



INSPIRE

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bringing out the **best** in boys

CLASS OF 2018

PRESENTATION EVENING

We were proud to welcome back the Class of 2018 for an evening of celebration and reminiscing to mark their five years at Wellacre.

Students were presented with their GCSE certificates as well as a series of awards and trophies in celebration of academic excellence, personal achievement and outstanding attendance.

The following winners highlight the calibre of students at Wellacre: Luke Williamson was presented The Carrington Shield for truly excellent GCSE results; his point score was the highest at Wellacre; James Abbey won The Billy Molden Award for overcoming diversity to achieve inspirational success; and Cian Donohue received the The Year 11 Learning Director's Award for his extremely hard work, honesty, consistently upholding Wellacre's core values and being an, overall, fantastic student.

Harry Merrell was presented with The Ambassador Cup by the Governors for his work in enhancing the image and reputation of Wellacre in the community. He has been an outstanding Head Boy and role model, and whilst at Wellacre, has been fully involved in school, sport, drama and charity activities.



Finally, Joshua Bridgeman won The Principal's Award for his commitment and hard work as Senior Deputy Head Boy. He also achieved excellent GCSE results. Joshua has been a determined, hard working and resilient student and embodies Wellacre's core values. The award honours his outstanding contribution to Wellacre.

Principal, Miss Wicks, said:

“Our students’ success has been achieved not only through their hard work, but also with the support of staff and parents; it has been a real team effort! Their time at Wellacre has been a well-rounded and varied experience, one that has prepared these students for their chosen pathways. We wish the Class of 2018 all the best for their future.”



CO-CURRICULAR SUCCESS

Since September, students at Wellacre have taken part in the co-curricular programme every Wednesday. They have embraced the opportunities on offer and developed skills and passions in new areas. Here we profile four students, who explain how their experience of Co-Curricular has inspired them:

Arlo - Year 10 Debating Society

Co-curricular has given me an opportunity to learn about something that I wouldn't have learnt in school and I have developed skills to help me in the future, such as, learning how to make a point and share my opinion positively. I have particularly enjoyed taking part in the digital surgeries with politicians, including Andy Burnham. It was an amazing opportunity to ask him a question and hear his response.

Matthew - Year 8 School Show Lighting Crew



I have had so much fun and felt inspired during co-curricular this term. I've learnt how to operate stage lighting, particularly spotlighting. We worked as a team during the show by communicating with the backstage team through headsets to ensure the smooth running of the show. I loved celebrating our success by joining the cast on stage on the final night!

Usman - Year 7 Justice League

It has been fantastic to take part in a real campaign called 'Send My Friend to School.' We have been writing letters to our local MP to ensure that she helps the UK Government sign a declaration to make schools safer across the world. We have learnt to conduct research and write formal letters. I have also developed my presentation skills by speaking about our campaign in front of the whole of Year 7 and our local MP Kate Green! The highlight was meeting Kate Green and presenting her with our letters, which she will take to Parliament.

Alfie - Year 10 School of Rock



Everyone has learnt new music skills as a group, across all years, and I now know how to play a guitar! I understand the notes and I have progressed significantly in my playing ability. The best thing is that I can play actual tunes now I know a few chords. Playing the guitar is now something I really enjoy and will continue to do!



CHRISTMAS PRODUCTION

WE WILL ROCK YOU

Wellacre students brought down the house with their Christmas production of Ben Elton's "We Will Rock you!"

More than 150 actors, singers, musicians, stage designers and technicians from across all year groups brought the show to life on its three night run from Tuesday 4th December until Thursday 6th December.

Mrs.Spencer, SENDCo/Music Teacher and Mrs Tickle, Teacher of Performing Arts, produced and directed the show with students and staff working tirelessly in rehearsals as soon as they started back in September!

Mrs Spencer said:

"This is my 16th Wellacre show and the boys continue to amaze me every year with their talent and dedication. I'm so proud of them all. This is, by far, one of the best productions Wellacre has ever done. I'm looking forward to next year's show now!"

The main cast featured Joe (Year 10) as Galileo; Jake (Year 9) as Scaramouche, Oliver (Year 11) as Killer Queen, Connor (Year 11) as Khashoggi, Christian (Year 8) as Britney, Edward (Year 9) as Meat, Sean (Year 11) as Pop and Lee (Year 11) as Freddie.

Set in the future where conformity rules, a group of freedom fighters battle to restore live music. The audience 'rocked out' alongside the cast to some of Queen's greatest hits, including 'Under Pressure', 'Don't Stop Me Now' and, of course, 'Bohemian Rhapsody.'

In the audience was former student Daniel Rhodes who, of all students, has starred in the most number of Wellacre productions, racking up seven shows including Wizard of Oz, West Side Story and Charlie and the Chocolate Factory! He has recently graduated with a BA (Hons) in Performing Arts and is to join Thomas Cook as an Overseas Activities and Entertainment Representative.

