WELLINGTON COLLEGE INTERNATIONAL PUNE

Wednesday, 17th December 2025

Wellington Weekly

News and Updates from the Wellington Community

From Master's Desk

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the last Wellington Weekly of 2025 and, as all at WCI Pune can veritably attest, 'Tis the Season to be Jolly!
We have enjoyed a number of tremendous festive events in the concluding weeks of Term 1 and it has been a joy to see the school bedecked in Christmas decorations. I loved the Tree Lighting and Carol Service at The Ritz-Carlton – what a super advert for all of our young Wellington choristers and they represented the school beautifully! I was equally impressed by the endeavours of the Music Department at the Senior School Battle of the Bands, on Friday 12th December, and it was a rip-roaring (fun!) occasion; I was especially taken by how all the pupils, regardless of dance or musical ability, were involved and so proud to participate on behalf of their House. As mentioned previously, the development of this type of culture, of pupil empowerment and the sense of 'belonging' to a House community, is never easy to achieve and should be considered one of the pupils' finest achievements in the opening years of WCI Pune. Of course, these values are equally illustrated across the Primary School too and their Christmas event today (Wednesday 17th December) was a tour de force of planning and enthusiasm! The delight on the young faces was tremendous to witness! Well done all!

What a truly wonderful performance we shared today. Christmas at the Movies brought the joy, sparkle, and magic of the season to life on our stage, and I could not be prouder of our children. I think you'll agree they shone brightly.

A heartfelt thank you to our incredible team of teachers; our Music, IT, Marketing and Admin departments; our teaching assistants and support staff who worked tirelessly behind the scenes. From rehearsals and costumes to choreography, design, sound, and organisation, it has been a whole-school effort. Your creativity and commitment provide our children with rich opportunities to express themselves and grow.

To our parents, thank you for your continued support, helping with lines, practising songs at home, and encouraging your children throughout the process. We are grateful for your partnership and hope today's performance brought you as much pride as it did to us.

And to our stars of the show, a huge heartfelt congratulations! You performed with incredible confidence, energy and joy, bringing the songs to life and filling the auditorium with festive magic. Your dedication in rehearsals, your teamwork, and your enthusiasm on stage were truly inspiring. Each of you gave your very best, and it showed in every song, dance and line. You have made us all incredibly proud and reminded us why the arts are such a special part of school life. You are all shining stars, and the joy you have shared with your families, friends, and the whole school community will be remembered for a long time.

Together, we successfully organised many events in 2025, including our first-ever Christmas Carnival. Seeing the happy smiles of parents and children, all in the Christmas spirit, made every effort worthwhile. The encouraging feedback from parents truly motivates us as we plan even more engaging moments in 2026.

From the bottom of my heart, thank you to my amazing team, Jenessa, Kira, Lily, Chaturi, Sabiya, and Karishma, for your time, enthusiasm, and unwavering commitment. A heartfelt thank you as well to the Event Committee for your time and participation. We truly make a great team.

Stay tuned… 2026 is going to be exciting, joyful, and filled with beautiful memories.

Mabel Lomoley Sowatei
Co-Chair, FOW

What's New

Ms Mayuri Gavali

Computing Science Teacher

With over twelve years of experience in the classroom, Ms Mayuri Gavali brings confidence, clarity, and creativity to every lesson she teaches. She has worked with students across national and international schools and has a deep understanding of how young learners think, explore, and grow in the world of technology.

At WCI Pune, she teaches Computing Science to pupils in the Senior School, helping them build strong foundations in digital skills, problem-solving, and responsible use of technology. Her teaching style is inquiry-based, hands-on, and collaborative, ensuring that every child feels encouraged to experiment, question, and discover.

What truly defines Ms Gavali is her belief that learning never stops. She is constantly updating her knowledge and embracing new ideas, something she also inspires her students to do. For her, Computing Science is not just about coding or devices; it is about nurturing curious, thoughtful, and future-ready digital citizens.

