



# The Turret

Wellington School Magazine  
Spring/Summer 2022



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# Welcome

## From Mr Johnson, Headmaster

I greatly enjoyed reading this edition of The Turret, which in some ways is a celebration of the freedom that we have enjoyed since the easing of pandemic restrictions last Easter. You only need to look through the first few pages to enjoy images from Speech Day in the Town Hall, at which our Guest Speaker, Claire Taylor, delivered such a powerful and inspiring address aimed at young and old alike. We have missed occasions like this so much.

Keep turning the pages and you will be transported to Dortmund with our first overseas exchange since before the pandemic. Purposeful travel has always been an important feature of Wellington life and the appetite for it is definitely as keen as ever!

It is hard to do justice to the richness of school life, but this publication provides some insight into the wide-ranging achievements of our pupils. You will read of team and individual successes in sport and music, and you will get just a glimpse of wonderful events such as the 2022 Prom and the Junior School Jubilee Celebrations. The imaginative 'Identity Pot' project on page 12 reveals a quieter, more reflective and personal kind of creativity that I know you will enjoy.

This is a record of times past. Let us make the most now of time present, and look ahead to the promise of time future.

*Mr Johnson*





## 2021/22 PRIZE WINNERS

For the first time since 2019, we were able to have our Speech Day in Ayr Town Hall and celebrate with all our pupils, staff, friends and family. The sun was shining and everyone was back together to celebrate the achievements over the last year.

Well done to all our pupils, the orchestra and singers. Thank you to our Guest Speaker and former pupil Claire Taylor for her inspiring words to our S6 leavers and current pupils, it was wonderful to have her back!

### Senior School Prize Winners

#### **General Excellence in Primary 7**

Sophia Borthwick  
Charlotte Dale  
Freya McAleese  
Byron McIndoe  
Scarlett O'Sullivan  
Eva Taylor  
Padma Unnam

#### **The Torrance Cup for Progress**

Pearse Wilson

#### **Senior 1 Merit**

Aimee Clitheroe  
Anastasia D'Angelosante  
Freya Day-Byrne  
Jessica Ewer  
Calum Kelly  
Alexander Melvin  
Alexander Paisley

#### **Senior 1 Progress**

Madison Pearce

#### **Senior 2 Merit**

Erica Baird  
Tiffany Cai  
Charlotte Carter  
Isla Hall  
Ivy Richardson  
James Watson  
Cara Wilmer

#### **Senior 2 Progress**

Pearse Wilson  
Rachael Hainey

#### **Senior 3 Merit**

Annabel Barrett  
Jonathan Dunn  
Sophia Hamilton  
Emma Henderson  
Katherine Paisley  
Fraser Stewart  
Rohan Sunderesan

#### **Senior 3 Progress**

Megan Seales

#### **Senior 4 Merit**

Kristina Douglas  
Ross Gibb  
Lucas Keston  
Evan Kirkwood  
Sarah Mason  
Emily Taylor  
Katherine Taylor

