



THE KING'S SCHOOL
CHESTER

Herald

All the news from The King's School, Chester

Inside... from excellent Oxbridge results and adventures abroad to fundraising and success on the stage and sports fields, life is always exciting at King's.



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Boys' & Girls' Hockey teams are stars of the North

Full story on page 18

Twelve off to Oxbridge... our best results for six years

King's is delighted to announce that a total of twelve Sixth Form students have been offered places at Oxford and Cambridge universities this year.



Adam Davies (U6SD)

to read Medicine at St John's College, Cambridge;

Benjamin Moss (U6KS)

to read Engineering at Trinity College, Cambridge;

Ed Pilkington (U6NS)

to read Veterinary Medicine at Clare College, Cambridge;

Edward Andrade (U6NS)

to read Medicine at St Catharine's College, Cambridge;

Hiroshi Amako (U6ML)

has been awarded a Choral Scholarship and a place to read Music at Trinity College, Cambridge;

Isabel Hughes (leaver 2010)

to read Human Sciences at Hertford College, Oxford;

Joe Dillamore (U6JS)

to read Economics and Management at St Hugh's College, Oxford;

Matt Chadwick (U6KS)

to read Chemical Engineering at Homerton College, Cambridge;

Oliver Tattersall (U6JK)

to read Natural Sciences at Trinity Hall, Cambridge;

Peter Johnstone (U6BH)

to read Medicine at Corpus Christi College, Oxford;

Siobhan Barnard (U6BH)

to read Mathematics at St John's College, Oxford;

Tom Menzies (U6KS)

to read Natural Sciences at Selwyn College, Cambridge.



Ben's brilliant invention makes a Big Bang

Benjamin Moss (U6KS) secured his place in the Big Bang: UK Scientists' and Engineers' Fair (the National Science & Engineering Competition) after successfully presenting his robotic finger in the CREST Awards at the World Museum, Liverpool. His invention could be used to perform non-invasive microsurgery and handle dangerous and hazardous materials such as nuclear waste or bomb disposal. The robotic finger moves in proportion to the changing light intensity at the end of the fibre optic, caused by the bending and straightening of the fibre optic when the user bends their finger.

Benjamin showcased his invention to 20,000 people at the ICC London ExCel in March. He competed head-to-head with finalists from across the country and was shortlisted in the top five in the category for Senior Engineers. After being interviewed by a panel of eminent engineers (including the Chief Engineer of McLaren cars), he won a cash prize of £150 and was highly commended.



60 + Maths Challenge = Success

Sixty pupils entered the UK Senior School Maths Challenge 2010, run by the United Kingdom Mathematics Trust. In total, 43 gained certificates; four gold, 17 silver and 22 bronze. The gold certificate winners were Siobhan Barnard (U6BH), Joseph Dillamore (U6JS), Chris Jarvis (U6KS) and Edward Andrade (U6NS). Winning gold awards placed them in the top 6% of the Challenge. Siobhan also received the Best in School certificate.



TAKING A DELEGATION TO THE HAGUE

In January, seven students attended The Hague International Model United Nations (THIMUN) conference.

The conference is the largest of its kind for school-age pupils and this year attracted 3,500 participants.



There were students from 94 different countries present at the conference, with representatives from Australia, New Zealand, Uruguay and Colombia.



King's students were involved in committee meetings, sub-committee meetings, lobbying and attended opening and closing ceremonies. They spoke on issues such as the environment, human rights and disarmament.

Chess team makes all the right moves



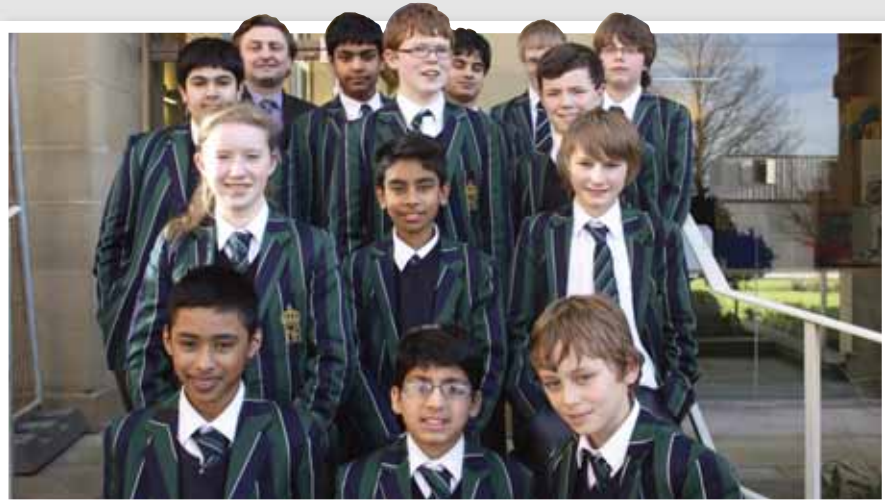
During February, pupils played in the North Midlands, Greater Manchester and West Zone final of the Yateley Manor National Chess Championships 2010/2011.

