



The Turret

Wellington School Magazine
Winter 2020



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Welcome

From Mr Johnson, Headmaster

Although school life has been restricted inevitably this term, there is much to celebrate. First and foremost, it has just been a pleasure to be back in school after such a long period of physical closure. It is remarkable what was achieved online earlier in the year, but there is no substitute for being together 'in real life'.

Just glance through the pages of this magazine and you will see that Wellington continues to be a place where things happen. Rather than stopping doing things, teachers and pupils have simply looked for ways to do things differently. Resilience and adaptability have always been important, but 2020 has trained us all in the art of dealing with uncertainty. I have nothing but admiration for the way in which pupils here have coped with the challenges and shown themselves to be capable of seeing the bigger picture. These pages are filled with words and pictures that tell a powerful story of connectedness and hope.

So, enjoy reading this edition of 'The Turret' and let us look ahead now with confidence to whatever 2021 may bring. I thank the Editor, Aimee Cassells, for bringing this publication to life and I wish every member of the wider Wellington community a happy and restful Christmas.

Mr Johnson

Creative Coders in P4B

Having laptops in class gives everyone new opportunities for learning. In Primary ICT we have started finding out how to code with Scratch - a free programming language where we can create our own interactive stories, games and animations.

Here's what some of the children have to say about their experience so far:

- "I love how you get to make your sprites talk and sing," says Sophia excitedly.
- "You can make your own characters," adds Archie.
- Charlotte likes how the characters can be animated by using motion, looks, sound, control and events code blocks that can be clicked together like jigsaw pieces. When she has learned enough she, and the class, will all be able to make their own computer games!

Kennedy and Evie love having a personal sign-in and being able to work on their projects at home as well as in class. Evie is experimenting with changing her character's colour, speed and position and has made a chase game. Lottie has designed her own new background. Kennedy works with his brother to extend his learning with new codes. Leoni has worked out how to change her backgrounds to make her sprite's adventures more interesting.

Most recently, Sofia has discovered how to change the characters' costumes to make them look as though they are moving. We use the short Scratch tutorials to show us what to do.



Eva's flapping parrot



Louie and Charlotte who are ready to apply this latest skill to a project of their own.

The children share their knowledge of the programming tools to help each other. They can each progress at their own pace and all can achieve success with something that interests them. They love to show Mrs Archbold the new things they have learned and included in their animations. In the new term, the children will use Scratch for topic-based activities

Junior Astro Challenge

Earlier this year all S3 Physics pupils took part in the Junior Astro Challenge run by the British Astronomy and Astrophysics Olympiad. This is a national physics competition that involved completing two multiple choice quizzes, each consisting of 30 questions.

The questions were based on an assortment of topics from the history of astronomy, the Solar system, the Moon, observational techniques, diurnal cycles, star patterns and general astronomical knowledge.



In preparation for the quizzes, pupils were encouraged to read around the subject, keep abreast of space exploration from the news, and follow their interest in the topic through observation of the night sky and the planets. Our Physics Captain, Anubha, provided excellent additional help through socially distanced inputs with some of the S3 pupils.

Our students were very successful in the astronomy challenge. S3 pupils scored significantly above the national average, achieving 14 bronze awards, 5 silver awards and one gold award for Ryan (below).

There were nearly 700 pupils who took part across the UK, with only the top 10% achieving gold awards. A great achievement!



German Teacher Award for Mrs Coontz

The work of the Modern Languages Department knows no borders and generations of Wellington pupils have benefited not only from first class teaching in the classroom, but also from the unparalleled range of opportunities to travel. Few schools maintain the close exchange partnerships that we enjoy with the Mallinckrodt Gymnasium in Dortmund, St Dominique in Mortefontaine, St Edmund's in Jaipur and a number of other institutions throughout Europe. In addition, the Erasmus+ programme has helped countless young people to benefit from working together on projects like 'Art Nouveau, Art Re-nouveau', 'Eurostronomia' and currently, 'Small Countries, Strong Cultures'.

For many years, Mrs Coontz has been one of the main driving forces behind all of this and we were delighted to hear recently that her work has been given proper recognition through the German Teacher Award scheme. It was a pleasure to read the following words from the German Embassy in London, addressed to Mrs Coontz:

"On behalf of the German Embassy London please allow me to thank you for joining the 2020 round of the German Teacher Award in what has been an exceptional year. We were truly impressed that - despite the many challenges around Covid-19 - such a great number of nominations reached us and the overall quality of all the submissions has been both inspirational and remarkable. So selecting the winners proved to be even more difficult than usual.

Therefore I am delighted to inform you that you have been chosen as one of the Winners of the German Teacher Award 2020 for your outstanding dedication to and tireless support of the teaching of the German language. Please accept our heartfelt gratitude for and congratulations on your impressive commitment inside and outside your classroom every day."

Headmaster, Mr Johnson, commented: "This award could not have gone to a more deserving recipient. Mrs Coontz has championed language teaching at Wellington School for many years and there cannot be another school of this size that offers so many opportunities for young people to use the languages that they learn."



Duke of Edinburgh Awards

By Anubha Bal

The Duke of Edinburgh award is an incredible experience of character building and tests determination and commitment. Having completed the Bronze and Silver awards, I am excited to begin a Gold award.

The award involves an overnight camping expedition, learning a skill, committing to a physical activity and volunteering at a non-profit organization. While the Bronze award required a two day expedition, six months of commitment to one of the three activities and three months of commitment to the other two, the Silver award proved more challenging with a three day expedition, commitment to two activities for six months and one for three months. For both awards, the participants also completed a practice expedition, which helped in preparing us for the experience and also gave us a chance to learn the necessary skills, such as map reading and pitching tents. Overall, the expedition section encourages an appreciation of the natural world around us, while also teaching required life skills such as teamwork and strong leadership and these will prove very useful in any future career.

The physical activity section involves weekly commitment to any sport including athletics, horse-riding, swimming and many more. Not only is this enjoyable, but it is also beneficial to health and improves physical fitness. It also gives a chance to set a goal to work towards over the time period, which helps with motivation. With a diverse range of sports available, there is an option for everyone!

The skills section brings an opportunity to learn something new - perhaps learning to play an instrument, exploring a new hobby or even continuing with a familiar activity. For some, this may even grow into an interest they continue with after completing the award, so it really is a chance to discover a passion.

The third section of the award is the volunteering section, which I personally believe is very valuable. It gives a chance to truly make a difference in the community and help other people. I completed this section at the local Riding for the Disabled charity branch and this was an extremely rewarding experience. As a whole, the Duke of Edinburgh experience has been an invaluable one and has taught me life lessons which I will carry with me as I progress from school to University and beyond and I think that it is an opportunity which everyone should consider with its countless benefits.

Above all however, the experience is fun and I would strongly recommend it to everybody who gets the chance to participate - you won't regret it!



Junior School Poppy Display

The Junior School Virtual Remembrance Service was streamed to classrooms. Our Heads and Deputies Harrison, Scarlett, Toby and Isla gave readings from our 'Waterfall of Poppies' which made a fabulous display in our Drumley Hall Foyer.

All pupils from Nursery to P6 painted a stone in memory of those who gave their lives in battle and helped create our 'Waterfall of Poppies' display which ran, impressively from Mr Cox's office.



Virtual Remembrance Day Assembly

As part of Remembrance Day this year, we had to adapt our annual Assembly to fit in with social distancing guidelines. P7 pupils were invited into our hall to take part in the Assembly which was then live streamed to each classroom within the Senior School to allow all pupils and teachers to take part.



Primary 7 WW2 Topic

WHAT WE HAVE LEARNED ABOUT WW2

- Anne Frank**
 - Anne hid from the Germans in an annex.
 - The annex had a few families in it.
 - The annex was behind a book case.
- Rationing**
 - Every One had a ration book and they could only use a certain amount of food every week.
 - If you ran out of food you could not buy any more.
- Anderson Shelters**
 - Anderson Shelters were used to protect people from bombs.
 - They were made from metal.
 - Often the inside was decorated.
- Evacuation**
 - Children could only take what they could carry.
 - The children didn't have a choice of who they lived with.
- Holocaust**
 - The Jews got sent to be gassed.
 - Before they were gassed they were made to work.
- Remembrance**
 - Poppies are made to remember people who lost their life for us.

One topic that is always very popular with our Primary 7 pupils is World War II and this year was no exception. The pupils loved learning all about the war and created some great posters and mindmaps, showcasing their favourite aspects of the topic.

WHAT I KNOW

- THE BLITZ**

The Blitz was a series of bombing raids throughout the 2nd World War, brought on by the Germans. Terror and destruction came upon Britain.
- DUNKIRK**

The beach of Dunkirk was where many people died for their country. Planes went down, and ships sank. Lives were lost and losses were felt. Over 600,000 troops were stranded at Dunkirk, but only an estimated 109,000 came out alive.
- FAMILY STORY**

My Grandad Leopold (Kinsler) fought in the Second World War for Germany. However, he was not a Nazi. He was brave enough to withstand the horrific circumstances he was surrounded by. After the war, he changed his life. He told his wife that he was not a Nazi. My Dad.
- RATIONING**

Rationing was Britain's way of ensuring the nation was well fed. People were only allowed a small amount of things to eat, and luxuries were put on hold. There could be bought by the rich on the Black Market.
- EVACUATION**

Evacuation, or Operation Pied Piper, began on 1st September 1939. Children, who were teachers, parents, women, people with disabilities and some families were taken to the country to get away from the cities where they were not safe. Not knowing where they would end up, children were separated.

