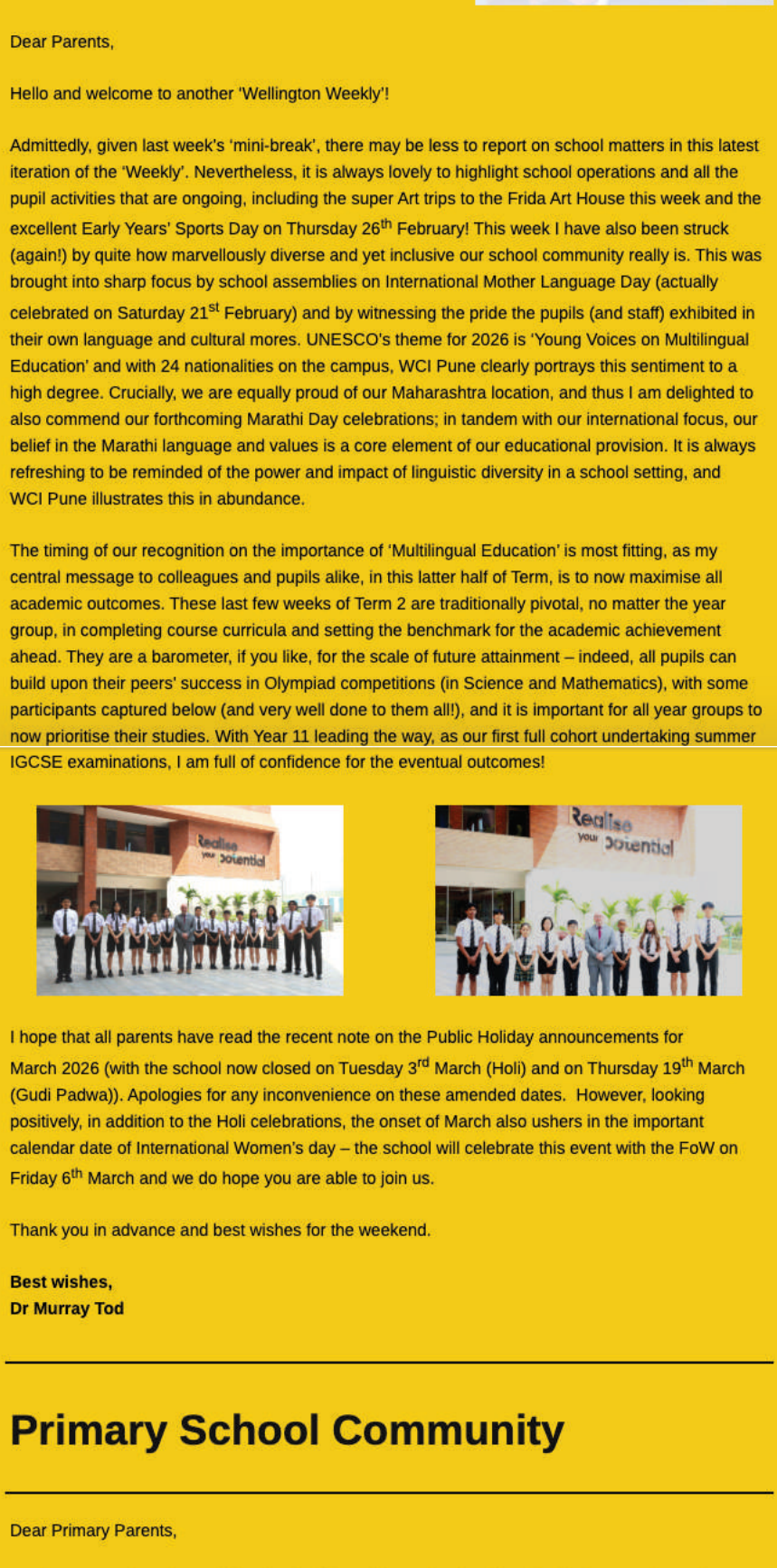




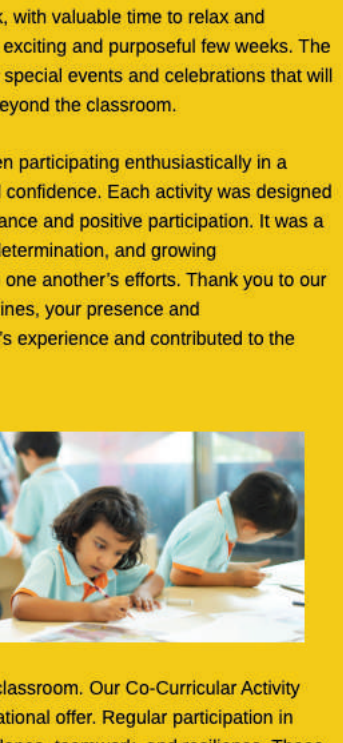
Friday, 27th February 2026

Wellington Weekly

News and Updates from the Wellington Community



From Master's Desk

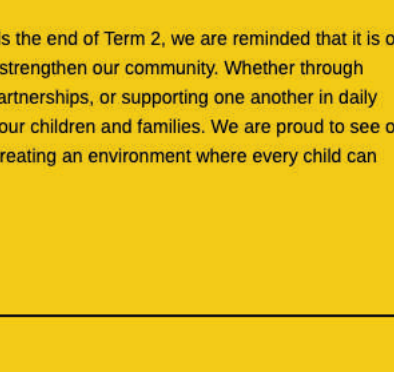
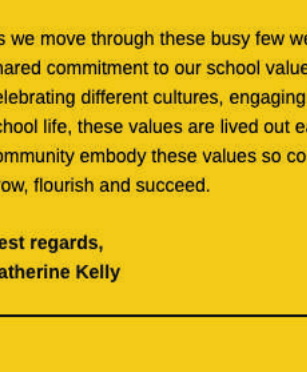


Dear Parents,

Hello and welcome to another 'Wellington Weekly'!

Admittedly, given last week's 'mini-break', there may be less to report on school matters in this latest edition of the 'Weekly'. Nevertheless, it is always lovely to highlight school operators and all the pupil activities that are ongoing, including the Super Art Trips to the Frida Art House this week and the excellent Early Years' Sports Day on Thursday 26th February! This week I have also been struck (again!) by quite how marvellously diverse and yet inclusive our school community really is. This was brought into sharp focus by school assemblies on International Mother Language Day (actually celebrated on Saturday 21st February) and by witnessing the pride the pupils (and staff) exhibited in their own language and cultural mores. UNESCO's theme for 2026 is 'Young Voices on Multilingual Education' and with 24 nationalities on the campus, WCI Pune clearly portrays this sentiment to a high degree. Crucially, we are equally proud of our Maharashtra location, and thus I am delighted to also commend our forthcoming Marathi Day celebrations; in tandem with our international focus, our belief in the Marathi language and values is a core element of our educational provision. It is always refreshing to be reminded of the power and impact of linguistic diversity in a school setting, and WCI Pune illustrates this in abundance.

The timing of our recognition on the importance of 'Multilingual Education' is most fitting, as my central message to colleagues and pupils alike, in this latter half of Term 1, is to now maximise all academic outcomes. These last few weeks of Term 2 are traditionally pivotal, no matter the year group, in completing course curricula and setting the benchmark for the academic achievement ahead. They are a barometer, if you like, for the scale of future attainment – indeed, all pupils can build upon their peers' success in Olympiad competitions (in Science and Mathematics), with some participants captured below (and very well done to them all), and it is important for all year groups to now prioritise their studies. With Year 11 leading the way, as our first full cohort undertaking summer IGCSE examinations, I am full of confidence for the eventual outcomes!



