



THE KING'S SCHOOL  
CHESTER

# Herald

All the latest news from The King's School, Chester | Spring 2015

The King's School,  
colouring their  
lives forever.

Learn more inside...



## A showstopping performance of *The Producers*

Read the full story on page 8





## A performance to be proud of



**King's was crowned the top performing independent school in Chester, following the publication of The Sunday Times Parent Power table for GCSE and A Level results last term.**

For the second year running, King's was placed in the top 80 independent schools in the country. In 2014, it was placed 5th in the North West and was placed 2nd for co-educational schools.

The late corrections in examination papers further boosted King's examination results. The final results for A Level are now 65% A\*/A and 87% A\*/B with girls at King's scoring 89% A\*/B.

The GCSE results also improved after corrections with 47% A\*, 77% A\*/A grades with King's girls achieving 52% A\*, 78% A\*/A and 97% A\*/B grades.

### Government League table

In January, the Government League tables were released. King's was the highest performing School in the Chester area with an A-average point score per A Level entry.

- 100% achieving three A Levels
- 53% achieving AAB or higher in at least three facilitating subjects (King's offers all facilitating subjects)

At GCSE, the decision to no longer include IGCSEs in the Government's figures meant that King's score, along with most other academic independent schools, was very low with 14% achieving five A\*-C GCSEs including Maths and English. Should IGCSEs be included, the result would be 100%.

For further guidance on these performance tables, visit:

[www.kingschester.co.uk/academicresults](http://www.kingschester.co.uk/academicresults)

## Oxbridge offers for seven students



**Upper Sixth Formers celebrated as they received offers from some of the country's top universities and most competitive courses.**

At the beginning of March, 90% of students had received at least one offer from a Russell Group University. 65% of students received four out of a maximum of five offers and 38% received all five offers.

This year saw a total of 17 applicants to study Medicine or Veterinary Science and, at the time of writing, 82% of whom received at least one interview. Offers to study Veterinary Science have, so far, been given to Anna Longson (U6NH) who has received two offers and Bronwen Hulme (U6CC) who received one offer. A number of offers to study Medicine have, so far, been given to Ben Paxton (U6CC), Victoria Walker (U6ML), Lucy Armatage (U6JK), Sian Jackson (U6CC), Megan Pode (U6HJ) and Fiona McDonald (U6KS).

**This year saw seven students being offered places at either Oxford or Cambridge:**

Head of School, Ben Paxton (U6CC), was offered a place to study Medicine at St John's College, Cambridge.

Victoria Walker (U6ML) was offered a place to study Medicine at Gonville & Caius College, Cambridge.

Gabriel McCluskey (U6JK) received an offer to read English at Magdalene College, Cambridge.

Georgie Hodson (U6SD) received an offer to read Theology at Girton College, Cambridge.

Harry Stables (U6KS) has been offered a place to study Economics and Management at Pembroke College, Oxford.

Kate Huber (U6ML) received an offer to read Biological Sciences at The Queen's College, Oxford.

Lex Czulowski (U6JK) received an offer to read History and Politics at Merton College, Oxford.



# Smart investors beat the professionals

**A team of four students outperformed the FTSE 100 share index and secured its place in the semi-finals of a national investment competition.**

The Kingsone team, comprised of Hansaj Singh (L6ER), Alex Tan (L6SW), John Barton (L6DB) and Stanley Parker (L6ER), beat not only the professionals, but also more than 30,000 other students across the UK in the *ifs* Student Investor Challenge.

The team made more than £20,000 dealing in virtual shares in just three short months of trading and went on to represent the School in the semi-final, held in March. The team did incredibly well in the semi-final, narrowly missing out on gaining a place in the National Finals. The team improved greatly from their previous position as they were ranked 4th in the North Wales and English Midlands region, and 8th in the country.



The competition, run by *ifs* University College 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 sterling effort for King's MPC

**After winning the Regional Heats of the Bank of England's Target 2.0 Competition in November, King's 'Monetary Policy Committee' (MPC) progressed through to the Area Finals in February where they narrowly missed out on a place in the National Finals of the Bank of England's Target 2.0 Competition.**

Competing in the Scotland, Northern Ireland and North West of England Area Final they were placed second to Stewart's Melville College. The team, made up of Alex Jones (U6HJ), Harry Stables (U6KS), George Thompson (U6ML) and Sam Wallace (U6ML), gave a comprehensive and thorough account of the various upside and downside risks to inflation in the near and medium term.

Their central argument, judged excellent, was that the downside risks were all near term and that upside risks were set to take hold in the medium term. They made a convincing case in their forward guidance that the rate of inflation would begin to return to the target rate of 2.0% from the start of 2016.

They cited evidence on the closing of the output gap and the tightening of the labour market which they believed would make rises in the Base Rate more probable in order to keep inflation at its target rate through 2017. The judges made special mention of the coherence of the forward-looking nature of their presentation. It was, they said, a close call between the top two teams.

This was a fantastic team effort from King's A Level economists. Alex Jones was responsible

for assessing inflationary pressures from costs and prices, Harry Stables surveyed trends and prospects in the money and financial markets, Sam Wallace considered emerging real wage growth in the labour market and George Thompson took on the task of judging the demand and output performance of the UK economy.

Harry Stables delivered and justified the Committee's decision to hold the Base Rate at 0.5% and the stock of purchased assets (QE) at £375 billion.

Congratulations to all the team for a sterling effort. Now the hunt is on for students to take on the baton for the 2015-16 competition!





## Shedding light on maths enigmas



**November saw a trio of visits from guest Maths lecturers Rob Eastaway, Ben Sparks and James Grime. All three mathematicians gave various insights into the world of numbers.**

The first Maths lecture was held by former pupil, Rob Eastaway who provided an entertaining and engaging talk entitled *From Pepsi to Peace Deals*. The theme of the talk was Game Theory, touching

on collaboration and competition in business, economics, politics and biology. Ten pupils were invited on stage to try and implement a strategy to win £50. One lucky pupil came away with 20p, the rest with nothing. This was an amusing and interactive presentation of the challenges of Game Theory. Pupils thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon and were even given some dating advice, based on the principles of Game Theory!

The second lecture was given by Ben Sparks, who regularly gives talks and workshops to schools and conferences throughout the UK, on a range of mathematical subjects including the Maths Inspiration Project run by Rob Eastaway.

He enlightened the audience with the *Creation of Numbers*. Pupils were invited to offer their thoughts on where numbers came from. Did we make them up? Did cavemen invent them?

What part did the dinosaurs play? Ben took the pupils on an entertaining journey from the ancient Greeks to present day, finishing with the world of complex numbers and fractals.

The final Maths lecture was given by James Grime, who brought along with him a genuine WW2 Enigma machine! He explained the mechanics behind the machine and the secret world of codes and code-breaking.

The talk was an excellent mix of code-breaking and mathematical history, underpinned by the message that there are really exciting career possibilities out there for mathematicians.

Pupils heard about the life of Alan Turing and learned that his work significantly shortened WWII. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed the lecture and were excited to meet James and the Enigma machine.



## Meeting the UKMT maths challenge

**The UK Mathematics Trust (UKMT) is a registered charity whose aim is to advance the education of children and young people in mathematics. The UKMT organises national mathematics competitions and other mathematical enrichment activities for 11-18 year old UK school pupils.**

Sixth Formers Mathew Oliver (L6SB), Daniel Swinnock (L6PW), Victoria Walker (U6ML) and Laurence Ankers (U6NH) all participated in the team challenge held in November. The team came in third place in a very high scoring regional round.

