



Fall  
2020

## ALUMNI NEWS

## Wellan Montessori School

### WELLAN MONTESSORI SCHOOL IS EXPANDING!

We are thrilled to announce the opening of a new Wellan building — West Hall — located at 72 Crescent Avenue (the familiar three-story brick building that sits just to the left of the main school building). West Hall now houses Wellan's Upper School, grades 4 through 8. This expansion has allowed for us to add new classrooms this fall, and provided us with ample square footage for social distancing, small group sizes, and flexible outdoor space. If you are ever in the area, please stop by and visit. We'd love to give you a tour — wearing a mask of course!



### WEST HALL SPACES

Clockwise from top right: The Middle School humanities classroom; a hall of student lockers; the Middle School seminar room; an Upper Elementary classroom. West Hall also includes an additional Upper Elementary classroom, a breakout classroom, a science classroom for Middle School students, and a media room for 3D printing, robotics, and filming our Middle School's Voyager News Program.



# RETURN OF WELLAN ALUMNI & ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

*This year, 10 former students have returned to the Wellan halls! These newly enrolled former students are a joy to see back at school again. We love watching these students reconnect with teachers and classmates, eagerly return to life at Wellan, dive into their learning, and make new friendships. Welcome back!*

## CONVERSATION WITH WELLAN ALUM, KOUROSH FARBOODMANESH

We were able to catch up with one of our returning alumni, Kourosh Farboodmanesh. Kourosh spent last year at Wellesley Middle School, and is now a 7th grader in the Voyager program at Wellan. When asked about being the first class in the newly renovated West Hall, Kourosh says, "I like West Hall a lot — it makes me feel like I am separated from the younger students and in a class of my own age group." Caitlin (Castracane) Bowring, our Elementary and Middle School Division Leader and former LE1 teacher,

### Kourosh



is thrilled students feel this way, saying, "it has been so exciting to be a part of designing a space that is specifically tailored to meet the needs of Wellan's oldest students and support the goals of our innovative curriculum!"

Now that he is back, Kourosh is most looking forward to "the freedom students get" at Wellan. Lastly, we asked Kourosh his advice for students new to Wellan. His answer: "It takes time to adjust to 'The Wellan Way' but it is really worth it at the end!" We wish Kourosh and all the students at Wellan an amazing year, full of learning and growing.

*Throughout the year, we contact alumni families to check in and reconnect. Alumni Spotlight is one way we highlight our alumni, share what they've been up to, and reminisce on memories of their time at Wellan. Email [alumni@wellan.org](mailto:alumni@wellan.org) to be featured!*

## You're Invited to a Virtual Alumni Paint Party!

November 7th at 10:00 AM

Alumni, friends, and family — grab your paint and brushes, and join us for a Wellan-themed virtual paint party. Not an expert painter? Don't worry! Our very own Ms. Vanessa will take you step by step through the painting experience. We will mail you the supplies you need; all you need to do is sign up! Deadline to register is **November 1st**. Pre-registration is a must!

Visit [wellan.org/alumni](https://wellan.org/alumni) to register for a spot.



## FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

Though the first day of school looked quite different this year, students and teachers alike jumped back into familiar classroom routines, reconnected with friends, and got to know some new faces! We at Wellan are smiling under our masks and through our plexiglass, excited for a great year.

## REPRESENTING WELLAN

### Rock Your Wellan Pride!

From t-shirts to hoodies to hats and totes — visit our school store for all your Wellan gear! To get you started, we've included an Alum Car Magnet here. Soon you'll be able to spot your fellow alumni around town! Tag us on Instagram when you do!

Visit [wellan.org/support](https://wellan.org/support) to browse our school store.



Do you recognize any of your former teachers in their Wellan gear?



From top left: Ms. Deanna with her daughter, Abigail; Ms. Katie with her son, Raynor; Ms. Becky; Ms. Kayla with her daughter, Grace.



### HOOT HOOT! GO OWLS!

Our favorite mascot has a new look! You may spot the Owl at special Wellan events, on our social media pages, and of course, on the playground (in particular, the iconic red slide!).



# WELLAN IN THE WORLD

## Wellan is a Boston "Family Favorite" in Six Categories!



We are thrilled to announce that Wellan's preschool, elementary, and middle school programs all placed first as "Family Favorites" in Boston Parents Paper's August issue.

Thank you to all families who voted and made this possible!

Wellan Montessori School placed **first** in the following categories:

- Independent Middle Schools
- Montessori Middle Schools
- Montessori Elementary Schools
- Independent Preschools
- Montessori Preschools
- Large Preschools

## Have You Seen Us Around Town?

In your reading and in your travels this fall, see how many places you can spot Wellan! Hint: read your favorite Boston magazines and newspapers, watch for us at T stations and MBTA buses, and listen to the radio! Keep us posted on Wellan's whereabouts: tag us on social media or connect with us at [communications@wellan.org](mailto:communications@wellan.org).



*From top left: Beginners releasing butterflies; A Primary student at work; Lower Elementary students identifying Parts of a Turtle, with help from their class pet; 7th graders in the Voyager program aboard the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute's research vessel during their trip to Cape Cod last October.*

## HOW TO STAY CONNECTED:

We'd love to hear from you! What have you been up to these days? What are your fondest memories from Wellan? How has Wellan impacted who you are today?

1. Send us a postcard:  
80 Crescent Ave  
Newton Centre, MA 02459
2. Write us an email:  
[alumni@wellan.org](mailto:alumni@wellan.org)
3. Connect on social media:



4. Our favorite... call or email to schedule a time to come visit!