I hope that all parents have read the recent note on the Public Holiday announcements for March 2026 (with the school now closed on Tuesday 31st March (Holi) and on Thursday 19th March (Gudi Padwa)). Apologies for any inconvenience on these amended dates. However, looking positively, in addition to the Holi celebrations, the onset of March also ushers in the important calendar date of International Women's Day – the school will celebrate this event with the FoW on Friday 6th March and we do hope you are able to join us.

Thank you in advance and best wishes for the weekend.

Best wishes,
Dr Murray Tod

Primary School Community

Dear Primary Parents,

We hope you enjoyed a restful and refreshing mid-term break, with valuable time to relax and recharge. As we return to school, we are looking ahead to an exciting and purposeful few weeks. The remainder of the term is filled with rich learning opportunities, special events and celebrations that will continue to enhance our children's experiences both in and beyond the classroom.

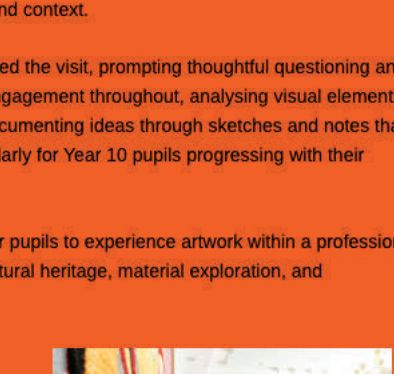
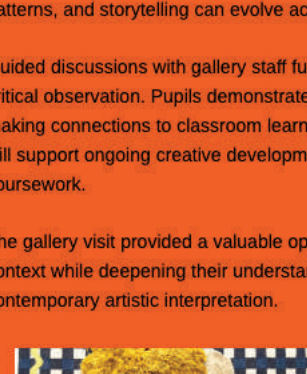
Our Early Years Sports Day took place yesterday, with children participating enthusiastically in a range of activities that promoted coordination, teamwork, and confidence. Each activity was designed to support physical development while encouraging perseverance and positive participation. It was a pleasure to see our youngest children demonstrating focus, determination, and growing independence throughout the morning, as well as celebrating one another's efforts. Thank you to our parents for attending, cheering, and supporting from the sidelines, your presence and encouragement made a meaningful difference to the children's experience and contributed to the positive atmosphere of the morning.



We believe that a child's education extends well beyond the classroom. Our Co-Curricular Activity Programme is an important and valued part of our core educational offer. Regular participation in CCAs supports children's physical wellbeing, creativity, confidence, teamwork, and resilience. These activities give pupils the opportunity to explore new interests, develop key life skills, and apply their learning in different and meaningful contexts. Research shows that children who engage consistently in high-quality co-curricular activities are more motivated, confident learners and develop strong social connections.

Our CCAs are thoughtfully designed and led by experienced staff to enrich the academic curriculum and provide a balanced, holistic school experience. They are an important part of the Wellington Way and reflect our commitment to developing curious, confident and resilient young people who are eager to explore their interests and talents beyond the classroom. Participation in afternoon CCA sessions is an expected part of the school day for all pupils. We greatly appreciate your support in reinforcing this expectation and in helping your child engage positively and consistently in these valuable opportunities.

Our Year 5 and Year 6 pupils had the wonderful opportunity to visit the Ritz Carlton this week to explore the Taana-Baana exhibition at Frida Art House. The exhibition showcased an inspiring collection of handwoven rugs, blending ancient traditions with contemporary design. Pupils were able to appreciate vibrant modern patterns alongside historic weaves, gaining insight into the craftsmanship and cultural narratives behind each piece. The visit provided a meaningful opportunity for children to engage directly with artwork beyond the classroom, deepening their understanding of texture, pattern, colour, and storytelling. Throughout the exhibition, pupils demonstrated curiosity and appreciation, observing a range of techniques and materials and posing thoughtful, perceptive questions. We extend our sincere thanks to Lindsay Zeiber and to Mr McKeown for organising and leading such a rich and inspiring experience for our pupils.