Primary 7 were also lucky enough to invite war veteran, Ron and Gareth in for a socially distanced presentation, where Ron discussed his experiences and stories. They also kindly brought in items from the war to show our Pupils, including a British Brodie helmet, weapons used and an invasion instruction leaflet.

What I know about WW2

- Evacuation**
 - Children under 12 got evacuated to the countryside in WW2.
 - Why? Children got evacuated to the countryside to protect them from getting bombed like the Blitz.
 - Anne Frank**
 - Anne Frank was a young Jewish girl.
 - Her family hid in an annex above her father Otto's business.
 - The family lived in the annex for 2 years but got found and sent to a concentration camp where all died but Otto Frank.
- The Holocaust**
 - Around 6 million Jews were killed in the Holocaust.
 - Some Jews died on the train to the concentration camps.
 - The living conditions in the camps were horrific.
 - There was lots of diseases like Typhus which Anne Frank died from.
- Rationing**
 - Rationing continued 8 years after WW2.
 - If you bought something from the black market you could possibly go to jail.
- Dunkirk**
 - The lines of soldiers were held a mile long.
 - 3,500 British soldiers were killed at Dunkirk.

Thank you to Ron and Gareth for educating our pupils on WW2, they thoroughly enjoyed it!

Increasing number published - Sep 2, 1939
 Increasing number Denmark and Norway - April 9, 1940
 Increasing place in South United States
 100 100

The heavy and frequent bombing attacks on London and other cities were known as the "Blitz".

Have someone
Hand each one
a person who get and
they found and make
show, right!

The movie sets the
World war II era
employment situation
Underground work records



Women in war

On thing that I
learn about
women in war
is that men
are not the
same. The women
to be stronger than
thing that I want
is that women are
also be all fast
hundreds of the
builds.

Something I learnt about evaluation is that there was a plan named Operation paid paper where they tried to get lots of children and make them believe that evaluation is fun.

Following the plane
during which and one
continent for 2 more
years. Rich families
were able to buy
space and chocolate
on the black market.
At the point clothes
were also rationed.

Queen's Harbor was a military attack on the Japanese and took place on December 7th 1941 in Honolulu Pearl Harbor. This was the largest Pacific Navy base in the US.

Something about dunkirk
that I want is that
over 10,000 people died.
Another thing I want is
that 90% of dunkirk was
destroyed during battle.

Re Robyn



* THE BOY IN THE STRIPED PJAMAS IS A VERY GOOD WW2 MOVIE!

ARCHIVE Z-1
• A DEEP LAMP IN THE
• IT HAD A GAS CHAMBER


~~The Holocaust~~
It was about trying
to kill all Jews
(the Germans charged)

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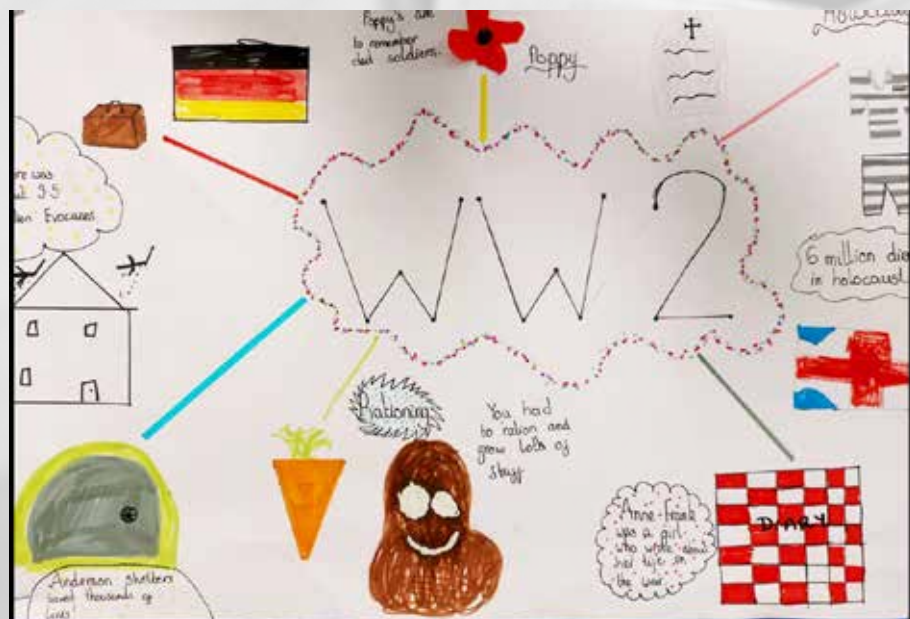
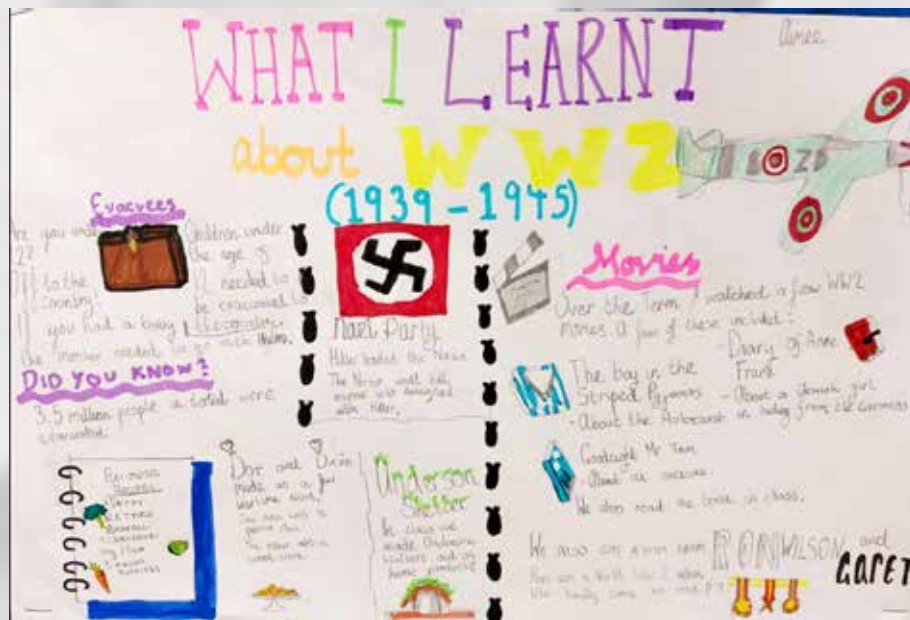
سنة ١٤٢٥
هـ

Recommends 22 as
very important
factor in history.



The Blue
It was going on
for 54 days &
and here it is
Bumby! 

They are
on the
back of
the
hand
and
foot.



European Day of Languages

By Olivia Stark, Brook Boyd, Samantha Steele Amy Holt & Abigail Kirkwood

European Day of Languages was celebrated on 26th September. Organised by the Council of Europe and the European Union, the aim of this is to encourage language learning across Europe. This is celebrated in schools and amongst pupils across the world, to observe the importance of languages in modern society. The S6 Language Captains Team, Abigail, Olivia, Samantha, Brook and Amy, organised different activities for the Junior and Senior School to celebrate this in Wellington.

In the Junior School and Primary 7, pupils were asked to create posters to display a selection of language tasks designed by the Language Team. The challenges included listing new vocabulary in a European language and drawing a flag from a European country. The team then judged the creative and informative posters and those who won received prizes. The pupils were very enthusiastic and included lots of information on their posters, making this decision very difficult!

In the Senior School, the Language Team created a quiz for students which involved watching a short video during form time. The pupils had to guess what language was being spoken and by which Senior School teacher, submitting their answers via Google Forms. The teachers were very willing to get involved in this, demonstrating their language skills, and many hidden talents which surprised many! This was a great success amongst all the pupils from S1 to S6, as they were very keen to participate and win a prize.



European Day of Languages 26 September

Journée européenne des langues

EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR
MODERN LANGUAGES
E C M L
C E L V
CENTRE EUROPEEN POUR
LES LANGUES VIVANTES