The team members had not lost a single individual game in this competition so far and this success rate was repeated in the final. King's are now Zone Champions, a title that the School has not held for more than a decade. They went on to play one of the very best chess schools in the country, King Edward's School Birmingham, in the last 16 knockout of the Yateley Manor National Schools Chess Championships. In a truly amazing result, the King's team recorded a 3-3 draw against a team with far higher chess gradings. Unfortunately, this particular competition operates an age handicap, so they did not advance to the next stage.

Marvin moves up to international level

Last summer, Marvin Hayes (L6SP) was invited to take part in trials for the England U18 Chess team. Marvin has now been selected to represent his country and is hoping to play in Poland later this year.

This is a tremendous achievement. King's presently have two international players, with Davin Menon (5VL) playing for Wales.



Congratulations to the team; Davin Menon (5VL), Marvin Hayes (L6SP), Tim Pemberton (U6JS), Matthew Temple (5AC), Jack Salisbury (L6SP), Oscar Lloyd-Williams (4MP) and Susan Gorman (4PN).



Famous author comes back to school



Former pupil and established author David Whitley visited the School in November. David gave a reading from his new novel "The Children of the Lost" – the sequel to "The Midnight Charter" – to Removes and Third Year pupils.

Together they discussed its key themes, with David answering questions from the pupils. At lunchtime, David offered advice and ideas during a creative writing workshop. The selected group of pupils thoroughly enjoyed reading their pieces of work to him.



Brilliant academics bring history to life

During the Michaelmas term, the History & Politics Department were lucky enough to welcome two leading academics as part of a series of guest lecturers; Professor Stefan Berger and Professor Kevern Verney.

Professor Kevern Verney of Edge Hill University, a leading academic in the field of African-American civil rights, treated pupils to a brilliant and insightful lecture on the role of individuals in advancing African-American civil rights.

In two lectures at King's, Professor Stefan Berger, Professor of Modern German and Comparative European History at the University of Manchester and Chair of the German Historical Society of the UK and Ireland, offered his answers to the questions 'Why did the Weimar Republic Fail?' and 'Why did the German Democratic Republic Fail?' Despite his concern that two hours on German failure might be depressing, both lectures were brilliant; brimful of insights and analysis which inspired students and staff alike.

In February, Professor Malcolm Crook, Professor of French History at the University of Keele, an expert in French history c1750-c1850 and editor of the Short Oxford History of France volume: Revolutionary France, 1788-1880, delivered a fascinating and enjoyable lecture on the reasons why the constitutional monarchy in France failed, 1789-92.



A HISTORY OF KING'S DVD



Don't miss your opportunity to own this new DVD. Narrated by current pupils, it tells the story of King's proud history from 1541 to the present day.

FEATURING...

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SPIFFING STUFF ON STAGE!



Even with the Hall temporarily reduced to a heap of rubble, the spirit of the Blitz ensured that drama could still happen at King's! Thanks to the patience and co-operation of Mrs Harding and her team, the Wickson Library was transformed into St Kiel's boarding school for boys – until, that is, the Luftwaffe ensured that the girls of St Frederique's academy for young ladies ended up being billeted upon them!

Anything but a place of silence, the Library echoed to uproarious laughter, as Emma Lucia's hilarious adaptation of John Dighton's 1950 farce *The Happiest Days of your Life* played to full houses over three nights.

The warfare outside was recreated within, as boys and girls – not to mention their teachers – battled it out for supremacy, only to be united by their common enemy: the misogynistic Venerable Venables!

