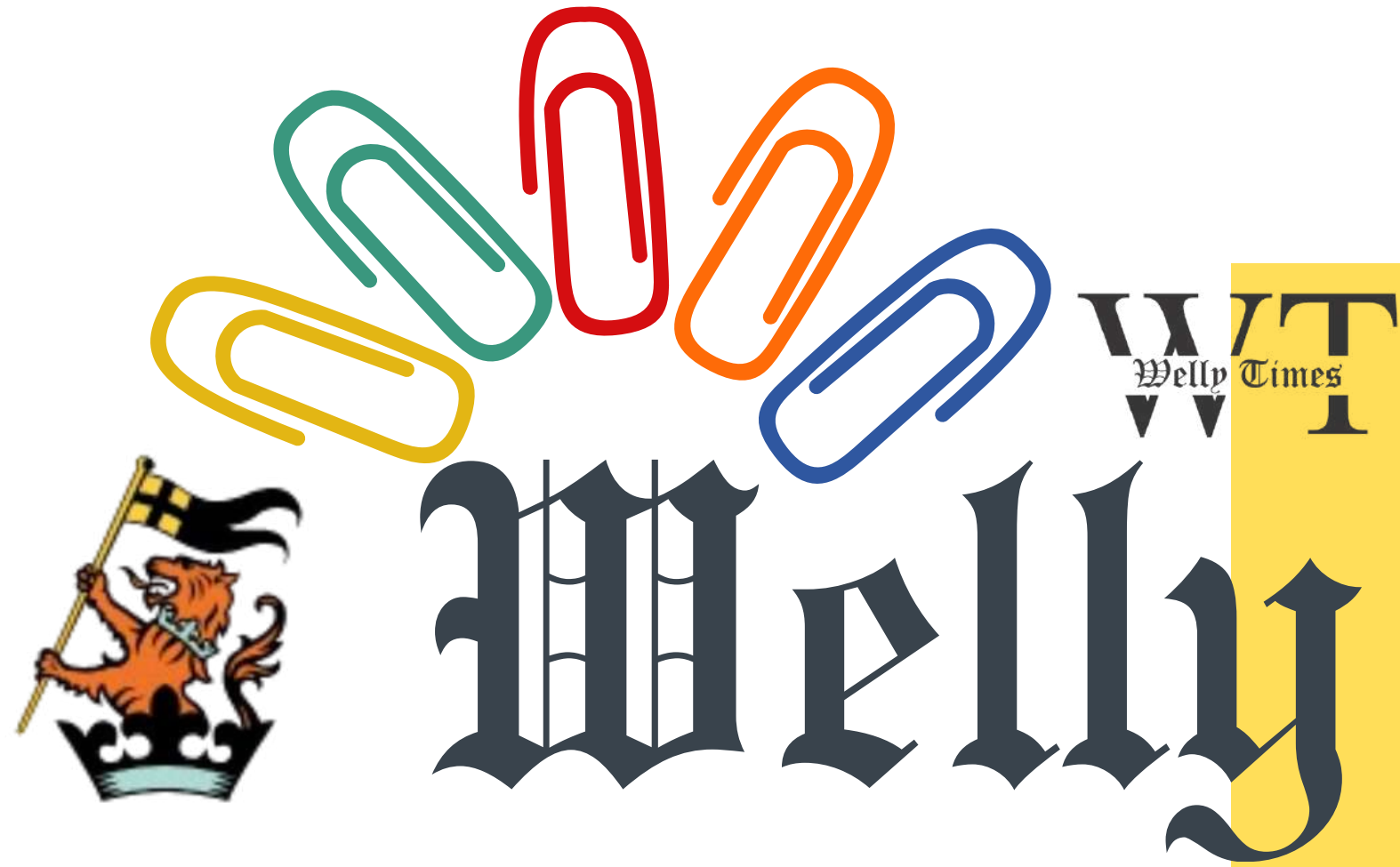


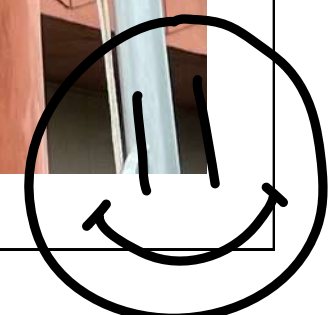
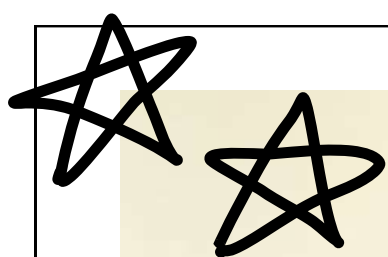


Wellington College International Pune

Welly Times

New academic year 2025-2026!

