

Wellington Weekly

15th December 2023



Master's Voice

Dear Parents,

As Term One draws to a close, it is illuminating to highlight the volume of events that have taken place in the preceding fortnight – all bathed in the spectacular lights and sustainable Christmas decorations that have enhanced our teaching spaces. Even an old-timer like myself feels positively, and glowingly, festive!

In addition to the triumph of the House Fitness Challenge, which really gripped pupils' interest and enthusiasm (sincere thanks to the PE Department and colleagues for their organisation), we have also witnessed splendid occasions such as the EY's Christmas Workshop, the swimming competitions for Juniors & Seniors' pupils, as well as music and dance opportunities. Recent days, therefore, have involved a whole host of pupils, across all schools and year groups, gaining confidence through the medium of performance and participation. This is enriching for all and clearly necessitates a large volume of preparation and expertise – very well done to all involved!

Furthermore, as all schools should strive to do, we have remained purposeful and committed right up to the final day of Term One. In tandem with preparing pupils for the academic challenges ahead in Term 2, this last week has enjoyed the festivities of the Christmas Lunch, the 'Rocking Around the Christmas Tree' event and the House Singing Competition. These are likely to become show-stopper highlights of the calendar, thoroughly enjoyed by pupils/parents and staff alike. The organisation and diligent preparation of all colleagues and pupils is to be truly commended. Indeed, even this brief synopsis serves to emphasise how very busy, and productive, the whole school community has been.



We are fortunate, as a growing community, to have the opportunity to collectively create the culture in a founding school. Indeed, we are further blessed to have such a talented cohort of pupils, surrounded by a superb array of committed colleagues. To this I must add my thanks to you, our Parents, for the loyalty and support afforded to Wellington. It is a rare privilege to lead Wellington College International Pune and I, and my colleagues, are steadfast in our desire to create the best environment for your children. We have collectively made much progression; however, we must keep that momentum growing in Term 2, to continually seek those all-important developments in our educational and pastoral provision. On this note, I am looking forward to the launch of the Friends of Wellington, early in the New Year, which I know will add another important tier of parental involvement in the school.

For now though, I thank everyone in the Wellington Community for their endeavours in our opening Term and wish all a very restful and happy break.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

Dr Murray Tod

Head of Early Years

We have reached the end of the first term of this academic year and I would firstly like to say thank you all for the support that you have given to each other and our whole school community since September. It was always going to be an exciting start and a wonderful adventure as we introduced our new way of learning, a new way of doing things, and a new rhythm to early years education in Pune and indeed India.



As the Head of Early Years of this amazing setting, I continue to be bowled over with absolute pride about the way that you, as families, our children, and our staff have risen to this challenge of establishing a school community filled with passion, dedication, and a commitment to bringing awe and wonder into our daily lives. We have developed new ways of delivering outstanding learning opportunities and we have ensured that all the children are settled and beaming with confidence. Thank you for playing your part in this. Your continued support is truly welcomed.

Over this last term, we have been working on establishing an enabling environment where our children's, families, and staff's interests, are explored and developed, where a holistic view of individuals are nurtured, where challenge and curiosity are embraced, and an understanding of how the Wellington values underpin our ability to become responsible citizens within our local and global community are celebrated. Through our nature-driven and outdoor learning programmes, we have worked on developing empathy for all forms of life and embracing sustainability as a community by working towards becoming eco-literate. Whilst developing this we have ensured that the monitoring and improving of children's wellbeing and involvement is highly effective and fully embedded across each aspect of life in the early years.



I hope that you enjoyed the end-of-term celebrations that happened across the early years the past two weeks. I wish you a happy and joyful term break and we will be looking forward to welcoming you all back on Thursday, 4 January.

Happy holidays!

Head of Junior School

Dear Parents,

The final week of term has been one of many firsts!

On Wednesday we celebrated our first Christmas lunch and shared our first Christmas performance. We enjoyed passionate dance, spirited singing and musicianship and engaging speakers. Thank you for your gracious participation! It was a heartening example of how we have grown together as a community in this, our first ever term.

Our first Reports were issued this week. I hope you enjoyed reading about your child's progress and their many accomplishments in these past three months.

Thursday was our first competitive outing with the swim squad representing the school. Our pupils did us proud with solid performances and good times. These swimmers have a bright future ahead!