Over the course of a couple of fun-filled hours, Dr Toppingham drank more port than one liver might reasonably be expected to stand, as he tried in vain to keep control of anarchic Biggles fans, ambitious thespians and the 'liberation' of

Reverend Windrush's bicycle – to say nothing of Bishop Goodall's bust!

But 'amor vincit omnia', as Mr Draycott might say, and the one thing Dr Toppingham could not control was his burgeoning love for his redoubtable fellow linguist and Goethe scholar, the Headmistress of St Frederique's, Miss Emerald Merriweather.

With superb comic acting, some wonderfully nostalgic song-and-dance routines and Judith Croft's fabulously evocative design, Emma Lucia directed a gem of a piece with which to round off our celebrations of 50 years of the (now happily co-educational!) King's School on its current site.



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OPERA DELLA LUNA
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for our Summer programme –
coming soon.

WILL WINS PRESTIGIOUS ARMY SCHOLARSHIP

Will Miller (L6DY) has been awarded a prestigious Army Scholarship as part of the Army Sixth Form Scholarship Scheme. The Scholarship is for students of the highest academic ability and those who demonstrate excellent leadership potential.



The two-year Scholarship will help fund his Sixth Form education. Additional financial sponsorship is available to help Army Scholars through university in the form of an Army Bursary. He will be offered a place at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst after he graduates.

Will's interest in the Army has developed from his involvement in the Combined Cadet Force at King's. He hopes to become an army officer after his training.



BEN SOARS TOWARDS MEMORIAL SWORD AWARD

Benjamin Moss (U6KS) has been shortlisted for the prestigious Sir John Thompson Memorial Sword. It is the highest award open to a CCF (RAF) cadet. He is one of only eleven cadets in the country to be selected for the interview stage of the process; an impressive feat, as there are almost 10,000 CCF (RAF) cadets in the UK. De Havilland Memorial Medals will be awarded to six runners-up.

FLYING HIGH WITH SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME

Two pupils have been awarded places on the highly sought-after Air Cadet Pilot Scheme, offered by the RAF and operated on their behalf by Tayside Aviation in Dundee. There are fewer than 50 places available on the scheme each year, so to have two pupils accepted is a fantastic achievement. They follow in the footsteps of King's pupil Ben Moss (U6KS) who participated in the scheme last year.

Graham Bendall (U6KS) completed twelve hours of flying instruction, culminating in a solo flight. The course was highly intensive; involving many hours spent studying flight theory and practical flying skills, such as landing safely and radio procedures. Graham has also been selected for Pilot Aptitude Assessment at RAF Cranwell next spring.

James Edholm (U6KS) recently returned from his training, which included a talk from an RAF Tornado Navigator. James successfully completed his course, ending with an hour of solo flying.



Prestigious DofE awards for helping charity



Pupils have once again been busy completing their Duke of Edinburgh's (DofE) Awards programmes. Through the volunteering part of their programme, young people give their free time to society with a value of over £19 million per year.

Tom Thornhill (5VL); George Middlehurst (5FV); Hannah Dent (5CM); Jack Stirrup (5AC); Miriam Bowen (L6SW) and Harry Chappell (5JM) have all completed Bronze Awards.

Will Miller (L6DY); Alex Constantinou (L6KL); Will Everett (U6JK) and Emily Moss (5CM) completed Silver Awards.

Tim Pemberton (U6JS); James Edholm (U6KS); Adam Jones (U6KS); Ben Cuffin-Munday (U6JK); Graham Bendall (U6KS) and Will Everett (U6JK) have completed Gold Awards. Those pupils with Gold Awards will be invited to attend an awards ceremony in London.

A TIME FOR GIVING, A TIME FOR HOPE

Over the festive period, pupils filled more than 160 empty shoeboxes with gifts for the Operation Christmas Child 2010 appeal. Those from Year 10 and above were involved in checking, packing and sealing boxes and delivered them to the Wrexham collection centre in freezing temperatures. The boxes were sent to underprivileged children in Africa and Romania in time for Christmas.

Pupils also joined Amnesty International in support of their Greetings Card Campaign. The campaign encourages people to send a friendly greetings card to someone who is in danger or has been unjustly imprisoned, with the hope of giving them strength and raising awareness of the injustices they have suffered.



OUR FUND-RAISING HEROES



Mrs Cooper and her Removes class (RmSC) raised £161.22 for Help for Heroes and the RSPCA by selling cakes and organising a 'guess how many sweets are in the jar' competition.