2025 | Vol.1



Meet the Team



Rishi
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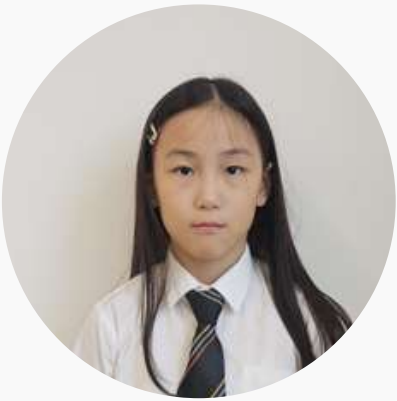
Fabian
Reporter



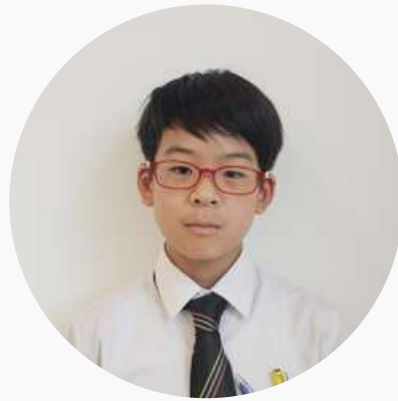
Abhay
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Laura
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Doi
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Kei
Reporter



Shay
Reporter

Our Teachers



Dr. Khoda



Ms. Hopf

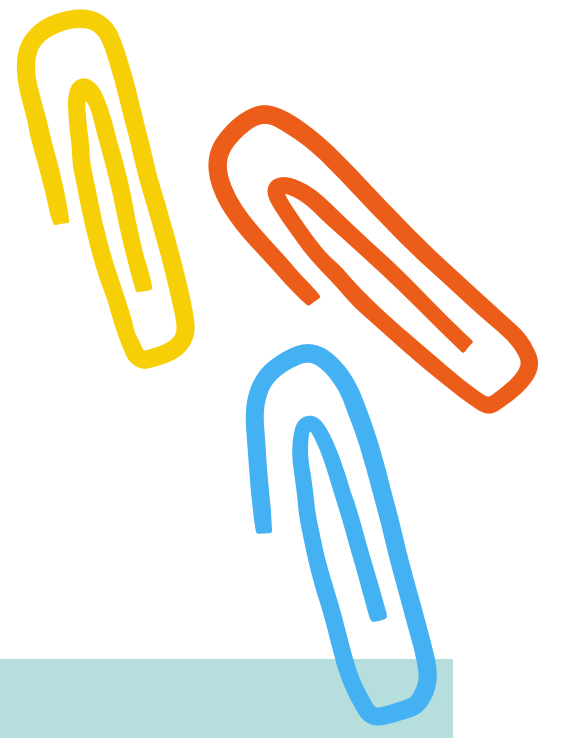


Rudraansh

Editor-in-Chief's note

Everyone on the team worked very hard and it created a great environment for everyone.





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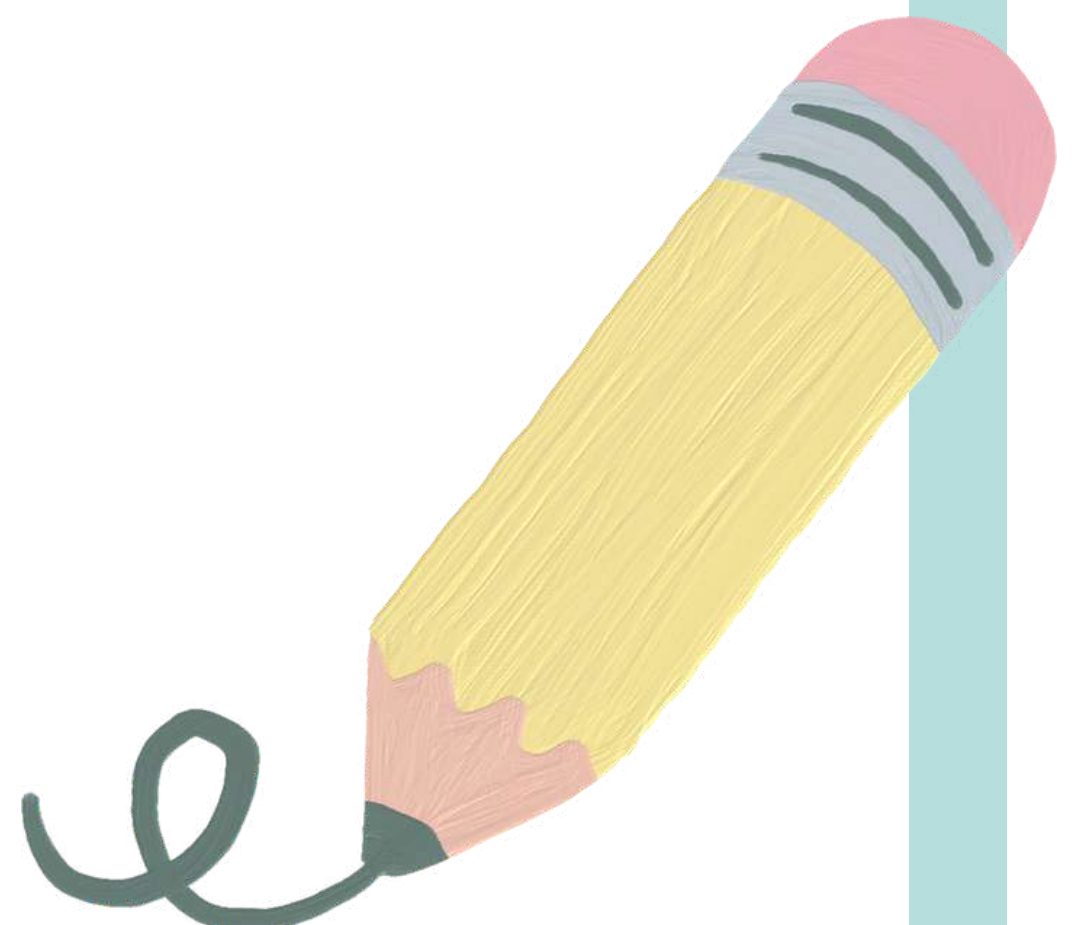
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Back to School!

