WELLINGTON
COLLEGE
INTERNATIONAL
PUNE

Friday, 21st November, 2025

Wellington Weekly

News and Updates from the Wellington Community

Realise your potential

From Master's Desk

Dear Parents and Wellington Community,

Hello and the 'Countdown to Christmas' has well & truly begun! In short: the Choirs are exercising their vocal chords, catering are assessing the requisite ingredients for the Christmas Lunch, the pupils are preparing for Winter Shows and House competitions, parents are keenly anticipating the Carnival (led by the Friends of Wellington (FoW) on Saturday 13th December) and colleagues are eager for the end of Term social events! Thank you to everyone involved – I know how much work and time is needed to pull off excellent Christmas events.

Prior to these occasions, our pupils have to navigate the end of Term assessments and offer a true reflection of their learning in recent weeks. Term 1 is the longest academic Term of the year and thus it is essential for pupils to treat these assessments with due respect. Good luck to everyone on this and I know the pupils will give great accounts of themselves.

I have greatly enjoyed offering tours of the new Senior School facilities, on several Friday mornings, to both Senior and Primary parents. Like all historians, I enjoy telling stories (often to the consternation of my academic and non-academic colleagues!), but I hope that the parents welcomed the opportunity to see our Senior Block in action. I am inordinately proud of how far the school has come in only two short years and 'showing off' such world-class facilities, with the Black Box Theatre and innovative new Music Department soon to arrive too, is one of the joys of being a Headmaster.

Less attractive, in the Master's orbit, is being dunked in water by our noble pupil body! However, for excellent charitable causes, I was delighted to 'volunteer' (?!) for the 'Dunk the Master' event this morning (Friday 21st November) – whilst I was slightly preoccupied by the looming waterfall coming my way, I am reliably informed that pupils and staff enjoyed the occasion, some perhaps too much, and a sizeable donation for a local orphanage was accrued. And, loyal readers, please rest assured that medical attention was on hand!

I wish everyone a most restful weekend – I am currently recovering in a hot spa treatment (for middle-aged Headmasters)!

Thank you, as always, for your commitment to the school.

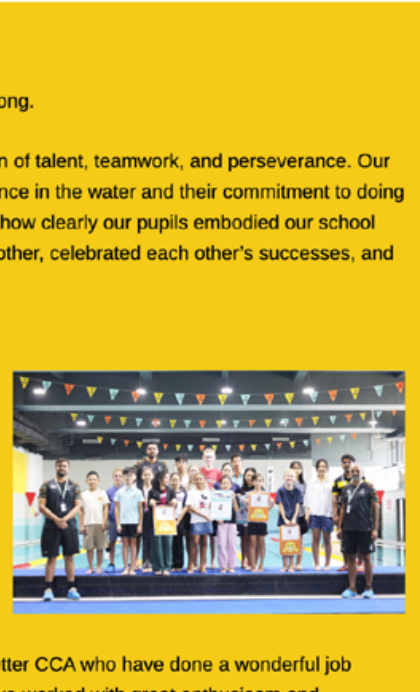
With very best wishes,
Dr Murray Tod

Primary School Community

Dear Primary Parents,

It's hard to believe how quickly this term is moving along.

Last Saturday's swimming gala was a true celebration of talent, teamwork, and perseverance. Our primary pupils impressed everyone with their confidence in the water and their commitment to doing their very best. What made the day truly special was how clearly our pupils embodied our school values throughout the event. They supported one another, celebrated each other's successes, and faced challenges with positivity and courage.



A huge well done to the talented pupils in our Newsletter CCA who have done a wonderful job putting together this month's edition. The children have worked with great enthusiasm and professionalism to research, write, and edit their own articles. Highlights include fascinating features on Famous and Yummy Foods in India and The Wonderful Country Called Korea (Republic of Korea) — which is now definitely on my list of places to visit. A special thank you also to our young reporter who interviewed me so confidently and professionally. Well done to all involved for producing such an engaging and informative newsletter.

We were delighted to welcome Mr Jan Dubiel to our school last week. Mr Dubiel is internationally recognised as a specialist in Early Childhood Education and was identified by TES as one of the ten most influential people in British education. He spent the day with our Early Years team further developing our learning behaviours and facilitated professional development sessions for staff ensuring our approach continues to reflect best practice and supports every child's curiosity, independence, and engagement in learning.

