



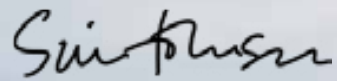
Wellington
SCHOOL

Annual Report 2019



Introduction

As another school year comes to an end, this report is an attempt to provide an insight into all that has happened over the course of the last twelve months. Wellington is a vibrant, busy place and we can only hope to scratch the surface in these few pages. There is much to celebrate, however, and we can be proud of the many achievements, individual and collective, of the 2018-2019 session. I hope that you enjoy reading about just some of the things that make this school so special.



Simon Johnson
Headmaster

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Each report has been written by the Head of Department, sometimes with input from departmental staff. Due to the length of the school year, not to mention that teachers are busy teaching, there can sometimes be irregularities or omissions. We always try our utmost to ensure this is not the case, but if you do notice something awry, please do not hesitate to contact press@wellingtonschool.org so that we can update the Annual Report.



Curricular Report 2018

SQA Results

Gail Johnston, Assistant Head (Director of Studies)

As a school that is proud of its academic success, at Wellington we are pleased to have some of the best individual results in Scotland – striving always to ensure every pupil achieves his or her best possible outcome. As a small school, we realise the importance of celebrating individual success as well as looking at the school’s overall statistics.

SQA results once again compare favourably to National Standards and to standards reported for the Independent Sector. Further, at Wellington School, our National 5 students study eight National 5 subjects, when many local authority schools offer only six. Wellington pupils are able to enjoy curriculum breadth and enhanced subject choice as a result.

6th Year Advanced Higher Report

Overall, our Sixth Year pupils achieved a 94% pass rate at Advanced Higher. This was once again well above the national average of 80%. The A-B pass rate of 76%, is 18% above the national average. Fourteen percent of the year group achieved three or more straight A grade passes at Advanced Higher. Our pupils were just as successful when reviewing their destination Universities.

Our Sixth Year pupils all secured offers for their chosen University course. 31% of our S6 pupils commenced courses in Humanities, Languages and Law, 24% in Veterinary Medicine, Medicine, Nursing and Dentistry, 4% in Music, Theatre and Art, 15% in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths, 15% in Business and 3% in Teaching. Three S6 applicants secured a place for Oxford, while 33% secured places at Russell Group Universities, 12% of students secured places at Dundee and 7% at St Andrew’s, as a sample of destinations.

The percentage of A-C passes at Advanced Higher in 2018 was 94%. Thirteen out of sixteen departments, offering Advanced Higher, recorded a 100% pass rate. Forty pupils out of forty seven (85%) achieved one or more Advanced Higher. Fifteen students achieved three or more Advanced Higher passes (37.5%).

S6 Advanced Higher Examinations	2018			2017			2016		
	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C
Wellington School, Ayr	52%	24%	18%	57%	32%	3%	69%	20%	6%
National Results at Advanced Higher	32%	26%	22%	32%	25%	23%	34%	26%	22%

S5 Higher Report

In S5, the 2018 results were just as impressive as in previous years. From a cohort of forty two pupils, sixteen percent of our pupils achieved straight A grade passes in five or more subjects. The A-C pass rate at Wellington School in S5, at Higher level was 96%, nineteen percent above the national average of 76%. SQA focus on recognising positive achievement, and at Wellington we are extremely proud that many of our students perform individually well and are achieving the marks required that contribute to the overall pass rate.

S5 Higher Examinations	2018			2017			2016		
	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C
Wellington School, Ayr	54%	25%	16%	54%	27%	15%	63%	20%	12%
National Results at Higher	28%	25%	23%	29%	26%	23%	29%	25%	23%

National 5

Due to National changes in Scottish education, directed by The Deputy First Minister, John Swinney, dual entry at N5 is no longer permitted and instead the D grade boundary was lowered, in an attempt to recognise positive achievement. This had little impact on the results achieved at Wellington School. The National 5 examinations produced a 94% pass rate at A-C, compared to 77% nationally, with an impressive 70% of A grade awards, which is 35% above the national average. From a cohort of forty three pupils, more than a third achieved eight A grade passes at National 5.

S4 National 5 Examinations	2018			2017			2016		
	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C
Wellington School, Ayr	70%	17%	7%	69%	21%	6%	72%	18%	6%
National Results at N5	35%	23%	19%	37%	24%	19%	36%	24%	19%

The results achieved across S4, 5 and 6 is a collective achievement of which we should be extremely proud. Staff and pupils have worked hard all year round and through Supported Study and individual pupil support, all pupils have the best possible educational opportunities. Tailored school trips, educational exchange visits, musical tours, school shows, visiting lecturers, and curricular competitions offer an exciting programme of a well-rounded education, that is second to none. We very much hope that the 2019 results will be just as impressive, and will stand our pupils in good stead for further study, and for their future careers. Every pupil, who sat examinations in the 2018 diet, is to be commended for their hard work.

‘The success of all our students at all levels of attainment deserves praise. Whilst examination results are important, we are equally committed to the all-round education, health and well-being of our students’.



Ellie's winning piece



Elouisa's winning piece



*One of the finalist designs
Techno Telepathy*

Art & Design

Joyce Morton, Head of Department

National Competitions

Our pupils achieved great success in the Royal Scottish Academy Schools Art Award. Ellie Haye in S5 was awarded the prestigious award of best entry in the West of Scotland. Libby White, Jemima Harvey and Teddy Welsh were also highly commended in the junior category. Organised by the RSA Friends, the Schools Art Award is a competition open to all secondary schools in Scotland which aims to encourage creativity and showcase talent. It has been running since 1986 and is considered by teachers to be one of the most prestigious awards made to pupils. The award has no theme. The emphasis is on skills of technique, observation and interpretation. In particular, the judges will award prizes for work which displays creativity and originality. The prize-winning entries were exhibited through March 2019 in the RSA Academicians' Gallery in Edinburgh.

Elouisa Cairns in S3 was awarded first place in the National Galleries Schools Competition. In 2019 there were 8,600 entries, from schools across 31 council areas of Scotland. The winning entries are exhibited at The Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art (Modern One) from 1 June - 22 September 2019 before touring to The Glasgow Royal Concert Hall, 25 September 2019 - 2 January 2020 and Borders General Hospital, 8 January - 30 April 2020

A group of ethical fashion designers from Wellington travelled to Londonderry in March to participate in the regional final of the Bank of Ireland's Junk Kouture competition. A model from each group walked the 'recycled' catwalk combining innovative design with finely tuned performances

While visiting Londonderry we had a guided tour of the famous Bogside murals and visited the peace bridge. We were also inspired to see the house where Cecil Alexander wrote 'All things Bright and Beautiful'

The finalists were Hanging in the Stars (Holly Bradfield, Keira Ticcioni and Harvey Gooding-Hill), Techno Telepathy (Ella Snowden, Ruby Capon and Amy Cecchini) and The Eco Warrior (Mhairi Chalmers, Heather Houghton and Elouisa Cairns)

The annual Maclaurin Art Gallery exhibition is to run later this year. It is planned for November, so all budding artists will be entered into this prestigious event to showcase our talent as well

as to celebrate South Ayrshire young artists.

Workshops

In September we welcomed Pea Cooper Millinery to the Art department. Our S3 pupils created innovative headpieces inspired by the Erasmus theme of astronomy and the solar system.

Pea Copper is an award winning milliner and bespoke hat maker who inspired our pupils to be confident and creative. Graphic designer Taylor Quate lead logo design workshops with pupils from P4 to S1 in November 2018. The workshops sought to explain the importance of branding and logo design. This knowledge helped the children create their own logo as part of an Erasmus competition to celebrate the 30 year partnership between Wellington and our partner school in Dortmund, Mallinckrodt-Gymnasium.

The winners were Jenna Lomas & Evie-Scott Gallie in S1 & their designs will be used for our Erasmus+ project Celebrating Success

In December 2018 pupils in S2 and 3 attended Future Textiles Workshops at Dumfries House in collaboration with Glasgow Clyde and Ayrshire Colleges. This exciting project was initiated by HRH The Duke of Rothesay who listened closely to the needs of the textile industry which wishes to address a skills gap. The project brings together industry and education in the lush surroundings of Dumfries House with a view to training young people in the skills necessary for those working in the textile industry. In the attic atelier, our pupils enjoyed learning how to use the sewing machine and over-locker. They then tested their skills by making a festive cushion with zip using bonding, applique and hand sewing techniques.

Mrs Morton and Mrs Hunter have both marked National Qualifications in the 2018/19 exam diet. Mrs Morton has continued working in her role as Senior Team Leader for National 5 Art and Design. She has also been involved in developing SQA understanding standards materials. Mrs Hunter marks national qualification papers for Higher Art.



*Jenna Lomas & Evie-Scott Gallie's
winning Erasmus+ logo*



Pupils experiencing being a Roman Soldier



Touring the site of Hadrian's Wall



Using armour and weaponry from Roman times.

Classics

Charles Dudgeon, Head of Department

Advanced Higher Classical Studies

This year we have amended the Advanced Higher Classical Studies course on Political philosophy; the purpose of the changes will ensure that the class will follow more closely an undergraduate experience, with pupils expected to take part in and lead seminars and tutorials. Key ideas which will be explored in this way will be such questions as:-

- What is justice?
- What is the best life we can lead?
- What is the purpose of education?
- When can a state censor or block information?
- What sort of person should have political power?
- Should all people in a state participate in the political process?
- Can the state lie to its citizens?
- What is the role of the state in the private life of citizens?
- Are all people in a state equal?

This will be informed by looking at the texts of the Classical Political philosophers Plato, Aristotle and Cicero.

Hadrian's Wall Visit

In the summer, we changed the venue of the S1 trip to Hadrian's Wall to focus on the fort at Housesteads, one of the three best preserved forts in the entire Roman empire.

Pupils toured the site, looking at how the fort was built, the purpose of the fort, the buildings contained within it, who lived in it, and the relationship between the Roman soldiers and the local population. Pupils also "experienced" being a Roman soldier, using the armour and weaponry of the time under the local centurion, who taught them basic Latin commands. Such was the success that we will be extending it to S3 this year, when we return to the same venue.



David Bondar with his certificate for the Senior Challenge



Some of the pupils taking place in the Cyber Treasure Hunt



Kathryn Taylor with her certificate for the Intermediate Challenge

Computing

Stephen O'Connell, Head of Department

Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge

Every year, Wellington pupils take part in the Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge. This international challenge is organised in over 40 countries and is designed to get students excited about computing. All pupils from P7, S1 and S2 and Computing Science students from S3 to S5 took part in the challenge this year. In the UK alone, there were over 200,000 participants.

The aim is to introduce students to computational thinking using a set of problem-solving skills and techniques that software engineers use to write programs and applications. Examples of these techniques include the ability to break down complex tasks into simpler components, algorithm tasks which are delivered online, are fun, engaging and based on problems that Computer Scientists often tackle.

The tasks can be solved without prior knowledge but instead require logical thinking. The aim is to solve as many problems as possible in the allotted timeframe. Every Wellington participant received a Certificate of Participation with the top 25% in the school achieving a Certificate of Distinction and the top 50% a Certificate of Merit.

