



THE KING'S SCHOOL
CHESTER

Herald

All the news from The King's School, Chester

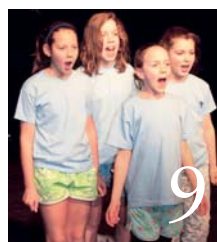
Sport, theatre,
drama, adventure
and academic
excellence, it's all
here at King's...



2



5



9



14



18

A night at the opera...

Full story on page 11



University offers come flooding in...

As the national deadline for university applications passed in January, applicant numbers nationally are relatively on a par with last year. We are proud that King's Upper Sixth students are celebrating great success with a large number of offers being received enabling students to clearly focus on their goals for the end of the academic year.

At the time of publishing, King's students have received some fantastic offers. Of 527 individual course applications, 65% of responses have been offers, with most of the rest awaiting reply.

97% of students have received offers: 76% from 'The Times Top 30' universities, 42% from the 'Top 20' universities and 19% from the

'Top 10' universities. 27 students have received offers from all five of their university applications.

Students applying for some of the most competitive courses and universities have been called for interviews and are awaiting decisions to join the veterinary medicine offer, four medicine offers and four Oxbridge places: Sophie Thompson (U6KS) to read History at Pembroke College, Cambridge; Sean Telford (U6NS) to study Natural Sciences at Churchill College, Cambridge; Matthew Temple (U6KS) to study Maths at St Catharine's College, Cambridge and Chris Robson (U6NS) to study English Language and Literature at Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford.



Matthew qualifies for second round

In January, Matthew Temple (U6KS) qualified for the second round of the British Mathematical Olympiad.

For his results in round one, he received a certificate of distinction, a bronze medal and book prize. 1,370 pupils across the country qualified for the first round using their senior maths challenge results, with only the first 100 candidates receiving a medal and proceeding to round two.



'Pat the hat and friends' reach ifs Challenge regional final



A team of four students from Upper Sixth has reached the regional final in a national investment competition.

The 'Pat the hat and friends' team, comprising: Oliver Crowe (U6JK), Freddy Green (U6SD), Patrick Hanratty (U6BH) and George Middlehurst (U6NH), were competing against more than 40,000 other students across the UK in the ifs Student Investor Challenge. The team made nearly £20,000 trading in virtual shares in just three months, outperforming the FTSE 100 share index in the process.

They will now represent King's at the North Wales and English Midlands regional final, held in Birmingham in March. If successful at this stage, they will have the chance of making it through to the national final in April where an all expenses paid educational trip to New York and £2,000 is up for grabs.

The free to enter competition, run by ifs School of Finance and supported by Bloomberg, provides teams with £100,000 of virtual money to buy and sell shares in FTSE 100 companies. The competition gives teams of four students aged between 14 to 19 years old the opportunity to experience the dynamic world of share dealing and investing in the stock market. Now in its 20th year, the competition is the largest of its kind in the UK and is also open to international students.

A bike or a wheel barrow? That is the question...

In November, four Upper Sixth students took part in the 6th annual Northern Schools' Modern Foreign Language Debating Competition at Cheadle Hulme School.

Charlotte Gurrin (U6SD) and Mike Barcroft (U6BH) debated in French and Matt Spencer (U6JS) and Oliver Green (U6JS) in Spanish. All participants had to prepare to debate both for and against five motions, ranging from 'freedom of speech has gone too far' to 'a bike is better than a wheel barrow'. Charlotte and Mike took part in two debates – first arguing in favour of bicycles as opposed to wheel barrows and then against environmental indifference ('the ice is melting but I don't care'). They argued their corner well and rebuffed many of their opponents' points; they narrowly missed going through to the final.

Oliver and Matt found themselves arguing first in favour of the anti-environmental motion and then against international philanthropy (the motion was 'richer countries have a moral obligation to help poorer ones'). They then sailed through the semi-final and faced an unprepared title in the final: 'I speak English and that's enough'. A toss of the coin determined that they had to argue against learning foreign languages, something which didn't come naturally to them as accomplished linguists. It was a skilful and entertaining performance in front of a packed roomful of teachers and students; they were disappointed to be runners-up rather than outright winners but did extremely well to get that far. Congratulations to all four students for their efforts; the A2 speaking test will seem pretty tame after that!



What an Enigma...

In November, King's were visited by a piece of mathematical history. James Grime, visiting from the University of Cambridge brought an antique but fully functional Enigma machine in to School, working with the Junior School on some code breaking activities in the afternoon and giving a terrific lecture to 40 Sixth Form students on the history of codes after School.

The maths celebrated during this talk was fascinating and the remarkable anecdotes about how Alan Turing and the other British mathematicians outsmarted their Nazi counterparts had pupils hanging on until the bitter end – indeed, ultimately they had to be sent home!



Top awards really do matter

Nine of King's Physicists sat this year's British Physics Olympiad paper, competing with around 2,000 nationally.

All King's students achieved a certificate, with two gold, three bronze and four commendations. Sean Telford (U6NS) achieved a gold award placing him in the top 100 students, and Matthew Temple (U6KS) achieved a top 50 place which put him forward in to the next round.

Matthew has recently sat the challenging three hour paper and is awaiting the result. Both Matthew and Sean received book tokens. Once again, King's physicists show their continued excellence and their ability to succeed against the very best students nationally.



Stunning dance performance



After weeks of secret rehearsals in PE lessons, the last day of the Michaelmas term saw the girls at King's perform a flash mob of Mariah Carey's *All I Want For Christmas* to a stunned School.

From all over the School girls joined the dance in the theatre foyer joined by teachers who had also been secretly rehearsing! It was a fantastic performance and great fun on the last day of term!

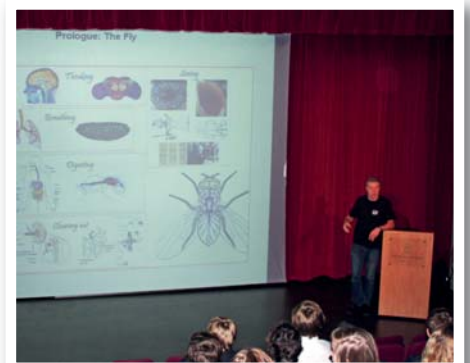


A FRUITFUL AFTERNOON FOR ALL...

Dr Andreas Prokop from the School of Life Sciences, University of Manchester, visited King's in November, but he didn't come alone.

Instead he brought approximately 1,000 helpers in the form of *Drosophila Melanogaster*, otherwise known as the common fruit fly. Whilst most people are happy to swat these little insects as they swarm around the fruit bowl, Andreas and his research group use them to understand human development and the control of several behavioural characteristics.

