



WELLACRE

INSPIRE

ISSUE 1
AUTUMN 2015bringing out the *best* in boys

RECORD BREAKING GCSE SUCCESS

Wellacre students and staff celebrated record breaking success in GCSE English this year with 77% of boys achieving an A*-C grade: a huge increase of 17% on 2014 results. This is well above the national average for 'boys only' and 12% above all schools nationally. Higher proportions of students at Wellacre also made expected progress in English than did nationally.

Another notable success was achieved at 5A*-C grades including English and Maths which improved by 7% on 2014, putting

Wellacre boys achievements well above the national 'boys only' figure for 2014 for the same measure. There was also cause for celebration in many departments with results improving in fourteen subjects this year.

The 'progress of the most able' was a particular focus at Wellacre this year with an impressive 22.6% of those students achieving 3A*/A grades; up from 8% in 2014. Particularly outstanding results were achieved by Jack Evans with seven A* and four A grades. Luke Phillips who achieved two A* grades, four A grades and

four B grades. Kieran Wong also excelled with seven A grades and four B grades.

Miss Wicks, Principal, was delighted by these results and commented, "I know how hard the staff and the boys worked to achieve these results and it is great to see that dedication and commitment pay off. I am really excited for this academic year and believe we will continue to go from strength to strength. I wish all the students every success as they embark on the next stage of their education, training or employment."



WELLACRE IN FULL BLOOM

HEAD'S WELCOME

Welcome back to a new academic year, with a special welcome to our new Year 7 and Year 12 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 years 7 to 10 arrived in their brand 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 5A*-C including English and Mathematics results saw an increase on last year with over 53% of students achieving 5A*-C including English and Maths, with 23% of the year group achieving at least three A*/A grades. Our 6th form results were again impressive with 95% of students leaving with 3 or more A levels or equivalent qualification. All of our Year 13 students were successful in gaining a place at their chosen university and we wish them all a bright and successful future. Our 6th form Open Evening will take place on Thursday 8th October.

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 KS3 awards evening. 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 and A Levels will continue to improve and that our best is yet to come.

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

Miss Wicks
Principal



Once again, Wellacre Academy produced an award winning garden at the Tatton Flower Show. This year the theme of industrial heritage had us stumped for a while until Mrs Haymes' contact at Kelloggs' agreed to help out.

The Prince's Trust pupils helped design and build most of the garden along with expert artistic advice from Miss Fallon. Then the day arrived.

The minibus was packed, the

lunches were packed and the sun made an appearance too! The Prince's Trust lads donned gloves and boots and set to on our square of earth. Over two days, transforming it into a masterpiece, attracting attention from the other competitors and professionals alike, making it into newspapers and even Pro Landscaper magazine!

A big thanks to all the staff that helped us on our build and well done to all the boys involved.

EXCITING RESULTS AT WELLACRE

Students beamed with joy as they picked up A Level and BTEC results at Wellacre Academy in Flixton. After putting in years of hard work and dedication this morning was a fitting end to their studies. Smiling faces were the order of the day as envelopes were opened that confirmed the next step for the learners, whether onto university courses or into apprenticeships.

Students were enjoying this moment of success before moving onto the next stage of learning. Student Daniel Rhodes who is heading to Edge Hill to study Performing Arts said he was "delighted and relieved" to see his results in print. Jamie Dickerson was "chuffed to bits" with his results which now allow him to take up a place at Aberystwyth University.



Mr Todd, Head of Sixth Form at Wellacre said "I am really pleased for all of our students who have picked up well deserved results today. Well done to them and thanks to our staff who have helped and supported them."

Jack Harness and Daniel Rhodes pick up their successful results. Both students are heading from Wellacre to university.



TEACHMEET WELLACRE

We were delighted to host our first ever TeachMeet at Wellacre in June, which brought together over 150 teachers from more than 14 different schools across the North West to talk passionately about improving teaching. It was great to see so many inspiring colleagues at all stages of their career take to the stage to share their thoughts and ideas about teaching and learning in a

relaxed and informal atmosphere of collaboration and sharing.

Around half of the presentations were from Wellacre teachers eager to share their successes with colleagues from our partner schools, and speaking on topics as diverse as dyslexia-friendly teaching and the most effective ways to provide feedback to students. Commercial partners from IRIS

Connect, ITN Mark Education, Renaissance Learning, Trafford Independent Support Services and Show My Homework also joined us and contributed to our marketplace stalls.