Best in School certificates were presented to Khalan Lendrum for the Junior Challenge, Kathryn Taylor for the Intermediate Challenge, David Bondar for the Senior Challenge and Laurie Shinn for the Elite Challenge.

Cyber Treasure Hunt

A Wellington team travelled to Edinburgh, in March for the Cyber Treasure Hunt Final.

This competition was a Women in Data Science event open to second year girls. Over 200 teams entered the competition with the top 24 teams being invited to the final.

Cyber Treasure Hunt certificates were awarded to Rebecca Kelk, Abigail McPartlin, Joana Meikle, Tilly Roper, Catriona Smith and Gabriella Cooke.



Debating Captain Amy, during the Public Speaking



Public Speaking winners being announced



House Churchill Taking their victory in Public Speaking

English

Daniel Howie, Head of Department

This year, the department have embraced the First Minister's Reading Challenge to promote reading across the school. Teaching staff share what they are currently reading in their classrooms, and the department space has been refreshed with a new 'Reading Tree' and a 'Book Review' board, all of which have been updated and developed throughout the year. Additionally, students were challenged to respond to literature of their choice, by any means they wish. Pupils responded in a variety of ways, creating artwork, reviews, presentations and film pitches. We were particularly impressed by our S1 pupil Rowan MacDonald, who embraced the challenge by creating a striking stop motion animation in response to a novel she had read. The result was creative and charming, and many students were captivated by her work.

It is clear then that the simple act of reading can often inspire us. To nurture reading further, the Department set up an S1 Book Club this year to encourage our enthusiastic readers to share their thoughts on what they are reading. The club meets once a week during lunch and our pupils have enjoyed the opportunity to have a calm and peaceful space where they can dive into the world of books. We have also dedicated a section in The Turret for reviews of books they would recommend to their peers.

Writing is always at the centre of the English curriculum, and this year a Creative Writing Workshop was delivered in September for younger students. The day began with a talk from a visiting author, which served to provide a stimulus for the next activity: students devised poems on the theme of change, and performed them to peers. Pupils were enthused throughout, and some very expressive performances concluded the day. As the year continued, we provided further opportunities for the creative writing of our students to be recognised, by entering the '500 Words' and 'Poetry Escape' competitions.

Our students continue to engage in debating and public speaking, with ongoing success. Debating Captain Amy Phillips delivered the weekly Junior Debating Club. This year our students took part in the unique Mock Court competition. Students were assigned a set of legal documents that closely resemble those solicitors handle on a regular basis. This highly complex information must be processed and formed into a coherent and legally valid line of argument. Our students performed well at Ayr Sheriff Court when presenting their case. A team of five students from S5-6 went to St Andrews University in June to defend the John Stuart Mill Cup, won last year by former Wellington pupils Callum Duffy

and Dara Hunter Blair. Our new team of Amy Barbour, Anubha Bal, Grace Woodhouse, Emma Stevenson and Meera Mohankrishnan performed exceptionally well together, winning their first round match comfortably and very narrowly missing out on a semi-final place. Grace Woodhouse enjoyed further success in winning the Old Girls' Public Speaking Competition for her insightful and nuanced presentation on the importance of zoos.

Excursions that enhance the learning and teaching we provide were offered regularly to our students this year. Our Advanced Higher students visited the Oran Mor for the well-known event, 'A Play, A Pie and a Pint' in September. This was followed by a visit to the library of the University of Glasgow, to register and access this useful resource to support their wider reading for the Literary Study and Dissertation papers. In December, S1 visited The Conservatoire for a performance of 'Peter Pan', and our National 5 students attended Tramway in March for a striking reinterpretation of Ibsen's landmark play, 'A Doll's House', which they were studying at the time.

A representative visited us from the Women's Aid charity this year, providing supportive advice to our S1 students about staying safe online, and our S5 students about the importance of consent.

Mrs Bruce, Mrs Ulph, Mr Howie and Mr Smith continue to demonstrate their commitment to providing learning and teaching that reflects current national standards, by undertaking SQA marking. This year, papers were marked across all national qualifications that we deliver, from National 5 to Advanced Higher. It is important to us that the knowledge gained during the marking process is communicated to students for their benefit; we will do so promptly in the new term.



S1/S2 Fairtrade Display



S1/S2 Fairtrade Display



S1/S2 Fairtrade Display

Enterprise Education

Linda Munn, Head of Business Studies & Accounting

The Business Studies department enjoyed another busy year on both the academic and extra-curricular front.

Lion's Lair Cometition (Wellington's version of Dragons Den)

This event was held in the department for our S4 Business Managment pupils to allow them to consolidate their learning on Marketing. They were challenged with designing a new product for Subway Sandwich chain. This required them to conduct market research which included an organised visit to the local Subway restaurant in order to carry out a pre-launch taste test. This went down very well with the pupils and the staff! In addition to this they were required to put together a marketing plan for their product which they subsequently presented to our esteem judges, Mr Byers and Miss Bianchini. This challenge enhanced pupils' communication, team working, presentation and creative skills, all of which are essential in life.

Erasmus - Eurostomania 2018

Mr Byers conducted a very successful workshop for around 20 pupils, consisting of both Wellington pupils and visiting students from various participating countries. The focus of the workshop was, using the context of locating a spaceport in Scotland, to ensure that students would be able to:

- Understand factors which influence business decisions
- Develop an awareness of branding and its importance in business
- Enhance knowledge of Scotland and its regions

Throughout the activity, all students were engaged in livley discussion, came up with pertinent points regarding the viability, or otherwise, of the potential locations for the spaceport and demonstrated excellent team working skills. Given their lack of knowledge of these locations and regions, students were able, within a short time period, to conduct research to ascertain key facts and were then able to incorporate this knowledge in to their final submissions for the task which focusses on branding the spaceport and selling the location to potential employees.

S1/S2 Enterprise - Fairtrade

The annual S2 Fairtrade event was another highlight, with pupils displaying excellent awareness of the principles of Fairtrade as well as creativity, teamwork and an ability to make profit (all of which was donated to the 6th year charity, The Ayrshire Hospice). This year our pupils' creativity really shone through with very innovative ideas on show. These ranged from the creative ways which the stalls were presented to the varying promotional techniques used to attract customers, and one group even divised a jingle which they performed when customers approached their stall.

Design a Sub Challenge

Organised by the franchisees of the Subway® brand, this challenge requires budding entrepreneurs from schools & colleges across Scotland to come up with their own design and marketing campaign for a brand new 6-inch sub or flatbread. Mrs Munn's S3 Business Management class embraced this challenge and a number of very different ideas were born - Slimmer's Sub (supported by Weightwatchers), Busy Bee's Sub (for those too busy to cook) and the Farmer's Sub (in support of local farmers). Unfortunatley this year, none of our design ideas were successful in reaching the final, but our pupils enjoyed the experience of applying their marketing theory to a practical situation.



David, Ethan and Callum at the final

Geography

Richard Ledingham, Head of Department

Curricular News

It has been another very successful year for pupils in the Geography Department; full of new skills and experiences, providing each pupil the opportunity to set, meet and often exceed their own personal targets.

S1 pupils started their year with a detailed study of the school's micro-climate. Various factors were measured using a range of technologies including digital anemometers and thermometers as well as traditional gathering techniques for assessing cloud cover. The data gathered was then processed into a variety of differing formats, many specific to Geography, (e.g. weather station circles, wind roses, and climate graphs) before being analysed within context of the wider Weather unit to explain the links between the various elements and the impact of the local environment. Later in the year, pupils studied Hurricanes, and have completed an investigation into the formations and land use around the River Trees.



David, Ethan and Callum working hard at the final

S2 pupils have compared the physical and human geography of Brazil and Japan, whilst simultaneously investigating the significant challenges facing these nations, with regards to rainforest destruction, environmental pollution and tectonic hazards. Pupils engaged in summary projects prior to their end of year exams, which saw innovative story telling through hand-written projects, ICT and documentary style videos.

The annual visit by National 5 students to Drymen and Balmaha, Loch Lomond National Park, took place in June. The new S4 students investigated the impact of tourism on an upland glaciated environment. Pupils were taught how to plan geographical study using a variety of gathering techniques, presentation methods and methods of analysis. This first-hand data collection enabled them to start their individual assignments based on their own hypotheses. The day was spent gathering information on footpath erosion, trample zones vegetation cover, environmental quality, traffic/pedestrian flow, car origins, tourist questionnaires. For several years, the National 5 cohort have enjoyed impressive results, and the superb assignment marks play a significant role in this success.



The different team finalists held at Belmont Academy

able to enjoy some sunshine, while contrasting the beach landscapes of constructive and destructive environments. Data collected from beach profiles, storm beach sediment, infiltration rates, wave frequency and geomorphical features were used to compare the beaches of Culzean and Maidens. In preparation for their assignment, students were taught how to write a detailed methodology and to evaluate the techniques that they used. The SQA changed the Higher course quite significantly this year, with additional content and a splitting of the exam paper into two. Whilst this created some difficulties for pupils to access accurate past paper questions they have worked tirelessly in preparation for their exam and excellent results are expected again.

Extra-Curricular News

42 pupils are currently enrolled to attend the bi-annual trip to Iceland in March 2020. A hugely popular and successful trip, this opportunity is genuinely a "once in a lifetime" occasion and the excitement is starting to build.

In May, two teams of three pupils represented the school at the local heats of the Scottish Association of Geography Teachers Worldwide Quiz. Both Wellington teams performed excellently, finishing the heat in joint first place ahead of nine other teams. The top four teams then progressed into the regional final where increasingly difficult questions were asked. Wellington 'A' finished first overall whilst Wellington 'B' were narrowly beaten into third place. As such Wellington 'A' will now represent the southwest of Scotland in the National Finals held on 18th June.

The Higher pupils made their annual pilgrimage to the Culzean coast and were even



S4 Pupils on the London Eye

History

Gill MacGlade, Acting Head of Department

This has been a busy and productive year in the History Department and marking the centenary of the end of the First World War was a particular poignant and reflective time for our students. There have been lots of opportunities for active and outdoor learning and this truly brings the curriculum to life.

September: S4 Joint Trip with Modern Studies to London

Our annual Social Subjects cross curricular trip took place in September. History pupils visited the Museum of London Docklands and took part in a slavery research trail led by Ms Hyslop on the first day. On the second day, pupils enjoyed an engaging tour of Westminster and visited the Emmeline Pankhurst Monument. This supported their study of British political history and the Atlantic Slave Trade unit in National 5 History.

November: S2 History Centenary display

S2 pupils took part in a centenary reflection to remember 100 years since the armistice of World War One. Pupils produced many different displays to commemorate the event such as poppy designs, poetry and letters from soldiers.

January: S3 National 5 students History Trip to Holyrood Palace

Ms Hyslop, Ms MacGlade and Mr Ledingham accompanied pupils to Edinburgh Holyrood Palace. As part of their National 5 history course S3 students learn about the reign of Mary Queen of Scots. On this trip pupils took part in an educational workshop examining historical artefacts from the time period and were then given a guided tour of Holyrood Palace where they visited Mary's personal chamber and the very spot where her Italian secretary David Riccio was murdered.