The Lower and Upper Sixth biology students watched flies fighting over a food source, remembering their left from right and responding to heat by falling asleep. In addition, Andreas and Sanjai Patel, his research technician, kindly set up two practical classes to support the Upper Sixth biology students with their understanding of genetic crosses.



A level students experience Berlin's history

24 A level history students, staff and their guides Mr Patrick Gale and Colonel Storie-Pugh OBE, spent four packed days over October half-term in Berlin.

Pupils were able to cram 12 separate visits in to the time available and all left with a greater appreciation of the richness of 19th and 20th century German history. Berlin has become a magnet for historians and pupils' understanding of the Third Reich and the chilling buildings of the Stasi headquarters was enhanced by brilliant young English guides and professional historians.

However the trip did not only concentrate on darker periods of German history. It was a privilege to marvel at the magnificence of Sans Souci, Frederick the Great's Palace in Potsdam; sit inside the modern Bundestag debating chamber, and hear from the Defence Attaché at the British Embassy on why our government says 'Germany matters'.

Perhaps the highlight for many on the trip was the incredibly moving service at the Commonwealth War Graves cemetery at Charlottenburg, while others marvelled at the Libeskind designed Jewish museum. Pupils were enthralled by the history, culture, architecture and youthful vibrancy of this great city.



FOODBANK DONATIONS WILL MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE

In December, Jemimah Beardwood (L6ER) organised a Trussell Trust Foodbank Appeal in School. Tutor groups were set the challenge of competing against each other to see who could return the most non-perishable foodstuffs.

The response was brilliant and there was an impressive amount of food at the back of the gallery ready for the Trussell Trust to collect. The winning form was ShML, donating a staggering 134 items. Other outstanding

contributions came from L6AM with 82 items, RmSC with 72 items and 4PN with 69 items.

Every day people in the UK go hungry for reasons ranging from redundancy to receiving an unexpected bill on a low income. Trussell Trust Foodbanks provide a minimum of three days emergency food and support to people experiencing crisis in the UK. Last year the network fed over 128,000 people.

All food is donated by the public and sorted by volunteers. Frontline care professionals such as doctors and social workers identify people in crisis and issue a food voucher. Foodbanks also make time to chat and to signpost clients to other helpful services.



Foodbanks help prevent crime, housing loss, family breakdown and mental health problems. A simple box of food makes a big difference. The Trussell Trust partners with churches and communities to open new foodbanks right across the UK. With over 250 foodbanks projects launched, the Trust's goal is for every town to have one.

Girls prove to be masters at National Semi-Finals

King's Under 19 Girls' Chess team won the Northern Semi-Final of the National Schools' Girls' Chess Championships at Cheadle Hulme School in February.

This was achieved with a very young team comprising Susan Gorman (L6PW), Catherine Savidge (RmLB) and Mariam Littler (RmLB). Catherine and Mariam won all five games while Susan won four out of five.

They will now play in the National Final against Millfield and North London Collegiate at Uppingham School over two days in July.

A team from the Junior School competed in the Under 11 Girls' Championships and finished in a very creditable position of fifth of the nine teams. The team was Miranda Thompson (J4G), Caitlin Thomas (J4H) and Lily Walker (J3J).



Bonjour Cherry Grove School...

This year as part of the Community Action option in Enrichment, half a dozen Sixth Formers have been helping with the teaching of French to Year 3 and Year 4 children at Cherry Grove Primary School, Chester.

They found it rewarding and great fun, using a variety of games, songs and other activities devised by the class teacher. For the children at Cherry Grove, it has been one of the highlights of their timetable, getting to know some 'big girls and boys' from King's.



Students get closer to the secrets of the Universe

The annual Physics department visit to CERN, the European Laboratory for Particle Physics, took place in December and 19 Upper Sixth students travelled to Switzerland, accompanied by Dr Bosworth and Mrs Lydon.

On the first morning, a conference led by Mark Tyrell, one of CERN's official guides, gave students an overview of the structure of CERN, a unique international organisation and its 58 year history. They then crossed the border in to France to visit the control room of the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) which smashes protons in to each other at near light speed and donned their hard hats to descend 100m underground to the service cavern of the CMS experiment.



This giant particle detector has detected and measured the debris from the proton collisions to piece together the evidence for the Higgs Boson which led to the announcement of its discovery in July 2012.

In the afternoon, pupils were given an overview of the physical principles of detector and accelerator operation by Katharine Leney, formerly of Liverpool University and now at the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg. Students saw detector modules, tested with puzzles and bribed with chocolate in a busy session as snow fell outside. Kate Shaw, of the International Centre for Theoretical Physics in Trieste joined them and they completed a busy first day by taking in the ATLAS visitor centre and control room.

On the second morning, students visited the computing centre to see first-hand how CERN stores and processes the huge volume of data generated by its giant experiments.



At the heart of this endeavour is the network of 100,000 computers worldwide in a project known as the 'Grid', with CERN at its heart.

Pupils are grateful to Tony Cass of the IT division for giving up his time to give them this special visit.

A tour of the Microcosm followed, with interactive demonstrations, exhibits of past experiments and documentaries about CERN's Nobel Prize winners and then the Globe (a wooden structure which was given to CERN to mark its 50th anniversary in 2004) which houses some further exhibitions.

Students dined well in the evenings at Dr Bosworth's favourite pizza restaurant and of course there was the customary fondue. On the final day, some lucky students were able to tour the United Nations building, whilst others opted to view the city from the tower of the Cathédrale St. Pierre or take in Geneva's most famous landmark, the Jet D'Eau, before returning home.

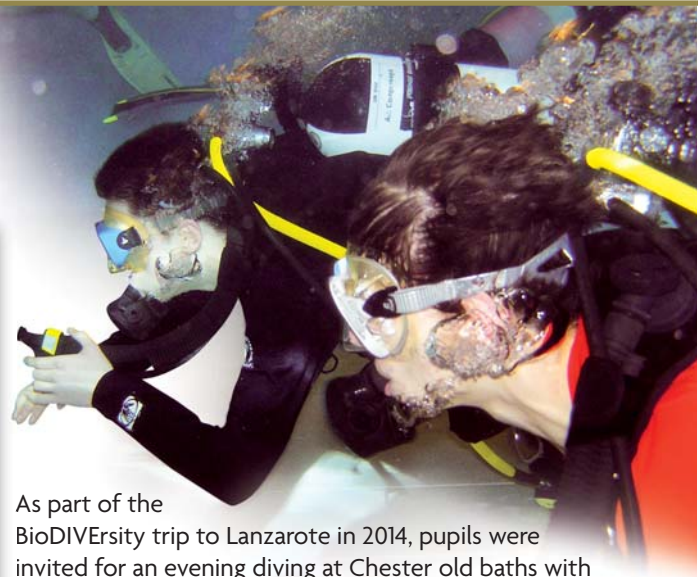


100 Santas make a dash for King's

In December, a group of over 100 King's pupils and staff took part in the Chester Santa Dash, raising funds for the Countess of Chester Hospital and the Hospice of the Good Shepherd. Well done to all who took part!