The UKMT Individual Senior Maths Challenge saw high levels of success as students gained 20 bronze, 9 silver and 9 gold certificates. Mathew Oliver (L6SB) and Andrew Darby (L6PW) qualified for the British Maths Olympiad, and seven students: Victoria Walker (U6ML), Aaron Soutter (U6CC), Alexis Enston (U6NH), Laurence Ankers (U6NH), Daniel Swinnock (L6PW), Robert Fayle (L6PW) and Benjamin Cliff (L6HF) qualified for the Senior Kangaroo challenge.



**Pictured above are:** Daniel Swinnock (L6PW), Hansaj Singh (L6ER), Robert Fayle (L6PW), Harry Mulliner (L6PW), Joshua Roberts (L6SB), Shun Sato (L6SB), Mathew Oliver (L6SB), Oliver Berry (L6DB), Andrew Darby (L6PW) and Benjamin Cliff (L6HF).

Andrew Darby (L6PW) was named Best in School and Best in Year for L6.

Victoria Walker (U6ML) was named Best in Year for U6.



## Cambridge debaters make their point

As part of King's Debating Society, two teams took part in the Cambridge Schools' Debate in January, which saw success for one of our two teams – Niamh Massey (L6SW) and Simon Ellershaw (L6SW).

They won their two head-to-head debates against The Grange School and advanced to the regional round of the Cambridge Schools' Debating Competition, held in February. Both Niamh and Simon put in an excellent effort debating two extremely challenging motions during the regional round. Unfortunately, they did not advance to the next round, but were both very pleased with the work they did and the skills they acquired along the way.

The second team who took part in the Cambridge Schools' Debate in January comprised of Barnaby Rule (5JR) and Laurence Ankers (U6NH).



The pair fared well in their three-way debates against Coleg Llandrillo Rhyl Sixth and Coleg Cambria. Unfortunately, after extensive deliberation on the judge's part, Coleg Llandrillo Rhyl Sixth were chosen to advance from that group. All debaters made excellent arguments and deserve commendation for their efforts.

## Art fair winners exhibit their skills

In 2013, Chester Arts Fair was proud to announce the establishment of an Art in Education Programme, which enabled local schools from the Cheshire area to showcase a selection of their most talented students' work.

This year, King's pupils exhibited at the fair and there were several awards covering different key stages for work that were particularly outstanding, judged by an independent panel of Art experts. The competition allowed students to experience the commercial side of a career in art and be part of a prestigious art event in their own city.

### This year's winners were:

**Art in Education Competition KS3 winner:** Emily Cartwright (4JM)

**Art in Education Competition KS4 winner:** Erin Hollingworth (L6JR), runner up Charlotte Knight (L6HF)

**Art in Education competition KS5 winner:**

Cherie Wong (OKS, 2014), runner up Francesca Jebb (U6JC)

**King's overall winner:** Cherie Wong

**Runner up:** Erin Hollingworth

Cherie Wong was awarded the overall **Art in Education winner** in the Senior School section, beating competition from several local schools.



## Success at Chess

King's Chess A and B teams were both in action in January. The teams travelled with Mr Wilcock to Newcastle-Under-Lyme School (NCUL) to play their latest game in the English Chess Federation School League. Against tough opposition, Team A – comprised of Daniel Savidge (3RL), Riyaan Yesudian (RmNG), Rohan Yesudian (3JJ), Danny Rajapandian (RmNG), Arjun Balasubramanian (3HB) and Team Captain, Animesh Anand (U6JK) – held NCUL to a 3-3 draw. On board one, Daniel Savidge, in particular, could be allowed some satisfaction in his draw with a formidable England International player.

Team B, comprised of Catherine Savidge (3HB), Manny Rajapandian (RmSC), Mariam Littler (3JJ), James Little (L6HF), Edward Kane (ShPS) and Ellie Barriga (ShCM), were less successful against the same NCUL team but it was good to see new players, Ellie, Edward and Manny playing their part with our more experienced club members.



January was also a memorable month for Abhijay Chawda (RmNG) and Rutujay Chawda (J3B) as they achieved outstanding success in chess tournaments on three consecutive weekends.

Rutujay won his Under 10 section at the English Primary Schools' National Championships in Liverpool with a perfect score of six points from six games. Abhijay won the prize for the best score by an Under 18 player at the Stockport Rapidplay Grand Prix Tournament.

The following Saturday, saw Abhijay compete at Leeds in the English Chess Federation Northern Junior Championships. He played superbly to score 4.5 points from his five games which resulted in him winning the tournament and crowned Northern Under 12 Champion.





## ScoffStix designers win London commendation

**Congratulations go to the ScoffStix team comprising of Atharva Salvi (4EH), Ryan Kingsley (4PN), Ally Bibby (4MP), Annie Powell (4EH) and Saffron Townsend (4JM) for gaining a commendation at the Design Ventura awards in London, in February.**

Design Ventura is an annual competition organised by the Design Museum in London and is open to 13-16 year old students to design and create a new commercially viable product from a design brief set by a leading designer. This year the theme was 'connect'.

The King's team had been working since September to design and research their idea and their hard work was rewarded as they reached the top 10 schools from an entry of 230 schools and 10,000 pupils. Only one entry could be made from each school and Head of DT, Richard Curtis headed a judging panel that chose the ScoffStix design from a total of eight other teams in the Fourth Year.

The ScoffStix team were awarded a commendation for good design. Their fantastic product is described as 'No challenge chopsticks with an integrated fork'. The team were inundated on the night with questions and admiration for their innovative design from designers, visitors and other Design Ventura finalists.

The ten finalists' designs have the honour of being exhibited in a glass tank in front of the Design Museum for the next few months.





# Amazing Amadeus!

**December audiences were treated to a superb production of Peter Shaffer's *Amadeus* in the Vanbrugh Theatre.**

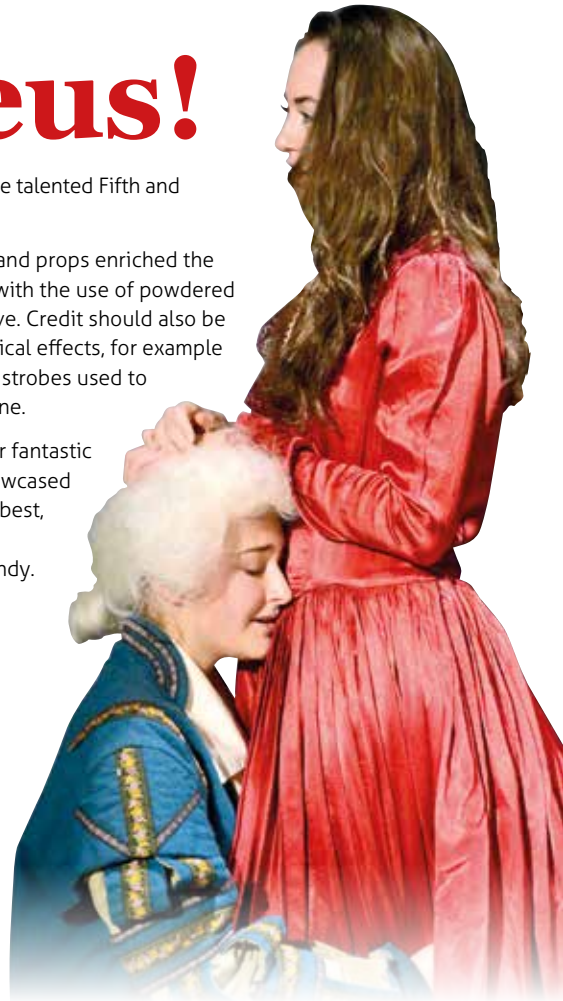
Under the direction of gifted Upper Sixth student, Marissa Landy (U6ML), the audience was presented with a highly-absorbing and fascinating dramatic exploration of the lives of the prolific 18th century composers Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, played by Faith Lydon (U6NH) and his antagonist and rival Antonio Salieri, played by Lydia Sowden (U6CC).