#### **Senior 4 Progress**

Micheál Magee

#### **McMillan/Kilpatrick Prize for Achievement in S3/4**

Monty Saunders  
Amy Scott

#### **The Cup for Effort in Senior 5**

Logan Ness

#### **Belcher Family Cup for Swimming**

Oliver King

#### **Ross Cricket Cup**

Lewis Lilley

#### **Senior Football Player of the Year**

Harrison Griffith

#### **Senior Netball Player of the Year**

Madeline Arnott

#### **Shiona Douglas Trophy Awarded to the Best Rugby Player**

Callum Hamilton

#### **1st XI Hockey Player of the Year**

Amy Grassom

#### **Cala Trophy for Services to the PE Department**

Amy Grassom

#### **The McLaughlin Cup for Outstanding Effort in Sport**

Thomas Campbell

#### **Willians Plate**

Fraser Stewart

#### **Dale Quaich Awarded for the most Meritorious Performance in a Championship Ever**

Dean Murray

#### **Primary Girls Sports Champion**

Isla Macleod  
Hallie Swift

#### **The Victor Ludorum - Primary Boys Champion**

Oliver King

#### **1st Year Championship Trophy - Girls**

Lemoni Allan-McLaughlin

#### **1st Year Championship Trophy - Boys**

David Ness

#### **Junior Boys' Sports CHampionship Trophy**

Fraser Stewart

#### **Logan Trophy - Junior Girls Sports Champion**

Iona-Mary Fairburn

#### **Craig Trophy - Senior Boys Sports Champion**

Dean Murray

#### **Wellington Rosebowl - Senior Girls Sports Champion**

Joanna Meikle

#### **Morrison Cup for the Best All Round Sports Boy**

Dean Murray

#### **Laughland Cup for Best All Round Sports Girl**

Amy Grassom

#### **Prize for 3rd Year Public Speaking**

Jonathan Dunn

#### **Old Girls' Public Speaking Cup**

Joanna Meikle

#### **The McKinstry Cup for Debating**

Katie Ronnie & Emily Taylor

#### **McDonald Prize for Creative Writing**

Keira West

#### **The Terras Cup for General Services to the School**

Findlay Peters & Katie Thomson

#### **The McKinlay Trophy for Commitment to the School**

Callum Hamilton

#### **Milne Cup for Citizenship**

Amy Grassom & Euan Porter



**Special Prize for Accounting**  
Amy Grassom

**Reynolds Cup for Art**  
(Awarded for outstanding work in S4)  
Evie Scott Galli

**Special Prize for Higher Art & Design**  
Kate Miller

**Special Prize for AH Art & Design**  
Emily Browne

**Gainsborough Cup for Art**  
(Awarded for outstanding work in S5/6)  
Elouisa Cairns & Mhairi Chalmers

**WA Award for Outstanding Contribution to Art & Design in the Senior School**  
Kate Miller & Summer Saunders

**Special Prize for Higher Biology**  
Kate Miller

**Prize for AH Biology**  
Lucy McColl

**Special Prize for Higher Business Management**  
Amy Leaman

**Prize for AH Business Management**  
Molly Kerr

**Special Prize for Higher Chemistry**  
Emily Stribling

**Prize for AH Chemistry**  
Lucy McColl

**Special Prize for Higher Classical Studies**  
Annie Udal-Stewart

**Cup for Higher Computing**  
Joanna Meikle

**Prize for AH Computing**  
Rachel Watson

**Rosebowl for Higher English**  
(Presented by Sheila McKinnon)  
Catriona Smith

**Prize for AH English**  
Holly Bradfield

**Cup for Modern Languages**  
(This year awarded for excellence in French)  
Lucy Robinson

**Prize for AH French**  
Leo Curran

**Special Prize for Higher Geography**  
Emily Young

**Prize for AH Geography**  
Amy Grassom

**Special Prize for Higher German**  
Tilly Roper

**Clark Prize for Higher History**  
Emily Muir

**Taylor Cup for AH History**  
Holly Bradfield

**Special Prize for Higher Latin**  
Catriona Smith

**McFarlane Cup for Higher Mathematics**  
Kate Miller & Yiming Sun

**Trophy for Higher Modern Studies**  
Findlay Peters

**Prize for AH Modern Studies**  
Euan Porter

**Cup for Higher Music**  
Joanna Meikle

**Prize for AH Music**  
Leigh Timothy

**Special Prize for Higher Music Tecnology**  
Findlay Peters

**Prize for AH Music Technology**  
Poppy Easdale

**The MB Hay Trophy for Excellence in Music**  
Tiffany Cai

**Ayr Amateur Opera Senior Vocal Award**  
Leigh Timothy

**The Brady Award for Performing Arts**  
Gemma Hope

**Quartz Cup for Commitment to Music**  
Findlay Peters

**Special Prize for Higher PE**  
Amy Grassom

**Prize for AH PE**  
Dean Murray

**Special Prize for Higher Physics**  
Catriona Smith & Yiming Sun

**Prize for AH Physics**  
Osman Omer

**Special Prize for Higher Spanish**  
Lucy Robinson

**Sinclair Cup for All Round Achievement in the Senior School**  
Ella Snowden

**The Kenneth Manderson Prize for Academic Excellence in Sixth Year**  
Lucy McColl

**Proxime Accessit 2021-22**  
Kate Miler

**Dux of School 2021-22**  
Catriona Smith

**Retiring Head Girl 2021-22**  
Amy Grassom

**Retiring Head Boy 2021-22**  
Euan Porter

**Head Girl Session 2022-23**  
Katie Thomson

**Head Boy Session 2022-23**  
Findlay Peters







## 2021/22 House Awards & News

For session 2021-22 our Junior & Senior House Captains were:

### Churchill

Senior - Dean Murray

Junior - Holly Carter & Lewis Relly

### Curie

Senior - Ella Snowden

Junior - Alexa Watters & Lucas Cornelius

### Montgomery

Senior - Poppy Easdale

Junior - Olivia Caldwell, Fraser Peters & Poppy Williamson

### Nightingale

Senior - Elouisa Cairns

Junior - Jessica Needham & Cameron Hall

Throughout the year, our 4 school Houses have been competing in various activities in order to win House Points. At the end of last term the points were counted and were as follows:

Churchill - 2694

Curie - 2745

Montgomery - 2585

Nightingale - 2675

Congratulations to our winning house for 2022: Curie.

Each House received awards at Speech Day and were collected by our House Captains.

The Trophies awarded to each House were:

Churchill - Inter-House Rugby, The Academic Shield

Curie - Inter-House Hockey, The McCallum Shield for Conduct, The Eglinton Cup, The Inter-House Athletics Cup

Montgomery - Inter-House Swimming, The Marching Cup

Nightingale - The Inter-House Quiz, Inter-House Debating

Oliver King in P7D also broke a long standing school record during the Interhouse Swimming in the 25m freestyle (14:80) and 25m breaststroke (17:89).

Well done to all Houses for their hard work and effort and to our House Captains who were excellent at encouraging their Houses to take part and collect points.



| SEPT | SAT 10 | 2022 |



**BOSWELL'S COACH  
HOUSE**



**Tickets from £85 include:**

- Drinks reception
- Three course meal
- Welcome drink on arrival
- Live music from Ceilidh band Jimjam
- Signature cocktails

**Free coach travel to Boswell Coach House from pick up points in Ayr and Kilmarnock**

For more information, visit our page on Eventbrite or contact us: [pta@wellingtonschool.org](mailto:pta@wellingtonschool.org)





## Andrew's Scottish Opera Debut

S2 pupil Andrew Irvine has had great success recently when he was cast as Cobweb in Scottish Opera's production of "A Midsummer Night's Dream".

From a very young age, Andrew has been passionate about singing and regularly takes lessons here at Wellington. After attending Scottish Opera's auditions with his friend, he received the email to say he had been cast to sing in the children's chorus, as well as the part of Cobweb.

Despite the gruelling six-night show schedule in both Glasgow and Edinburgh, Andrew remained enthusiastic and thoroughly enjoyed his experience. In a recent interview with Ayrshire Magazine, Andrew spoke about his experience, "I quite liked being able to sing with the adults...because it felt like I was included in the whole atmosphere of it rather than being separated." He also enjoyed playing the part of Cobweb as it gave him the chance to sing and act.

Andrew has been a strong performer at Wellington, starring in various school shows and concerts. He is very passionate about performing which is evident through his extra-curricular activities. Andrew is currently in his third year of the Scottish Ballet's Associate programme, as well as being a pupil at Danserena Studios in Ayr.

Rounding up his experience at the Scottish Opera's production, Andrew stated "it was such a great

experience, I just felt it was me and it was where I could express myself totally. I'd quite like to maybe do something like that again."

We enjoy seeing our pupils succeed at things they love to do and Andrew is no exception, we can't wait to see what he does next. We are sure with the return of school shows this year, you will be seeing a lot more of him!



## S6 Charity Cheque Presentation

The 6th year elected the Beatson Cancer Charity as their nominated good cause. This was an especially personal choice for Gemma Hope, Leigh Timothy and Poppy Easdale, each of whom had direct knowledge of the important work carried out at The Beatson.

Throughout the year S6 pupils worked exceptionally well as a team and consequently had a very successful year with the charity. A myriad of activities were undertaken in order to raise funds, in addition to our traditional House Charity Days, non-uniform days and regular cake and candy stalls. All of these generated extensive funds, while the return to the "real" Kiltwalk was a fun and highly successful activity for the staff involved.

A huge "thank you" must be paid to the entire Wellington family, who gave such overwhelming support of the charity work, whether through completing a challenge or giving so generously in support of them. The changing rules surrounding the pandemic led to fewer blanket closures, which in some ways made it more difficult to plan events - we did not know whether events would go ahead until the very last moment, and in some cases, they didn't. Nevertheless, the 6th year charity continues to have a very positive impact throughout the school, bringing together Nursery, Primary and 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 Beatson Cancer Charity receiving the fantastic sum of £20,022.64. This is a tremendous effort, especially in light of the testing environment of the past year.







## Outdoor Nursery

By Mrs Gibson

We are so lucky at Wellington School Nursery to have our fantastic outdoor facility.

Our private woodland area is so peaceful. It enables the children to be able to play in an area where they are surrounded by nature and can appreciate the world around them.

We are constantly improving our facility and in the past year we have built a substantial shelter and upgraded the boundary fence and gates. The shelter means we can make as much use of the woods as possible even if the weather turns against us!

We are looking forward to the year ahead, celebrating each season as it happens in our ever changing classroom without walls.





## Identity Pot

With the excellent reputation of our Art Department and our track record for delivering outstanding Erasmus projects, Wellington School was chosen as one of four UK schools to work with Dutch schools on a project to celebrate the presentation of the Erasmus Prize to British artist Grayson Perry. Using his works as inspiration, our pupils explored the theme of identity through a range of media and designed their own self-portraits. For their final outcome, the group worked collaboratively to produce a decorative pot. A garden pot was smashed and each pupil chose a piece on which to express themselves. The pot was reassembled to produce a completed piece to represent the group. Our pupils' final artwork was displayed at the Kunstmuseum in the Hague on 14 December 2021.

The British Council will publish our pupils' work in a book and this will be available to view on our website.

The following pages shows the different identity pots and the inspiration behind them.



Mhairi Chalmers (16)

My piece was inspired by my child interests in comparison to my hobbies and interests now, this has allowed me to see how I have changed as a person.