DIVING TUITION WITH CHESTER SUB-AQUA CLUB...



As part of the BioDiversity trip to Lanzarote in 2014, pupils were invited for an evening diving at Chester old baths with Chester Sub-Aqua Club in December. Pupils attempted some basic skills and all thoroughly enjoyed the evening, despite the water being a little chilly!

Sixth Formers watch Spanish tragedy unfold...

In November, 10 of King's Sixth Form Hispanists travelled to the Manchester Capitol Theatre to watch a play called *'The House of Bernarda Alba'*, a classic Spanish tragedy written by the famous playwright, Federico Garcia Lorca.

The performance was encapsulating and enthralling for the Sixth Formers and gave them an insight into classic Spanish culture and literature from the 1930s.



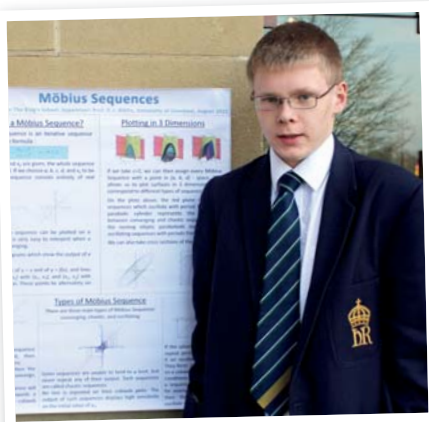
New Drama and Theatre Studies take centre stage

September 2013 heralds a new addition to the King's curriculum when Drama and Theatre Studies are to be added.

From the new academic year, Fourth Year pupils will be able to study GCSE Drama and Sixth Form students will be able to choose A level Drama and Theatre Studies.

This is a welcome development for the School, building on its excellent reputation for drama productions both in the Junior and Senior Schools and since the considerable investment in the fantastic Vanbrugh Theatre.

To head up this new department, King's welcomes Mrs Clare Howdon who joins us in September. She has a wealth of experience in both youth theatre and teaching and has a first in drama from the University of Kent.



Scientist Matthew is ready to take on the best

Matthew Temple (U6KS) has won a place in the finals of the 2013 National Science and Engineering Competition.

Matthew impressed the competition judges with an investigation into Möbius sequences and the conditions for convergence or oscillation of such sequences. He will now go head to head with students from across the country in an attempt to claim one of the UK's most prestigious science and engineering honours for young people. Matthew's shortlisted entry will be presented to more than 60,000 people at The Big Bang UK Young

Scientists and Engineers Fair, the country's single biggest celebration of science and engineering for young people, held at ExCel in London in March.

The world-class judging panel includes TV science star, Professor Brian Cox, celebrated space scientist Dr Maggie Aderin-Pocock, Nobel Prize-winning biochemist, Sir Tim Hunt and mathematician and Countdown co-host Rachel Riley, among others.

Sun, sea and surf – with a little Punch and Judy thrown in...

The poster promised a sunny British beach; the programme an ensemble piece. Both were completely true, as the Removes, Shells and Thirds transported an appreciative audience from Chester in December to a seaside town in summer:

Bickering families, Punch and Judy, seedy nightclubs and surfer dudes... and the beautiful, touching story of a sad young girl abandoned by her boyfriend.

This was a joyous piece of drama, with some memorable moments. Who will forget the mournfully funny donkeys, the lads and their would-be girlfriends on the beach, or the cowboy milkman? There were moments, too, of great beauty – the giant wave created by the cast, the busy morning walk, the finale outbreak of fear and fire.

But the great achievement – and one of which Jo Band and her young cast should be very proud – was that this was a piece in which there were no stars – or rather forty stars. Every actor was fully part of every moment and every girl and boy



had their moment in the centre, but contributed to the whole all the time.

Whether as irritating teenager or disc jockey, bag lady or surfer, the actors all supported each other and this lovely, funny, moving whole. Total theatre it's called – we look forward to more of it.



Biologists impress at British Olympiad

Fourteen of King's Sixth Form biologists sat this year's British Biology Olympiad in February.

Gold medals were achieved by Jeremy Telford (U6NS) and Chris Park (U6CC), with Felix Morriss (L6HF), Bethany Shears (U6JK) and Henry Thompson (L6HF) awarded bronze medals. A further three pupils were Highly Commended, and two pupils received Commended certificates. For his result in round one, Jeremy has been selected for the next round. This is a real achievement, as King's pupils were competing with over 4,000 students from 476 schools nationally.



From royalty to little green men, all play their part in raising £2,000 for Children in Need

As for all previous fundraising days, King's pupils got into the real spirit of Children in Need Day in November. Students and staff paid £2 each to come to School in fancy dress with a twist – part of their outfit must have been bought from a charity shop! The outfits displayed the sheer creativity of the King's community.

Pupils enjoyed a fashion show and fancy dress competition in the Vanbrugh Theatre. The winners were:

1st place: The Toy Soldiers –

Ananth Ranjit (L6AM), James Bellis (L6AM), Arjunan Ranjit (L6PW), Will Jackson (L6SW), Sam Arshad-Roberts (L6SB), Jack Duncalf (L6ER), Matt Groome (L6DB) and Matt Curtis (L6SW).

2nd Place: Alice in Wonderland and The Mad Hatter –

Kate Rothwell (5FV) and Alex Daugan (5CM).

3rd Place: Kiss and Steele Panthers –

Maud Moir (5AC), Marissa Landy (5AC), Liam Boyle (L6ER) and Louis Bostock-Williams (L6AM).

Highly commended: Will Gale-Hasleham (U6NH), Lawrence Crowther (U6NS) and Cameron Luckas (U6CC) as Katy Perry, Robin and the Green Mankini Man, Isobel Larken (3JJ) and Reya Patil (3RA) as Lord of the rings, Rudi Maclosky (L6AM), James Hattersley (L6ER), Tom Okell (L6SW), Tom Armatage (L6JR), Mike Hamilton (L6ER), Harry Jones (L6PW) and Matt Anthony (L6PW) as Naughty School Girls and Miss Wyatt and the OAPs: Sam Gareh (5MW), Ben Johnson (5MW), Alex Smith (5MW), Jeevan Kurukkal (5MW), Jack Powell (5MW), Emma Bates (5MW), Cameron Faulkner (5MW), George Thompson (5MW) and Seb Yelesen (ShHL).

The judges were: Mrs Hollingworth, Miss Black, Miss Hodgson and Mr Punnett.

King's raised almost £2,000 in total for Children in Need.



