Wellington Weekly

12th March 2025

Master's Voice

Dear Parents and Wellington Community,

Hello and welcome to this edition of the Wellington Pune newsletter!

I want to start by commending everyone, especially the Friends of Wellington parents, for organising the events on Friday 7th March for the International Women's Day (IWD). The coffee morning was an absolute triumph and I found the speeches utterly inspirational, and very moving indeed in their personal ways. As I highlighted then, it would be tremendous for our students to engage with such stories; they would learn so much and their minds would be opened still further. Is that not a core component of educational provision, to develop learning experiences and facilitate such opportunities for cultural expansion? We will certainly explore further! Moreover, it was super to have so many members of the Wellington family at the afternoon event last Friday – in addition to the essential devouring of cupcakes, and very good they were too, it was just really pleasant to have the whole school community enjoying activities and time together, and showcasing all that is important about IWD in 2025.

Personally, of course, I loved the chance to wear a lilac/purple suit and the festival of colour that day was a nice preface to the forthcoming Holi holiday. I am always aware how much work goes into planning and running school events, so great thanks are due to the FoW. As more facilities are opened, I know the FoW have splendid concepts for further worthy parental occasions – well done so far and thank you all!

I Love
Wellington
College

This week, the school has been delighted to welcome Ms Ana Romero (Head of Sustainability at Wellington College UK), Mr Mark Millikan-Smith (Governor of Wellington College UK) and Ed Wai (Estates Bursar at Wellington College UK). On these occasions, I always remark how important these visits are to illustrate the blossoming and vibrant partnership between the Wellington schools. That remains undoubtedly true – however, the progressive next steps are equally significant and pertinent. From discussions on boarding provision across the schools to how UK governors can help shape the Wellington India pathway, not neglecting the great array of sustainability initiatives that we will seek to collaborate on immediately, our Wellington College UK colleagues have made an excellent impact over recent days – I know that pupils and parents have loved meeting with them and I am very appreciative of all their time here in Pune. We will build upon these first-rate collaborations, and opportunities, and enhance our provision at Wellington Pune still further!

It only remains for me to wish everyone a very happy Holi festival and to offer a quick reminder that the school is therefore closed (for all) on Friday 14th March.

I hope it is a very restful weekend.

Enjoy!

Best wishes,
Dr Tod

Early Years Co-ordinator

Dear Early Years Families,

Holi, the festival of colours, is a joyous occasion that marks the arrival of spring and symbolises love, unity, and new beginnings. Our Early Years children have worked so hard to prepare for their special performance, showing great responsibility and dedication during rehearsals. The children embraced the spirit of Holi and we hope you enjoy watching their performance as much as they enjoyed putting it together!

It's unbelievable that the Term is almost coming to an end. Our teachers have been busy finalising reports, and we hope you have enjoyed reading about your child's progress and achievements. The children have grown so much in confidence, independence, and learning. We look forward to discussing their progress further during the upcoming Parent-Teacher Meetings in the last two weeks of Term.

Our Early Years teachers had the valuable opportunity to visit Mahindra International School for collaboration and training. They engaged in discussions on best practices, shared innovative teaching strategies, and explored ways to enhance the learning experience for our youngest pupils. Ms Adina led a presentation on what high-quality Early Years practice looks like, focusing on creating engaging learning environments and fostering independence in children. Continuous professional development ensures our teachers stay informed about the latest research and strategies, ultimately benefiting our pupils by providing them with the best possible start to their educational journey.

Best wishes,
Rashmi Dixon

Head of Junior School

Dear Parents,

I am writing this just after the celebrations for International Women's Day. Thank you to the FoW for organising two fantastic events.

Throughout the week, I was able to work with each class to discuss the challenges women and girls still face—and, more importantly, develop some age-appropriate strategies to drive the change we want to see.

I came away from these conversations excited for the future. Our girls are fierce, and our boys are more than ready to stand alongside them in the fight for equity. The values on display are a testament to the meaningful conversations and experiences that are shaping them into thoughtful, compassionate, and determined young people who are committed to making a difference. Their willingness to challenge stereotypes, advocate for fairness, and engage in real dialogue gives me great hope.

