



## WELLING IN THE MONTH OF June 2023....

Within the month of June our students took part in the following activities:

- Our incredibly talented Fine Artist's, Photographer's and Graphic Designer's showcased their final works in the Art Gallery putting a close to the hard work they have put into their GCSE's and A-Levels. The use of the gallery and presenting their work in this professional setting greatly showcased the range and quality of work on show. With the private view being held on June 29th, the wider Welling community came together to celebrate the hard work these future creatives have put in over the last 2 years and recent 10/ 15 hour practical exams. Students from across the school will visit the exhibition over the forthcoming weeks to inspire the next generation to adorn the gallery walls and be inspired to one day be involved in the creative industries.



- Ten students represented the school at a Jack Petchey Girls Table Tennis Festival hosted at North Paddington Youth Centre. The students took part in different table tennis activities such as playing table tennis against a robot, virtual table tennis and tic tac toe. The students were also given a free t-shirt and souvenirs to take home as well as given the opportunity to enter a raffle and meet a former Team GB table tennis player. The students really enjoyed the day and should be proud with how they performed in the tasks.
- KS4 had a professional theatre performance in school of Macbeth from the Gobe Players - a core GCSE English Literature text. This was organised by Miss Vosper and was well-received by students as enrichment to their learning of the text in the classroom.
- Our final school council meeting was held in June with the key topics of extra curricular activities, rewards for next year, nominating a charity for each year group as well as key school updates such as planned building work for the summer and our new Welling Pledges.
- Following an election campaign and whole school vote we are pleased to introduce our new 6th Form Leadership Team: Ben Saywell - Head Boy, Sham Karim - Head Girl, Olivia Dillon and Jessica Tye - Deputy Head Girls



- On 29th June we invited our prospective new Year 12 students in to experience life as a 6th Form student. They took part in some fun icebreaker and team building activities as well as A-Level and Level 3 subject lessons. It was lovely to see new faces and some old faces and we are looking forward to officially welcoming you all in September. We are still accepting applications and if you would like more information then please contact Miss Humphrey - [Vicky.humphrey@wellingschool-tkat.org](mailto:Vicky.humphrey@wellingschool-tkat.org)
- Students across the school have been able to take part in Pride themed activities this month. Starting with making their own pride flags, followed by a film screening, learning some British Sign Language pride signs, and a KS4/5 'pub' quiz. Happy Pride Month!

#### **Subject Highlights:**

- Key stage 3 students KS3 took part in a writing competition and now several of our young people have become published authors and have received their books that share their own creativity with a wider audience.
- Year 9 have conducted fieldwork in Geography around the school to ascertain possible changes to the site for example picnic tables, bins, shade. Some students want to transform the atrium and others want to transform the use of the field. Ideas will be put together in a letter to Mr Griffen!
- Year 7 History students really threw themselves into their assessment on the most important reason why Henry VIII broke from Rome. For many it was their first attempt at a GCSE-style essay and they made a fabulous effort.
- Rehearsals for Matilda The Musical are now well underway, with only a few weeks left until the final school production (11 and 12 July, 7pm, the Drama Studio). Students from years 7 to 12 are involved in the show, both on stage and back stage, art club have been helping make the set, and all pupils have been brilliantly committed to our first whole-school production since 2018. Tickets are available now via the school website. Miss Eve and Miss Langdon will answer any questions you have regarding tickets and access.
- KS3 students were tasked to design a themed magnetic photo frame that would sell in the shops. They conducted a questionnaire and used this information to write a design specification. From here they produced a range of ideas and drew their chosen one in isometric. They used CAD/CAM to make stickers and used a range of tools/machines to make the frame.
- In PSHE students have been covering the 'Dragon's Den Project'. Whereby they have to invent and design a project, create a pitch and deliver the pitch to the rest of the group. Some groups have been very creative; coming up with the all in one shower product aimed at men! It includes shampoo, conditioner, body wash, facewash, a preventing hair loss formula, eye drops and nasal spray. Thankfully with different spouts! The project promotes teamwork, communication skills, financial literacy, creativity and entrepreneurship.
- Over the past few weeks the Art department has been venturing over to both Foster's and

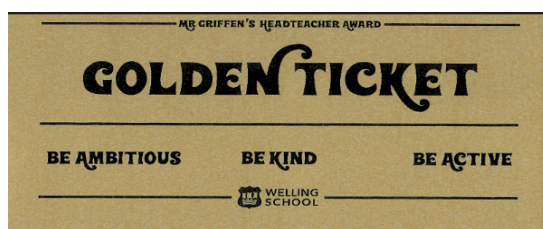
Bedonwell to teach the young artists of year 5. Students have been creating an 'under the sea' project using watercolour paints and oil pastels in order to create a wax resist. The young artists have been amazed watching their sea creatures come to life. Even the teachers have been getting involved! Bedonwell have 4 separate year 5 classes and are using these art pieces to create a display in their school.'