Amy Cecchini (17)

My piece is a form of my identity as my family is from Italy. The cross and the Catholic church represent my religion.



Heather Houghton (17)

Uncertain. Always cold. Unable to pass a driving test. Oddly brave at times. Linguist. Fan of Basquiat. Dramatic.

My piece depicts the anxiety of picking a career, particularly a niche one (such as what I have chosen) and how its repercussions may affect me. I wanted to depict the safety and reassurance of now, in the books, the blue and purple of the bottom right showing the coastline I'm from. This leads into the tempest, the uncertain nature of the future. The heather flower bush showing my origins leading into the wild waves.



Elouisa Cairns (17)

My piece was inspired by things that matter most to me - the centre of it being a picture of Kenilworth castle, which when I was younger I used to drive by every day on the way to school. My section also includes a picture of a christening present which is very important to me, my star sign constellation, a line from my favourite movie and a lyric from a song that my mum would sing a lot when I was much younger.





Felicity Kerr (17)

My piece is a representation of the style of my own artwork and jewellery that I design. Precision and detail is an important concept that is involved in the creation of my own jewellery, the definitive placement of the roses and draping pearls is a reflection of this.



Holly Longman-Bradfield (17)

Dark background and candle to mimic stereotypical image of faith and light in the darkness. Stained glass window from Mount Stuart House chapel on The Isle of Bute a religious place of worship significant to my family that can still be enjoyed by an atheist. Red string of fate - Japanese myth about people who are destined to meet. The string may knot and tangle, but it will never break. Polystyrene print of nature- leaves, intricate patterns and amber for changing seasons, states of impermanence.



Emily Browne (16) My piece was inspired by a Caribbean Carnival since it's a big part of my culture. My Dad is from a small island called Nevis and I wanted to include that part of me into this project.



Ella Snowden (17)

My piece of the pot represents where I am from (England), where I live (Scotland) and where I am going (University).



Dean Murray (17)

My piece reflects my enjoyment of sport and my childhood spent living in the countryside.







## “Lessons from Auschwitz” Project by Molly Kerr & Holly Bradfield

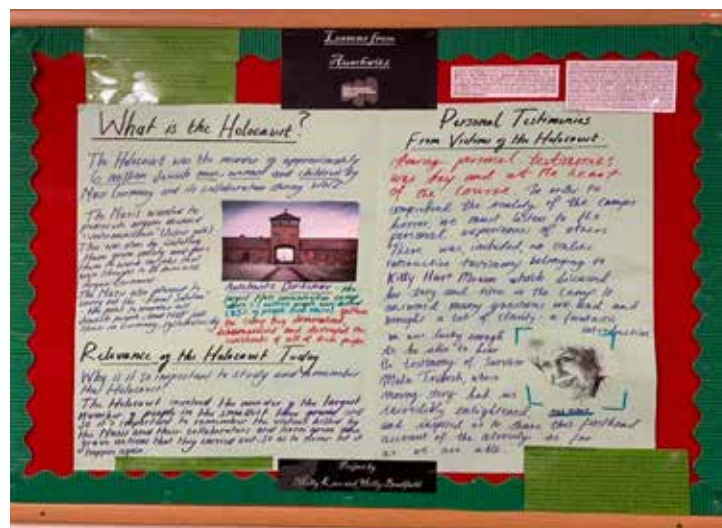
This year our S6 Advanced Higher History pupils: Holly Bradfield and Molly Kerr (supported by Ms Hyslop) took part in a prestigious online course ‘Lessons from Auschwitz’. The course is run by the Holocaust Education Trust for post-16 students on a journey of learning and reflection; offering them the opportunity to explore the Holocaust through a ground-breaking, interactive, digital platform.

Our students took part in three live online seminars guided by experts in the field of Holocaust education where they heard the first-hand testimony of a Holocaust survivor. They also took part in a virtual site-visit to Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and Museum to see it as it is today. Live seminars were interweaved with an independent, online learning journey where students became immersed in text, music, photographs and film, with an overriding focus on testimony and individual experiences. Students have learned about pre-war Jewish life and the former Nazi death and concentration camp, Auschwitz-Birkenau, before considering the contemporary relevance of the Holocaust. Students were tasked with completing a ‘Next Steps’ Project to share their learning with others and gain accreditation for their work. The project encompassed a reflective statement of their experience and a demonstration of their learning from the course through a display platform of their choice (such as a speech, slideshow, film or artwork). Holly and Molly decided to produce a wall display to showcase their research and share their experience of the course in the History Department. They have since shared their project and findings with younger pupils at Wellington who have been fascinated by their wisdom.

Having now successfully submitted their project, Molly and Holly will become Holocaust Educational Trust Ambassadors, inspiring them to continue to share their knowledge further whilst encouraging others to remember the Holocaust. Their work will be moderated by the Trust and they will soon receive their award of

three ASDAN credits and a certificate in recognition of their hard work. In their final reflections, Holly and Molly agreed that the project undoubtedly increased their knowledge and understanding of the Holocaust based on the premise that ‘hearing is not like seeing’ and the historical evidence they examined clearly signalled what can happen if prejudice and racism become acceptable.

Below are pictures of their wonderful display and reflective statements on their overall experience:



### Holly Bradfield - Reflective Statement

75 years on, we are the last generation to hear about the Holocaust from those who were there. The Holocaust was the murder of over 6 million Jewish men, women and children by Nazi Germany and its collaborators during the Second World War. Although many other groups were targeted and marginalised by the Nazis, this was only ‘within’ Germany. It was specifically Jewish people whom the Nazis were seeking to completely eradicate; to kill every last living Jew in every country across Europe. This definition was introduced to us at the very beginning of the Lessons from Auschwitz project, as was the overall aim of the project; to remember the Holocaust through human experience.

Throughout the project, we came to understand the importance of personalising and humanising this atrocity, rather than merely citing statistics. Numbers don’t reflect the reality of this tragedy and they certainly do not help us to understand the full extent of its horror nor the way that the Holocaust differed for everyone who experienced it. As part of the project we had the privilege of being able to speak to Mala Tribich, a Holocaust victim, about her experience via zoom. Mala’s story allowed us to hear about such atrocity and widespread depravity first-hand, which was obviously an extraordinarily moving thing to experience, as well as something that was hard-hitting and difficult. To listen to the story told by a person who experienced it made the horror of it much easier to understand. To conclude the project, there was an incredibly moving and heart-warming speech given by Rabbi Andrew Shaw, about the book of names and the importance of remembrance. He talked about lighting one candle and the power of a flame. This project had undoubtedly inspired me to light my flame, and to spread the knowledge and awareness of the Holocaust to ensure it never dies out.

### Molly Kerr - Reflective Statement

During ‘The Lessons From Auschwitz’ project, I have gained valuable and important knowledge that has helped me better understand the events of the Holocaust and its victims. The project has helped me realise the real victims behind the Holocaust and recognise that they aren’t just a statistic, but real and complex humans with lives.