Positive messages flooded in from the community following the shows. An audience member contacted Wellacre to say:

"I just wanted to let you know that we were overwhelmed by the fantastic, professional performances by the boys at Wellacre. We thoroughly enjoyed the music, singing and dancing and were impressed by the dedication of the staff and pupils to present such a complex and intricate production."

WELLACRE ALUMNI WALL OF FAME

We enjoy sharing former students' career journeys and success to inspire others! If you know someone who would like to join Wellacre's Wall of Fame, please get in touch by emailing tquinn@wellacre.org

TOM WATSON

Former student Tom Watson has enjoyed considerable success since leaving Wellacre in 2004. Along with his business partner, Matt Burgess, they established Matt B



Customs (<https://www.mattbcustoms.com/>) and Rue Langue, which have now sold almost 1,000 pairs of customised trainers since 2014 and boast clients, such as, Selfridges, Stormzy, Stella McCartney, Fuji and Paul Pogba. The boys visited Wellacre recently to inspire future thinking in our Year 11 students by talking about preparing for university and their own experience of building a thriving business.

BILLY MCNAMARA



After leaving Wellacre in 2009, Billy pursued BTEC Sport at Pendleton College before studying a BSc Sport Science degree at Edge Hill University. As well as working as a NQT at Harperhey Alternative Provision, Billy has established Urmston Boxing Club. He has returned to Wellacre to offer his support and has launched a hit co-curricular boxing club!

TIM LIVERSAGE

Former student, Tim, now lives and works in America. In 2005 Tim left Wellacre and subsequently moved to the USA before establishing four businesses. His love and exploration of entrepreneurship started in Year 9 with Wellacre's Young Enterprise programme well as from helping out and developing the tuck shop!

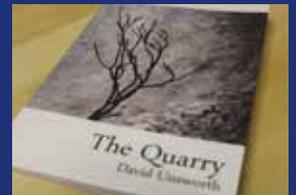
JONATHAN RILEY

Jonathan left Wellacre in 2007. He went to Xaverian College, then Salford University to achieve a BA in Contemporary Military and International history followed by an MA in Terrorism and Security. He joined the Navy and is now fully qualified, holding the position of Sub Lieutenant Warfare Officer. Jonathan is currently on deployment on HMS Duncan and featured on Channel 5 documentary Warship in November. In 2019 he will achieve his dream of becoming a Submariner.



DAVID UNSWORTH

We have received a published anthology of poems by former student David Unsworth who left Wellacre in the early 70s. Students will be able to enjoy the book, entitled *The Quarry*, in our library.



WAYNE DEVLIN



Wellacre instilled a love of the arts in former student Wayne Devlin; Music and Drama were his favourite subjects. Since leaving Wellacre, he has performed all over the world, singing and acting on stage and on screen! As well as his career in entertainment, Wayne and his wife, Val, have been recognised by the Queen for their charity work - together they have raised around £500,000. Wayne is also a parent of an ex-Wellacre student and continues to maintain his links with the school, returning as part of our Community Cohesion Day to offer a drama and music workshop.



REMEMBRANCE AT WELLACRE

To commemorate Remembrance Sunday, as well as the centenary of the First World War armistice, Wellacre organised a week of activities. We were delighted with the response by the community for our memorial postcards, which Year 7 and 8 students delivered to 80 local residents, informing them of fallen World War 1 soldiers who had formerly lived at their address.

We would like to thank all the local businesses and residents who proudly joined us in this act of remembrance by displaying the postcards in their window, which read **“A fallen soldier lived at this address - We will remember them.”**

Wellacre students also met with a member of the Royal British Legion and attended a commemoration workshop at Manchester’s Central Library to decorate a silhouette with information about the life of a local fallen soldier for display.

Wellacre was also involved in the national ‘There but not There’ memorial; a series of silhouettes installed in school to represent the memory of fallen soldiers. We discussed this at our Remembrance Assembly, which included students who proudly attended school in their cadet uniforms.

The Royal British Legion sent thanks for Wellacre’s collection for The Poppy Appeal. Student Leaders did a fantastic job of selling poppies to raise a remarkable £428.01. Well done all!

Mrs O’Neill, Leader of Humanities, said:

“Remembrance is hugely important to us here at Wellacre. Students are always in awe of the sacrifice made by so many, and they are respectful and insightful in their reflections. We are keen to provide the students with a wide variety of opportunities in relation to remembrance. Our annual remembrance assembly is an event that truly brings our school community together.”

NAVY CADETS SET SAIL AT WELLACRE

Wellacre is pleased to announce our new Combined Cadet Force Royal Navy section led by award-winning School Staff Instructor, Mr Boswell (Assistant Head of House, Pankhurst).

