



INSPIRE

SUMMER 2019

bringing out the *best* in boys



ANTI-BULLYING AMBASSADORS

Wellacre's Anti-bullying Ambassador team have successfully completed The Diana Award training to support their role at school.

The Anti-bullying Ambassador programme, delivered by The Diana Award charity, gathers young people to educate them about bullying and provide them with the skills and information to lead on anti-bullying campaigns, to promote a culture which celebrates and tolerates difference, and helps them to keep their peers safe both online and offline.

Assistant Head of House,
Mr Dougherty, said:

“The peer-led training was a successful and inspiring day for Wellacre students and will underpin the role they have taken on. They have each learnt skills and confidence from the training sessions, which they are keen to take back to school and use to plan an anti-bullying awareness week.”

All students who attended the training successfully achieved The Diana Award anti-bullying certificate and will now go on to plan and deliver an anti-bullying campaign in the Summer term focusing on ‘what makes you different?’ which will celebrate individuality and equality.

Jamie, Year 9, said:

“As Anti-Bullying Ambassadors, our role is to support people who need help and advice. The training taught us how to deal with situations and how to direct students to the support they need.”

Daniel, Year 8, said:

“We learnt about different types of bullying, indirect, physical and verbal, and how to comfort students affected by bullying. We’ll be working towards our Diana Award Wellbeing Badge by promoting anti-bullying awareness through different activities and events.”



WELLACRE

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Reader,

Welcome to our final Inspire newsletter of this very busy and successful academic year!

As well as keeping you up to date about all the wonderful activities and events that have taken place this term, we want to inspire even more of our students to broaden their horizons and try something new and exciting next year - so parents, please do share anything that catches your eye with your son.

We still have lots planned for the remainder of the year including sports day, our annual awards evening, rewards trips and Year 10 work experience. Also, our current Year 10 students are being trained to take over Prefect duties from our outgoing Year 11 students. Additionally, Head Boy and Deputy Head Boy interviews will be taking place, with be a full staff and student election ballot for Head Boy, with announcements

made by the end of June. The best of luck to everyone who is in the running for these prestigious posts.

This term will be the last full term for our Year 11 students and final examinations are underway. I am sure that with the skills and knowledge they have gained at Wellacre over the past five years, alongside their commitment and resilience, they will rise to the challenges before them. All of Wellacre wish them luck and success as they begin the next stage of their journey.

I wish you all a wonderful and safe summer and look forward to welcoming you all back in September.

Miss Wicks

Principal



THE BIG PEDAL

Wellacre cares about the the environment and we have been demonstrating the difference we can make using pedal power and student voice by supporting exciting initiatives.

Students and staff joined in The Big Pedal 2019 in the spring term – the UK’s largest cycling, walking and scooting challenge for schools, organised by the walking and cycling charity Sustrans.

During the 5-day challenge participating schools competed with one another to make the most journeys by bike, foot or scooter. Wellacre finished 12th nationally for secondary schools with an average of 48% of students cycling or walking (approximately 35% of pupils use public transport.)

Overall, almost 2,300 schools and 744,089 pupils took part nationally. The grand total of 2 million journeys were made, which is the equivalent of 3,492 kg of nitrogen oxide saved!

Mrs Eagling, Teacher of Maths and The Big Pedal co-ordinator, said:

“A huge proportion of our school already walk and cycle to school. By taking part in The Big Pedal and encouraging even more to walk, scoot or cycle to school, it was satisfying to record this and to demonstrate what a difference we can make to our health and the environment if we use human power.”

As part of Wellacre’s aim to make a difference to the local community, we are also supporting the Urmston Bee Network project. We welcomed Kate Green, MP for Stretford and Urmston, along with councillors Steve Adshead and Graham Whitham to meet with students to discuss the environment and transport links around Irlam Road and how it might be improved for pedestrians and cyclists. Students were great ambassadors for the school and voiced some well-informed ideas for the team to explore.

Carl, Year 10, said:

“I was glad to be invited to join the meeting because I want to do something about bike safety and air pollution. It was good to voice my opinion and to be heard.”



