



WELLACRE

INSPIRE

ISSUE 4
AUTUMN 2016

bringing out the **best** in boys



WELLACRE BOYS RAISE THE BAR ONCE MORE WITH A THIRD YEAR OF IMPROVED RESULTS

Wellacre Academy is celebrating another successful year with improved examination outcomes for its boys. The number of students achieving a C+ grade in English and Maths has improved by 8% this year despite Maths and English results nationally taking a dip in 2016. Wellacre boys achieved significantly better results than boys nationally in many subjects including English, Maths, Science, Business, History, Construction, Engineering and PE. An unprecedented number of Wellacre students achieved at least 1A/A* grade. In Design, Engineer, Construct a stunning 80% of students achieved A*/A grades.

Miss Wicks, Head Teacher, stated *"I am extremely proud of the students' achievements. The staff and students have worked hard to ensure our continued improvement. Teachers have*

instilled ambition in our boys and ensured they have been constantly stretched and challenged to fulfil their potential."

Smiling students collected their results indicating overall that there are more boys leaving Wellacre with 'good' GCSE grades than ever before. There were stand out individual performances to note; Daniel Doherty who achieved nine A* and A grades.

Cameron Lamont, former Head Boy, who achieved eight A*/A grades commented, *"I am so pleased with my results, the teachers have worked really hard and supported us every step of the way. They have given us the confidence to believe in ourselves and to always aim high. I would like to thank all the staff at Wellacre for everything they have done over the last five years"*.



WELLACRE

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Reader,

Welcome back to a new academic year, with a special welcome to our new Year 7 students who joined us in September.

The new year has got off to a great start, with students settling back into their routines and working hard on the new challenges that they have before them. Students in Year 7 arrived in their new uniform, proudly showing off our crest, representing our tradition values and high expectations.

I would like to pass on my congratulations to all our students who sat examinations in the summer. There were some truly impressive individual results. We look forward to celebrating these achievements in November at our annual Year 11 Awards Evening. Overall, our results saw an increase on last year's with 60% of our students achieving 5A*-C including English and Mathematics as well as 45% of the year group, achieving at least one A*/A grade. Our 6th form results were again impressive with all our Year 13 students being successful in gaining a place at their chosen university. I would like to wish all our Year 11 and 13 students a bright and successful future.

Not forgetting the achievements of our Key Stage 3 students, whose academic excellence and attitude to learning were celebrated at the end of the academic year at our annual awards evening. The

evening also recognised our students sporting success, with many students being awarded colours and commendations for both their commitment and achievements.

In times of great national change for education and an increase in the robustness of examinations; our students and staff are working harder than ever before. We are confident that our GCSE results will continue to improve and that our best is yet to come.

Wellacre has also been nationally recognised for its outstanding careers information advice and guidance delivered to our students, for which we were delighted to receive the Gold award. We have also achieved the Silver Kite Mark for School Sports, the International Schools award, the Historic England: Heritage schools award, recognised as a Platinum partners school by the RAF and as a partner school for Salford City Reds.

I hope you enjoy reading about our various accomplishments and I look forward to meeting you at our various school events and parent evenings throughout the year.

Miss Wicks

Principal

HARRY HEADS UP THE HEAD BOY TEAM!

Student Harry Quick is this year's head boy and will be assisted by Luke Dugdale, Jack Rimmer and Tanaka Kutsonga. Harry will be leading on developing post 16 opportunities and building on the cultural capital of Wellacre students. The team are looking forward to launching the hustings next week for voting in order to create the student council over this Autumn term. The Student Leadership team have already secured guest speakers for the RESPECT programme from the RAF and several universities and hope to further develop opportunities during assembly times too. A super start for the 2016/17 student body.





WELLACRE MFL TRIP TO CANTABRIA JULY 2016



YEAR 12 SEE DOCTOR FAUSTUS

Ten Year 12 students attended a workshop in the morning led by an Assistant Director and two actors from the Royal Shakespeare Company to see how the Christopher Marlowe play Doctor Faustus is performed. They observed how the actors improvised key scenes in the play interpreting them through a range of different emotions.

The students then watched the matinee performance of the play which deals with Doctor Faustus's pact with the devil. The two lead actors lit a match at the start of the play to decide which role they would perform which was a great example of the improvised nature of the performance. But the highlight of the performance involved the Seven Deadly Sins being presented as a macabre cabaret act.