Our Maths in Action sessions have given parents the opportunity to sit in on a Maths lesson and experience first-hand how children explore and develop their mathematical thinking. It has been wonderful to see so many parents engaging with the sessions and sharing positive feedback.

We recently hosted a parent information session with our school counsellor. Ms Sanjyot plays a vital role in supporting the well-being and personal development of our pupils. Through one-to-one sessions, small-group work, and collaboration with teachers and parents, the counsellor helps children navigate social, emotional, and behavioural challenges in a safe and supportive environment. Her work promotes resilience, positive relationships, and healthy coping strategies, ensuring every child feels heard, valued, and ready to thrive both in and out of the classroom. If you wish to contact Ms Sanjyot, you can contact her via the email address:

counsellor@wellingtoncollege.in

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. It is wonderful to see our community so engaged in every aspect of school life.

Best regards,
Katherine Kelly

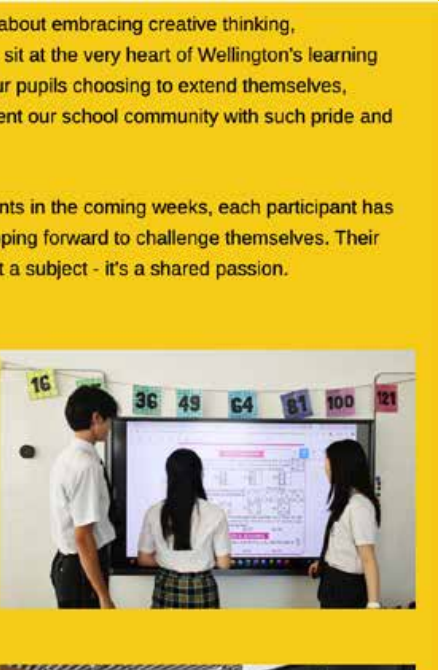
Senior School Community

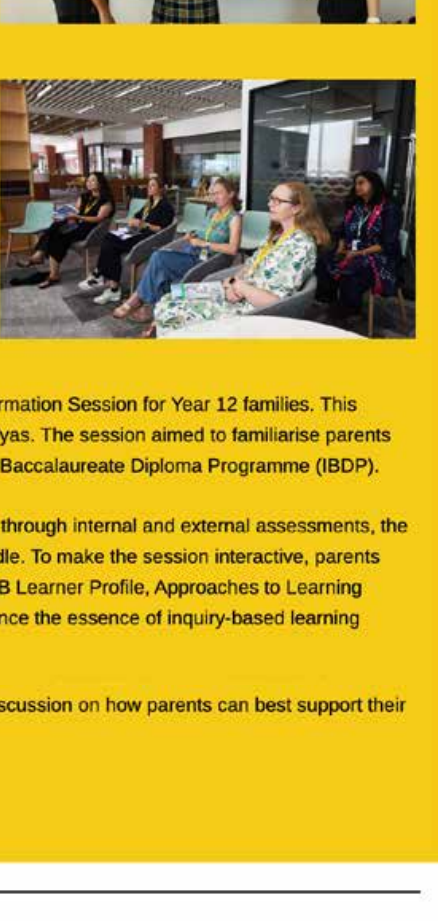
Dear Senior School Parents,

More than half of our Senior School students from Years 7–12 took up the exciting challenge of the Level 1 International Mathematics Olympiad (IMO) on Wednesday, 12th November - a great show of enthusiasm and academic courage. Their keenness to participate in a global competition, beyond the classroom, is a clear reflection of their commitment, curiosity, and genuine enjoyment of Mathematics.

The Olympiad is not just about solving problems; it's about embracing creative thinking, perseverance, and the thrill of discovery - values that sit at the very heart of Wellington's learning culture. It is deeply encouraging to see so many of our pupils choosing to extend themselves, explore mathematical ideas in new ways, and represent our school community with such pride and determination.

While we look forward to celebrating their achievements in the coming weeks, each participant has already accomplished something outstanding by stepping forward to challenge themselves. Their spirit shows that Mathematics at Wellington is not just a subject - it's a shared passion.





On Friday, 14th November, we hosted a Parents' Information Session for Year 12 families. This session was led by our IBDP Coordinator, Ms Vidhi Vyas. The session aimed to familiarise parents with the philosophy and structure of the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP).