- Year 13- A huge congratulations to our Year 13 students who completed their examinations this month and have earned their well deserved summer break! We wish them well and look forward to seeing them on results day (17th August)
- Year 12 had their last finance workshop where they learned about taxes and pensions which gave them the skills and understanding that they will need post 18.
- This month we have recategorized our library's non-fiction section and Accelerated reader section and received packs of new titles for all to enjoy! Fiction titles are currently being sub-Catergorized to make it easier to find what you may be searching for. The Manga and revision selections this month have also been slightly increased in size. We also said our goodbyes to two of our library student ambassadors this month as they move on to college, so good luck to Jake and Tuan in the future and thanks for all your help
- PYE Project- This month we have been focusing on healthy friendships, what makes a good or bad friend, how we should respond to certain common situations that may arise with our friends, and how to differentiate between friends and our wider social network. We have also branched out to focus on other relationships such as parent/ child and teacher/student relationships, with a view to create empathy and understanding for those different roles and how we can foster positive relations between them.
- PYE Project- We have used board games and musical instruments to create a sense of community in the after-school club, and as a way to relax and build trust. Additionally, workshops have been held around consequential thinking and delaying immediate gratification in order to achieve long term success and improved overall wellbeing.
- PYE Project- Students have been given the opportunity to develop their creative writing skills through rap and poetry, to electronic beats and acoustic instruments and gave young people the opportunity to create their own music using music production software

#### **SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS THIS TERM:**

- Students have been collecting rewards points and have been busily spending them in our reward shop. Students can choose from a range of prizes which range from sweets and stationary up to footballs and Amazon vouchers.
- Over the last term, year 7 students have been working hard to achieve reward certificates for excellent effort and achievement at school. This week, six of our platinum certificate recipients (Mia Parfitt, Harry Lawrence, Harry Baker, Addie Kumar, Nancy Cole and Kasey Parkes) joined Mr Knight, Mr Collins, Miss Akers and Mr Howell for a free cooked breakfast to celebrate their outstanding achievement!
- We have launched an additional reward that is open to all students. Staff are selected and handed a Golden ticket to give out to a student who has been excellent. Students who receive the award then during p6 you may go to Mr Griffen and receive a reward.





- Year 8 and in particular Year 10 saw a significant improvement in their overall attendance in the month of June. A special mention to students in the following tutor groups who secured the highest attendance in their respective year groups:
- Year 7: Maple, Year 8: Elm, Cedar and Oak, Year 9: Cedar and Rowan, Year 10: Elm, Alder and Fir all met the school's attendance target of 95%.
- Reiss Tamsett -. Reiss's IT work was picked for moderation along with 5 others. The moderator was exceptionally impressed with Reiss's work and his use of the digital toolkit that the exam board supplies. She was so impressed that she has passed this onto the principal moderator for the course and they will now be using his work as exemplar material for other schools standardisation meetings.
- Jack Petchey Leader award given to Ms Vosper (Staff)- inspiring students with her enthusiasm for English and inclusive strategies. Providing emotional support for young people with diverse identities when situations arise that require adult intervention. Jack Petchey award for students were also given to James, Gea, Ben, Habeeb and Fatmira



- Year 10 BTEC music performance students Sophie Sillince, Faye Sparrow and Bradley Hobson and Year 13 BTEC music performance student Sophia Morgan gave excellent performances at the Art Exhibition, singing and playing a range of pop and musical theatre songs for the visitors to the gallery. Technical support for this event was provided by Year 13 music technology student Shannon Armer. Sophie Sillince also performed for the Year 6 induction day, giving a fantastic rendition of Part Of Your World from the Disney Movie The Little Mermaid and getting a great reaction from our incoming cohort. Well done to all!
- Luka Onabanjo has once again correctly completed the monthly maths challenge.
- Haydn Bowman and Landon Glyde-Jones have now both passed their functional skills exam in English. Well done to both of them.