A total of six million Jewish men, women and children were murdered by Nazi Germany and its collaborators, killing around two thirds of all Jews living in Europe at the time, showing the clear hatred the Nazis had for the Jewish communities. It has also shown me that the perpetrators who carried out the Holocaust out, no matter how small a role they played, are also human beings and should not be passed off as just ‘monsters’. It’s important to recognise that they are humans to understand why this event happened, why they committed the violence they did, so too learn the important lessons that come with it and so too not excuse their behaviour by taking their human traits away.

Also during the project, we heard from a number of eyewitness testimonies, one of which was from Mala Tribich. Mala gave an eye-opening account of her life during the Holocaust as a young Jewish girl. Her inspiring determination and hope despite the hardships she went through is proof that light will always prevail against the darkness. We also gained a more insightful knowledge into the places the Nazis used to hold the people they deemed unwelcome in their society. Concentration camps like Auschwitz Birkenau held millions of Jewish people and other victims during the Holocaust. Conditions inside these camps were horrific and aimed to dehumanise these people, isolating them from society, attempting to break their will to live, and often killing them using awful and cruel methods. The fact that there were any survivors from these camps is in itself astonishing, showing that their community and strength was so strong.

Today, the events of the Holocaust are still very much relevant. The Holocaust was the most extensively documented example of mass genocide and showed that humans were capable of such evil against one another. It’s important to realise the horrific and disturbing actions of these people and learn from their actions. During the



*Holocaust, the whole world just sat by and watched the events unfold, saying nothing. By standing up for the minority, profound effects can be achieved, change can be made and people may have been saved. Being a bystander doesn't mean you are innocent, your actions have consequences and may even be the difference between life and death. Overall, this project was a very eye-opening experience for me and has inspired me to teach what I have learnt to my community.*

#### Additional Information about the project:

##### What is the Project?

Lessons from Auschwitz Online offers students the unique opportunity to learn about the history of the Holocaust through a bespoke online learning environment, accessing artefacts, text, film, and virtual explorations of Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and Museum. Students consider the individuals whose lives were affected by the Holocaust and the relevance of the Holocaust today by:

- Taking part in three live sessions, led by experts in the history of the Holocaust and Holocaust education
- Hearing directly from Holocaust survivors, who share their personal experiences, during a live survivor testimony and Q&A
- Participating in a virtual exploration of Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and Museum
- Considering the relevance of this history in today's world
- Sharing what they have learnt within their school and wider community

##### About the Holocaust Educational Trust

The Holocaust Educational Trust was founded in 1988 during the passage of the War Crimes Act. It's main aim is to raise awareness and understanding in schools and amongst the wider public of the Holocaust and its relevance today. Since 1999 the Trust's Lessons from Auschwitz Project has given thousands of post-16 students and teachers the opportunity to visit the Nazi concentration and death camp Auschwitz- Birkenau as part of this educational programme. Having played a crucial role in the establishment of Holocaust Memorial Day in the UK in 2001, the Trust continues to play a key role in the delivery of this national commemorative day. The Lessons from Auschwitz Project has taken over 37,000 students and teachers from across the UK to Auschwitz-Birkenau, as well as many MPs and other guests. The course is open to two students from every school and college in England, Scotland and Wales and the visits, combined with Orientation and Follow-up seminars, leave an unforgettable emotional and educational mark on participants.



## Art and Design

### By Summer Saunders

Throughout the summer term, our art department has been very busy with many different successes.

Emily Browne S5 entered into the RSA Chairman's challenge competition, and was highly commended in her work. Oli Bicket S1 has also been commended in the Royal Scottish Academy School Art Award.

Ali Lamont P7 had created a portrait drawing, which was displayed at the Young Artists Summer show at the Royal Academy of Arts in London, Ali's drawing was selected over 21,000 entries, and was viewed at a private viewing in London!

Wellington has again entered into the Junk Kouture design competition, in which Mhairi Chalmers and Elouisa Cairns S6 had both created extraordinary designs which had been successful in making it into the final.

In search of design inspiration S2 and 3 pupils visited the Edinburgh Playhouse to watch the Lion King, the students greatly enjoyed this trip and can now commence their National 5 designs.





# A tale of two teachers, two bears and two primary school classes in two countries...

By Isabel Archbold & Franziska Rautenberg

Franziska Rautenberg, Nordmarkt Grundschule, Dortmund, Germany

After more than two years of preparation, the time had finally come on April 25th 2022: My first day at Wellington School in Ayr. Strictly speaking, it wasn't my first day, because I was on an exchange in Scotland in 2005 and 2006 as a student from Mallinckrodt-Gymnasium. I was lucky to be able to stay with my former guest family!

I am now deputy headmistress at Nordmarkt Primary School in Dortmund and was really looking forward to my experiences in Scotland. Due to Coronavirus, it took more than two years until I was finally allowed to fly. Everything was new on the first day: new children, new colleagues, and a different language. I found it difficult to follow at first, but this got better every day. I was able to get a taste of all classes, whether P1, P2, P3, P4, P5 or P6. I also joined in with the nursery on several days.

I spent most of my time with the P4 children and Mrs Archbold. We learned a few words in German and worked together with my class, the Meerkat class, on the UK German Connection Bear Project. All the children learned a lot about Germany and Scotland, about customs and special features of the countries and about the children in the partner class. We even did a zoom call with the German children. That was very exciting for everyone.

I particularly noticed that the teachers and students treated each other with great respect. I was also immediately accepted and I felt at home at Wellington.

I experienced so much in the three weeks: a trip to Largs to the Viking Museum with P3; participation in staff meetings and parent talks, trips into the woods with P1 and the Nursery, the ERASMUS Club and all sorts of other things. On my last Wednesday, during the assembly, I told all the children something about my school, the Nordmarkt Grundschule.

In summary, I can say that it was an incredible time that I will always remember. Even though many things were totally different from ours in Germany, one thing always remains the same, no matter where you are in the world: the children!



Isabel Archbold, Wellington School Junior Department, Ayr, Scotland

My visit to Nordmarkt Grundschule came about during an Erasmus + Teacher Meeting in Dortmund in September 2021. It was an ideal opportunity to launch the UK German Connection Bears Project while I was already in the city. Mrs Coontz and I toured the school, met the Meerkat Class and Frau Rautenberg, then exchanged the teddy bears that were the focus of the year-long collaboration between us. We were welcomed warmly by everyone and I really benefited from seeing the school for myself. Although it was a short visit, it established a rapport between us that has been built on ever since.

The two classes shared activities about Scottish and German customs and culture. They asked each other questions in letter exchanges and during an online video meeting. The project has been enriching for both the children and their teachers. The bears' exchange really engaged the children's interest. The highlight of the collaboration was when the two bears were reunited in Scotland as part of Franziska's visit. The bears, and the children, were interviewed for their feedback on the experience. Watch out for the superb videos on FaceBook! The children's comments were also recorded on Jamboard pages and the bears' interviews made entertaining cartoon strips.

Both classes saw the benefits of learning another language and are even more determined to continue learning to strengthen the communication between them. The teachers' visits to each other's schools helped create a strong link which we hope will continue long into the future.

Looking forward to 2022!







