



THE KING'S SCHOOL
CHESTER

HERALD

All the news from The King's School, Chester



“Supercalifragilistic”

Read all about the breathtaking
performance from J2

Full story on page 2



The Magic of Mary Poppins



The J2 play is an established tradition, and like their predecessors, the pupils worked very hard to prepare their production of Mary Poppins. As always, it was a most rewarding and confidence-boosting experience for all concerned.

The play was adapted especially for the pupils by **Miss Jan Anderson** from the original book written by PL Travers. Miss Anderson somehow managed to create a speaking part for all 59 children!

The wonderful production, set in 1910, tells of two children, who are not receiving

enough attention from their parents, until nanny, Mary Poppins arrives, bringing with her, her own unique brand of magic!

The production included twelve fabulous songs, directed by Mrs Barbara Roberts, including, 'Let's go fly a kite', 'Spoonful of Sugar' and 'Supercalifragilistic'.



All the children sang the songs with the verses sung as solos with help from percussionists from J4.

A breathtaking performance from the children, aged 8 and 9 was enjoyed by a full house of parents and friends.

St Hilda's visit



The King's School welcomed St Hilda's College from Argentina in February. St Hilda's choir, concert band and dancers were hosted by King's families during their visit, which culminated in a joint concert.

Despite, the heaviest snowfall seen this winter, the concert went ahead, as planned, with St Hilda's repertoire of their Concert Band playing two tangos, two classical pieces, two jazz pieces and their choir singing one Argentine folk piece, one tango and one classical piece. The audience also enjoyed a performance of the tango! In musical contrast, the Concert Band and the Gospel Choir from King's performed.

Impressive figures

The results of the National Intermediate Maths Challenge for students in Removes to Fifths have been described as “stunning” by Head of Maths, Mrs Kathy Crewe-Read and Deputy Head of Maths, Mrs Catherine Hill.

26 pupils have gained gold certificates and in total, almost 60% of the students are certificate winners. Gold certificates are only awarded to the top 6% of participants.

Even more impressive is that seven of the gold certificate winners are currently only in 3rd Year, but were competing against students who were up to two years older than them.

An unprecedented total of 17 pupils qualified for the invitation-only, follow-on rounds.



Sixty-four Maths A-level students participated in the National Senior Maths Challenge competition, with almost 50% of them gaining either a gold, silver or bronze certificate.

This impressive performance highlights the high-achieving ability and skills of The King's School's maths students in an age

when all the publicity is about falling standards in Maths nationally!

In particular, special praise is given to **Emma Walker (L6SN)**, **George Kiff (U6NH)**, **Tsubasa Sato (U6RP)** and **Charlie Bury (U6PF)** for reaching the coveted gold level. This is a worthy achievement: it indicates a score in the top 6% of the group of talented mathematicians who sit the Challenge.

King's Chess Club have the winning moves

King's entered the North Wales and Cheshire Chess Championships for the first time for at least a decade and came out on top.

King's entered a large number of students – 14 competitors from a total of 106 and the **King's team was crowned the top team** and are now the 2008 Schools Champions.

King's had success on an individual basis too, gaining eight individual trophies. All 14 players were vital to the team's success.

- **Animesh Anand (RmSR)** won the U12 group
- **Susan Gorman (ShAI)** came 2nd in the U13 group

- **Jack Webber (ShTK)** came 2nd in U13 group
- **Davin Menon (3VL)** won the U14 group
- **Marvin Hayes (4MP)** won the U15 group
- **Tim Pemberton (5FV)** came 2nd in the U16 group
- **Alistair Tonge (5SR)** came 3rd in U16 group
- **James Carr (L6SW)** won U17 group
- **Emily Moss (3CM)** who on the strength of her performance was selected on the day for the County.



King's also reached the Zonal Final of the Yately Manor National Chess Championships, making King's one of the top schools in the country for chess.

Several students have been chosen to play for the Cheshire/North Wales County and National squads:-

- **Davin Menon** represents Wales at Junior International level and Cheshire U16 squad
- **Marvin Hayes** has been invited to join the England U16 squad and plays for the Cheshire U16 team
- **Emily Moss** and **Susan Gorman** play for Cheshire U16 squad.



Model United Nations

Two delegations, made up of ten students from both Lower and Upper Sixth, represented the School in fine style at a three-day Model United Nations conference held at Kingswood School in Bath.



Tom Cooper (U6BH), it was not surprising that they were also **singled out for a 'Commended Delegation' Award**, given to around 20 of the 140 delegations taking part from across the UK.

Other delegates taking part, were Max Ankers (U6PF), Owain Morris (L6ER), Oscar Hayward (L6SB), and Tom Marquis (L6DY), all of whom acquitted themselves well in their own Committees.

The success in Bath builds on the previous MUN event at Cheadle Hulme School, earlier this year,



This conference is one of the biggest in the UK with over 140 delegations from schools across the UK and abroad with over 800 delegates in total taking part.

A handful of students from each committee are recognised at the award ceremony to reflect the quality of their contribution towards debate and the effectiveness of their speech-making, and **it is remarkable then that five of the King's delegates were recognised as Highly Commended Delegates:** Charles Barry (U6PF) in the Human Rights Committee, Edward Longinotti (U6ML) in the Economic Committee and Tom Bradley (U6PF) in the Disarmament Committee, all representing Venezuela.