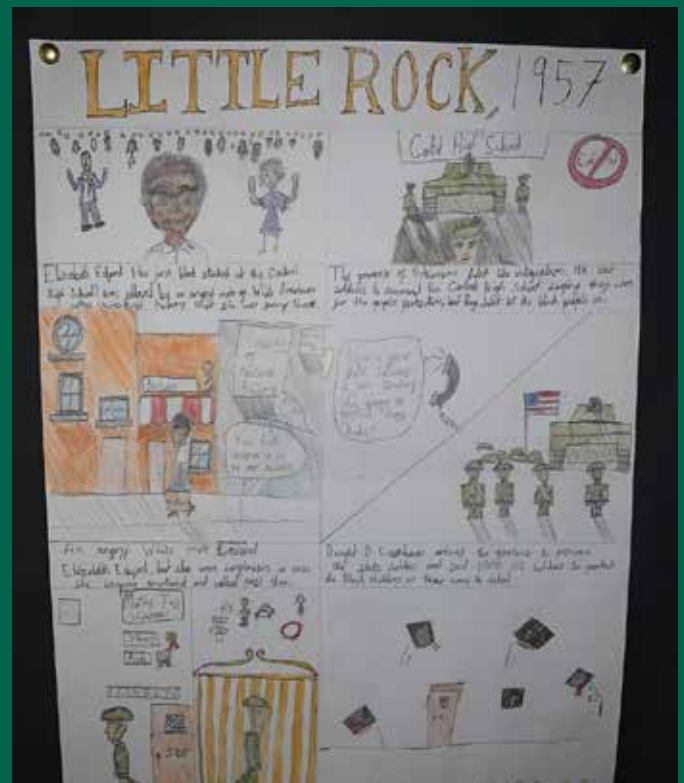
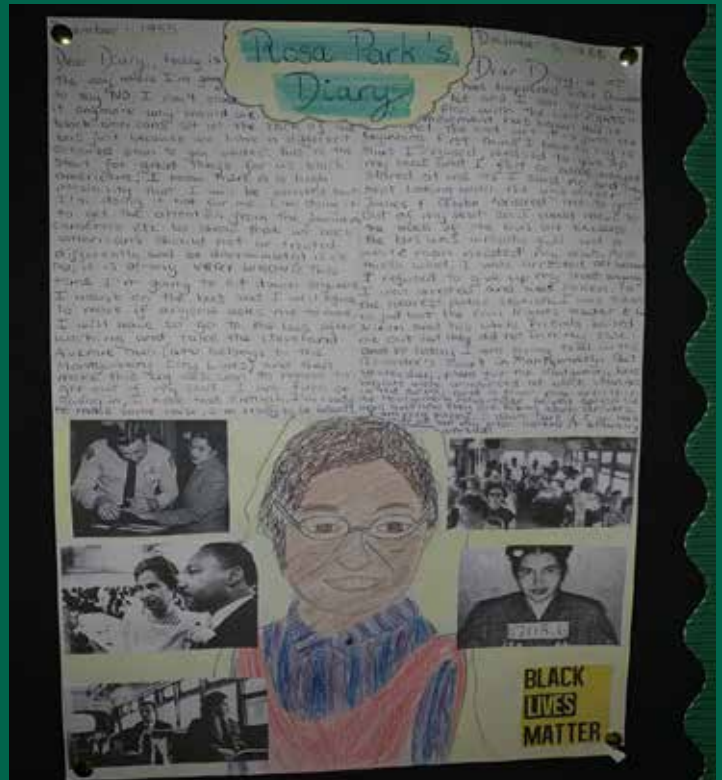
COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

S2 Celebrate Black History Month

Black History Month is an annual celebration of achievements by African Americans and a time for recognising the central role of Black people in History. In Britain we celebrate this in October and it provides an opportunity for us to recognise the outstanding contributions people of African and Caribbean descent have made to the world.

This year our S2 classes have been studying a new unit on Civil Rights in America, delivered by Ms Hyslop and Mr McDougall. The Civil Rights Movement in America took place during the 1950s and 1960s, supporting the idea that all African Americans should have the right to vote and to be treated equally to all other citizens of the United States. To celebrate the occasion, our pupils were allocated a different Black Hero from History and they produced a research profile of some well-known figures, such as Martin Luther King, Nelson Mandela and Rosa Parks, as well as other 'unsung heroes' such as Ruby Bridges, Harriet Tubman and Muhammad Ali. Pupils researched their character's career, famous achievements, any iconic quotes and completed their work with their own reflections on why their characters are so inspirational in relation to their positive impact on Black History.

In further activities, pupils wrote an imaginative three day diary for pioneering activist Rosa Parks. This detailed her experience in what became known as the Montgomery Bus Boycott in 1955, which led to one of the first major desegregation victories for the cause. Others created a storyboard to summarise the key events of Little Rock Arkansas in 1957, when Elizabeth Eckford bravely became the first black student to enrol in the Central High School. These events attracted world-wide attention to the Civil Rights Movement. Some of our best pupil work can be viewed in the display outside our main History classroom.




Of course, Black History should certainly not just be limited to discussions once a year. At National 5, our pupils also study the topic: Britain and the Atlantic Slave Trade. Pupils have recently covered our own country's historical links with the trade watching the recent BBC documentary 'Scotland's Hidden Shame' and debated the impact of the events of June 7th 2020, when Bristol protestors tore down the statue of Slave Trader Edward Colston.

There has been a renewed focus on Black Civil Rights since the death of George Floyd on 25th May 2020, who was killed by a police officer during an arrest in Minneapolis. This sparked a wave of protests against police brutality across the US and internationally. This has shone a light on the "Black Lives Matter" movement. In light of recent events, there has never been a more relevant time to educate young people on Black History which is, in essence, a vital part of World History. The pupils themselves came to the view, and expressed this in their wall display, that Black History is an issue for us all and a matter for constant consideration in our study of History.

Name: Amroel Bassett Class: 52k

Black History Heroes



Martin Luther King Jr.
(1929 - 1968)

His career title:
- A Baptist minister and was leader of the American civil rights movement.

An inspiring quote he said:
- "If you can't fly then run, if you can't run then walk, if you can't walk then crawl, but whatever you do, keep moving forward."

What he is famous for:
- He is known for being the leader of the American civil rights movement in the 1960s.

His other achievements:
- He led the Montgomery Bus Boycott, was the first President of SCLC, his speech inspired the civil rights movement and he did much more extraordinary things.

Why do you think he is inspiring and is known as a Black History hero?
- He is known as a great Black history hero because he was the leader of the American civil rights movement to allow black people to have equal rights as whites. If he did not do these good things or become leader, blacks still might have not as equal rights as whites.

Teachers Resource Force ©

UK Parliament Week

S3 Pupils Make Their Mark

November 1st - 7th is UK Parliament week; a nationwide programme to raise awareness of how the UK political system works and provide young people with opportunities to get involved. As part of their National 5 course, Modern Studies pupils have been studying UK Democracy and have given their thoughts on what they have learned so far and why it is important to know about politics. Planned activities include interactive workshops about the House of Commons and a chance to question the local MP.

S3 pupils told us why they think it is important to learn about the UK Parliament and issues around participation, rights, power and representation:

I think it is important to learn about the UK Parliament because we are affected so much by the decisions made in parliament but young people have the lowest turnout. This is due to the fact many young people don't know anything about politics and who is actually running. In learning about the UK Parliament I have been taught what parties stand for, who is my local MP and how much politics actually affects my world.

Madeline Arnott



I think it important that we learn more about the UK parliament in school as it will be very useful in later life to know what is going on in the country. It also gives me an opinion on different matters. So far we have learned about the role of the Prime Minister, the voting system and what the role the House of Commons plays.

Jenna Lomas

Learning about politics could have a big impact on your later life. It affects everyone.

Nikolai Hoekstra

I think voting at 16 in UK parliament elections would be very good for this country as by the age of 16 you can already do things like join the army and get married so voting is the next logical step. This would improve participation as it would get people into the habit of voting at a younger age when it might feel more special. This would also give young people a bigger voice as they can vote for what they want to happen in government. This is important to me because I am nearly 16 and voting would make my voice heard more clearly.

Marc Mcann



I'm going to vote in every election from the time I'm 16. Since starting the topic on democracy, I have learned how important it is to use my right to vote, and how I can't wait to be able to vote.

Charlotte Mcewan

Solving the climate crisis is important to me because if carbon dioxide emissions don't decrease, our average global temperature will continue to rise. This means the ice caps will melt and forest fires will be more common. This is important to me because our current way of life is not sustainable, and future generations are going to suffer. Renewable and sustainable energy sources are what the United Kingdom needs and I believe our politicians should listen to the voices of young people on this subject.

Sarah Mason



I think it is important to learn about the UK parliament because it is very useful to know what is going on so when we are 18 and want to vote we know how to. I have learned about the different types of voting system used in the UK.

Cameron McNeilly

Big Up a Book

By Primary 7

The Racehorse that Wouldn't Gallop

My book is about a girl that goes to a horse market when she waves to a friend and accidentally buys a horse. Unbeknown to her the race horse won't gallop and she and her friends then have to work together to try and get it to gallop. I enjoy this book because I love horses and my grandpa breeds race horses.

Kate



Harry Potter And the goblet of fire

This book is jam packed with incidents, mystery, betrayal and much more. JK Rowling wrote this book to be full of adventure and pleasure and I could read it again and again.

Jessica

The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes

The book I chose is called The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes. It is a book related to the Hunger Games. It is filled to the brim with action and once you start reading it you can stop. I chose this book because it is one of my favourite books and I think that it is very inspiring and astounding.

Aimee



The Nowhere Emporium

The nowhere emporium is a great book, it is full of mystique and is very thrilling. It also has a flavour of all kinds scary, funny, romantic and sad, I would definitely recommend this book. It is also a Scottish children's book award winner and a Blue Peter recommended too. I love this book and I am sure anyone else would too.

Andrew

World Worst Teachers!

It's about all the weirdest, strangest teachers! One of them had a child who she had to teach. Like I have to have my mum to teach me sometimes and the child in the book hated it! That was my favourite teacher Miss Tutelage.

Ava C



One Dog and His Boy

My book was called One dog and his boy and I love this book because it is about love and family relationships. He really wanted the dog and in the end finally got it. It is a very nice story and shows how much he wanted a friend.

Ava O



I Survived The Nazi Invasion 1944

This is my favorite book because it really taught me a lot about world war two and taught me what the conditions were like against the nazis invasion. The book is about a family that has lost their mum and a Jewish boy and live in a town that hates Jews. It really showed me how tough the war is. I would really recommend reading this book although it is short it does teach you a lot.

