



THE KING'S SCHOOL  
CHESTER

# Herald

All the news from The King's School, Chester

With everything from stargazing to sports, and singing to studying, there's never a dull moment at King's!



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## More students off to Oxbridge!



**Four Sixth Form students have been offered places at Oxford and Cambridge Universities this year. This brings the total number of King's pupils' offers to an Oxbridge university to 80 in the last nine years.**

Bradley Davies (U6SB) has received an offer for Exeter College, Oxford, to study Chemistry, James Goulbourne to read Economics at Homerton College, Cambridge, Luke Howarth (U6SW) to read English at Christ Church, Oxford and Hattie Webb (U6SB) to read Archaeology and Anthropology at Magdalene College, Cambridge.

The Sixth Form have achieved a very high number of university offers in the 2011/2012 application cycle with a total of 443 offers being made by the end of March. This includes over 40 students receiving offers from all five of their choices, making this one of the most successful university offers in recent years. In the most competitive areas of Medicine and Dentistry 11 students have successfully gained offers with two students both achieving a remarkable three offers each. There has also been strong success at some of the more competitive universities too with over 25 students gaining offers from Oxford, Cambridge, Durham, Warwick, UCL, Bristol and Edinburgh.



## Seeing stars at Jodrell Bank

**As part of the enrichment course, the Astronomy group visited Jodrell Bank for an afternoon. The pupils learned about the principles of radio astronomy, which has been practised there for over 50 years using the giant Lovell telescope, focusing in particular on the detection of pulsars whose discovery was made by English astrophysicist Jocelyn Bell.**

Following this was a session in a 3D planetarium allowing them to learn more about some notable stars and constellations visible at any given time. Finally, the pupils undertook a self-guided tour of indoor exhibitions and of course the large-scale hardware outside! The Sun even made an appearance allowing for the location of sunspots on a projection device.

### Removes bring Latin to life

On the last day of term, the Removes took part in the annual Removes' Latin Reading Competition, which brings Latin alive for actors and audience alike.

Seven teams acted out the demise of the dastardly criminal, Hermogenes, and the arbiter, Mr. Punnett, was treated to some fantastic performances. Congratulations to the winners: RmGA/LB!







## YOUNG ARTISTS ON DISPLAY AT SAATCHI'S ONLINE GALLERY

An array of art pieces created by pupils is currently on view on the Saatchi Gallery website as part of the 'International Art Prize for Schools' competition in connection with The Telegraph. This is the first year that King's have entered the competition with a range of age groups and media. Last year saw a large number of entries with competition being extremely high. Although King's do not have any finalists this year, pupils' work will remain on the website until the end of the year.



## National School league tables – King's scores explained

The government league tables were released in January 2012. The purpose is to be able to compare schools' performances. In both tables – A level and GCSE, King's results do not reflect the true success of our pupils.

### GOVERNMENT GCSE LEAGUE TABLES 2011

The GCSE results measure the following:

- Percentage of pupils with five A\*-C, GCSEs including Maths and English
- Percentage of Pupils with the English Baccalaureate (Maths, English, History or Geography, a Science and a Foreign Language)

The King's School results show 86% of pupils obtaining five GCSEs including Maths and English. **The true percentage is 100%** as the figures don't include 15 pupils who took their GCSE Maths a year earlier and were actually studying for AS level Maths during their GCSE year.

The King's School English Baccalaureate score is 54%. All King's pupils in 2011 took Maths, two English, three Sciences and at least one Foreign Language. However, we give pupils the option to choose their other subjects and not all choose either History or Geography. **All the GCSE options at King's are equally academically rigorous subjects.**



### GOVERNMENT A LEVEL RESULTS 2011

King's score is shown as 975.9. However, **King's does not certificate AS levels**, which gain points in this particular table. State schools must certificate AS level but independent schools can choose. UCAS points are irrelevant for pupils getting places at the top universities – they simply want top A level grades.

There is no point in certificating (or 'cashing in') AS levels other than to score UCAS points which less selective universities use for admissions, or which might compensate for poor A level performance. Our candidates very rarely need this compensation. **If King's had certificated the AS levels, our score would be: 1062.3** per candidate. Likewise, most King's pupils concentrate on the three good A levels which are needed for university entrance and do not always take four. A fourth low-scoring A level, even though useless for university entrance, will be counted in this table.

As an independent school, King's welcomes the freedom to choose the best curriculum for our talented pupils and this does not always fit the government's view of a successful school.

## Christmas concert raises cash for cancer charity

**The School hosted a Charity Christmas Concert in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support before the Christmas holidays.**

The concert featured the Sinfonia which was directed by Ms Kath Andrews and the Wind Band under the direction of Miss Victoria Latifa. They came together to perform a number of Christmas pieces including 'The Nutcracker' and 'Jingle Bell Rock', to a watchful audience of parents. The Concert raised £160 for Macmillan Cancer Support.



## Winners in business at EntrepreneursLIVE!

**Three teams of Year 10 business and economics students took part in the EntrepreneursLIVE! Conference in Manchester. This business enrichment day is organised to coincide with Global Enterprise Week and is hosted by Tutor2u for GCSE and A level Business Studies students throughout the country and takes place in London, Birmingham and Manchester.**



Teams of students from schools all over the North West are given an opportunity to pitch their business ideas to some of the UK's most successful entrepreneurs. This year the business challenge was set by Tom Mercer, the founder of MOMA Foods, a healthy breakfast brand that is looking to break into the schools' market. Of the five teams selected in the North West, three teams were chosen from King's.

Team 3 Musketeers: Grace Roberts (4FV), Lucy Middlehurst (4DL) and Kitty Abberton (4DL) pitched their product idea; 'Just So', an innovative porridge product aimed at primary school breakfast clubs. The 3 Musketeers won 'The best pitch' on the day and collected a £150 cash prize.