Thank you to all the parents who attended the parent information session on Digital Literacy and Online Safety with Ms Dixon. We greatly value your partnership in supporting our children to navigate the digital world responsibly and confidently. We hope you found the session informative and practical, and that it helped to answer your questions and provide useful strategies to support safe and positive technology use at home.

A heartfelt thank you to our Year 2 parents who came into school to share information about their home countries with the children. Their involvement greatly enriched the learning experience and supported the children in meeting the English National Curriculum objectives in Geography, particularly in developing their locational knowledge and place knowledge. Both the children and staff thoroughly enjoyed the sessions. I was fortunate to be invited to one of them, where the children asked thoughtful questions and showed great curiosity. Experiences like these truly bring the curriculum to life and strengthen our school community.



Today we enjoyed a wonderful Marathi Language Pride Day assembly, where children from across the Primary School entertained and inspired us. They confidently performed a poem and delivered an informative presentation explaining the significance of the day and the importance of the Marathi language and culture. It was a proud celebration of local heritage, and we were delighted to see such enthusiasm, confidence and respect shown by all. Thank you.

We are very much looking forward to celebrating Holi together as a school community and are delighted to invite parents to join us for our Holi Assembly, which will now take place on Wednesday 4th March at 8.45 am in the Auditorium. This will be a joyful occasion filled with colour, music and celebration, and a wonderful opportunity for our children to share their learning and understanding of this special festival. We look forward to welcoming you and celebrating together.

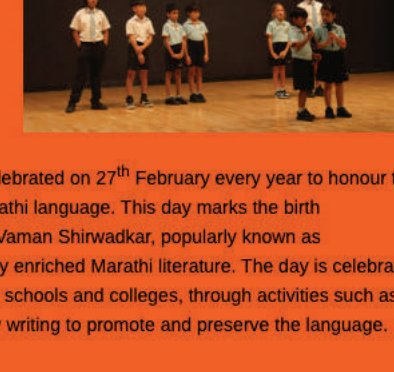
As we move through these busy few weeks towards the end of Term 2, we are reminded that it is our shared commitment to our school values that truly strengthen our community. Whether through challenging different cultures, engaging in parent partnerships, or supporting one another in daily school life, these values are lived out every day by our children and families. We are proud to see our community embody these values so consistently, creating an environment where every child can grow, flourish and succeed.

Best regards,
Katherine Kelly

Senior School Community

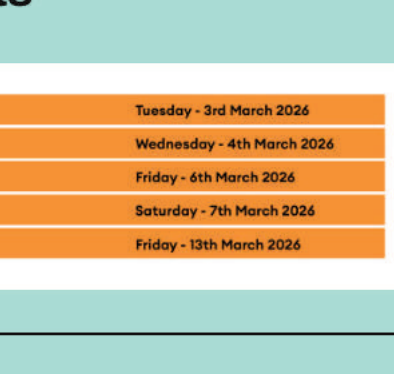
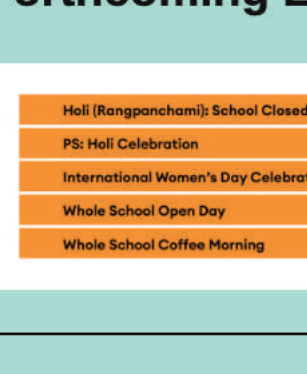
Dear Senior School Parents,

It has been a pleasure to meet so many of you at the recent Key Stage coffee mornings. These informal opportunities to get to know one another are invaluable, and I am grateful to those of you who have taken the time to attend. I have also valued meeting you at the various year group Parent-Teacher Conferences and Information sessions of recent weeks. These are an important part of our partnership in supporting pupils' learning and development.