In July, Miss Bailey and Mr Wise took 19 students to Cantabria in Northern Spain. One of the first places visited was the Altamira museum, to enjoy and experience the life of those who painted and inhabited the cave of Altamira and where students were able to view some of the first examples of cave art.

They also visited the beautiful towns of Comillas and Santander, allowing the students to immerse themselves in Spanish culture. It was great to see the students use the Spanish they had learnt to buy gifts and souvenirs for friends and family back home.

SOMME CENTENARY COMMEMORATIONS



On 1st July 2016, the History department at Wellacre commemorated the centenary of the Battle of the Somme. Fifteen students visit the 'First World War Field Experience' at Heaton Park. This event saw many Greater Manchester schools come together to find out more about the First World War and the Battle of the Somme through special exhibitions and re-enactments. Heaton Park was the site of a training camp during the war, hence why it was a focal point for Manchester's commemorations. The sessions they attended included a dramatic monologue performance based on the real testimony of a female factory worker whose fiancé was away fighting in France. We also studied a weapons exhibition and met a horse and his keeper who were 'kitted out' as 'First World War' horses would have been.



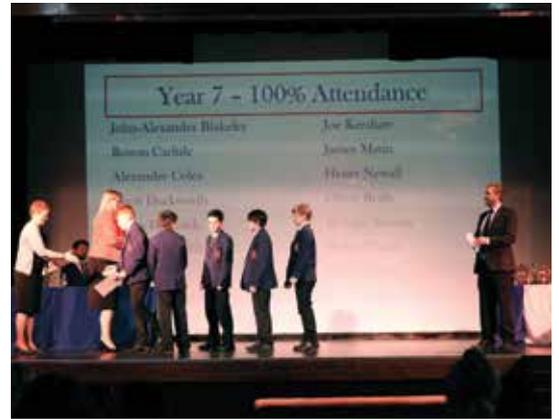
Two of the highlights of the trip were the visit to Picos de Europa where students were taken in a cable car to the top of Fuente de and were treated to stunning views across idyllic scenery of the mountains of Picos de Europa National Park.

They also visited the Parque de la Naturaleza de Cabarceno, a nature reserve featuring many animals threatened with extinction; African elephants, Grévy's zebras and white rhinoceros. They attended a stunning bird of prey show during which a bird came and sat close to the group – much to the surprise of the students!

A great time was had by all and this is certainly a trip we will be repeating for years to come.



WELLACRE - AN AWA



AWARDS EVENING - JULY 2016

The academic and sporting successes and achievements of our students were celebrated at our annual Awards Evening which took place in the Main School Hall on Monday 11th July 2016.

Over 100 students received a variety of awards, trophies and certificates in recognition of their hard work, resilience and endeavour. On the evening numerous awards were handed out including subject prizes for 'outstanding progress' and 'exceptional commitment to learning', 100% attendance for the academic year, Sports Leader and Personality of the Year, Sports Awards, Outstanding Contribution, Principal's Award and Governor Inspirational Achiever Award. The awards were distributed by Miss Wicks, Principal, along with Elaine

Johnson, Chair of the Governing Body, our Year 7, 8, and 9 Learning Directors and Mr Glover, Leader of PE.

It was great to see so many parents and carers, staff and supporters of the school congratulating the achievements of our young people. We look forward to celebrating the success of our Key Stage 4 students in November. Well done to all concerned and many thanks to the local businesses who donated trophies (Anderton Gables, Cargills, Harcon Services, United Utilities, Blackburn and Murgatroyd Construction).

We are looking forward to another year of outstanding achievements, celebrating 'bringing out the best in boys'.

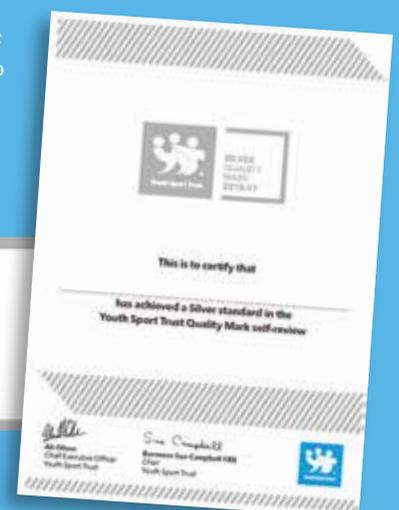
SILVER SPORTS MARK

Wellacre was awarded the Silver quality mark for schools sports. This is a fantastic achievement recognising the vast array of sporting opportunities on offer to our students.