Parents gained insight into how learning is assessed through internal and external assessments, the IB grading system, and the reporting process on Toddle. To make the session interactive, parents participated in short reflective activities linked to the IB Learner Profile, Approaches to Learning (ATL) skills, CAS, and TOK, allowing them to experience the essence of inquiry-based learning firsthand.

The event concluded with an engaging Q&A and a discussion on how parents can best support their children throughout the IB journey.

Best Wishes,
Senior School Team

What's New

Mr Malhar Joshi

Bursar

Our new Bursar, Mr Malhar Joshi, brings with him a wealth of experience to WCI Pune. Having transitioned from the corporate sector to the NGO sector and now into education, his career reflects a deep commitment to purpose-driven work. Mr Joshi believes in continuous learning and upskilling every few years to remain dynamic and adaptable. Joining Wellington was a strategic decision; a space where he could combine his corporate expertise with his interest in development and education, especially within the exciting journey of building a start-up under an established global brand.

Mr Joshi's values resonate deeply with Wellington's core principles: Courage, Respect, Responsibility, Integrity and Kindness. He strongly believes in servant leadership, placing pupils at the heart of every decision, and it only furthers his mission. He envisions a robust and efficient non-academic unit that works in harmony with the academic team to create an environment conducive to both learning and growth. For him, building the right culture, encouraging thoughtful action, and nurturing a strong sense of purpose within the staff are essential to making Wellington not just an excellent school for pupils but also a great place to work for its people.

Ms Nivedita Badepally

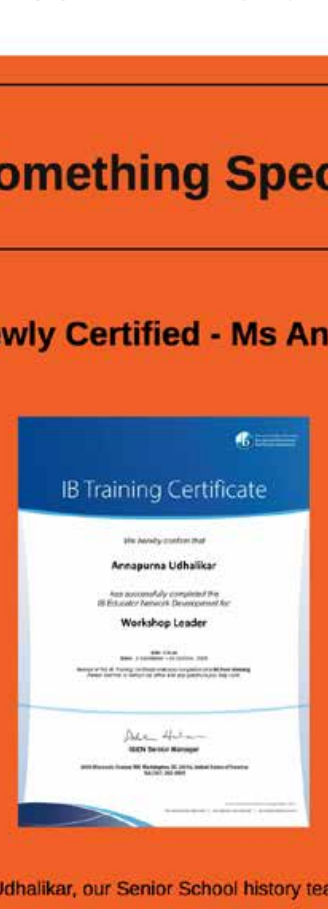
Senior School Art Teacher

Ms Nivedita joined us in August 2025 to bolster the whole school Art Department. She shares that the most rewarding part of teaching art at WCI Pune is the thoughtfully designed campus, where inspiring architecture and abundant natural light create the perfect environment for creativity. In fact, she is proud to be part of a school that gives art the same importance as every other subject.

In her classroom, Ms Badepally guides pupils by teaching them dynamic languages of art, art history, artist biographies, elements and principles of design, and self-expression through self-portraits.

Something Special

Newly Certified - Ms Annapurna Udhalikar



IB Training Certificate

We hereby confirm that

Annapurna Udhalikar

has successfully completed the IB Educator Network Development for

Workshop Leader

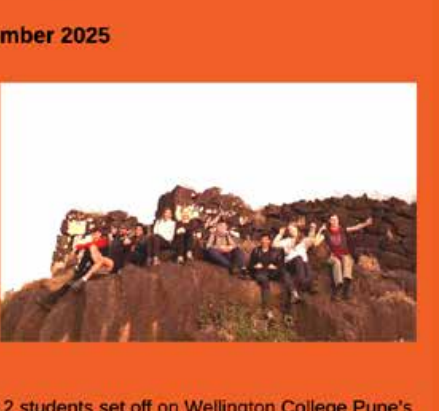
Ms Udhalikar, our Senior School history teacher, recently gained her IB Workshop Leader Certification. It is a qualification for educators who wish to lead training workshops for other teachers within the International Baccalaureate framework.

The certification process aims to ensure that workshop leaders can effectively disseminate IB methodologies and practices. This process fosters professional growth among IB educators and promotes consistency and quality in the delivery of IB education worldwide.

