



INSPIRE

February 2022

Bringing out the *best* in boys

TEAMWORK AND TALENT SPORTING SUCCESS



The Wellacre sporting calendar is well underway for the year, and teams and individuals have already celebrated some great success!

The Year 8 team achieved greatness by winning 5 out of 6 races at the **Trafford Schools Swimming Gala**, going on to be crowned overall winners.

James, Year 8, has earned a place on the **Swim England National Development Programme**.

The Year 7 Rugby team just could not stop winning to become outright winners at their very first **Salford Red Devils Foundation Rugby Festival**. The unity the team displayed was admirable.

The **Manchester United Power Play football tournament** invited both Year 7 and 8 teams to compete. Losing out on goal difference is difficult to take, but our Year 8 team displayed resilience, respect and honesty in every match. However, our Year 7s won their tournament to secure their place at the AON Training Complex in June.

Izac, Year 11, has achieved a football scholarship with **Preston North End FC Academy**.

Gazi, Year 7, plays for the **Manchester United Football Academy**, recently playing in the U12s Premier League Christmas Truce Tournament finals.

Toby, Year 8, is a Silver medal holder following the **Chojinkai Karate Cumbrian Open**.

Mason, Year 10, is the **North West Regional Boxing Champion**.

Harry, Year 11, successfully raced in the **London Marathon** for an MS charity.

Another runner, Sebastian in Year 9, will represent Trafford in the **Greater Manchester Schools Cross Country Championships**.

SPRING 2022 UPCOMING DATES

Thursday 3rd February 2022

Year 10 Parents' Evening

Friday 11th February 2022

School closes for half term break

Mon 7th -11th February 2022

Year 5 & 6 Transition Tours

Monday 21st February 2022

School re-opens for Spring 2

Mon 21st - 25th February 2022

Year 5 & 6 Transition Tours

Tuesday 22nd February - Friday

4th March 2022

Year 10 Assessments

Wednesday 23rd February 2022

CCF Activity Day and Parents' Event

Thursday 24th February 2022

Year 11 Reports published

Monday 28th February 2022

Year 11 Poetry Live at
Bridgewater Hall

Thursday 10th March 2022

Year 11 Revision Evening

Thursday 31st March 2022

Year 8 Parents' Evening

Friday 8th April 2022

School closes for Easter break



WELLACRE

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to the Spring edition of our INSPIRE newsletter. I hope the varied articles and features give you a true sense of what makes Wellacre a community in which students and staff thrive.

Whether it be sporting competition, shared reading experiences, House awards, Co-Curricular enrichment, charitable causes or academic excellence, our students have a strong sense of belonging and exemplify our values in all their achievements.

If you would like to find out more about our work, please contact admin@wellacre.org and we will put you in touch with someone best placed to help.

Happy reading!

Mrs Sharrock, Principal

House Assemblies



REWARDS



Wellacre's half-termly House Reward assemblies celebrate student successes including attendance, personal progress and achievement. Congratulations to all the winners of trophies, chocolates, vouchers and a special Reward breakfast on the last day of term!

Year 8, **James**, was awarded the **Pankhurst** Head of House Award for his commitment and success in swimming, both independently and as part of the school team.

The **Lowry** Head of House Award went to **Noah**, Year 7, for his aspiration and resilience when performing in a local theatre production of 'We Will Rock You.'

Well done to our **Turing** Head of House Award winner, **Lucas**, Year 8, who displays Wellacre's core values every day, and has shown great hard work and resilience.

INSPIRING A LOVE OF READING

Wellacre's drive to inspire a love of reading in students continues with a focus on English, Literacy and library developments.

BOOK BUZZ



Once again, Wellacre's Year 7 students have benefitted from The Book Trust's 'Book Buzz' scheme, which ensures that each student receives a free book.

Mrs Stirling, Leader of Whole School Literacy, said: "The books were much anticipated with students picking stories on a wide range of topics!"

There was a buzz in Year 7 about their books:

Noah: "I think it was a good idea they handed the books out to help people read more than they had previously."