This year has seen a variety of new sports, competing at local and national level the popular sports of Rugby, Football, Basketball and Athletics. 2015-16 has seen the inclusion of 2 Handball teams, 3 Rowing teams, 2 Table tennis squads, a first entry into the NBA Basketball junior league as well as lunch time activities such as Darts, dodgeball and more.

This year has also seen an increase in the number of pupils participating in the various activities, with a higher number of representations at each year group level.

Next year we hope to continue with this trend and continue to provide the pupils with every opportunity to participate and succeed at Wellacre Academy.



RD WINNING SCHOOL



HERITAGE SCHOOLS AWARD

Wellacre is very proud to have received the Heritage Schools Award. This award represents recognition from Historic England for Wellacre's contribution to the study of local history. This year we took the whole of Year 8 to Irlam Locks to see the Manchester Ship Canal to learn about the impact of the Industrial Revolution in our local area. Students completed a special project in History lessons about the canal and what they learned from the visit. Daisy Horsley, Local Heritage Education Manager for North West, presented the award on Friday 8th July, and praised Year 8 students and Wellacre History teachers for their commitment to the study of local History. We were also highly praised for ensuring that a whole year group took part in the project.

GOLD CEIAG AWARD

Wellacre is committed to providing excellent Careers Advice and Guidance, the CEIAG Gold Award is one of the highest accolades to be awarded nationally. Our staff and students are very proud to be the recipients of the Award. Staff are looking forward to delivering Careers advice during this year in the following areas:

- Sixth Form Surgeries
- KS4 Connexions Interviews
- Dedicated RESPECT lessons
- Guest Speakers from Universities
- Apprentice networks and Sixth Form College assemblies
- Our successful annual Careers Fair
- New for 2017 a whole school Careers Day

The quality CEIAG provision we provide will enable our students to make well informed decisions about their future.

WELLACRE WINS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS AWARD

The International School Award celebrates the achievements of schools that do exceptional work in international education. Fostering an international dimension in the curriculum is at the heart of the British Council's work with schools, so that young people gain the cultural understanding and skills they need for life and work in today's world.

The international work undertaken by Wellacre includes involvement in the Afritwin, E-twinning and Comenius Projects, as well as our Community Cohesion Day and the international spectrum of our wider school curriculum.

Councillor Judith Lloyd, Mayor of Trafford, visited the school to learn more about our international work and to present us with the British Council International School Award.

John Rolfe from the British Council also visited the school and said 'The school's fantastic international work has rightfully earned this prestigious Award. The International School Award is a great chance for schools to demonstrate the important work they are



doing to bring the world into their classrooms. Embedding an international dimension in children's education ensures that they are truly global citizens and helps prepare them for successful lives and careers in an increasingly global economy.'

KELLOGG'S ENTERPRISE CHALLENGE

A group of Wellacre Year 10 students recently entered the Kellogg's 'Make It' enterprise challenge held at the AJ Bell stadium.

Students were given various job roles and had to cost up and build a factory, develop a new cereal brand, market it and present on stage their concepts and plans in front of 100 other students.

They did an amazing job and were excellent competitors and were a credit to the school.



BRIGHT IDEA

Wellacre has more solar panels than any other school in Britain and our 1,720 panels will generate a saving of £2,168,307 over the next quarter of a century

We found that using our existing electricity supplier the school would spend £3,087,390 on electric bills over 25 years, but the cut-price electricity deal with the solar supplier would incur costs of just £919,083 for the same period.

The saving is set to increase year on year as electricity prices inevitably go up.

Miss Wicks said: "It will save us more than £50,000-a-year - a huge saving, particularly in times of Government austerity with school budgets.

The students have seen the panels installed and the installers even showed them how they were fitted and were very good answering all their questions.

We will use the panels for education and they will form part of projects around the school. Renewable energy is an important part of modern life. How our carbon footprint is being reduced and pollution around the world is a major issue and is something our students frequently debate.

The solar panels will also allow us to use real data for science, geography, technology and maths from the electricity generated on site.

The money saved on utilities can go into other school activities and investors are ensuring they pay no more than 6p per kilowatt hour for their electricity when the sun is in the sky compared to their previous electricity cost of 12p per kilowatt hour".