Mayur Lakshmi (L6CH) was also recognised for his work on the Environment Committee, representing Egypt.

Also in the Egypt delegation, Matt Kilcoyne (L6AM) was given a Commended Delegate Award for his work on the Middle East Committee.

With so much individual success for the Venezuela delegation, very ably supported by



Tom Bradley in the Middle East Committee, all representing Afghanistan, and Dan Titmuss on the Human Rights Council representing Bangladesh. It was notable that for two of these, Dan Titmuss (L6DY) and Matthew Kilcoyne, this was their first time at an MUN conference and to be recognised in this way was quite an achievement.

The Afghanistan delegation was also awarded a 'Commended Delegation' award, given to



when three delegations of Sixth Form students represented the School. Despite some disappointment over the level of debating, everyone got involved and their participation was recognised for its quality.

Five of the King's delegates were awarded 'Commended Delegate' certificates: Charles Barry in the Political Committee, Edward Longinotti in the Economic and Social Committee, Matthew Kilcoyne for his work on the Disarmament Committee,

around 10 of the 100 delegations taking part from across the UK. **This was the first time in King's short history of taking part in Model United Nations that a delegation has achieved this accolade.**

Other delegates participating were Owain Morris, Mayur Lakshmi, Srinath Ranjit (L6SN), Ben Lloyd (L6CH), Emily Parker (L6DY), Jay Thomas (L6CH), Oscar Hayward, Rex Harrison (L6LB), Jonny Rodger (L6ER) and Max Ankers (U6PF).

Comic Relief 2009



Friday March 13th was a lovely day: it showed the staff and students of this school at their very best, the generosity of giving and inventiveness in making costumes was outstanding.

Students responded to the requests for thoughtful, selfless fun and the day was successful as a result.

Mr S Parry would like to thank all staff and students who worked so hard, 4VA who ran the cake sale and raised almost



£200, the PE staff who played netball, everyone who attended and helped with the parade at lunchtime, especially staff and the Sixth Form judges, Mrs Ignata who taught in Russian and raised £26, Alex Watkin (5SR) who braved the wrath of Mr Ramsey when he dressed as the Head Master and raised over £60, and many, many others who took great care to make the day worthwhile.

Thank you all.

The overall total of over £2000 is testimony to your efforts. Well done.



King's Class of 2009 take the Oxbridge total to 50

King's students in this year's Sixth Form have added to the ranks of former King's students getting offers to Cambridge and Oxford.

In the last five years King's has seen almost 50 students enter these two top universities.

This year, congratulations go to:

- George Roberts (U6SD)
History at Sidney Sussex, Cambridge
- Andrew Hales (U6JS)
Architecture at Robinson, Cambridge
- David Salt (U6RP)
Medicine at Gonville and Caius, Cambridge

- Michael Thorp (U6RP)
History at Homerton, Cambridge
- Toby Gurran (U6JS)
Biology at Magdalen, Oxford
- Disha Gulati
Law at St Peter's, Oxford



A-Level history study trip to Berlin



Twenty A-Level historians and all four History teachers have spent five very full days in Berlin.

German specialist Mr Patrick Gale who helped arrange the trip and Colonel Piers Storie-Pugh MBE from Remembrance Travel also accompanied the trip.

Eighteenth and Nineteenth Century German history was explored through the delights of Frederick the Great's **sumptuous palace at Sans Souci** and the wonderful works of Romantic painter **Caspar David Friedrich** at the Old National Gallery. Stark reminders of Berlin's pivotal role in Twentieth Century events were brought home to everyone on the trip. Visits were undertaken to **Sachsenhausen concentration camp, the Olympic stadium and the Reichstag** and a Third Reich Walking tour included the site of Hitler's bunker and the very impressive Holocaust memorial.

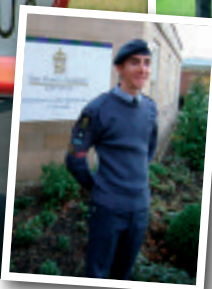
Cold War divisions between the Capitalist West and communist East were spelt out to the group, who went on to visit **Normannenstrasse**, the former Headquarters of Erich Mielke and the Stasi, (the hated East German secret police,) and saw the detention centre they used until 1989.

Modern day Berlin is itself a magnificent city. Thanks to former King's student and 2004 Berlin Tripper William Hull, the group enjoyed a short tour and meal at the famous **Humboldt University**, where he is currently studying. All the group were



grateful for the hospitality shown by Peter Nattrass, who arranged a superb restaurant meal and invited the whole group back for drinks at his flat.

Gliding and Flying scholarships



which will make this **one of our most successful years of recent times.**

Ben Moss will go on to complete his advanced flying training after being offered a place on the prestigious CCF (RAF) Air Cadet Pilot Scheme.

Five students at The King's School have been awarded gliding scholarships with the RAF.

Elliot Carty (U6BH), James Hopkinson (L6DY), William Moreland (L6DY), Ben Moss (5JH) and

Richard Wynne (5MH), all flew solo during the prestigious scholarship courses.

Four of the five cadets were only 16 years old, so not even eligible to drive a car, yet not only did they all fly solo, but all five cadets were recommended for advanced flying training.

Only the top RAF cadets are invited to apply, and must first be recommended by the Gliding School, at which they undertake their gliding scholarship. Ben was one of only nine cadets selected in the Western region, which comprises some 33 schools.