Team Heaven: Kate Rothwell (4FV), Maud Moir (4AC) and Mark Breese (4CM), pitched their idea, 'Zilch', a healthy breakfast 'biscuit' aimed at the chaotic teenager!

Team Rap Dat Pancake: Divya Avula (4FV), Ben Johnson (4MW) and Sam Jones (4MW), pitched their idea, a 'fresh' fruit pancake, aimed at consumers on the go.

In the style of Dragons' Den, the teams faced tough questions from entrepreneurs Adam King (founder of King and Allen, makers of Savile Row quality bespoke suits at affordable prices), Tom Ball (founder of Cognac, a communications business) and Rachel Bridge (Enterprise Editor of the Sunday Times).

## STUDENT INVESTORS TEAM OUTPERFORM THE FTSE100

**For the second year running, a team of King's students reached the regional final of the ifs Student Investor competition.**

The team calling themselves HOGbRokers and comprising Upper Sixth Form students Hattie Webb (U6SB), Olivia Jackson (U6SP), George Vickers (U6TH) and Ryan Thompson (U6ML) turned the value of their virtual portfolio of shares from £100,000 to £113,777.60 over the 4 month period of the competition outperforming the FTSE100 which rose only by about 5% over the same period. They came 15th out of 1737 teams in 'North Wales and the English Midlands' region and 85th out of 9,200 nationally to reach regional final, which was held at The Public in West Bromwich on 21st March. During the day, the team improved their placing to seventh but did not get through to the national final. Well done to them.



**Apology.** Our apologies go to Sean Telford (L6NS), who was mistakenly omitted from the GSCE results article featured in the Winter edition of the Herald. Congratulations to Sean who received 10 A\*'s at GCSE.





## Vanbrugh comes back to school after 300 years – what a farce!

**Three hundred years is a long time to wait to see someone again – but in this case it was well worth it!**

First produced in 1710, Sir John Vanbrugh's farce *The Country House* was brought to The King's School theatre which bears his name for a week's run in December, 2011. Adapted and directed by Theatr Clwyd's, Emma Lucia and designed by Judith Croft of the Library Theatre, Manchester, *The Country House* explores what happens when a peace-loving, middle-aged countryman takes his young, urban socialite of a wife to live the good life in rural peace and tranquillity – or maybe not! To no one's very great surprise, mayhem of all kinds ensues – and the cast of pupils from Removes to Sixth Form absolutely made the most of every hilarious minute of it.

If the ghost of ex-King's pupil, Sir John Vanbrugh did hover over the production, he would surely have approved.



## GOING PURPLE FOR KIDNEY RESEARCH

**In February, the School turned purple as pupils and staff added a touch of purple to their normal attire.**

£1,075.73 was raised and donated to Kidney Research UK, a charity close to the school's heart. Masterminded by Mr Chris Morris and with the support of the Charity Committee, proceeds of the event were added to his other fundraising activities for the charity. Mr Morris is running the London Marathon later this year for Kidney Research.





What a fantastic

## *Jekyll & HYDE* performance

Change was in the air. The venerable School Hall, scene of so many memorable King's School productions, had been transformed in 2011 into the current, fully-equipped Vanbrugh Theatre. Plays and concerts had graced the new theatre's early months, but how would it stand up to the test of a whole-school musical?

With transformation at its very heart, Wildhorn and Bricusse's musical version of Robert Louis Stevenson's 1884 novella *Jekyll & Hyde* proved an inspired choice on the part of director Toby Hughes and musical director Philip Robinson. But initial auditions in September threw up the first of many challenges: too much talent! Undeterred, the dynamic directing duo set about organising some fiendishly complicated double-casting – two magnificently different Jekylls with their own two fearfully different Hydes – in order to showcase as much of the School's musical and dramatic talent as possible.



And the results were stunning! Forty pupils, from Removes to Upper Sixth Form, played roles large and small, in a complex interplay of solo and chorus work designed to challenge seasoned musical theatre professionals. And they rose to the challenge magnificently, one minute imploring us to 'take me as I am' in a tender love duet, the next minute giving us an insight into the dangers of Lucy's 'dangerous game' or Jekyll's tormented sense of being 'lost in the darkness' – to say nothing of the rip-roaring chorus numbers 'Facade' and 'Murder! Murder!' and the absolutely show-stopping 'Bring on the Men!' Truly they gave us all what Hyde describes as 'a feeling of being alive'!

But this show brought out the students' talents in so many other ways as well. Guided by theatre technician Stuart Mannix, students called every cue from the state-of-the-art sound and lighting box, liaising on cans with their peers in the backstage crew. Under the baton of musical director Philip Robinson, meanwhile, students played a full part in the orchestra, whilst outside the theatre yet more students worked on set-painting, costumes, props, hair, make-up, publicity and the front-of-house team. And, in full tuxedo, we truly had the best-dressed curtain man in the business!

So did the Vanbrugh Theatre stand the test? Magnificently! 'A new life,' sings Lucy, 'what I wouldn't give to have a new life!' For her, as for so many characters in *Jekyll & Hyde*, that remains only a dream, but for the old King's School Hall, now transformed into the Vanbrugh Theatre, a 'brand new life' has only just begun. No dodgy potions required here – just a spot of re-building and a whole lot of our students' quite outrageous talent!





## We all share a Passion for Poetry!

Following on from the Passion for Poetry Marathon in October, all students were invited to write a poem on any aspect of the Winter Season. An impressive range of entries were received from all age groups and judging proved, as usual, very difficult. The 12 shortlisted poets read their poems aloud to an appreciative audience of students and staff (and Santa) in our Seasonal Poetry Celebration on the 14th December.

