Friday, 16th January 2026

Wellington Weekly

News and Updates from the Wellington Community

From Master's Desk

Dear Parents and Wellington Community,

I hope the start of Term 2 finds you all well!

Whilst only in week 2, the Term has ushered in a blizzard of events and endeavour, and I always believe it's an excellent way to embrace the commencement of a New Year! Similarly, it is excellent to be busy and to maintain a sense of purpose, and thus a super environment for new pupils to be welcomed into – on which note, I wish all new families a hearty hello to the Wellington community.

The advent of Term 2 has also ushered in the arrival of new colleagues, in the academic and non-academic teams, and I am grateful to all of them for their contributions to Wellington. Furthermore, I am delighted to welcome Dr Victoria Gardner, our new Head of Senior School, to the school's leadership and she is an excellent addition to WCI Pune. Her arrival is superbly timed, as the Year 11 pupils are currently participating in their IGCSE trial exams, so we have begun the year in a very motivated academic manner. Under Dr Gardner's experienced guidance, honed at some of the UK's leading schools, our older students' academic progression and Higher Education opportunities will be in very safe hands indeed! With the splendid news on the new Master from next academic year, and the continued excellence of Ms Kelly as Head of Primary too, I really do feel that the school's evolution will be entering a most dynamic trajectory.

As I highlighted in my start of Term letter, in addition to academic ambitions, including Olympiad involvement and Trinity College Speech & Drama examinations for some pupils, we have a number of sporting and cultural occasions to anticipate in the forthcoming weeks; and I am also delighted to see the CCA programme commence in such a committed fashion. Enrichment opportunities remain at the core of a Wellington education and we must always prioritise these avenues for a holistic education. In this vein, I am full of praise for the 'Annie' contingent, pupils and colleagues, and this musical splash promises to be one of the keynotes for Term 2 (occurring over 3 days in mid-February). Good luck to all involved.

Prior to this, of course, there is a Public Holiday on Monday 26th January to celebrate India's Republic Day and school will be closed for that occasion. There will be a small event in school that morning, for those available to attend, to mark this important date.

I hope that everyone enjoys a super weekend.

Best wishes,
Dr Murray Tod

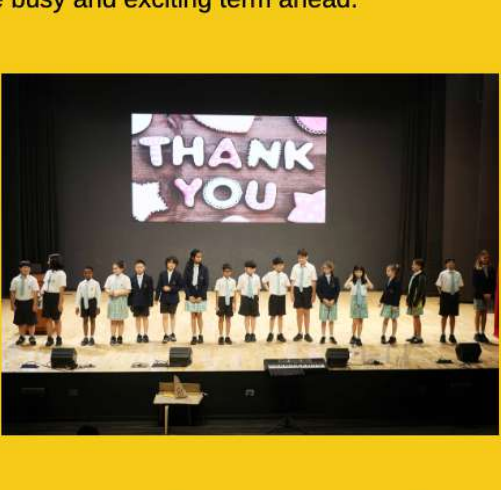
Primary School Community

Dear Primary Parents,

I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable break, spent quality time with family and friends. I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a very happy and healthy New Year.

Over the break, I was fortunate to spend time with family and friends in London and Scotland. Time was spent enjoying a visit to the theatre, visiting family in Scotland, and making the most of long walks together on the beach. We certainly experienced the cold and the snow, but there was something very special about it too, the snow really does make everything look and feel magical.

It has been a pleasure welcoming the children back to school. They have settled back into school life extremely well and returned with positivity, ready for the busy and exciting term ahead.



I am also pleased to share that Nursery and Pre-Nursery are now running as two separate classes. The children have coped amazingly well with this transition, showing confidence, flexibility, and enthusiasm as they settle into their new routines. We are very proud of how positively they have embraced this change.

Our Reception children continue to develop their independence and are now coming into school by themselves. This is a significant milestone and reflects their growing confidence and readiness for learning.

Pupil leadership opportunities continue to grow across the school. This month, children will be encouraged to express an interest in applying for the role of Sustainability Leader, where they will support our ongoing work to develop environmentally responsible practices and actively promote sustainability across the school community.

