



PRESS RELEASE

The Wellington Academy host's Olympics Anti-Doping Control Officer

Paul French an Anti-Doping Control Officer for UK Anti Doping visited The Wellington Academy to deliver a talk to the pupils. Paul's lecture concluded their Term 3 programme of careers and inspiration lectures.

Thursday 2nd February, Paul French visited The Wellington Academy to give a talk on his role as a UK Anti-Doping Drug Control Officer. Paul has worked at the Olympics in his role testing athletes. Pupils at the school came to hear a talk from Paul during their lunch break in the schools 'Lunchtime Lectures' series.

Paul spoke to the pupils about the legality/need for and science behind the tests moral purpose as well as his career, what is involved in testing elite sports people with both urine and blood tests to detect performance enhancing drugs. Testing can be done anytime and anywhere if the athlete is deemed eligible. The doping control scheme started in 1990, on behalf of the National Governing Bodies.

Previously in the lectures the school has seen, Helen Sharman a British Chemist and Cosmonaut visited the school. She became the first British person, first Western European woman and first privately funded woman in space, as well as the first woman to visit the Mir space station. The school also had Simon Weston a Welsh Veteran, who is famous for his charity work and burns survivor of the Falklands War.



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Steven Paddock Headteacher, commented “It is amazing to see so many inspiring people, so willing to come into the academy to tell their stories. Hearing stories show pupils that they can reach their goals with hard work and the true breadth of opportunity to them in the UK today. “

If anyone in the Andover/Salisbury area would be willing/interested to come and talk to the pupils about their unusual hobbies/careers please email:

admin@wpa.ascendlearningtrust.org.uk