First ever opera performance in the Vanbrugh Theatre



Surely a School could not put on a complete Baroque opera, and especially with a student director? The second student-directed production of the year before even the Michaelmas term was over was Purcell's work, staged by Gareth Roberts (U6SD) (director) with Phil Robinson taking baton and harpsichord. A simple set (two ivy-twined pillars), simple, elegant costumes, a focused and accurate chorus and a beautiful chamber orchestra all set the scene for the story of Aeneas, the Trojan Prince and Dido, his doomed lover who will perish from a broken heart when he leaves.

Not, of course, that the story is quite the point.

The point is the music, and that magic blend of singing and acting which opera does so mysteriously and captivatingly. Sean Telford (U6NS) and David Fayle (U6CC) shared Aeneas on the two nights, both singing the part beautifully and bringing to life this slightly understated part Purcell wrote. As the lead sailor, Laurence Ankers (5FV) was terrific, the chorus of departing shipmen a real highlight.

But Purcell wrote the best parts for the female singers. Katie Pownall (5MW) sang her solo part sensitively and Lydia Carr (U6BH), for whom simple lighting and costume effects created a genuinely spooky Morgana-like quality, was excellent as the sorceress. The piece is largely carried by the intact ions of Belinda and Dido, and Marissa Landy (5AC) and Sara Ashworth (L6AM) were

outstanding, carrying long solos and duets with ease and creating a beautiful ending.

For the orchestra and cast, for the school, but above all for the Director Gareth Roberts, this was nothing short of a triumph. Now, what major opera shall King's do next?



The CRUCIBLE

“I’LL TELL YOU, WE BURN
A HOT FIRE HERE, MISTER,
WHICH MELTS DOWN
ALL CONCEALMENT”



There really is nowhere to hide in *The Crucible*. Many characters try their best to conceal their true natures, but the play is, in the words of a former King's School student – now celebrated veteran actor – Ronald Pickup, ‘brutal, raw and embarrassingly so’.

So why did we do it? Put simply, our GCSE English students were so keen, after having studied the play in class, to ‘you know, put it on properly, miss’, that there really was no choice – and how truly wonderful that turned out to be!

Twenty seven students shared twenty roles over six performances, with larger roles being played by two actors on alternate nights, whilst smaller roles were performed by the same actor every night. And the two casts complemented each other beautifully, avoiding destructive competitiveness and always striving collaboratively for the best play they could possibly make. They did not let anyone down!

Planning had begun the previous June to bring Miller's McCarthy-era masterpiece to the stage of the Vanbrugh Theatre in early March, 2013. Auditions took place in September, 2012, but rehearsals could not begin until November, when student-directed productions of Bennett's *The History Boys* and Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas* had already taken place to huge acclaim.

It isn't easy to play an eighty year-old at the age of seventeen, but several of our students

took on such older roles and played them superbly well. Few who saw it will easily forget how the eighty year-old Giles Corey almost outran the much younger hero John Proctor! And Proctor himself is, of course, one of the greatest roles in twentieth-century drama. How lucky we were, then, to be able to draw on two superb acting talents to share this awesome role – one a seasoned performer at King's, the other a complete novice, who auditioned because, ‘I didn't want to leave King's without having taken part in a play.’ And what a part it was for both of them! Their nightly cry of, ‘I have given you my soul! Leave me my name!’ came from their very guts, and its echoes continue to reverberate around the School.

“HE DIED
CHRISTIAN
UNDER
THE LAW”

One great strength of *The Crucible*, in terms of School drama, is that it has a large cast and provides far more opportunities for actors than most modern plays. The number of roles for women is unusually high, and the strong women of The King's School rose magnificently to the challenge! The major women's roles of Elizabeth Proctor and Abigail Williams were shared brilliantly between four young actresses, whilst another great joy of this production was the number and range of vivid and fascinating



cameo performances of feisty women, refusing to be cowed by male power structures even in the Salem of 1692.

And the play does invite us to 'speak truth unto power'. The clergy, the judiciary and the enforcers of the law are very much tried by fire in this play, and we do not hold out much hope for them, when the aged Rebecca Nurse departs for her execution with the bleak warning, 'Another judgement awaits us all!' More happily, the actors who played these roles – two of whom had to endure the trial of waiting throughout the first half of the play before even appearing on stage – triumphed through their ordeal!

But no play can take place without a huge team behind the actors, and *The Crucible* was no exception. In total some seventy-or-so students participated in the production, in roles as diverse as acting, directing, stage management, music, sound and lighting, stage hands, set construction and painting, props work, make-up, filming, photography, ticket sales and marketing, front of house attendance, refreshments, supply of 'Crew-cible' t-shirts and hoodies – the list goes on!

And what a strength the music was! Written and performed by a lower-sixth student and a group of his peers, the original music for the play features themes for a number of major characters, together with some fabulous broader pieces, such as the wonderful 'Dark Dance', which opened the play as the accompaniment to a series of film images of

oppression, compiled by a student in the current fifth form.

Given the human rights focus of the play, it seemed entirely fitting that Amnesty International should benefit from our efforts, and a bucket collection was duly organised for the interval. At the same time CDs of the music were on sale, with the proceeds also going to Amnesty.

Much-valued contributions to the programme for *The Crucible* were made by the celebrated civil rights lawyers Baroness Helena Kennedy and Mr Michael Mansfield. Both discussed the unique contribution made to public discourse on human rights by the arts and by *The Crucible* in particular, and Mr Mansfield ended his piece by saying that no one should leave the theatre without feeling angry. The cast and crew certainly achieved that – and they also reduced many members of the audience to tears by the raw power and energy of their performances. Ronald Pickup certainly felt that – even as he also was delighted by the sheer enthusiasm and warmth of our young cast and crew, when he spoke with them after the Thursday night performance.

So it really was a good idea to listen to the students and stage this great play for all mankind. A great deal went into *The Crucible*. As for what came out, in our students' case the answer is simply – pure gold!



Children's author, Tom Palmer's book signing

Children's football and rugby writer Tom Palmer joined children in the Junior School in February to talk about books, his life as an author and play a 'rugby reading game' – tying in with the Rugby Six Nations tournament.



Pupils had to answer questions on books, magazines and newspapers; filling in the gaps in news headlines and book titles.

A correct answer won an attempt at a goal kick over the rugby post!

Tom is the author of three Puffin football series. His first novel, *'Foul Play'* was short listed for the 2009 Blue Peter Book Award and described by The Times as "an excellent fast-paced detective novel." He has recently published *'Scrum!'* a children's rugby novel.

Tom said, "I never enjoyed reading until my mother found books about football. Then there was no stopping me. She'd be amazed today that I write for the Football Academy and Football Detective Puffin books. I've enjoyed sharing my enthusiasm for reading with children here today."