Having achieved this certification, Ms Udhalikar will be privileged to facilitate IB educators at varied platforms, including online hybrid sessions as well as face-to-face experiences.

Senior School IAYP and CAS Expedition

Friday - 7th November to Sunday 9th - November 2025



From 7th - 9th November, twenty-two of our Year 10-12 students set off on Wellington College Pune's first-ever Bronze International Award for Young People (IAYP) expedition - a milestone weekend of adventure, teamwork, and discovery.

Led by Adventure Mantra's expert instructors, and accompanied by Mr McKeown, Ms Kumanan, and Mr Mishra, the students embarked on a three-day journey through the Western Ghats, trekking from Kamshet to the historic Rajmachi Fort. They cooked their own meals, pitched their own tents, and navigated their routes in groups, learning resilience, responsibility, and self-reliance every step of the way.

What truly stood out was how our students embodied our school values - integrity, respect, responsibility, kindness, and courage. They encouraged one another on steep climbs, shared their water and snacks, and even helped carry each other's loads. The camaraderie was heartwarming, whether gathered around the campfire roasting s'mores, or performing in the evening talent show under a sky full of stars.

The expedition also gave students a glimpse of local life in Udhewadi village, where they engaged with residents and learned about the region's ecology and community livelihoods. From sunrise treks to Rajmachi Fort and visits to the Godhaneshwar Temple, every moment blended challenge with wonder!

For many, it was their first real camping experience - but by the end of the weekend, everyone returned a little muddier, a lot prouder, and infinitely more connected to each other and the world around them.

A huge congratulations to all our young adventurers for their incredible effort and spirit - and heartfelt thanks to Adventure Mantra and our accompanying staff for making this unforgettable experience possible!

Year 7: Cheek Cell Experiment

Monday - 10th November 2025

Our Year 7 students recently stepped into the fascinating world of cell biology through a hands-on microscopy investigation. As part of their unit on Cells and Living Organisms, students conducted an exciting Cheek Cell Experiment to observe human cells up close. During the practical, students gently collected their own cheek cells. The experiment not only strengthened their understanding of scientific concepts, but also allowed them to apply essential laboratory skills such as safe handling of equipment, accurate staining, and recording observations.

The excitement and curiosity in the lab were evident as students made their first real discovery, with one pupil even exclaiming…"I can actually see my own cells!".

Anti-Bullying Week

Monday - 10th November 2025 to Friday - 14th November 2025

Last week, in the Senior School, we observed Anti-Bullying Week, a global initiative dedicated to raising awareness about bullying and encouraging safer, kinder communities. The theme for this year, "Power for Good," emphasised that each of us carries influence, and when we use that influence with empathy and intention, we can create spaces where everyone feels respected and included.

As part of the week's observance, we held reflection activities during the registration periods. Students engaged in open sharing and meaningful conversations about their experiences, thoughts, and understanding of bullying. These sessions offered a gentle, reflective space for our community to pause, connect, and consider how we can each use our personal power responsibly and compassionately.

Mr Jan Dubiel Visit

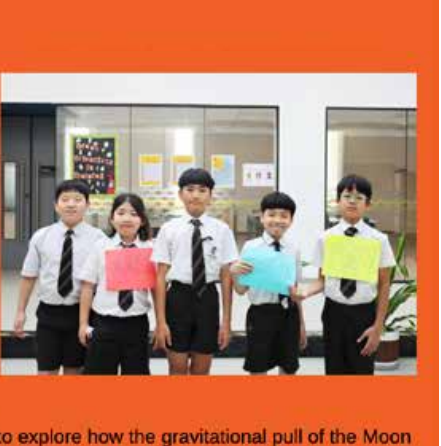
Thursday – 13th November 2025

On 13th November, WCI Pune were delighted to welcome Mr Jan Dubiel, a leading Early Years expert and author. He spent the full day with our Early Years team, focusing on high-quality interactions, sustained shared thinking, and purposeful learning through play.