The night that was looked forward to for years, had finally come around - the excitement of prom night was rife around S5 and S6, after having been cancelled in previous years due to covid. The evening was well anticipated by all. Arriving to crowds of teachers greeting us at the door and being walked through the magnificent Lochgreen house to take our seats at the table, awaiting dinner which was enjoyed by all, and finding out what colour sunglasses we were given-to be worn proudly around school the next day! The atmosphere was exhilarating, the outfits that had been picked out months in advance were finally worn, the sun was beginning to shine through and everyone was elated with the excitement that came with prom night.

After our delicious dinner, we hit the dance floor-singing and dancing all night and soaking up every minute of the anticipated evening that was our prom night. We were also treated to a photo booth in which both students and teachers spent a large portion of their night enjoying, and being snapped in large novelty glasses and bunny ears!

Not only did Lochgreen have an amazing dance floor, but also large grounds where students enjoyed leisurely strolls and conversation on the vast gardens, here there was also a opportunity to have our photos taken by the photographer throughout the whole evening, where form classes, friends and individual photographs were all taken.





# Primary Football Success (P5-7)

By Mr Graham (Primary Football Coach)

The past two years of the pandemic had a significant impact on the experiences available to the primary school football squad. During this time South Ayrshire primary schools took the decision that there should be minimum mixing between schools. This led to the organisers of the South Ayrshire Districts football tournaments placing an indefinite suspension of school sporting events. Essentially all that schools were allowed to do was train and play games amongst themselves.

In March of this year, following discussions with local schools, it was agreed that friendly fixtures were allowed to be played with a view to things returning to relative normality in the following school year. The school played three friendly fixtures between March and June. Our first game was a challenging contest against nearby Doonfoot. The team won 3-1 in a game that was very evenly contested. We followed this game with two fixtures against Forehill. In the first of these our P5/6 team narrowly came out on top winning 2-1 against a very strong Forehill P6 Team. The following week our P7's followed up this victory with a comfortable 4-2 win against the Forehill P7 Team. Following these games all of the coaches agreed that it would be great to have some form of football competition before the end of the year.

Due to this on 10th of June, Wellington hosted the first Wellington Invitational Football Tournament for the first time since 2019. In previous years the tournament had been played at the nearby Cambusdoon Sports Ground, however, this year we made the decision to host it on the grass pitches of Doonside. Previous winners Doonfoot, along with new participants Forehill and Dalmilling, brought two teams along to the tournament. The tournament was split into two groups with each school's 1st VII in one group and the 2nd VII in another.

Wellington's 2nd VII made a lively start to their fixtures against a strong Doonfoot side. Doonfoot were eventually crowned the winners, but our team competed well and created a number of good chances throughout the match. We followed up this game with a 1-1 draw against Dalmilling and a 2-0 defeat to Forehill. There were a number of noteworthy performances in the team, but the goalkeeper Mitchell Griffith received a great deal of praise from the opposition coaches. Both Forehill and Doonfoot proved to be free scoring sides and the goals that they racked up meant that the group came down to goal difference with Doonfoot winning by one solitary goal.

In the 1st VII group goals were at a premium. The goalkeepers for all the teams were in inspired form. The tournament started out with an entertaining 1-1 draw between Doonfoot and Dalmilling. This was followed by two 0-0 draws, with Wellington and Forehill and then Wellington and Doonfoot failing to break each other down. Forehill beat Dalmilling comprehensively 3-0 in the following game and then followed this up with a 0-0 draw against Doonfoot. This left Wellington with a must-win clash against Dalmilling where a score of 4-0 was required if we were to win the tournament outright. The game started encouragingly with a number of shots on target which were followed by desperate defending and clearances off the line by the Dalmilling defenders. Just when we were on top and looking dangerous Dalmilling played a long ball over the top and their striker nipped in to put them one goal up. For the remainder of the game we peppered their goal with many efforts but to no avail. Just when it looked like the game was going to finish in defeat Hugh Dunlop produced a moment of brilliance smashing a thunderous right-foot drive into the top left corner to secure a draw.

Over one hundred players participated in the tournament and although neither Wellington team won their group they finally had the opportunity to represent the school in a competitive event. All the pupils involved were a credit to the school, both on and off the pitch, they conducted themselves impeccably. It was great to see so many young people playing a sport that they enjoyed with smiles on their faces.

A tournament like this could not have gone ahead without the assistance of members of the school community. Evan Kirkwood from S5 capably managed the 2nd VII whilst his dad Jimmy organised referees for the tournament, even presiding over one of the groups himself. Stewart the janitor and even my own father helped to move the goals from the Astro turf to the grass and some kind parents helped return the goals back at the end of the event. To all of these people I would like to say a big thank you, without your support the event would not have been the success it was.

This year we will be participating in the South Ayrshire Districts competitions, where we will be playing for the League, the Craigie Cup and the Mackie Cup. By next June we will also have our Wellington Invitational trophies to attempt to win back. Most importantly the children involved will be able to have the same opportunities that were available pre-pandemic. There is plenty to look forward to and lots of football to be played.





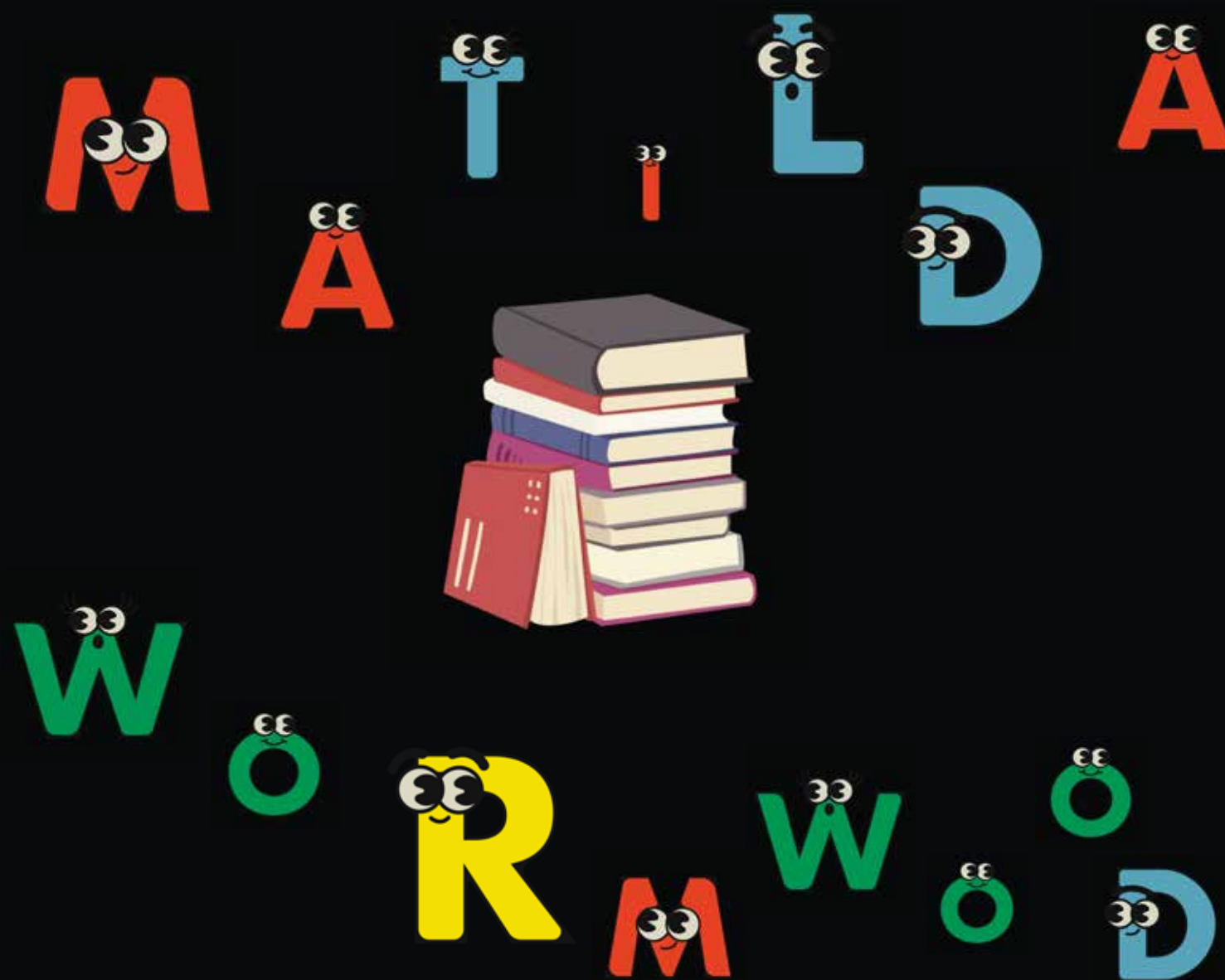
# School Shows Return with a Bang!

