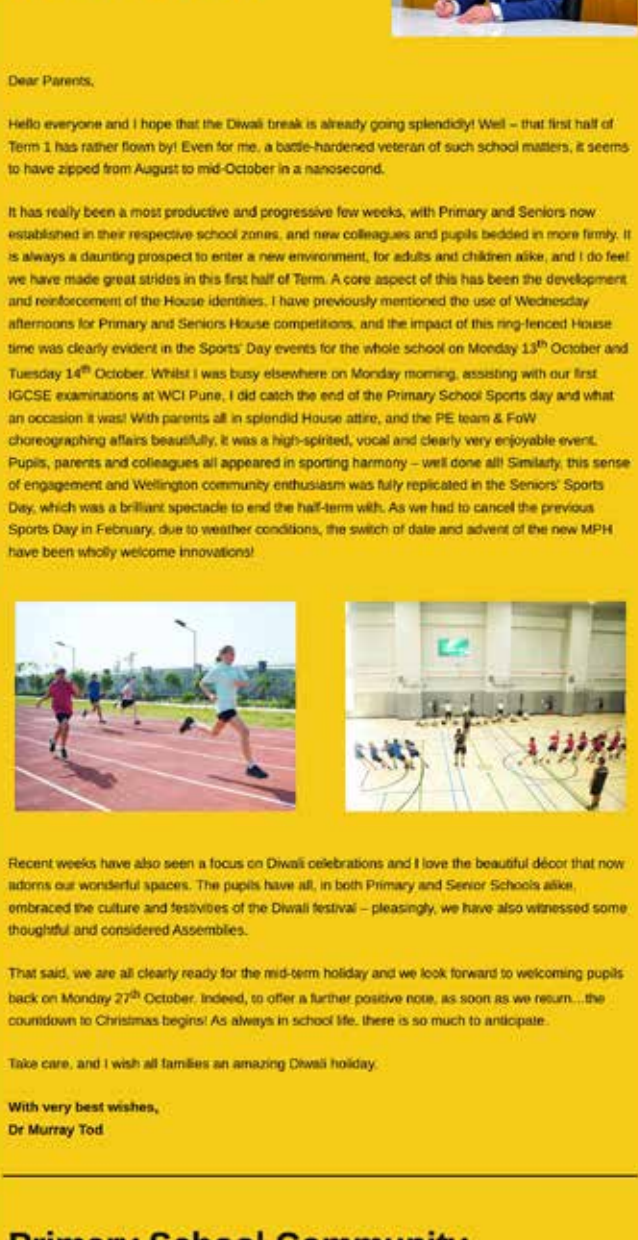


Wednesday, 15th October, 2025

Wellington Weekly

News and Updates from the Wellington Community



From Master's Desk



Dear Parents,

Hello everyone and I hope that the Diwali break is already going splendidly! Well – that first half of Term 1 has rather flown by! Even for me, a battle-hardened veteran of such school masters, it seems to have zipped from August to mid-October in a nanosecond.

It has really been a most productive and progressive few weeks, with Primary and Seniors now established in their respective school zones, and new colleagues and pupils bedded in more firmly. It is always a daunting prospect to enter a new environment, for adults and children alike, and I do feel we have made great strides in this first half of Term. A core aspect of this has been the development and reinforcement of the House identities. I have previously mentioned the use of Wednesday afternoons for Primary and Seniors House competitions, and the impact of this ring-fenced House time was clearly evident in the Sports' Day events for the whole school on Monday 13th October and Tuesday 14th October. Whilst I was busy elsewhere on Monday morning, assisting with our first IGCSE examinations at WCI Pune, I did catch the end of the Primary School Sports day and what an occasion it was! I witnessed it all in splendid House attire, and the PE team & FoW choreographing affairs beautifully. It was a high-spirited, vocal and clearly very enjoyable event. Pupils, parents and colleagues all appeared in sporting harmony – well done all! Similarly, this sense of engagement and Wellington community enthusiasm was fully replicated in the Seniors' Sports Day, which was a brilliant spectacle to end the half-term with. As we had to cancel the previous Sports Day in February, due to weather conditions, the switch of date and advent of the new MPH have been wholly welcome innovations!