The money will go towards helping these two fantastic charities continue their wonderful work.



THREE KINGS OF MUSIC



The King's School Commemoration Service held in the Cathedral saw a very special piece of music being performed for the first time. Involving two ex-King's Directors of Music, the piece was written by Mr Barry Ball who headed the Music Department at King's until his retirement in 2004.

The piece, *Jubilate Deo*, was composed in honour of the 50th Anniversary of the School's move to the current Wrexham Road site. It was performed by the Schola Cantorum, directed by current Director of Music, Mr Robinson and accompanied on the organ by the previous Director of Music, Mr James Millard. This is the first time all three King's Directors of Music have collaborated in what was a unique occasion.

John Gough's piano masterclass

During November, Chester-based concert pianist John Gough made his third visit to King's and presented a masterclass featuring two of the King's School Piano Trios.

Works studied included 'The Dumky Piano Trio' by Dvorak (1st. movement) and 'Valse Russe' by Frank Bridge. Additional musical entertainment was provided by other senior musicians from the School.



Fyfe and flute – in perfect harmony

Andrew Fyfe (U6ML) has gained his Associate of Trinity College London (ATCL) diploma in flute, passing with distinction.

The standard required for the ATCL diploma is equivalent to that expected at the end of first year study at a conservatoire. He joins a growing number of pupils at King's who are progressing beyond Grade 8 level and successfully achieving higher qualifications.



Eisteddfod bound, and in great voice

The King's School Choir has been selected to take part in the Preliminary stage of the Senior Children's Choir competition at the prestigious Llangollen International Eisteddfod 2011.

King's was one of eight choirs to have been selected from 24 entries to compete in the Preliminary Test which takes place in July. Two choirs will be chosen by the adjudicators to advance to the main competition.



OUR GIRLS ARE REALLY ON SONG

Eleanor Sowden (U6ML) has successfully auditioned for the National Youth Choir of Great Britain. After being a member of the NYC Training Choir for the last four years, it is a terrific achievement to be selected for the main choir. This year, the NYC will be continuing their latest CD recording of the music of Henryk Gorecki, and they also have a Gala Concert in the Birmingham Symphony Hall where they will be performing a specially commissioned piece of work by Roxanna Panufnik.

In the next few years the choir will be celebrating their 30th anniversary, going on a world tour and performing in the 2012 Olympics celebratory concert.

Helena Cooke (L6KL) who is already a member of the Hallé Youth Choir, has been awarded a place in the National Youth Training Choir. Originally set up as a single choir made up of 100 of the

best young singers in the UK, NYCGB now comprises an educational structure which includes three Junior Choirs (NYJC), a choir for boys with changing voices (Cambiata), two Training Choirs (NYTC), the National Youth Choir (NYC) itself and the graduate chamber choir, Laudibus.



Joe is a big brass in Wales

Joseph Bentley (U6NH) has been a member of the National Youth Brass Band of Wales for three years already, and will continue to play with the band this year. The NYBBW has a reputation for performing contemporary music, including many premieres and commissions. The band is widely regarded as one of the leading youth brass bands in the world. Recently, Joseph was named as one of only four trumpet players selected to play in National Youth Jazz Wales. The NYJW provides young musicians with the opportunity to work with jazz specialists and learn new skills.

Applicants must be of at least Grade 8 standard on their chosen instrument for both ensembles and competition for places is very tight.



Drop everything and read for World Book Day

King's celebrated World Book Day with a 'drop everything and read' campaign. World Book Day is a worldwide celebration of books and reading, and is marked in over 100 countries around the globe.

For 15 minutes, pupils, teachers and staff stopped what they were doing and read a book. Junior School pupils dressed-up as their favourite literary characters, the Headmaster took a seat in the Library alongside Senior School pupils and even science experiments came to a halt!



Food for thought in NORMANDY

In October Shells and the Third Year pupils travelled to Stella Plage near Le Touquet in Normandy.



Pupils made croissants at a local bakery, visited a chocolate factory and took an excursion to the small market town of Montreuil, immortalised by Victor Hugo in his novel 'Les Misérables'. It is a small walled town with magnificent views over the surrounding countryside.