Early Identification – Rowing

Eight rowers from The King's School went to the Early Identification Trials for the GB Junior Rowing Squad, which took place in Boston, Lincs., against 155 of the country's top young scullers.

Three Upper Sixth Senior Rowers were ranked in the top 50 – Sam Arnot (U6PF) came 6th, Stephen Jones (U6NH) came 15th and Mike Thorp (U6RP) came 48th.

The three of them, along with their cox, Franz Imfeld (U6NH), **now have their sights firmly set on the Junior World Championships next summer.** Sam, Stephen and Franz have been invited to attend a GB Training Camp in Nantes, France.

Just as commendable were the performances of our Lower 6th rowers – Sam Lewis (3ML) came 65th and Oliver Holt (L6LB) came 69th. Three other Lower Sixth students came in



the top 118 – James Kinsey (L6SW), Sam Wilson (L6CH) and Inigo Atkin (L6CH).

Six of the rowers above, then went on to compete, again in Boston, in the pairs competition in February, and took part in the GB Spring Assessment at the National Water Sports Centre in Nottingham. **After this success, Franz Imfeld, Stephen Jones and Sam Arnot have now been chosen to compete in the Munch International**

Regatta in May, and are almost guaranteed places in the GB squad Junior World Championships.

Oliver Holt, Inigo Atkin and Sam Wilson have succeeded in going forward to the Home Counties Regatta and hopefully, the European Championships, the Coupe de la Jeunesse, depending on their performance at the Final trials in June.

Bring out the tall tales...

From the Welsh valleys to the Australian outback via Churchill's underground bunker and thence to Westminster Abbey, drama at King's has been nothing if not eclectic this year!



made us smell the smoke of the Protheros' fire, feel the rawness of snowballers' fingers and hear the parsnip wine in Auntie Hannah's voice, as she 'gave a turn' round the parlour piano.

From Swansea we journeyed across thousands of miles of ocean to follow the fortunes of a group of transported convicts and their guards in those eighteenth-century days when 'Britannia ruled the waves'.



As a 'credit crunch' Christmas loomed last December, we tapped into the mood by going back in time to an altogether simpler age, when Christmas presents meant a paper bag of boiled sweets, a tangerine in a shiny foil wrapper and a hand-knitted jersey you would 'grow into' – if you were an orang-utan!

Under the creative direction of Mrs Emma Hands a group of fifteen pupils from Shells to the Fourth Form took full advantage of the recent refurbishments in the Sixth Form Lecture Theatre to give three utterly delightful performances of Dylan Thomas's classic **A Child's Christmas in Wales**. Using a simple fixed set and with the benefit of imaginative Sixth Form assistance with sound and lighting, the mixed-age cast



Former King's pupil **David Whitley** generously took time out from working on his forthcoming novel (Midnight's Charter; a teenage fantasy novel to be published by Puffin in August this year) to direct a group of (largely) middle-school pupils in Timberlake Wertenberger's multi award-winning play **Our Country's Good**. Experienced and novice actors alike came together under David's experienced, sensitive guidance to produce a powerful, nuanced testimony to the redemptive capability of art.

Another week, another play! No sooner had *Our Country's Good* struck its set than the Sixth Form Lecture Theatre was

again commandeered to be transformed this time into a recreation of Churchill's underground wartime bunker.

Vikings and Darwin is a new piece specially written by American playwright **David Mamet** for performance by young actors as part of the **National Theatre's 'Connections' Festival**. Once again King's was indebted to **Emma Hands**, not only for making the initial suggestion that we submit an entry in this nationwide drama festival and directing our work, but also for writing a thought-provoking and exceptionally moving companion piece about the instigation of the tomb of the unknown warrior. Following a performance attended by directors from the National Theatre and the Lowry Theatre,



the intrepid cast of five Sixth Formers will go on to perform these pieces at the Lowry in May, when Sixth Form pupils will also work with the Lowry's in-house team to provide technical support for the production. Again it has been a great pleasure to note the **willing assistance on this project of former King's pupil Helen Tonge**, who also helped produce *A Child's Christmas in Wales*.

And that brings us full circle. 'Circle of life,' you might say! Could be the cue for another piece of theatre!



Discovering the wonders of CERN

Every year for the past seven years, Sixth Form Physicists from King's have travelled to the European Laboratory for Particle Physics, CERN, near Geneva, home of the world's largest, most complicated and most expensive scientific machines.



The star of the show is the much publicised Large Hadron Collider which when it eventually starts operating will, in conjunction with huge experiments surrounding it, attempt to discover the elusive Higgs Boson.

The brief but intensive two day programme of visits not only allows students to see the hardware at close quarters but to appreciate how it works, putting into practice the principles of electric and magnetic fields learned back in the laboratories here at King's before the visit.

It also gives them a flavour of what life is like for a Physics graduate in this unique multi-national collaboration; over the last couple of years we have established a link with students working at Liverpool University, who share their up-to-the-minute knowledge of the experiments with our pupils in seminar sessions, and chat to them over pizza or fondue about the other attractions of life in such a cosmopolitan city!

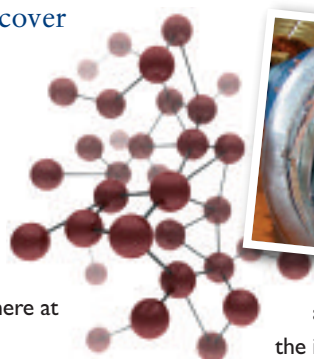
A visit to CERN whets the appetite in terms of what can be achieved on the technological frontier



probe deeper into the structure of our universe and seek to explore the conditions a split second after the dawn of time. A highlight for many is the tour of the laboratory's

computing centre, where in 1989, the World Wide Web, upon which we depend in so many ways, was born.