JUNIOR SCHOOL GETS FESTIVE

The Christmas spirit filled the Junior School in December, with every pupil wearing their own clothes and bringing in homemade Christmas-themed hats.

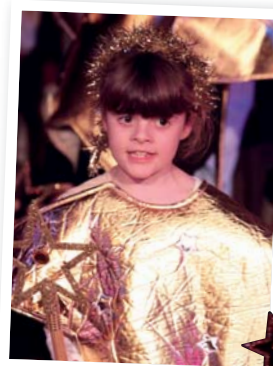
This is always a fabulous competition with some amazing creations. The Junior School enjoyed their Christmas party in the afternoon.



Junior Christmas Spectacular

The Junior School performed their annual Christmas concert in the Vanbrugh Theatre in December.

Parents were welcomed with ensembles playing in the foyer and went on to be treated to a festive spectacular and nativity play.



Skiers take to the slopes in France

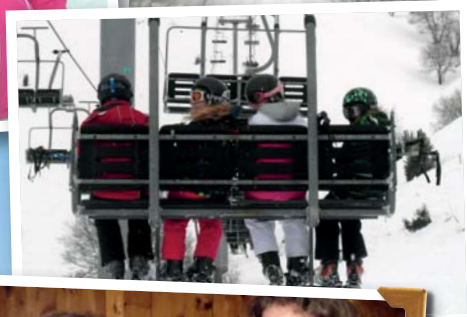
In February, a group of J3 and J4 pupils – accompanied by Mr Duncalf, Mrs Tomlinson, Mr Morris and Miss Hodgson – arrived after a long journey to Le Corbier, France.

The sun was shining and the snow was fresh and crisp outside as they arrived at their wood-panelled hotel. Wasting no time, pupils went to get their boots and skis fitted straight away and headed for the slopes.

Throughout the week, pupils slotted in to their daily routine – wakeup call at 7am, a hearty breakfast whilst hearing Mr Duncalf's briefing for the day's events and then onto the slopes for a two hour 'technical' ski session. Pupils enjoyed lunch back at the hotel with some relaxation time and then back out for some 'freer' skiing, facing trickier runs, some off piste skiing and runs in to other villages, where pupils were able to take in the amazing views.

Pupils enjoyed a variety of activities in the evenings, including karaoke, a quiz, a town trail hunt, shopping and even the heated outdoor pool surrounded by snow. It was lights out at 9.30pm and although being exhausted from a busy day on the slopes, pupils couldn't help but reflect on the day's events, chatting in to the night! On the final evening, pupils were presented with their skiing levels, had photographs taken with their instructors and had the chance to explore some French cuisine – frogs' legs and snails!

Pupils enjoyed a fantastic week, experiencing generally beautiful days with blue skies, a fresh coating of snow most mornings, lots of skiing and busy evenings.



The Junior School were 'at ease' with Fusilier, Daniel Waite

Fusilier Daniel Waite (Welsh Regiment) visited the Junior School in November to tell them about life as a soldier and his great pride in serving in the British Army.

He talked about his deployments to Afghanistan and how it felt to leave behind his friends, family and fiancée, King's playworker, Miss Morari.

He informed pupils that he was actually more nervous about his presentation in assembly than he was about going to war.

He answered many questions from pupils, including the differences between uniforms, how he contacted home and how he dealt with his darkest moments on tour.

The pupils thoroughly enjoyed his interesting and entertaining presentation and all left with a greater appreciation of what makes a true hero.



Tom proves he's a real 'all rounder'

Tom Hughes (J30) has recently experienced some amazing sporting achievements.

This year alone, Tom has been crowned individual winner of the U10 boys' AJIS Cross Country Championships, has achieved a triple jump gold medal in the AJIS Indoor Athletics Championships and defended his title as AJIS Swimming Backstroke Champion – which he won last year despite being a year younger than his competitors. Tom is an incredibly modest pupil, who always supports house and School events and continually displays a high level of skill and commitment.



Juniors meet their new 'best friend' for the blind

A magnificent total of £158.55 was raised by the Junior School in aid of Guide Dogs for the Blind.

Their life-size dog collection box received donations of loose change from pupils and staff in the Junior School. They were visited by Mrs Watts in a November assembly, where they were awarded a certificate and were able to meet one of the guide dogs.



What a performance!

Matt Baker, Artistic Director of Theatre in the Quarter, and Julia Williams, Director of Homegrown Dance Theatre, visited the Junior School in November, for a day of singing, dance and drama.

Matt and Julia worked with J3 pupils to create a performance linked to Theatre in the Quarter's production of 'A Christmas Carol', which was later performed to other classes in School.

The performance involved a visit to Mr and Mrs Fezziwig's Christmas Ball, reflected on the many poor people who wandered the streets in Victorian England and learned the 'Wassail Song'.



20 MEDAL HAUL AT AJIS SPORTS HALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

28 pupils from the Junior School travelled to Robin Park Arena, Wigan, to compete in the Annual AJIS (Association of Junior Independent Schools) Sports Hall Championships.

All athletes wore their King's vests with pride and demonstrated a high level of technique and commitment. 23 schools entered the event, and King's athletes were placed in the top six in all track and field disciplines. In total, The King's Junior School were presented with 20 medals on the day; nine Gold, six Silver and five Bronze.

William Saunders	Gold	U10 Boys' Javelin
Tom Hughes	Gold	U10 Boys' Standing Triple Jump
Fergus Rathbone	Gold	U10 Boys' Standing Long Jump
Annabelle Temple	Gold	U10 Girls' Standing Triple Jump
Annabelle Temple	Gold	U10 Girls' Obstacle Sprint Relay
Phoebe Binneman	Gold	U10 Girls' Obstacle Sprint Relay
Sophie Williams	Gold	U10 Girls' Obstacle Sprint Relay
Sam Jones	Gold	U10 Girls' Obstacle Sprint Relay
Rhys Johnson	Gold	U11 Boys' Standing Long Jump

Best cross country result in 20 years for the Juniors!

King's Junior School outperformed all the other competitors in the Annual AJIS Cross Country Championships at Rossall School, Lancashire in January.

Each of King's four teams had to run 2km through a terrain of wet grass, frozen tracks, mud, puddles and gravel. The total medal tally for the day reached 23, the best results gained by King's in over 20 years!

Year	Team result	Individual Top 20 performances
U10 boys (J3)	AJIS Champions	Tom Hughes – 1st Fergus Rathbone – 2nd Ben Goodrich – 12th Solomon Meredith – 13th
U10 girls (J3)	Team Silver	Heather Black – 3rd Lucy Osborne – 6th
U11 boys (J4)	Team Silver	Thomas Dawson – 2nd Luke Allen – 7th Jack Goodrich – 11th William Roberts – 19th
U11 girls (J4)	Sixth	Ailsa Black – 7th



Olympian James Fair visits King's

King's welcomed back former pupil and hockey player, James Fair to School in December. James was King's fourth Olympian to compete in the London 2012 Olympics but was unfortunately unable to visit with the three Olympic Rowers earlier in the year.