As part of the Passion for Poetry Christmas performances, pupils wrote their own haikus on a Christmas theme. Haikus are a form of imagist poetry following the line syllable pattern of 5, 7, 5, which traditionally offer a condensed word-picture of emotions or the natural world. Pupils wrote their haikus on paper Christmas decorations and then hung them up on a special 'poetree' in the Vanbrugh Theatre for all to enjoy.

Most recently, a Valentine's Day poetry competition was launched in February. Pupils were asked to compose a sonnet in praise of anything they love. A stimulating mix of sonnets was submitted by pupils and joint first place went to Barnaby Rule (ShJJ) and Duncan Ritchie (5MP) and joint second place went to Amelia Jones (ShHB) and Joe Gillett (ShRA).



## Speaking out for King's, at the Grange Country Club

**At the start of the new term, nine brave students made the journey to The Grange Country Club in Thornton Hough to participate in the annual Rotary 'Youth Speaks' public speaking competition. The hosts, the South Wirral Rotary Club, provided an excellent opportunity for local schools to engage with this national competition and the students chose to speak on the theme of the Olympics.**

King's were represented at Intermediate level by Emily Jones (3HL), Dexter Southern (3JR) and Stanley Parker (3DR). They spoke very eloquently on the topic of the Paralympics, giving the audience lots to consider. King's were represented at Senior level by two teams. Will Copley (5EH), Tommy Metcalf (5ET) and Ananth Ranjit (5PN) spoke engagingly on the topic of 'fair play' in the Olympic Games and dealt well with some very difficult questions from the floor. Inevitably, the teams were in competition with each other and the next team of Jack Webber (5JM), Hayley Milner (5MP) and Rudi Macloskey (5JM) were deemed the eventual winners of the Senior competition; their topic was the role of the Olympic Games as a political tool. Hayley Milner was judged best chair person of the evening and the whole team went forward to the next round of the competition, the District Final. This was held at Theatr Clwyd on 24th February, 2012.

Despite giving an excellent performance, the team were not put through to the Regional Finals but they were commended on the quality of their speeches.



## Getting the inside story at Jaguar Land Rover

**Sixth Formers who are studying Design & Technology were given an opportunity to visit Jaguar Land Rover Halewood before the half term.**

This extraordinary and exclusive tour offered a first-hand insight into the manufacture of both the Freelander 2 and the innovative and exciting new Range Rover Evoque. Students were privileged to witness all stages of manufacture from raw material input through to final vehicle testing. The sensory experience of this truly innovative manufacturing facility was something that couldn't fail to inform, excite and inspire.





## Well done to all our chess mates

It has been an eventful few weeks for Chess at King's. In February, the school played host for the first time to the Northern Special Qualifying round of the prestigious Yateley Manor National Schools' Chess Championships; King's were able to field two strong teams. The King's A team won all their matches, but due to an age handicap, they were runners up to Bolton School, whilst King's B team were placed third.



At the beginning of March, King's A team played Manchester Grammar School for the first time in many years. Manchester Grammar School is the current National Schools' Chess Champions and they fielded an extremely strong team. King's A team fought valiantly on all six boards during the two hours of play and both teams were quite evenly matched, however Manchester Grammar School's team eventually got the upper hand. The final scores were King's 2, Manchester Grammar 4. This was the A

teams first defeat in two years and only the second in over four years.

Congratulations to all the students involved; Ryan Thompson (U6ML), Davin Menon (L6NH), Matthew Temple (L6KS), Susan Gorman (5PN), Sam Arshad-Roberts (5JM), Henry Thompson (5EH), Animesh Anand (4FV), James Little (3HL), Haran Makwana (3DR), Ben Cliff (3DR), Fergus Davidson (3DR), Rishi Lakshmanan (ShHB), Owen Edwards (RmJW) and Ally Bibby (RmGA).

## Visiting 'The Playboy of the Western World' in London

Last month saw 15 Sixth Form Literature pupils brace overcrowded trains and tubes to travel down to The Old Vic theatre in London, where an outstanding performance of 'Playboy of the Western World' awaited them.

For many of the pupils, it was their first experience of Irish drama and it did not disappoint. Once they grew accustomed to the thick Irish accent, they could only admire the striking reflection of Irish peasant life and the strength and traditions of their communities. The performance was a raging success, abounding in comedy and tragedy.



## VIP guests hand out the Pudding Race prizes

**The annual Pudding Races were held in December. In total 99 school rowers competed on the water in V8s whilst another 32 pupils competed indoors on the rowing machines.**

After three hours of action-packed side-by-side racing, the crew sponsored by Cazenove Capital Management, "Balthasar", were crowned winners of the 2011 Pudding Races by one length over the crew named "Scrooge". In the gym there were some very competitive battles on the rowing machines in teams of four, with the team of Harry Strudwick (3DR), Alastair Andrady (3DB),

Christian Palmer (3DB) and Katie Lawrence-Smith (3DB) finishing as eventual winners.

All the members of the winning teams were awarded their Christmas puddings by the Mayor of Chester. Following the racing the club recognised past members with a boat-naming ceremony. Single Sculls were named after Tom Menzies, Katy Levitt and Charlotte Gillies, past captains of the club. The MP for Chester, Mr Stephen Mosley then spoke to the spectators before officially naming a new single scull after Mark Machin. Mrs Imfeld spoke in place of her son, Franz, who this year has had a coxless pair

named after him after his silver medal at the Junior World Rowing Championships in 2009. Gavin Mitchell, winner of the Visitors' Cup at Henley Royal Regatta in 1993 with The King's School Rowing Club, launched the girls' squad new coxed four. Finally Mrs Karen Shapland, teacher and coach at King's launched the new girls' V8.