Congratulations to ...
Year 6 – Apolline V
Year 5 – Aarna
Year 4 – Eihyun
Year 3 – Arav
Year 2 – Jungho
Year 1 – Dahyun

Our weekly assembly provides an important opportunity for us to come together as a school community to celebrate success and strengthen a sense of fellowship and belonging. These shared moments help us to reflect on our collective experiences and recognise the achievements of individuals and classes within our school. From this term, we will be developing our weekly celebration assemblies so that each week a class takes centre stage to showcase their learning. This will give children the opportunity to share what they have been learning, building confidence and pride in their achievements, while the audience enjoys learning from their peers and celebrating success across the school.

As part of our regular safety procedures, a fire drill was conducted this week. I am incredibly proud of how the children responded. They listened carefully to instructions, remained calm, and evacuated the building safely and sensibly. The children moved quietly and promptly, following staff guidance at all times. Their responsible behaviour showed a strong understanding of our safety procedures and a clear commitment to keeping themselves and others safe. Well done!

I hope you have all received the updated Home Learning Guidance, along with your first Dip and Do sheet. These provide a range of optional home learning activities that you and your child can choose to complete together, supporting learning in a flexible and enjoyable way.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We are looking forward to a productive and successful term.

Best regards,
Katherine Kelly

Senior School Community

Dear Senior School Parents,

I am delighted to have joined Wellington College Pune and have already had many warm and joyful interactions with Senior and Primary pupils and staff. I look forward to getting to know the community as a whole in the weeks to come. It has been a typical Wellington week: uplifting and purposeful. Monday's assembly on entrepreneurship was an impressive introduction to our student body, with eleven Business students from Years 10, 11 and 12 eruditely and confidently presenting to the Auditorium. On Wednesday, there was a hive of activity in the East Cloister as pupils were excitedly painting and sketching scenes of 1930s America for the set of the forthcoming production of Annie. We are all very much looking forward to February's show.

This week has also seen the first trial examinations get underway for our Year 11 pupils in preparation for their summer IGCSE assessments. These trials provide an important opportunity for pupils to experience formal exam conditions and build confidence with key routines such as independent working, time management, and writing optimal responses to examination-style questions. Most importantly, they provide pupils with a crucial learning opportunity to identify their individual strengths as well as those areas that require further development, ensuring that revision and intervention can be targeted effectively in the months ahead.

Following the trials, pupils will receive detailed feedback and guidance from their teachers. This will support a clear focus on continuous improvement, helping pupils refine their understanding of the requirements of each paper and subject, and strengthen their subject knowledge through purposeful revision. We are proud of the maturity Year 11 have shown throughout the process, and we look forward to supporting them as they build momentum towards the summer examination period.

I shall be holding several parent coffee mornings in the V&A in the weeks to come. I shall send out more details next week and very much hope to meet many of you there.

Best wishes,
Dr Victoria Gardner

What's New

Ms Shweta Ransing

1:1 Learning Support Teaching Assistant

WHAT ZONE ARE YOU IN?