By Mrs Docherty (Acting Director of Music)

After THREE long years without any musical productions, the Music Department are very excited to announce that we will be staging THREE productions this year, starting with P7-S2 staging Matilda the Musical. Auditions have been held, parts have been cast and rehearsals are already underway. This is the first time that we have produced a musical for this year group and we can't wait to show off the talent we have here at Wellington. The opening night is on Tuesday 8th November and it will run for two evenings in the school hall.

The Senior production this year, taking place in March, is Legally Blonde: a fun trip to Harvard Law School with Elle Woods and her quest to win back the love of her life. More details on this later. Our third production will involve P4-6 and this will be announced later in the year.

There are a wide variety of activities to get involved with in the Music Department this year and a number of exciting events taking place. These will be announced in due course.



**Wellington**  
SCHOOL

## A Wellington School Production of



Carleton Turrets Hall  
Wednesday 9th & Thursday 10th November 7.00pm

Book by  
Dennis Kelly

Music and Lyrics by  
Tim Minchin

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with  
Music Theatre International (Europe)  
All authorised performance materials are also supplied by MTI Europe  
[www.mtishows.co.uk](http://www.mtishows.co.uk)



# Junior School Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

## By Summer Saunders

This year we marked the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with vast celebrations throughout the Junior school. Wellington pupils started the celebrations by baking cakes to enter into a competition with Sodexo-the judging was tough with such an amazing range of cakes, but Susie in P1 won first place with a magnificent cake of a corgi in a teacup.

The Junior School pupils had also dressed up for the occasion in party clothes, fitting in with the event, wearing red, white and blue - which allowed for a 'best outfit' competition which was won by Poppy Williamson, Ruairidh Thom, Brooke Ramsey and Brodie Ramsey. The students had shown off their dancing skills at the Jubilee party, where they performed the Canadian Barn Dance, as well as recording a song and playing different party games such as hook a duck and pin the tail on the corgi. The students had also taken part in 'beat the goalie', face and nail painting - which was a lively and exciting way to spend the day.

Amongst all of the exciting activities available to the students, the Junior school had a special guest arriving in style for the celebrations, our special guest 'the Queen' was also accompanied by Mr Levif playing the bagpipes and exceptional singing from the pupils, as well as this 'the Queen' had cut a union jack cake for the pupils to enjoy along with the other treats from the cake tent.





# German Exchange May 2022

After a Covid-imposed pause in our international programme, we pressed the restart button in May and fourteen S2s and S3s and three teachers headed off to Dortmund on exchange. The welcome and the weather were warm and everyone had a wonderful time. Read on to find out about what we did in our Postcards! .



By Blair Thom



When we left the school for the airport, everyone was excited to meet the people that we were staying with. We passed through security and we got onboard and during this time, we were all making friends with other people on the exchange. We arrived after midnight and we met the parents we were staying with. It was a busy but a fun day!



By Eva Hare



I woke up Thursday morning, got dressed and headed to school with my partner, Anna. Anna and some other German partners gave us a tour of the school before we went to a workshop about food and fantasy where we made Butterbeer from Harry Potter. We then ended the day with a selfie tour round the city.



By Ava Ticcioni



On Friday, we attended school at 8am and did a workshop called 'Food and the Future' and had to make a poster to present to the class. After class, Mia (my partner) and I went shopping. Later on, we went to a BBQ which was hosted by one of Mia's classmates.



By Jack Ritchie



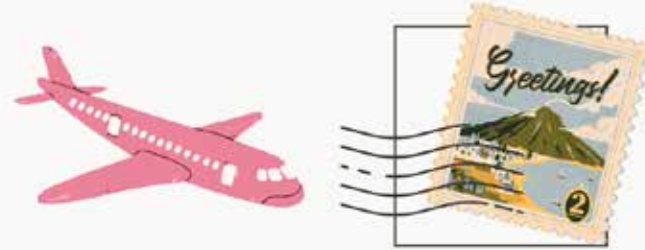
On Saturday we were with our host families for the whole day. For breakfast we had pain au chocolat and we made smoothies. My family took me to Düsseldorf, where we played adventure golf and went on a guided bus tour of the city. In the evening we went bowling and had smoked salmon for dinner.







By Charlotte Carter



On Sunday morning, I drove with Anne-Sophie (my partner) and her parents to a small airport, where I got the chance to go for a fly over some parts of Germany. It was so fun, and the view was amazing! We then drove to a small village, where we bought some cakes and took them to eat in a really pretty nature park. I had a great time!



By Carter Jackson



On Tuesday we visited the outstanding BVB stadium, the stadium was breathtaking and we visited the museum which held the one and only 1997 Champions League Trophy. To top of our great trip we had a lovely pizza party with our partners and said our goodbyes!



By Charlie Thomson



On Monday we went to a chocolate factory in Cologne. When we got there we saw the cathedral which was very impressive! Then, we walked a bit to the chocolate factory and there was a quick tour discussing the history of chocolate and then we got to explore by ourselves which was very fun! Overall, the day was very enjoyable, I loved the experience!





# My Archery Journey

By Laura Paterson

My parents started archery when I was seven and I couldn't wait till my eighth birthday to start taking part in it. At the start I was very hit and miss about archery, or should I say more miss than hit! I did enjoy it but at the start I only took part for the fun of it not the competition part of it. For the first few years I learned all of the basics of archery such as ; how to string my bow, how to use a sight and how to hit longer distances. During the first lockdown I wasn't shooting as much so I was getting virtually no practice in, but I did shoot in the garden now and then. However during the second lockdown I was out at Auchincruive shooting outdoors and getting a lot more practice in than the 1st lockdown. At the end of the summer in 2021, I had applied for, and been successful in, being accepted to train with a Scottish archery coach and join the pathway development program. The pathway development program helps young archers to do things like; planning out training sessions and gym sessions, competition schedules and how to deal with mental health issues, and also that most of the coaches are happy to talk to you if you feel you need someone to talk to.