LET'S TALK SEND



LGBT+ HISTORY MONTH

Year 11 student ambassadors, Louis, Jabin, Oliver and Lewis, delivered a series of house assemblies in honour of LGBT+ History Month. They worked hard to create a meaningful presentation to share important messages in celebration of 'identity', to provide an insight into the issues the LGBT+ community faces and to advise Wellacre students of the support available.

Wellacre students joined the Let's Talk SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disability) youth conference at the Sale LifeCentre.

Student workshops offered guidance and life skills in areas such as staying safe on social media and the importance of sleep to mental health and wellbeing.

Finally, they were challenged to create their own political party and a manifesto for improvements for young people locally, before taking to the stage to present their ideas to the

conference audience, which included Mayor of Trafford, Tom Ross. Wellacre boys focused on improving health and wellbeing, with one idea to provide swimming pools for every school establishment.

Daniel, Year 8, said: "I enjoyed learning new skills and meeting other young people with a variety of needs."

Andrew, Year 7, added: "I enjoyed meeting the Major and getting a selfie with him! It was great to stand up on the stage twice and present to the conference."

STUDENTS GET THEIR 'SKATES' ON WITH WORLD CHAMPION

World and British Champion Inline Skater, Jenna Downing, joined Wellacre as part of the Mentally Healthy Schools pilot programme involving the Youth Sports Trust and 42nd Street.

Athlete Mentor, Jenna Downing, delivered a workshop with Year 9 students to help build their confidence and empower them with the skills to manage their physical and emotional wellbeing. The overall aim - to support students to achieve their potential in school and beyond.

Jenna then worked with five of Wellacre's Young Health Ambassadors for further in-depth training to enable them to fulfil their role in school and support other Wellacre students.

Young Health Ambassador, Jamie in Year 9, said:

"As a Young Health Ambassador, I want to be a role model for Wellacre students and help promote healthy mindsets for young people through healthy lifestyles and introducing new sports."

The ambassadors will now plan and deliver an event for students, which will introduce a new sport and provide nutritious food and drinks in order to promote the 'healthy lifestyle for a healthy mind' message. Jenna will return to Wellacre to meet all students and hear about their progress.

Mr Pemberton, Vice Principal for Welfare and Wellbeing, added:



"This is our second year as participating in the Mentally Healthy Schools pilot and we were glad to welcome Jenna Downing to our school to work with students and look forward to her return visit. As a school, we recognise that students succeed when they feel more supported, confident and happy.

"We have every confidence in our Young Health Ambassadors and the event they are planning. They will attend the Young Health Ambassador Conference in July, which will provide them with an opportunity to share their skills, experiences and practices, as well as a chance to celebrate their achievements."



WELLACRE TAKES TO THE SLOPES

During the Spring half term, Wellacre embarked on its annual ski trip adventure to the mountains of Saalbach in Austria.

On arrival, students were welcomed by the staff of Jugendgästehaus Hinterronach, a family-run youth hotel located high above Saalbach town, which offered doorstep skiing and fantastic views.

With six full days of skiing, students enjoyed instructor-led lessons on the Austrian slopes. The Ski School catered for all levels of skiers, with some taking their first outings on the beginners' slopes and the more experienced progressing to take on the black pistes!

Mr Duffy, Teacher of PE, said:

“Wellacre boys absolutely loved the Austrian ski experience; they all pushed themselves and made amazing progress day by day. It was a fantastic - and tiring - sporting experience for everyone that took part!”

There was plenty of snow during the holiday, with a blizzard

that lasted two days! After each hard day's skiing, an evening of entertainment was enjoyed including swimming and a freestyle ski show, as well as a night skiing.

Year 11 Louis said:

“We did powder skiing, which is off-piste skiing on untouched and thick, but soft, snow. It was a real challenge because your skis grip to the snow and we learnt how to keep them close together to avoid falling over! It was really fun, even when you fell, because sometimes the snow was waist deep so you had to dig around for your lost skis!”