Casting females as the two lead male roles was a deliberate choice of Marissa, who loves to challenge and experiment with theatrical convention. The tension between the main characters was indeed palpable, with sensitive acting moving the audience to alternately empathise with and censure the two complicated composers. Indeed, the standard of acting was excellent throughout, with 12

first-rate performances from the talented Fifth and Sixth Form cast.

Eighteenth century costumes and props enriched the historical context of the play, with the use of powdered wigs being particularly effective. Credit should also be given to the standard of technical effects, for example moody backlit shadowing and strobes used to intensify a decadent party scene.

*Amadeus* was certainly another fantastic night at the theatre, which showcased our students at their dramatic best, and it proved an impressive directing debut for Marissa Landy.



## Kids' Lit quiz team book place in London final

**In November, two teams took part in the Liverpool regional heat of the Kids' Lit Quiz. This quiz was a true test of pupils' knowledge of books with 100 questions being asked, ranging from folk tales to the latest bestseller.**

Team A comprised of Alchemy Lucas (ShAR), Martha Mulliner (ShLB), Anna Devoy (ShAR) and Thomas Chappell (RmSC). The team performed incredibly, scoring a massive 85 points, two points ahead of the team of authors and six points clear of the second placed school. Each team member received a certificate and £20 worth of book tokens. There is also a trophy displayed in the library.

Team B consisted of Pranav Shetty (RmVL), Molly Ferrara (RmPH), Georgia Spender (ShPS) and Miranda Thompson (ShPS). All did incredibly well and came in the top half of the 20 teams taking part. It was wonderful to see that not only did they enjoy the event, but that they were genuinely thrilled for their friends.

Team A went on to travel to London, as a result of their success, and competed against 17 other schools in the National Final in December. The quiz was held at King's College School, Wimbledon, and many authors attended the

event to support the pupils. The guest speaker was the ever popular author Anthony Horowitz, and our pupils were thrilled to meet him and have their books signed by him.

The quiz itself was challenging and exciting, relying on teams buzzing in as soon as they knew the author or book that the quizmaster, Wayne Mills, was describing. As befits such a prestigious competition, the questions were very difficult, covering a wide range of books. King's performed very well, managing 6th place overall. Considering that hundreds of schools had entered this competition originally, this was an incredible achievement. They went away with goody bags from the School Library Association, some signed books and memories of a fantastic experience.

Alchemy, Anna and Martha will be too old to enter again next year, but are already planning to mentor future teams in the hope of going even further.





## The Producers

A musical which majors on dancing Hitler and lecherous old ladies might not sound like your average school show, but Mel Brooks' 1968 musical *The Producers*, a satire on fascism and Broadway, went down a storm(trooper) in the Lent Term.

**L**ed in style by veterans of the King's School stage Lawrence Ankers (U6NH) as Max Bialystock, Tom Cuffin-Munday (L6ER) as Leopold Bloom and Catriona Hogg (L6ER)

as Swedish bombshell Ulla-of-the-many-names, the cast and crew gave this tale of the worst producer and the worst show on Broadway the very best of productions.

In addition to scenes of lascivious old ladies wielding sparkly zimmer frames and wonderfully exaggerated theatre luvvies having a veritable carnival on stage, this all-singing, all-dancing show also featured some magnificently exuberant acting not only from the central trio but also from such eccentric characters as Hitler groupie Franz-the-pigeon-fancier and the highly flamboyant darling of stage and screen Roger De Bris. Fabulously executed high kicks and pitch-perfect high notes combined seamlessly, as, from the smallest part to the largest Homburg on stage, all of the performers razzle-dazzled it with the best of 'em!

But it takes more than great performances to make a Broadway show and, using the full resources of the Vanbrugh Theatre, sound and lighting, props, costumes and make-up all came together spectacularly to add even more sequins to the sparkling cavalcade on stage. *The Producers* is a complex, demanding show, but supervised by members of staff, our young lighting and sound technicians and stagehands worked tirelessly and unflappably to ensure that no gag was lost, every note was heard and every scene was lit for maximum impact.

King's has never shied away from a challenge and *The Producers* certainly presents many. True to a long line of excellent productions, however, cast and crew alike rose magnificently to those challenges to produce a show which, for talent, energy and sheer entertainment, was second to none. We produced *The Producers* – and it doesn't get much better than that!





# Authors share their creative writing advice

This term has welcomed a trio of authors so far, Paul Dowswell, Cathy Cassidy and Matt Dickinson, who visited on three separate occasions and talked to students about their lives and their recent books, which students were lucky enough to have signed.

Paul Dowswell, a successful author of historical fiction for children and teenagers, visited the School in January. He spent the morning in the Senior School library, talking to Junior School pupils about his book, *Powder Monkey*. Pupils were enthralled by his interesting and entertaining talk which

tips on "daydreaming" and creative writing and answered a myriad of questions such as 'which is your favourite book?' and 'is there a rivalry between children's authors?'. After the talk, Cathy met all the children individually to sign their books and answered even more questions.



Matt Dickinson, author, adventurer and film-maker also visited the School in February. It was an author visit with a difference as Matt spoke to Third Year students throughout the day, as well as two GCSE Geography groups. His vast experience of extreme climates

covered life aboard a Royal Navy ship during the Napoleonic Wars. In the afternoon, the Vanbrugh Theatre was packed with Remove and Shell pupils who were treated to an introduction to the First World War, which is the topic of Paul's book, *Eleven Eleven*. Twenty pupils from Removes and Shells were selected to attend a writing workshop after school, where Paul used a picture of soldiers on the morning of the Battle of the Somme to inspire a piece of writing. After giving them some tips and short exercises, the pupils were all able to produce work of incredible quality.

Removes and Shells students joined Junior School pupils, together with pupils from four other local primary schools, to hear Cathy Cassidy talk about her life as an author in February. Cathy Cassidy is one of the UK's top selling children's authors. She was an art teacher, a magazine editor and an agony aunt before becoming a full-time writer. 350 children listened avidly in the Vanbrugh Theatre as Cathy gave them

made for fascinating talks linking in with the Geography curriculum, but also inspiring pupils to challenge themselves. He mainly talked about climbing Everest, as he was the first film-maker to film from the summit and return alive, and his journey to Antarctica, which involved his first experience of ocean sailing. His talks demonstrated the danger



of these places, whilst also showing their beauty. Matt has written an account of his Everest ascent, but has also used his experiences to write novels for adults and teenagers. His latest book, *The Everest Files*, is sure to become one of the library's most popular books.



## Exploring the wonders of the British Library

**Sixth Formers studying A2 English Language travelled down to London in October to visit the British Library. In addition they also visited the house of Dr Samuel Johnson – an English writer, critic and one of the most famous literary figures of the 18th century. His best-known work is his *Dictionary of the English Language*.**

The students were astounded at the sheer size of the British Library building and were lucky enough to partake in an educational workshop on accent and dialects over the years. This experience proved to be extremely thought-provoking and informative in terms of showing how the English language has developed over the years and will continue to do so.