It is hoped that in the years to come, students from King's may continue to be **fortunate enough to have their Physics brought to life by visiting CERN**, and that perhaps one or two of them might even be tempted to embark upon a career in Physics because of it!



and also stretches the imagination as scientists

New science labs

The Wolfson Foundation has given The King's School £50,000 towards the refurbishments of three of the science laboratories.

This grant has enabled the three laboratories to be fully refurbished to offer the students upgraded facilities. This refurbishment gives the

students improved working areas, where they can conduct their own experiments, unlike, the traditional laboratory designs, which were focussed on teacher demonstrations.

This is a valued addition to the three Science departments and will be especially useful with the increase in practical examinations at GCSE and A-level, and further enhances King's strong scientific tradition.



Avignon exchange



Twenty-six young people from Avignon, France, have visited The King's School for 10 days.

During the exchange visit the French students lived with their King's host families from 4th – L6. The Avignon visitors spent a day at King's and the rest of the time they visited places of interest in Cheshire and North Wales.

The visit is a reciprocal arrangement and King's students will visit Avignon.

All that Jazz



One Friday evening in March, saw the Main Hall turned into a Jazz Club for the evening, with parents and friends bringing picnics and the KSPA providing a bar service.

The wonderful music was showcased by the ever popular **Big Band and Gospel Choir**, together with **Sixth Form Jazz group – Razzamajazz**, and the newly formed 4th year group called **Jazz Cats**.



To enhance the evening further, a professional jazz quartet, starring music teachers Chris Wharton and Andy Parker, completed the line-up.



MFL debate

Six Sixth Form linguists have taken part in the annual Northern Schools' MFL debating competition at Cheadle Hulme School. This was a regional event organised by the Independent Schools Modern Languages Association.



The King's School teams were German – Daniel Ness (U6BH) and Kieran Witter (U6KS); Spanish – Natalie Ohiorenoya (L6DY), Charles Barry (U6PF) and French – Patrick Fletcher (U6JS) and Max Ankers (U6PF).

The subjects debated were 'Life was better 40 years ago', 'Being green should be the priority of all western governments', 'Red is better than blue' and 'Computers are the problem not the solution'.



Although the King's School teams did not reach the final this year, they **debated energetically and skilfully** against some stiff opposition, and they were commended for their spontaneity and eloquence of delivery. The debate, **'Red is better than blue'** proved to be particularly **stimulating, with arguments over politics, aesthetics and symbolism!**

Annual CAOKS dinner

The 143rd annual dinner of The Chester Association of Old King's Scholars (CAOKS) was held this year at the Grosvenor Hotel in Chester.

It was a wonderful occasion attracting 165 guests including former and current teachers and Headmasters, friends and the Head of School prefect team, all enjoying good food and good company.

Old King's Scholars old and new attended, the youngest being leavers in 2008 and the oldest, who left the school in 1935.

Senior Librarian, Helen Holyoak, provided a fabulous slideshow of old photographs. Young faces from many years ago were shown throughout the dinner and generated much interest and amusement.

The guest of honour was Tom James, OKS, Olympic Gold medallist and recent recipient of an MBE in the New Years' honours list. The toast to the School was made by Rowan Pritchard-Jones MD, MRCS, who spoke eloquently about his life after King's as a plastic surgeon and in the process made clear his grateful thanks for the opportunities afforded him by an education at King's.

Mark Cornelius, who now lives and works in London as an advertising account manager, offered the toast to the Association and spoke amusingly about his time at school.

The President, Mr Steve Downey responded and thanked everyone for their contribution in



making the evening a success. The food was superb, the speeches good and the setting sumptuous, but once formalities were over, it was the chance to catch up with old friends that really made the evening special.

King's silver cup finds its way home



A 1920's engraved silver cup has come back to school after being bought by a member of the public in a Wirral antique shop.

The bailiff at The King's School was handed the cup from a member of the cast during the Chester Scouts' Gang Show held at the school! The cup was originally awarded to D.E. Evans (form Remove B) for winning the half mile handicap race at the school sports day held on **4th April 1922**.

Duncan Ritchie (ShRA) who is a pupil librarian, has done the research into its history. He is pictured with Nicola Temple (RmLB) who is a fellow pupil Librarian.

World Maths Day



The students played mental arithmetic games in real-time for 60 seconds per game and played as many games as they liked.



Five hundred and fifty Junior and Senior School pupils have participated in World's Maths Day. The 48-hour competition involved 20,000 schools throughout the world.

The fun lunchtime activity was organised for the Junior and younger Senior School students and captivated their interest by playing on-line with other students from around the world!

Mace debating success

Charles Barry and Thomas Bradley, both from the Upper Sixth represented the school in the English Speaking Union Mace debating competition this year.

They breezed through the local round and attended the **North West final** on a very snowy January evening. They debated on the topic of whether the study of a modern foreign language should be compulsory to study at GCSE. Their considerable skill at debating was recognised and they went through to the Northern Area final. They then debated on the tricky topic of



whether UN peacekeeping troops should be placed on the Palestine border.

Both students were really impressive in terms of their skills in both debating and rebuttal.