Mr Kadir Sheikh

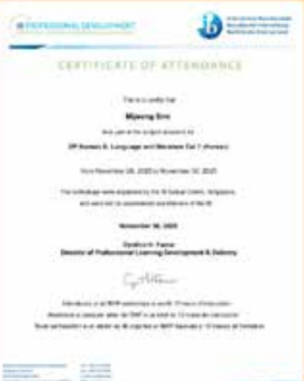
Facility Manager - Technical

Mr Kadir Sheikh, the new facility manager at WCI Pune, plays a vital role in ensuring that our campus remains a safe, efficient, and well-maintained environment. His responsibilities include overseeing school infrastructure, building maintenance, and all mechanical, electrical, and plumbing (MEP) operations that support the smooth functioning of daily school life.

Mr Sheikh works closely with the school leadership and ensures that all facilities meet the highest standards of health, safety, accessibility, and environmental compliance. His presence strengthens our commitment to providing a secure, comfortable, and supportive learning environment for pupils, parents, teachers, and staff alike.

Something Special

Newly Certified - Ms Mijeong Sim



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE

Mijeong Sim

We are pleased to share that Ms Mijeong Sim attended the Asia Pacific Workshop held in Singapore from 28–30 November and successfully completed the training for IBDP Korean A, receiving a certificate of completion.

The workshop provided an excellent opportunity to collaborate with fellow Korean educators across the Asia Pacific region and gain valuable insights that will further strengthen teaching and learning at our school. We are proud to support our educators in their continuous professional development and commitment to excellence.

The Ritz Carlton: Tree Lighting Ceremony

Saturday - 6th December 2025

At The Ritz-Carlton on Saturday 6th December, the air was filled with music, festivities and excitement!

Wellington College International Pune pupils had the honour of performing a carol service at The Ritz-Carlton for a beautiful Tree Lighting Ceremony. There, our Primary and Senior School choirs came together to share the spirit of the season through heartfelt and joyful Christmas melodies.

From the first note to the final applause by parents and spectators, the evening reminded us of the power of music and festive tradition, all brought vividly to life by the young voices of Wellington College Pune. An added bonus involved the surprise visit of Santa Claus with a bag full of chocolates for the participants and audience - rest assured, The Ritz-Carlton lobby was filled with laughter and stories!

Swimming Meet at Mahindra International School

Saturday – 6th December 2025

On Saturday 6th December, WCI Pune showcased an exceptional performance at the Mahindra International School Swimming Meet!

Our talented swimmers from the primary and senior schools gave it their all. It was a showcase of true discipline, strength, stamina and the Welly spirit! Their dedication and teamwork shone through as they battled it out in the pool, proudly securing the Runner-Up position among strong competition.

A huge congratulations to all our swimmers and appreciation to our coaches for guiding and inspiring the team.

PS: Nursery Parents - Coffee Morning

Wednesday – 10th December 2025

On Wednesday, 10th December, a Parents' Information Session was conducted for primary parents. The session was led by Ms Manpreet Kaur Bhatia, the new Nursery class teacher, who provided focused insights into the upcoming separation of the Pre-Nursery and Nursery classes.

The event served as an opportunity to introduce the new class teacher to the parents and also as an open platform for them to understand the academic and developmental benefits of this transition.

Ms Bhatia facilitated an in-depth discussion, followed by an engaging Q&A session where parents had the opportunity to clarify their queries and share their perspectives.

Parents then explored the newly designated classroom. Teachers and teaching assistants guided them through the space, offering a first-hand experience of the pupils' learning environment.

SS: House Battle of The Bands

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Saturday – 13th December 2025

The Friends of Wellington (FoW) Christmas Carnival on Saturday 13th December, was a wonderful celebration filled with festive cheer and bonhomie. The morning featured superb choir performances by our pupils, followed by an energetic parental & pupil band, magnificently showcasing an array of musical instruments and setting the perfect festive mood. From exciting games to vibrant stalls, the campus came alive as children soaked up the fun activities while parents enjoyed the cheerful conviviality of the season. The event was a super reflection of the amazing camaraderie at Wellington College Pune – it's clear the families loved the inaugural FoW Christmas Carnival!

Christmas Lunch

Monday – 15th December 2025

The WCI Pune campus came alive with festive cheer during the Christmas Lunch on Monday 15th December, featuring a very Christmas-y and jolly spread of exquisite delicacies. Pupils from the Primary and Senior School enjoyed their lunch break a little more than usual this Monday.

