



WELLINGTON
COLLEGE
INTERNATIONAL
PUNE

THE WELLINGTON TIMES

9th September 2026

Master's Welcome

Welcome to the first newsletter of the 2026-27 academic year!

The new school year has begun with great energy, optimism and a strong sense of community. It has been wonderful to see pupils settling quickly into College life, new staff becoming part of our Wellington family, and parents engaging so enthusiastically with the many events and opportunities on offer.

We are particularly proud of the outstanding IGCSE results achieved by our current Year 12 students. These excellent outcomes reflect the hard work, determination and resilience of our pupils, together with the dedication of our staff and the support of families. We congratulate everyone involved.

Over recent weeks, it has been a pleasure to welcome many parents to information evenings, coffee mornings and the cultural information session held on Friday 28th August by Nishrin Rupawalla. Building strong partnerships between parents, pupils and school is central to who we are, and throughout the year we look forward to offering many more community events, workshops and opportunities to come together.

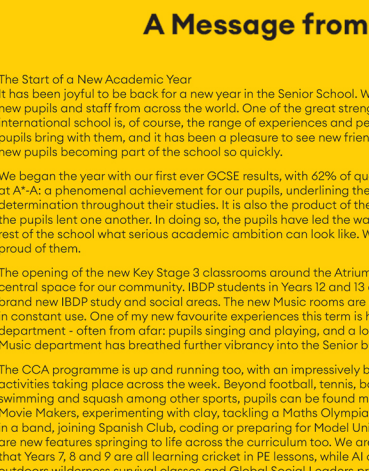
Our ambition is for Wellington College International Pune to feel like a genuine second home for every family, a place where relationships flourish, ideas are shared and everyone feels a sense of belonging.

I look forward to seeing many of you at Founders' Day on Saturday 12 September and to a wonderful term ahead.



Nigel James Fossey MBE
Master
Wellington College International Pune

A Message from the Head of Primary



Ms Katherine Kelly

The start of a new school year is always an exciting time, and it has been a pleasure to see the school buzzing with happy, confident and enthusiastic learners.

In my message after the first two weeks, I shared how well the children had settled into their new classes and routines. I am delighted to say that this positive start has continued. Across the Primary School, pupils are demonstrating excellent attitudes to learning, building strong relationships with their teachers and peers and embracing the opportunities that each day brings.

Our Early Years children continue to settle exceptionally well into school life. It has been wonderful to see them exploring their learning environments with confidence and curiosity. Outdoor learning remains a highlight of the day!

Our pupils took part in the School Council and Eco Council elections. We have been delighted by their enthusiasm shown by children across the school, many of whom are eager to represent their peers and contribute to school improvement initiatives. These leadership opportunities help our pupils develop confidence, responsibility and a sense of service to others, all of which are important parts of a Wellington education.

Last week, Year 5 delivered a thoughtful assembly about Raksha Bandhan. The pupils shared the significance of this traditional festival, explaining how it celebrates the bond between siblings and the values of love, care and protection. Through their confident presentations, they helped the school community gain a greater understanding of this important cultural celebration. Well done to all of the pupils involved.

We are also looking forward to a busy and exciting term ahead, with educational visits, sporting fixtures, performances, competitions and many other opportunities already being planned. We encourage children to embrace these experiences and make the most of all that school life has to offer.

A Message from the Head of Senior School

The Start of a New Academic Year

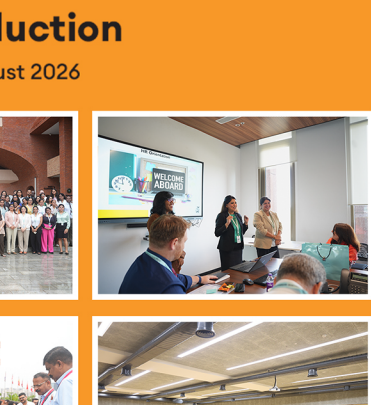
It has been joyful to be back for a new year in the Senior School. We have welcomed new pupils and staff from across the world. One of the great strengths of an international school is, of course, the range of experiences and perspectives that pupils bring with them, and it has been a pleasure to see new friendships forming and new pupils becoming part of the school so quickly.