June: Primary 7 History Trip to The Bannockburn Centre, Stirling

Mrs Shaw organised this year's trip to the popular centre. Pupils received a guided tour to examine the area surrounding the triumph of Scotland in the 1314 Battle of Bannockburn. Pupils also took part in an interactive 3-D digital battle workshop which allowed the class to be in the middle of a medieval battle. Other activities included object handling, role

play and decision making exercises that supported their experience on site.

S1 Cross Curricular Project with French

Pupils made cross curricular links with French on their study of the French Revolution in both languages and then chose an event from the topic to present their research on speaking both English and French in this activity.



Primary 7 History Trip to the Bannockburn Centre Stirling



S4 History Trip to the Museum of London Docklands



Inter House Cricket



House Marching



Public Speaking

House Reports

Margaret Newall, House Coordinator

During this school year, we have had three Interhouse activity days. The House Coordinators would like to thank all staff and house captains who helped supervise activities throughout the year. Bad weather interrupted the first interhouse day so not all events were played.

In December, Nightingale won the annual Interhouse Debate.

In May, the annual swimming gala was held and Montgomery house won. In addition, Charlotte Hardy in Primary 7 Montgomery broke the school record for 25 meter breaststroke with a time of 18.78 seconds. A special thank you goes to Mr. Craig for running the swimming gala for many years.

In June, all year groups played rounders at Doonside. Churchill won the Trophy for Rounders.

In the Senior School, a new house points system has been approved and will start in August. The system will include house point tokens that teachers can award to pupils. Pupils will put the tokens into a house collection tube. Periodically, the totals will be announced at house meetings. House points will also be awarded for interhouse events. The Junior School will continue to use housemark awards.

Senior Quiz, Senior Badminton, Senior Basketball, Junior Rugby, Junior Tennis	Churchill House
Junior hockey, Junior Cricket	Curie House
P5-S2 Swimming Gala, Junior Basketball, Senior Chess, Senior Tennis, Junior & Senior Netball, House Marching	Montgomery House
Junior Quiz, Junior Chess, Junior & Senior Football, Junior Badminton, Interhouse Debate	Nightingale House

House Guide



Churchill (CH)



Curie (CU)



Montgomery (MO)



Nightingale (ND)



*Wellington hosting
Eurostronomia partner
schools*



*French Junior Exchange Trip
in May*



*French Senior Exchange Trip in
December*

International Education & Modern Languages

Susan Coontz, Head of Department & International Programme Manager

This session the international programme at Wellington School has continued to go from strength to strength with a further expansion of the opportunities offered to our pupils.

UK-German Connection has again awarded Wellington School a grant of £1000 to support pupil visits to the Mallinckrodt-Gymnasium, Dortmund. The funding subsidised the costs of the Senior Exchange for those participating in Session 2018-19. In addition, UK German Connection offered us a grant of over £6000 to co-fund a Magical Christmas visit to Dortmund in December, 15 Primary 7 pupils & 6 mentors from S5 & S6 spent four days in Germany at our partner school, the Mallinckrodt-Gymnasium. During their visit, they saw a German Christmas market and spent time in school on joint activities with Mallinckrodt pupils of the same age. For the Wellington pupils, the highlight of the trip was going home to spend an evening with a German family. UK German-Connection also funded a joint class project between Wellington and schools in the north and east of Germany. Pupils in took part in a Culture in a Box project and exchanged materials on Christmas, cultural festivals and school. Last summer, Ruby Magee was awarded a place on a study visit to Germany. One of the conditions was that she share her experiences with pupils in the Junior School. Ruby did a series of classes and introduced German Christmas carols to the two Primary 3 classes. Our German Assistant, Frau Kristina Baute, was appointed UK-German Connection Ambassador.

In November, a group of senior pupils commemorated the signing of the armistice at the end of World War One in Compiegne. One hundred years to the day, they represented the school at the very spot where the armistice was signed. Together with 150 young Europeans from across the continent, they took part in a conference from 9-12 November organised by UCAPE. Each group gave a presentation on a local or national hero. Our pupils chose to talk about Dr Elsie Inglis, a pioneering doctor, suffragist & founder of the Scottish Women's Hospitals. They also took part in multinational workshops and helped to write a charter for peace in the 21st Century. Visiting important historical sites was a highlight of the trip. Peronne, the Lochnagar Crater, Beaumont-Hamel & the Thiepval Memorial brought home the sacrifices made a hundred year ago and reminded us that many of the fallen were of the same age as our senior pupils.

Our Senior Exchange visit to the Institut Saint-Dominique took place at the beginning of

December. The group spent three days in class in the French school and then met their teachers in Paris and took the TGV to Lyons to see the spectacular Fête des Lumières. The French Junior Exchange followed in May where the participants enjoyed a week of French hospitality and of activities and excursions in the most perfect of conditions – sunshine and warmth every day was a real treat. Our Primary 7 classes have enjoyed a letter exchange with pupils their age at Saint-Dominique. They have exchanged information about their families, where they live and Christmas customs and small gifts.

Our Erasmus+ work continues. We currently have two EU-funded projects: Eurostronomia (Scotland + Bulgaria, France, Germany, Macedonia, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia) and Celebrating Success (Scotland + Germany).

Eurostronomia is an astronomy and physics-based project and this session pupils from across the school have taken part in activities funded by the project. In September, we hosted pupils from our partner schools and boys and girls of all ages took part in the workshops. Our pupils travelled to Slovenia with the project in January and two pupils are going to Macedonia in the summer to work on the project. We are completing the first year of the Celebrating Success project with the Mallinckrodt-Gymnasium in Dortmund. This project builds on the strength of our 30-year partnership. During the Easter holidays a group of senior pupils went to Germany to examine UK-German relations over the past 200 years. We are currently planning a new Erasmus+ project, Small Countries-Strong Cultures with schools in Belgium & Slovenia. The Junior Erasmus+ Club meets weekly and works on activities related to the Eurostronomia project.

Spanish classes have been working on a Vlog about the school. They will send this to our Spanish partner school as part of their preparation for the planned exchange next session.

We hosted three foreign language assistants this session, Frau Kristina Baute from Germany and Mademoiselle Lea Masciocchi from France and Senora Nelly Herrera from Chile. In addition, Frau Sonja Rotgeri from Germany completed a four-week teaching practice placement within the department.

The Department has acquired a class set of Chromebooks. New courses have a significant interactive element and using technology allows pupils to access a wider range of sound and video files as well as interactive comprehension and grammar exercises. In some classes, most homework is delivered electronically. This has proved to be popular with most pupils.



Emily, Kathryn and Catriona
with their Certificates for the
Scottish Mathematiccal
Challenge



Pi Day



Mathematics Pupils with Head
of Department, Peter Richmond

Mathematics

Peter Richmond, Head of Department

We were delighted this year to continue with our various successes in numerous mathematical competitions, both at individual and team level, as well as for a small number of enthusiastic pupils to attend on a regular basis the weekly Easy as Pi mathematics club. Pupils took part in the United Kingdom Mathematics Trust (UKMT) monthly mentoring scheme, just one mathematical enrichment activity aimed at pupils with a strong ability in the subject.

UKMT Mathematical Challenges

In the UKMT Mathematical Challenges, students have between 60 to 90 minutes to answer varied multiple-choice mathematical problems, with high scorers being awarded certificates to recognise their success in the subject. Pupils throughout Wellington won numerous Gold, Silver and Bronze awards across the various levels of the competition.

In the Senior Challenge (Nov 2018), aimed at pupils between the ages of 16 and 18, over 80000 pupils from across the UK took part, with the top 60% nationally receiving a Gold (10%), Silver (20%) or Bronze (30%) certificate and each institution receiving a Best in School certificate. This year, at Wellington, Bronze Awards went to Emily Henry (S6), Joshua Kean (S6), Ruby Magee (S6), Callum Shinn (S5) and Laurence Shinn (S5), with Silver Awards and Best in Year certificates awarded to Dillon Leahy (S5) and Jennifer Munro (S6). Jennifer also won Best in School.

Over 250000 students from more than 3000 schools and colleges across the UK participated in the Intermediate Challenge (Feb 2019). Isabella Girgis (S4), Angus MacDonald (S4), Callum Morrison (S4), Claymore Young (S4), Elouisa Cairns (S3), Molly Kerr (S3) and David Bondar (S3) all gained Bronze Awards, with David also earning Best in Year. Euan Graham (S4) continued his success in the UKMT Challenges with the reward of a Silver Certificate as well as Best in Year and Best in School.

The Junior Challenge (April 2019), aimed at children in S2 and below, is certainly the most popular across the UK, with over 270000 pupils taking part this year in an attempt to gain a certificate at Gold (6%), Silver (13%) or Bronze (21%) level. Wellington saw large numbers of pupils participating from across both the Senior School and, once again, from Primary 7. We are thrilled to have attained some 24 certificates, including 13 Bronze Awards (Cameron Hainey, Bhuvan Kandimalla, Kate Miller, Noah O'Brien, Beth Peat, Matthew Wardrop, Kiera West (S2); Bentley Cai, Saad Omer, Callum Peat, Kathryn Taylor (S1); Fraser Steward, Jessica Haye (P7)) in addition to 9 Silver Awards from Faris Alnakkas (S2), Elsa Dunsmuir (S2),

Cameron Holland (S2), Abigail McPartlin (S2), Emily Stribling (S2), Evan Kirkwood (S1), Emily Taylor (S1), Alfkirk Penman (P7) and Benjamin Richmond (P7). Evan and Benjamin also took home Best in School certificates for S1 and P7 respectively. Nathan Hughes (S2) & Catriona Smith (S2) each received a Gold Award for their sterling efforts, with Catriona also being awarded Best in School.

UKMT Team Challenge and Senior Team Challenge

The UKMT Team Challenge saw Cameron Hainey (S2), Catriona Smith (S2), Callum Peat (S1) & Kathryn Taylor (S1) compete in a regional heat at the UWS, Paisley. They put in a first-rate effort, taking part in 4 rounds across the competition, the Group Round, Crossnumber, Shuttle and Relay, and finished in 15th place, something we will be looking to build on for the future. Meanwhile, the Senior Team of Emily Henry (S6), Sarah McGaffin (S6), Amy Barbour (S5) and Dillon Leahy (S5) were pleased to finish in 9th position in their own regional heat.