They were placed as runners up in the Northern Final, losing by only three marks to St. Francis Xavier College, Liverpool. **The students were praised by the judges for their excellent delivery, structure and their conduct throughout the competition.** This is a fantastic achievement and both Charles and Tom should be extremely proud to have achieved so much and managed to progress so far in the competition.

History revisited

The King's School was delighted to welcome Dr Allan Chapman, an historian by training and with research interests in scientific biography and astronomy.

Dr Chapman was born in Manchester in 1946, completed his first degree at Lancaster University, before moving to Oxford University for his postgraduate degree. He lectures extensively in this country and abroad in the History of Science. In 1994 he gave the Royal Society triennial Wilkins Lecture in the History of Science on the subject of Edmond Halley.



Bush V Obama

Dr Coyne visited King's to give a lecture titled "The legacy of Bush and the future with Obama."

Dr Coyne lectures in American History and Politics at Kent University, and is a Visiting Professor at the University of Mississippi; he gave a **fascinating talk on Obama and the new era of American politics**, and spent time in Sixth Form politics lessons, where he was very impressed by the students' independent thought, questioning and enthusiasm for learning.



Oldest King's Scholars return



Mr John Margarson and Mr Harry Dodd, former pupils of The King's School were recent visitors.

Mr Margarson, who left King's in 1941 and Mr Dodd, who left in 1935, are amongst the oldest surviving Old King's Scholars.

Both enjoyed a tour of the school and welcomed the opportunity to reminisce with the help of an archive display relevant to school in their days. **Poignantly, both gentlemen could recall former friends who lost their lives in the 2nd World War** as they looked at the remembrance plaques on display at King's.

Cipher Club success

Students from The Cipher Club have achieved joint 1st place in the National Cipher Challenge, a code-breaking competition organised by University of Southampton and sponsored by GCHQ and Cambridge University, amongst others.

Over 1000 schools are involved in a weekly code-breaking challenge which culminates in the National competition. The King's team have gained joint 1st place in one challenge and 18th place in the second, more difficult challenge.

The team "**Cryptokings**" consists of: Tsubasa Sato (U6RP), Jun Kawakami (U6NH), Matt Ireland (L6ER), Tom Marquis (L6DY), James Carr (L6SW), Will Moreland (L6DY),



Sean and Jeremy Telford (3JK).

The challenge is issued weekly and has to be complete within a set timescale. **The students have worked extremely well as a team in order to achieve this great result!**



King's painting to be exhibited in the Royal Academy

Arran Fearn (J1) has been selected as the regional winner for Wales in the Sightsavers International Junior Painting Competition.

Arran's painting was selected from almost 9000 entries in UK.

Arran's painting of "Castle Afar" – a landscape showing a castle in the



distance on the hills, is now being displayed in the prestigious Royal Academy of Arts in London.



Junior School swimming success

Connie McClelland, J3W has won five gold and silver medals at the Chester City Swimming Association Championships.

Simon Ellershaw, J4T, swept the board in the boys' section of the Chester City Swimming Association Championships and missed out on a club record for 50m Backstroke by 0.2 of a second.

The Junior School girls' swim team performed with great credit at the AJIS event, winning three gold medals. Congratulations go to Isobel Wild, J2E, winner of the U10 Backstroke, Connie McClelland, winner of the U10 Front Crawl



and the U10 Freestyle relay team of Polly Chappell, Jennifer McDonald, J3E, Connie McClelland and Isobel Wild who were placed first. The U11 Medley relay team finished fourth in the final. In the U11 finals, Penny Downes, J4T, came fourth in the Backstroke and Emily Boothroyd, J4G, came fourth in the Butterfly.

Emily chosen for British Open Show Jumping Welsh team!



Emily Boothroyd (J4) has been chosen to compete in the British Open Show Jumping Championships on her pony.

Emily is one of four riders representing Wales in the Junior Pony Club Class against teams from Scotland, England and Ireland to celebrate the 80th anniversary of the British Pony Club.

The four riders per team were selected from the 340 pony clubs nationally.

Emily has represented The King's Junior School show jumping team for the last 3 years.

Juniors deck the Cathedral with wonderful banners

Every pupil from the Junior School contributed to the truly magnificent banners which were displayed in the nave of the Cathedral during the Advent and Christmas period.

For a few months, under the guidance of specialist art teacher Jane Hartley, all the children spent some time creating the banners, as part of their art classes, in their break and lunchtimes, or by participating in the Art Club. The colourful banners depicted seasonal themes of Advent and Christmas.



J3O – Hoops for health



Basketball is one of the fastest growing sports, and requires an enormous amount of skill and expertise. Over the past two months the J3 pupils have participated in the Hoops for Health scheme organised by the Cheshire Jets team.

The Roadshow was very informative and focused upon the **importance of developing a healthy lifestyle**. This included discussions about nutrition, smoking and exercise. The pupils were introduced to basic basketball skills and the movement around the court.

When training in the Senior School Sports Hall the training programme concentrated upon shooting and dribbling. **The level of enthusiasm was magnificent and around 85% of the J3s attended the after school club.**

In early March 10 pupils, selected to represent the School participated in the Cheshire Jets Round 1 tournament. **The whole squad performed well in the first two games and displayed excellent control of the basketball.** Niamh Jones and Polly Chappell rarely missed a shot and the King's squad chalked up two early victories 26-4 and 28-0. In the third match the 'starting five' battled hard, with Fraser Smellie and James Hughes leading by example. Harry Armatage should be praised for his defensive efforts as the team won 14-6. With one game remaining the pupils appeared tired and the gaps were starting to appear. Joe Polding fortunately made an important 'foul throw' to secure a valuable 8-4 win. The pupils returned with medals, bright yellow T-shirts and of course the winner's trophy.