Fellow Year 11 Lewis added:

“My favourite activity was the night-time skiing for the advanced group; I preferred it to skiing in the day because it was more of a challenge and a lot funnier! I went on the trip with school in Year 8 and this year was even better. This will be my last ever school trip with Wellacre and I made some really good memories.”



AN INSIGHT INTO THE FUTURE

Wellacre supported National Careers Week 2019 with a series of engaging and empowering activities including the launch of the KS3 Take Your Son to Work Day and the Oxbridge Society initiatives.

Teachers signposted employability skills - energy, creativity and adaptability in lessons and tutors focused on careers in form time.

Wellacre's Careers Week culminated in a whole school Careers Fair.

It is a valuable opportunity for students to meet employers, training and further education providers and gain information, advice and guidance to make informed choices regarding their own future career path.

Mr Duffy, Head of Year 11 and Director of Futures, said:

“The aim of the Careers Fair is to inspire and encourage students to think about life after Wellacre. The range of exhibitors presents an opportunity for one-to-one conversations about diverse education and career pathways.

“Students came away with new ideas, an insight into GCSE options for specific pathways, and a positivity about the potential for their Post-16 futures.”

DIAMOND FUND FOR DUKE OF EDINBURGH



Wellacre has been awarded a grant after successfully applying to the Duke of Edinburgh's (DofE) Diamond Fund.

Enabling us to reach and support more young people who wish to do their DofE at Wellacre, the grant will bolster this summer's project.

The Diamond Fund charity aims to give more young people, regardless of background, the chance to develop life-changing skills and attributes - such as communication,

determination and teamwork - and gain the confidence to reach their full potential.

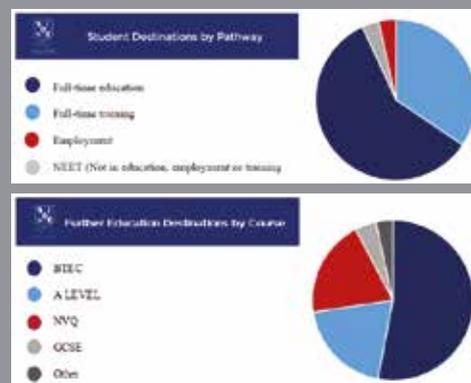
Wellacre is currently coordinating this year's DofE Bronze Award and with the support of the grant, the project is now more accessible for students. There is a range of camping equipment on order and we have more than doubled the number of participants compared to 2018.

We look forward to seeing the impact this project has on Wellacre students.

STUDENT DESTINATIONS

Connexions data from 2017/18 revealed that 99.3% of Wellacre students moved on to further education, employment-based training or employment with only 0.68% not in education, employment or training; this is well below the Trafford and national average.

The data demonstrates another successful year of Wellacre students continuing their career journey and following a variety of options after school.



We are proud to offer our students a full and diverse curriculum choice, which is fit for their needs and ensures they not only excel academically, but also develop skills such as leadership and resilience.



TOP RESULT FOR CHARLIE

The creative writing talents of Charlie, Year 7, earned him a top place in a National Literacy Trust competition.

Charlie was selected as a runner-up for the Diary of a Wimpy Kid 500-word writing competition and has won a signed copy of the Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Meltdown.



For his well-written diary entry, Charlie made it to the final eleven from over 1,700 entries – a great achievement!

Charlie, Year 7, said:

“I was really happy to hear I was a runner-up in the competition; I wrote a lot for my entry which was about a magical snowman coming to life. I’ve seen my name listed on the National Literacy Trust website and I’m looking forward to receiving my prize!”

STAFF SUCCEED AT SEA

Every year, Wellacre students choose a charity for a special fundraising drive and Year Groups are challenged to raise as much money as possible with a dedicated week each in the Spring 2 term, culminating in a sponsored non-uniform day.

This year, students chose the Royal Manchester Children’s Hospital (RMCH) and raised a grand total of £1,325.99!