A trip to the Snail Farm turned out to be extremely interesting. Many pupils were brave enough to taste the various snail products and the reactions were varied! Pupils also went to the market in Le Touquet.

There were plenty of opportunities to buy souvenirs, but it was interesting to see the food for sale, especially the sweets, jam, honey and fish. This was followed by bowling and a visit to a local hypermarket.

On the Sunday morning, pupils stopped at Étaples cemetery. This is the biggest British war cemetery in Northern France. Several of the pupils have relatives buried in this cemetery. It was sobering to see rows and rows of graves and a wreath was placed on behalf of the School.

A favourite amongst the pupils was the Aquarium in Boulogne, with a huge variety of fish and a touch pool. Mrs Rourke was most impressed by everyone's attitude and how pupils were prepared to converse in French.



COMEDY CHARITY CAPERS

Pupils raised money to see Charlie Colicutt (L6KL) dress up for the recent Dr Who Quiz. The Sixth Former also volunteered to be waxed if sufficient money was raised! Charlie kept to his word, duly dressing up as a woman and having his legs waxed the following day, all in the name of charity.

Courageous teachers took part in a Soak the Teacher event. Pupils who made a donation were allowed to pelt their teachers with wet sponges!

On the day of Comic Relief, pupils, teachers and staff turned up in fancy dress to raise money. There were some fantastic costumes, ranging from Prince William and Kate Middleton to a Smarties box. Red noses were sold all week with some lucky pupils finding winning silver and gold tickets.

Many congratulations to the organisers and to everyone for joining in. The total amount raised for Comic Relief was just under £2,000.



Exploring the history and joys of Jordan

Over the October half term holiday, two groups of Shells and Third Year pupils took part in a week long personal development expedition to Jordan.

Pupils visited the country's capital city of Amman and travelled to the Dana Nature Reserve. The groups trekked through this area with a local guide, taking in the scenery and visiting the historic Nabatean tombs, looking out for wildlife, before spending the night in traditional Bedouin tents.

During the expedition, the groups also visited the ancient city of Petra. This gave them the opportunity to explore the red rose tinted ruins and famous stone carvings. Pupils bartered for mementos and presents, inducing much hilarity amongst shop owners and camel drivers.

Pupils also enjoyed camel rides, an afternoon snorkelling in Aqaba and a 4x4 trip around the sites made famous by Lawrence of Arabia in Wadi Rum.

The final day provided a last chance to visit the city sites of the Citadel and Roman Amphitheatre. It was a wonderful expedition, made particularly special by the friendliness of the Jordanian people and the obvious enjoyment of the pupils.



Hoops 4 Health hold court



During February, the Cheshire Jets basketball team visited the Junior School on their Hoops 4 Health Roadshow.

Assistant coach, John Lavery, was accompanied by star players Colin O'Reilly (team captain), Steve Smith and Gareth Murray.

The Jets talked to pupils about the importance of a healthy lifestyle and discussed topics such as nutrition, smoking and exercise. The pupils were also introduced to basic basketball skills and effective movement around the court.



Stepping back in time...

During January and February, the Junior School turned back the clocks with a number of history-themed workshops. Pupils from across different age groups learned about the Victorians, the Tudors and the Vikings.

The action-packed sessions brought history to life with pupils taking part in role play and craft-making activities. They learned about King Henry VIII and his wives, how to fight like a Viking and what life was like as a Victorian servant.



Former pupil Andy shares his Le Mans experiences

During February, former pupil and Le Mans racing driver Andy Meyrick visited the Junior School. He spoke to current pupils about his experiences of racing for Aston Martin and reminisced about his time at King's. He had plenty of stories to tell! Andy was a pupil at the Junior and Senior School from 1993 to 2002. Pupils were enthralled as he talked about the commitment and hard work required to become successful.



Every one's a little Angel

Every pupil in the Junior School performed a sung cantata with the theme of 'Angels on High' for their annual Christmas concert, held at Chester Cathedral for the first time.

Always a favourite event for the children (and their parents too), the pupils thoroughly enjoyed singing and performing, whether they were experiencing their first concert at seven years old or, indeed, seasoned performers at eleven!



Arran performs for the Welsh First Minister

Arran Fearn (J30) represented the School at the opening of the Quay Health Centre, the second largest health centre in Wales.

He sang a solo and played the cello before being introduced to the Right Honourable First Minister of Wales, Carwyn Jones.