James has 140 caps for Great Britain and England, the most capped hockey player and was the goalkeeper for the GB team in London. The men's hockey team came fourth after a tournament with some highs and lows.

James spent the day visiting the Junior School, giving two assemblies, coaching three hockey sessions and touring the School. James was a pupil at King's from aged eight when he joined the Junior School and left after Sixth Form in 1999.



James said he really enjoyed his time at King's, where he played a whole range of sports including, cricket, football and athletics. He urged the pupils to embrace the myriad of opportunities available to them at King's and in particular team sports.



Calling all King's Medics

The King's, Chester Medics Dinner

Saturday
9th November

For more information
contact Liz Gwyther on:
01244 689492 or email:
eeg@kingschester.co.uk



Trevor Kletz finally retires at the grand old age of 90!

One of King's oldest Alumni, Trevor Kletz (1941 leaver) has finally retired – what a career!

Every engineer and technician in the UK and far beyond on any chemical plant will have heard of Trevor, who has much improved the safety of the chemical process industry with his career work.

He certainly deserves his place in the School's Hall of Fame and all the accolades he has been awarded in his long career – Happy retirement Trevor!



The 'big reunion' of 1993 for former King's pupils



20 years after leaving School, nearly half the cohort of 1993 returned to King's for a reunion on Saturday 23rd February. Several former teachers joined the group, including former Second Master, John Leyshon and the former Headmaster of the Junior School Paul Consterdine.

This year were a particularly close group and have remained close, with quite a few now living and working in London. A great time was had by all, reminiscing about their School days and the pranks and antics that went on in 1993. This particular year group were also very talented sportsmen, with success in the field of rowing and football. The day began with an informal

presentation about how the School has changed since 1993, followed by a summary of the known whereabouts of teachers and pupils from 1993. Tours of the School were then conducted by current Sixth Formers. A friendly game of five-a-side was refereed by former Sports Master, Adrian Neeves and the day was rounded off with a meal at Italian restaurant, Convivio, in Chester.

1993 – a vintage year for rowing

July 4th 1993 will stick long in the memory of several very talented young rowers who attended The King's School. This was the day they won the fiercely competitive Visitors' Challenge Cup at the Henley Royal Regatta. This was the first victory in 110 years of the Club's existence. They were the only British School to win that year.



Then – Talented rowers from 1993

Pictured: Gavin Mitchell (third from the right), Daniel Guest (last on the right) and James Ball (sixth from the left) who were part of the victorious Henley crew, alongside other talented rowers from the Year.



Now – The rowers at the 1993 Reunion

Back row: Colin Williams, Hari Jayaram, Dan Guest, James Ball
Middle row: Anwah Shah, Gareth Thomas, Ed Hobson
Front row: Christopher Barlow, Gavin Mitchell, Alistair McLaren, Rob Lewis, Paul Stannanought, Myles Gallimore.

A talented crop of young footballers who won the Under 19 County Cup in 1993



Then – The footballers



Now – The footballers today

From the left at the back: Paul Lewis, Alex Evans, Rob Hughes, Matt Hughes, Matt Burton, Jim Edgerley, (former teacher), Adrian Neeves, (red jumper), Andy Richardson, Kevin Fear, (former teacher).

Many of the 1993 leavers have found their way to success, fame and fulfilment. Amongst the attendees at the reunion were lawyers, doctors and property investors. We took the opportunity to find out a bit more about three particularly successful former pupils from 1993.

HARI JAYARAM

After he left King's Hari went off to study medicine at Oxford. He was awarded a Clinical Research Training Fellowship by the Medical Research Council in 2008 for a project entitled 'Derivation of Photoreceptor Precursors from Human Müller Stem Cells and their application in Experimental Photoreceptor Replacement' which led to the award of a PhD from University College London in 2011.

He currently serves as Vice-Chair of the City Road & Hampstead NHS Research Ethics Committee and currently works as an NIHR Academic Clinical Lecturer at the Biomedical Research Centre for Ophthalmology at Moorfields Eye Hospital and the UCL Institute of Ophthalmology, with clinical duties as a Fellow to the Glaucoma service at Moorfields Eye Hospital.



MYLES GALLIMORE

Since leaving King's Myles has had a very varied and successful career as a fast jet pilot in the Royal Navy. He has been all over the world including tours to Iraq and Afghanistan. He was also one of the pilots involved in the fly past over Windsor Castle, which formed part of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations last year. Myles will leave the Navy this year and is looking forward to pursuing new opportunities, hopefully as a commercial pilot.



FINLAY ROBERTSON

Finlay is a renowned actor, who now lives in North London. He has acted in 27 films, including 'Alfie' with Jude Law and the starring role in 'Inbetweeners' released in 2001. He has also appeared in four television shows, including Dr Who with David Tennant. His most recent appearance is in the Viking epic 'The Hammer of the Gods' which will be released later this Spring.





Oliver wins best in class with 'Top Star'

Oliver Williams (ShHL) recently represented King's at the National Schools' Equestrian Championships at Addington Manor, Buckinghamshire having qualified at the regional event earlier this year.

Oliver was riding in the open dressage class (which is the highest level of dressage at the Championships) and was competing against some very experienced dressage riders. However, having trained hard for many weeks, Oliver and his pony 'Top Star' were ready for the stiff competition.

Oliver and 'Top Star' produced a very accurate test scoring 74.71% and they won the class by

more than 2%. This was a fantastic achievement, particularly considering that Oliver was competing against all ages up to 18 year olds in an open class.

If any pupils are interested in representing The King's School at future equestrian events (show jumping, style jumping or dressage) then please email Liz Boothroyd: d.boothroyd@which.net

A WINNING START TO THE NEW YEAR FOR GIRLS' U13 INDOOR HOCKEY TEAM

The U13 indoor hockey squad won the Chester and District tournament in January.

King's started the tournament with a tough draw against a very defensive Abbey Gate College, however went on to win matches against Queen's and Upton, finishing top of their group. King's then faced Tarporley in the semi-final, showing true determination to come back from 1-0 down and win 2-1.

In the final, although a tough game versus Bishop Heber, King's continued to play well and won 1-0, crowning the girls as Chester and District champions.

In addition to this, the squad continue to compete well in this year's In2Hockey National Schools' Competition.

The squad beat Cheshire Schools; Wilmslow, Queen's, Fallibroome, Hartford, Bishop Heber and Birkenhead High to win the Cheshire round. In March, they went on to compete in the North Semi-Final against North West Schools for a place in the National Schools' North Final.