Scottish Mathematical Challenge

This year, pupils once again took part in the annual Scottish Mathematical Challenge, a problem-solving competition for individual pupils in Scottish secondary schools and upper primary schools (mainly P7). The competition is divided into 4 divisions, and this year we had pupils taking part in the Junior Division (S1 and S2) and the Primary Division (P7). On Friday 7th June, the top-scoring S1 and S2 certificate winners were invited to a prize-giving ceremony at The University of Glasgow, where they were entertained with a talk from the Scottish Teacher of the Year 2018, mathematician Chris Smith, before being presented with their Gold, Silver and Bronze certificates and accompanying mugs. After their successes across the two rounds of the competition earlier in the year, Emily Taylor (S1), Kathryn Taylor (S1) and Catriona Smith (S2) received the honour of attending the prize-giving. All three girls performed brilliantly in the competition, with Catriona's result being the star performance after she secured a total of 39 out of a possible 40 marks! Meanwhile, not to be outdone, in their Primary Division both Lillie McCluskie and Saurabh Nayar were worthy Silver Certificate winners, attending their respective prize-giving, on the same day as the S1s and S2s, at the University of Strathclyde.

Mathématiques Sans Frontières competition (5 March) and Pi Day (14 March)

Following last year's inaugural entry to the Mathématiques Sans Frontières whole-class competition, Wellington once again took the opportunity to compete in this 'competition with a difference'. Aimed at motivating pupils in their studies, this stimulating and light-hearted affair combines Mathematics and Modern Languages; those in S4M1 attempted 10 questions, divided up between groups, within a 60-minute time limit, before deciding on and submitting their final answer. 49 schools submitted 79 entries this year and we are elated to have won the S4 category.

On 14th March (or March 14th, 3/14), as part of our Pi Day 2019 celebrations in the department, S1 pupils completed various Pi Day booklet activities and partook in some homemade culinary Pi(e) delights. We once again hosted the 'memory game', with pupils being set the task a few days beforehand of trying to recall as many digits of Pi as possible. Kathryn Taylor achieved a very creditable 32 decimal places, earning a worthy runner-up status. It was Saad Omer, however, who totally blew the rest of the competition out of the water, reciting Pi to 168 decimal places, a phenomenal achievement!

We look forward to taking part in these various activities again next year and to expanding the opportunities open to pupils within the department.



S4 pupils on their tour of the Houses of Parliament



One of the Delegations from Model UN



S4 Modern Studies trip to London

Modern Studies

Gill MacGlade, Head of Department

The Modern Studies department continues to engage and involve pupils in the most relevant and up to date political, social and international issues. A commitment to a varied programme of learning, both in and outside of the classroom, has seen all pupils in S1 – 6 develop their knowledge and citizenship skills. Pupils are encouraged to take an active role in their learning and have benefited significantly from involvement in the varied activities on offer.

The focus in S1 is on human rights, the UK's political structure and democratic participation. In January, pupils visited the Scottish Parliament and took part in activities designed to show them the role of the parliament and ways in which their voices can be heard. We held the mock election in March and all S1 pupils enjoyed having the chance to design their own parties and create manifesto pledges for the school, local community and country as a whole. P7 pupils were invited to take part in the hustings and cast their vote for their preferred candidate and party. This brings the election process to life and there could certainly be some budding politicians in our midst!

S2 pupils had the chance to hear from Wellington parent and former Special Branch Officer, Bob Roper, as part of their study into terrorism. They particularly enjoyed the chance to get 'hands-on' with the specialist equipment worn by officers and gained a very valuable insight into the work of the security forces. S2 and S3 pupils also had the chance to visit the Sky Academy Studios in Livingston and work with interactive technologies to produce a news report on the youth vote. Pupils worked together to prepare arguments for and against voting at 16 and carried out roles ranging from presenter to camera operator and director. This trip allowed them to develop their understanding of the voting process in a very interactive way and we were impressed with the leadership skills shown by many.

In September, S4 Modern Studies and History pupils took part in the annual trip to London which involved a tour of the Houses of Parliament, a workshop on elections and voting, and a visit to the Museum of London. Pupils study Democracy and the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade at National 5 and this trip allows them to apply their knowledge and further their interest in the topics covered.

National 5 and Higher candidates also had the opportunity to meet with Bill Grant, the MP

for Ayr, Carrick and Cumnock. Elected in 2017, he was able to share his experiences of taking part at Prime Minister's Questions and committee business. In the last few months of their course, three S4 pupils were also given the chance to visit Glasgow Sheriff Court and the Drug Court as part of their study into Crime and the Law. They had the chance to question the Sheriff and Drug Team and hear first-hand about the work being done to try to rehabilitate offenders. The group then shared their experiences with their respective classes.

Pupils at Advanced Higher also study Crime and the Law, and as part of their dissertation preparation, the group travelled to HMP Greenock to speak with staff and inmates about their experiences. This opportunity to gather first hand primary research allows pupils to develop their awareness of the issues facing the prison system and put their learning into a real-life context. Advanced Higher pupil, Cara Hope, was the Social Subjects Captain for 2018/19 and we extend our thanks to her for her efforts this year.

Lastly, the Model UN which was established last session has gone from strength to strength this year. Pupils have taken part in two conferences; North Berwick in November and Hutcheson's Grammar in February, which saw S4 and S5 pupils involved for the first time. Pupils from schools across the country take on the role of delegates from different UN member countries and this year, Wellington pupils have represented Chile, Italy, Thailand on issues ranging from human trafficking to the difference between free speech and hate speech. Participation is designed to encourage pupils to develop critical thinking skills, improve their presentation and communication skills and develop literacy and numeracy skills by doing research and preparing papers before attending the conference. All participants were excellent ambassadors for their respective countries and for the school. The group is always open to new members and we look forward to continued success in the year ahead.



2018 School Production of
Chicago



2019 Orchestra Performance at
the PTA Summer Concert



2019 Junior School
Performance of Aladdin

Music

Dennis Haggerty, Director of Music

The Music Department has enjoyed yet another hugely successful year where our pupils have excelled academically and also in performance. Our musicians are fully dedicated and committed to the busy musical calendar that takes place throughout the academic year at Wellington in both Senior and Junior Schools. The results of their efforts are clearly evident in the high quality of musical performance consistently presented in concerts, exams, festivals and shows. This once again highlights Wellington School as a centre of excellence in music and performance.

Departmental, Curricular & Extra Curricular News

After successful implementation of five new courses over the past two years, Advanced Higher Music Technology will now be added to the framework. This puts our music department in a unique position, as the vast majority of schools in the country are unequipped to run both Music and Music Technology courses to an Advanced Level. Changes to our list of specialist music tutors included the appointment of Miss Nicola Connell (Violin) in August 2018. Nicola has brought her vast orchestral experience to the school and has already greatly improved the standard of ensemble playing. I am delighted to announce the appointment of Lewis Banks (Woodwind), Cate Howard (Violin) and Arlene Rolfe (Voice) to start in August 2019. Lewis is highly regarded as one of the most promising classical saxophone players in the country and has a wealth of experience in all woodwind instruments. Renowned 'Suzuki Method' violin tutor Cate Howard joins us with vast experience in teaching to all levels and has books published on the art of learning musical instruments. Miss Arlene Rolfe, who currently teaches singing at the prestigious Mountview Academy of Theatre Arts & also the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland Musical Theatre Course, joins us with an outstanding knowledge of all styles of singing, not just musical theatre. The department now has 17 Peripatetic industry specialist music instructors delivering a wide range of instrumental tuition and who all have high ambitions for our pupils.

The International Education Concert Programme continues to thrive and develop. The flagship events in this initiative were the anniversary concerts to celebrate the 25 year partnership between Mallinckrodt Gymnasium, Dortmund and Wellington School. This was followed by an extremely successful concert tour of Salzburg in June 2018 with the orchestra and chamber choir. We are currently preparing for the 30-year celebration

concerts due to take place in Dortmund in November this year and a return concert in Ayr in March 2020. The next Music Department trip is being planned for June 2021.

The department has grown with the addition of Music Technology to all levels and choosing music as an option in the senior school has been steadily increasing over the past five years. This year we have twenty-seven S3 pupils opting to study music as a subject in the 2019/20 academic session.

In the past four years, many pupils have gone on to pursue a career in Music with successful entrance to performance degrees at the Royal Northern College of Music, Edinburgh University, Newcastle University and Conservatory of Music in Genoa as well as education degrees at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland and Edinburgh University. Meanwhile this year, our music captain Katie Carmichael will study singing on the BMus Performance Course at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. One of our first ever Music Technology pupils, Morgan Leahy, will pursue a career in Sound Engineering and Media at Robert Gordon's University.

The Music Department encourages all pupils with an interest in music to take part in our extra-curricular activities. We have added a number of additional groups this year and further altered the structure of the school orchestras to offer more options for the range of musical abilities throughout the school. The current list of activities is: Senior Choir (mixed voices S3-S6); Madrigal Group (select girls S4-S6); Chamber Choir (senior select mixed voices); Junior Choir for mixed voices (p7-S2); Wellington Junior School String Orchestra (beginner to S2); Wellington School Orchestra (grade 3 and above); Jazz Concert Band (open to all Brass and Woodwind players); Folk Group (senior school pupils); Rock Band (senior pupils); & Wellington Youth Theatre (S4-S6). The choral programme in the Junior School is timetabled for all pupils from Nursery to P6. The experience gained from extra-curricular activities will enhance pupils' skills and develop confidence in the art of performance.

Wellington School is currently a centre for examination for the three main music exam boards in the country: Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music for Theory Exams, Trinity College London for Classical and Rock and Pop, & London College of Music for Musical Theatre Exams. We are one of the few schools in the United Kingdom that host all three of the main music exam boards.

Choral Programme

The Choral Programme continues to thrive with successful performances at Harvest and also Christmas and Easter services in both Junior and Senior School. Our choirs from Nursery to S6 continually perform at charity events inside school and also in the wider community, bringing joy to all audiences. Many of these events are organised throughout the academic year and pupils, parents and colleagues are thanked for their support and commitment to charity musical events.

At National Choral Level, Emma Stevenson became a member of the National Youth Choir of Scotland (Training) and Katie Carmichael and Ruby Magee successfully auditioned for the National Youth Choir of Scotland. Many singers and instrumentalists attend the Junior Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. Emma Stevenson (Voice) has recently been accepted to the Junior Royal Conservatoire and will join Issy Girgis (Violin) in August. Many of our musicians from Primary through to Secondary take part in extra-curricular orchestras and ensembles with South Ayrshire and a selection of our

instrumentalists play in the South Ayrshire Chamber Orchestra and West of Scotland Schools' Symphony Orchestra.

Concerts

Our pupils sing and play at many prestigious events locally, Nationally and Internationally and promote the good name of our school. This year we have had a wide variety of performances including Burns Suppers at Royal Troon Clubhouse, 'Light up A Life' Ayrshire Hospice Concert, Alloway Rotary Events, Whitely Retreat Ladies Day, Ayrshire Seniors Concert in the Town Hall, Troon Arthritis Group Annual Dinner, Showcases at the Gaiety Theatre Ayr and many more. Through these concerts, a substantial amount of money has been raised for the school charity.

Sophie Craig was invited to perform in a high profile Burns Supper in New York at the start of the year. A few days later she was singing at a Burns event in the exclusive RAC Club in London presented by Kaye Adams.