Today marked the inaugural House Singing Competition – fun, spontaneous, raucous and a little bit chaotic, it was everything the end of term should be!

From swimming, to musical performances and public speaking I have been so proud of our children. Overcoming nerves to deliver under pressure is no easy task and they have risen to the challenge. This is a uniquely enthusiastic and dedicated group of young people and we have loved getting to know them and watching them develop in these past three months.

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From new beginnings to some ends. Today we are saying goodbye and thank you to Mr. Sangar, Ms. Stephens and Mr. Fitzgerald. We wish them all the best in their next steps and we know that they will stay in touch and remember us fondly.

There is so much to look forward to when we return, refreshed from the holidays. But for now, have a wonderful break.

Head of Senior School

Dear Parents,

Firstly, I would like to express a huge thank you for all your support that you have given the Wellington community during the course of the first term. Starting a new school has, of course, not been without challenges but we can be very proud of how your sons and daughters have settled into school life, embracing our academic ethos and commitment to the co-curricular programme.

The recent house fitness challenge and house singing competition have highlighted the real sense of camaraderie and kindness which exists between students, and it has been so nice to witness older students supporting younger students as they powered through wall sits and burpees in the Early Years Multi-Purpose Hall!



It was also great to support our Junior and Senior School students at our first school swimming competition, and to see the Junior and Senior School band and choir perform so well at the Christmas Performance. As the academic year progresses, we are fully committed to providing more transformational opportunities in the co-curricular programme to develop the students' interests and passions, and push them outside of their comfort zone. This is a key part of a Wellington education.

On the academic front, students have made very good progress during the course of the term, which bodes well for future terms. They have demonstrated high levels of intellectual curiosity and engaged well with debate and discussion. Each department next term will have a big push on developing an enrichment programme to extend students beyond the curriculum to help engender a real love of learning. Academic enrichment activities will include academic day trips, guest speakers, and academic competitions to name a few of the different ways in which we can encourage curiosity in our students.



On the pastoral front, it has been really pleasing to see tutors develop strong relationships with their tutees, encouraging students to take greater ownership and responsibility for their actions. In terms of developing strategies to help build resilience in our students, please do watch the quite brilliant talk delivered by Richard Shorter a couple of weeks ago, if you haven't yet managed to do so.

Finally, I would like to wish you a very joyful festive period and I look forward to welcoming your sons and daughters back on Thursday 4th January.

Kind regards,
Iain

[Click to watch the video](#)

Swimming Event – JS & SS

Wellington College International Pune is proud to announce that fifteen of our Junior School and Senior School pupils represented the school for the first time in a swimming competition held at Vibgyor School Balewadi on December 14th & 15th .

Each pupil demonstrated their dedication and drive, contributing significantly to the success and vibrancy of the event. Mr. Esmaeili, PE teacher, played a pivotal role in organizing and overseeing the meet, creating an environment that motivated the pupils to excel and enjoy the thrill of competitive swimming.

Heartfelt congratulations to Vanshika Singh, Year 9, for achieving silver in the U14 50m backstroke and bronze in the 50m freestyle. Similarly, massive commendations to Baptiste Henry, Year 7, for securing silver in the U12 50m breaststroke.



House Fitness Challenge

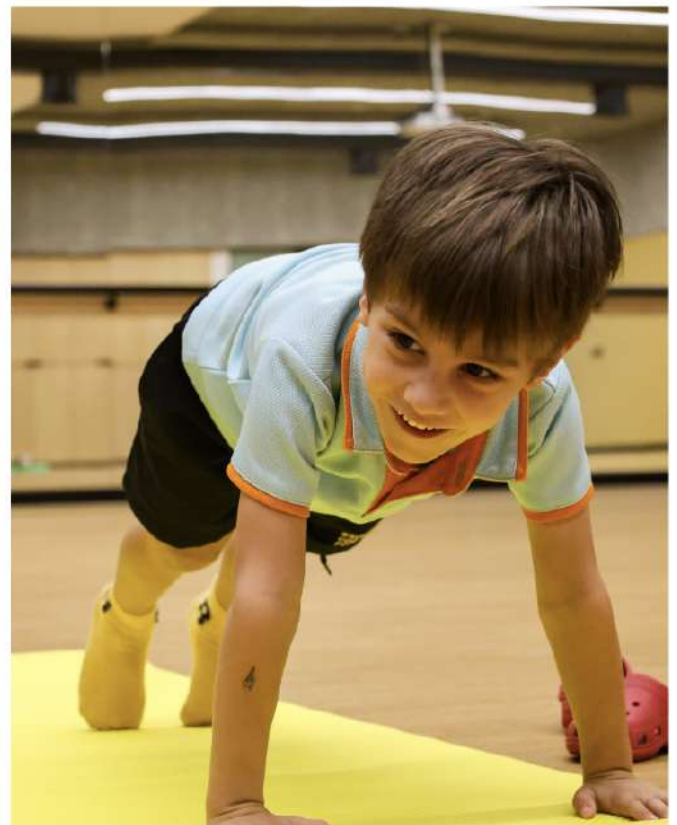
The recent House Fitness Challenge organised by our PE Department brought remarkable energy and unity to our school. Over a week, students showcased their athleticism and teamwork through diverse exercises and activities.