Harry



Polly Price's Diary

The book is about a girl whose mum has found a new boyfriend that is French! The book has so many adventures and really funny bits!

Charlotte



Free Rein Truth or Dare

The book I chose is called Free Rein Truth or Dare. The book is related to a Netflix series called Free Rein. The book includes horses, gossip and drama. When a group of riders decide to play a game of truth or dare that reveals secrets that cause lots of trouble. It's a great book and I would definitely recommend it.

Lucy



World's worst children!

The world's worst children just came into a book! There is comedy, laughs out louds and more funny and amazing things (sometimes disgusting) I would definitely recommend this book it's VERY funny!!

Eva



Norse mythology

I liked this book because it tells you about different cultures and old beliefs while having funny bits sprinkled into the story. Also it also tells the story in a more modern and understandable way while still having the feel of an old tale.

Adam



Boule et Bill

By Olivia Caldow, Ciara Smith & Eva Cowan

P5D has been doing their first French film study this year. Boule et Bill is a famous French movie. It is a movie in French but with English subtitles. We watched the movie and described the characters in French. It was so much fun learning about it. After watching Boule et Bill, we begged Mademoiselle Rabeyrin to let us watch Boule et Bill 2.

The story:

Boule et Bill is about a boy who adopts a dog and goes on lots of adventures. As well as being a movie, Boule et Bill is a comic book (very famous in France.)

These are the characters:

- Boule (The boy that wants a dog)
- Bill (The dog that gets adopted)
- Maman (music teacher and Boule's mum)
- Papa (strict, hard working and Boule's dad)
- Le voisin (Neighbour in depression)
- Tortue (the tortoise)

Why we loved the movie:

I love Boule et Bill because the characters are really funny and I love the dog. I loved Boule et Bill because it had lots of funny characters for example, Caroline is the tortoise and they find her on the road on the way to Paris and she immediately falls in love with Bill the dog.

My other favourite character is the dog called Bill. He is so funny when you watch the film. In the movie he has a little voice that is his mind. I definitely recommend it. The dad does NOT like the dog at all and leaves him behind on the way to Paris but the dog decides to sit on the ledge of the car for the entire way to Paris!

We really enjoyed watching Boule et Bill because we learnt about life in France and we also learnt new French words. Merci et au revoir!

Boule et Bill



Boule Et Bill;
Characters;

Boule
Bill
Caroline
Mum
Dad
Neighbour (In Paris)
Pouf



A Note from Mr Cox

When all things are considered, the Junior School has had a fantastic first term. The children have coped exceptionally well with everything that has been asked of them and by working together, the staff have ensured we have all got to the end of term, safe and well. Virtual seems to be the new buzz word - virtual assemblies, virtual staff meetings, virtual parent meetings, virtual Focus Group meetings and even virtual Nativity plays for the P1-3s.

Chromebooks have been a huge success in the Junior School. From Primary 4 up, all children now have their own and this has added new dimensions to their learning and creativity and this all compliments their other classwork. I watched Mr Graham deliver a 'remote' interactive lesson on creative writing with his class and was astounded at what I saw. It was great to see the teacher - child interaction and positivity during the lesson. Well done to them and to all the teachers and children who have embraced this new way of working.

Our online assemblies, taken by myself and Mrs Lomas, have been interactive and one was even done from 'out on location' at Angus B's garden. Angus, in P2, joined us for the assembly and posted the final letter of our 'kindness' challenge on a post for us to find. This allowed the children in school to solve the puzzle. It was great to see him joining in on the day, and throughout the term. Just recently, I was delighted to present him with a Head Teacher's certificate and some pencils for his engagement in online work.

It was so enjoyable to have Focus Group meetings recently and I was delighted with the positive feedback we received from parents. It was nice to hear that they were so appreciative of our procedures for keeping everyone safe. One commented that her children skip into school every day and that you would never know anything had changed. I thanked them on behalf of the staff for trusting us and allowing us to 'get on with our jobs'.

As I write, I am looking forward to our virtual Nativity plays performed by our P1,2 and 3s. I had some little 'teasers' of clips over the past couple of weeks and they look absolutely fantastic. I know that the parents will be amazed. The teachers have used all of their creativity to incorporate fantastic back drops, the low green, live sheep and even a horse. The children had so much fun making them. I was even told that one class drew strange looks from passers-by, on the Low Green, as they pulled a donkey over the grass.

The last week of term also saw all of the children have Christmas parties, in their class group as well as in their PE class. They had great times and I know that Mrs Lomas will write elsewhere about the tea parties and the 'big pantomime reveal' which also happened in the last week.

From me, I would like to say a huge thank you to all of the staff in the Junior School - the teachers, the Auxiliary staff and Mrs Paton. Without everyone working together we could not have made this such a successful and good term - thank you!



Panto Comes to the Junior School

This year as there were to be no pantomime visits to The Gaiety we decided to bring Pantomime Fun to Drumley Hall. Each class was given a display board and the name of a pantomime. Children were to work as a class team, very creatively and decorate their board with a picture of the given pantomime. Each class also worked on a piece of writing related to their pantomime.

On Tuesday, 15th December every single class Bubble, from Nursery to P6, thoroughly enjoyed a Tea Party to celebrate their creations and get into the 'Christmas spirit'.



The Magical Carpet

By Harriet Linton, P5A

In a land far, far away there was a small cottage. There was a little girl and she was fast asleep. In her bedroom she had the most beautiful carpet you could ever imagine. It had golden frills that looked like sand and purple and blue lace around the main carpet bit. Creak ... creak ... the little girl was awake! She had flowing golden hair that was down to her hips. Then, she sat on the carpet and made a wish. She wished that the carpet was magic. After she wished she got back in bed and fell asleep.

The next day she got out of her pyjamas, put on a yellow summer dress and rolled up her carpet. She went outside to the gleaming summer grass and laid the carpet down and sat on it. She wished for it to rise and take her somewhere special. And it did rise and flew right over her house! Then she opened her eyes and she was above the clouds! It was pink and blue and all kinds of colours. Then, before she knew it, she was sliding down to the sea! She pulled the corners up as high as she could and she was back up in the clouds. She looked back up, scared. There was a blur in front of her; it looked grey, grey and miserable. She pulled the corners of the carpet as far as she could so she could go forward faster. Then her heart went so fast as she realised that it was a tornado. She pulled the left corner up and the right corner down and the carpet was confused so it did a back flip. Then it saw the tornado and they were sucked up. Sh ... sh... sh ... it was very noisy. In a few minutes the tornado and everything inside it fell on a sand dune. Well, that was it looked like from the air but when the girl and carpet fell on it, it sucked them up. They felt like it would go on for ever. At last it stopped and when the little girl opened her eyes there was gold and silver and diamonds and sapphires. It looked like a cave made out of jewels.

She saw that the carpet had found something and realised that it was a way out. She climbed onto the magic carpet and it swirled its way out of the small hole where it was bright and had shining sand. In the distance she saw what looked like a palace so she made the carpet fly as fast as she could to see what it was. She was right ... it was a palace! It had gold and silver like the cave with all the jewels. The girl and the carpet approached the palace. It had strong gates and, instead of knocking at the gates, the carpet flew right over them as if it had been there before. The minute the carpet saw the guard it flew as fast as it could, straight through a window into a trophy room. Then she heard footsteps The carpet panicked and lay flat on the floor. Obviously the little girl couldn't turn invisible. Creak ... the door slipped open. Then a queen walked in! She looked confused then she said, "What on earth is going on?" The girl tried to speak but the queen asked her what her name was. "Sophie," said the girl.

"Come with me and bring the magic carpet," said the queen. The queen took Sophie and the carpet to a big room where the queen told her to sit down. Sophie sat down and laid the carpet on the floor. "Why are you in my palace?" asked the queen.

"I saw it and had nowhere else to go," exclaimed Sophie.

"Do you have any wishes?"

"Yes, yes, I wish to go home with my carpet,"

"Very well," said the queen.

Bang! Bang! Then Sophie and the carpet were back home in the long summer grass.



The Magical Carpet

By Honour Goodwin, P5A

Once upon a magical time in a land far, far away, there was a castle with a moat and a king named George. One cold winter's day King George was walking in his frosty woods with his friend when the ground gave way and he fell down through the icy grass into a rocky cave where he found a carpet. But he did not realise the carpet was magical. George called out to his friend, "Are you there?"

"Yes," replied his friend.

"I think I have found a carpet, a really extraordinary one! It looks thousands of years old yet it is still holding together."

"Pick it up then", replied the friend. Just then the carpet began to float up from the dusty, rocky floor. "It's magical!" exclaimed George.

It looked like a royal carpet with its shimmering gold, fine red and ocean blue threads.

The carpet took off with George and it was as fast as a cheetah. It blasted off the ground and shot up like a rocket into space where it accidentally dropped him! He plunged to the ground but the carpet nose-dived and caught him just in time. His heart had plummeted during that drop.

George thanked the carpet for saving his life when he tumbled to the ground. He wanted someone else to have as much fun as he had had so he sold the carpet to someone called

Aladdin!