The afternoon involved a visit to Dr Samuel Johnson's house where students were taken on an interesting tour around the house. They also took part in another educational workshop that proved to be very useful to their studies in English Language.

The Sixth Formers spent the remainder of their time sightseeing to conclude their enjoyable trip to London.





## Passionate about poetry

**Memories are personal, powerful, sometimes pleasant, sometimes painful, but irresistible and often involuntary. The theme of this year's competition, remembering, encouraged pupils to write a poem about an experience or a viewpoint on remembering or memory. Winning and highly commended entries showed a range of imaginative responses and varied poetic styles.**

To help compose their poem, pupils attended a writing workshop in School with Mrs Lydon and our poet-in-residence, Clive McWilliam.

The winners of the school's Passion for Poetry Remembering competition were announced in January and a selection of these poems were delivered in a Passion for Poetry assembly, in February, on the same theme. Well done to all the pupils who took part.



### Removes

**Joint Winners:** Lily Walker (RmSB) and Tilly Irvine (RmSB)

### Highly Commended:

Owen Reynolds (RmAI), Henry Bell (RmAI) and Olivia Barnes (RmSB)

### Shells

**Winner:** Emily Haughton (ShCI)

### Highly Commended:

Christopher Hatton (ShAR) and Maya Adhiyaman (ShLB)

### Third Year

**Winner:** Erin Morgan (3HB)

**Joint Second place:** William Meakin (3RL) and Emilia Cotgrove (3ET)

### Highly Commended:

Robin Lee (3ET), Mariam Littler (3JJ), Owen Parsonage (3JJ) and Catherine Savidge (3HB)

### Fifth Year

**Winner:** Charles Smith (5JR)

## New York! New York!

**After the major setback of a delayed flight, the start of the October half term proved to be a memorable journey for Music students as they travelled to New York for a few days; involving themselves in copious amounts of activities that would ensure they were given the full New York experience!**

The group took a walking tour of the heart of Manhattan where a number of architectural landmarks are situated, in addition to the city's most popular retail shopping, several of its top museums and the famous Times Square.

No visit to New York would be complete without experiencing the top of the Empire State building. Located in the centre of Midtown, Manhattan, students were provided with an unforgettable and breathtaking 360° view of New York. After which, students were ready for an evening meal at the highly acclaimed Hard Rock Cafe, which provided them with tantalizing food and drinks alongside an awe-inspiring rock memorabilia collection.

The second day of the trip began with an impromptu choral performance in Times Square, where students were able to showcase their musical talents and stroll through Battery Park for a view of the city's past. It was yet another action packed afternoon as students boarded ferries to Ellis Island and the glorious Statue of Liberty, where they provided the public

with yet another brilliant choral performance. That evening, students visited the Gershwin Theatre where they watched the global musical phenomenon, *Wicked*.

The final day was spent in the birthplace of New York – Lower Manhattan, where they visited an abundance of locations including Wall Street, Little Italy, Chinatown and the distinctive triangular Flatiron Building. Finally, the group paid their respects as they visited the world famous Ground Zero which provided them with stories of both tragedy and heroism. The evening made for an enjoyable meal at La Mela Italian Restaurant in Little Italy, followed by a well enjoyed Open Mic Night at the Birdland Jazz Club and a musical performance at the Hewitt School, where students displayed yet more of their musical talents.

Suffice to say that despite the initial set back, the trip proved to be highly successful and enjoyable amongst students, as they looked back on their journey and boarded the plane back home.





## Getting creative in Snowdonia

**Students studying A Level English Language and a group of Removes and Shells were given the opportunity to go on a creative writing and design trip before the October half term. This was a cross-curricular trip between the English and Design and Technology Departments.**

Students travelled to Mid Wales and stayed in the Centre for Alternative Technology (CAT), a modern and sustainable centre overlooking Snowdonia's National Park, renowned for its beautiful landscape with over seven acres for outdoor activities and displays.

The students lodged in their very own eco-house and eco-cabins and were exposed to new methods of energy conservation, providing an eye-opening cross-curricular experience. On the first night, Removes and Shells took to some spooky night-time writing while Sixth Formers played a team building game of Articulate!

The surroundings enabled students to work in a stimulating environment, creating a relaxed atmosphere for Sixth Formers to draft creative pieces of coursework and gain support from the teachers, whilst Removes and Shells took part in a variety of activities, linked to creative writing and workshops, including building their own turbines!

On the Saturday night, the Sixth Formers led groups of Removes and Shells to create and direct a short play. Sixth Formers then performed their very own dramatic piece to round off the evening.

The trip proved to be highly successful and all students were truly sad to be leaving the centre behind after a well enjoyed weekend of hard work as well as good fun.

## Insights from a daughter of China



**Students and visitors welcomed guest speaker, Jia Ding, who spoke of her life in China and her move to the UK in 2006.**

Jia talked about key turning points in China including the Tian'anmen Square Incident and the Cultural Revolution which removed the chance for people to take the GaoKao – a university entrance exam needed to study overseas. Jia went on to talk about the one-child policy, implemented in 1979.

Although she noted the perks of being an only child, Jia also highlighted that being an only child created a culture



where there is more pressure for children to gain good education overseas in order to get a good job and provide for their family back in China when they are older. Overall, the talk

gave insight into the cultural, political and economic difference between China and UK, which made for a fascinating talk to a large audience.



## A safe shelter for Belgian refugees

**When German armies swept through Belgium in the summer of 1914 and were then fought to a standstill on Belgian soil, around a quarter of a million Belgians fled their homeland and sought refuge in Britain.**

Several families came to Chester and according to the School Year Book for 1915, King's admitted four Belgian refugees in the School year 1914-15. Two of these, Henry Van Troeyen (KS 1915-17) and Paul Quinet (KS 1915-16), are named in the School register and School lists – the old blue books (which were white in those days! Funny how traditions quickly take root).

School records provide us with factual details about these and other pupils of the time but in Quinet's case we know a little more because his wife Doris published his memoirs posthumously in 1982. After service in the Belgian forces and a degree in Medicine from the University of Birmingham, Quinet went on to become a well-respected doctor in Solihull in the West Midlands.

When he entered the School in May 1915, Quinet was placed in Form V. Born in 1899, he was 16 years old. His father had been a director of taxes in Persia (modern-day Iran) and then at Antwerp before the war, so already Paul had moved around a fair amount. Until 1914, he attended boarding school in Brussels.

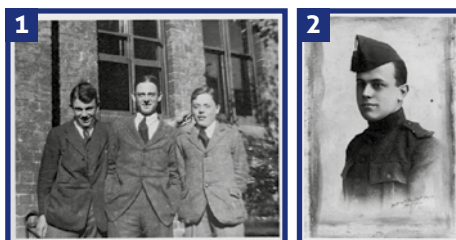
According to Quinet, while out cycling in the Forest of Soignes, he witnessed the first German troops moving through the area in the summer of 1914 – for which his father punished him.

The next day, his family caught the last train out of Brussels for the coast – just before the city was taken by the Germans. From there the family moved, via Holland and England, to Dieppe in France, before Paul's father sent him, on his own, to England in May 1915.

Although he spoke little English and had only £5 in his pocket, he made his way to the Belgian Consulate in London where he was advised to travel to Chester and enrol at King's.