## A success story for six young writers

**Six pupils were successfully selected in 'Young Writers' latest Mini Sagas creative writing competition, to be published in April. Pupils were shortlisted based on imagination, expression and creative use of language.**

Copies of the book 'Mini Sagas – Swashbuckling Stories Northern Tales' can be found in the British Library and further libraries across the UK. The judges of the competition will now go on to select school winners at the end of March. The prizes for the best schools across the series will win £1,000 first prize, £500 second prize and £250 third prize, and will be awarded once the books in this series have been published on 30th April 2012. King's would like to congratulate the following pupils:

- Sophie Cliff (RmJW)
- Damayanti Chatterjee (ShJJ)
- Hannah Rose Lindley (ShJJ)
- Emily Cresswell (RmJW)
- Oscar Lloyd Williams (5mP)
- Lottie Cousins (RmJW)



## Life is an adventure for our Duke of Edinburgh Award candidates

This year over a hundred students have registered for the Duke of Edinburgh award, with 16 working at gold level. Working with their expedition partners, Plas y Brenin, students have already started training for their expeditions. The silver and gold groups were in Snowdonia over Easter for the practice expeditions and again in the summer for the qualifying events.

To complete the other required elements of the Award, students have been involved with a wide range of activities including cookery courses, football coaching, helping at an animal rescue centre and bee-keeping.

In February, former pupil Emily Parker was also presented by Prince Philip with a gold Duke of Edinburgh Award for undertaking a number of activities including: Snowdonia expedition in very wet weather conditions, her voluntary work in Oxfam, her skill in achieving grade 6 piano and for completion of the Chester half marathon, for which she raised £300 for Macmillan Cancer Research.

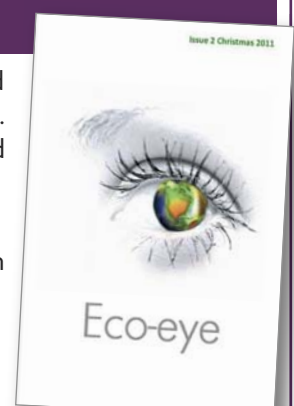


## READ ALL ABOUT IT! ECO EYE HOT OFF THE PRESS FOR CHRISTMAS

The Eco Eye Team and the Geography Society completed their second edition of the Eco Eye just before Christmas. The pupils wrote the articles, collated all of the pages and edited and reviewed the contributions, all of which was done in their own time.

The Christmas edition featured articles and comments on a wide range of topics and also included games, puzzles, photo competitions, an introduction of their own cartoon strip and an interesting ethical Christmas List.

Eco Eye can be found on the website.





## A marathon performance from our musical master

### In April, Mr Rees will take his place as one of thousands of runners in the London Marathon.

As if running over 26 miles was not enough of a challenge, he and two other friends will carry their cellos for the whole race, stopping to play appropriate pieces as they go along. Those of you who watch the event on the BBC may get to hear renditions of Bon Jovi's 'Livin on a Prayer' after 13 miles and Sinatra's classic 'My Way' a mile from the finish line!

The musically minded trio formed in 2003 after watching an inspirational documentary on extreme ironing and, thanks to the creative catalyst of fine claret, the concept of 'Extreme Cello' was born. Since then they have performed in a variety of unusual locations to raise money for various good causes. Mr Rees has particularly fond memories of playing from the dome of St Paul's Cathedral, the summit of Ben Nevis and BBC 1's Breakfast News studio. In June, Mr Rees will also have the honour of being an Olympic torch bearer.

This year they are raising sponsorship for spinal injury charity Aspire. To donate go to: [www.justgiving.com/extremecello2012](http://www.justgiving.com/extremecello2012) or contact Mr Rees direct. To learn more about the history of extreme cello playing visit the website: [www.extremecello.com](http://www.extremecello.com).



## HERO'S AWARD FOR TORI

Cadet Colour Sergeant Victoria (Tori) Davies of The King's School Chester Combined Cadet Force (CCF), was honoured in March by the Order of St John with the presentation of a Certificate of Honour, which is one of the Order's Life Saving Awards.



The presentation, made during an investiture in the order's historic 12th century Priory Church in London's Clerkenwell, recognised Tori's heroism on 19th July 2010 when she saved the life of her friend Susannah whilst attempting to cross a river in the Cumbrian Fells.

Tori attributed her handling of the incident to the first aid, survival and orienteering skills she learned as a CCF cadet. She was nominated for her award by the Combined Cadet Force Association, a Special Centre of St John Ambulance, which is a foundation of the Order of St John. First aid training is delivered to all the cadet forces through their St John Ambulance Centre under arrangements first put in place over 50 years ago.

Tori's award is the first Certificate of Honour ever to have been awarded to a cadet of the cadet forces.



## Acting like Scrooge at Christmas

**Centenary celebrations were wrapped up in style for the Junior School with a spectacular Christmas concert at Chester Cathedral.**



The Junior School performed a musical version of Scrooge to the delight of a packed audience. Musicians from the orchestra serenaded parents and guests before the drama unfolded.

Children from across the school took part in the Dickensian tale of the miserly Scrooge, who was played with fine spirit by William Medland (J4G).

He was supported by a talented cast including Charlie Clarke (J4G), Alistair Smellie (J4H), Arran Fearn (J4H), Lucas Arthur (J4H), Rohan Ingley (J4H), Erin Morgan (J4G) and Anna Chadwick (J4G).

Pupils from the first year, led by Mary (Lily McNamara, J1T) and Joseph (Joseph Flory, J1T)

created a poignant tableau of the Nativity Scene whilst the school sang 'A Child's Prayer At Christmas' by Edmund Walters.

The choir and musicians were directed by Mrs Barbara Roberts and the play was directed by Mrs Vanessa Gibson.