Recent weeks have also seen a focus on Diwali celebrations and I love the beautiful décor that now adorns our wonderful spaces. The pupils have all, in both Primary and Senior Schools alike, embraced the culture and festivities of the Diwali festival – pleasingly, we have also witnessed some thoughtful and considered Assemblies.

That said, we are all clearly ready for the mid-term holiday and we look forward to welcoming pupils back on Monday 27th October. Indeed, to offer a further positive note, as soon as we return – the countdown to Christmas begins! As always in school life, there is so much to anticipate.

Take care, and I wish all families an amazing Diwali holiday.

With very best wishes,
Dr Murray Tod

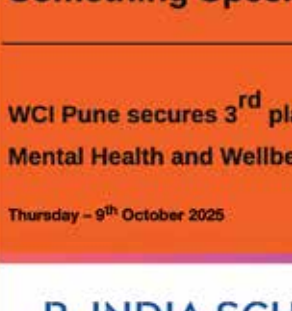
Primary School Community

Dear Primary Parents,

At the end of a busy term, I would like to take a moment to reflect on everything we have achieved together as a school community. The past weeks have been filled with learning, celebration and dedication, and it has been wonderful to see our pupils flourish, families engage, and staff work with such conviction to support every child.

This Term has provided opportunities for families to connect closely with school life. Our Meet the Teacher sessions, coffee morning, physics workshop, learning showcases, Sports Day, and Founder's Day have helped build strong partnerships between home and school, ensuring that everyone felt informed and supported as the year got underway.

Community events have continued to bring great energy and enjoyment to our school. Our vibrant Garba celebration was a wonderful point in the Term, bringing pupils, staff and families together to celebrate tradition and culture. The elections for our pupil leadership roles were another highlight, and it was inspiring to see so many children demonstrate confidence, enthusiasm and a strong desire to contribute to our school community.



Sports Day, a celebration of sport and togetherness, held on Monday 13th October, was a truly memorable event. Pupils from KS1 and KS2 took part in a range of events that celebrated physical activity, resilience and house spirit. From sprints to relay races and team challenges, every child had the opportunity to participate and cheer on their peers. The atmosphere was one of celebration and support, and it was a joy to see the pride and sense of achievement on the children's faces. A special thank you goes to our staff for their careful organisation and to families for joining in the races and cheering from the sidelines.

We ended the half-term with a very special Diwali assembly, which brought the whole school together to celebrate the festival of light. Pupils shared the importance of this festival through song, dance, storytelling and drama, and it was wonderful to see their confidence and creativity shine on stage. The assembly reflected the values we hold dear as a school community: respect, kindness and learning from one another and was a fitting way to close the half-term full of shared experiences and celebration. A big thank you to the choir for performing, a great way to end our assembly.

Being part of events like the Garba celebration, Sports Day and our Diwali assembly has also allowed me to see first-hand how much the children enjoy coming together to learn, celebrate and grow. I am very lucky to be part of a community that is so welcoming, ambitious and caring, and I am excited about continuing to work with staff, pupils and families to make this year a truly memorable one for everyone.



This half-term has been very special for me, as it is my first as Head of Primary at this wonderful school. It has been a real privilege to get to know pupils, families and staff, and to experience the energy, enthusiasm and kindness that make our school such a vibrant community. Spending time in classrooms, seeing children engaged with their learning, and taking with them about their achievements has been incredibly rewarding. I have been particularly inspired by the way our pupils support one another, approach challenges with curiosity, and take pride in their work.

I want to thank our staff for their hard work and care, our pupils for their enthusiasm and kindness, and our families for the support you give every day. Together, we have achieved so much in just a few short weeks, and I am confident that the months ahead will be just as exciting and enriching.

I wish you all a restful and happy Diwali break, and look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday, 27th October.

Best regards,
Katherine Kelly

Senior School Community

Dear Senior School Parents,

The Diwali Assembly at school was celebrated with great enthusiasm and festive spirit on Monday, 13th October. The programme began with the traditional lighting of the lamp, symbolising the victory of light over darkness and knowledge over ignorance.

The Senior School students presented a vibrant and meaningful skit and the performance beautifully captured the spirit and significance of Diwali, the Festival of Lights.