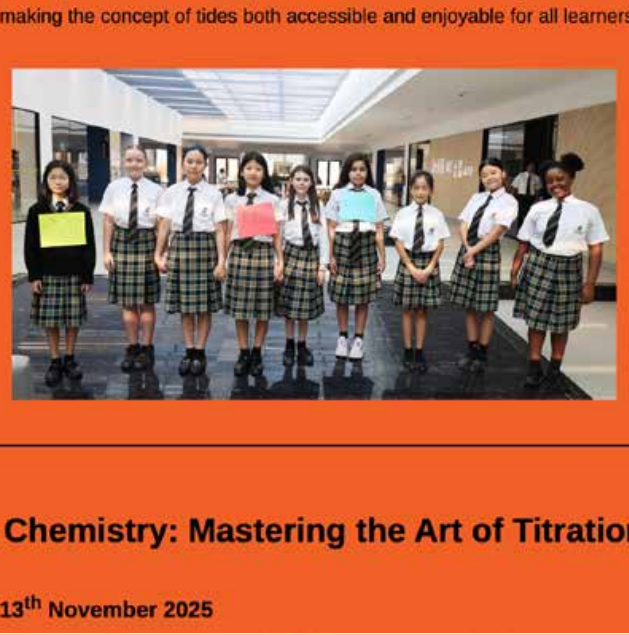
Mr Dubiel led honest discussions that encouraged us to pause, reflect, and look closely at the impact of our everyday practice, which would help us refine our approaches and strengthen our commitment to creating meaningful, child-centred learning experiences. We are grateful to Mr Dubiel for an inspiring and impactful day at WCI Pune.

Year 7: Formation of Tides - The Skit

Thursday – 13th November 2025



Our Year 7 students participated in an engaging skit to explore how the gravitational pull of the Moon and the Sun causes high and low tides on Earth. By acting out the roles of celestial bodies and oceans, students visualised complex scientific ideas in a fun and memorable way. This collaborative activity encouraged creativity, teamwork, and confident communication. It also strengthened their conceptual understanding of tidal movement and improved skills such as observation, critical thinking, and clear explanation of scientific processes. The skit successfully combined learning with performance, making the concept of tides both accessible and enjoyable for all learners.



Year 11 Chemistry: Mastering the Art of Titration

Thursday - 13th November 2025

Our Year 11 IGCSE Chemistry students have been gaining hands-on experience with titration, a fundamental analytical technique. Titration allows chemists to precisely determine the concentration of an unknown solution by carefully adding a solution of known concentration until a chemical reaction is complete.

Students have been learning essential skills such as accurate measurement with burettes and pipettes, using indicators like phenolphthalein to signal the endpoint, and performing calculations to find concentrations. This practical work not only reinforces their understanding of acid-base reactions but also develops their precision and analytical thinking.

Watching the colour change from pink to colourless at the endpoint with phenolphthalein creates "aha" moments in the lab, making abstract chemistry concepts come to life. This experience is crucial preparation for their IGCSE exams and a stepping stone toward scientific inquiry.

We are proud of our students' progress and enthusiasm in mastering this vital technique that's fundamental in chemistry and many science careers.

School Swimming Meet

Saturday – 15th November 2025

WCI Pune hosted a U-12 and U-14 swimming meet on Saturday 15th November 2025. We are proud to host such an inspiring swimming meet, where we welcomed talented young athletes from Chatrabhuj Narsee School, Mahindra International School and BLISS International School.

The event showcased exceptional skill, discipline, and sportsmanship as pupils competed across various categories with remarkable enthusiasm. We celebrated athletic excellence, resilience, teamwork and inter-school camaraderie. We extend our gratitude to all participating schools for contributing to a memorable and uplifting experience for our learners.

Mental Health and Wellbeing: Parents Information Session

Wednesday – 19th November 2025

On Wednesday, 19th November, we held our first Parent Counsellor Session for the Primary School community.

The morning began with reflective check-ins and a warm-up that helped us settle into an open, trusting space. Parents shared their expectations and concerns around the counselling role with honesty and enthusiasm.

Ms Sanjyot Hardikar, our Counsellor also discussed important aspects of counselling such as confidentiality, consent, boundaries, and responsible communication. Bullying- a growing concern, was briefly highlighted, with a commitment to address it more deeply in upcoming sessions.

Grounded in the theme "It takes a village," the session reinforced our shared goal: to build a strong, supportive ecosystem around every Wellington child. We look forward to creating more opportunities for dialogue and connection as we work together to nurture the well-being of our students.