The event concluded with a keynote address from guest speaker Damian Hughes on the importance of collaboration in developing as a teacher, which sent

everyone away full of ideas and inspiration. Damian is a best-selling author, international speaker and psychologist who has worked with an impressive list of sporting and business organisations including Great Britain Rugby League.

TeachMeet Wellacre was supported by our teaching school alliance, the Alliance for Learning: <http://allianceforlearning.co.uk/>



SUMMER SCHOOL 2015

Wellacre Summer School 2015 was a huge success with over 75 boys in attendance. The week offered the boys the chance to make new friends, engage and participate in new activities and familiarise them with all that Wellacre has to offer. The week included an intense and exciting fun packed week of competitive sporting activities, state of the art media, technology, Drama, Art and dance lessons, a trip to playfactor, ICT coding lessons, smoothie making workshops, spaghetti and marshmallow problem solving activities, racing on scalextric tracks as well as making their own music videos, key rings, and stop motion animations. Our new

Wellacre year 7 students are now confident, ready and prepared for their start in September. A huge thank you to Alex Tilston who was our outstanding student leader during the week, he became an excellent photographer and is now considering this subject as part of his option choices next year! There have been some great memories made and students have become increasingly more confident with regards to their transition into secondary school. We cannot wait to welcome you all back in September and share in your future successes at Wellacre. Thank you for such a great week!

Miss Niebel and The Summer School Team.

AFRITWIN 2015

Wellacre were proud to welcome our South African friends from Ferrum High School, Kwa Zulu Natal, for two weeks of educational and cultural fun.

This is the sixth time over the past thirteen years our partner school has visited Wellacre and the UK as part of the AFRITWIN student exchange programme.

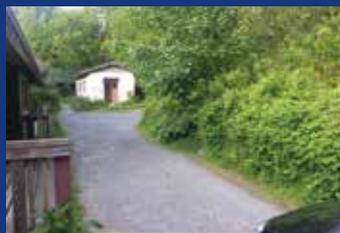
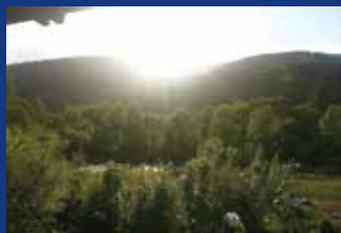
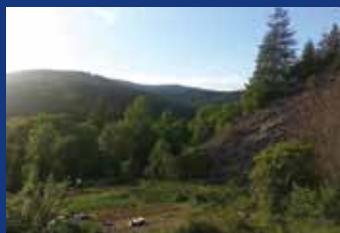
Students from Wellacre will be making the return visit to South Africa in February 2016.

As part of the programme, students from both Wellacre and Ferrum raise funds for a township school in Kwa Zulu Natal called Chelmsford High. Whilst over in South Africa, the exchange students spend several days refurbishing classrooms alongside students from Chelmsford.



STEM RESIDENTIAL TO THE CENTRE OF ALTERNATIVE TECHNOLOGY, WALES

A scorching hot day in June and 35 year 8 students head across the border to Wales as part of our STEM residential trip. The students (and staff) got stuck into the activities straight away with a team building paint balling event before travelling a little further to the town of Machynlleth. Our home for the next two nights is an Eco Cabin, a beautiful log building that offers the most amazing views. Once the students had got over the shock of no internet connection and having to make their own beds it was time for tea. There were no canteens queues for us as we had all the facilities to cook for ourselves and enjoyed a delicious takeaway! Throughout



the trip students took part in several STEM workshops to understand a range of renewable

energy systems and sustainable construction methods. They even took part in the wind challenge,

building and testing their own wind turbines to see which design generated the most energy. In the evening we had some time to let off some steam at the adventure park and to chew on the local sweets of liquorice sticks, certainly an acquired taste. The highlight for most, especially Mrs Kilroy, was the celeb spotting of the cast of the Welsh drama 'Stella' which was being filmed at the centre. On the final day we visited the very windy town of Aberystwyth where we enjoyed a seaside stroll and picnic before heading back. The visit certainly opened the students' eyes to the way we use energy and gained much applied learning of the STEM subjects.

ROLLER COASTER CHALLENGE



For the second successive year, Wellacre hosted the 'Siemens' Roller Coaster Challenge.

Teams from local Schools were invited to demonstrate their engineering and design skills and build a working roller coaster over the two day event.

Over the next half term, the teams will work on the theme

of their ride, create a finished model and promotional video.

The next stage of the competition will be held at Siemens' HQ in Manchester, where a panel of judges, made up of experienced engineers, will decide on the winning roller coaster based on the thrill factor and theme.