I entered the Junior National Indoor Championships as my first big competition. Originally I was just supposed to compete for Ayr Archery Club but at the last minute I was invited to compete for Scotland due to illness in the team. On the day of the competition I was pulled from the Scotland team and put into the Northern Ireland team as they were also down a ladies recurve. As it turned out this was a good swap because Northern Ireland, with my help, won the home nations medal (overall)! I finished 6th in my age category in the UK.

Since the turn of the year, I've taken part in many competitions, even one with four in one weekend! I won the Cumbria open in Penrith, I won the Ayr open, I came second in the Scottish championships. However, on the afternoon after the championships, I was shooting again and beat my PB by 105 points, which is a massive improvement. I also won the Ayr club championships in my age category and overall junior. I've got many more competitions coming up over the next few months but I'm due to move up into the under 16s age category which is quite a big jump from under 14s, however, I'm looking forward to the challenge.

In archery it doesn't matter what age you are or what ability you have there will always be one way or another you could take part.





# Holyrood Palace S2 Experience

By Erica Baird

On Friday, 25th of March, 2022, Wellington 2nd year pupils were fortunate enough to visit Holyrood Palace in Edinburgh. We travelled with Ms Hyslop, Mr Ledingham, Ms MacGlade and Iona Magee, an S6 pupil, who all ensured our trip was memorable and fun. Our current S2 History topic is Mary Queen of Scots and as Holyrood Palace was one of Mary's many homes during her short reign, it was the perfect opportunity to see Mary's private chambers and to experience what her life would be like as Queen.

We arrived at the Palace and were met by our lovely tour guides and immediately split into groups. Unfortunately, we weren't just met by our tour guides, just outside the Parliament Buildings, opposite to the Palace, we witnessed a huge and noisy climate change protest rally.

The tour guides provided many interesting facts about how Mary Queen of Scots dressed - as extravagantly as possible! Our amazing tour guide 'Lucy', described to us how Mary's servants would sew sleeves onto her dress, and how Mary's ruff was sealed in place around her neck with hot wax. When Mary became bored with her ruff, or it started to sag, she would just rip it off and have it replaced.

We found out that Holyrood Palace only used to have one main tower, but another tower was added to make the Palace symmetrical. Adorned, on the oldest tower (at over 500 years old), there are two archways: one holds a unicorn wrapped in chains, and the other, an eagle, that represented Mary's mother and father "Mary of Guise," and "James V" or as they would have been known as - "Mary Regina" (Queen) and "James Rex" (King).

Afterwards, we travelled into one of the many great halls in the Palace. Holyrood Palace is a 'working palace' meaning our present-day Queen Elizabeth II still often uses it to hold meetings and gatherings. The great hall we stood in could sit up to 100 people on an enormous table. On the walls of the great hall were 96 paintings of all the royal monarchs. Surprisingly, only one of those paintings was a female portrait - Mary. All of the paintings were completed by the same artist (it is said that he made 120 paintings in total). To make it easier for the artist, he gave all the paintings the same nose. Lucy also showed us a rather special chair linking to the infamous Ayrshire poet Robert Burns. This chair celebrated his poem "Tam O' Shanter" and the chair itself is said to be made from the roof of the very church mentioned in the poem.

Next, we progressed onto Darnley's own quarters and viewed some luxurious artefacts including many jewels and a rather weird tapestry containing an optical illusion. We then had to negotiate a rather rickety staircase that led to Mary's rooms. Mary's bedroom was surprisingly basic but with an intricate ceiling painted with the initials of her parents. During her time in Scotland, Mary was quite lonely and isolated. Mary never really got used to the miserable Scottish weather, food, fashion and religion - and those initials on her bedroom ceiling (simple reminders of her parents), helped her feel less alone. Adjacent to Mary's bedroom was a room filled with Mary's personal artefacts and jewellery. Here we learned about the murder of Mary's best friend; Italian secretary David Rizzio. We saw the 'supposed' blood stain from Rizzio's murder and how Lord Darnley (Mary's second husband) and his accomplices used a secret staircase leading to Mary's room (which only Mary and Darnley had knowledge of), to commit the heinous crime. Mary was 6 months pregnant when Rizzio was brutally murdered. When admiring the room, Lucy asked us to choose an interesting item to discuss. I chose Mary's "pomander". A pomander is a body scent in a small bag. Mary would attach this little satchel to the bottom of her dress and the pomander would float sweet fragrances around her when she walked.

Lastly, we headed back outside to admire Holyrood Abbey. It is said that the body of Rizzio was buried below the entrance door to the Abbey. People would have to walk over his grave when entering. This

made Mary furious - so she had Rizzio's body removed and relocated.

Finally, we got to browse the Holyrood Palace gift shop. I purchased a lovely bar of dark chocolate. Travelling back to Ayr through, the rush hour traffic made us slightly late back. I would like to thank all the teachers (and Iona) for organising this amazing trip. I'm sure I speak for everyone in S2 when I say that we all thoroughly enjoyed it.







## P7 Trip to Bannockburn

P7 arrived up at the Bannockburn Centre, Stirling mid-morning on Wednesday, 27th of April. Pupils and teachers enjoyed the experience very much. It felt special being on a trip after a two year break. The pupils were split into two groups and got to experience the interactive, digital battle which highlighted battle tactics used by both sides so well. It did indeed bring to life what had been learned in the classroom. The guides pointed out the main sites of key points in the battle on a large 3D map of the area where the battle was fought and key Geographical features were highlighted also. The P7s were able to handle weapons (safely!) and try on helmets, tunics and chainmail. Some role play took place with some excellent acting in evidence. It was such a pleasure for the teachers to accompany an enthusiastic, well behaved, engaged year group out of school.



## Junior Erasmus Club Activities 2021-2022

Since Christmas, the Junior Erasmus Club has been very active. Pupils from P3-P6 have been involved in activities for all 3 current Erasmus + projects: Europe on the move, Futur€nvironment and Small Countries, Strong Cultures. Mrs Archbold, Mrs Bowyer, Mrs Coontz, Mr Carr and Mr Murray have guided the children on some, or all, of their tasks during Club or lesson time.

The children each completed a profile to introduce themselves to the Europe on the Move community. They painted the colours of their national flags as the background, added a photo and up to 10 pieces of information about their interests. Their profiles were scanned and uploaded to the eTwinning space for the project and 8 from each country have been added to an eBook, created by Belgium.

With a clear link to their Scotland topic, P4 joined in with the fun and created Scottish Recipe Tea Towels for a Small Countries, Strong Cultures (SCSC) exhibition in Torhout, Belgium later this year. They really enjoyed selecting 4 popular recipes and creating their own design to a common brief. You can see the pride in their work in the group photo.

The Club members have been learning new digital skills as part of the Local Heroes task from Small Countries, Strong Cultures. Mr Carr joined us to pull together multimedia displays on our school smart boards - each page represents a 'Local Hero' from our country that the children have researched. It will be interesting to see the role models that have been chosen in the other countries (Slovenia and Belgium).