Katie Carmichael was invited as one of 16 singers selected throughout Scotland to perform in West Side Story in the Usher Hall at the Edinburgh International Festival, conducted by Sir John Elliot Gardner. She was also awarded first place and the prestigious Glasgow Grand Opera Cup during a recent competition for all singers at the Junior Royal Conservatoire.

All of our Pupils who perform on behalf of the school, deserve special mention for their commitment, enthusiasm and talent brought to these events. They are all ambassadors for Wellington School.

Shows

In October 2018 our Senior School Show was the iconic 'Chicago' by Kander and Ebb. This is one of the most challenging shows in the musical theatre repertoire and our senior pupils gave four outstanding performances to a most appreciative full house. In order to showcase our talented pupils we double-casted this classic show. We have so many talented singers that we always produce two casts of equal high quality. This was Mr Haggerty's fifth show as Musical Director and second taking the dual role of Director and Musical Director. The wonderful Heather Rennie presented outstanding choreography for the show and we are delighted that she is now a member of staff at school. Positive feedback received with regards to 'Chicago', from parents and people with no link to the school at all, has been overwhelming. Rehearsals have already started for the next show, Sir Andrew Lloyd-Webber's Musical Masterpiece, 'Phantom of the Opera'.

At Christmas, collaboration between the Wellington School Parent Teachers Association and the Music Department successfully repeated the addition of a second Carol Concert in order to meet with the demand for tickets for this most popular event; it also allowed us to extend the programme to include musicians from the Junior School. The Senior and Junior School Concerts continue to present performances of the highest quality and once again, outstanding feedback was received from all who attended. Our Summer Concert was held in Ayr Town Hall for the first time and was a huge success. Once again, our pupils presented an impressive concert of the most professional standard and each and every one are a credit to our wonderful school.

Junior School

Music in the Junior School continues to flourish with many musical performances and productions throughout the year. Highlights include the Lunchtime Concerts, Nursery and P1,2,3 Nativity Productions and also the Junior Show Musical. Following the success of 'Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat' in June 2017, Primary 4, 5 & 6 performed 'Aladdin'

the musical in Carleton Turrets Hall for 4 Performances. This was the first production collaboration between Miss Jennifer McGowan (Director) and Miss Nicola McKinlay (Musical Director) with Mr Haggerty on sound. Miss McGowan and Miss McKinlay produced an impressive show and their enthusiastic approach throughout was much appreciated and evident in the quality of the pupil performance. Pupils are fully committed to the productions and consistently give up valuable playtime to ensure that their shows are a success.

The annual Nativity productions took place as usual and the Nursery delighted audiences with their show, which was produced by the staff, with music played by Mrs Wilson. The Junior School Nativity was also directed by a number of the primary school staff and the musical director was Mrs Docherty. The singing at all performances was of an impressive standard for pupils so young.

The lunchtime Concert Series ran throughout the month of May in Drumley Hall. This has been so popular that we aim to increase the number of concerts to accommodate demand and to allow all levels of the talented junior musicians to perform in front of an audience.

Ayrshire Music Festival

The Ayrshire Music Festival culminates in the 'Premier Trophies Evening'. There were two competitions for the selected best performances of the festival, the Howard De Walden Silver Challenge Cup for the Best Vocal Performance and the Elizabeth McNair Trophy for the Best Instrumental Performance. Katie Carmichael represented the school at this event and won first place in the vocal award, receiving the Howard De Walden Trophy. A Wellington pupil has held this prestigious vocal award for the past 5 years: Sophie Craig in 2015 and 2016, Callum McCandless in 2017 and Katie Carmichael in 2018 and 2019. Aditi Mudunuri of Primary 6 was invited to perform her festival winning poems and received rapturous applause from a most appreciative audience. Mr Haggerty and many of our peripatetic instrumental instructors came to support the event. Other successes of the festival include:

Howard De Walden Trophy (For Best Vocal Performance)

Winner: Katie Carmichael

Opera (Open Class)

1st Place: Katie Carmichael who won the Ayr Intimate Opera Company Trophy

Oratorio (Open Class)

1st Place: Katie Carmichael who won the Ayr Intimate Opera Company Trophy

Junior Vocal Solos S1/S2

1st Place: Evie Scott-Galli

2nd Place: Jocelyn Cartner

Junior Vocal Solos P7

1st Place: Juliet Cartner
2nd Place: Jessica Haye

Songs from the Shows: S3/S4

1st Place: Abigail Kirkwood
3rd Place: Gemma Hope

Songs from the Shows: S1/S2

1st Place: Katie Ronnie
2nd Place: Evie Scott-Galli
3rd Place: Georgia Stark

Songs from the Shows: Primary

1st Place: Jessica Haye
2nd Place: Juliet Cartner
3rd Place: Suri Soto-Yanez

Choirs

Adult Choirs

1st Place: Wellington Madrigal Group (Bardrochat Trophy)
Mixed Choirs (SATB)
2nd Place: Wellington Senior Choir

Junior Choirs (Songs of Robert Burns)

1st Place: Wellington Junior Vocal Ensemble (Saltire Trophy)

Primary Choral P2/3

1st Place: Wellington School P2/3 Choir

Strings

Violin Solos Division E (class A)

1st Place: Andrew Irvine
2nd Place: Tiffany Cai
3rd Place: Lemoni Allan-McLaughlin

Violin Solos Division E (class B)

1st Place: David Ness
2nd Place: Freya Day-Byrne

Open Violin Solos: Romantic

2nd Place: Isla Novak

Primary School String Orchestra Division C

1st Place: South Ayrshire Junior String Orchestra
The following pupils played in the orchestra: Freya Day-Byrne, Lemoni Allan-McLaughlin, Andrew Irvine, Jessica Ewer and James Cruikshank.

Piano

Piano Solos Division A

2nd Place: Morven Murdoch

Piano Solos Division E

1st Place: Lillie McCluskie

Piano Solos Division F

1st Place: Issy Wilson

Speech and Drama

In Speech and Drama, Sophie Craig won five individual classes:
The Coila Trophy
The Elocution Trophy
Marjory McKinlay Trophy
Poems of Burns
Favourite Poem

She was also awarded the Prestwick Arts Guild Prize for overall achievement.

Aditi Mudunuri won the Anne Girgwood Trophy for poetry.

Speech and Drama (cont.)

Isla Hall was first place in the Scots Poetry Class.

Ava Clachan was second place in the Scots Poetry Class.

Isla MacLeod won a medal for Scots Poetry.



2019 Junior School Sports Day



Grandparents Day



Nursery Concert

Nursery & Junior School Report

Jimmy Cox, Head of the Junior School

Lunchtime Music Concerts

These were a feature of our Friday lunchtimes during May with approximately 40 children, from beginner to accomplished, and for the first time ever, a Primary 1 child, showing off their talents. These concerts are very informal and only the children's family are invited to ensure a friendly face in a none threatening setting is assured. The range of instruments and voice was truly exceptional with oboe, piano, trumpet, harp, chanter and violin to name a few. We can be confident, moving forward, that the musical arts in the school will be in good hands. After the concert, and over a tea or a juice, the audience gets the chance to mingle with the entertainers.

Health Focus

The eight days of Health Focus 2019 were hugely successful. Although the weather was not nearly as good as last year's heatwave, more parent led events and workshops complimented the in-house activities to ensure that a rich programme was available to all children.

Every child in the Junior School participated, with a focus on healthy bodies, healthy minds and healthy diets. Children and staff arrived at school in sports kit and took part in all activities. The competitive nature of the children ensured that some children, who could not run a mile previously, highlighted their personal improvements during this activity as the highlight of their week. This is a strong endorsement of the daily run if ever one was needed. The range of early morning activities held in the playground before the start of school were extremely popular amongst pupils and parents.

The Health Committee, should be commended for their hard work in ensuring an excellent 8 days went smoothly and very successfully. The end of the health programme was followed up by each class presenting at assembly about what they had learned.

Grandparents' Day

Over 120 grans and grandads joined their grandchildren for an insight in to life in the Junior School. The Grandparents' Morning, usually held in the second half of the Summer Term, is always extremely well-attended. The format was changed this year so that every child in the Junior School presented to a packed Drumley Hall. The performances were truly fantastic and ranged from 'bucket drumming' to an interactive quiz on Ayr to singing. Grannies and grandads then visited their grandchildren's classrooms. The morning finished with all children taking part in a dance co-ordinated, and led by, Mrs Rennie, which linked directly to our Health Week focuses. The children were outstanding ambassadors for the school throughout the morning.

The Nursery Thistle Tea

Although there are many great activities and events in the nursery, one that always stands out to parents, children and staff is 'The Thistle Tea'. This fantastic experience instils a great deal of confidence in the youngest members of our community and is just one of a huge number of opportunities that children are given to perform for parents, grandparents and friends. The singing of songs related to the children's Scottish themed topic is very much a 'celebration of Scotland'. This year, Thistle Tea raised more than £500 for Cystic Fibrosis. A huge thank you to everyone who help support this charity.

In the final weeks of the term, the 'Transition Children' also performed a new programme of songs to their mums and dads. One energetic dance routine stole the show and thank you to the nursery staff who also showed off their dance moves. Very well done to everyone but especially to our Music Specialist, Mrs Wilson.

Primary 5 and Primary 6 Residential Trips

Both Primary 5 and Primary 6 pupils took part in their annual 'residential trip' this term. Primary 5 stayed at Dumfries House for three days and Primary 6 stayed at Loch Ken for five. The experience of staying away, working in teams and challenging themselves meant everyone was keenly involved.

These experiences are invaluable for the children and help them build resilience, experience teamwork and a camaraderie that is sometimes difficult to achieve out with a residential setting. Every child had a hugely rewarding time and it is always pleasing to see the more reticent child coming back enthusiastically promoting the trip. Pupils pushed themselves to their limit in one way or another and staff were proud of their persistence, work ethic and spirit. I attended the first part of the morning at Dumfries House where 'making your bed' was the first activity! I hope the parents are seeing the benefit of it.

Sporting Achievements in the Junior School

A number of pupils in the Junior School have taken part in sporting activities in which they have represented the school. However, one pupil, Sushanth has been heavily involved in tennis and has very successfully represented us at local, national and international events. Very well done to him and also to everyone else who has done well in sport this year.

Mini & Junior Dukes

The Junior School participated in the Mini and Junior Duke Awards for a second year. There have been over 100 successes and children have been awarded bronze, silver and gold badges in their respective scheme. Every child who takes part is required to complete seven challenges of their choice, all of which encourage independence and self-motivation. Mrs Lomas who coordinates the programme would like to say a huge thank you to all of the parents and staff who have helped children throughout the year. Mr Mooney from the Senior School presented the badges and has spoken to the children, at assemblies, in his role as the school's Duke of Edinburgh Coordinator. The culmination of the programme was the end of year ice-cream, party and presentation of the Duke Cup to the successful House, Curie.

STEM

As always, our STEM Focus Fortnight is full of fun and hands-on activities to complement the children's learning. Bringing together learning in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, children from the Nursery to P6 have taken part in activities such as designing a weather station, chocolate investigations, constructing pyramids, studying electricity and building circuits and construction challenges.