Fundraising highlights included a battle of wills and stomachs at 9A’s Bushtucker Trial with students facing teachers to eat rotten eggs and dog food to collect £45.65!

10N students, alongside form teacher Mrs Lunn, donned tutus, lipstick and monobrows for the day to raise £55.70.

Many lessons were a little quieter as many students took on sponsored silences; members of 7A said nothing at all to help their form raise £40.50.

The 10H boys waxed their legs to generate £60.06 from spectators.

RMCH visited Wellacre to meet some of the students involved in the fundraising and to extend the charity’s thanks.



WELLACRE BAND WINS ‘BEST STAGE PRESENCE’

Battle of the Bands Grand Final

As Trafford winners of the Battle of the Band, Wellacre students joined other bands from schools and colleges across Greater Manchester for the grand final competition.

Competing against other bands, ‘Evolution’ members Will and Joe, Year 10, and Oliver, Year 11, performed at 10-minute set at the legendary Band on the Wall venue in Manchester and won the ‘Best Stage Presence’ award.

Mrs Spencer, Teacher of Music and SENDCO, said:

“It was a fantastic final to watch, where Evolution held their own with eight other bands from Greater Manchester. Evolution stood a good chance of winning. The standard was exceptional. They should be proud of themselves as they put on a superb performance and received excellent feedback from the judges.”

Each band was judged on stage presence, sound, technicality and band interaction in a bid to find the stars of tomorrow and celebrate the wealth of musical talent in Greater Manchester.

Year 10 Joe said:

“As part of our set I went into the audience and performed a solo; I think this definitely helped us win the stage presence award! It was really good to win one of the awards and we are grateful to everyone that came along to support us.”

A TASTE OF GAME

Year 10 GCSE Food

Preparation students faced a brand new challenge when they learnt how to joint a bird. The pheasants were kindly donated by Taste of Game, an organisation which supplies both restaurants and schools with seasonal game birds.



Miss Jones, Teacher of Food, Cookery and Nutrition, said:

“It was a great opportunity for students to learn about butchery techniques. They were very brave when taking on this challenge and were very successful at it for their first time!”

The jointed birds were stored in the freezer, ready for the students to research new and interesting recipes with which to use their cuts of meat in a Meat, Poultry, Fish and Game project.

WHAT'S THE CATCH?

Hayley from What's the Catch Fishmongers in Urmston, visited a Year 10 GCSE Food Preparation lesson to teach key fish filleting skills.

To kick-off a series of lessons related to fish, professional fishmonger Hayley showed the students the ropes including knife skills, filleting, skinning and boning mackerel.

Year 10 Dylan said:

“It was great to learn a new skill and to have the opportunity to fillet a fish. We learnt some really good tips from Hayley. For example, the best angle for removing the fish head and the best technique for maintaining the fillets.”



All students took part in a filleting lesson the next day with mackerel, before pan frying their fillets for use in a pate recipe in preparation for a 'Masterchef' style plating lesson.



A TASTE OF THE FUTURE

Wellacre students are inspired by Hospitality and Culinary Arts trips.

Aspire Restaurant, Trafford College

Year 8, 9 and 10 Food and Nutrition students experienced an evening of fine dining when they visited the Aspire Restaurant. The aim was to research ideas for dishes as well as food styling and presentation techniques to help develop their cookery skills.

An ex-student of Wellacre, Sean, was part of the kitchen team at Aspire restaurant,

working hard to produce excellent dishes for the evening's menu.

Teacher of Food and Nutrition, Miss Jones, said:

“The Aspire students really surpassed themselves, creating an excellent menu with many modern plates presented beautifully.

“Seeing one of our ex-students flourishing on his course at Trafford College is fantastic; it's a great next step for Wellacre students wishing to begin a career in hospitality and catering.”

The Glass House, Worsley College

Worsley College's Hospitality and Culinary Arts department welcomed Year 10 GCSE Food Preparation students and demonstrated the diverse course options and career paths in

the food industry, as well as offering a tour of the college and department facilities.

The day also included a visit to The Glass House, the dedicated restaurant run by the Hospitality and Culinary Arts students, and an exquisite two course lunch menu.