Hassan: "Freddie Yates is a really good adventure story!"

Laurie: "I like my book on the Funny Lives of Teachers because it's funny!"

CLASS READS

We have introduced a collective 'class read' at the start of KS3 English lessons. These books are read as a class by the teacher, purely for enjoyment, and students (as well as teachers) look forward to this time each lesson!



Student feedback includes:

Lucas: "I like it because we get to read funny books."

Isaac: "It helps you read more books in a year; we can read the class read, as well as our personal reading book in our free time."

Mrs Sharrock, Principal, commented:

"It makes me really happy to see so many students enjoying a shared story in their English lessons. They genuinely can't wait to read on! I have also noticed a greater range of text choices for students' personal reads. Reading will continue to be at the heart of what we do at Wellacre."

In the Autumn term, we welcomed KS3 classes back for their weekly library lessons, where they read and complete Accelerated Reader quizzes. Students have also enjoyed new developments...



New book stock has been a hit with students, along with the new shelf organisation; the most popular genres are magical worlds and the gothic!

We are grateful for the **kind donation of books** from members of the community. 'Black and

British' by David Olusoga and 'You Are a Champion' by Marcus Rashford have been particularly popular library loans.

Luke, Year 7, said: "I loved reading 'Black and British.' It was great to understand parts of, and people, in history that you might not learn about in school."

Thank you to everyone who has helped our students in this way. **If you would like to donate a book to our library, we have worked with A New Chapter, an independent, inclusive bookshop, to create a wishlist for Wellacre's school library. Please see the list here: www.anewchapterbooks.com**

The library's '**Suggestion Box**' has also been restarted with students able to request books to be added to our collection; they are already enjoying a range of **car fiction** books after students across the school made requests. We encourage students to keep the suggestions coming!

Wellacre students have also been **writing reviews** for the school library to help others find the next good book to read. Look out for the 'Book Finder' in the library soon.

WELLACRE

Wellacre's Ambassadors embody our core values of Honesty, Pride, Respect, Aspiration, and Resilience, and strive to lead and support their peers.



TRAFFORD THRIVE

Wellacre's Mental Health and Wellbeing Ambassadors have taken part in activities to enhance the support provided to students.

Ambassadors first attended a **mental health exhibition** to equip themselves with the knowledge to signpost support to others seeking help and advice.

They then workshopped ideas for the design of information leaflets to promote the new, on-site **Trafford Thrive in Education** mental health service in Wellacre and other Trafford Schools.

PRIMARY SPORT FESTIVALS



Wellacre's Sport Ambassadors were invited to officiate at the Year 3 Trafford Friendship Festival as well as the Year 5/6 Sportshall Athletics.

As part of the Trafford Schools Sports Partnership (TSSP), Wellacre students attend primary competitions to **inspire, motivate and engage young children** at events.

At the Friendship Festival, ambassadors led pupils in fun team games, and at the Sportshall Athletics, children enjoyed relay races, high jump and more.

With local primaries attending, it gives some ambassadors an opportunity to assist their former schools and meet old teachers!

TSSP feedback has been exemplary with students receiving praise for providing *'first class support'* and *'a welcoming and enjoyable environment.'*

TRAFFORD YOUTH CONFERENCE



Wellacre's House leaders attended the Trafford Youth Conference for workshops about subjects including sexual harassment, free university education and 'green' wardrobes.

Students were encouraged to discuss, stand up and take action. They were also asked for their opinions on topics including Trafford Safeguarding priorities.

Year 8 Billy bravely took to the stage to present to the conference audience. He spoke about Wellacre students' belief that raising awareness of Mental Health and Wellbeing should be a priority in schools.

Mrs Sharrock, Principal, said: *"For students to have a forum to express their views, and shape policies around the provisions for young people in Trafford, is what genuine 'student voice' should be about. We are all very proud of them, especially Billy."*

AMBASSADORS

Our Ambassadors continue to represent our school as role models and as voices for change and development in the wider community.