written by Shay Mehta, Yr 7

Summer break is over, and all our pupils are back!

It seems a long time ago, but we are going to be covering the first day of school and some of the new additions we have this year, so let us get into it!

Students were warmly welcomed with a speech by our Founding Master, Dr. Murray Tod, telling us about the new Senior School Building facilities, the core values of the school, and about what we can expect this year.

With a new building come new facilities! Here are all the new facilities we have: Senior Library, Art Studio, Physics, Biology, and Chemistry laboratories, and 2 Computer Science rooms (one with PCs, and one classroom). Stick around till the end for a feature about the new MPH.

All students were then taken on tours around the new building with their respective groups, helping them get familiar with the new environment. This was followed by a short orientation on the school expectations and values.

The most exciting part were the games we played, including teacher bingo and a scavenger hunt, which helped us get to know our teachers and the classrooms.





We interviewed some new and returning students about their opinion of the new school building:

- Doi Kim (Returning Year 7 student, who has been here since 2023) says: "The new Senior school block is great; we can also have new subjects in school, and I like the new subjects. I am looking forward to the student council and the Math Olympiad."
- Shay Mehta (New Year 7 student) says: "I really like this new school, it's a big step up from my old one, nice facilities, and good teachers."
- Kei Kang (Returning Year 7 student) says: It's quite big and the facilities are very nice.
- Rudraansh Chavan (Returning Year 8 student) says: The new school building is a large area where students can explore and have fun.
- Finlay Colliar (Returning Year 10 student) says: "The new school building is a very impressive and modern space that allows us to participate in more activities."



Independence Day

written by Rudraaansh Chavan, Yr 8



WCI Pune celebrated the 79th Independence day of India where we ceremoniously hoisted the flag.

The first Independence Day was celebrated on August 15, 1947, marking the end of over 200 years of British colonial rule and the beginning of India as a free country.

At Wellington College International Pune, Independence Day is celebrated with a lot of excitement! The day starts with a flag hoisting ceremony where the Indian flag is raised. After that, some students and teachers give speeches about the importance of Independence Day and how India got its freedom.

The school is decorated with balloons, posters, and drawings made by students. The celebration ends with treats provided in the Dining Hall, where we feast and enjoy ourselves. Independence Day becomes a happy and proud moment for the whole school.



Ganesh Chaturthi

written by Juha Park, Yr 11

Ganesh festival, or Ganesh Utsav, is one of the main Hindu festivals in India. It is dedicated to Lord Ganesha, the god of wisdom, prosperity, and new beginnings. It helps to get people united in joy. It is celebrated between August to September, during the Hindu month of Bhadrapada.

Ganesh Chaturthi cherishes the birth of Lord Ganesha, the beloved son of Lord Shiva and Goddess Parvati. According to Hindu mythology, Lord Ganesha was blessed by various gods for bringing fortunes and removing barriers. This festival became prominent in the late 19th century when the freedom fighter Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak encouraged people to celebrate Ganesh Utsav in gatherings. This helped raise collective spirits while Indians were struggling for independence.

The festival begins with installing crafted idols (usually made of mud) of Lord Ganesha in homes or public pandals. People perform rituals like pranapratishta, the act of invoking life into the idol, followed by aarti, or prayer with lamps. There is chanting of hymns and offering sweets like modaks, which are Ganesha's favourite.