Change happens not just in big moments but through everyday actions—by speaking up, supporting one another, and fostering respect. As we move forward, we will continue to consider how we can contribute to a more just and equitable world.

The last few weeks have also seen a focus on reviewing each pupil's learning and next steps. We will be capturing this information in the end of Term 2 Reports. The hard copies will be shared with parents at the end of the day on Thursday 27th March.

In the final two weeks of Term, we now turn our focus to Charlie and the Chocolate Factory! Teachers and children, led by Mr. Mullin, are working hard to produce our first ever Junior School production. Pupils are loving the process – I can't wait to see the finished result! Wishing a happy and colourful Holi and Ramadan Mubarak to all those observing.

Thank You,
Katie Byrne

Head of Senior School

Dear Parents,

In the Senior School Assembly on Monday 10th March, I sought to praise the students for all their application and endeavours during the assessment week. I was very impressed by how the students conducted themselves and offered such academic resilience – well done to all!

In the Assembly, I also took the opportunity to emphasise the importance of Wellington's global approach. This is such a significant element of the Seniors' provision and concepts such as internationalism and student leadership transcend all boundaries, and feature so prominently in our own cultural mores. As I am now more embedded in the Seniors', I feel even more convinced that the students will continue to thrive and will ultimately 'enter the world' as balanced and reflective individuals, capable of driving real change.

Indeed, the Seniors' pupils have enjoyed meeting Ms Romero and Mr Millikan-Smith this week, illustrating the power of that global, international, Wellington family. The students, unlike the old-timer penning these few words, are 'sustainability natives', and it has been a joy to behold their excitement in discussing these areas with Ms Romero (Head of Sustainability at Wellington College UK). The collaborative plans being proposed, both online and physical, are wonderful and will really push all sustainability matters in Pune. We hope to enhance these ideas with field trips in Term 3 too – I really am committed to running some meaningful and purposeful trips for Seniors next Term. Similarly, Mr Millikan-Smith, as a UK Governor, has delighted in spending time speaking with the students and he has been so impressed by all of them! Very apt praise, for a super group of young people, in my completely partial view!

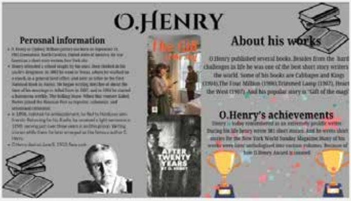
Even in the last few weeks of Term 2 we have many academic elements to ponder, from IGCSE options and IBDP recruitment (for August 2025) to my hard-working colleagues completing insightful next steps reports. I am sure it will prove to be a busy period. In the short term, however, we have a nice little Holi event planned for CCA time on Thursday, followed by the Holi break on Friday 14th March.

I wish all parents and students a most enjoyable Holi weekend!

Best wishes,
Dr Tod

Events Gallery

Year 9 Author Reviews - Monday 17th February 2025



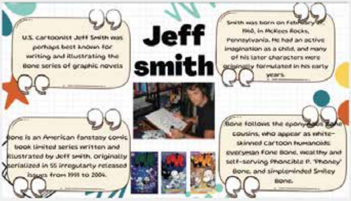
O.HENRY

Perosnal information

About his works

O.Henry published several books. Besides from the hard challenges in life he was one of the best short story writers the world. Some of his books are Cabbages and Kings (1904),The Four Million (1906),Trimmed Lamp (1907), Heart the West (1907). And his popular story is "Gift of the magi

O.Henry's achievements



Jeff smith

U.S. cartoonist Jeff Smith was perhaps best known for writing and illustrating the Bone series of graphic novels

Smith was born on February 27, 1960, in McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania. He had an active imagination as a child, and many of his later characters were originally formulated in his early years.

Bone is an American fanstasy comic book limited series written and illustrated by Jeff smith, originally serialized in 55 irregularly released issues from 1991 to 2004.

Bone follows the eponymous Bone cousins, who appear as white-skinned cartoon humanoids: everyman Fone Bone, wealthy and self-serving Phoncible P. "Phoney" Bone, and simpleminded Smiley Bone.

On the 17th February, the Year 9 students compiled reviews on their favourite authors - it proved to be an illuminating and enriching session in the Library. Well done to all the Year 9s!