We began the year with our first ever GCSE results, with 62% of qualifications graded at A*-A: a phenomenal achievement for our pupils, underlining their hard work and determination throughout their studies. It is also the product of the sustained support the pupils lent one another. In doing so, the pupils have led the way in showing the rest of the school what serious academic ambition can look like. We are immensely proud of them.

The opening of the new Key Stage 3 classrooms around the Atrium has provided a central space for our community. IBDP students in Years 12 and 13 are enjoying their brand new IBDP study and social areas. The new Music rooms are also now open and in constant use. One of my new favourite experiences this term is hearing the department – often from afar: pupils singing and playing, and a lot of laughter. The Music department has breathed further vibrancy into the senior buildings.

The CCA programme is up and running too, with an impressively broad range of activities taking place across the week. Beyond football, tennis, badminton, swimming and squash among other sports, pupils can be found making films in Movie Makers, experimenting with clay, tackling a Maths Olympiad problem, playing in a band, joining Spanish Club, coding or preparing for Model United Nations. There are new features springing to life across the curriculum too. We are delighted too that Years 7, 8 and 9 are all learning cricket in PE lessons, while AI and AI ethics, outdoors wilderness survival classes and Global Social Leaders projects are developing space in Key Stage 3 skills lessons. In all of these areas, pupils are gaining new skills, discovering new interests and developing teamwork, communication, critical thinking and creativity, as well as perseverance.

Trips have already become a feature of the year. In August, pupils from Years 9, 10 and 11 travelled to Jaipur for Model United Nations, where they debated international issues alongside pupils from other schools. HMUN asks a great deal of young people: they have to research carefully, understand a position which may not be their own, listen closely to others, think on their feet and then have the confidence to speak. Our pupils rose admirably to that challenge and represented the College extremely well. Plans for trips to Hanali in the Himalayas, Hampi in Karnataka and Mushi are advancing: all important opportunities for our pupils to gain confidence, encounter new experiences and explore some of the extraordinary riches of the world around them. And of course, there is plenty more to come!



Dr Victoria Gardner

New Staff Induction

Saturday – 1st August 2026



The new academic year began with a strong focus on collaboration, learning and human flourishing. WCI Pune was delighted to welcome Mr Iain Henderson, Director of The Bridge Programme at Wellington College, for four days of engaging professional development, giving staff an opportunity to share ideas, reflect and strengthen their practice.

Our Staff Induction Programme began on 1st August 2026 with the Master's Welcome, followed by essential sessions on Safeguarding, Child Protection, POCSSO, POSH, First Aid, and Emergency and Fire Safety. These sessions equipped staff with the knowledge and confidence to create a safe, inclusive and nurturing environment for every pupil.

Mr. Iain Henderson's Visit

Monday – 3rd August and Tuesday – 4th August 2026



The WCI Pune community was delighted to welcome Mr Iain Henderson, the Director of The Bridge Programme to Wellington College. The past four days were all about collaboration, learning and inspiration enouraging focus on human flourishing. Through engaging professional development sessions, our staff gained valuable insights, furthering the school's commitment to delivering an exceptional learning experience for every pupil.

Beginning of Our New Academic Year

Monday - 10th August 2026



The first day of a new academic year at Wellington is always something special. On Monday, 10 August, our campus came alive once again as Wellingtonians returned to school, reconnected with friends and teachers, and began a new chapter filled with discovery, learning and growth.

For our Primary pupils, the year began with little steps, new friendships and plenty of excitement. Ready to learn, explore, create and grow together, they brought a wonderful sense of curiosity and enthusiasm to campus as they settled into their new classrooms and routines.