Dick Whittington

(A Modern Interpretation for 2020)

By Byron Mcindoe, P6R

Dick Whittington was a boy from Aberdeen who hated having no money and being poor. He had tried everything to make money, but he just wasn't any good at it. His parents died when he was eleven on a business trip when their pilot fell asleep and the plane had crashed in the ocean. Dick Whittington was all alone and survived by scrounging the pavements of Aberdeen for money, but people didn't particularly like Dick they saw him as a filthy street rat. Thankfully one kind old lady charitably gave him enough money to buy a plane ticket to London the city of riches, where Dick wanted to make his fortune. So Dick travelled to the airport in Prestwick and bought himself a plane ticket so he could go to London and make his fortune.

Dick had still no luck for finding a job or even a penny for that matter, he hadn't even eaten since he had arrived in London.

"You there boy!" said a rather rough voice.

"Yes," replied Dick nervously, worried he was getting told off.

"What are you doing laying on my doorstep young man?" said the rather plump lady.

"Emm, I have come to London to make my fortune and I haven't had any luck..." Dick was cut off by the old lady.

"Well how about you come work for my husband in Greggs," said the lady in a nicer tone than before. Dick saw this as an opportunity of some sort, so he took the job and the lady even let him live with her and her husband at their house. Dick was given the loft to sleep in, this was the first time Dick had had a bed since 2012, the year his parents died in the plane crash. Unfortunately this bed wasn't as good as that bed one because there were rats biting him all over, all night, every night. There was one vicious rat in particular that hated Dick the most. Dick decided to call him Jeremy the big white rat.

One night Dick had an idea. So the next morning he went to work and on that day he had just made enough money to buy himself a cat to scare away the rats and maybe even Jeremy. But after Dick had bought the cat he felt very displeased with himself because the cat was scared of the rats. The next day Dick took the cat to work and one of his co-workers asked what its name was but before Dick could reply the cat stood up on its hind legs and spoke, "The name is James, dear," said the cat in a strong English accent. A few seconds later the woman lay, out cold on the floor whilst Dick stood in shock.

"B-b-b-but you cat, c-c-c-cat no talkie!" said Dick in confusion.

"Ahh yes, yes my friend we have a lot to chat about," said the cat as it got back on all fours. Then the woman awoke on the floor, which left it to Dick to explain how she even got on the floor and why. Luckily Dick was very good at making up stories.

"You fainted, probably had a little dream you were out that long," said Dick as he calmed himself down.

"Oh well sounds like me, silly old Josephine," sighed Josephine and then she went back to serving the sausage rolls and ham & cheese baguettes.

That night Dick got into bed but jumped straight out when he heard someone saying "oh blimey, stinkin rats!"

"Who's there?" exclaimed Dick.

"Calm down it's only me, numpty," said James the cat, "you just had to pick me to get my paws dirty and chase stinkin rats all night, I'm an 'ouse cat, not a rat vacuum."

"Well do you want to go back to where I bought you from?" questioned Dick.

"Oh I am so sorry master Dick I don't know what came over me, please don't ever send me back there again," replied James.

"Well, how is it that you can you talk?" asked Dick.

"Ahh, I thought you would never ask," said James. "Well I never had cat parents to learn meowinease off of so I learnt English instead, listening to people on the streets."

"So cats speak meowinease?" thought Dick out loud.

"The street isn't exactly the best place to grow up..." James was cut off.

"I grew up on the streets as well," said Dick. "It's a horrible place, so I came to London to seek my fortune, but that's never going to happen, not in a million years!"

"Not with that attitude it's not," said James, "maybe we can strike a deal here, you want to be rich and I want to live in a cosy bed, so I help you make a business for yourself and you buy me a bed and home with no rats."

"Sounds like a deal James," Dick said as the two of them shook hand & paw and went to bed.

The next morning Dick woke up and so did James and they got to work. They borrowed Mrs Murry's (the old lady that Dick was living with) computer to start a website whilst James was out dropping leaflets advertising their new Gphone business. They were looking for employees.

Mrs Murry was in on the plan but she didn't need to know about James and she gave Dick £10,000 seed money since she was very wealthy and generous. That day they built 10 Gphones and once they sold them they made £3000 profit. After that they made more and more sales every day until the company had become a worldwide brand. He hired a rat exterminator to get rid of Jeremy and his band of filthy rats. Dick had made his parents proud and James got his own bed with no rats and no dust or filth.



The security had nets and were enclosing the hole he made. So I quickly grabbed my suitcase and hopped in the car. At one hundred miles per hour Puss was driving to who knows where. "W..w..where are we going," I shook as the wind from the car was blowing in my face.

"A party duh," yelled Puss.

"What! You're probably the most wanted person in Scotland!" I replied.

"Yeah in Scotland!" he sniggered, "Not le Spain!"

"Hmm, can we at least go to a hotel first?" I coughed.

"You'll see!" laughed Puss. The car was getting faster and faster. I thought it might blow up. "Oh No!" I yelled.

"Oh yes, more like!" screamed Puss. "Ah we will take a shortcut,". Suddenly Puss made a sharp turn right into a waterfall. It blew up! The whole waterfall blew up. People were screaming and shouting, "Ahhhhh".

"What are they complaining about? It's now a waterpark!". As he said this, people realised that this waterfall was on a playground with a slide. People started to thank Puss. As they did, Puss suddenly took his clothes off and jumped in the pool. After a while I went in then Puss dried himself off by shaking.

"Can we go to a hotel now that I'm soaking wet," I shook.

"One more stop! That was fun though right?" croaked Puss.

"Yes it was fun but if you did that in Scotland they would be mad! That's why Scottish people don't like you!"

"I guess" replied Puss, "well off we gooo!" We dashed through Spain like lightning. Suddenly Puss made the sharpest stop possible. When he stopped, I realised we were at a party club. As we walked in I said, "Really?"

"Yeah, yeah, don't worry it's only for snacks and food for this hotal place," he replied.

"Ok and it's pronounced hotel not hotal," I whispered.

"Yeah, yeah ok come on!" he laughed.

As we walked in the room was sparked with people and music and lots of food. Puss was dancing on the dance floor. Puss was now sliding up and down the table breaking all the glasses on the table. There was no doubt about it, everyone in Spain loved him!

"Puss can we get the food and go please!" I asked.

"Hold on, I'm showing off my dance moves," whispered Puss. Suddenly a loud boom indicated that puss definitely did something. The whole place exploded with water. I was walking around getting food into my straw bag until Puss finally said, "Good! Food! Right let's go now!"

"Puss! How did you explode the place with water?"

"Well... I shook some bottles of lemonade so actually it was lemonade!"

"Honestly you really are a criminal!"



"Well fine if that's what you think I am. I'm not though. Let's go to this hotel place,"

"Hotel," I corrected him.

We arrived at the hotel a short while after. The hotel had about twenty or so floors, three big pools and more leisure facilities. The only thing Puss likes about the hotel is the dance and bar room. Puss was hidden in my bag while I got the room. When I came back, he was like a balloon. He had eaten all the chocolate in there! I carried the bag and suitcase up to the room Puss trailing shortly behind. "I...I am tired," yawned Puss. "Can we go to sleep now?"

"Yes, Puss!". Puss though was already fast asleep. A short while after I went to bed too.

When I woke up in the morning my parents came to check in on me. After that, I got ready and realised that Puss was gone. I was in no rush so when I was changed I went to the first place he would probably be. The dance and bar room. When I walked down everyone was dancing and drinking from what looked like the night before. "H.hey," stammered Puss, "I woke up and went to t...the party. It was s...so fun!"

"Er ok, um why is he still busy?"

"Well um I kinda set the pools on fire when trying to set up a barbeque. So while the hotel staff were trying to stop it I threw a party here!"

"You set the pool area on fire!"

"Well yeah, No big deal it's gone now,". Puss could tell I was angry, so he lifted up his hat and did the cutest eyes possible. "Aww ok you get away with it this time cause you're lucky but don't think cute eyes will save you."

"Thank you," said Puss and continued to dance. I went down for breakfast leaving Puss partying. Just then I realised I needed to go home soon. So I went to Puss and told him about it. Then he said, "Ok I'm staying here as I'm safe here but I could take you driving around Spain then I'll drop you at the airport." "That would be great, I'll tell my parents," I replied.

After I told my parents I hopped in Puss's car, and he started to drive. As we drove on, Puss accidentally crashed into the corner of a building injuring thirteen people. Then he crashed into seven cars and an aeroplane at the airport.

"Goodbye!" he shrugged "Hope to see you soon!" Suddenly he whipped out his sword and started to scratch me all over my arms. "Oi Ow That hurts."

"It's my symbol to remember me!" he sniggered, "Or maybe I did it for fun."

"Arghh, Bye Puss." People were screaming if they were from Scotland as they spotted Puss. As I hopped on the plane, I saw my parents and told them I was ok. Even my parents were screaming. When the plane landed back in Scotland, we drove home to find a feather on the doormat saying "Revenge" in scribbled writing. I had no idea what this meant. I was a little scared but still just walked inside and fed my dog then fell fast asleep.



Art & Design

We are sure you will agree that despite facing new challenges with Covid 19 restrictions the work of our young artists and designers continues to be outstanding. Here is a small selection of work produced this term.



Millie S1

S2 have been making creative responses to the current climate. They completed tonal oil pastel studies of fish and chips against newspaper articles exploring topics such as climate change.



Joanna S4



Emily S4



Prelim day was very different in the Art department with S4 wearing masks and carefully sanitising all equipment after use. There was an abundance of beautiful work produced.



Sidonie S4



Connie S4



Higher Art pupils continue to work hard on folios and lots of exciting expressive and design work is developing.