#### WE VISITED:

- Top achieving Year 10 Students visited Cambridge University for an information and guidance day. They visited Queens College and Corpus Christi College as well as attending a classics lecture in the Museum of Archaeology. Students had a positive experience and are now aware of the importance of making Post-16 choices which will enable them to study the University subjects that they are interested in . The trip also developed their confidence to consider Cambridge University as an option for them. It is a highly selective university but

students know that if they continue to work hard and achieve the results they are capable of achieving, then they will have the necessary grades to apply and be successful at Cambridge University or at any of the top Russell Group universities in the UK

- Year 12 students went to St Peter’s College, Oxford University with other 6th Form students from TKAT schools. It was a really lovely and inspiring day where students were able to gain an insight into the Oxbridge application, hear some tips for personal statements, take part in a Law or Science taster and hear first hand experience stories from current undergraduate and postgraduate students.
- Students took part in a rounders competition at Bexley grammar school, students were fantastic and demonstrated a real competitive spirit winning games against a range of schools including Bexley Grammar.
- Bexley School Athletics Championships took place at Erith Leisure centre where students in year 7 and 8 competed against all the local schools in a range of track and field events. All the students that represented the school on the day showed great determination, encouraged each other throughout the day and a great team spirit. You made the school proud! Well done.
- A group of year 7 and 8 students competed in the Money Wise Challenge at the London Excel Centre. The competition brought together young people from schools across London to compete in the award-winning Money Wise Game and learn life-changing money and careers skills.

**PSCHE TOPICS COVERED WERE:**

<b>Year 7: Living in the Wider World: Financial Decision Making</b>	How to make safe financial choices, about ethical and unethical business practices and consumerism, saving, spending and budgeting, how to manage risk-taking behaviour
<b>Year 8: Living in the Wider World: Digital literacy</b>	How to recognise biased or misleading information online, how to critically assess different media sources, how to distinguish between content which is publicly and privately shared, about age restrictions when accessing different forms of media and how to make responsible decisions, how to protect financial security online, how to assess and manage risks in relation to gambling and chance-based transactions
<b>Year 9: Living in the wider world: Employability skills Employability and online presence</b>	Young people’s employment rights and responsibilities, skills for enterprise and employability, how to give and act upon constructive feedback, how to manage their ‘personal brand’ online, habits and strategies to support progress, how to identify and access support for concerns relating to life online
<b>Year 10: Health &amp; Wellbeing: Exploring influence The influence and impact of drugs, gangs, role models and the media</b>	The impact of drugs and alcohol on individuals, personal safety, families and wider communities, how drugs and alcohol affect decision making, how to keep self and others safe in situations that involve substance use, how to manage peer influence in increasingly independent scenarios, in relation to substances, gangs and crime, exit strategies for pressurised or dangerous situations, how to seek help for substance use and addiction

**ASSEMBLY TOPICS COVERED WERE:**

- The month started with a round of Celebration assemblies, as year teams reflected on the achievements from Term 5 and acknowledged these with our students.
- All year groups received an assembly on Working Memory, delivered by Ms Savery, to support with revision for their June assessments. These assemblies were interactive and gave students a chance to explore the limits of working memory, therefore understanding the importance of revising and retaining information in the long term memory.

- Students in all year groups were visited by four aspiring members of the Student Leadership Team, all of whom gave a speech as part of their campaign for Head Boy or Head Girl.
- Ms Newbrook is delivering assemblies to all year groups on the importance of teamwork and working with and for each other, drawing inspiration from Cool Runnings, a film that many parents will no doubt remember fondly.

## **Careers**

- Legal & General, Y12 WEX/workshop - Year 12 had a presentation to help them prepare for their work experience placements in september. The presenters were experts in the insurance market and they covered areas such as body language and communication skills.
- Shooters Hill- y7,8&9 Assembly and workshop - The college presented to the Key stage 3 year groups on T levels and Apprenticeships with the aim being that the students are familiar with these concepts before they make key decisions at Key Stage 4 and 5.
- The Talent Foundry- y7&8 Offsite workshop - Year 7 and 8 students worked with Business volunteers on key skills that they will need in their careers. The volunteers each worked with a small group and completed a project that involved students demonstrating skills such as team work, leadership and presentation skills.
- Xello - The English department has been working with Year 7 and 8 students to get the students registered and become familiar with the careers software Xello. The students will now be able to use Xello to support their career decisions both at school and at home.