STUDENTS POEMS PUBLISHED IN POETOPIA

| | | |
|----------------|----------------------|----------------|
| Liam Simkin | Alex King | Philip Sibanda |
| Jake Norwood | Jack Lee | Ben Jackson |
| Jake Kenny | Scott Hall | Joshua Cook |
| Brandon Sumner | Jawwaad Haris | Alex Tilston |
| Alex Davies | Lucas Farrar-Yarwood | Peter Musgrave |
| Kyran Holloway | Kyle Moor | Connor Smith |
| Luke Pickston | Callum Delfinis | Ben Paul |
| | Callum Henson | |

MP KATE GREEN HELPS OUT MS HOSTY!

As part of their studies about ethical dilemmas, students in Year 9 were investigating the issues of genocide and the complexities in modern examples - specifically Rwanda, Darfur and Syria. Students in Ms Hosty's class investigated the different ways in which they could campaign and have their voices heard and when it was announced that Kate Green would be visiting Wellacre they used their voices to request an

audience! Students quizzed Kate Green on her views about the current situation in Syria and asked for her perspective on past atrocities and how she thought we could learn from previous mistakes. The student representatives then fed this information back to their class and were pleased to inform their class that Kate Green had encouraged them to organise a petition when they had an opinion they wanted to be heard and send it to her.

COMENIUS PROJECT

In 2013 Mr Glover completed an application for European funding to the British Council which would allow Wellacre to build partnerships with other schools across Europe working collaboratively on a project to raise the awareness of the need for a 'Healthy Body and a Healthy Mind' in young people.

The intention of the Project with the countries involved (Bulgaria, Estonia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Portugal, Romania, Turkey and the UK) was to promote students' awareness of a healthier lifestyle focusing upon the eating habits and sporting activities. They also learn how to develop and market an economic product related to the theme.

Students found through their initial surveys that young people all across Europe eat a lot of fast food and lead sedentary lives due to overuse of technological devices, thus becoming unfit, more obese, and with an increasing tendency to become ill. It was a main objective of the project to promote nutritional information and healthy tasty dishes for young people in every partner school so that each can benefit from the experience during the project. It is hoped that the school canteens of each partner school will change their menus according to the project recommendations.



Students were involved in comparing traditional dishes from each country and amending them to a healthier version by changing some elements of their ingredients or cooking styles. They then cooked and ate them together in a social setting, highlighting the role friends and family relationships have upon a healthy mind.

In combination with the meals the students developed an international fitness circuit based upon their favourite sports/fitness exercises from each country. The newly created exercises and the meals formed part of a health info book which was produced in PDF format and can be downloaded by students of all the schools.

Students then learned how to market the book effectively using social media as a vehicle and interest grabbing videos leading to the launch of the info book in the final meeting.

The students from Wellacre who attended the meetings were Cameron Lamont, Matt Phillips, Alex Muir, Murad Khan, Ben Eames and Liam Thornley. They were selected by application and formal interview when they were part of Year 9 and have followed the programme for the whole duration.

Staff involved along the journey were Miss Fallon, Miss Etchells, Mr Panter, Mr Carr, Miss Holtzman, Mr Hodgson and Miss Morgan, special thanks go to those staff for giving up their time and holidays to attend the meetings.

Mr Glover



KEY STAGE 3 AWARDS EVENING

The successes and achievements of our Key Stage 3 students were celebrated at our annual Key Stage 3 Awards Evening which took place in the Main School Hall on Wednesday 15th July 2015.

Over 100 students received a variety of awards, trophies and certificates in recognition of their hard work and endeavour. On the evening numerous awards were handed out including subject prizes for 'outstanding progress' and 'exceptional commitment to

Principal, along with special guest Tom Brady (Sale Sharks), Community Governor Mike Harrison, and our Year 7, 8, and 9 Learning Directors.

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



learning', 100% attendance for the academic year, Outstanding Contribution, Principal's Award and Governor Inspirational Achievement Award. The awards were distributed by Miss Wicks,

the local businesses who donated trophies (Anderton Gables, Cargills, Harcon Services, United Utilities, Blackburn and Murgatroyd Construction).

P Pemberton

GOING PLACES – VIVRE LA FRANCE!

This year, the Modern Languages department took 22 pupils to Normandy and we stayed in the beautiful fishing village; Port-en-Bessin.

We were fortunate enough to be in France on 14th July - Bastille day, and we were treated to a spectacular firework display, along with a street carnival, a fantastic experience for everyone!