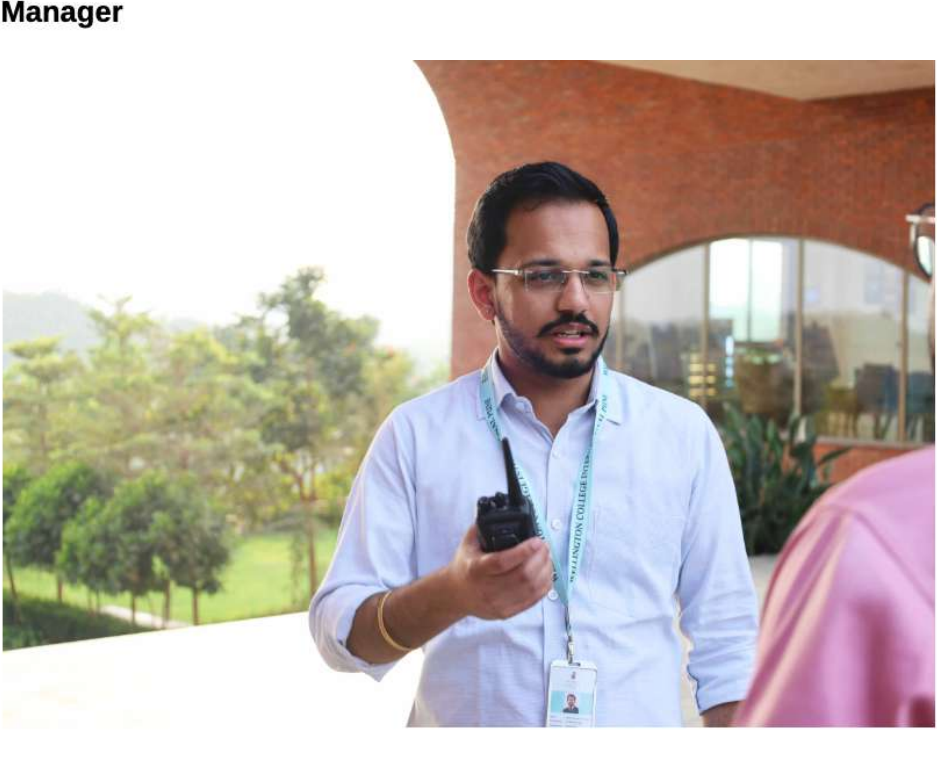
Ms Shweta Ransing works as a 1:1 Learning Support teacher and her primary focus is to help pupils flourish through personalised guidance and encouragement.

She recognises that children respond differently when you carefully tap into the pupil's individual needs. Some benefit from calm activities, moments of silence, or frequent breaks, helping them flourish at their own pace.

With care and nurture, Ms Ransing gradually exposes pupils to supportive situations that strengthen their social skills, cognitive abilities, confidence, and overall development. Her goal is to use her skills, education, and experience to create a streamlined and effective support process.

Mr Harshwardhan Singh

Facility Manager



Mr Harshwardhan Singh is our Facility Manager and oversees the school's soft services. He governs facilities and services like transport management, catering, expatriate accommodation, compliance, safety protocols, sustainability initiatives and estate management/landscaping.

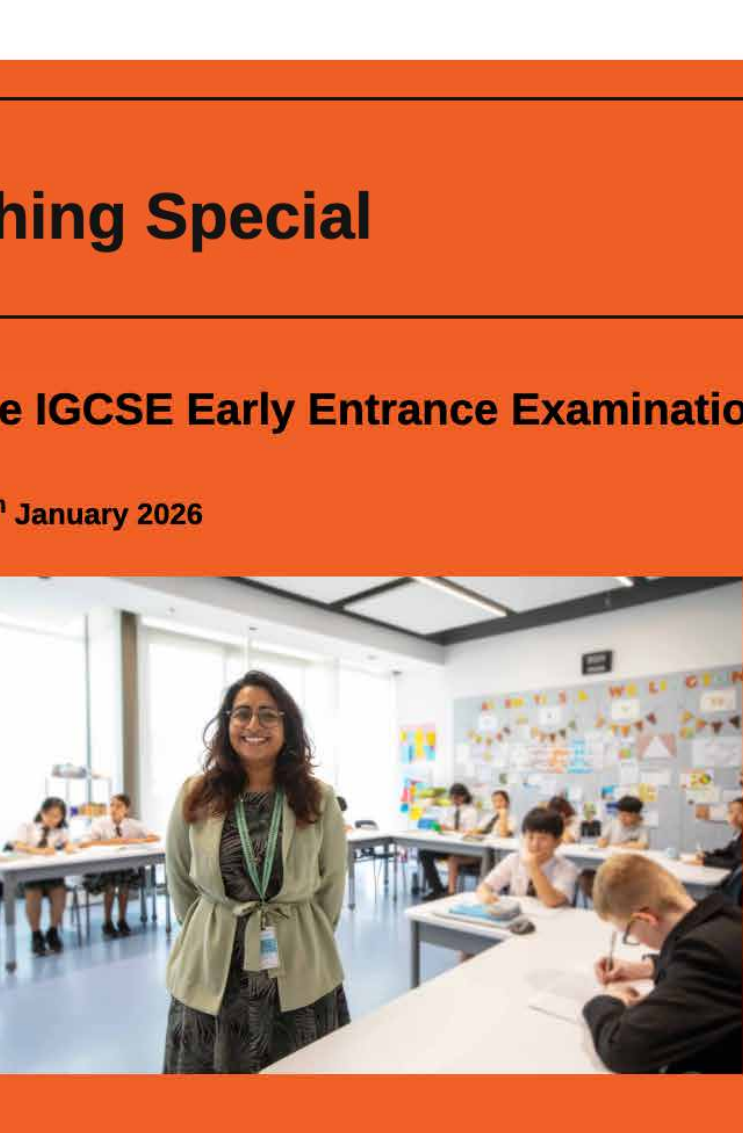
Mr Singh's work directly supports pupils, parents and staff alike by ensuring that the campus environment is safe, secure, hygienic, and free from hazards. He personally conducts periodic rounds and pays close attention to every detail that concerns the school community and collective well-being.