Holly S5



Ella S5



Ella S5



Dean S5



Mhairi S5



Elouisa S5

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Primary 7 French Experience

Primary 7 are delighted to tell you about what they have been learning in French this year. A highlight of their lessons is working with their partner school in Mons, Belgium. They are really enjoying using French to communicate with children of their own age.

I like French because it is a fun way to learn another language and you can do fun games to help learn. We have been sending letters to Belgium with other things like baubles and Christmas cards that are very fun to make. We also did a topic about uniforms on a jamboard, everyone had fun taking the pictures. I like French because it is a fun way to learn another language and you can do fun games to help learn. My favourite topic was the time subject one where we learned the time in French.

Natasha



I enjoy French because you learn about what happens in France compared to what happens in Scotland and it is interesting to know what they do there compared to here. We have started a topic where we have pen pals from the Belgian school and we have been doing some projects on our eTwinning site to do stuff like favourite animals and Christmas cards and sending Christmas baubles. We have done a topic on clothing between French schools and Scottish schools whereas in France they don't normally have uniforms but in this school we do. We made Google jamboards showing what uniforms we wear and how and we posted it on the eTwinning site. For our first topic we sent letters saying who we were, what gender we were as some names can be confused as boy or girl names. We said what our favourite colours are, our birthday and more. Recently we had made or brought in Christmas cards to send to our pen pals and we coloured in and made Christmas baubles which we cut out. We have been using a number of sites on our chromebooks to learn French such as Linguascope, Active Learn and language gym. They are fun to learn on and give a new way of learning French.

Mahesh



In French we have been learning the time, uniform/cloths, colours and lots more. I like French because in the future you would be able to speak French and it would be easier to communicate with people in France in case you go there. We have also written letters to the school in Belgium. Last week we were colouring in Christmas baubles, made Christmas cards and we are going to send them to our partner school in Belgium. Maybe next year we will learn new words. I really want to learn animals in French and utensils. I think the teachers are amazing because they really make everything fun. My favourite topic that we have covered is uniform and colours. Anyway, I have loved this year in French it has been a journey.

Emily



In French I liked working with our partner school in Belgium and my partner is called Maxwell. I enjoy most of our topics including school uniform, time and colours. My favourite topic is colours. I like a website called eTwinning and we can communicate by TwinMail. I liked doing the Christmas cards and also the jamboard where we took pictures of our school uniform and attached them to the slide and we said what they were in French next to them. We also sent letters to our partner in Belgium. We had to write them in French, I found it difficult to write the letter in French. I love French because I've always wanted to speak a different language.

Laurence



In French I have enjoyed writing to the Shape school in Belgium. We also sent the school Christmas cards, Christmas decorations and letters. My Favourite subject that we did in French is learning about how people in France and Belgium don't wear uniforms, but they have to follow a dress code. We had to also make jamboards or a PowerPoint slide on what we wear to school. We also communicate through eTwinning, where we can send each other messages and set tasks.

Colbie

I like French because I like to learn languages so when my family comes over I can impress them. It is also really interesting learning about what the difference there is between Britain and France like how French people kiss when they meet people and how most schools don't have school uniforms and here almost every school has a uniform. In French we have a partner school in Belgium and we have this website called eTwinning. You can send messages and pictures and we are doing a project we sent them Christmas cards.

David



During this piece you will get an insight of what we (as a year group) have been up to this first term. To start the year off, we did some fun revision on all sorts of topics, to refresh ourselves after the very long locked down summer holiday. French is a brilliant lesson as we learn more about French life, culture, meals, clothes and more. The final thing I am going to write about in this piece, is our partnership with a school in Belgium. It is an International SHAPE school in Mons. We have exchanged letters through the post with our pen pals, written Christmas cards, made Christmas baubles, and interacted writing little messages to each other through a site called Twinscpce.

So far the adventure we have embarked on this year - in French - has been amazing. I really can't wait for more exciting work and projects. Salut!

Freya

We did many things in French which included learning about different types of clothing and the great thing about that was that we could tie in colours. For example Mrs Coontz taught us how to say a sentence such as Je porte une chemise blanche which in English means I wear a white shirt. I think that French is a lovely language and should be taught at more schools. I enjoy French at Wellington as we get to learn in a fun way by using things like Linguascope, a French learning platform. I love French as it is great because you get to learn about the different cultures in France.

Aimee



In French this year, we have worked on a variety of different things that we would use in our daily life. One of the things that we have done is time. In the time topic we have learned to tell the time and write times which was very helpful. Another one of our topics was clothing, we learned how to say what we were wearing and what colour it was. One more fun topic was colours which was just a revision. We also used Linguascope and Activelearn to revise.

Andrew

In French I have had a great time doing online learning and using different websites like Activelearn and Linguascope. I have also enjoyed doing written work such as learning to tell the time, our morning routine and writing our timetable in French. We are currently getting taught different strategies to remember our French vocabulary. We have written letters to the children at our eTwinning school in Belgium. We have also made 2D Christmas decorations and cards for our partners in Belgium to make 3D when they arrive there. The class has revised colours and clothing. I really enjoy French and all the things we do no matter whether it is on the Chromebook or on paper.

Kate



If not the, then definitely one of my favourite subjects is French. I love meeting new people and as I learn more and more I feel like I know these friends more and more. We've already covered a variety of areas in the French language this year such as clothing, more vocabulary and just the daily life of an average school student in France, like did you know that a school day in France was 9 hours long, with 3 breaks including lunch?, I thought our day was long! Our partner school in Belgium is an army school called SHAPE. We sent letters to them and were very excited to get theirs back!

Rory

In French we learn about a variety of things; the language, the culture and the people. My favourite piece of work was our school timetable. We got to create our timetable that we use at school and translate it into French. We learnt how to say our school uniform in French. We also played games on Linguascope like time, school day, colours and more. We also get to do Activelearn for our homework. Over the past weeks, we have been learning how to say clothes like t-shirt or trousers.

Kyle



I have learned lots throughout my Wellington years and French has been one of the best and most enjoyable subjects. In Primary 7 I have learnt how to: tell the time, colours, subjects, verbs, numbers and lots more. This year we have Mrs Coontz and she is a great teacher, I have learned lots and she is very fun. We are allowed to do a lot of fun games like Linguascope that helps us learn and have fun at the same time. I love French so much and I am sure you will too.

Imogen



In French, we have learned a lot! We now know lots of new vocabulary, including types of clothing (like une jupe - skirt) and colours (I love the word rouge - red). It was very interesting because we will need all these words for later life. We also learned about Belgium because we have a partner school there. We all have pen pals there, too. We sent letters about ourselves to them and even Christmas cards! It's really fun to have a pen pal and I'd love to meet Jada in real life some day! Right now, we are finishing off 'Our School Day', covering when we get up and what lessons we have in the day. Next, I would like to learn about different traditions in France at Christmas! Overall, French is magnifique!

Ava C

What I have learned during French this year, I have learnt a lot in French like colours, the time, school uniform and about what people in Belgium do on a daily basis. We also made Christmas cards and sent them to Belgium and I hope they enjoyed them. We have also been using eTwinning to talk and share lots of our work that we have been doing in class.

Callan



In French we are writing to a school called Shape. We have written to them and sent them Christmas baubles to make. We have also been doing a jamboard about school uniforms in French and colours of them. We have been communicating with them on eTwinning. We have sent them a christmas card and we have all talked to each other on eTwinning and told each other the things we like and hobbies. We have covered a lot in French like time, uniform, colours and family. We have been learning the names of colours and doing a listening task with them. This year's French has been great with a variety of different subjects.

Evie

I enjoy French because not only do we learn a new language we also get to learn about a new culture. The French teachers are fun and bring the language to life. In S2 and S3 you are able to meet and stay with an exchange student and get the chance to visit our twin town and school. I think this is a great opportunity to see other schools in action. My French teachers in Wellington have been Mrs Coontz and Mr Levif. Mr Levif really helped me in the Junior school, teaching us lots of French songs and some great lockdown tutorials which made us all laugh whilst learning! We are very lucky to have such an enthusiastic French department.

Harry



Virtual Art Club

S6 Art Captain Livi Roseburgh and Deputy Art Captain Susy Edwards host an art club for Primary 4 to Primary 6 on google classroom from 5 - 5.45 every Thursday. They have been so impressed with the work produced by the participants and they look forward very much to welcoming more young artists in 2021.



Latest Maths Achievements

Whilst we await the results of this year's Scottish Maths Challenge Senior Division Round 1, and look forward to entering Round 2 in the New Year, I am pleased to say that we have now received notification of last year's winners. I am delighted to say that Yiming Sun achieved a Bronze Award in the Middle Division (S3-4), whilst Nikolai Hoekstra achieved similar in the Junior Division (S1-2). Meanwhile, also in the Junior Division, Benjamin Richmond and Emily Taylor gained Silver Awards, whilst Katherine Paisley gained a Gold Award. All 3 pupils received a commemorative Mathematical Challenge mug to accompany their certificates. Well done to all who participated!



Due to school closures the United Kingdom Mathematics Trust (UKMT) Junior Mathematical Challenge could not take place in its usual classroom paper-based format before the summer. Instead, rising to the challenge, the UKMT hosted an inaugural online event. Many S1 and S2 Wellington pupils took part, and we are very pleased to have received notification of 5 Bronze Certificates (Sophia Hamilton, Charlotte Hardy, Ryan Ritchie, Amy Scott and Kathryn Taylor) and 2 Silver Certificates (Katherine Paisley and Mikey Maxwell, who also achieved Best in School).