Christmas Concert

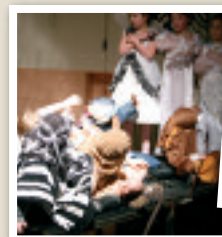


The King's Junior School Christmas concert starred every pupil from 7-11 years of age! The concert has proven so popular over the years, that it has to be performed twice and even then all the seats are taken!

From the school choir of 74 children, the orchestra of strings, wind, brass and percussion involving 43 pupils, to the string and woodwind ensembles it really was music all the way!

There were dramatic readings and poems, and no Christmas concert would be complete without the Nativity play performed by J2.

The concert encompassed all that is great about the Junior School – everyone had a part to play, they all worked hard to learn their lines and songs and the final result



was a showcase of all their incredible talents. **There are surely few Junior Schools in Cheshire which could boast such a large choir and orchestra!**



Festival of Performing Arts



Forty-one Junior School pupils took part in a speech and drama festival on Saturday, 14th March at Queen's Park High School Chester. The stewards described it as a 'bumper year' – schools from all over the county were represented.

The pupils took part in a number of activities. Years 2, 3 and 4 performed prepared scenes from such classics as, 'Alice in Wonderland', 'To Kill a Mockingbird', 'James and the Giant Peach', 'Carrie's War' and 'Skellig'. **'To Kill a Mockingbird' was awarded third place out of a class of 28.** The judge praised the cast for their character portrayal and American accents! **All of the King's Junior pupils' scenes gained a merit or were**

highly commended, which is an excellent result.

Prepared readings from works by Helen Cresswell, Ali Sparkes and Michelle Magorian were presented to full houses! **Matthew Oliver came third in his class with a very dramatic reading from Cresswell's, 'A Bag of Bones'.**

As well as prose reading, many of our pupils recited poems from such poets as **Roger Stevens, Valerie Bloom, Vernon Scannell and Brian Moses.** **Eloise Bland was awarded second place** in her class with her amusing interpretation of 'My Dog' by Vernon Scannell.

Three of our pupils entered the 'Spiritual Reading' class and Megan Gareh gained first place in her year group.

All the pupils performed with confidence and focus – they all enjoyed the very hectic schedule; they came away from the festival having experienced the rush of adrenalin that only live performance can bring. As well as this, they received some excellent advice from the adjudicators to help further their progress in performance.

Individual Successes



Greg Taylor, J4, has won a bronze medal in the National Primary Maths Challenge competition. Greg successfully went through to the national final after competing with over 19,000 children representing some 2700 primary schools all over UK, only 370 children were awarded medals. This is the second consecutive year pupils from the Junior School have reached the national finals.

Jack Owen, J4, took part in the Cheshire and NE Wales Chess Championship and was ranked this in the U11 age group. He has since been selected for the U12 National Chess Training Squad.

Abigail Wiseman, J4, was a runner-up in the U11 girls' singles section of the North Wales Badminton Competition and with her partner also won the U11 girls' doubles.

Isobel Wild, J2, was overall champion in the 8 year old category of the Swim Wales North Swim Fest.

Harry Armatage, J3, William Dodd-Moore, J4, Ben Maudslay, J4, Ben Stratton, J4 and Daniel Verity, J3, took part in the U11 County Hockey Festival Championship representing Deeside Ramblers. They were runners up in the competition and move forward to represent Cheshire in the Northern finals.

King's Juniors off to Cambridge!

Children from the Junior School went off to Cambridge recently to play soccer. The annual Cambridge tour is now in its 22nd Year.

The King's football team stay with host families of **The Perse School in Cambridge** and play matches against Kimbolton, Bedford Modern and The Perse schools to compete for the "Tour Trophy".



The team returned to Chester exhausted but happy, having played three games in as many days.



Ski trip to Switzerland

The biennial ski trip for Removes to Thirds was a great success! The school stayed at the Haut-Lac International Centre, not far from Chateau D'oex, Gruyere and Lausanne.

The centre used to be a sanatorium for tuberculosis patients but is now run as a centre for ski trips and language courses. 50 pupils and accompanying staff (Mrs Gareh, Dr Bradley, Mr Morris and Miss Hodgson) set off for this fabulously equipped place. The size of the party meant that they had to go on two flights from Birmingham to Zurich.

The first day began with an announcement over the tannoy that breakfast would be ready soon. It was accompanied by the theme tune to 'Ski Sunday'. What a great start to the skiing week!

All groups from beginners to the advanced level skiers had some of the best snow conditions the school has ever experienced there. **There were six days of blue skies and one day of snow (New Year's Eve).**

Everyone had a great time and it was good to see the beginners progressing so quickly in the excellent conditions. On the last day of skiing, all the groups took part in a slalom competition. The winners for each group were; Rhys Dowinton, Stephen Lear, Kate Coppack, William Kirk, Jenny Corlett, Cameron Thompson and, **fastest King's pupil on the slopes that day,**



Tom Okell in a time of 27.62 seconds. To put this into perspective, the fastest instructor managed the course in 23.52 seconds.