Playground

We are delighted to see our playground taking shape with the 'docking' of Coconut Jack, our new ship, in the infant playground and the welcome addition of colourful planters as well as the imminent arrival of painted lines for games and activities. We are all looking forward to the next phase of improvements in the playground.



P7 John Muir Sharing Event



P7 Trip to Culzean



John Muir Activity Books

Outdoor Education

Leon Mooney, Duke of Edinburgh & John Muir Awards Manager

Duke of Edinburgh Award

This session we have had 34 Bronze entrants in S3, with eight having already completed their award. Seventeen pupils in S4 signed up for their Silver award and will be undertaking their final expedition in August. Six S5 and S6 pupils have signed up to do Gold level.

Across all levels, we have had over 30 awards completed this session along with a number of pupils who are very close to completion. Several former pupils have now completed their Gold award and three of these will be receiving their certificates in July at a Gold Award Presentation event at Holyrood Palace.

John Muir Award

The Primary 7 pupils have completed their John Muir Award Discovery Award under the four principals of Discover, Explore, Conserve and Share. Various events and activities took place along the River Doon from its source at Loch Doon to where it meets the sea at Ayr Beach, with a Sharing event given for parents in June.



Primary 7 on their Culzean Trip



Learning with Chromebooks



Surabh & Lillie with their Certificates for the Scottish Mathematical Challenge

Primary 7

Lynn Clachan, Year Head

Outdoor Education - The John Muir Award

Each year, Primary 7 pupils take part in the John Muir Award which in many ways is a precursor to the Duke of Edinburgh Award. During Summer Term 2019, pupils completed their award where the theme was 'The River Doon: from Source to Sea'.

To achieve the award, each participant must:

- Meet four challenges - Discover, Explore, Conserve, Share
- Complete the required time commitment
- Show enthusiasm and commitment towards their involvement
- Show awareness of John Muir
- Understand what the John Muir Award is and why they are participating

As part of the challenge, pupils discovered 'wild places': the River Doon; sand dunes near both the school and the mouth of the river. They went on to explore the walks around Loch Doon and Ness Glen (near the source of the River Doon). The participants explored the dunes near Wellington and the mouth of the river; paddled using open canoes (near the mouth of the river, at the Millennium Bridge and on the river between Bogton Loch and Burnfoot); they camped overnight at Culzean Scout Campsite; took part in a night walk to spot bats; participated in art activities; and pond dipped with Culzean rangers. The conserve challenge saw pupils participate in a beach clean, as part of an international coastal clean up for trash-free seas. Based on the journals they kept throughout the challenges, Primary 7 hosted a John Muir sharing afternoon for family and friends in Drumley Hall on Friday 14th June.

Chromebooks

Primary 7 were delighted to be chosen as the inaugural year to have their own chromebooks. Having their own personal device has allowed technology to be a fully integrated part of the pupils' learning experience. They have fully utilised Google Docs,

Google Slides, Google Forms and mindmapping on Jamboards. Google Classroom has proven to be an excellent tool to communicate with pupils, keeping them up-to-date with upcoming events and, of course, homework. Pupils have intimated that having their own chromebook was one of the main highlights of their Primary 7 experience.

Speech and Drama

From October until December each Primary 7 class rehearsed the pantomime 'Sleeping Beauty' with FIB drama (oh, yes they did!). Final performances in the FIB theatre on Monday 17th December were a real success.

In January Mr Raffel (Burns and Public Speaking aficionado and Mrs Bradley's Dad) gave Primary 7 valuable feedback during our Burns' Competition, preparing our pupils for their participation in the Speech & Drama Section of the Ayrshire Music Festival. Mr Raffel was impressed by the high standard of all of our finalists, choosing Jonathan Dunn and Ellis Porter as his deserving winners.

All Primary 7 pupils entered the Choral Speaking Section of the Speech and Drama Section of the Ayrshire Music Festival, on 12th March. Many pupils volunteered to enter the Burns Verse Section and the inaugural Public Speaking Section. We had many successful winners, including: Surabh Nayar (Public Speaking), Lillie McCluskie (Public Speaking & Burns), Emma Henderson (Public Speaking), Rory Kilpatrick (Burns), Jonathan Dunn (Burns), Annika Cooke (Burns) & Erin Ward (Burns).

The Primary 7 Public Speaking Competition Final took place on Friday 3rd May, with Mr Raffel kindly agreeing to judge for us again. He was amazed by the wide variety of subjects chosen by our finalists. Our deserving winner was Jonathan Dunn with his engaging talk: 'Conspiracy Theories'.

Maths

Surabh Nayar & Lillie McCluskie were proud to be awarded Silver Level certificates at an award ceremony at the University of Strathclyde on Friday 7th June for their participation in the Scottish Mathematical Challenge.

Benjamin Richmond & Alf-Kirk Penman were delighted to be awarded Silver Awards in the UKMT Junior Mathematical Challenge and Jessica Haye & Fraser Steward successfully gained Bronze Awards.



Hockey Tour to Amsterdam



Emily & Kathryn after completing Scottish Schools' Aquathlon



Wellington Football team taking part in the Ayrshire League

Physical Education & Sport

Alistair Ness, Head of Department

Ayrshire Schools' Secondary Cross Country Championships Success!

The school entered 5 teams into the Ayrshire Schools' Cross Country Championships. All the teams were competitive and there were some very good individual placings. The S2 Girls team came 2nd winning Silver. Team members were: Katie Murray, Beth Peat, Danniella McCormick, Eve Littlejohn and Logan Ness.

Scottish Schools' Secondary Cross Country

The SSAA Secondary Cross Country Championships took place on Saturday 17th March, at Hopetoun House Estate. The school was represented by 2 pupils: Eve Littlejohn and Kate Murray. Both girls ran exceptionally well in difficult conditions.

Swimming

13 of our Primary pupils swam in the Ayrshire Schools Swimming Gala. Charlotte Hardy won a gold medal in the 50 metre Breaststroke and a bronze in the 50 metre Freestyle. In the Ayrshire Secondary schools gala Amy Grassom won a bronze medal in the 400 metre freestyle.

At the Scottish Schools Championship finals at Tolcross Charlotte Hardy finished 5th in the Girls 12 & under 50 metre Breaststroke event. She achieved a personal best time in the final and qualified for SNAGS.

Charlotte finished 4th in the 13 and under 100 metres Breaststroke final in the SNAGS gala at the Tolcross pool in Glasgow. Charlotte's time of 1.22.72 is the second fastest for a 12 year old in Scotland and she beat her personal best time by nearly 3.5 seconds.

Four S1 girls swam at the Royal Commonwealth Pool in Edinburgh in the Scottish Schools Team Championships. They finished 20th in 4x50 metre Freestyle Relay and 19th in 4x50 metre Medley Relay. These were fantastic results in the S1/S2 category. The girls were Rowan MacDonald, Evie Scott Galli, Emily Taylor and Kathryn Taylor.

Scottish Schools' Aquathlon 2019

On Friday 26th April 2019, 3 pupils from Wellington competed in the Scottish Schools' Aquathlon. Emily Taylor, Kathryn Taylor (S1) and Nathan Hughes in S2. Fifty schools, and

over 240 pupils took part in the event with pupils from S1 to S6 competing in their year groups.

They swam 300m before exiting the pool and running 2km.

All the pupils swam brilliantly against a strong field and reached Transition 1 to change into their running shoes in good times. The run was a mixture of off road and track. The pupils competed very well and enjoyed their day.

Prestwick Aquathlon

On Saturday 11th May, three Wellington pupils competed at the Prestwick Aquathlon which is part of the Scottish Aquathlon Race Series. Competitors came from all over Scotland. The pupils performed very well after a strong swim and a fast run.

P5

David Ness

P6

James Cruickshank

Erica Baird

Wellington School Netball

Netball is still in it's infancy at Wellington school having started last year. However, we have seen huge commitment from our P7-S2 pupils with thirty-three girls regularly attending training on a Monday after school.

Primary 7 took part in the Ayrshire Primary League for the first time this year and managed to place third out of 12 schools. A fantastic achievement for a team that is new to the sport. Primary 7 is currently our largest team and the girls have worked hard to solidify their core skills. Being able to participate in the P7 league gives the girls a huge advantage as they step into the senior school where they will be competing in a very strong S1/2 league.

Our S2 pupils were playing in the S1/2 Ayrshire league for the second year. Although our numbers dropped slightly, the girls worked hard as a team and I have seen them improve massively, moving from 20th place last year, to finishing 5th in the league this year! The girls were captained by Katie Murray who also spent the year playing for the Ayrshire District Team.

Finally, our S1s are a committed young team with so much potential. They had a tough round of games this year coming up against a lot of strong S2 teams and finishing 19th. However, many of their games finished with just a few goals difference and this goes to show their potential as they move to the upper end of the age group next year.

This year I have selected a large group of girls to go forward for District trials at the beginning of June; three S2 pupils, six S1 pupils and three P7 pupils. The squad is U15 so will be both tough and incredibly competitive. We wish the girls the best of luck!

This year pupils from P7 – S2 were given the opportunity to participate in netball training every Monday after school. An S1 team were entered into the Ayrshire league where they competed against eight other schools. The girls played well, and committed whole heartedly to training, resulting in them finishing 7th in the league.

Unfortunately, the primary 7 team didn't have a league this year, but played in seven friendly matches. They have shown great potential, winning five games in total! Next year they will step up into the same league as the S1. Netball is in it's infancy at the school, but we already have a 28 girls working on their skills and regularly attending training. I hope that next year we will continue to see an increase in numbers and the girls will continue to improve at the rate they have.

Athletics

Inter School Competition

150 pupils have enjoyed the challenge of participating in a variety of athletics events. Personal bests have been achieved as well as new school records. Wellington competed and had wins in various age groups against schools such as Craigholme School, St Columbas, Lomond, Queen Victoria, Hutchesons' Glasgow Academy and Glasgow High.

There have been some school records broken this season.

Ayrshire Schools Championship Finals

Wellington School have successfully competed against a number of schools in athletics (Lomond School, Queen Victoria School, Craigholme, Hutchesons' Grammar School, High School of Glasgow and St Columbus)

Competing at the Ayrshire Schools Athletics Championships
June 2019:

The following pupils were 3rd in their event:

Sarah Mason	High Jump
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The following pupils were 2nd in their event:

Katie Murray	800m
Callum McMahon	80m Hurdles
Ziyad Elageili	Triple Jump
Dean Murray	Javelin

S2 boys relay team whose team members were Callum McCallum, Bhuvan Kandimalla, Aaron Brodie and Jack Craig.

Senior boys relay team whose team members were Fraser Thomson, Ollie Ledgerwood, Ziyad Elageili and Richie Simpson.

The following pupils were 1st in their event:

Grace Dunlop	200m
Evie Scott-Galli	Discus
Callum McMahon	Discus
Emily Taylor	300m (New Ayrshire Record)

S1 Girls relay team whose team members were Georgia Stark, Grace Dunlop, Emily Taylor and Evie Scott-Galli

Scottish Schools' Track and Field Championships 2018

The school was represented by 9 pupils who competed at the Scottish Track and Field Championships at Grangemouth.