The U13 squad are: Emily Cartwright (ShRC), Abigail Fisher (ShRC), Megan Gareh (ShRC), Eloise Dooley (ShPS), Annie Powell (ShRC), Jessica Lee (ShAI), Anna Lloyd (ShML), Olivia Wade-Jones (ShML), Amicia Crewe-Read (ShRC) and Bethan Pode (ShML).



Girls power through to Cheshire Academy

Following the West Cheshire and Wirral 10 week Junior Development course, seven girls from King's were selected for the U13 and U14 Cheshire Junior Academy and will represent Cheshire in matches against academies from Cumbria, Lancashire, Greater Manchester and Cheshire East in March.

The girls are Amber Disley (ShPS), Jessie Lee (ShAI), Bethan Pode (ShML), Laura Scott (RmPH), Olivia Wade-Jones (ShML), Isabel Whittingham (ShHL) and Anna Lloyd (ShML).



ANNUAL 'PUDDING RACES' A REAL JOY

The King's School Rowing Club held its annual 'Pudding Races' in December at the Boathouse.

This historic annual event, which originates from the 1950s, involved all of King's rowers competing in scratch Vllls, with the winners being presented with Christmas puddings by the High Sheriff of Chester.

There is also a sponsored boat event, which this year saw the Roland Partnership boat victorious over the Bibby Ship Management boat in a head-to-head race. The two businesses were the lucky winners of a race night boat race. The winning boat was presented with a plaque from the High Sheriff of Chester. The day also saw the annual King's boat-naming ceremony when the School's new rowing boats are officially named.

This year the boats were named after former pupils: James Ball (Henley Royal Regatta winner in 1992), John Marsden (Captain of Boat 2011-2012) and Neville Orme (KSRC Coach 1990-present).

Neville is one of the coaches of King's successful London Olympians, Tom James MBE, Chris Bartley and Olivia Whitlam.



'Got to Dance' finalist puts girls through their paces



Nicolette Whitley, a former finalist on 'Got to Dance', came to School to work with the Fourth Year girls during games in December.

She is a professional dancer having graduated from the Liverpool Institute of Performing Arts and now has her own dance company – Alleviate Dance.

The girls performed a new style of dance called 'Whacking', a form of street dance, and finished the session focusing on contemporary dance styles.

This is the second time Nicolette has worked with this particular group; taking a session last year when they were in Third Year. Nicolette has also worked with the Removes in their Enrichment programme.

GIRLS PERFORM IN CHESTER GYM COMPETITION

Shell girls from King's Gymnastics Club competed in the Chester and District Gym Competition in December which was held at Catholic High School.

The King's team of four girls came in 2nd place overall. Abigail Fisher (ShRC) came 2nd in the Vault competition and Jessie Lee (ShAI) in 3rd place. In the pairs' competition, Anna Lloyd (ShML) and Jessie Lee (ShAI) came in 2nd place. The fourth member of

the team was Eloise Dooley (ShPS). The team were supported by reserves: Olivia Wade-Jones (ShML) and Rebecca Perkins (ShHL). The successful Gym Club has been running at King's for 5 years and sees up to 30 girls in Removes and Shells enjoying gymnastics every week.

The girls went on to perform their pairs routines in assembly and received their competition medals from the Headmaster.



EXCELLENT DAY FOR KING'S ROWERS AT WYCLIFFE HEAD

The King's School Rowing Club had an excellent day at the Wycliffe Head, Gloucestershire in February. In beautiful conditions, the club returned seven category winners from the sixteen crews entered, making King's the most successful club on the day.

The morning division saw the boys' 1st VIII win the division and J18 VIIIs, encouraging signs for the crew who beat respective 1st VIIIs from Radley, Shiplake and Pangbourne College. The 2nd VIII for the day performed well, finishing 7th overall and winning the novice VIIIs category. The J15 VIII were dominant in their category, beating all of their rivals, including Shrewsbury School by over 30 seconds. The girls' 1st VIII put in perhaps the performance of the weekend by

producing the quickest women's time of the day. They took the WIM3 VIIIs title also with that performance. The J15 girls won their category, beating St Edward's School by four minutes! Other notable performances in division 1 were by the senior coxed four who came second and the under 14 girls' quad which also came second.

Conditions remained good for the afternoon; the boys' and girls' J14 octuples

both took a category win in their respective events, the first win of the season for the boys. The J18 coxed fours came 2nd and 4th in their categories. The 1st VIII came an overall second, seeing off the challenges of the same schools from the mornings division however being beaten by Shrewsbury School to the headship, by 0.7 seconds! In total 95 athletes competed for the School, a great start to the 2013 campaign and some very promising performances.



Swimmers in close finish

For the first time, King's Seniors competed against The Grange in a swimming event this term.

The gala was for girls and boys in Removes, Shells and Third Year. The events were butterfly, backstroke, breaststroke and freestyle with two swimmers in each event, finishing off with 'A' and 'B' medley relays and freestyle relays.

Although overall, The Grange won both girls' and boys' combined events, the competition was close with the King's boys only losing by three

points and the girls by nine points and there were individual age group successes.

The Shell boys won their age group competition and Remove boys drew in theirs. The Shell girls won their age group by a long margin and the Third Year girls also won with only three swimmers, having a guest Shell swimmer in the relays.



Netball tournament went to the wire

King's U12 team were runners up in the Chester and District Netball Tournament in March. After a great win against Upton High School in the group stages, King's went on to face Tarporley High School in the semi-final – a clear 8-1 victory.

In the final, King's faced a tough opposition in Christleton High School. The game was a thrilling, tightly-fought match with every player on court working hard to win. At halftime King's were 4-2 down and had everything to play for. In the second half, King's staged a superb comeback to make it 4-4. The excitement and screams from the crowd made for a thrilling end but unfortunately Christleton managed to score two quick goals, leaving the final score as 6-4 to Christleton.

All players were outstanding and the squad of Erin Morgan (RmLB), Anna Chadwick (c) (RmLP), Izzy Thomas (RmSC), Laura Scott (RmPH), Catherine Savidge (RmLB), Francesca Angel (RmLB), Olivia Hughes (RmLP) and Mehtaab Shergill (RmSC) have much to be proud of.



King's rowers take on the best in the North West

The Dee Autumn Head was a great day for King's Rowing Club, as they picked up eleven wins across the events. The club produced a big turn out and crews from across the age ranges competed against the best from the North West.



The J15 boys impressed with a strong Novice VIII victory whilst the J16 squad produced a win in the Novice Fours category as well as the J16 coxless pairs. Connor Morrison (U6CC) continued his strong run of form in the singles topping the KCH sculling list in a field of 12 scullers. The senior boys took a victory in the IM2 coxed four event, which was a good confidence builder in their preparation for the Fours Head the following week.