With no family living locally, he was accommodated in Arnold House, the School's boarding house situated beyond Northgate. The impact of war is illustrated by the small detail that, until 1925 when he became a naturalised British subject, Quinet had to carry an identity card with him that he had to show to the local police wherever he went in England.

Quinet says little of his time at King's in his memoirs. He remarks that his housemaster, Mr Woodhouse, looked after him very well and said he was very happy at King's where everyone was very kind to him.



A lifelong amateur artist, he contributed a number of drawings to an exhibition of black and white sketches which the School held during the war.

Quinet left King's in summer 1916 and the following autumn began studying for a degree in Medicine at Birmingham. His studies were interrupted, however, when he was called up into the Belgian army. From 30th June 1918 until October 1919 he served in the Medical Corps. For the first ten weeks he underwent training, but after this administered anaesthetics to wounded servicemen.

The anaesthetic he administered was pure chloroform – highly dangerous to patients as well as anaesthetists. He did this for about six weeks until he fell ill with chloroform poisoning, which meant that he was bed-ridden when the war ended on November 11th, 1918.

Happily, Quinet soon recovered and after war service he resumed medical studies at Birmingham.

**PICTURE 1:** Paul Quinet, left, in 1916 with friends outside Arnold House.

**PICTURE 2:** Serving as an Anaesthetist in the Belgian Army from 1918-1919, Paul Quinet was awarded a medal for bravery. Against orders, he took an ambulance into the firing line to recover severely wounded soldiers.



## Talking translation with Professor Bellos

In January, pupils were visited by guest lecturer, Professor David Bellos, who came to speak about language and translation. David is Chair of French and Italian and Comparative Literature at Princeton University. He is also director of Princeton's Programme in Translation and Intercultural Communication. His research work has included study of Balzac and Georges Perec and he is currently working on Hugo's *Les Misérables*.

Professor Bellos published an award-winning translation of Perec's most famous novel, *Life A User's Manual*, in 1987 and he won the first Man Booker International Prize for Translation in 2005 for his translations of works by Albanian author, Ismail Kadare, the translations being done from previous French translations.





## Bravo to our charity fundraisers

**From musical performances to cake sales and dressing up – students have involved themselves in numerous events to raise money this year.**

The start of term saw its first charity event of the year take place as students raised £400 through a charity cake sale, which had a never-ending queue, to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Charity.

Pupils took a stand against cancer and raised £317 in October for the Stand Up to Cancer campaign. Pupils signed their name on the signing wall, located in the Gallery and there were fantastic musical performances throughout break and lunch.

£2000 was raised for November's Children in Need day, where students came in their own clothes and the Junior School transformed themselves into superheroes for the day!

The festive season saw students raise over £700 dashing through Chester as they took part in the Chester Santa Dash. Sam Rogers (L6ER) was the first to cross the finish line and Isobel Bosworth (5CG) raised over £200 through sponsorship. Other students spent an afternoon visiting the Children's Ward at the Countess of Chester Hospital to deliver the School's donation of gifts for Christmas.



## Out and about with CCF



**CCF cadets took to their bikes along the Red Trails through Delamere Forest in November. After familiarising themselves with their bikes, the cadets began tackling the challenging 8.6km of muddy bike trails, left after the recent rain.**

This resulted in several bikes becoming stuck! Nevertheless, the cadets persevered and improved their biking skills through agility exercises. Cadets then braved the winding steep downhill trail that was truly challenging and intimidating. However a number of cadets found this to be an exhilarating experience that many would repeat.

After a well deserved lunch, cadets were split into different groups to enjoy an orienteering activity. Despite becoming lost a number of times, the experience enabled them to develop their map reading skills in addition to learning from their mistakes. Once the group reached their destination, they sat down for a much needed hot chocolate after an adventurous day which left them all exhausted.



**With the Cambrian Patrol lurking in the not too distant future, 25 cadets travelled to Sennybridge, Wales, during a weekend in October to learn and practise prior to this difficult event.**

Saturday was devoted to multiple activities. First were section attacks in which cadets were given blank rounds to use. Map reading followed where they practised micro-navigation which was much needed as the Cambrian Patrol requires a good level of navigational skills – a skill that cost some teams a medal last year. Finally cadets practised close target reconnaissance patrols (CTRs), which involved learning to be stealthy in order to remain unseen whilst watching the enemy close by.

As the day progressed, each section was tasked to carry out a CTR on an enemy position. Unfortunately, weather conditions greatly deteriorated which prevented them from continuing.

Needless to say, all were exhausted once they retired to camp!



## Junior School Learning Centre now open

**The end of January saw the official opening of the new Junior School Learning Centre.**

The event welcomed invited guests and governors, parents, staff and pupils. The pupils excitedly released 250 balloons to mark the event. Author of award-winning series *Horrible Science* and guest of honour Nick Arnold, officially opened the new Learning Centre and cut the ribbon to mark this momentous event. Nick had spent the day in the Junior School leading workshops with pupils.

The £1.5m building has added additional state-of-the-art facilities for the ever-popular Junior School which has seen increasing pupil numbers in recent years. The new Learning Centre has become the heart of King's redesigned Junior School and features a science laboratory, a design technology workshop, an art studio, a learning support classroom, a new library and reception area and an outdoor classroom.



## Junior choir's winning spirit

**The Junior School Choir proudly won the Spirit of Christmas competition back in November and went on to perform in the Spirit of Christmas Concert at Chester Cathedral in addition to winning a digital piano, courtesy of Dawsons Music in Chester.**

The competition was open to local primary school choirs and was organised by the Neuro Muscular Centre Charity in association with Chester's Dee 106.3 radio station. The results were announced on the radio in early November.

The Spirit of Christmas Concert featured some famous performers such as John Bowe, Olivia Brereton, Claudie Blakley, Malcolm Sinclair and many more who have appeared both on stage and on screen.





# Chess boys make all the right moves



The Junior Boys' Chess Team performed remarkably at the AJIS Chess Tournament in November as formidable opponents awaited the team at the annual AJIS Chess Tournament held in Bolton School. Undaunted, the calm focus of the team was impressive. Each player demonstrated respect and good manners for the opposing team in each game. The boys performed magnificently and left the tournament as winners.

Below are the winners of each team:

**'A' Team bronze medal winners:** Roshan Clarke (J4H), Hugo Thompson (J4P), Rutujay Chawda (J3B) and Amrit Bolina (J2R).

**U9 'A' Team bronze medal winner:** Amrit Bolina

**U9 'B' Team silver medal winner:** Charlie Marshall (J2R)

**U10 'B' Team silver medal winner:** Max Newall (J3B)

**U11 'A' Team bronze medal winner:** Roshan Clarke

**U11 'B' Team gold medal winner:** James Heritage (J4H)

**U11 'B' Team bronze medal winner:** Josh Thomas (J4H)

**Certificate winners:** Rohith Muthuvelu (J2P), Casper Buckley (J2P), George Munday (J3B), Jack Morgan (J3B) and Luke Dillon (J3S).



## Read all about it!

The Junior School pupils have demonstrated their editorial skills as the Newspaper Club try their hands at producing their own newspaper, *The Blazer*.

Pupils discuss and share ideas in terms of what to include in the next edition. With each monthly edition produced, pupils work on their writing and communication skills in addition to learning new skills such as editing and designing.

This has been a successful project so far, with *The Blazer* having been read by CBBC presenter Ceallach Spellman, also known as Cel and Hacker! The club is very much enjoyed by all pupils, with more and more joining each time it is published.