Most recently, some of our Senior pupils (S5&6) have participated in the UKMT Senior Mathematical Challenge for 2020-21. In S5, Callum Hamilton and Scott Mitchell achieved Bronze Certificates, with Scott also gaining Best in Year. Meanwhile, in S6, Anubha Bal and Isabella Girgis attained Bronze Certificates, Robyn Munro secured a Silver Certificate, and Euan Graham achieved a Gold Certificate alongside Best in School. As a result, Euan was invited once again to participate in the follow-on round, the Senior Kangaroo, narrowly missing out on a Certificate of Merit by only one question!

We look forward to seeing what 2021 brings, with a number of UKMT competitions still to enter, as well as the Scottish Maths Challenge Round 2 and the annual Mathématiques sans Frontières whole-class competition.



Within the Turrets

A Wellington School Podcasts

By Grace Woodhouse

When Mrs Smith first asked me if I'd like to help her co-produce and host the school podcast, I was thrilled! As an avid podcast listener, I have had plenty of experience in enjoying podcasts, but never actually making one from scratch! After a few initial meetings and discussions, a plan was drawn up and 'Within the Turrets' was born. We decided that, in order to celebrate the beginning of the new school year, and the appointment of our new head girl and boy, we would spend the first episode interviewing Olivia Stark and Callum Byers.

The episode however ended up branching out much further than just their undertaking of the new roles, we also spoke about the new Sixth Year Charity, the British Heart Foundation, and why it is a charity that is close to so many of us in the year group. Alongside this, we also discussed the upcoming fundraising events that would be taking place throughout the school year, and had time at the end to play a fun word game! Thankfully for Mrs Smith and I, who have absolutely no experience in music technology were helped out by two Higher Music Technology pupils, Oliver Ledgerwood and Callum Morrison, who recorded and create the final product for our listeners.

The first episode of 'Within the Turrets' can be found on both SoundCloud and Spotify, and we are hoping to bring out a new episode once a month in 2021. Until then, thank you for listening!





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The Catering team's commitment to fresh, homemade cooking aligns with the school's healthy eating policy, Eat WELLington.

Check the Wellington website for the latest menu and Special Days coming soon!

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This year we decided to cancel our annual production due to the restrictions of COVID, but don't fret we will be back to our stage as soon as we can safely do so!

Where we will be bringing a little "Sunshine on Leith" to our beloved Gaiety.

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Our Erasmus+ activities have been adversely affected this year due to the travel restrictions imposed across Europe. Mobilities to Germany, Belgium and Bulgaria have been cancelled and others, including a mobility here at Wellington, have been postponed until travel is once again possible.

Work towards our projects has continued in class and in December, the Art Department organised a Roman armour and jewellery day as part of our Small Countries Strong Cultures project. This is a joint project with Belgium and Slovenia and our activity was part of a module of work which explores the impact of the Romans on Europe.

Pupils explored decorative motifs and designed their own armour or jewellery. The final products were stunning and reflect the strong artistic skills and manual dexterity of our talented pupils.

The pupils thoroughly enjoyed spending a full day seeing their work progress from their initial designs to their completed piece. In a term where restrictions have led to fewer opportunities than normal for extra enrichment activities, they reported back that they appreciated this chance to learn to use new materials and to develop their skills.

Although the United Kingdom has withdrawn from the European Union, funding for our Erasmus+ projects will continue until they finish. We are delighted to announce that our proposal for funding for 'FuturEnvironment' was successful and this guarantees funding until December 2022. This new project explores sustainability and the environment and pupils will have the opportunity to work with five countries and to travel to some of them. Our partners in this project are schools in Belgium, France, Germany, North Macedonia and Slovenia.



eTwinning 2020

2020 has been a very successful year for the school and three of our eTwinning projects have gained national recognition.

Our Primary 7 project with the SHAPE school in Mons, Belgium, was awarded a national Quality Label. Our girls and boys corresponded with their new friends in Belgium and continued their partnership work with them during Lockdown by sharing photos and taking part in joint quizzes. The evaluators especially liked the quizzes which involved matching texts to photographs.

The Junior Erasmus Club continued until March. Their Stars Across Europe project, which has been running for two years, was also awarded a national Quality Label. The assessors were impressed by the way in which our sharing of Christmas stars with our seven partners triggered curiosity about their cultures and countries.

30 Days 30 Challenges was set up during Lockdown with the aim of keeping our international project work alive while everyone was working from home. Over six school weeks, a new challenge was revealed each day. The challenges covered culture, science and art and were designed to be fun as well as educational. By working collaboratively with schools from Germany, Lithuania, Romania, Spain and Turkey, both pupils and teachers learned to use new apps and developed their digital literacy skills. This project was awarded a national Quality Label, a European Quality Label and was recognised as one of the top 12 projects of the year at the UK National Award Ceremony. In addition to a gold plaque, the school won £200 to be invested in future eTwinning projects. 30 Days 30 Challenges has now been put forward for a European Prize.



A man in a dark blue suit and tie is sitting at a white table outdoors. He is looking down at a silver laptop with a distressed expression, his right hand pressed against his forehead. A white disposable coffee cup with a black lid sits on the table to his left. The background is a blurred city street with buildings and other people.

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Christmas Rowing Challenge

By Grace Woodhouse

In a crazy attempt to raise money for the school charity, the British Heart Foundation, my mum Holly, brother Jake and I (Grace) have undertaken the challenge of rowing the length of the longest river in the United Kingdom (the River Severn) in the twenty-four day lead-up to Christmas Eve...all on a static rowing machine! The River Severn measures in at approximately 354 kilometers, which means that we each have to row 5 kilometers a day in order to reach our goal by the 24th of December! We have all realised that rowing, whilst it is a greatly beneficial form of exercise, can quickly become very repetitive and exhausting. Thankfully though, we have amazing sponsors who are donating to our JustGiving page, and this is giving us the strength to carry on and keep pushing for our target!

As of now, Day 15, we have raised £890, just £110 off of our £1,000 target (which we are still hoping to exceed) and have rowed 225.9 kilometers! We will continue to row, charting our progress over some of the United Kingdom's beautiful rivers along the way, and hopefully 'make it home' in time for Christmas Eve!

If you'd like to continue following our journey, you can donate via our JustGiving page which can be found on both the school's Facebook and Instagram, as well as our own Instagram page @christmasrowingchallenge. Thank you in advance for any donations, they are all appreciated by not only us, but the rest of Sixth Year who just want to raise as much money as possible for such a brilliant charity that is so close to all of our hearts.



Christmas Acrostic Poems

By P5A

Emilia Ewer



Christmas is the most magical time of the year

Happy children playing in white fluffy snow

Reindeer flying all over the world

Icicles growing in the cold night air

Shiny ornaments hanging on the Christmas tree

Tiptoeing down to catch a glimpse of Santa

Mince pies devoured on Christmas Eve

Amazing gifts from family and Santa

Smiling children opening presents on Christmas morning



Daiya Basra



Christmas carols playing, wonderful and magical music

Hundreds of fluffy reindeer doing a funny dance

Riding a Santa sled down to Santa's workshop

Icy trees getting cold and frosted

Shiny magical ornaments

Tinsel flowing on the trees

Magical warm hot chocolate with creamy marshmallows

Amazing light dazzling in the night

Santa delivers presents for kids if they are nice or coal if they are bad!



Fallon Kyle



Christmas is a time for sharing and caring

Hot toasty fire crackling away

Rudolph, Dancer, Prancer and the rest soaring in the sky

Ice skating with family and friends, having a great time

Santa creeping around the house on Christmas Eve

Tiptoeing down the stairs to see Santa

Magical elves wrapping gifts for every child in the world

Amazing Christmas turkey, brussel sprouts and Christmas
cake too!

Ssh ... Santa is here putting presents under the tree for you!



Tennis Success for Sushanth!

Due to restrictions over the last year, many sporting activities including Tennis have been cancelled or postponed. However, as Lockdown came to an end in August and activities started to open back up, Sushanth (S1) returned to the tennis court and did not hold back!

In September, Sushanth won the East of Scotland Tennis Open for the Under 12 age category in Edinburgh. Then in October he had great success in East Anglia where he won the Under 12 Boys event at a highly competitive regional tennis open and the won the under 14 boys event for the Boston East Lincolnshire open!


We can't wait to watch Sushanth serve more wins over the next year and wish him all the very best with his Tennis career!




Equestrian Awards for Imogen & Freya




Primary 7 pupils Imogen & Freya recently received their Equestrian Care Award for entry level from The Association of British Riding Schools.




The ECAs are logbook based and are designed to encourage helpers to develop increasing competence in assisting before, during and after lessons and a growing awareness of Health and Safety around the yard.



The logbooks are tested in-house by riding school staff and each element is ticked off when complete.



On completion, each logbook is sent to the Association of British Riding School's Head Office and participants are then sent a certificate of achievement.



Well done to both Imogen and Freya for this wonderful achievement! We look forward to seeing what else you get up to over the next year.



S6 Charity

By Olivia Stark & Callum Byers

Each year, the Sixth Year choose a charity to raise money for throughout their final year in school. S6 pupils have the opportunity to nominate a charity which they would like to raise money for, and a vote then takes place to decide which charity will be selected. All the charities suggested this year were for very worthwhile causes, however, the clear winner was the British Heart Foundation.