## Stop what you're doing – and read a book!



The whole School celebrated World Book Day 2012 by raising money for the '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, whilst in the Senior school, pupils in the classroom, in the library and even those in the middle of science experiments came to a halt!

## ON YOUR MARKS, GET SET... COOK!

**Pupils from the Junior School found a recipe for success during an exciting 'On Your Marks, Get Set, Cook!' session. Working with the 'Fun into Food' team from school caterers, Chartwells, two teams of children, competed against the clock in front of fellow pupils to create the best healthy dish from a selection of mystery ingredients.**

The sessions were designed to help the pupils learn basic cookery techniques and discover more about healthy eating and nutrition. As well as practical cookery tips, the teams also looked at the origins of foods and their nutritional value.

The Green Team, led by teacher Mrs Rudd, prepared a chickpea and spinach Balti with rice. The rival Red Team, led by teacher Mr O'Neill, cooked mini meatballs and noodles with a sweet and sour sauce. After 15 frantic minutes, the audience decided the winner. It was a very close result with the Red team emerging triumphant. The pupils cheered for their favourite team, tried the dishes and gained an understanding about nutrition.





## Singing up for our military heroes

With military precision the Junior School swung into action to support the campaign to make the Military Wives song 'Wherever you are' top of the Christmas pop charts.



The school recorded their own version of the song after hearing an appeal by Radio Two DJ Chris Evans, to promote the song in a bid to capture the coveted Christmas number one spot.

The original recording was made by the Military Wives, whose husbands were all on deployment in Afghanistan when the choir was formed and coached by choirmaster Gareth Malone (no relation to our own Junior School headmaster, Mr Simon Malone) on the TV show The Choir: Military Wives.

So in true Junior School spirit, after a mere 10 minutes of rehearsal, the song was duly sung and recorded. It was quickly dispatched to local and national radio stations and was played on Dee 106.3.

## A flying start for Children's Air Ambulance fundraisers



A flying start to fundraising for The Children's Air Ambulance was delivered by David Reeves, Fundraising Manager, at a special assembly for the pupils. The pupils are raising money for the vital service which aims to provide a national helicopter transfer service to transport children safely between hospitals. As part of the project, the pupils constructed their own individual paper helicopters which were tested outside after the assembly.



## Hockey teams are a big hit

**The Juniors U11 Boys' Hockey team won the North West Championships, which is a tournament held at Kirkham.**

The boys won every match they played, did not concede a goal and beat Cheadle Hulme convincingly in the final. Consequently they qualified for the North of England Championships which was held at Leeds at the end of March.

Furthermore the U11 Girls' Hockey were runners up in the Cheshire tournament. Despite being without five of their usual team members, they played extremely well. The team also went on to represent the county in the North West finals.



## HOSPICE VISIT GETS JUNIORS THINKING

The Junior School invited 'The Hospice of the Good Shepherd' to talk to pupils about fundraising and the work of the Hospice. The morning proved to be a success by engaging pupils in an interactive session. The Hospice encouraged pupils to think creatively on how they could fundraise for the Hospice in the future. The Hospice's Mascot called PAWZ also came along to the School to meet the pupils.





## Everyone's a winner in the battle of good and evil

A number of former pupils and staff, including David Whitley, who himself directed musicals whilst at King's, and is now a successful author, recently returned to School to enjoy a night at the Theatre, as current students presented *Jekyll & Hyde: The Musical*.

The show was absolutely superb, with some spectacular individual performances and was thoroughly enjoyed by all who watched it. An OAKS reception was held for Alumni prior to the performance.

## Martin is our top Celebrity Mastermind

**Former pupil and money-saving media personality Martin Lewis proved he was a genuine mastermind when he appeared on the BBC show in January this year.**



Martin faced questions from John Humphries on the show and gained the highest score of the evening – 26 points, pipping sports presenter Dan Walker to the post.

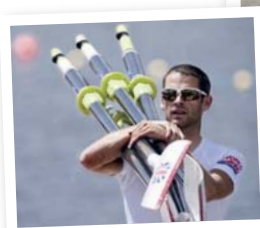
Martin's specialist subject was 'The Superman Films' on which he answered all but one question correctly. Martin's chosen charity to which all proceeds were given was The Citizen's Advice Bureau.

Well done Martin!

## Rowing star Olivia is back in training

**Olivia Whitlam, who left King's in 2003, has been training with the British Women's Rowing squad in Portugal. Having reached the final at the Beijing Olympics, Olivia is hoping to be selected for the Women's VIII crew, in which the competition for medals will be tough.**

Olivia was recently interviewed by BBC Sport and said, "The Vllls is a bit of a blue riband event, the Americans throw everything at it every year and are pretty amazing". Discussing the Beijing Olympics, Olivia, who exceeded expectations in the Women's pairs by reaching the final, said, "Obviously you always want to do better if you haven't won the gold. We weren't expected to make the top six, which is the starting line-up of the final, and we did, which was a bit of a shock I think, even to the coaches. It was a really interesting experience and I think London will be very different to Beijing, but from what some of the other athletes in the



squad have said, every Olympics has its own atmosphere and experience."

Tom James and Chris Bartley have also been training hard with the GB squad, however Tom has recently suffered a slight setback. He thought he had picked up a bug over Christmas which turned out to be Atrial Fibrillation. This is a condition which causes an irregular heartbeat. He received treatment and says he hopes to be able to defend his 2008 gold medal in the coxless fours at London 2012, where Matthew Pinsent has tipped both him and Chris for a medal.