## LFC awards for star footballers

In January, J2 pupils were presented with a mixture of certificates, medals and trophies by a Liverpool FC coach.



This marked their completion of a football development course, which started over a year ago. The coach commented saying "This group has been the best group I have trained during my seven year career for Liverpool in terms of spirit, enthusiasm and ability."

Abinav Sivaraman (J2A) and Fraser Rossiter (J2A) were recognised as the most improved players during this course and were therefore awarded certificates and medals.

Fraser Brown (J2P) and Barnaby Wallis (J2R) were named Star Players and received certificates and a trophy in recognition of this.





## Basketball stars 'wow' J3

**J3 were lucky enough to be visited by members of Cheshire Phoenix basketball team on an afternoon in January.**

Pupils were split into three groups which rotated as the afternoon progressed. Pupils learnt about leading a healthy lifestyle from team player David Aliu and healthy eating from Coach John Lavery. Pupils also participated in a number of activities led from newly signed team players Simeon Naydenov and the world's tallest basketball player Paul 'Tiny' Sturgess, who stood high above Juniors at 7'8"!

The team gathered all of the pupils for one final game which saw victory for Henry Lunn (J3B), who was rewarded with a Cheshire Phoenix signed basketball. Suffice to say, all of the pupils thoroughly enjoyed their afternoon.



## Hockey champs at AJIS tournament

**The boys' hockey team stormed through the annual AJIS Boys' Hockey Tournament in December. Two U11 boys' hockey teams travelled to Kirkham Grammar School on an afternoon of mixed weather, including a hailstorm, which added to the tension with some nail-biting hockey being played out between eight teams from the North West.**

King's A team drew 1-1 with Kirkham Grammar School, beat The Grange School 8-0 and St Bede's School 5-0. Consequently, they won their category ahead of Kirkham Grammar School due to the superior goal difference.

King's B team were runners up in their category, narrowly losing to Arnold KEQM School (2-3) and beating both Newcastle-under-Lyme School (2-0) and Kirkham Grammar School B team (4-1).

Both King's teams met in the semi-final with King's A Team winning 4-1. King's A Team went on to play Arnold KEQM School in the final which they won convincingly (6-1).

Team Captain, Zak Packer (J45) was presented with the trophy, which was last won by King's in 2011. A special mention should be made of the classy goal scoring partnership of Monty Dunlap (J4P) and striker Charlie Williams (J4H) who were largely responsible for the very impressive goal haul.



### Fraser makes a comeback

**It was great to see a familiar face in November as OKS Fraser Murdoch visited the Junior School. Fraser was football captain of the U11 team which won the AJIS Cup in 2006/7 season. He also played in the successful cricket team which won the AJIS competition in the same season.**

Mr Malone remembers the football team with much fondness, their record was impressive! In the final they beat Bolton 3-1 with Fraser scoring one of the goals. He scored 24 goals in total that season as an attacking central midfielder player!

Eight months prior to the time of writing, Fraser suffered a serious knee injury whilst in training at Crewe Alexandra F.C. This resulted in him missing out on the chance of making his debut for the first team at Crewe and having to withdraw from the U19 Scotland squad. Fraser made a full recovery from this injury and has now been converted to centre forward.





## Willow Lodge... The story so far

It's full steam ahead as the new Infant School, Willow Lodge, is progressing nicely! Weather has been favourable and the building is due to be complete by June, ready to open its doors in September. The building will be purpose-built specifically for teaching infant children and will offer the very best facilities to teach an exciting and forward-looking curriculum.

Head of Infants, Margaret Ainsworth, (opposite) commented saying, "It has been a busy time since taking up my appointment in January and I have been thrilled to meet many parents and children so far."

### Curriculum

At its core, will obviously be the teaching of literacy and numeracy skills but as an independent school, King's can offer a much enriched curriculum and it is envisaged that the activities will also include Drama, Music, ICT, Art, French, Spanish, Mandarin, Cookery, Swimming, Games and Outdoor Learning through Play. The Infant School will be opening with two Reception classes, an Infant 1 class and an Infant 2 class, as we welcome 80 pupils in September.

**Willow  
Lodge**  
The King's Infant School



Head of Infants,  
Mrs Ainsworth







## Class of 1975 return and reminisce

A group of hardy 1975 leavers braved the chilly weather in February to meet up, after 40 years, to reminisce and see how King's of 2015 has changed since their days at the School.

Former teachers Reg Read, Graham Hutton, John Leyshon, Paul Consterdine and Harvey Mellor joined the group and recalled the now infamous incident of the Crosville bus crashing through the school gym and the IRA bomb scares that occurred frequently during the 70s.

All who attended enjoyed the day which was rounded off with a convivial meal at a Chester restaurant.

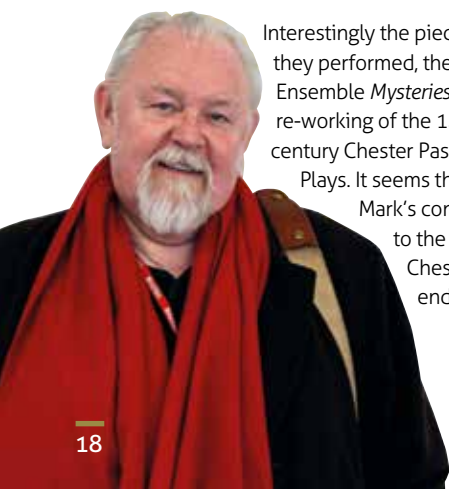
## Director Mark stages return

In February, we were delighted to welcome Theatre Director, Mark Dornford-May (OKS 1975) back to King's. Mark, who was en route to the Berlin Film Festival, now lives in Cape Town, South Africa, with his wife who is also a renowned South African opera singer.

Mark is the founder of the Isango Ensemble, an internationally renowned company that draws its artists from the townships around South Africa. With Sir Ian McKellen as its patron, the ensemble performed at the Sam Wannamaker Playhouse located at Shakespeare's Globe theatre in London in March.

Interestingly the piece they performed, the Isango Ensemble *Mysteries*, is a re-working of the 14th century Chester Passion Plays. It seems that

Mark's connection to the City of Chester has endured!



## New CD for leading organist

The Alumni Office was recently informed that Mark Swinton had released another CD entitled *Gaudeamus omnes* – a festival of dedication music celebrating Warwick's 1100th anniversary, which includes two world premier recordings.

Mark is an internationally-acclaimed organist, currently living in Warwickshire. He has a Masters in Music from the University of York and is a Fellow of the Royal College of Organists. Currently, he is Assistant Director of Music at the Collegiate Church of St Mary, Warwick, and works extensively as a freelance musician.





## Ben builds new business

Since graduating from Cambridge, 2010 leaver Ben Lloyd has been part of a small team building Property Moose, a crowdfunding platform for property.

Just a few months old, the platform has nearly 2,500 registered investors, and has raised almost £500,000. Fintech (Financial technology), which is a line of business based on using software to provide financial services, is forecast to explode in 2015 and Property Moose is helping to pioneer this new industry.

We wish him every success with this venture.



Property Moose

## Gogglebox fame at 80!

Former King's pupil Leon Bernicoff (OKS 1959) has finally found fame in his eighties! Whilst playing bridge at his local club in Liverpool, Leon was approached by TV producers looking for individuals to star in their programme *Gogglebox*.