This event, a testament to our commitment to wellness and an active lifestyle, emphasized the importance of collaboration and perseverance. Students cheered each other on, pushing their limits and reflecting a shared dedication to a healthier lifestyle and a stronger school community.

Anglesey emerged victorious with 12,690 points, closely followed by Apsley with 12,154. Benson and Raglan demonstrated exceptional performances, securing 11,768 and 11,261 points, respectively.

The House Fitness Challenge celebrated not only athleticism but also the power of teamwork and mutual support. It showcased our dedication to promoting physical well-being and fostering community spirit among our students.

Participants leave with valuable lessons in teamwork and perseverance. We extend heartfelt appreciation to all for their dedication and sportsmanship throughout the challenge.





Rocking around the Christmas Tree

Our Junior and Senior pupils continued to shine in the last week of term, spreading holiday cheer with their outstanding contributions to the 'Rocking Around the Christmas Tree' event on Wednesday 13th December. A super parental turnout was on hand to witness many fun and enthusiastic performances from their children, with parents even getting in on the act by playing the ukulele as accompanying music! We look forward to many such enjoyable events in the future.





House Singing Performance

Our students and staff showcased their musical talents in the inaugural House Singing Competition, involving Raglan, Benson, Apsley, and Anglesey, on the last day of the term. This hugely enjoyable event not only added a delightful touch to the closing week but also strengthened our sense of school culture and community.



Congratulations to **Benson House** for their outstanding performance!



Events Gallery

Parent Information Session – Junior School

A Big Thank You to Our Junior School Parents and Attendees!

We were thrilled to have so many of you join us on Tuesday 12th December for the first Parent Information Session on Assessments and Reporting.

Ms. Katie Byrne, Head of Junior School, shared valuable insights on the benchmarked assessments to track children's progress and information on external examinations, which plays a pivotal role towards the end of Key Stages. More informative sessions on interesting topics to follow in the next term, stay tuned!



Wreath Making by Early Years Parents

As an Early Years, we believe that cultural and artistic expression is an important part of one's identity and heritage. We were fortunate to host our founding early years families for our first Christmas Workshop, something that will surely become an annual tradition for many years to come. The workshop provided an opportunity for us as a community to connect, make something that will brighten up our setting, and celebrate the awe and wonder of our unique school.



Pupils' Christmas Lunch

On Wednesday, we came together to celebrate our very first Christmas lunch at Wellington College International Pune!

The joy and festive spirit filled the air as we savoured this special occasion. Here's to the warmth and togetherness of the holiday season!



Christmas Orphanage Donations

Service-learning at Wellington College International Pune Early Years is delivered through a real-world experiential learning experience that moves our children beyond the classroom to become active participants in their learning and the development of their civic knowledge and skills. As part of our Christmas initiative, we had the privilege of hosting Mr. Dhende from Nirankar Balgram, a local orphanage. Through these initiatives, driven by the Wellington Values, our children take on initiatives with local, national, and international non-profit and public organizations to work on a real, community-identified need from an early age.



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

Upcoming Events



Experience the Excellence
at Wellington College International Pune

Join us at the **Early Years**

Open Day



Saturday,
13th January 2024



10:00 am to 12:00 pm



SCAN HERE TO REGISTER

Connect with us



Realise
your **potential**