## The UK hockey team is James's goal...

James Fair who plays in goal for the British Hockey Team has been training hard with the Men's GB squad. In February, the squad travelled to South Africa, where they trained under boot camp conditions and also played three competitive matches. At the moment the squad comprises of 26 members, but this will be whittled down to 15 in two months time. Each nation can bring a squad of eighteen players, and on match days name a sixteen man team. Matches last for seventy minutes with two halves of thirty-five minutes. The venue for the London 2012 Olympics is The Hockey Centre in Stratford (East London), with matches beginning on 29th July. The GB men will complete their Olympic preparation with the Olympic test event in May and a trip to Malaysia for the Sultan Azlan Shah tournament on the 19th May.

## Following in the footsteps of top football stars



Pictured right – Fraser Murdoch.

**Talented footballer Fraser Murdoch, who left King's in 2007, has been selected for a two year scholarship with Crewe Alexandra.**

Other famous players who also started their careers at this club were Danny Murphy and Robbie Savage, so the sky's the limit for Fraser!

Whilst at The King's Junior School, Fraser was captain of the football team who successfully won the AJIS cup five years ago. He also represented Scotland School Boys.

## OUR OLYMPICS HEROES ARE COMING BACK HOME...

The achievements of former Olympians from Chester will be celebrated on the 29th May when the Olympic Torch passes through the City on its way to London. King's own former Olympians, current London 2012 hopefuls and future potential stars have been invited; including:



### STEPHEN PEEL

Narrowly missed out on a medal, coming 4th in the final of the Rowing Men's coxless fours.



### ARNOLD COOKE

Placed 7th in final of the Rowing Men's Double sculls with partner Peter Webb.



### JIM WALKER

Placed 6th in final of Rowing Men's coxed eights (Barcelona). Placed 8th in final of Rowing Men's coxed eights (Atlanta).



## REUNIONS



This year we are holding reunions for the following leaving years:

- 7th July 2012 – 1962
- 22nd September 2012 – 1992
- 10th November 2012 – 2002

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## Girls' hockey teams get into winning ways

**The girls' hockey squads enjoyed much success in local and regional competitions with recent wins in the Chester and District Indoor Hockey Tournaments. The U15 girls' squad won convincingly against the competing schools: Queen's, Bishop Heber, Upton and Abbeygate.**

The squad were as determined as ever and played very well with notable performances from goalkeeper Nicola Temple (4CG) and countless goals from Ellie Crisp (4CM) and Lucy Armatage (4CM). Overall it was an excellent performance by the whole team, as they emerged the deserving U15 Chester and District Indoor winners.

The U14s Indoor County Competition was hosted at King's. The best teams in the county compete for the County Cup. King's played brilliantly and beat opponents Lymm and Queen's after losing to the eventual winners Wilmslow. A great performance was given by all, in particular Elise Back in goal (despite being a year younger). Squad: Elise Back (SHLP), Sophie Drew (3DR), Emily Boothroyd (3DR), Lucy Peel (3JR), Harriet Fisher (3AI), Anna Willis (3DB), Eloise Bland (3JR) and Isabel Dawson (3JR).

The U16 girls' were also crowned champions of Cheshire at Indoor Hockey. With Kitty Abberton (4DL) making her debut in goal, King's made a strong start to the tournament beating Christleton 4-1, with goals from Lucy Armatage (4CM), Sara Ashworth (5ET), Ellie Kearney-Mitchell (4DL) and Ellie Crisp (4CM). Lucy Armatage (4CM) and Sara Ashworth (5ET) were exceptional in midfield and were instrumental in setting up the four goals. In the final game, King's were once again determined to win and Katie Pownall (4MW) and Eleanor Barnard (5ET) worked hard to ensure King's had a glorious 2-0 victory.

It was an outstanding team performance and King's were the deserving winners. As we went to press the U19s girls' had just won the Chester and District Outdoor Hockey Tournament.



## Making a big splash at the swimming gala



King's swimmers took part in the annual Chester and District Swimming Galas. The swimming teams acquitted themselves tremendously, winning the events at Yr 7 (Removes – both girls and boys), Yr 8 girls, Yr 9 boys and Senior boys levels. In addition to winning five out of the eight galas, King's had several individual winners. The most notable performances were from: Isobel Wild (RmGA), Sam Wild (3AI) and Lloyd Stanley (L6BH), all of whom set new championship records, along with the Remove girls' freestyle relay team (Isobel Wild, Jess Lee (RmLR), Natasha Groome (RmGA) and Amelia Standing (RmJW)).

### INDIVIDUAL WINNERS WERE:

#### Removes Boys:

- Matt Willis, RmSC – Breastroke 45.4 secs
- Freestyle Relay Team 69.6 secs
- Medley Relay Team 85.0 secs

#### Removes Girls:

- Isobel Wild, RmGA – Backstroke 34.86 secs\*
- Freestyle Relay Team 63.53 secs\*

#### Shell Boys:

- Medley Relay Team 2:58.17 secs

#### Shell Girls:

- Jennifer McDonald, ShLP – Butterfly 16.61 secs
- Medley Relay Team 3:02:59 secs

#### Third Year Boys:

- Simon Ellershaw, 3AI – Butterfly 14.78 secs
- Simon Ellershaw – Backstroke 33.58 secs
- Alex Tan, 3AI – Breaststroke 38.34 secs
- Sam Wild, 3AI – Freestyle 27.13 secs\*
- Sam Wild – IM 69.71 secs\*
- Medley Relay Team 2:15.27
- Freestyle Relay Team 2:18.13

#### Third Year Girls:

- Anna Willis, 3DB – Breastroke 43.84 secs

#### Seniors Boys:

- Lloyd Stanley, L6BH – Butterfly 28.78 secs\*

\*New Championship record.





# A stroke of success for Hampton Head rowers

Rowers from both the boys' and girls' crews have been training hard in order to participate in the Hampton Head. Both of the crews competed with unrivalled strength and skill, winning two gold medals, three silver and one bronze.