*Gogglebox* is a British observational documentary, which has aired on Channel 4 since March 2013. The show features recurring British couples, families and friends sitting in their living rooms watching weekly British television shows. Leon is now the star turn and features on most of the programmes, which is watched by four million people a week!

Leon says he is now stopped in the street and asked for his autograph, has opened Chinese restaurants and fetes. When asked how he finds fame in his eighties he says, "I love it", and who can blame him!

## Memorial music scholarship launched

Many former pupils will remember Fergal O' Mahony (OKS 2002) who sadly passed away last year. Fergal was an accomplished composer, and as a concert pianist, he performed with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and Manchester Camerata amongst others.



King's is delighted to announce that a scholarship has now been launched in his memory. The Fergal O'Mahony Music Scholarship, worth £1000, will be awarded to a Remove pupil starting at King's in September 2015.

The scholarship will cover tuition for two 30 minute lessons per week. In 2016, Fergal's family are supporting a part bursary for a Removes applicant, as a result of a trust set up in Fergal's memory.

## Sale Sharks debut for George

Former pupil George Nott, was thrilled to play a part for Sales Sharks in their Rugby Union European Cup clash against Munster in January. George came on in the 62nd minute, and despite the team losing, gained great experience from his appearance.

George (OKS 2014) is currently contracted to the premiership club and has made several appearances for the Sale Jets, the development team for the Sharks. When not on Sale Jets duty, George plays for Chester in National League 2 North, in line with the current arrangement between the two clubs. George is recognised as having huge potential to progress further in England colours. He recently secured a sponsorship deal with Halliwell Jones BMW in Chester which is fantastic.



**Founder's Dinner**  
**Saturday 12th September 2015**

**1995 Leavers Reunion**  
**Saturday 9th May 2015**

**Henley Royal Regatta**  
**Friday 3rd July 2015**

**Aspiring Lawyers and Legal Alumni Event**  
**Friday 6th November 2015**

Link up with our  
**LinkedIn**

If you haven't already, please do join our OAKS LinkedIn group. With a growing membership, it's a forum through which you can discuss or use professional connections to ask advice. All members have a connection to King's.

To join the Group on LinkedIn, search for The King's School Chester Alumni.



## Hockey boys come out on top

**King's boys' hockey squads have enjoyed a great season so far, with the U16 and U18 squads adding silverware to the cabinet.**

With a considerable overlap between the squads, the future looks bright for the sport over the next few years, and a number of players are likely to add to their already impressive representative honours. The U16 Indoor squad began by winning the North of England title in Bradford in November.

It was the second successive year they have won this title, before competing impressively in the National Indoor Finals in London in early January, where they so nearly made the semi-finals. Outdoors, the U16s won their Cheshire group convincingly to progress to the North West Finals. They beat the other group winners, Weaverham School, 7-0 in the Cheshire Cup Final to become County

Champions with a record of 26 goals for, and none against, in the three cup games! The team defended the North West title and headed for the North Finals at the beginning of March and were crowned the North of England Champions (see more on back page).

The U18 squad, featuring the core of that same U16 team, has also had a great year so far, winning three-quarters of their 20 games to date. In the Cheshire Cup they too won their group, edging Altrincham Grammar School 1-0 in a decisive match, but they couldn't produce their best form against Sandbach School in the Cheshire Final and lost 2-0, resulting in being runners-up.



## Footballers remember the fallen

**King's hosted eight teams from Crompton House School, Shaw, in December for the final 'block' fixture of the term.**

The fixture coincided with the FA initiative to recognise the centenary of the 'Christmas Truce' on the battlefields of Ypres and pupils from both schools posed for joint photos to support this act of remembrance.





# Great results for our hockey girls

## U19 girls' squad

The King's U19 girls' hockey squad have taken the County and District by storm, as they were crowned Chester and District Indoor Hockey Champions in December after taking the outdoor crown at the beginning of the season. For the first time ever King's entered two teams in the District Tournament with both competing to a high standard. Victories against The Queen's School and Bishop Heber High School led to King's 1st team winning gold medals with King's 2nd team placing 4th overall.

**1st Team:** Champions (left to right): Lucy Armatage (U6JK), Sophie Drew (L6SB), Claire Kaye – captain (U6HJ), Orlaith Monk (L6DB) and Nicola Temple (U6CC).

**2nd Team:** Emily Cuffin-Munday (L6HF), Zoe Rigby (L6SW), Ffion Douglas (L6SW), Rachel Huber (5CG), Claire Tyrie (5AC), Emily Boothroyd (L6HF) and Anna Longson (U6NH).



Early success has continued for this talented squad. In February, the girls went on to win the Cheshire Indoor League with five straight wins against The Queen's School, Lymm High School, Alderley Edge School for Girls, Fallibroome Academy and Wilmslow High School. They were undefeated

and played exceptionally well as a team; topping the County League is a great honour and one the girls should be hugely proud of.

**Squad. Back row, left to right:** Lucy Armatage (U6JK), Orlaith Monk (L6DB), Ellie Kearney-Mitchell (U6JK), Ellie Crisp (U6HJ), Claire Kaye – Captain (U6HJ), Sophie Drew (L6SB) and Katie Pownall (U6JC)

**Front row:** Nicola Temple (U6CC)



## U14 girls' squad

King's U14 girls' hockey squad continued their rewarding season after finishing as runners-up in the Cheshire Indoor Hockey County Final.

Playing against Bishop Heber High School, The Queen's School and The Grange School, the girls stormed through unbeaten on the evening after qualifying as winners of their section. Unfortunately, an early win against The Queen's School and draws in their remaining two games against Bishop Heber and The Grange were not enough. Finishing with 5 points, the girls were awarded silver medals and should be proud of their achievements in their first season of County indoor hockey.

**Pictured above, left to right:** Isabel Thomas (3ET), Laura Scott (3JJ), Emma Giddis (3JJ), Erin Morgan (3HB) and Amelia Jones (3RA) – captain. Not pictured, Isabel Martin-Alvarez (3RL).

Three members of the U14 Squad have been successful in achieving County representative honours. Erin Morgan, Amelia Jones and Laura Scott have all been training at the West Cheshire and Wirral County Junior Development Centre since September and have progressed through to the Junior Academy Centre.



## District champions – at the double!

The U12 and U13 boys' and girls' athletics teams entered the District Indoor Sports Hall Secondary Athletics Competition in January, competing against nine other schools in the District.

The U12 team performed excellently and came out on top as winners in each competition. Both teams have now gained the title of District Champions which is a fantastic achievement for King's Removes pupils. They have since performed in the County Finals and finished with Bronze medals.

## Teams

**Girls:** Heather Black (RmAI), Olivia Barnes (RmSB), Phoebe Binneman Santamaria (RmAI), Sophie Williams (RmVL), Tilly Irvine (RmSB), Lizzie Hunt (RmSC), Daisy Ellis (RmSC) and Chloë Beetschen (RmPH).

**Boys:** George Arnold (RmSB), Seb Imber (RmCR), Joe Harnett (RmAI), Owen Reynolds (RmAI), Henry Bell (RmAI), Will Saunders (RmPH), Ferguson Rathbone (RmVL) and Thomas Hughes (RmSB).





## Hat-trick Matt runs away with it

It's been a tremendous cross country season for Matt Willis (4RC). His first success was being selected to represent Cheshire in an Inter-County competition between Cheshire, Surrey, Cumbria, Shropshire, Warwickshire, Staffordshire and West Midlands – several of the strongest squads in the country. Matt won the U15 inter boys' race which helped him and his team win the gold medal.