Over the past two assemblies we have celebrated the cultural diversity of our community. Last Monday, the Apsley gave a fascinating presentation on diversity and inclusion through the House insignia, the pineapple, a fruit that blooms from the fusion of over one hundred flowers. This Monday we marked Mother Tongue Day with a special assembly celebrating the linguistic richness of our community. It was a joyful and thought-provoking reminder of the many languages spoken by our pupils and staff and the importance of our many cultures and identities. Community has also been ever-present in the Level 1 Atrium. The space has quickly become a hub for board games and relaxation, and it is encouraging to see pupils enjoying this shared environment so responsibly.

We have celebrated too the successes of pupils in the National Science and International Maths Olympiads; I am delighted that so many pupils challenged themselves by taking part. Congratulations to those who achieved gold awards, with particular congratulations to Maxence and to Geonhee who have qualified for Level 2 stage of the national Science competition and to Geonhee, Sua and Juha who qualified for Level 2 of the Maths competition.



I echo Ms Kelly's words on the importance of Co-Curricular Activities (CCAs). CCAs are a key part of a Wellington education and are an expected part of the school day. Attendance is therefore essential, and missing a CCA session constitutes partially missing a school day. These activities play a vital role in pupils' holistic development, wellbeing and sense of belonging and we expect pupils to take part as members of the community.

Finally, a reminder that Term 2 assessments begin at the end of next week. It is important that pupils keep these assessments in perspective. They are learning opportunities, helping pupils and teachers to understand where things are going well and where there is more work to do that pupils grow with confidence. The best learning frequently comes from making mistakes and perfection should not be an expectation.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Best wishes,
Dr Victoria Gardner

What's New

Preeti Khandelwal

PA to Head of Senior School

We are pleased to welcome Ms Preeti Khandelwal, our new Personal Assistant to the Head of Senior School. She brings with her an impressive 24 years of experience in the education sector, including 22 years in administrative work and leadership.

She is a French Language Graduate from the reputed Jawaharlal Nehru University and has worked across diverse educational boards such as CBSE, ICSE, and IGCSE, giving her a well-rounded understanding of varied academic environments and stakeholder expectations.

In her role as PA to the Head of Senior School, Ms Khandelwal supports the smooth day-to-day functioning of the Senior School by coordinating closely with the Head, pupils, and parents. She is known for her approachable nature and clear communication, and she will also remain readily available to address Senior School parents' requirements through email.

Something Special

SS: Student-Led Senior CCA: Yewon Seo

Tuesday - 24th February 2026

Creativity and student leadership were on full display this week as a Year 11 pupil, Yewon, led an inspiring Senior CCA titled "Social Impact Design Lab". Taking on the role of facilitator with confidence and clarity, she introduced pupils to key design principles before guiding them as they developed informative posters responding to social issues affecting students.

The room quickly became a hub of discussion, sketching, and creative exploration, with Yewon moving between groups to offer encouragement and thoughtful feedback. The session was a wonderful example of pupil initiative and collaboration in action, highlighting how student voice and creativity can come together to create meaningful learning experiences. Well done to Yewon for delivering such a purposeful and engaging session for her peers!

Year 5 & 6: Pupils Explore Taana-Baana Exhibition at Frida Art House, The Ritz-Carlton

Tuesday - 24th February and Wednesday - 25th February 2026

Year 6 and Year 5 pupils enjoyed inspiring visits to the Taana-Baana exhibition at Frida Art House, The Ritz-Carlton, this week, experiencing a vibrant exploration of textile art that connects traditional craftsmanship with contemporary artistic practice.

Across both visits, pupils approached the experience with enthusiasm and curiosity, carefully observing the intricate antique rugs while searching for hidden details, symbolic imagery, and storytelling elements woven into the works. In the contemporary gallery space, they explored imaginative interpretations of textile art, sharing thoughtful responses and creative connections between traditional craftsmanship and modern artistic practice.