The end of this half-term was celebrated in an ecstatic manner with the Senior School Sports Day! The atmosphere at WCI Pune was buzzing with excitement as we proudly hosted our first-ever Sports Day. A remarkable milestone that brought together pupils, parents, and staff for an unforgettable day of energy, teamwork, and celebration. Our Senior School showcased not only outstanding athletic ability but also the very essence of our college values: Respect, Responsibility, Integrity, Courage, and Kindness.



Our International Award for Young People (IAYP) students took part in two exciting training sessions this week, held on Wednesday 8th October and Friday 10th October afterwards and led by the expert team from Adventure Matrix. These sessions were all about preparing for the upcoming Bronze-level Adventurous Journey – and building confidence, teamwork, and leadership along the way!

Students learned how to plan routes, navigate, set up camp, cook outdoors, and respond to emergencies – all while developing a deeper respect for the environment and each other. The activities were hands-on, energetic, and full of laughter and collaboration.

A group of IBDP CAS students also joined the sessions, as they contribute to their Creativity, Activity, Service requirements. It was fantastic to see both IAYP and CAS students working side by side, learning new skills and supporting one another. Everyone left inspired and ready for the adventure ahead!



Furthermore, our Year 12 IBDP Chemistry students recently showcased their creativity and scientific ingenuity by constructing a model of buckminsterfullerene – popularly known as a "buckyball". With the molecular formula C_{60} , buckyballs are remarkable carbon structures composed of hexagons and pentagons, resembling the iconic shape of a football.

Scientifically, buckminsterfullerenes are covalent molecules with fascinating properties. Their spherical shape and unique arrangement of atoms have inspired research into potential applications, including as carriers for targeted drug delivery in medicine. Interestingly, due to weak intermolecular forces between molecules, C_{60} has a relatively low boiling point, meaning less thermal energy is needed to overcome these attractions.



The Senior School has also witnessed, over the past two weeks, Parent-Teacher Conferences (PTCs) for Years 8, 9, and 12, fostering meaningful dialogue between parents and teachers about pupils' progress, achievements, and areas for growth. These interactions provided an excellent platform to strengthen the home-school partnership and ensure that each student continues to receive the right support and guidance. We appreciate the active participation of parents in these discussions.

PTCs for Years 10 and 11 will be held after the Diwali break, and details will be shared in due course. This week also marked an exciting academic milestone at Wellington College International Pune as a selection of our Year 11 students sat the school's first official IGCSE examinations. On Monday 13th and Wednesday 15th October, these pioneering students undertook their Cambridge IGCSE Extended Mathematics papers, stepping confidently into this next chapter of their academic journey.

Best Wishes,
Senior School Team

What's New

Mr Chirag Hasija

Mathematics Teacher

Mr Chirag is the Mathematics teacher for Year 7, 8, 10, and 12, for both AA and AI. He believes that every student learns differently and at their own pace and in their own way. As a Mathematics teacher, he believes in creating a supportive and encouraging environment where every learner feels confident to explore, question, and grow. He stands by the belief that once students strengthen their logical thinking and mathematical reasoning, their overall understanding naturally deepens.

For him, teaching Mathematics is about more than numbers; it's about building curiosity, confidence, and a genuine love for learning. When students feel safe, supported, and valued in the classroom, learning becomes a shared adventure – one where both teacher and students grow together.

Something Special

WCI Pune secures 3rd place in the Mental Health and Wellbeing Rankings for 2025-26

Thursday – 9th October 2025

R. INDIA SCHOOL RANKINGS

Recognition of Achievement in The Best School Rankings
Exclusive Assessment for Mental Health & Wellbeing (MHW)

This certifies that
Wellington College International Pune
participated in the R. ISR - MHW Rankings 2025-26 by
R. World Institutional Ranking, and has been positioned at
Rank #3 for demonstrated excellence in promoting holistic
education with a focus on MHW for students and staff.

R
World Institutional
RANKING

Issued on 08 October 2025 | Certificate e-Stamp: RISR25MHW3

WCI Pune has secured 3rd place among the Top 100 schools across India in the R. India School Rankings. The Mental Health and Wellbeing (MHW) School Rankings recognise excellence in promoting Mental Health and Wellbeing across the country's leading K-12 institutions.

This unique ranking framework highlights schools that have embraced proactive wellbeing initiatives, safe learning environments, inclusive practices, and strong support systems for students, faculty, and parents alike. Recognising pioneers in mental health education, this initiative aims to inspire other schools to adopt best practices and create healthier, happier campuses.