Throughout our stay, we visited many places, including the pretty fishing village Honfleur and the exclusive Deauville-Trouville where some of our boys played international football on the beach; England versus France, I'm pleased to say our boys made sure England won! Well done lads!

We visited Arromanches and learned of the secretly built Mulberry harbour as well as visiting the 360 museum - Miss Bailey's favourite part of the trip, where the boys saw first-hand, footage from the Second World War.

We also visited the Pegasus Bridge museum and Café Gondrée, followed by a trip to the American Cemetery in Colleville and the British Cemetery in Ranville. The trip to Ranville Cemetery proved particularly poignant for one of our year 10 pupils, who managed to find the grave of his Great- Great Grandad.

Every evening, we played rounders on the field and EVERYONE was involved, including Miss Cesbron who had never played the game before and had no idea what to do, and Miss Bailey whose rather feeble attempts at running meant that one of the year 10's trying to get a rounder was actually caught out - sorry Josh!

Our visit to Bayeux on market day meant the boys could sample first-hand the market culture the French are so famous for. One year 7 pupil proudly showing me the bag of mussels he had bought. When I asked him what he planned to do with them, he told me he was going to eat them straight out of the bag, because he loved mussels!!!! Fortunately, the lady who sold them to him was happy to take them back and refund his money – serious sickness bug averted!

The trip proved to be a great success and as ever, 'our boys' did us proud, their behaviour was impeccable throughout and I genuinely hope they came home with lovely memories for years to come.



GREASE

Show Opens

December 1st - 3rd 2015

In partnership with Flixton Girls High School



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)

FORTHCOMING EVENTS 2015 - 2016

Thursday 24th September

Open Evening 6:30pm - 8:30pm

Friday 25th September

Year 5 Roald Dahl Day

Wednesday 7th -9th October

Year 7 Condoover Trip

Thursday 8th October

6th Form Open Evening 6:00pm

Thursday 22nd October

Y7 Parent/Carer meet Achievement
Tutors 6:00pm

November

Anti-Bullying Month

Thursday 12th November

GCSE Presentation Evening 7:30pm

Friday 20th November

Pamper Evening 7:00pm - 9:00pm

£3 entry - Open to all female relations of our students. There will be a range of beauty treatments from local therapists/technicians and a raffle.

Thursday 26th November

Year 11 Parent/Carer Evening

Thursday 10th December

Year 12 and 13 Parent/Carer Evening

Thursday 28th January

Year 9 Parent/Carer and
Options Evening

Thursday 11th February

Year 10 Parent/Carer Evening

Thursday 17th March

Year 8 Parent/Carer Evening

Thursday 24th March

Year 11 Revision Evening

Thursday 19th May

Year 7 Parent/Carer Evening

SPORTS DAY



A warm (well for Manchester), summer's afternoon greeted the most anticipated day of the school calendar, Sports Day. The PE department put on their Sunday best and decked out the playing fields in the colours of the countries taking part. Mr Glover even bought some sunglasses from Poundland for the event, while Mrs Hosty played DJ with her questionable taste in music once again permanently damaging the hearing of all within earshot.

The field events had already taken place during PE lessons, so it was with great anticipation that the track events got underway. The 1500m opened the event and saw some very strong performances indeed. As the afternoon wore on and ill prepared teaching staff became redder and redder from the effects of the sun, which some clearly hadn't seen for years, it became clear that Mr Daly (who was leading the first to beetroot coloured face competition from the start) and the Irish team were well in control. Some would say this was down to the mere chance grouping of quality athletes given to Mr Daly by the PE department, however, those with a deep knowledge and understanding of track and field will acknowledge that the skill and dedication shown by



Mr Daly in the weeks, if not months, leading up to his first Sports Day, was crucial to Irish hopes.

Some significant performances came from:

- 200m Henry Collins in year 9 proved he's one of the fastest junior runners in Trafford
- 800m Colin Daly in year 10 destroyed all competition in his usual fashion
- Staff race - comfortably jogged by Mr Glover who won with ease!

The Irish Team triumphed, winning by a comfortable margin and took home the glory of becoming Wellacre Sports Day Champions 2015 preventing Mr Javed from a hat-trick of victories.

CONGRATULATIONS TO HENRY COLLINS Y10

Henry has just been successfully signed up to play in the Under 15s Scholarship Super League for Warrington Wolves. He was spotted playing for his current local team, the South Trafford Raiders. They are looking to sign up new players this Autumn, if you are interested please refer to www.pitchero.com/clubs/southtraffordraidersrlfc or contact Peter Brooks in the first instance on 07702591215.