For our Senior School pupils, the new academic year marks an exciting journey of its own. From those stepping into their Senior years for the very first time to those preparing for the next chapter of their lives at university, each pupil begins the year with new possibilities, ambitious goals and opportunities to make their time at Wellington count.

Across the school, the first day was a celebration of new beginnings and meaningful connections. As the year unfolds, we look forward to the ideas that will be explored, challenges that will inspire, friendships that will flourish and memories that will become part of the Wellington journey.

SS – Coffee Morning

Tuesday - 11th August 2026



The SS Coffee Morning brought parents together for an engaging conversation with Dr Victoria Gardner, Head of Senior School. The morning encouraged parents to participate, ask questions and share their perspectives as they learnt more about the Senior School experience.

Dr Gardner spoke about the journey ahead for our Senior pupils, from their academic experiences and personal development to the opportunities and expectations that come with being part of the Senior School. The interactive format gave parents the chance to address their questions directly and have meaningful conversations about how the school and families can work together to support pupils throughout the year.

Harvard Model United Nations (HMUN Jaipur)

Thursday - 20th August 2026 to Sunday - 23rd August 2026

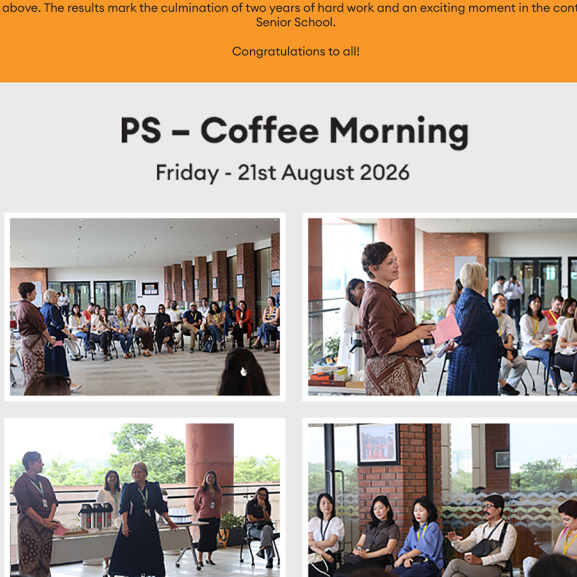


Our Senior School pupils participated in the Harvard Model United Nations (HMUN) Jaipur Chapter in August.

The conference had over 400 participants from 30 schools across India and our pupils got an opportunity to step away from their classroom and to experience international diplomacy first-hand, representing countries, debating global issues and developing their skills in negotiation, collaboration and public speaking. They represented different countries and participated in a range of committees, including the UNSC, UNDR, UNCTAD, SOCHUM, SPECPOL, UN-HRC and DISEC, as well as the innovative Ad Hoc Committee, Cleopatra's Court.

YEAR 11 - IGCSE Results

Tuesday - 18th August 2026



Wellington College International Pune is delighted to celebrate an exceptional set of inaugural Cambridge IGCSE results.

Pupils have achieved an impressive range of results across the curriculum, with 62% of qualifications graded A*-A and 79% at A*-B. One quarter of pupils attained straight A and above. The results mark the culmination of two years of hard work and an exciting moment in the continued development of the Senior School.

Congratulations to all!