The final evening consisted of the presentation of ski awards. Each pupil received a Snowsport badge to reflect their level of ability (level 9 is the highest). **The beginners achieved creditable level 4 (Emma Cooney achieved level 5),** intermediate groups were awarded level 5 or 6, and the two advanced

groups managed level 6 or 7 with the exception of **Tom Okell who was awarded level 8.**

The final presentations were the house awards. Each pupil was assigned to one of four house teams for the week and competed to be house champions by taking part in evening activities and competitions. The winning house received an enormous bar of Toblerone – **this year the glory (and the chocolate) went to Warriors,** with Eagles and Sharks in joint second place and Raiders not far behind.

All in all it was a really great trip!



King's Karting Champion

Seb Morris (ShMS) has achieved an unprecedented clean sweep of Cadet Kart Championships in the North West of England and North Wales.

Racing throughout the season (10 races per championship), **Seb has won the Dragon Kart Club Championship** (North Wales), the Cheshire Kart Club Championship and the Manchester and Buxton Kart

Club Championship (North West England).

Travelling at speeds of up to 60 mph, **Seb often competes in grids of up to 30 karts**, which when approaching the first corner, is often a hair-raising experience!

As a highlight of the season, **Seb also won the UK "Ace of Clubs" Trophy**, beating racers from all over the country to secure this prestigious award.



Seb races for The Liberty Racing Team, whose senior driver, James Theodore, has also won the North Wales Championship and has now progressed to Formula Renault, winning the BARC UK Formula Renault Winter Series.



Golf Tournament

The annual King's School Golf Tournament was held in March at Vicar's Cross Golf Club. Organised by parents, Mr and Mrs Way-Rider, this event is open to all pupils, staff and retired staff.

The trophies were presented by Michael Oakes, former England Under - 21 goalkeeper, who has played for Aston Villa, Wolves and Cardiff City. Michael was in the Cardiff squad who played at the 2008 FA Cup Final against Portsmouth.



The tournament cup was won by Matt Jones (5JH) for best gross score and the best net score was won by Alex Way-Rider (4EH).

Longest drive and nearest the pin competitions were won by Tom Fearnall (U6BH) and Josh Rudge (U6RP).

Launch of the King's Water Polo Team

This term has seen the launch of The King's School Water Polo Team. The team played its first match against U18s City of Chester Water Polo Team.

The team included Steven Jones (U6BH), Sam Arnot (U6PF), Chris Wall (U6KS), Michael Thorp (U6RP), Inigo Atkins (L6CH), James Kinsey (L6SV), Rob Leech (U6ML), Max Ankers (U6PF) and Adam Jones (SSR).

The match consists of four, fifteen minute quarters, King's led 3-2 after the first quarter, James Kinsey scoring the first ever King's School water polo goal and Sam Arnot scoring the other two goals. Scores levelled at the end of the second quarter at 6-6. Fitness began to tell, and

King's were losing at 12-11 at the end of the 3rd quarter and the final



score was 17-14.

It was a hard fought game, one which demanded much fitness and team work and was a great debut performance by the new team. Sam was the King's top scorer – 6 goals, Steven was impressive in goal and Chris and Sam managed to organise and motivate the rest of the team. **The organisation, enthusiasm and commitment of the team were impressive.**

This was a first for King's, and hopefully the start of another successful sport at the school.



Swimming champions

The King's School Removes', Shells' and Third Year swimming teams have been incredibly successful at the Chester and District Schools' Swimming Galas during March.

The Removes boys' team won the Year 7 gala and the girls' team came second.

The team captain was Alex Slater (RmSC). The Shells' team captained by Niall Barrow (ShTK) repeated this success in the Year 8 gala, again winning the boys' competition and coming second in the girls' competition.

The Third Year boys' team also won the Year 9 competition with the girls coming in fifth place. The team captain was Will Slater (3AC).

U12 Girls' Hockey



The annual King's U12s 7-a-side Invitational Hockey Tournament was held in March.

King's A Squad were the overall winners with the B squad coming runners-up. 12 teams from Cheshire, Wirral and the local area were participating in the tournament.

U19 Girls' Hockey secure fourth major trophy for this season



The U19 Girls' Hockey squad have had an incredibly successful year and are ranked the most successful girls' hockey team that King's have ever had.

This year they have **won all four major hockey trophies**: The **U19 girls'** hockey team have won the U19 Cheshire Outdoor Tournament, The Cheshire Indoor Tournament, The Chester and District Indoor Championship and Chester and District Outdoor Championship. The team also represented Cheshire in the National Schools Tournament.

The **U16 girls'** hockey team also achieved honour, **winning The Cheshire Indoor Tournament**. Both U16 and the U19 teams are Cheshire Indoor Champions. The U16 squad continue their winning formula in the National Schools' Plate Competition and are through to the last 16.



To add to this success, the **U13 girls'** hockey team **won the Chester and District Indoor Hockey Tournament** and the **U14 girls'** squad **won the Chester and District Outdoor Competition** and came runners-up in the Cheshire Indoor competition, only losing to Wilmslow, the eventual winners.

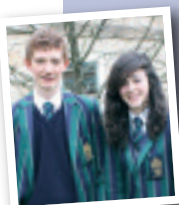
The success of King's Girls' hockey during both this season and last season, has been phenomenal and looks like continuing with some promising younger girls coming through the ranks.