RHS ENVIRONMENTAL HACKATHON

Wellacre students helped reimagine the future of Greater Manchester at the RHS IGNITION hackathon event for schools. Environmental Ambassadors were invited to generate practical and sustainable ideas to help transform communities.

Wellacre's team presented a sustainable drainage solution to utilise nature and help make Manchester more resilient to climate change.

Ideas from the event will be exhibited at RHS Bridgewater this year.



CCF at Wellacre



CCF FIELD EXERCISE



Wellacre's CCF cadets took part in a historic naval exercise, racing to transport a field gun and equipment across the school yard.

Coached by Chief Petty Officer Urie from the Royal Navy CCF liaison team, the Cadets learned about the origins and traditions of the field gun, including how it has been carried on the battlefield since 1899.

As well as being an activity which celebrates Royal Navy history, it is also an effective exercise to promote teamwork, communication and fitness.

Senior Staff Instructor Ward said: *"Everyone gave it their all and worked hard as a team to improve each attempt at the full exercise; special mention to Year 10 Charlie who gave it everything he had."*

REMEMBRANCE



Wellacre joined together to reflect on Remembrance 2021 through a range of activities both in school and the local community, with the CCF Cadet Unit playing a significant role.

On Remembrance Day, the proceedings began with a whole school assembly, as well as a collective 2-minute silence. The CCF then held a special Remembrance Parade at school, led by SSI Ward, paying tribute to our service heroes.

The Cadets also attended two local Remembrance parades in Flixton and Urmston led by SLt Baker.

Our students were respectful and an absolute credit to the school as the community reflected together on Remembrance Day.

CURRICULUM HIGHLIGHTS



KS3 MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Wellacre's competition encouraged students to learn about traditions around the world. KS3 students created cards with Christmas wishes from 'Wesołych Świąt' to 'Joyeux Noel.'



YEAR 7 and 9 GEOGRAPHY

Year 7 students' 'Geography of Crime' classwork was based on the data collected on a local fieldtrip. Meanwhile Year 9 visited Blackpool for data collection regarding tourism and regeneration.



YEAR 10 FOOD AND NUTRITION

Year 10 GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition students are learning about the Science of Food including raising agents in scones and the use of gelatine in panna cotta.



YEAR 11 RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Year 11 GCSE RE students visited St John's and St. Monica's churches to develop a deeper understanding of how Christians worship and how this varies between different denominations.

STAFF CPD

Wellacre has achieved a Gold Award for the quality of its staff CPD (Continuous Staff Development) for the second time, which is testament to the hard work and dedication of staff, and recognises our commitment to professional development.

Wellacre remains focused on continual improvement and a school-wide culture of 'always learning,' with several staff members recently achieving significant professional qualifications.

CPD for staff within school goes from strength-to-strength, benefitting the school by developing teaching, learning and leadership, whilst also boosting staff retention, morale and recruitment. This, in turn, has a strong impact on student outcomes.



Mr Thomson

National Professional Qualification in Senior Leadership (NPQSL)



Mrs O'Neill

National Professional Qualification in Senior Leadership (NPQSL)



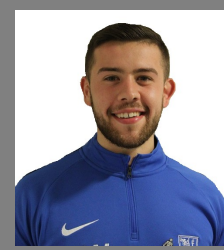
Mrs Doolan

National Professional Qualification in Middle Leadership (NPQML)



Mr Duffy

Bright Future Alliance for Learning Careers Education Lead



Mr Whitehead

SSAT Leadership Legacy Project, supporting potential school leaders

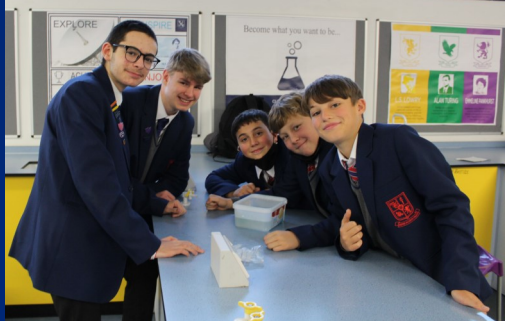
CO-CURRICULAR

Wellacre's P6 co-curricular programme continues to engage and inspire students in a diverse range of activities and experiences!