The Wellacre CCF unit is part of the Government’s nationwide Cadet Expansion Programme designed to promote a military ethos in order to instill values in young people that will help them to reach their full potential and to contribute to their communities and their schools.

The Navy Cadet section is part of the school’s Co-Curricular programme and provides students in Year 9 and above a life-changing opportunity to develop and achieve, through challenging, active, adventurous and fun activities.

Through the Royal Navy Cadet training programme, students will be able to undertake assessments to progress through the ranks from Able Cadet to Chief Petty Officer. They can also achieve BTEC and CVQO learning qualifications in the higher ranks by taking on more responsibilities and leadership opportunities.

Principal Melanie Wicks, said:

“We are excited to be able to offer this programme to our students; it will make a fantastic addition to our education and co-curricular provision and will help to bolster our school’s aim to enable our young students to achieve excellence and shape their own future.”



DIGITAL SURGERY

Students were proud to participate in a Digital Surgery with Mayor of Greater Manchester, Andy Burnham. They gathered for the video conference, organised to enable young people to communicate with local politicians on the issues important to them.

Mr Gillan, Teacher of Humanities at Wellacre, said:

“It was an amazing opportunity for our students to get the chance to interview a high profile politician, who has powers that affect the lives of all of our students. The engagement of the students in a wide range of issues was good to observe.



The encouragement Andy Burnham gave them to be active citizens and believe that they can change the future was really positive.”

The group, comprised of students from Years 8, 9 and 10, asked a wealth of questions about Andy Burnham’s career, role as Mayor, and his opinions on a variety of issues including travel, crime and mental health.



Year 9 Max said: “I enjoyed discussing a range of issues, hearing the Mayors’ responses and challenging him on them!”

Year 10 George added: “It was enjoyable being able to get an inside view into the role of the Mayor and British politics.”

Year 8 Leo said: “I liked seeing an adult, in a position of power, talking to young people as equals and believing that what we said really mattered.”



PARLIAMENT WEEK

During UK Parliament Week, Wellacre’s Debating Society students used props on loan from Parliament Education in their Co-Curricular lesson. The session aimed to educate students about the role of Parliament and how it works; the group explored the items including a Budget Box and a mace and recreated their own House of Commons.

Mr Gillan said:

“Students held a great debate about lowering the voting age to 14; they were really engaged and enjoyed using the parliamentary props, which helped them to understand how laws are passed and the importance of the role of parliament in our democracy.”

LET’S TALK YOUTH



Wellacre students were invited to attend the ‘Let’s Talk Youth’ conference by the Trafford Youth Cabinet to consider the issues facing youths in the area and to learn more about the Trafford Youth Parliament.

Wellacre’s Pankhurst, Lowry and Turing House student leadership teams were challenged to develop their own political party, design

the branding and create a manifesto of key issues. Wellacre boys ‘launched’ the Trafford Equalitarian Party and pitched their manifesto, which aimed to end hate crime, ensure equal pay and equal education, human rights for all and better transport.

Students also discussed a range of issues throughout the day including those raised in the recent ‘Make your Mark’ youth vote. Tackling knife crime received the most votes both at Wellacre and nationally, so they were asked to present their ideas on the impact of this issue as well as the importance of addressing the problem.

Mrs Irwin, Teacher of Religious Studies, said:

“We should be really proud of our students who represented Wellacre at Let’s Talk Youth. They spoke confidently, persuasively and with passion about the issues important to them. Well done boys, we definitely have potential future leaders and politicians at Wellacre!”



CHARITY WORK AT WELLACRE

As ever, Wellacre's community spirit has shone through in a variety of charitable events.

We baked, bought and ate cake for the annual Macmillan Biggest Coffee Morning and raised over £300 for the cause. Mrs Lindsay's form 10.4 held a fantastic cake sale; the boys' tremendous effort matched that of the 'baked' donations from students, parents and staff. Mrs Lalley also organised a Coffee Morning for staff; there was a great atmosphere in the staff room with lots of lovely cakes donated and eaten, all in the name of cancer support charity.

The Readathon in September asked students to gain sponsorship for every word they read. Collectively, students raised almost £100 for the charity Read for Good. All monies will go towards books for children in hospital and we will also earn books for our school library.

As we've previously mentioned, student leaders garnered everyone's support for The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal and raised £428.01.

Finally, an update on Year 10 Owen's individual crusade to raise £2,000 for The Dogs Trust. His latest charitable activities include trips to Acre Hall Primary School and his own former school, Flixton Primary, to deliver presentations and acquire further donations, taking his grand total to £1000! Owen is working tirelessly to reach his goal and we look forward to his next endeavours.