PS – Coffee Morning

Friday - 21st August 2026

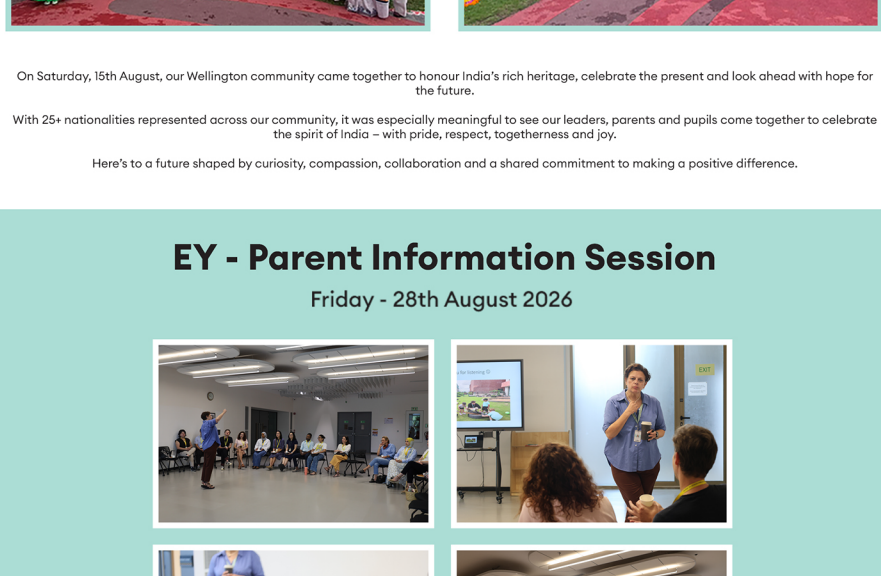


Our PS Coffee Morning gave parents a wonderful opportunity to come together, connect with one another and spend time in conversation with Ms. Katherine Kelly, Head of Primary. The interactive session opened up a space for parents to ask questions, share their experiences and gain a better understanding of what the year ahead holds for their children.

Ms Kelly shared insights into the priorities for the year and what families can look forward to. The open conversation also allowed parents to discuss their questions directly, making the morning a valuable opportunity to strengthen the connection between home and school.

Independence Day

Saturday - 15th August 2026



On Saturday, 15th August, our Wellington community came together to honour India's rich heritage, celebrate the present and look ahead with hope for the future.

With 25+ nationalities represented across our community, it was especially meaningful to see our leaders, parents and pupils come together to celebrate the spirit of India – with pride, respect, togetherness and joy.

Here's to a future shaped by curiosity, compassion, collaboration and a shared commitment to making a positive difference.

EY - Parent Information Session

Friday - 28th August 2026



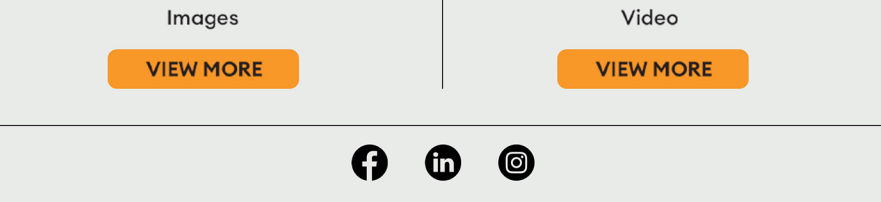
Starting school is a big milestone for both children and their families. Our Early Years Parent Information Session, led by Ms Kirsty Anderson, Early Years Lead, gave parents the opportunity to understand what this important first step at Wellington looks like.

The session was designed as an open and interactive conversation, with parents encouraged to ask questions, share their experiences and engage directly with Ms Anderson. From setting up school and establishing routines to understanding how children learn, play and develop in the Early Years, the session offered families a closer look at what their children can expect.

It was also a chance for parents to build connections with the school community and feel more confident and informed as their children begin their Wellington journey.

Culture Talks by Ms Nishrin Rupawalla

Friday – 28th August 2026



As part of our commitment to creating meaningful opportunities for cultural understanding, we welcomed Ms Nishrin Rupawalla for an insightful session exploring the many layers of life in India.

Bringing our parent community together, the session offered a deeper perspective on India, its rich cultural heritage, traditions, history and people that make the country so diverse and distinctive. The conversation also extended closer to home, with an introduction to some of Pune's favourite travel destinations, shopping experiences and culinary highlights.

The session was an opportunity for our families to look beyond the familiar, engage with the richness of the culture around them and develop a greater appreciation of both India and Pune city they now call home.



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