J2 steal the show...

J2 stage a glittering performance of 'The Snow Queen' by Hans Christian Anderson.

Directed by Miss Anderson, with the assistance of Mrs Tomlinson, the pupils of J2 dazzled the audience with an adaptation of this classic tale following the journey of brave Gerda – Alchemy Lucas (J2A) – in search of her bewitched brother Kai – Joe Webb (J2D).

The scheming Flower Witch was played by Ailsa Black (J2A), the newly-wed royal couple, Prince Crispin and Princess Christina, were brought to life by Daniel Sharratt (J2D) and Emily Haughton (J2D), whilst William Moore (J2T) was the wise Wizard of Finland. A comic interlude was provided by the entertaining Crow family of Jake Wundke (J2A), Aylish Maclean (J2D) and Paddy Barlow (J2D).

Every member of J2 had a speaking role in the play, a highlight of the Junior School calendar. Spectacular costumes were provided by parents. Musical direction was provided by Mrs Barbara Roberts, the set was designed by Miss Kirsty Savage and Mr Haydn Duncalf led the backstage crew.



MINI MARVELS AT HOCKEY



The U11 Girls' Hockey team, who are the current Cheshire Mini Hockey champions, recently competed in the North West Mini Hockey Championships, held at Upton. After excellent results against Stockport Grammar School, Queen's School and Kirkham Grammar School, the girls have qualified to represent the region in the North finals at Leeds University.

The team's success has been accredited to its excellent defence, with goalkeeper Sophie Reeks (J4G), Megan Gareh (J4H) and captain Annie Powell (J4H), rarely conceding a goal.



Hockey Juniors make history

Junior School pupils have made history by winning the AJIS U11 Hockey tournament for the first time. As comfortable winners of their group, they went on to face Cheadle Hulme in the semi-finals. King's were victorious, with two goals from Rory Monk (J4T).

In the tournament final against Kirkham, the King's team were considered to be the underdogs. Kirkham were the holders of the title and hosts of the tournament, with an army of noisy supporters. The goalkeeper, James Tomlinson (J4H) made a series of heart-

stopping saves before Miles Meredith (J4H) gave King's the lead in the first half. Kirkham pressed hard but Miles scored his sixth goal of the tournament to put the game beyond doubt. Tom Thelwall-Jones (J4T) was voted King's player of the tournament.

Juniors

Our Junior School has reached the ripe old age of...

100 years



And we'd like you to join us in the celebrations!

From a Birthday Fun Day to the launch of our Junior Cook Book, help us celebrate the Junior School Centenary.

Look out for our full events listing email or visit:

www.kingschester.co.uk for more information




THE KING'S SCHOOL
CHESTER



Another tournament triumph in the basket

Congratulations to the Senior Boys' Basketball team on their win in the Chester & District Basketball Tournament.

The team started the tournament brightly against Catholic High, taking an early lead which was never lost, despite the handicap of playing the final three minutes with only four players.

Their next opponents, Bishop Heber, looked to be dangerous opposition.

The team continued where they left off in their previous game – excellent defence, with the intimidating pairing of Michael Collins (U6JK) and Alexander Way-Rider (L6AM) under the basket, combined with great interplay and a good shot conversion rate.

King's had to beat Queens Park High School in their final group game to reach the final. Marvin Hayes (L6SP) was untouchable, though all played well with Elliot Garnell (L6DY) and Jack Salisbury (L6SP) gaining in confidence. The 18-0 scoreline demonstrates how well the team played.

After a short rest, the boys were ready for the final. Upton High School were clearly a good team, but after an early Garnell basket King's settled and, once more, played beautifully. The team were crowned tournament champions, winning 13-0.

SUCCESS FOR INTER-SCHOOL GALA SWIMMERS



After the success of the Chester and District year group swimming galas, pupils competed in their first inter-school gala for many years, away at Sandbach School.

Some excellent performances from Removes, Shells, Third and Fourth Years resulted in a strong win by twenty points. All contributed well, in particular Alan Prossor (RmSC), Simon Ellershaw (ShLP) and Sam Wild (ShLP).

Local dignitaries get the 'pudding' treatment

In December, the MP for Chester, Mr. Stephen Mosley, together with the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Chester, attended The King's School annual Pudding Races at the Boathouse, along with more than 200 supporters, parents and rowers.