In Division 1, the J14 crews delivered a very strong set of results. The J14 boys' coxed quad came 2nd to a strong crew from Henley to pick up the silver medal. The J14 boys' octuples both produced strong rows, with the A boat winning the division over close rivals Shrewsbury and 28 other J14 crews.

The J14 B boat was also in the top half of the rankings by finishing in 13th position. Both girls' J14 coxed quads sculled well, finishing 6th and 7th out of 19 crews. The senior girls' squad

performed well with the J16 crew finishing 4th out of 11 crews, the J18 coxed four crew of Elizabeth Williams (U6ER), Lottie Frazer-Cox (U6ML), Olivia Lewis (U6TH), Alice Carr (5JM) and Courtney Dowinton (U6SP) continued an excellent run of form by winning the U18 event by 25 seconds over home crew Molesey Rowing Club. The boys' J16 coxless four rowed well to secure a 3rd place finish.

King's continued the good results into the afternoon. The J16 VIII finished 4th out of 13 in

their category, the girls' senior VIII, 6th in U18 Vllls. The girls' J15 VIII finished 2nd by 0.6 seconds to Marlow Rowing Club, beating old rivals Lady Eleanor Holles School into 5th by 31 seconds. The J15 boys' raced well in the quad to come 13th out of 23, the J15 girls' came 16th in their coxed quad. The top girls' crew raced again in the coxless fours event, their result of 2nd, this time with Lucy Simmonds (L6KS) in the crew for Olivia Lewis. It was an excellent performance and example to the girls throughout the club.

## WHAT A SEASON FOR OUR FOOTBALL STARS!

**Although the only silverware which the 1st XI has so far been able to claim this season has been as winners in the Chester and District seven-a-side tournament, this has already been a highly successful season for the team. At present the team's record stands at: Played 37, Won 30, Drawn 6, Lost 1.**

This is a record that any team would be proud of, and research of data from previous seasons suggests King's has not experienced such a degree of success at this level. It was a pity that the only defeat so far this season came against Repton in the ISFA Cup, a team King's had already beaten a few weeks earlier.

What has been particularly pleasing is that when members of the team picked up injuries they have been able to call on replacements who have slotted into the team admirably and have even cemented a place in the team for themselves following strong individual performances.

King's has been reasonably tight at the back and goals have flowed freely to give a goal difference of +65.

As much as the players' ability, what has characterised the team this season has been a tremendous sense of team spirit. This has been a quality which has seen the team through when they have had to draw on their reserves of energy and tenacity to get a result.

As the Herald went to print, they are still in three competitions and will hopefully manage to pick up a cup in at least one of those tournaments. As the season draws to a close the players will need to guard against complacency as they come up against a number of tough sides looking to claim a victory in the respective cup competitions.

The 2nd and 3rd XIs have also been busy – successfully playing more than 50 fixtures already and winning nearly three quarters of them.

More team success has been achieved lower down the school with the U14s preparing to play the District Cup final against Blacon and the U16s hoping to join them by beating Tarporley in their semi-final. The U15s did well to reach the quarter final of the County Cup, before a disappointing first half display against Sandbach cost them dearly.



On the individual front George Okell (L6NH) has represented Cheshire at U18 level and will hopefully be joined soon by Captain Joshua Murray (U6AM) who has done well to recover from the serious knee injury he incurred very early in the season.

Sam Jones (4MW), Matt Holland (4DL), Jack Powell (4MW), William Crouch-Smith (3DB), Tommy Speed (3JR) and Adam Sawney (3JR) all represented very successful Chester and District teams.

Jack Powell continues to impress the ISFA representative team coaches and has attended training weekends and played in fixtures against Championship Academy teams. The U16s also played an Academy team and acquitted themselves superbly well at Collier's Park against a Wrexham Academy team losing 2-0, a scoreline which flatters the hosts slightly.

**STOP PRESS:** As we went to press the U19s, U16s and U14s teams won three Chester and District Championships. More in the next issue.







## Triumph at the triathlon

**Members of the Rowing Club and Queens' Park High School Rowing Clubs embarked on their annual triathlon. The Club triathlon, now in its third year, had 58 senior competitors who participated in the senior event (5000 metre ergo, 5000 metre run and a 500 metre swim) and 34 juniors in the sprint triathlon (2000 metre ergo, 5000 metre run and a 200 metre swim).**

The event was a great success and a platform for the rowers of both schools to show their levels of fitness, determination and focus. Both David Fayle (L6CC) and Oliver Major (4AC), who are novice swimmers, competed in the senior event.

The racing was extremely competitive with great performances from all five category winners Harry Ashworth (U6ER – senior boys), Alice Carr (5JM – senior girls), Anna Willis (3DB – sprint girls) and Mark Brownson (L6KS – coxes race). All four received individual trophies for their efforts along with medals.

## INDOOR ATHLETES ARE UP AND RUNNING

The Indoor Athletics season started with the annual Year 7 (Removes) event at Christleton High School in January. There were nine competing schools from Chester and District and King's teams performed very well with the girls coming in 2nd place and the boys coming in 5th place. The most notable performances of the evening were Martha Owen (Rm IR) and Matthew Willis (RmSC) who beat their opponents in the 6-lap individual races.



## Cross Country runners get into their stride

**Thirteen pupils represented Chester at the County event held at Wade Deacon High School in Widnes. In the boys' events, Ben Paxton (3MW) was the strongest performer coming 8th overall and qualified for the Cheshire Cross Country Team. Other strong performances were made by Richard Dawson (U6SB), 19th in the senior boys' race, and Mike Ellis (3AI), who ran in the junior boys' event.**

In the girls' events, Niamh Jones (RmPH) finished 33rd, Rebecca Hatton (RmAR) 47th and Rachel Huber (RmRA) 68th in a field of 87 runners. They helped the Chester team to finish 4th overall. The junior girls' also came 4th, with Emily Boothroyd (ShRA) coming 22nd, Anna Willis (ShTK) 25th and Ellie Green (3CC) 63rd out of 80 runners overall. Alice Carr (4MG) was our only representative in the inter girls' team. She took 19th place out of 51 runners and the team finished 2nd overall. Chester was strongly represented in the senior girls' race and took first place. Lottie Frazer-Cox (L6DY) and Lara Goodwin (L6SB) finished 7th and 8th respectively.