International Mother Language Day – Friday 21st February 2025

Our amazing parents shared the richness of their native languages, teaching our pupils the power of words that connect us across the globe. From storytelling to traditions, it was an inspiring day of learning, culture, and unity.

KS1 Author Book Reading – Friday 21st February 2025

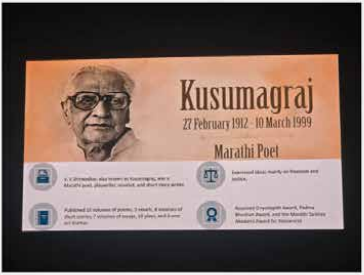
Our Year 1 and 2 pupils enjoyed a special online reading with Dr Lynnette Mawhinney, author of Lulu the One and Only. The story explores identity and belonging, themes that resonate with our diverse WCIP Pune community. Dr Mawhinney read her book and answered pupils' questions, sparking meaningful discussions. Author readings bring stories to life, helping children connect deeply with books and inspiring a love for reading and storytelling.

IGCSE Parent Information Session – Wednesday 26th February 2025

A pupil profile
Core
Electives (up to three)
Compulsory Non-examined
English as a Second Language
Mathematics
Biology
Chemistry
Physics
Art & Design
Computer Science
Marathi
Wellbeing
Beyond Wellington

We welcomed Year 9 parents to an information session marking the start of the exciting IGCSE Options Selection process for our current students. The session provided insight into the academic pathways available to students, highlighting the broad range of subjects on offer as well as the exciting opportunities beyond the curriculum that they must look forward to in the next two years of their time at the College. Parents left with valuable information to support meaningful discussions at home as students prepare to make their choices in the coming weeks.

Marathi Day – Thursday 27th February 2025



Kusumagraj

27 February 1912 - 10 March 1999

Marathi Poet

Marathi Language Day is celebrated on 27th February to honour the rich heritage and literary legacy of Marathi. Marking the birth anniversary of Kusumagraj, the day celebrates the beauty of the language through various activities.

At Wellington, our students participated in special assemblies and calligraphy competitions, showcasing their creativity and love for Marathi. Their beautifully crafted work was a true tribute to the elegance of the script.

Open Day – Saturday 1st March 2025

We hosted an informative Open Day for prospective Senior School parents and pupils at our School. The session featured a comprehensive presentation on the IBDP by Dr Tod, followed by a lively Q&A session and an exclusive school tour.

Parental Coffee Morning – Friday 28th February 2025

On Friday 28th February Parents enjoyed a wonderful morning spent connecting over great conversation at our Coffee Morning with the Master, thanks to our amazing Friends of Wellington (FoW) members! It was a fantastic opportunity for parents to share ideas and hear directly from the Master. A big thank you to all who attended and to FoW for making it possible!

Swimming Gala - Saturday 1st March 2025

WCI Pune hosted a thrilling swimming meet bringing together 60 participants from various schools across Pune. The competition featured events in the Under-10, Under-12, and Under-15 categories, showcasing incredible talent and sportsmanship.

The event was graced by renowned national coaches and swimmers—Mr. Ramesh Vipat, Mr. Bhupendra Acharekar, and Mr. Narendra Acharekar, who inspired young swimmers with their expertise and experience.

International Women's Day Celebration – Friday 7th March 2025

INTERNATIONAL
Women's
Day

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The Friends of Wellington kicked off International Women's Day with a motivational coffee morning, with four amazing speakers sharing their personal and inspirational stories. The afternoon brought the whole Wellington community together with fun activities and stalls, creating moments of connection and empowerment.

Interhouse Football Match – Monday 10th March 2025

The Junior School's Interhouse Football Match was a thrilling display of skill and teamwork, with each house giving their all on the field. Excitement ran high as students cheered for their teams, creating an electric atmosphere throughout the game!

Photos

International Women's Day – Friday 7th March 2025

Click Here

Upcoming Events

HOLI
Celebration

Inviting Early Years parents to join us in celebrating this joyous occasion embracing colours, traditions, and spirit of Holi together.

Date: Thursday, 13th March, 2025

Realise your potential