept of recognition and concern underpins the system. The concepts of Concern and Recognition are fundamental to excellent teaching, pastoral and co-curricular care.

Recognition

- The idea of a Recognition is to ensure that students feel acknowledged and valued for their performance and progress across all areas of College life with the intention of helping to engender motivation
- An important and vital part of the process of Recognition is the conversation or handwritten card recognising what the student has done well; it is this which actively ensures celebration and leads to further motivation
- It should reflect the perceptiveness of the teacher noticing improved performance, effort or outstanding pieces of work relative to the context of the student
- Teachers should be on the look out for active opportunities for recognition across all areas of College life
- Teachers need to be judicious in their awarding and avoid using Recognition for simply fulfilling required expectations or for manipulating good will

- Teachers are invited to use Recognition widely and not just for those students whose contributions and performance are easily noticed. Recognition can be awarded for any form of excellence: Technical (i.e. academic, the arts, sport, etc), Performance (e.g. resilience, persistence), Community/ Civic or Moral

Concern

- The concept of “Concern” relates to any instance where the behaviour of a student may lead to injury, loss or harm to themselves or others. (include loss of learning, impact on learning)
- There is to be a fundamental and overriding dedication to dialogue and communication being the initial response to a situation causing concern
- The teaching staff are required to engage in the process of dialogue and communication before any other action takes place. These dialogues are intended to deepen relationships and develop mutual respect regardless of any action that is subsequently taken
- The issuing of a concern is in order to ensure that others are aware where necessary and with the knowledge of a child where appropriate
- Examples of situations where issuing a concern is an appropriate response include: persistent lateness, missed preps, inappropriate language, disruptive behaviour in class and unkindness
- The Head of School will act as the gatekeepers of concerns where an escalation might then lead to them making judgement decisions on the next steps (possible disciplinary sanctions include academic keep-in, Saturday detention (held on Saturdays at 10:00am))

Fundamentally, we are committed a culture of dialogue and communication with students so that we can recognise successes and ensure that students learn from mistakes along the way.

I hope that you have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards,
Iain Sutcliffe

Events Gallery

Year 10 Manipal Hospital Visit - 7th October 2024



On Monday, 7th of October, our Year 10 students had the wonderful opportunity, as part of their Biology curriculum, to visit the Manipal Hospital, where they could observe the various components of blood firsthand. During this visit, they learned about how blood is stored, witnessed the process of blood typing, and gained valuable insight into the advanced machinery used to identify hormones. The students were deeply engaged and thoroughly enjoyed this hands-on learning experience."



KS1 Coffee Morning – 10th October 2024



We are thrilled to announce the appointment of our new Year 1 teacher, Ms Sabah Parwani. Born and raised in Dubai, Ms Sabah brings over a decade of experience in the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme (PYP).

At the Coffee Morning last Thursday, families enjoyed meaningful conversations with Ms Sabah, learning more about her passion for education. She believes in the power of experiential learning and is committed to providing the best care and education for every child. Her goal is to nurture compassionate learners who excel, innovate, and grow into the leaders of tomorrow.

We are excited to welcome Ms Sabah to our community.

WCI Pune Garba Celebration – 11th October 2024



On October 11th, WCIP Junior School hosted a vibrant Garba celebration, inviting parents and families to join the festivities. The school was adorned with colourful decorations, creating a joyful atmosphere. Students and parents dressed in traditional attire, showcasing a kaleidoscope of colours. The event featured dance performances by students, captivating the audience and adding to the excitement. The highlight was a guided Garba session, where everyone danced together, led by an experienced instructor. Laughter and cheers filled the air as families celebrated their cultural heritage. Overall, the Garba celebration was a resounding success, fostering unity and joy within the school community and making it a memorable experience for all.





[Click Here to see the entire Garba album](#)

Year 5 Maths Mastery – 16th October 2024



WCIP Junior School held the "Mathematics Mastery" event for Year 5 parents, led by Ms Herault. This unique initiative allowed parents to experience the classroom environment firsthand. The central focus of the event was to showcase the teaching methods used at the school, enabling parents to understand how to support their children's learning at home. Through interactive activities and demonstrations, parents learned effective strategies for tackling simple math problems, ensuring they can reinforce the concepts their children are learning. The event fostered a deeper connection between parents and the school, promoting collaboration in students' educational journeys. Overall, the Mathematics Mastery event was a valuable experience, equipping parents with tools to enhance their children's learning at home.

KS1 Booklook - 17th & 18th October 2024



We organized our first 'Book Look' for Key Stage 1 this week. The children proudly guided their parents through their books, showcasing their hard work. They taught their parents some of the concepts they enjoyed and shared those they found more challenging, even reading aloud to them. It was a wonderful occasion for parents to get a glimpse into their child's learning journey. Pupil-led conferences foster pupil ownership of learning, build confidence, and strengthen communication skills. They also encourage reflection, helping children recognize their progress and set new goals, while providing parents with meaningful insights into their child's academic development.



Junior School Assembly – 18th October 2024



During the recent Junior School assembly, students discussed the upcoming meeting at their house prep, focusing on how they can contribute to the school community. Ideas for improving school spirit and organising events were shared, encouraging active participation from all. The assembly outlined the process for nominating a Chairperson and a Secretary, emphasising the qualities needed for these leadership roles. Students were motivated to brainstorm and present their ideas, fostering teamwork and collaboration. This initiative aims to empower students and enhance their school experience, making their voices heard in shaping a vibrant school environment.

Videos

Sir Anthony Seldon's Interview at WCI Pune

[Click Here](#)

A video on the Curiosity Approach

[Click Here](#)

WCI Pune's Garba Celebration

[Click Here](#)

Upcoming Event

Football Match – 19th October 2024



Football Match

“Persistence can change failure into extraordinary achievement.”
— Matt Biondi



Saturday, 19th October, 2024
08:30 Onwards



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WELLINGTON
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HAPPY
Diwali
FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS



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