## Golfers tee off at Vicars Cross



**Pupils took part in the annual golfing event at Vicars Cross Golf Club. The highly successful yearly event is open to all pupils, staff and retired staff.**

The tournament cup was won by Matt Jones for best gross score and the best net score was won by Harry Jones. Longest drive and nearest the pin competitions were won by Alex Way-Rider (who narrowly beat Mr Blackham by two inches) and Dominic Thurlow-Wood.



## A MARATHON EFFORT FOR CHARITY

After last year's marathon ergo success, the Rowing Club decided to bring their efforts together to attempt a charity ergo marathon with a twist, which was to get as many members of the club and supporters on the rowing machine as possible.

With each competitor rowing between 200-600 metres, the School's marathon row of 42,195 metres was covered in a very competitive time of two hours, 29 minutes and 48.3 seconds. Although this hasn't broken any world records, it saw over 100 current pupils at the Rowing Club take part as well as coaches, the Deputy Head and Headmaster. In total £63.14 was collected for the Hospice of the Good Shepherd, from spectators who were at the club to support the School's pudding races. Money was also collected for 'Movember', the charity which raises money for the fight against prostate cancer.



## Hot shot hockey coach scores at Wembley Arena

At the beginning of term, hockey coach Simon Egerton played in the Outdoor Men's England Hockey Finals at London's Wembley Arena. Simon's hockey team **finished 2nd** in the Maxifuel Super Sixes Championships standings with 19 points, drawing plaudits for their strong performances and in particular, Simon was the competition's top scorer.

The team is currently placed at 8th position in the league. For the second half of the season, Bowdon are looking to secure their place in the league and stay up. To coincide with this Simon has also filmed with Sky Sports News.



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## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR YOUNG GEOGRAPHER

Daniel Warr (ShJ) was awarded a highly commended prize in the Royal Geographical Society 'Young Geographer of the Year Award 2011' in the 12-14 years age group. This is the second time in three years that a King's pupil has received one of these prestigious awards. Daniel had to produce a visual and written answer to the question: What should every good geographer understand?

Winners were chosen from almost 1000 entries and in total 15 prize winners were invited to The Royal Geographical Society in London, four from each age category. Daniel received his prize from Michael Palin who gave a talk on his career and interest in Geography.

He received prizes of a Philips Pocket Travel Atlas and certificate both of which Michael Palin signed. He also received a certificate for school, a £10 gift voucher from Stanford's travel book shop in Covent Garden, two huge maps: one of the world and one of Europe, a personalised OS map centring on his home in Chester, some stationery and a year's subscription to *Geographical Magazine*.

## SEB AND SCHUMACHER – THE WINNING FORMULA

Seb Morris (5ET) was given a wonderful opportunity to interview German Formula One racing driver Michael Schumacher for half an hour on a one-to-one basis. Seb was given this once in a life time chance as part of his hour long documentary for Sky TV Documentary, Auto Sport Show.

Recently, he has raced in a charity fundraiser for the Alzheimer's Society in memory of IndyCar star Dan Wheldon. Seb has been selected as one of the newest members of the prestigious MSA (Motor Sports Association) Academy – one of the British Motorsport governing body's flagship schemes.



## TOP BATTING, BEN!

Ben Aveyard (ShLP) participated in the Lancashire U16s Pro Cricket Elite Academy coaching course in Wigan for 10 weeks just before Christmas. The Elite coaching is the Academy's most prestigious and demanding course for players who have reached good club cricket, have played district cricket or are junior county players.

At the end of the course there was an Indoor Tournament held at Yorkshire Cricket Club's Indoor School involving all the UK Elite Academy courses from around the country. Ben played against a number of teams in the U16s category, in total three games, scoring well in each. After winning all three games in their pool Ben's side then opened the batting in the final against Lancashire's other side of 15-16 year olds, and won.

Ben was the top scorer in the tournament and was also nominated Player of the Tournament by the 48 players who attended, by the Chief Coach Mark Lawson, an ex-Yorkshire 1st team player. He also won a personal coaching session with Mark Lawson.



## AMBER'S STAR COACH

Amber Disley (RmJW) was lucky enough to meet former Great Britain swimmer and British Swimming ambassador Duncan Goodhew recently. The opportunity arose when Amber decided to enter this year's 'Big Splash Mile' and was subsequently invited to a coaching session with Goodhew who won the 100m breast stroke gold in the 1980 Moscow Olympics.

He offered tips and advice on training for the mile swim and put the swimmers through their paces in preparation for the big day. Amber, a member of the City of Chester Swimming Club, has achieved her 5,000 metre distance award and is confident she will complete the mile swim. She has already exceeded her sponsorship target and raised £105 for Sport Relief so far.



## WHAT A GUY!

At Cheshire Youth Cricket Awards Evening, Guy Dunbavand (5PN) received the award for batsman of the year for last season's Cheshire U15 side, with an average of 53 and scoring 478 Runs in 11 innings. Guy also played some matches for the U16 side who were Cheshire Youth Cricket's team of the year.

This follows a successful season for Guy, as captain of King's U15 cricket team, who reached the English Schools' Cricket Association semi-final. He also has a place on Cheshire's Emerging Players Program and is undergoing trials for first class cricket academies.



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