The girls had a strong day throughout the year groups, with the senior girls leading the day by being the quickest women's VIII of the day. There were also wins for the J15 girls in their double and quad combinations. Both the senior girls' quad and coxed four won their category.

The following week, the signs were good for King's Rowing Club at the 2012 Fours Head of the River. With the senior boys still in mixed

combinations, a finishing position of 5th in the IM2 coxed fours event was an excellent result, in a field of 61 crews the boys cut through the competition ahead of them to produce an encouraging time of 20 minutes dead.

The girls' senior coxed four replicated last year's third place finish in the women's junior coxed fours; however with three of the crew still J16s and one J17, the signs are good for the season ahead. The boys' junior quad, competing in a tough event, finished a credible 13th out of 53 crews in 19:38, behind St Paul's. They were the second sweep championship crew on the day, a good measure of their progress.

The boys' junior coxed four came 15th out of 19 crews, the girls' junior quad 35th out of 44 crews. A successful venture to the Thames for the KSRC crews, who can now look forward to the next National event.

Sam scores with Spanish FA

Sam Jones (5MW) has been selected to represent the Independent Schools' Football Association's National U16 team.

Sam travelled to Shrewsbury where he represented ISFA against Shropshire schools. ISFA staged a dramatic fightback from 3-0 down at half time, to claim a 3-3 draw against Shropshire in the final minutes of the game.

Sam went on to be selected for the U16 ISFA representative team in January where they were due to face Arsenal FC, a game which unfortunately fell victim to the weather.

Following these matches, ISFA have arranged a tour to Madrid, where Sam will be staying in the Spanish FA's training complex and playing against professional academy teams in what promises to be the trip of a lifetime.



Golfers compete in matchplay tournament

Luke Faulkner (L6JR), Craig Evans (L6JR) and Matt Curtis (L6SW) faced a tough opposition in the Independent Schools' Singles Matchplay Tournament.

King's golfers faced North Cestrian Grammar School, competing against players with handicaps of 1, 6 and 12. Luke and Craig lost their first games, spurring Matt on to halve his game. North Cestrian progressed through to the next round having won 2½ - ½.

Their next opponents were King's Macclesfield in the HMC Golf Foursomes Tournament. Luke and Matt won the first game 4 and 3, whilst Craig and Guy Dunbavand (L6PW) lost their game 7 and 6. Matthew Groome (L6DB) and James Bellis (L6AM), who were asked at very short notice to play for the team, lost their game 7 and 6. This awarded the opposition a 2-1 win which saw them proceed to the next round.



STOP PRESS... STOP PRESS... STOP PRESS... STOP PRESS...

Gala performance from King's swimmers

Isobel Wild (ShPS) and Sam Wild (4MP) recently competed in the North Wales Regional Swimming Championships. The gala ran over two weekends with the top swimmers in North Wales competing. Sam had a really good meet and achieved 9 personal bests, winning five gold medals and four silver. Isobel achieved five personal bests despite being ill, and won two gold and two silver medals. She also managed to qualify for the British Nationals in Sheffield in July, with a time of 1:00.42. Sam qualified for the British Gas International meet in Leeds for 50m Butterfly, and is currently ranked 6th in the UK for 15 year olds. This meet will have all the top GB swimmers competing and some European and American swimmers. It will be the first time Sam will have competed against swimmers at Olympic level.



With a 162, Oliver is invited to join MENSA

Oliver Williams (RmNG) has been invited to join MENSA, the high IQ society. Oliver scored an impressive IQ test result of 162 which puts Oliver's IQ in the top 1% of the population.

Oliver, who loves a challenge, completed the three hour supervised test at the end of January and was delighted to be invited to join MENSA.



Nott for the first time, George selected for Cheshire rugby squad

After his success in achieving both county and North of England Rugby selection last year, George Nott (L6DB) has again been selected to represent Cheshire. George, who also plays for Sale Sharks, was selected to play against Yorkshire and although Cheshire lost the game, they put up a strong performance against one of the best county sides in the country.



Tae Kwon Do black belt for Sonny

Sonny Wood (RmNG) recently earned his black belt in Tae Kwon Do. Sonny was one of four from Wrexham being graded and was only one of two people to pass. He received a certificate, his black belt and black belt dobok.



Matt and Martha are outstanding in Cross Country

Matt Willis (ShRC) is the U13 Welsh cross country champion! He came 1st at the Welsh Inter Regional Cross Country Championships in Builth Wells in December. Matt and Martha Owen (ShAl) were selected to represent North Wales having both won the North Wales Junior Cross Country League in Wrexham.

They both came first in the under 13 section, having won races in Bangor, Llandudno, Wrexham and Northop – four out of four wins! Martha came 7th in the U13 girls and Anna Willis (4EH) was 25th in the U15 girls. All great achievements!



King's flautist selected for National Orchestra

Marissa Landy (SAC) recently auditioned for, and has been selected, to be a member (one of two flutes) of the National Children's Chamber Orchestra.

They will be rehearsing together on a residential course at Queenswood School, Hertfordshire in the Easter break.



Jack selected for GB inline hockey team

Jack Meadows (SDL) has once again been selected to play for the GB U16 inline hockey team. The team will be attending the World Championships in California this summer. Jack has also been playing National League ice hockey for The Deeside Dragons. He has been training with the senior side since he was 15 and he recently featured in a full league game, having turned 16. League rules prohibit under 16s from playing, so Jack's introduction from the bench aged 16 years and three days makes him this season's youngest player in the English National League North!

Jack hopes to develop into a top national player and his progress in the U18 competition (where he has scored three times as many goals as anyone else in the league) augurs very well for the future.



SENIORS

For girls and boys 11-16

Join us at one of our Year 5 Discovery Days

Outstanding facilities and a unique learning environment that will nurture and develop your child's true potential – you'll be inspired!

20th and 21st June 2013

Colour their lives forever

To arrange your Discovery Day, call: **01244 689553** quoting 'June Discovery Day'.

email: admissions@kingschester.co.uk
www.kingschester.co.uk

THE KING'S SCHOOL
CHESTER

JUNIORS

For girls and boys 7-11

It doesn't get any better than King's...

Start your child on a magical journey of learning and discovery. We'd like to invite you inside King's Juniors to explore, enjoy and imagine how this creative, caring and nurturing environment will stimulate and develop your child's true potential.

Junior Discovery Days

3rd, 10th and 17th May

To arrange a visit call:

01244 689553

quoting 'Junior Discovery Days'

email: admissions@kingschester.co.uk
www.kingschester.co.uk

THE KING'S SCHOOL
CHESTER



THE KING'S SCHOOL
CHESTER

The King's School, Wrexham Road, Chester CH4 7QL

Tel: Junior School: 01244 689520 Senior School: 01244 689500

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