FORTHCOMING DATES 2019

Thursday 7th February

Friends of Wellacre bag drop event

Friday 8th February

Ski trip to Austria departs

Saturday 16th February

Ski trip returns

Monday 4th March

Year 10 Parents' Evening, 5-7.00pm

Friday 8th March

Careers Fair

Monday 18th March

Year 8 Parents' Evening, 5-7.00pm

Monday 25th March

Year 11 Revision Evening, 6-8.00pm

Thursday 2nd May

Friends of Wellacre bag drop event

Monday 13th May

Year 7 Parents' Evening, 5-7.00pm

SPORTING SUCCESS

We are pleased to share news of personal sporting success by two Wellacre students in both Hockey and Karate. Congratulations to Year 10 Drew who has been selected to play for the Manchester County Hockey team. Also, amazing news for Year 9 Jamie who has been crowned the UK National Champion in Kata!

We have made a very positive start in the Trafford Schools Basketball League. Both our Year 10/11 and Year 8/9 basketball teams were unbeaten as we finished the Autumn term. Well done to Shamar, Ole and Abel who have been valuable team players so far this season.

At our House Basketball competition, tutor group 8.3 (Pankhurst) won the Year 7 and 8 event, whilst 10.2 (Turing) secured the victory at the Year 9 and 10 event.



We have a number of talented athletes here at Wellacre; in school long distance running competitions the winners in each year group that qualified for Trafford Cross Country are as follows: Year 11 - Ryan, Year 10 - Alex, Year 9 - Nicholas, Year 8 - Noah, and Year 7 - Cameron. Well done all!



WELLACRE JOINS ART EXHIBITION FOR WORLD AIDS DAY

As part of World AIDS Day on 1st December, The George House Trust charity joined Wellacre students to raise awareness of HIV and AIDS through a community art project for the 'First Time: In Equal Parts' exhibition at Waterside Arts Centre in Sale.

Miss Niebel, Leader of Creative Arts and Technologies, said:

"It was a huge honour for Wellacre students to work on such a prestigious project. The students showed huge amounts of pride, maturity and resilience throughout the workshops. Their artistic responses to the brief were excellent. The group were so proud to showcase their artwork to the public in their very first art exhibition."

Year 10 art students listened to the charity's 'Positive Speakers' to gain a better

understanding and to create art pieces to raise awareness of the stigma attached to the diseases.

They participated in art workshops with a dedicated artist in residence, Jess Loveday, responding to a brief to design a series of 2D artworks to reflect on the issues surrounding HIV diagnosis and living with the disease.

Max, Year 10, student said:

"Meeting the HIV positive speakers and hearing their stories was a real eye-opener and has changed my thoughts on people living with HIV. We experimented with new art tools and canvas, and I worked hard to present a professional activist poster to show how the stigma of HIV and AIDS hurts people. This is for a great cause and worthy of my best work."



FRIENDS OF WELLACRE

The Friends of Wellacre have been organising bag drop events for just a year now and November's collection was the best one yet! Who would have thought that unwanted clothing would raise such vital funds for the school. Since last year we have raised a total of £530 just through bag drops.

We would not have been able to do this without the support of Wellacre families, staff and the community.

Please continue to save your unwanted clothing for the the next bag drop event at the end of the Spring term. We accept everything but duvets, so the possibilities are endless. School will keep you updated via texts, emails and social media.

Thanks from the Friends of Wellacre

TRANSITION UPDATE

PRIMARY STEM DAY

In September, Wellacre hosted an inspiring Primary STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) Day for over 200 Year 6 pupils from local primary schools.

We challenged pupils to dress up as any professional figure or career in the STEM industry and welcomed astronauts, surgeons, builders, pilots and zoologists and many more!

Every pupil enjoyed a host of engaging and exciting lessons and activities throughout the day in a range of subject areas, to learn more about STEM careers. Activities included, for example, in Maths, taking on the role of a farmer and using pupils'



knowledge of area and perimeter, designing a profitable farm, and in History, learning about the Black Death and how doctors in the Middle Ages treated the disease, as well as looking at how the disease itself is tested in laboratories today for research.



OPEN EVENING PRIZE WINNERS

Congratulations to our Open Evening prize draw winners Oran, Year 6, at Flixton Primary and Zane, Year 6, at Irlam Endowed Primary; they were surprised at school by Head Boy Oliver and presented with their vouchers!



YEAR 7 BUSHCRAFT RESIDENTIAL

In October, Year 7 packed up their rucksacks and headed off to the great outdoors for a once in a lifetime bushcraft challenge! The residential trip, organised to aid the transition from primary to secondary, encourage friendships and settling in, was an action-packed three days of camping at Cholmondeley Castle in Cheshire. Students threw themselves in to the challenge by learning to survive in the wild and also enjoyed a variety of energetic activities from archery to tomahawk throwing!