As a facility manager, his foremost goal is the safety of pupils, followed closely by a strong commitment to sustainability. Mr Singh believes in eliminating waste, identifying pain points, reducing inefficiencies, and maintaining high standards.

Something Special

Cambridge IGCSE Early Entrance Examination Results

Thursday - 15th January 2026



Wellington College International Pune is proud to announce the results of the Cambridge IGCSE November 2025 external examination series in Mathematics, marking a significant milestone as the first cohort of Year 11 pupils to sit external examinations.

Our pupils achieved the highest possible grade of A*, delivering an exceptional 100% A* outcome. This outstanding achievement reflects the commitment and diligence of the pupils, the expertise and dedication of teaching staff, and the school's strong academic foundations.

These results represent a promising beginning for WCI Pune's external examination journey and reaffirm the school's commitment to academic excellence within an international curriculum framework.

As WCI Pune continues to grow, we look forward to building on this success and supporting future cohorts in achieving their full potential.

SS: Jenga in French

Wednesday - 7th January 2026

Senior School students made an excellent start to Term 2 in their French lessons.
Ms. Minal Verma, our French Teacher, adopts an engaging and interactive approach to language learning, encouraging students to actively develop their linguistic skills in a supportive classroom environment. On the first day of French lessons, students participated in a Jenga-based activity conducted entirely in French, where they worked competitively while applying their language knowledge in a practical context. This activity was carefully designed to revise previously learned content, reinforce key concepts from before the holidays, and support long-term retention in an enjoyable and effective manner.

Year 10: Starch and Iodine Experiment

Thursday – 8th January 2026

As part of their Biology curriculum, our Year 10 students recently carried out a practical investigation to test for the presence of starch in different food samples using the iodine test. This hands-on activity helped students connect theoretical knowledge with real-life applications of food testing and digestion.

During the practical, students tested a variety of food items, including potato, pancake, and tomato.

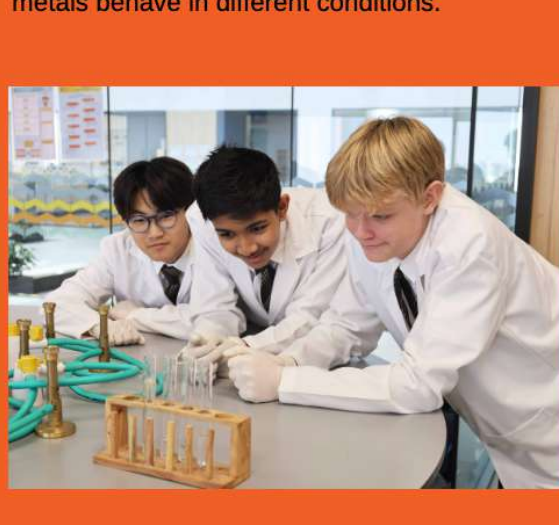
This engaging practical encouraged scientific curiosity and reinforced the importance of experimental evidence in Biology, while allowing students to work collaboratively and confidently in the laboratory.