July 2022

# VIRTUAL FRIENDSHIPS

## Why Do Young People Make Friends Online?



57%

of teens have met a new friend online. Social media and games are the most common places to meet friends.

In today's digital culture, becoming friends with people online is as natural as becoming friends with people in the same class at school. Although this might seem strange to certain generations, the concept of making friends with someone you've never met isn't anything new: organised pen pal services have been around for nearly 100 years!

## ⚠️ RISKS

### CYBERBULLYING AND TROLLING



It is not unusual to hear young people talking about how their school friendship group has fallen out or the mean words said behind their back by their best friend. However, these types of disagreements and fights can take on a different form when they play out online, especially if there is a core group or community (such as a fandom) that all become involved, and one person becomes a target. Unlike in a school, a victim who is targeted online can be harassed 24/7 by their bullies, who are often without the limitations of worrying that a parent, carer or teacher might be a witness to their actions.



### HOW DO YOUNG PEOPLE MEET ONLINE FRIENDS?

- SPECIFIC INTEREST WEBSITES
- FRIEND FINDING APPS
- SOCIAL MEDIA SITES
- ONLINE GAMING
- FANDOMS

### WHY MAKE FRIENDS ONLINE?

There are many reasons why young people make friends online, including feeling socially isolated in 'real life' or living far away from others in their peer group.

Making friends online is not always born out of responding to a negative situation, of course! In fact, most young people will make friends online as a positive addition to their lives, alongside friends they make through school and hobbies.



### FAKE PROFILES AND CATFISHING

Unless apps and platforms implement the use of age verification and facial recognition tools and software, there will always be a risk that users aren't who they portray themselves to be. There's an almost endless list of why someone might create a fake profile - from seeking financial gain through fraud or with the intention of grooming, through to boredom or being unhappy with their appearance and/or real-life circumstances.



### GROOMING

Building a friendship with someone online can be a tactic used as a part of grooming. A young person may feel they can trust this person and therefore might tell them personal information that will put them at risk, such as what school they go to. If a young person believes they are talking to a real friend or an online romantic partner, there is the potential to be convinced, tricked or bribed into sending self-generated child sexual abuse materials.



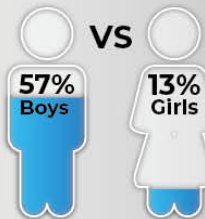
### SCREEN TIME AND ISOLATION

If a young person is feeling lonely and isolated in 'real life', they may turn to the digital world to find friendships and a community. Although this may bring a lot of positives, for some young people there could be risks associated with this such as:

- Too much screen time.** There is no definitive answer to 'how much screen time is too much?' although studies have shown effects include shrinkage in parts of the brain needed for executive function, and some psychologists have expressed concern.
- Exposure to extremism and radicalisation.** People who are isolated, unhappy, feeling angry and 'different' are some of the factors that might make a young person vulnerable to being targeted by extremist groups.



Boys are substantially more likely to meet new friends while playing games online.



## TOP TIPS!



**TALK ABOUT WHAT FRIENDSHIP MEANS.** Ask the young person in your life about what friendship looks like to them - how does a friend act? How does a friend make you feel? Discuss together what a 'warning sign' might be that someone may not be a real friend, such as pressuring you for your time, money or photos.



**TALK ABOUT CATFISHING AND FAKE PROFILES.** Learn together some of the tell-tale signs that a profile might not be real, such as a lack of photos or other people interacting with their profile.



**ASK ABOUT THEIR ONLINE FRIENDS.** Just as you would discuss their friends from school or sports club, make talking about online friends just as part of the norm. This way, if something happens with an online friend that upsets or worries them, the young person in your life will feel safe to come to you as you've already established a rapport about online friends.



**HAVE CONVERSATIONS ABOUT PERSONAL INFORMATION.** Encourage the young person in your care to stop and think before putting photos and posts online or discussing with an online friend anything that may give away personal information.



**KEEP CALM!** Don't jump to conclusions that all online friends are potential 'predators' or have nefarious purposes - even if the concept of online friendships is unusual to you. Remember that is quite normal in today's culture for young people to have friends online that they've never met.



**CHECK SAFETY SETTINGS AND LEARN HOW TO BLOCK AND REPORT.** Double check your safety settings together to help keep them safer online.