Chuseok Celebration

Monday – 6th October 2025

Our Pre-Nursery and Nursery pupils joyfully celebrated Chuseok, the Korean harvest festival.

The celebration, led by the parental body, was filled with laughter, gratitude and learning as the little ones engaged in fun activities. Pupils also explored the Korean traditions followed on this special day. It was a wonderful way to come together as a community, cherishing family connections and the spirit of empathy that Chuseok represents.

Rangoli Competition

Wednesday – 8th October 2025

WCI Pune hosted the Senior School House Rangoli Competition as part of the Diwali celebrations. Students showcased their creativity and artistic skills, designing vibrant and intricate rangolis that reflected the spirit of the festival of lights.

The competition was a wonderful display of teamwork, imagination, and attention to detail, as each House collaborated to create unique patterns and colourful designs. The event not only highlighted the students' artistic talents but also reinforced the values of cooperation and healthy competition among the houses.

The Rangoli Competition added a festive charm to the campus and was a joyful way to celebrate Diwali, with each design radiating the energy, warmth, and cultural richness of this beloved festival.

FoW Diwali Lunch and Bazaar

Thursday – 9th October 2025

Our Friends of Wellington (FoW) team and the wider parent community came together to celebrate the spirit of Diwali with a vibrant Diwali Bazaar. The event brought everyone together in a joyful atmosphere filled with festive décor, delightful food, music, and stalls showcasing creativity, culture, and community spirit – a wonderful celebration of togetherness and tradition at Wellington College International Pune.

Diwali Celebration Primary School Assembly

Friday – 10th October 2025

The Primary School students presented a vibrant and meaningful Diwali Assembly on 10th October 2025. The programme beautifully captured the spirit and significance of Diwali, the festival of lights that symbolises the triumph of good over evil and light over darkness.

Through a well-performed skit, the young learners depicted the importance of Diwali, explaining why the festival is celebrated across India with such joy and enthusiasm. They shared the traditional stories behind the celebration, the reason we decorate our homes with lamps and rangoli, and how the festival brings families and communities together in love, peace, and harmony.

Adding to the festive cheer, our school choir delivered a lively and upbeat Diwali song, filling the auditorium with rhythm, joy, and a true festive spirit. Their melodious performance was met with enthusiastic applause from the audience.

The assembly not only celebrated the cultural richness of Diwali but also reminded everyone of the deeper message of spreading light, kindness, and happiness in our lives.

Diwali Celebration Senior School Assembly

Monday – 13th October 2025

Senior school pupils performed an educating and informative skit during the senior school Diwali assembly. Through engaging narration, expressive acting, and lively dialogues, the students portrayed how Diwali is celebrated. They also showcased how this festival unites people in joy, love, and togetherness.

In addition, the performance depicted the tradition of decorating homes with diyas, rangoli, and lights – a gesture that symbolises welcoming Goddess Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth and prosperity, and spreading happiness all around.

The skit was a perfect blend of information, creativity, and festive energy. It reminded everyone of the deeper meaning behind Diwali – to fill our hearts and homes with light, kindness, and positivity.

Adding to the festive mood, our choir pupils delivered a vibrant and melodious Diwali song, filling the auditorium with rhythm, energy, and joy. Their performance created a lively atmosphere that truly captured the spirit of the festival of lights.

The assembly not only celebrated the cultural richness of Diwali but also reminded everyone of the deeper message of spreading light, kindness, and happiness in our lives.

Primary School Sports Day

Monday – 13th October 2025

The sports field was filled with colour, cheer, and unstoppable energy as our young Primary School athletes took part in an action-packed programme of events from the Miracle Run, 100m Sprint, and 4x100m Relay, and exciting MPH activities, including the Free Kick Shot, Bean Bag Target Throw, Pipeline Challenge, Obstacle Course, and the grand finale the Tag of War!

Adding an extra splash to the day were the Parents' Events, with the FoW featuring a Relay Race and Tag of War that had everyone on their feet cheering. The laughter, encouragement, and community spirit captured the very heart of WCI Pune where learning extends beyond the classroom and families share in the joy of active participation.

Throughout the day, our pupils demonstrated Respect for their teammates, Responsibility in their roles, and Courage to give every event their best effort. Their smiles and sportsmanship were shining examples of Kindness and Integrity in action.