The visits also included engaging conversations with gallery staff, who guided pupils through the exhibition and responded to their insightful questions. Throughout the trips, pupils demonstrated Wellington College values at their best, showing respectful curiosity, collaborative discussion, and confident creative thinking as they sketched favourite patterns and reflected on their discoveries. The gallery experience provided a memorable opportunity for pupils to encounter artwork in a professional setting while deepening their understanding of materials, culture, and creative expression.

Year 9 and Year 10 Pupils Explore Taana-Baana Exhibition at Frida Art House, The Ritz-Carlton

Friday - 27th February 2026

On Friday 27th February, our Year 9 pupils, alongside Year 10 IGCSE Art students, visited the Taana-Baana exhibition at Frida Art House, The Ritz-Carlton, engaging with a compelling dialogue between traditional textile craftsmanship and contemporary artistic practice.

During the visit, pupils explored historic rugs that revealed rich narratives of culture, symbolism, and design, while also encountering contemporary works that reimagined textile traditions through innovative visual language. The experience encouraged students to reflect on how materials, patterns, and storytelling can evolve across time and context.

Guided discussions with gallery staff further enriched the visit, prompting thoughtful questioning and critical observation. Pupils demonstrated strong engagement throughout, analysing visual elements, making connections to classroom learning, and documenting ideas through sketches and notes that will support ongoing creative development, particularly for Year 10 pupils progressing with their coursework.

The gallery visit provided a valuable opportunity for pupils to experience artwork within a professional context while deepening their understanding of cultural heritage, material exploration, and contemporary artistic interpretation.

PS: PIS Internet Safety and Digital Citizenship

Wednesday - 25th February 2026

On Wednesday, 25th February, our Primary families joined us for an engaging and informative Internet Safety and Digital Citizenship session led by Miss Rashmi Dixon, Assistant Head of Early Years and Key Stage 1.

The session explored how digital literacy is taught progressively from Early Years through to Year 6, equipping pupils with the knowledge, critical thinking skills and judgement needed to navigate the online world safely and responsibly. Parents were guided through practical strategies for supporting children at home, including building healthy digital habits, encouraging open conversations, and fostering balanced device use.

At Wellington College, digital wellbeing is not taught as a one-off lesson but woven throughout our curriculum. As children today grow up in a world where the internet is part of everyday life, a partnership between school and home is essential.

Thank you to all families who attended and continue to work alongside us in supporting our pupils to become confident, thoughtful and responsible digital citizens.

EY: Sports Day

Thursday - 26th February 2026

On Thursday 26th February, our youngest learners took centre stage at the Early Years' Sports Day, proudly showcasing the skills they have been developing over the past few months.

From balancing and jumping to throwing, catching, and coordinated movement, every activity reflected their growing confidence and physical literacy. What made the event special was not just the movement itself, but the independence, perseverance, and teamwork demonstrated by the pupils throughout the morning.

For many children, this was their first experience performing in front of an audience and they rose to the occasion with enthusiasm, determination, and plenty of smiles. Parents were able to see how foundational skills taught in lessons gradually build into purposeful movement and self-belief. Events like Sports Day allow pupils to celebrate their progress and experience the joy of movement in a supportive environment.

We are incredibly proud of the effort and confidence shown by every child, a wonderful reminder that the journey in sport begins with small steps, big encouragement, and the courage to try.

Year 10, 11 and 12: Mini Career Fest

Thursday - 26th February 2026

On Thursday 26th February, we welcomed representatives from Campus France Pune (Institut Français en Inde, Embassy of France - India) and Institut Français de l'Hôtellerie to WCI Pune!

Campus France Pune, the official French government agency for Higher Education, offers counselling to students on bachelor's programmes and internship opportunities - in English and French and scholarship opportunities in France.

Institut Français de l'Hôtellerie is a premier private business school focused on luxury hospitality education.

Both representatives spoke to our Years 10, 11, and 12 students about study options in France, available scholarships, fee structures, and other requirements for studying in France. Our pupils gained valuable insights into international education opportunities and were inspired to explore global pathways.