Wellacre's budding chefs were also challenged to a cake and biscuit decorating competition in the college kitchens.

Year 10 student Dylan said:

“The trip was a great experience! The facilities at the college were high quality and it was good to meet the course tutors who were friendly and helpful. The quality of the food in the restaurant was excellent; it was tasty and well-presented.”

FORTHCOMING DATES

1st - 5th July 2019

KS3 Community, Careers and Curricular Week
Year 10 Work Experience

2nd July 2019

New Year 7 Intake and Parents Information Evening, 5.30pm

3rd July 2019

Flash Bang Science event for Year 7 and local primaries

4th July 2019

Year 6 Transition Day and Year 10 Full reports published

5th July 2019

Year 11 Prom

10th July 2019

Year 10 Careers Day

11th July 2019

Duke of Edinburgh Bronze expedition

12th July 2019

Wellacre's Strictly Got Talent, 7pm and Friends of Wellacre bag drop event

15th July 2019

Awards Evening, 6.30pm

18th July 2019

Year 9 Full reports published

22nd July 2019

Rewards and Activities Day

24th July 2019

School closes at 12.05pm for Summer Holidays

25th September 2019

Open Evening, 5.45 - 8.00pm

CHARITY AT WELLACRE



Every year, Wellacre's students and staff dedicate the month of March to fundraising for charities.

Challenged by Miss Wicks, Wellacre's Lowry, Turing and Pankhurst Houses selected their own causes to support and competed to raise as much funds as possible, as well as earn house points.

Lowry students chose Macmillan Cancer Support, Pankhurst selected Dogs Trust and Turing decided to split funds raised between The Toy House and The Christie.

In tutor groups, students brainstormed and put into action a wide variety of

fundraising ideas ranging from tuck shops and raffles, to leg waxes and Mario Kart racing competitions.

The grand total raised by Wellacre was £689.58 and the winning House was Turing, who collected £325.95. Highlights included a well-stocked tuck shop raising over £130, a sponsored silence raising £100 and a bushucker trial of 'rotten eggs', a 'frog spawn' smoothie and holding giant worms in contestants' mouths raised £25.

Pankhurst House pulled in £265.11 with ice-cream and bake sales, as well as a Warrior Assault Course to find Wellacre's fastest student! Lowry also succeeded in raising almost £100 with their endeavours.



INSPIRING CHINESE PE

In partnership with the Suman Centre, Old Trafford, a group of Chinese PE teachers spent the day exploring the cultural, social and educational environment at Wellacre.

PE staff and students invited the exchange teachers to observe, as well as participate in, Year 8 handball and Year 10 BTEC Sports lessons focusing on leadership.

Students impressed the visitors with the level of physical activity, their energy and motivation.

Wellacre's Leader of PE, Mr Linton, said:

"It was a pleasure to showcase the curriculum, the quality of the provision and the calibre of student talent and leadership in sport."

BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK

Wellacre celebrated British Science Week by coordinating a range of events to engage students and staff in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) activities.

Year 5 children from local primary schools, Acre Hall and St. Monica's, visited Wellacre's Eco Centre for interactive STEM days and developing their Science skills through fun and exciting experiments focused on 'journeys of discovery.'

On Twitter, Acre Hall teacher Miss Thake, commented:

"Some of our Year 5 children had a great morning at Wellacre Academy as part of our British Science Week activities #journeys."

As well as transition days for local primary children, Wellacre also organised events including a Year 10 vs staff 'The Chase' themed quiz, a Year 9 visit to Manchester Royal Infirmary



to explore careers in Health Science and the launch of the Go4SET STEM challenge with Cargills.

Wellacre's Principal Miss Wicks said:

"We enjoy inspiring future scientists during British Science Week. By bringing Science to life, we can show young people Science in their everyday lives and, possibly, in their future careers."

WELLACRE OPEN EVENING

Wednesday 25th September 2019 from 5.45pm until 8.00pm • The Principal will speak at 6.00pm