RHS FLOWER SHOW

Wellacre students will be joining the RHS Flower Show at Tatton Park in July 2022. As part of a P6 Co-Curricular group based at Wellacre's Eco Centre, students have been asked to interpret the competition's design theme 'Garden of Resilience' to create an allotment garden, which will focus on environmental and wildlife friendly gardening.



STEM AMBASSADORS LEAD IN SCIENCE

Year 11 STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) Ambassadors lead activities in Wellacre's P6 Science Club. Using their STEM knowledge and skills, they assisted younger students in a challenge to design and build weight-bearing boats to learn all about buoyancy.



DIGITAL SURGERIES

Wellacre's History, Politics and Debating Club took part in digital surgeries in their P6 lessons. The students, in Year 7 to 11, had the opportunity to speak to Councillor Simon Thomas and Kate Green MP about the issues that matter to them. They learnt they can affect change by getting involved when speaking about local issues with Cllr Thomas, who took their concerns to relevant community contacts and reported back about further actions.



DE BROOK LODGE CARE HOME

Students have worked hard to develop connections with De Brook Lodge care homes' elderly residents despite the restrictions due to Covid. They first used their finest letter writing and pen pal skills to write to residents to introduce themselves and the P6 project.

They also designed games, Halloween decorations, and Christmas cards to be delivered before making a video especially to say 'hello' and talk about all the community project work they have done.

Students were able to visit the home to litter pick and tidy the care home's garden before completing the term by bringing festive cheer with a doorstep performance of some classic Christmas songs!

COMMUNITY

REVERSE ADVENT

Wellacre's annual Reverse Advent supported a fabulous community organisation this year, Cyril Flint Befrienders, by creating over 70 Christmas gifts bags to be distributed amongst the ageing community in Urmston, Flixton and Stretford.

Cyril Flint Befrienders works in Trafford to secure regular visits for elderly people in their home, who do not have frequent visitors.

Wellacre students, families and staff donated items including tea, coffee and hot chocolate, biscuits, chocolates, and fancy toiletries.

All gift bags were put together by Mrs Irwin's Mindfulness P6 group as well as Year 10 Religious Studies students. These students also wrote Christmas cards to add to the bags to introduce themselves and Wellacre, and let the elderly residents know that we would be thinking about them at Christmas.

Beryl, a Cyril Flint Befriendee, said: *"When I received my parcel I put it away to open on Christmas morning and it put a real smile on my face! It's thanks to you that I had that happy day."*

Cyril Flint also works with the Life Church to host a Christmas party, which is open to anyone that is lonely or isolated living in Trafford, and not just limited to service users. The Christmas partygoers all received a surprise Wellacre gift to take home.



"Your reach has been far and wide throughout the local community and you gifts have brought smiles to so many faces. For some people it may be the only gift they get this year. Once again thank you! What a truly overwhelming and beautiful thing to have done."

Cyril Flint
BEFRIENDERS

Mrs Sharrock, Principal, added: *"The Wellacre community always rallies to support a good cause. Cyril Flint Befrienders' efforts to provide companionship and friendship to older people clearly resonated with our students. Thank you to everyone who helped and to Mrs Irwin for organising."*



FESTIVE FUN DAY

For Wellacre's annual Festive Fun Day, we asked students, families and staff to support CRY (Cardiac Risk in the Young) in memory of Callum, a former Wellacre student.

We invited everyone to wear anything festive from Christmas hats to tinsel, to Christmas t-shirts, jumpers or fancy dress for a £1 donation.

CRY is a charity which supports testing for cardiac risk in children and young people. Thanks to the school community getting into the spirit of Wellacre's Festive Fun Day, we raised an incredible £694.56 for the cause.

Louise, Callum's Mum, was so pleased with our fundraising efforts, which have been credited to Callum's Memorial Fund.