COMMUNITY COHESION DAY

Wellacre recently invited many special visitors to join them for their community cohesion day. Year 7 were given a highly inspirational talk from a professional rugby coach and player, George Fouche. Year 8's were given a CPR lesson from experienced fireman and Year 9 became professional capoeira dancers for a day.

George Fouche gave Year 7 students a very uplifting speech. He talked about how he turned his life around following a violent childhood. Students listened to how he chased his dream of becoming a professional rugby player following a serious injury. Students agreed that their main message of the talk was not to let things hold you back.

During the day, Year 9 students had a PE lesson from another country - Brazil. A visitor had come into school to teach them the art of capoeira. Capoeira is a dance form which is martial arts at a slower pace. After the lesson, some of the students said that the dance was extremely exhausting but they would like to do it again.

As the day drew to a close the Year 8's had the opportunity to see first hand the jobs firefighters go through each year. It was a very interesting and eye opening lecture. The Students were taught CPR procedures and all practised resuscitation on a dummy.

All students agreed the day was really interesting and fun and they would love to do it again.

WELLACRE STUDENTS BECOME ANTI-BULLYING AMBASSADORS, SUPPORTED BY THE DIANA AWARD



The Anti-Bullying Ambassadors Programme is organised and run by the Princess Diana Award and its aims to equip students and staff with a holistic and peer-led approach to address bullying.

The programme provides young people, parents and their teachers with information about bullying to empower them to become advocates for change in relation to bullying behaviour within their schools.

Our students attended a Regional Training day in June 2016.

The training day provided a perfect opportunity to network with other passionate young people, exchanging ideas and sharing good practice. Allowing students to creatively explore and understand the topic of bullying.

Students left the day feeling inspired and full of fantastic and supportive ideas.

The event covered:

- Understanding the issue of bullying; facts, the effects of bullying, definition of bullying
- Practical ideas, top tips and explore scenarios on bullying in groups
- Basic training looking at the skills needed to support others and stay safe
- A networking session with students from other schools to share ideas
- Video examples of schools we currently work with
- Action planning – helping students to think of a plan to take back to school and set targets and aims for their Anti-Bullying work.

Many thanks to Mr Panter and students Finlay Byers, Shivam Seth, Harry Merrell, Jack Rogers, Ben Horsefield, Alfie Hibbert, Oliver Pagan and Joe Nightingale for attending.

Did you attend Wellacre or do you know anyone who attended the school?

If so, we need people like you to get in touch, not only to update us on what you are doing now, but also to spread the word to any friends, relatives or colleagues who you know attended the school dating back to 1955.

For further information please contact the school on 0161 748 5011 or email us at alumni@wellacre.org



WELLACRE



WELLACRE



PARENT GUILD

WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

If you feel that you could offer some time to our Parent Guild, as much or as little as you can, then please come along to one of our friendly meetings or contact the Academy office.

Wellacre Academy, Irlam Road, Flixton, Manchester M41 6AP

Tel: 0161 748 5011 Fax: 0161 755 3234

Email: admin@wellacre.org Website: www.wellacre.org

Twitter: [@WellacreAcademy](https://twitter.com/WellacreAcademy) Facebook: [/Wellacre](https://www.facebook.com/Wellacre)



SUMMER CAMP

Summer Camp went down a storm with our new Year 7's. It was a jam-packed week full of exciting activities and it all started with a battle between the three house teams, the Warriors led by Mr Dougherty, the Kryptonites led by Miss McGuire and the Hurricanes led by Mr Wise. Who would win the house cup? The competition was certainly on! Students participated in a number of activities including being blindfolded around a maze in a great team building exercise, to creating their own badges, learning new photography skills, book mark crafts, spaghetti and marshmallow towers, football skills training and basketball tournaments. They even starred in their own films as well as

participating in a giant orienteering competition around the academy in the quest for the treasure.

We were delighted to see so many parents and carers at their sons' graduation and celebrate in all their huge achievements during the week. We thoroughly enjoyed having the boys all week and we were delighted to see so many new friendships developing as well as students feeling confident and ready for their September start. We would like to wish all the students a successful start to Year 7 and look forward to celebrating your achievements during your time at Wellacre.



COME TO OUR OPEN MORNING



29th September 2016 • 9.15am

Meet Students and Staff

Tour the academy • Free refreshments

We recommend that you reserve your place due to limited availability. Please email: admin@wellacre.org