This year's MARSBalloon launch, in June, took off with 9 of our micro-experiments (in Kinder Egg capsules). The weather balloon ascends to at least 30km - into the upper reaches of Earth's atmosphere where conditions are similar to the surface of Mars. The Club's experiments test the effect of decreased temperature and pressure on everyday materials that may be used by future martians in their 'Futur€nvironment'. Mr Murray, Head of Physics, donated his time and expertise to help us put the experiments together in a very short timescale! We are waiting for the return of our capsules so that we can test them against identical control experiments that we kept in school. What will have happened to our rocket seeds, honey, magnetic compasses, carpet, marker pens, bread, marshmallows, photographic film and elastic bands during their journey? We will report our findings in the next Turret!

All three projects continue next session and the Erasmus Club will restart at the beginning of Autumn Term, when new members will be welcome and our links with the schools in France, Germany, Belgium, Slovenia, North Macedonia and Poland will grow from strength to strength.







## Findlay's Conservatoire Success

One of our S6 pupils, Findlay Peters in August 2021 was accepted to the Royal Conservatoire of music to study voice after two long years without live music making. With the easing of Coronavirus restrictions, the Conservatoire were able to get back to live music making where there have been several opportunities in performance. Findlay's Chamber Choir made a special appearance within the television programme "Reflections of the Quay" which aired live on BBC one on Christmas Day.

More recently in June 2022 Findlay performed with the Conservatoire choirs to a full house in the new auditorium within Glasgow City's Royal Concert Hall. Findlay is contenting to develop as a singer as well as his commitments in Sixth year, he plans to audition for various Conservatoires throughout the UK in the Autumn term to develop his voice even further after a successful academic year attending Junior Conservatoire.

***The Junior Conservatoire has been invited to record a 'Classics Unwrapped' programme for BBC Radio Scotland. This will be broadcast live from RCS on Sunday, 11 September at 7pm. This is a fantastic opportunity for Findlay and other musicians to take part in a prestigious programme.***



## A Message to our Former Pupils

The former pupils of Wellington and Drumley House Schools still play a pivotal role in the life of our school, with many actively shaping our present and our future.

With the Centennial Celebrations taking place in 2023, we would like to remind all former pupils to stay in touch by signing up to our Alumni Network. We have a lot of things planned for the coming year and would like to keep in touch to let you all know what we have planned.

We are also looking for stories, pictures and videos of your time at Wellington as part of a special project for our 100th anniversary next year. If you have anything you can share with us about your time at Wellington, please send us a DM to our Facebook page or email [enquiries@wellingtonschool.org](mailto:enquiries@wellingtonschool.org)

**If you are a former pupil and would like to sign up to our Former Pupil database, you can do so via our website: <https://wellingtonschool.org/alumni/>**



## A Note from the Editor

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

I would like to start by thanking everyone who has contributed to the Turret, the pupils & staff who have shared their news and work to be displayed, especially to our article authors for this edition; Erica Baird, Holly Bradfield, Molly Kerr, Laura Paterson & Findlay Peters. I would also like to make a special thanks to my Assistant Editor, Summer Saunders, who has created, edited and designed many pages of this edition.

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

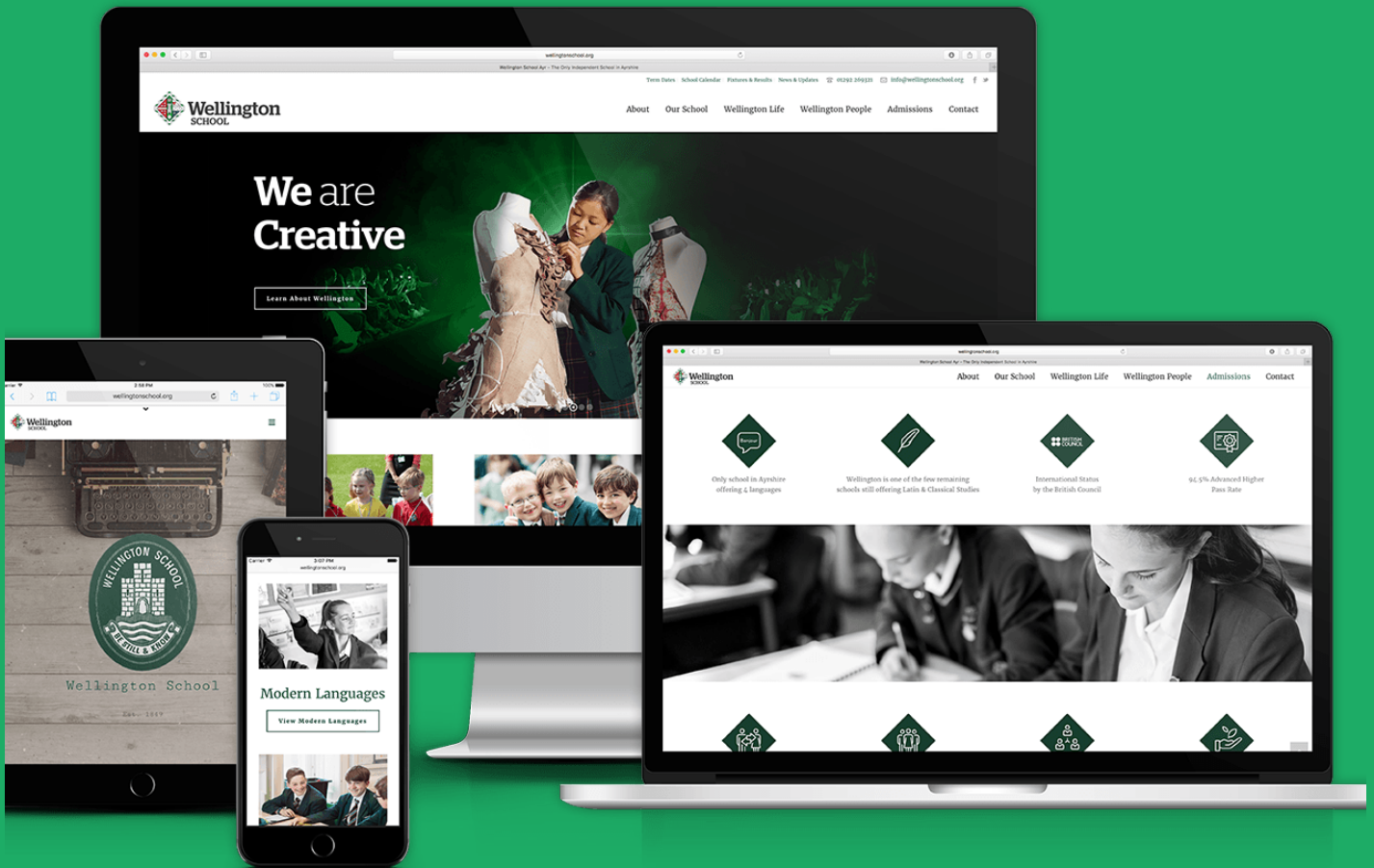
In the event of there being a factual mistake, please accept our apologies. If you get in touch, we will amend the digital version of the magazine, which is available on the School Publications page of the website: [wellingtonschool.org/wellington-life/school-publications](https://wellingtonschool.org/wellington-life/school-publications).

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

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



# Stay Social!



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