This annual event, which originates from the 1950s, involves all of the junior rowers taking on the senior rowing squads, with the winners being presented with Christmas puddings.

Eleven VIIIs competed for the coveted puddings. In addition, twelve J14 teams competed in a team format for the junior puddings.

It was a wonderful morning and a fitting end to a successful term. The MP and Lord Mayor of Chester presented awards to the winning crews at the end of the day.



Rowers find their stroke at Hampton

The King's School Rowing Club had a very successful weekend at the recent Hampton Head race in London.



The race draws competitors and crews from across the country and has more than 20 crews in most categories. 14 King's crews were entered in total, with ten crews finishing in the top five of their categories.

There were three outstanding performances on the day: in their first national level race the J14 girls' VIII won their category, as did the J15 boys' second VIII and the J15 boys' coxed four.

The girls' J15 coxed four came 2nd in their event along with the J15 Championship VIII and the J14 coxed quad.

In all, the King's J14 and J15 crews dominated the junior draw with medal wins in both girls' and boys' categories. The senior girls' squad also competed well: in their first competition of the season the girls' 1st VIII finished joint 3rd with rival school Headington, from Oxford.



CAMBRIDGE CALL-UP FOR ROWER, MIKE

Former pupil, Mike Thorp, has been selected to race in the Cambridge blue boat for the 2011 University Boat Race. Mike left King's in 2009 to study History at Homerton, Cambridge. Last year, Mike was selected for the Cambridge Goldie boat, a massive achievement in his first year of university.

Mike started his rowing career at King's, first taking to the water as a J13 at the age of twelve.

Tremendous effort at Triathlon trials



Recently, 84 pupils competed in The King's School Triathlon. The Sprint Triathlon, held over 2000m on the rowing machine, a 5000m run and 12 lengths of the pool, was won by Ralph Elsegood (4MG) and Megan Pode (3DB). The Seniors completed a gruelling task of a 5000m ergo, a 5000m run and 30 lengths of the pool.

These were all competed back-to-back with the clock running throughout. Alice Carr (4MG) won the Girls' Senior Event, completing the race in just under an hour. Harry Ashworth (L6ER) won the Boys' Senior Event with a time of 51 minutes and 30 seconds. It was a fantastic effort by the pupils, all of whom had also either completed two races the day before on the Dee or rowed 24k at Nottingham on the National Watersports Lake. The winners of each category will receive trophies. Medals were awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd places.

Boys' hockey teams up their game...



The Boys' Hockey squads have been keeping up the pace with the Girls' squad after an excellent season so far. In particular, the first XI has provided some magnificent performances, including a 16-0 victory over Cheadle Hulme.

Jonny Verity (5CM) deserves a special mention after scoring a phenomenal amount of goals. Team captain Matt Harle (U6ML) and goalkeeper Lewis Ankers (U6JS) have been accredited for some of the team's fine defensive displays. The first XI are Cheshire champions, North West champions and Northern champions.

The 16s/15s squad continue to deliver good performances. Tom Armatage (4EH) and Ally Coley (4EH) have both been highlighted by the coaches as possible first XI players in the future. Goalkeeper Olly Church (4PN) has been selected for further England U16 trials.

However, it is the current Removes and Shells teams that have been labelled the most exciting. They are showing real promise for the future and are winning games comfortably, with many pupils filling in year group teams above their age. Dan Verity (RmSC) is following the example set by his older brother Jonny Verity by topping the goal scorers list.



National success for hockey girls

Both U14 and U19 King's Girls' Hockey squads have beaten a host of Cheshire schools to win the National Schools Tournament (County Round). Both squads went on to represent Cheshire at the North West stage of the competition in Timperley, Altrincham.

The U14 squad defeated Lymm, Wilmslow, Queen's, Fallibroome and King's Macclesfield. They did not concede any goals during these games. Although they were beaten in the North West Round, the team put in some great performances and gained valuable experience.

The U19s, captained by Siobhan Barnard (U6BH) and Kate Saunders (U6ML), also won the Cheshire Round of the National Schools Tournament comfortably, beating Lymm High School, Wilmslow High School, The Queen's School, The Grange and King's Macclesfield. The young King's team performed extremely well against some experienced opposition. In the North West Round, they competed against Sheffield High School from South Yorkshire, Stockport Grammar from Greater Manchester, and St. Edwards College, Merseyside.