Year 9: Metal Reaction Experiment

Tuesday – 13th January 2026

Year 9 pupils carried out a chemistry practical to investigate how different metals react with water and dilute acids. The metals tested were magnesium, zinc, aluminium, iron and copper. When placed in cold water, magnesium reacted slowly with a few bubbles, while zinc, iron and copper showed no visible reaction. Aluminium also showed no reaction because it is protected by a thin oxide layer.

The same metals were then tested with dilute hydrochloric acid. Magnesium reacted very quickly with vigorous bubbling, zinc reacted at a moderate speed, aluminium reacted slowly at first and then faster once its oxide layer dissolved, and iron reacted slowly with gentle bubbling. Copper showed no reaction. As a teacher demonstration, sodium metal was added to water. It floated, moved rapidly, melted into a silvery ball and produced vigorous bubbling, showing that sodium is far more reactive than the other metals. This practical helped pupils understand the reactivity series and compare how metals behave in different conditions.



IBDP: Interdisciplinary Learning in the DP English Classroom

Thursday – 15th January 2026

The DP English class recently took part in a rich interdisciplinary learning experience that brought together the English and Art departments, along with the school photographer, to explore photographs as a complex and powerful text type.

The session supported the development of key IB skills, particularly analytical and critical thinking. Colleagues from the Art department guided students in analysing visual elements such as composition, line, framing, focal point, colour, and contrast, enabling students to articulate how these choices shape meaning and audience response. Building on this, the school photographer offered professional insights into the intentional decisions made before capturing an image, strengthening students' understanding of authorial choices and purpose.

Through discussion and close analysis of the photographs, students engaged critically with issues of representation, bias, and historical context, deepening their appreciation of photographs as constructed texts rather than neutral records of reality. Students developed an understanding of how meaning is shaped through both visual and contextual choices. In addition, the session enhanced students' research and interpretive skills, as they connected visual analysis with historical knowledge and independent inquiry.

Year 6: The Light Assembly

Friday – 16th January 2026

Year 6 pupils delivered a fascinating and highly engaging assembly presentation on the topic of Light. They were exploring how light helps us see, how it reflects off surfaces, and how it travels through different materials. Through practical demonstrations and experiments, the pupils explained key concepts such as luminous and non-luminous sources, reflection, transparency, shadows and refraction clearly and entertainingly.

The presentation concluded with an explanation of how rainbows are formed when sunlight bends and splits through water droplets.

Behind the Scenes

Staff Birthdays

We would like to take a moment to celebrate some wonderful members of our community who marked their birthdays recently. Warmest wishes to Ms Sabah Parwani, Mr Rishank Kamble, Ms Anusha Chawla, Ms Jyoti Todkar, Ms Huma Bhola, Ms Nivedita Badepally, Mr Eknath Haribhan Bajad, Ms Priji Anant, Mr Rakesh Kishor Kunjekar, Mr Sadef Shaikh, and Ms Rashmi Dixon.

May the year ahead be filled with good health, happiness, and continued success for everyone. Have a great year, and we wish to complete many such milestones with you!

Voices of Wellington

Mr Malhar Joshi, Bursar at WCI Pune, offers a reflective look at leading through listening and learning, building collaboration, trust, and purpose in the first 60 days at WCI Pune.

Click Here to Read

Forthcoming Events

Welly Football League	Saturday - 17th January 2026
TAISI Tournament (Ajmer)	Wednesday - 21st January 2026 to Saturday - 24th January 2026
Primary School: Parent Teachers' Meetings	Tuesday - 27 January 2026 to Friday - 30th January 2026
Whole School Coffee Morning	Friday - 30th January 2026
Whole School - Tasters Day	Friday - 30th January 2026

Video

The Friends of Wellington Christmas Carnival

Saturday, 13th December 2025

Click Here

Realise your potential