Cross Country

Jessie Lee (3GC) and James Ellis (5DL) were chosen to represent Cheshire in the UK National Schools Cross Country final at the end of March.

Only eight children from Cheshire were chosen for the National final after the North Inter-Counties Championship.

Jessie has been running competitively for one year and James has been competing for four years.



Fencing

The first session of the new Fencing Club started this term at lunchtime, and within 10 minutes the students were ready for action!



U19 Boys' Hockey Team are North West Champions!

The U19 Boys' Hockey Team have been victorious in the Chester District, Cheshire and North West championships.

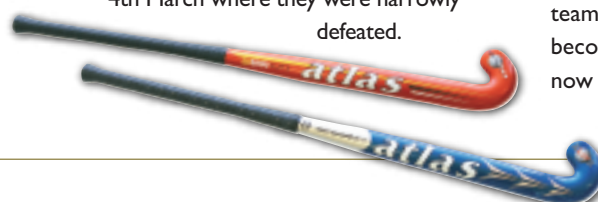
The run started with the Cheshire Schools' Boys' U19 Cup. King's beat Birkenhead School after a nail-biting final, finishing 5-4 after penalties with Harry Peel (5FV) scoring the deciding penalty.

The King's team then went on to beat Calday Grange Grammar School in the North West Semi-Final and progressed to

the North West final in February against Merchant Taylors', Crosby. It proved to be a challenging fixture due to illness and injury. The half-time score was King's - 3 Merchant Taylors'. 2. King's dominated the 2nd half with the final score being 6-3. Tom Fearnall (U6BH) scored a hat-trick, Captain, Ben Lamont (U6NH), scored 2 goals and Jonathan Rodger (L6ER), scored 1 goal. **The King's Team progressed to the North Final at Belle Vue, Manchester, on 4th March where they were narrowly defeated.**



These resounding wins build on the strong King's successes in boys' hockey over the last 3 years. King's has great facilities for hockey with the Astroturf and a team of dedicated coaching staff. Every year it becomes more popular with the pupils and is now our second biggest boys sport.



STOP PRESS... the news in brief



CHESS

Marvin Hayes (4MP) was invited to join the England U16 Chess Squad in a tournament which took place at Yateley

Manor, Hampshire, in February. Current U15 County Champion, Marvin, competed with the very best young chess champions from around the country.



RUGBY

Six boys have been selected to join the U13 West Cheshire Rugby Union Squad: **Ralph Elsegood (ShAR)**, **Matthew**

Antony (ShRA), **Jack Barber (ShRA)**, **George Nott, (ShAI)**, **Tom Okell (ShTK)** and **Adam Young (ShRA)**.

The boys were selected from a total of 70 boys, during a series of trials involving all the schools and clubs within the region and they have been chosen to join the regional development training squad.



SQUASH

Sam Wallace (RmLB) has been chosen for the Welsh National U13 squash squad. Sam travels to Cardiff

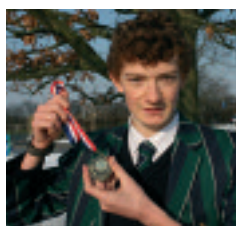
once a month to train with the squad and competed in a European Tournament at the end of February.



GYMNASTICS

Natasha Howarth (RmGA) has won the gold medal in the Welsh Acrobatics and Tumbling NPD

competition, and has now been selected to compete at the British equivalent finals in May. Natasha's success has been rapid – she only started gymnastics two years ago. She would have competed in the Welsh competition last year, but unfortunately had to drop out due to a serious arm injury and was only discharged from Alder Hey Hospital in October 2008.



CROSS-COUNTRY

James Ellis (5DL) has won the Cheshire Schools' County Cross-country Inter-boys' Championship for Year 10s and 11s.

James was delighted with his gold medal-win after coming in bronze and silver medal positions in the last two years.

James is also hoping to make the England Junior Fell-Running Team to compete in Germany later this year.

NEW CLUBS

There have been a lot of new clubs and teams established this term, mostly operating at lunchtime:

Geog. Soc – From using the weather station to Fair Trade tuck shop on the first Friday of the month.

Chemistry Club – For fun experiments!

Ancient Greek – For Sixth Formers running both Tuesday and Thursday lunchtimes and Thursday after school.

Fencing – Within 10 minutes everyone was “en guard”!

Master Chef – 6-week cookery course for 3rd and 4th Year covering all food groups.

Water Polo Team – February saw the launch of the King's Water polo team with their first match against City of Chester U18s.

Warhammer – This club is for followers of this strategic game of battles and armies.

MUN Soc – The Model United Nations society, run by the Sixth Form is growing from strength to strength with debaters joining, in particular from 4th Year upwards.

NATIONAL SCIENCE WEEK

During National Science Week, **Professor Dominic Dickson** from the Physics dept of Liverpool University gave a talk titled “**Physics is Cool**”, featuring an interesting experiment of self-inflating balloons with the use of dry ice!

There was also a Biology talk from Tim Keeley, Head of Biology called “**Darwin and why I hate rice pudding!**” ably assisted by two Sixth Formers – David Salt and Toby Gurran.

PONY SOCIETY SUCCESS

William Johnson (RmSC) won 1st place in the Novices' 143 cms show hunter pony class, and 2nd place in the open class at the British Show Pony Society (Area 2a Cheshire) awards' night. His pony is called Noble Dolly, Blue-Dolly to her friends.