The King's Girls were victorious, beating Stockport Grammar 2-1 in the Final to be crowned the U19 Girls' North West Hockey Champions.

After losing 1-0 in their opening match, King's won their next two group games playing some excellent hockey. Convincing wins against Hymers College of Hull and St. Peter's of York meant King's were through to the semi-final against Arnold School, Blackpool. Jenny Corlett (L6SW) possibly played the best match of her hockey career, determined to control her circle and make sure Arnold, traditionally a very strong hockey school, did not score.

Kate Saunders once again proved why she is an exceptional talent on the pitch, running at the defence and looking threatening in the circle at the other end of the pitch.

A 0-0 draw at full-time forced a penalty stroke competition to see who would go through to the final. King's unfortunately lost out on the strokes and a place in the final. Although disappointed not to win the competition, the King's girls performed exceptionally well in achieving the position of the third best U19 team in the North of England.

Winning performers for Cheshire SFA

Two students from King's were part of the Cheshire SFA football team that beat Merseyside SFA 1-0 at Formby FC.

Harry Peel (U6BH) captained the Cheshire team. He was outstanding in midfield, scoring the winner with only ten minutes left to play. His overall attitude on a cold night and a frozen pitch was first class. Harry's calm, accurate distribution was a major influence on the team's performance. He is also a tough competitor in the middle of the pitch.



Josh Murray (L6AM) played the full match at right back with his usual pace, commitment and enthusiasm. His overall mobility contributed to the team's success, as did his fantastic work-rate and positive attitude.



IN FORM AT INDOOR HOCKEY

To add to an already successful season, the U19 girls were also crowned Chester and District Indoor Hockey Champions and Cheshire Indoor Champions. King's beat Christleton High School, Bishop Heber High School and Wilmslow High School to keep the U19 trophy in the cabinet for the third successive hockey season. Captained by Siobhan Barnard (U6BH) and Kate Saunders (U6ML), the squad were unbeaten in the final, held at Wrexham University on March 9th, 2011.

In the County Indoor Hockey Tournament at U14 level, with the squad captained by Ellie Kearney-Mitchell (3CG), the team were undefeated in the first round. In the first year they have played a tournament at this level, they can be proud of their silver medals.

In the U16 age group, the squad had a more difficult first round game, losing only to Bishop Heber High School. As high scoring runners-up they progressed through to the final, only to be defeated in the semi-final on penalty strokes. Hannah Dent (5CM) and her team can be pleased with their third place position.



U13 footballers' cup run

After showing a great deal of promise, the U13 football team have performed exceptionally well in the ISFA cup reaching the last four of the national competition. In a thrilling 4-2 victory over St Bede's in the quarter final, Shun Sato (ShRA), Will Smith (ShTK), Sam Pode (ShLP) and Stephen Wynne (ShTK) were outstanding performers. The U13s then played host to a much favoured Hampton School. Unfortunately, their cup run came to an end with a 3-0 defeat. It was an unfortunate result for the team, who looked at times to be dominating the game.

Before half term, the U13s defeated Knutsford School away in the Cheshire Cup to reach the final, with Alex Jaquiss (ShTK) scoring the only goal. They played against Neston High School in the final and were unlucky to lose 2-0.



23rd and 24th June

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Sophie is our Ice Queen

Sophie Reeks (J4G) has been selected to represent the North of England at ice hockey in the U11 age group for the second consecutive year. She is already the captain of the Manchester Phoenix U12 team. Sophie is due to attend a four-day training camp during the Easter holidays prior to a national tournament between each conference (Scotland, North, Midland, South East and South West) in May.

James takes charge!

James Kalaher (3DB) has succeeded in passing the Chester & District Football Association refereeing course. The course took four weeks to complete, finishing with an exam. James is now looking forward to testing his refereeing skills in local youth football matches.

All-round success for Fraser

Fraser Smellie (RmPH) has been awarded a cricket cap for Wales. This success follows his representation for North East Wales last summer. Fraser, a cricket all-rounder who bats, bowls and is an outstanding fielder both close to wicket and in the deep, was also awarded the President's Bat (the award for best cricketer) at July's Prizegiving ceremony.

6th, 20th & 27th May

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For boys & girls 7-11



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Web: www.kingschester.co.uk Email: admissions@kingschester.co.uk