Higher Education Sessions

Friday – 14th November 2025 and Friday - 21st November 2025

Friday mornings at WCI Pune for Years 10, 11, and 12 are now dedicated to career talks and activities designed to help pupils discover their passions and guide them toward their future through Higher Education (HE) sessions.

In one of the sessions, Year 10 pupils wrote letters to their friends about what inspires them. The activity, "Crafted to Inspire", encouraged pupils to reflect on their personal interests and consider how the qualities they admire in a product or person might influence their future choices.

Another highlight was the "Personal Inventory" session for Years 10, 11, and 12. Through this exercise, students learned how recognising their strengths and weaknesses can pave the way to happier and more successful lives. The session became an inspirational and unforgettable experience when Dr Tod openly shared his own strengths and weaknesses with the pupils. His honesty reminded students that weaknesses are a natural part of who we are, and he encouraged them to embrace these challenges while working to transform them into strengths.

Pupils left the session feeling motivated and empowered, carrying with them the message that self-awareness and self-reflection are among the first steps toward growth and success.

KS3 Interdisciplinary Day

Friday – 21st November 2025

Season 2- KS3
House
Competition

The Key Stage 3 Interdisciplinary Day – Season 2, themed Harmonic Horizons: An Interdisciplinary Voyage, took place on Friday, 21st November and once again highlighted the remarkable creativity, teamwork, and cross-curricular thinking of our KS3 students. The event was designed to help students connect ideas across subjects while tackling real-world challenges that required imagination, problem-solving, and effective communication.

The afternoon began in the Auditorium, where students received an overview of the day's structure, judging criteria, and expectations. Each House then drew its challenge through a lottery system and moved to the Art rooms to begin planning and creating their products or solutions. With only 50 minutes of working time, teams collaborated with impressive focus and enthusiasm, using skills from multiple subjects—Science, Humanities, English, Maths, Art, and more—to shape their ideas.

The interdisciplinary tasks this year included a dynamic range of scenarios such as Eco-School of the Future, Future City Pitch, Mission Mars Survival, Innovation Fair, and Island Challenge. Each challenge encouraged students to integrate knowledge from at least three subjects, think critically about complex problems, design creative solutions, and present their ideas clearly. From futuristic designs to survival strategies and innovative product concepts, students showcased an exceptional ability to merge academic understanding with creativity and practicality.

After the creation phase, the Houses reconvened in the Auditorium for the presentation round. Each team had five minutes to pitch their concept to a panel of judges. The presentations were engaging, well-structured, and reflective of thoughtful collaboration. Judges praised the depth, originality, and interdisciplinary connections demonstrated across all Houses.

After much deliberation, Anglesey House was announced as the overall winner of Season 2. Their project was commended for its strong concept, clarity of delivery, and excellent integration of ideas from multiple subjects.

Congratulations to all KS3 pupils for putting up wonderful ideas and presentations.

Season 2- KS3
House
Competition

Behind the Scenes

Men's Day Celebration

Wednesday – 19th November 2025

At Wellington College International Pune, we celebrated Men's Day with heartfelt appreciation for the remarkable men who contribute to our school community every day. Our staff were treated to small tokens of appreciation, acknowledging their dedication, mentorship, and the steady strength they bring to our campus.

It was a simple yet meaningful celebration—one that honoured their hard work, their support for colleagues and students, and the positive impact they make in shaping our school environment. The day served as a reminder of the value of every member of our team and the importance of recognising the people who help keep Wellington thriving.

Staff Birthday

This week, on 19th November 2025, we celebrated the birthday of Mr Amid Esmaili, our Head of Sports and CCAs. We extend our warm wishes to him for a joyful and successful year ahead.

Voices of Wellington

Ms Rashmi Dixon, our Early Years Assistant Head, shares her insights on the Curiosity Approach, the joy of outdoor learning, and all the exciting events coming up at WCI Pune

Growing, Exploring and
Connecting with Nature

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Forthcoming Events

Football Tournament	Saturday – 22nd November 2025
Whole School Open Day	Saturday – 22nd November 2025
Football Tournament	Saturday – 29th November 2025
Welly Colour Fest	Saturday – 29th November 2025

Video

Sports Day Primary School and Senior School

Monday - 13th of October 2025 and Tuesday - 14th of October 2025

Click Here

Realise your potential