Bronze Medals:

Bhuvan Kandimalla	Discus
Libby White	Long Jump
Jack Craig	Long Jump

Silver Medal:

Libby White	200m
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Libby also received a Standard Badge for her Long Jump which is given for exceptional ability in this event.

Katie Murray ran in the 800m and managed to record a Personal Best time.

Other athletes who gained valuable experience in competing at this level were:

Grace Dunlop	200m
Harry Amphlett	Javelin
Callum McMahon	Discus
Luna Beers	Shot Put (5th Place)

RUGBY

Ayr/Wellington Rugby at BT Murrayfield Final

The Ayr/Wellington rugby institution was represented by the U18 team in the National Youth League Cup Finals for the 4th Year on the main pitch at BT Murrayfield.

Ecstasy turned into agony for the Ayr/Wellington U18 team at Murray field on Sunday 31st March. A stoppage time penalty goal by the Boroughmuir stand-off finally decided the match.

Boroughmuir were tipped to win the Cup after triumphing in the Shogun Conference at Under-18 level. Ayr were dealt a blow by having to play without their stand-off and captain Andy Morrison but can be pleased with the performance of their forward pack and being able to run Boroughmuir to such a fine margin.

It was Ayr/Wellington who produced the first few attacking threats with a couple of sniping runs from their scrum-half Craig Doolan. Boroughmuir started well and were leading 12-0 at half-time.

The second half began with a fightback from Ayr who attacked from a line-out five metres from the Boroughmuir line. Ayr initially set up a driving maul and when the ball was released, powerful centre Dylan Wilson sprinted over for a try converted by Murray Thomson.

The fight back continued when Ayr struck decisively, and, again, it was the forwards who did the spade work, attacking the Boroughmuir line with close range drives before eventually cracking the defence when replacement Sam Kerr barrelled over, and Thomson's conversion gave the team from the west the lead with just three minutes of play remaining.

But, somehow, Boroughmuir found inner strength to fight their way back up the field before winning a crucial penalty. With the clock showing full-time, Boroughmuir kicked the vital penalty to deliver the coup de grace thus delivering the death blow to Ayr/Wellington's Cup aspirations.

Sean McLarty
Chris Easton (Former Pupil)
Conrad Lynch

Hockey at Wellington

Each team competed on a weekly basis and in tournaments throughout the year with varying degrees of success.

Hockey Scottish schools Cup

The Scottish cup is a great opportunity for our teams to play other schools that are not on our Saturday fixture list. The 1XI are competing in the Open Scottish schools cup. In the first round Wellington played Glenalmond. The players worked well as a team and convincingly won 6-0 progressing to the second round. The second round was played on 7th November where Wellington met tough competition from George Heriots and were unfortunately defeated. Player of the match was Eilidh Thomson. After their defeat the 1XI were in the plate competition against Selkirk which was played on 4th February. They were narrowly defeated after a close match.

The 3XI team are competing in the S3 Scottish schools cup. In the first round of the cup they played St Georges. The girls showed great work ethic and had a number of chances in attack. However, they were beaten by a fast paced St Georges team.

The team went on to play Peebles in the plate but were unfortunately narrowly defeated in an exciting and evenly matched game. Lucy Haye scored and Isla Mason was player of the match.

Hockey - District and International

It has been a successful year with the following girls being selected to represent South West hockey; Olivia Stark, Eilidh Thomson, Amy Grassom and Isla Novak. A great achievement! At U16 South West lost a very close game with South which meant they finished 2nd in their pool and 5th overall.

Amy Grassom has been selected to attend the Scottish Hockey Academy programme which started in February. The standard at the initial Talent day was very high and this is an outstanding achievement. Wellington are very proud of Amy!

Hockey Tour to Amsterdam June 2018

The S1 and S2 hockey teams departed on hockey tour in June to Amsterdam. They played matches against Hurley Hockey Club and Amsterdam MC 7. It was lovely to see our players make friends with players from other clubs - some still have contact via social media. The players develop their performance by taking on advice from the opposition and coaches.

An educational tour of The Anne Frank Museum was also on the agenda for some inter-disciplinary learning as pupils read this book in English. An exciting day was also had at Walibi Theme Park.

For dinner the players embarked on a pizza canal cruise round the sights of Amsterdam which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. To finish the tour the players attended an awards presentation at the hostel.

An account from Libby White - "In June 2018 I went on the best trip ever to Amsterdam! The days were short but filled with laughter. On the first full day we played our first game against the local team. It was a very exciting match and I learnt lots from watching the other team play. Also, I discovered my love for bread nutella and chocolate sprinkles. After the match we visited the city exploring the house of Anne Frank. At night we went to Wagamama it was delicious. The next day was by far my favourite as we visited Walibi theme park. It was great fun. The hockey trip came to end and I was sad to say goodbye but I knew I would have other opportunities to go on another hockey tour."

The Primary 7A Team travelled to Glasgow Academy to participate in a Hockey Tournament on Friday 1st of March. The ten girls (Zoe Thomson, Jessica Haye, Oonagh Clark, Katie Cowan, Juliet Cartner, Naomi Cecchini, Charlotte Hardy, Arianna Howard, Savanna Boyd and Anna Hunter) played a fantastic round robin but unfortunately just missed out on the trophy section of the tournament, and were placed in the plate. The afternoon was filled with close games and came down to running penalties. The three strikers did fantastic to score 2 out of 3 and Zoe played amazing in goals to see the girls through to the final. The girls placed 2nd overall and it was a great day had by all!

S2 attended the Hutchesons' Grammar School tournament. The girls enjoyed the competitive nature of this event but were unfortunate not to get past the group stage. They won against Lomond, lost to Craigholme 3-2 in a close game and were defeated by High School of Glasgow.

The 1st XI participated in the Hutcheson' Grammar School and The High School of Glasgow 7s tournaments where they

played excellent hockey. The team were successful against Austin Friars and Craigholme, drew with Kelvinside and lost closely to Hutchesons' Grammar, High School of Glasgow and St Aloysius. At Hutcheson's Tournament they finished 2nd in the group which is a great achievement. Congratulations to those selected to play.

On Saturday 23rd March an end of season tournament was organised at Doonside for all those who played hockey from P6-S6 along with a parents team, formal pupil team and a staff team. The weather was glorious and attendance was a record high with over 100 people. The final consisted of the staff vs S3. The S3 team won stealing the title from the staff, the reigning champions. In bronze medal place was the senior team. A big thanks to all that supported this event.

Dance show

This year dance as an extra-curricular activity has continued to grow in strength with 3 dance clubs being offered; primary, P7/S1 and S2-S6 widening the opportunities for pupils to participate in physical activity at Wellington. During the lunchtime clubs group routines were taught by Mrs Penton, Lisa Muir and Heather Rennie. By participating pupils gain transferable skills such as commitment, co-ordination, timing and develop the ability to deal with high pressure situations which will help them throughout school life.

Dance is also part of the physical education curriculum at Wellington and some of the pieces created were performed in the showcase. This increases the breadth of experiences available for pupils. A benefit of this is that pupils could find an activity that they enjoy promoting lifelong physical activity.

In November auditions were held for pupils who wished to enter their own dances into the showcase. These included dances learnt from other dance schools, exams pieces and routines choreographed by the pupils themselves. Over the process pupils showed great creativity and commitment spending time choreographing and attending practices.

The dedication that the pupils give to dance throughout the year culminates in a high quality dance show which is gaining strength year on year. In February we had great pleasure bringing to you this year's dance showcase – Time Machine. During the performance the audience was taken on a spectacular and nostalgic journey of dance from across the decades. There were a variety of styles performed including tap, ballet and modern. One minute the audience was in the roaring 20s sporting a tassel dress, next they were channeling their inner Danny Zuko, flying through time to the 70's with some Abba and raving in the 90's with glow sticks at the ready. This year we had 80 pupils participate in 28 routines. The performers put in great deal of effort and enthusiasm to create high quality routines throughout the school year and thoroughly enjoy the experience of performing on the stage. Performing in front of an audience allows the performers to develop confidence.

Wellington was invited to perform in the Spring fundraiser 'Let's Entertain You' at the Gaiety. The performers loved the buzz of the big stage so watch this space...

Cricket

A good number of Primary 7 boys got involved in cricket this term. In the annual Primary tournament at Glasgow Academy Wellington defeated the host team in their first match by 10 wickets. This was an outstanding achievement and it shows the team have great potential for the future. S3 boys also became thoroughly involved in cricket this term. Although rain stopped play on several occasions, they had two games against Lomond School and a Scottish cup tie with Hutchesons'

Grammar School. The performance of the season was by the Ross Cricket Cup winner, Lewis Lilley, who scored 50 not out in the away match with Lomond and also took four wickets for 14 runs.

Football

This year Wellington has entered a football team into the Ayrshire League. On 8th November the team played Grange Academy, the winners of the league last season. The team played a defensive game against very strong opposition but lost the match. Players of the match were Ziyad Elageili and Angus MacDonald.

The second fixture was against Greenwood on 29th November. The boys showed good team work, communication and work ethic on the pitch but special mentions go to Ziyad Elageili who was outstanding, Robert Charron made some great stops as goalkeeper and Manuel Spinola had some amazing clearances from defence to prevent goals being scored. Ziyad and Richie Simpson both scored and Richie narrowly missed one in the first half hitting the cross bar. There were 2 other attempts at goals which were blocked by Greenwood defenders. Unfortunately the team were defeated in this competitive match.

In other football news Brendan McLaughlin in S2 has been selected to play as goal keeper for the West of Scotland Youth football team. Congratulations!



The Junior Erasmus Club 'burn' testing with Mrs Ness



DNA lecture at Glasgow University



Erasmus Club experiments

Science

Andrew McPhee, Head of Physics & Science

This has been another very busy and productive year in the Science Department. There have been no staffing changes, which has allowed a degree of continuity for the staff and students.

The Advanced Higher Science pupils continue to offer support for students on Wednesday lunchtimes, where they work with pupils from S3 to S5. It has been very popular with up to eight students attending each week. Thanks to our Science Captains Suzy McGowan & Emily Nolan for helping organise this. Please note that help from teachers is still available during lunchtimes.

It has been a very full year of Primary Science with Mrs Ness enthraling the younger pupils of P5 and P6 throughout the year. The culmination of this was STEM week where we hosted 6 classes in the Science Department. The pupils carried out activities related to electric & magnetic fields. Thanks to Mrs Penden and all of the science teachers for their hard work during this week. Mrs Ness took this workshop to Crosshill and Minishant where all the pupils in each school participated.

In August there was a quick start to the academic year with all of S1 attending an engineering day at Prestwick Airport as part of the Airshow. Thanks to Mrs Ness for organising this and to the sixth year pupils for helping out on the day.

In September, Mrs McIntyre & Mrs Ness took the Higher Biology classes to Glasgow University. They attended a very interesting lecture and carried out experimentation related to DNA.