The duration for this festival varies from one-and-a-half days to eleven days. On the final day, known as Anant Chaturdashi, devotees immerse the idols in water in a ritual called Ganesh Visarjan. This symbolises the cycle of creation and dissolution in nature.

Today, Ganesh Chaturthi is not only celebrated in India but also overseas in large Indian communities. Ganesh festival is a celebration of culture and community which brings people together and teaches us the importance of unity and gratitude.



Teachers' day

written by Kei Kang, Yr 7

Teachers' Day is celebrated on 5th September every year in India, to honour India's second president, Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, who believed that "teachers should be the best minds in the country".

International Teachers' Day is celebrated on 5th October every year.

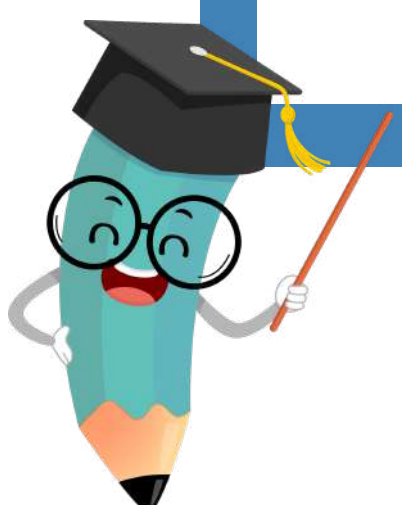
Wellington College India invited Dr. Ranjitsinh Disale, one of the best teachers in India. He won the \$1 million annual Global Teacher Prize in 2020, which he used to improve teaching conditions in both his school and some other schools too.

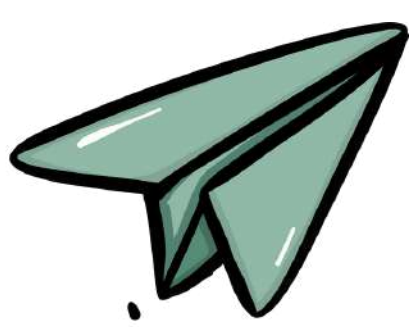
Mr Disale is also famous for his innovative teaching skills. For example, he captured student interest by showing Bollywood movies including ones with well-known actors. After students started attending, he began teaching science through real life examples and activities that related to their daily lives.



Mr Disale didn't want to become a teacher at all! He wanted to become an engineer, but his plan went awry as he was unable to get a job after graduation. Instead of quitting, Disale's father asked him if he wanted to be a teacher and he agreed.

Overall, Dr. Ranjitsinh Disale's innovative and creative teaching techniques have captured the hearts of many and we wish him, as well as all teachers, all the best in his career and life. HAPPY TEACHERS' DAY!!





Second Founders' Day

written by Doi Kim, Yr 7



Wellington College International Pune celebrated its second Founders' Day on 13th September, 2025. This was a huge celebration, attended by pupils, parents and staff members of Wellington College International Pune. Other guests, like the governors, were also there to celebrate. There were some inspiring speeches on that day. There was a very nice speech by Dr. Murray Tod (the school's Founding Master), and everyone loved it when he started dancing to an old Irish song when he was climbing up the steps to the stage.

There were several performances to celebrate the event. The Senior School music Band performance was wonderful. The audience also enjoyed the dance performances by the Primary pupils as well as a Bharat Natyam performance by two teachers, Ms Khoda and Ms Nair.

However, the most exciting part of the day for the students was the Games and Activities zone. There were many fun activities, such as face-painting, pottery, photo booth and VR games. Many parents enjoyed eating lunch in the dining hall with their families. Children loved the desserts that were set up in the corner of the dining hall. Everyone thought that this was a very memorable experience.





Navratri and Garba

Written by Shay Mehta, Yr 7



With Navratri comes dance, we celebrate the Hindu goddess Durga and her 9 nine forms, hence 9 ('nav') nights ('ratri'), and the most exciting part of the festival is playing garba and dandiya.

Our school held an afterschool event for this, allowing students, teachers and parents to have fun and dance their hearts out. To prepare for this, parents could attend garba classes in the LG MPH facilitated by the dance teacher, Ms Khoda in the late afternoons. Ms Khoda also held classes for teachers who wished to learn to play the garba on different afternoons. Students were taught the steps to play garba during their dance classes and dance CCA.

On the day of the event, many people dressed in traditional Indian clothes and stepped out into the football field. There was a seating area and some food stalls, providing "chaat" items like samosa, bhel, pani-puri, and lemonade. To set the vibe for the event, Ms. Khoda and her team put on an amazing performance, and then everybody gathered in a large circle with Ms Khoda leading the garba. After about an hour and a half, the event came to an end and the crowd dispersed.

It was a massive and energetic event with people of all ages from many different countries coming together and dancing in union, while playing the garba.