This charity means a lot to Sixth Year, as Fraser Thomson, who nominated the charity, lost his father Tom to an unexpected heart attack last year. Tom was a friend to many in our community and a great character who is dearly missed by us all. As a result of his tragic passing, we all now understand the devastation caused by heart related diseases, so we wanted to support a charity which could help reduce the heartbreak caused by these horrible illnesses.



The BHF funds over £100 million of research every year into heart and circulatory diseases, examining causes and potential cures. Unfortunately, 1 in 4 people in the UK will die due to heart and circulatory diseases, which is why funding for research is extremely important. We are working with the local British Heart Foundation branch to do everything we can to help, as the work the BHF does is truly lifesaving, and we are determined to make a long-lasting difference.

Although fundraising will certainly be more difficult this year than usual due to COVID-19 restrictions, we are trying our best to be as creative as possible when it comes to finding new, COVID-safe ways to run events. As face coverings are compulsory, we firstly created a face mask to raise awareness for heart related diseases, which has already been a great success! Our Bake



Sales on the last Friday of every month have also been very successful, even amongst the teachers! We will continue to have these every month as this is one of our favourite fundraising activities.

At Christmas, despite not being able to run the annual Christmas Craft Fair, we organised a handful of COVID-friendly fundraising activities instead. From a virtual Christmas raffle to a Santa Dash, we came up with different festive ideas to raise as much money as we could in the festive season. We hope that the New Year will allow us to do more activities together, as we have many exciting events planned. The Sixth Year would also like to thank everyone who has supported the charity, no matter how big or small your contribution, as any money at this time is greatly appreciated by all of us! If you'd like to support the British Heart Foundation with us, you can donate to our Just Giving page:

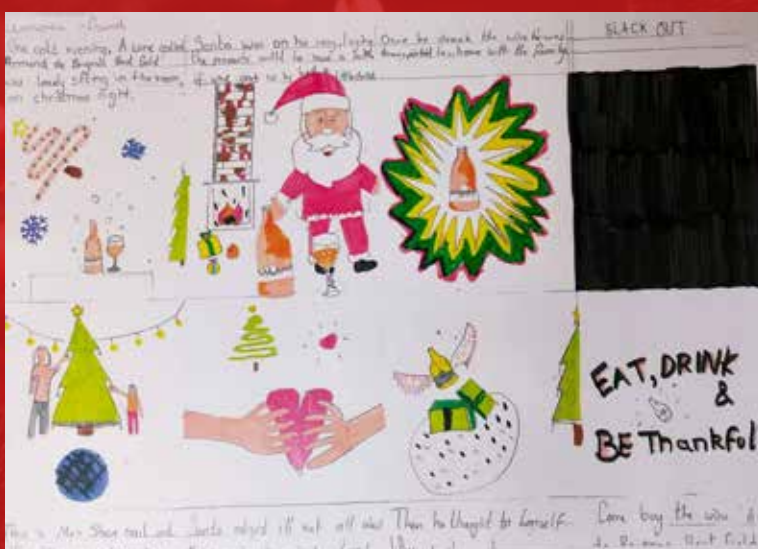
<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/s6-fundraising-2020>



P7 Christmas Adverts

P7 pupils were tasked with creating Christmas Advert story boards and Mrs Munn and Mrs Carlisle from our Business Department had the hard job of picking our winners.

Well done to David, Lemoni, Imogen and Ava for winning the Christmas Advert competition!



Primary 3 French Lessons

Aïe! J'ai mal à la tête!

Primary 3 were learning how to say Ouch! My head hurts. They applied le pansement (or plaster) on their self-drawn chalk people to whatever part of the body Madame Thomson said was sore.

Some great listening and team work - bon travail, les petits singes!



Modern Studies Interactive Sessions

In true 2020-style, this term S3 Modern Studies classes have embraced the chance to connect and learn online through interactive sessions with the UK Parliament and local MP, Allan Dorans. Pupils took part in a live meet with staff from the House of Commons and were able to find out more about the role of MPs, how the voting system works and why participation at all levels is important. A virtual Q&A session with the MP for Ayr, Carrick and Cumnock gave classes an insight into election campaigns, the challenges of being a representative and how parliament has adapted to fit the new rules we are all living under. We were impressed by the interesting and insightful questions posed by pupils in both classes and hope it won't be too long until we can start planning our next trip to London to see Westminster in person!



A Note from the Editor

We hope you enjoyed this winter edition of The Turret! This biannual magazine aims to capture the essence of Wellington School.

I would like to start by thanking everyone who has contributed to the Turret, the pupils who have shared their news and work to be displayed and especially to our S6 pupils, who have written many of the stories within this edition. I would also like to give a special thanks to my Assistant Editor, Grace Woodhouse, who has helped to gather, write and design many of the pages in this edition.

While it has been exciting reliving the last few months of the academic year, as always, trying to fit all our stories in can be quite tricky! If you feel we have missed something, please get in touch and we will seek to cover your story either on social media, the website or even the next edition of The Turret!

In the event of there being a factual mistake, please accept our apologies. If you get in touch, we will amend the digital version of the magazine, which is available on the School Publications page of the website: wellingtonschool.org/wellington-life/school-publications

If you have any feedback, enquiries or requests, please contact Miss Cassells via email: press@wellingtonschool.org or by telephone 01292 269321

Additionally, the school would be delighted to supply you with extra copies of The Turret at no extra cost, so please don't hesitate to get in touch.

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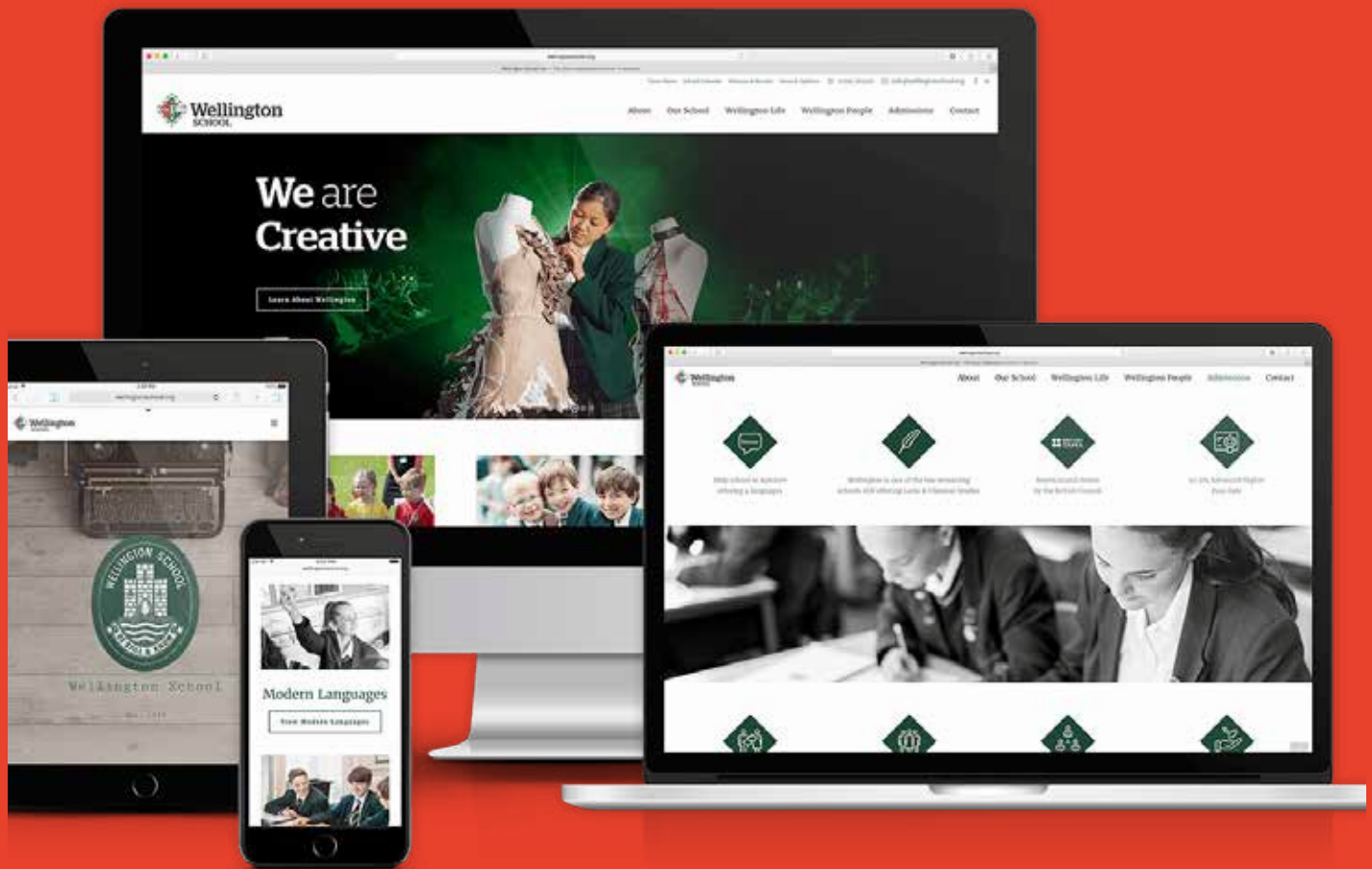
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The British Heart Foundation
S6 Chosen Charity for
2020/2021

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