In October we found out that Hamish Ablett had been awarded the Institute of Physics prize for the best performance in Advanced Higher Physics for 2018. Hamis and Mr. McPhee went to "Science in the Parliment" held at Our Dynamic Earth, Edinburgh in November where he was presented with the award.

In February Mrs Ness and Mrs Newall took all of S2 to Dumfries House to attend a Science Careers day. This was enjoyed by all and may become a regular visit.

In March Wellington hosted The Perimeter Institute from Canada. They were touring Scotland delivering a CPD course for science teachers on Environmental and Climate changes. This was attended by teachers from as far afield as West Lothian.

On the Spring Solstice, the Physics department took part in the Annual Eratosthenes Project. This recreates the ancient experiment to measure the circumference of the Earth. This year Wellington carried it out with a school from São Tomé and Príncipe, a former Portuguese colony off the Western Coast of Africa. Our result was within 1% of the accepted value.

In May Mrs Ness again ran a successful trip for the S1 classes to the Glasgow Science Centre.

The Earsmus club has been meeting weekly in the Science Department as part of the successful EU funded Astronomy project, Eurostromania. The highlight of the year for the club was the hosting of a 6-day mobility in September. Visitors from France, Germany, India, Slovenia, Portugal and Romania took part in cultural and scientific visits and carried out astrophysics activities during this time. The feedback was spectacular and many of the students and teachers plan to return at a future date. The project will continue over 2019/2020 with groups visiting Macedonia in July, Portugal in October and Germany in April.

The department continued to be very well represented in its work for SQA. Ms Leckie again marked Advanced Higher projects and Higher Chemistry examination papers. Mrs McIntyre was again a team leader for Higher Biology and Mr McPhee continued as Senior Team Leader for Advanced Higher Physics.

Mr McPhee has started a lunchtime football club for S1 and S2 boys and we are trying to organise some games against local schools. Hopefully next year we can play other teams.

Finally, we would like to wish Mr Chitty (Biology) & Mr Pottinger (Chemistry) good luck in their new teaching careers, which they will embark on in August.

This has been a very busy year with a constant presence of students in the laboratories at all times of the day. Even during examination leave, the sixth year seemed to make the laboratories their study base. The Science exam results from 2018 were again excellent and we wish all of the students well for their examination results and good luck for their chosen courses if they are moving on!



Sixth Year presenting their Charity Cheque to the Ayrshire Hospice



Head Boy, Stephen & Head Girl, Kirstie leading the 2019 House March



Team Spirit & Team Wellington completing the "Three Peaks Challenge"

Sixth Year Report

Alistair Byers, Head of Senior Years

UCAS applications were a focal point for students and staff through the Autumn and Spring Terms. Conservatoire, Medicine, Dentistry and Oxbridge applications came first as these have an earlier deadline of mid-October. Thereafter, pupils applied to a wide range of courses, ranging from Accountancy to Entomology, and it is pleasing to note that 100% of applicants received either an unconditional or conditional offer for the course/institution of their choice, with around two thirds of our cohort accepting unconditional offers. Wellington continued to support students from South and East Ayrshire Schools by providing guidance on the Oxbridge process and presenting them for entrance testing. Three students utilised this opportunity for the 2019 cycle and the school looks forward to assisting more students over the coming months as we look ahead to 2020 entries.

This year the 6th Year started Session 2018-19 by undertaking a teambuilding event which was extremely instructive and was well received by all. Delivered by the excellent Katie Banham of "Learning to Flourish" the aim of the day was to inspire pupils to generate new ideas for fundraising, as well as to develop a close bond amongst the year group, something which is so important within the Wellington community. The feedback was very positive and undoubtedly got 6th Year off to the best possible start. We look forward to welcoming Katie back to school this August.

This Session, the 6th Year elected the Ayrshire Hospice as their nominated good cause. Throughout the year they have worked exceptionally well as a team and have consequently had a very successful year with the charity. A myriad of activities has been undertaken in order to raise funds including House Charity Days, themed non uniform days and regular cake and candy stalls. The Christmas Craft Fair and the Fun Run generated extensive funds, while the "Post-Prelim Plunge", a successful coffee morning in December and donations from School Show and other events have added significantly to the overall total.

In addition to the financial support provided for school-based activities, there were some parents and members of staff who went "above and beyond" for the Hospice. The Head Boy's father, Scott McLarty, gathered together a team from Spirit AeroSystems to complete the "Three Peaks Challenge" in 24 hours. The Spirit team were joined by Head Boy Stephen, Head Girl Kirstie, Deputy Head Boy Max and Head of Montgomery House, Alexandra, for this gruelling challenge. In spite of the terrible weather conditions, an extremely tired group completed the ascent of Ben Nevis in less than 24 hours and were back at their base camp

in a little more than that. Huge thanks also go to Mr and Mrs O'Connell, Mrs Ness and Mrs Hunter for completing the driving duties; no mean feat in itself. Meanwhile, a group of staff completed the 23 mile Kiltwalk in April, Suzanne McGowan of S6 did the "Five Ferries Challenge", a number of our Sixth Year did the Hospice Starlight Walk and numerous bake sales and donations were made throughout the year.

Overall, the 6th year charity has a very positive impact throughout the school, bringing together Nursery, Primary, Secondary, Parents and Staff and achieves exceptional results annually. It is to everyone's credit that the school has raised another extraordinary sum for another very worthwhile cause, with the Ayrshire Hospice a cheque for almost £30,000.

The pupils have cooperated very well together to achieve their goals and have really enjoyed their Sixth Year experience. I would like to thank our Heads of School, Stephen McLarty and Kirstie Howat, and our Deputy Heads of School, Max Glen and Emily Henry, for their commitment, enthusiasm, humour, hard work and determination to succeed. The June activities programme saw us take a visit to the Edinburgh Dungeons, complete an Escape Room challenge, race go-karts and cycle round the Isle of Cumbrae. These were all very well attended and served as a great opportunity for our leavers to create and share some final memories of their days at Wellington. Special praise is due to Emily and Max for their meticulous planning and execution of a fantastic Prom, which was held at the Brig O' Doon House Hotel. All who attended enjoyed a fantastic meal and had great fun dancing the night away.

I wish each and every member of our departing Sixth Year all the very best for the future. Wellington has provided them with the opportunity to develop the academic ability and social skills required of a valued member of society and I know that each and every one of the group will go on to find success in his or her field of study/profession.

Headmaster's Vote of Thanks

Simon Johnson, Headmaster

Looking back over the school year, the overwhelming feeling is one of gratitude. The rich kaleidoscope of Wellington life brings many rewards, but it is the good will of staff, the energy and enthusiasm of pupils and the support of parents that make much of this possible. I hope that everybody in this community feels valued for what they contribute, but Speech Day provides me with an opportunity to say a formal 'thank you' to everybody who has played their part in making this another busy and successful year.

I begin as always by thanking the pupils. Visitors to the school may comment on the charm of the buildings or the wonderful view across to Arran, but it is the open friendliness, the enthusiasm and the courtesy of the pupils that they talk about with the greatest warmth. And it is these qualities that make this school such a good environment in which to grow up, to learn, to make friends and to work. So, to each and every pupil, thank you for the part that you play in making this, your school, so special.

There is one group of pupils, of course, for whom this is no ordinary Speech Day. Most of us will return in August, well rested and looking forward to another school year. For our S6 Leavers, however, today is the last day that they will wear the Wellington uniform before they go off to embark on the next stage of their lives. They have been an excellent year group, first class role models for the younger pupils and fine ambassadors for their school. They have raised an enormous sum of money for the Ayrshire Hospice and much, much more. But I know that they are ready to leave, ready to spread their wings and ready, each one of them, to find their own pathways into the world of adulthood. They will be missed, but they will always be part of the Wellington family.

Think of schools and we inevitably think of pupils and teachers, but no school can operate without a professional and hard-working team of support both front-of-house and backstage. I would like to thank most sincerely every single member of the support staff, without whom the school could not even begin to open its doors. Warm thanks go to those in the office, to Dot and David Gray and their catering team, and to the maintenance and janitorial staff, whose unsung work is so important to the school. I give special thanks also to the Finance team, to our new Marketing Manager Aimee Cassells and to our IT Manager, Graham Miller, who single-handedly keeps us all connected in a world where internet access seems sometimes to be almost as important as the air that we breathe.

I move on now to the teachers, who make such an impact on the lives of the pupils in this school. Many years ago, relatively new to teaching, I travelled on a train from Glasgow to Edinburgh at the end of the day in a carriage filled with pupils from a variety of independent schools. They talked non-stop throughout the journey about their teachers. Never underestimate the important of teachers in the lives of young people. The pupils of Wellington are fortunate indeed to be taught by such inspiring teachers, who are passionate about their subjects and dedicated to sharing their

love of learning – and of life – with those in their classes. So, I offer my most sincere thanks to each and every member of the teaching staff, throughout the Senior School, the Junior School and the Nursery. Thank you also to the support staff who work each day with our youngest children.

At the end of the year, we usually say farewell to some members of staff and this year is no exception. Mrs Morgans has taught in the Junior School for 15 years and she has been a much-loved teacher for a generation of pupils. We thank her for all that she has given to Wellington School and wish her every happiness in retirement. As Mr Craig blew his whistle for the last time this week, it really did mark the end of an era. Mr Craig was the only remaining member of the teaching staff who came from Drumley House Prep School in Mossblown when the two schools merged in 1996. Over the course of the last 25 years, Mr Craig has been a stalwart of the PE department and his contribution to rugby, to cricket and to so many other sporting activities will be greatly missed. I know that you will join me in wishing him a long and happy retirement. Finally, I thank Ms Holod for the work that she has done in the Modern Languages Department this year and Mrs Reece for providing first class cover in P4.

I turn now to the Senior Management Team, who devote themselves unstintingly in the service of this school. Every week, I meet with Mrs Smith, Mr Kennedy, Mrs O'Connell, Ms Johnston and Mr Cox in order to discuss the problems of the moment and think our way into the blue skies of the future. I could not wish for a more imaginative, good-humoured, capable and committed team and I thank each of them for their support and their hard work. Lastly, if you want something to run smoothly and calmly, one of the best people to ask for help is Marian Dunlop and I thank her for the first class support that she provides throughout the year. Marian is one of the most organised, calm and discreet people I know and she can always be depended on in a crisis. Perhaps the biggest crisis this year occurred when minutes before the arrival of Mrs Simpson, the coffee cafetiere cracked. We always try to learn from experience and I am pleased to report that we now have not only a new cafetiere, but a spare one as well.

Next, I would like to give generous thanks to the people who share this stage with me today. The work of the Board of Governors often goes unnoticed, but we are fortunate indeed here at Wellington to have such a loyal, dedicated and capable team. I thank each of them for their generous support and the willingness with which they offer their time and their expertise. In particular, I reserve the warmest thanks for Mrs Simpson, whose contribution to this school goes far beyond what anybody could ever ask for.

Lastly, I would like to thank all of the parents for choosing Wellington and I wish every member of this community and enjoyable and restful summer break.