Pupils enjoyed a mix of assorted breads, dips, desserts and a delicious Christmas-inspired lunch. On the occasion of this festive lunch, the community connected and smiles were shared in anticipation of the most-awaited holiday of the year, Christmas.

PS: Christmas at the Movies Show

Wednesday – 17th December 2025

Our Winter Show, Christmas at the Movies, was a truly magical celebration and a wonderful reflection of our school community. It was incredibly special to see all our children, from Pre-Nursery right through to Year 6, sharing the stage together and performing with such confidence and joy.

Every child shone. The performances showcased not only talent and enthusiasm, but also our core school values in action. From the youngest children taking their first steps on stage to our older pupils leading with maturity and assurance, the sense of pride and togetherness was unmistakable. A special thank you goes to our House Captains and Vice House Captains, who led their houses so confidently and responsibly throughout the show. Their leadership, encouragement, and positive role-modelling made a real difference and helped ensure the event ran so smoothly.

Most importantly, thank you to all of the children for such a wonderful performance. Your energy, effort and smiles brought the show to life and made it a memorable occasion for everyone. We are incredibly proud of you all. What a way to end the term!

A heartfelt thank you also goes to our staff, whose hard work, commitment and teamwork behind the scenes made this production possible. From rehearsals and organisation to costumes, music and staging, their dedication ensured the show was a great success. We are also very grateful to you, our parents for your continued support, encouragement, and partnership with the school. Your enthusiasm and presence helped create such a positive and celebratory atmosphere for our children.

Behind the Scenes

Love Beyond the Lesson Plan, a book Authored Dr Khyati Khoda

Dr Khyati Khoda, our Senior School English Teacher and Key Stage 3 Coordinator, will be publishing her debut book, Love Beyond the Lesson Plan, on Wednesday 17th December 2025.
Written with sensitivity, insight, and deep compassion, Love Beyond the Lesson Plan is a reflective work of fiction that explores the emotional landscape of teaching, learning, and caregiving. The narrative follows a teacher's return to the classroom after a sabbatical following motherhood, as she navigates self-doubt, burnout, grief, and renewal.

Rooted in the lived experiences of educators and parents, the book highlights how healing and growth often emerge through presence, empathy, and human connection. It celebrates the power of stories, attentive listening, and the quiet courage found within classrooms and families alike.

Love and Fight, a book Authored Ms Sanjyot Hardikar

Love and Fight, authored by our School Counsellor Ms Sanjyot Hardikar, is inspired by her 21 years of experience working closely with children, adolescents, parents, and educators.

A sequel to Love and Light, Love and Fight is a thoughtfully curated collection of personal reflections and lyrical essays that explore everyday emotions, relationships, conflict, parenting, and the often unseen journey of personal growth. Written with warmth and honesty, the book gently invites readers to pause, reflect, and recognise moments from their own lived experiences.

The book will be launched on Wednesday, 17th December, and will be available in both e-book and print-on-demand formats.

10K Run

Our staff member, Mr Sagar More, actively participated in the 39th Pune International Marathon and successfully completed the 10 km run. His dedication and commitment to physical fitness serve as an inspiration to all.

We congratulate Mr More on his achievement and wish him continued success in his future sporting endeavours.

5K Run

Ms Gracy Viegas, our Marketing member, participated in the 6th AMC Half Marathon and successfully completed her maiden 5 km run. She shared that this achievement had been on her wish list for the year and was also one of her resolutions.

Her commitment and determination are truly commendable, and we congratulate her on reaching this personal milestone.

Staff Birthdays

We recently celebrated the birthdays of Mr Kadir Sheikh, Mr Malhar Joshi and Ms Muskaan Khan and extend our warmest wishes to each of them for a joyful and fulfilling year ahead.

Voices of Wellington

Ms Janet Danaher speaks about how English literature is a global conversation where stories cross borders, cultures, and generations to help us better understand the world and one another.

Click Here to Read

Forthcoming Events

Start of Term	Monday - 5th January 2026
SS: Y7 PTCs	Tuesday - 13th January 2026

Photos

Christmas Carnival

Saturday – 17th December 2025

Click Here

Video

Christmas Celebration

December 2025

Click Here

Realise your potential