In November, Matt won the U15 boys' race at the British Athletics Cross Challenge in Liverpool, a prestigious regional event.

Not content with these victories, Matt then crossed the border to compete for North Wales in the Welsh Inter-Regional Cross Country Championships in December, where he won the U15 boys' race and took the team gold medal.

Richard Lunn, Director of Sport added, "Matt's success is a product of both his potential as an athlete and the unbelievable effort he puts into all aspects of his training. Matt is also a nationally ranked track athlete and the National Triathlon Champion, so it is clear that he has a bright future in whatever discipline he eventually decides to focus on. We are tremendously proud of his achievements."



## County champions at U14s badminton

**After a thrilling final game, King's U14 badminton team were crowned County Badminton Champions in January.**

King's easily won their group, defeating Lymm High School 5-0 and Weaverham High School 4-1 respectively, before facing Wilmslow High School in the final. Despite starting off well, both singles games were lost, leaving Amogh Patil (3RA) and Ben Davies (3RA) to keep the rubber alive with a good win in the doubles. The team's superior teamwork led them to win both remaining doubles.

Ben and Sam Jones (3RL) won 15-5 with Amogh and Liam Shortall (3ET) winning 15-7.

The team went on to represent Cheshire in the North West Championships, though did not progress any further.



## Lucy dances with distinction

**Lucy Peel (L6SB) passed her Intermediate Ballet exam in January, at the Northern Ballet School in Manchester and was awarded a Distinction.**

The Intermediate Ballet exam is a vocational qualification, separate from the graded system. These sets of vocational exams by the Royal Academy of Dance (RAD) aim to prepare a person for pursuing a career in ballet or dance in the future.

Lucy had been preparing for this exam for the past year and a half, using her School games' afternoon to prepare, which enabled her to develop her ballet techniques as well as her pointe work. Lucy commented saying "I was thrilled to pass it with a distinction!"





# Festive fun at Pudding Races

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

This historic annual event, which originates from the 1950s, involved all of The King's School rowers competing in scratch Vllls. This year, Team Blitzen won the race and were presented with Christmas puddings by The Sheriff and The Sheriff's Lady of Chester, Cllr Herbert Manley and Mrs Margaret Manley.

The day also saw the annual King's boat-naming ceremony as the School's new rowing boats were officially named. This year, the new girls' coxless fours boat was named after

Kevin Whyman (OKS leaver 1994), he was a member of the 1993 National Schools' fours squad and coxed the Cambridge Boat Race. Kevin was represented by his parents.

The new J15 VIII was named after Jim Walker (OKS leaver 1986). Double Olympian (1992 and 1996) and World Championship Medallist Jim now lives in USA and was represented by his parents.

A coxless pair boat was named after Inigo Atkin (OKS leaver 2010), Junior World Championship Coxed four in 2010. Inigo, who is currently working in Spain, was represented by his parents.

A coxed four was named after Mike Thorp (OKS leaver 2009), three time Blue (Light Blue) Boat Race Winner and Gold Medal of the Coupe de Jeunesse in 2008. Mike officially named his boat.

Ex-Olympian Olivia Whitlam (OKS leaver 2003) presented the Million Metre World Record certificate, which King's rowers completed back in October.



## International honours for rowers

**It was an encouraging start to the season last term, with both Alex Slater (L6HF) and Harry Higginbottom (L6HF) having made good progress within the GB set-up.**

After finishing 4th in a coxless pair at the first GB trial in November, Harry and Alex were invited to train with the GB Junior Men's Squad in Nantes, France, the following month. Both had a successful time in Nantes on the GB camp with Alex having recently received an email highlighting him as a key athlete for the Junior World Championships in Rio de Janeiro 2015.

Maud Moir attended the Junior Women's GB trials and was invited to train with other trialists at the GB rowing centre at Caversham, in December.

This term our top three eligible boys, Alex Slater, Harry Higginbottom and Christian Palmer (L6HF), made good progress in the GB rankings after the last 5K test – Alex is currently ranked 5th, Harry is ranked 12th and Christian has moved up to 28th place – this is out of all eligible 140 Under 18 GB rowers from across the UK.

Our top three boys' VIII raced Shrewsbury School in November at Lake Vyrnwy in a private match and all three came out on top, a positive start to the season.

During the autumn term the club raced crews at local events, Dee Autumn Head and Northwich Head. Several of our younger crews gained valuable race experience here and the club achieved four wins at Dee Autumn Head (Nov Vllls, WJ17 2x, J16 2x and J16 1x) and a win in the Women's novice coxed fours at Northwich Head.

A major event last term was Wallingford Head which saw our top 16 boys in matched Vllls. The two Vllls finished 1st and 4th in J18 Vllls, beating quite a few top schools who boated their 1st Vllls. This was a great result for King's Rowing Club early in the season.

In December, the club had a successful day at Head of the Float in Birkenhead. The J15 boys' Vllls won both J16 and novice Vllls, with the girls winning J16 Vllls. The senior boys' 3rd VIII won in IM3 Vllls and were the quickest VIII of the day.

At the start of 2015, the J14 squad travelled to the Thames Valley to compete at Hampton Head. The boys raced in two J14 Octuples, finishing 1st and 13th out of 23 in their category, and the girls' octuple finished 5th out of 14 in their age group.

The same weekend saw senior crews race at Wycliffe Head in Gloucestershire. The senior boys raced in two Vllls and produced a strong result finishing 1st and 3rd out of 12 crews in J18 Vllls. Meanwhile the J15 squad had their best result of the year so far, with the boys finishing 1st and 8th in J15 Vllls and the girls racing in a coxed four, finishing 2nd in their category, missing out on 1st place by under one second. There was also wins for the J18 boys' coxed four and the J16 boys' in Novice coxed fours.







## Boys' Hockey squad crowned North of England Champions!

King's progressed through the Cheshire and North West events to make the last four in the North in Leeds, after a successful season.

They began with a fine 3-1 win over North West Champions Calday Grange School, avenging the defeat they suffered in the North West Final the previous week. Harry Armatage (5CG) scored twice and James Temple (5JR) scored once in a fine win, which they followed up with a tight 1-0 win over Yarm School. This time, Matt Williams (5AC) scored the only goal, in what was a more comfortable win, than the score suggests.

This left King's needing a draw in the final match against Eggescliffe School. Injuries and fatigue did play their part, however King's

laboured somewhat. Caught a few times on the break, eventually Eggescliffe School made them pay with eight minutes to go, but real determination got King's back into the game and skipper, Will Dodd-Moore (L6JR), capped a great season for himself with a powerful equaliser from a penalty corner.

King's are now the North of England Champions for the first time since 2011! It has been a season where they have a 20-1-6 record which speaks volumes for the talent in the squad. With many of the players available for one or two more years, there could be further silverware to look forward to yet.

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**Junior  
Discovery Days**

8th and 15th May

Ages 11-16

**Year 5  
Discovery Days**

2nd and 3rd July

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**01244 689 553**

or email: [admissions@kingschester.co.uk](mailto:admissions@kingschester.co.uk)





13th & 14th  
**May**  
2.15-3.15pm

**Willow  
Lodge**  
The King's Infant School

**King's  
Infant School**  
Discovery Afternoons

To book a place or register your interest, please call **01244 689 553**  
or email: [admissions@kingschester.co.uk](mailto:admissions@kingschester.co.uk)