



# Herald

All the latest news from The King's School, Chester | Spring 2016

**The King's School,  
colouring their  
lives forever.**

Learn more inside...



## Dream performance celebrates Shakespeare anniversary

Read the full story on page 4



## Top universities calling!

Sixth Formers are celebrating receiving superb university offers. By the UCAS application deadline of 15th January, students had already received 88% of their decisions with just under 40% having received all five offers. The maximum number of universities that students can apply to is five, with King's students on average gaining four offers.

It has been one of King's best years for students gaining places at the UK, and indeed world's top universities, Oxford and Cambridge, with six girls and six boys receiving offers to study there next autumn.

- Amy Shaheir to read History of Art at Oxford (Christ Church College)
- Andrew Darby to read Natural Sciences at Cambridge (Corpus Christi)
- Angus Menzies to read Biochemistry at Oxford (University)
- Daniel Weatherly to read Chemistry at Oxford (St Catherine's)
- Jessica Jones to read Biological Sciences at Oxford (St John's)
- Katie Lawrence-Smith to read Law at Oxford (Balliol)
- Mathew Oliver to read Maths at Cambridge (Emmanuel)
- Oliver Berry to read Physics at Oxford (St Catherine's)
- Patrick Hudson to read History at Oxford (University)
- Saorsie Nyhan to read Economics and Management at Oxford (Jesus)
- Emily Boothroyd to read Biological Sciences at Oxford (Lady Margaret Hall)
- Georgie Hodson (OKS 2015) to read Philosophy and Theology at Oxford (Worcester College)

*“My heartfelt congratulations go to all this year's Upper Sixth students who have received some truly fantastic offers from the UK, and indeed the world's top universities. The passion for their wide-ranging subjects and their talents have shone through in them receiving offers from these top universities. I am very proud of them all.”*

Chris Ramsey, Headmaster.



## 8 gold + 19 silver + 20 bronze = Maths medal success

**King's Sixth Form mathematicians achieved eight gold, 19 silver and 20 bronze certificates in this year's United Kingdom Maths Trust (UKMT) Senior Maths Challenge.**

Over 82,000 pupils from across the UK sat the challenge in November, with the top 10% receiving a gold certificate, the next 20% silver and the next 30% bronze. A special mention goes to Ben Cliff (U6HF) who was "Best in School" and Fifth Year student Jonathan Ralphs (5MP) who was fifth best in the School despite being two years younger, with a higher score than anyone in the Lower Sixth. Approximately 4,600 of the top students were invited to sit one of the follow-on competitions, the British Mathematical Olympiads round 1 (BMO1) or Senior Kangaroo competition. Six King's students sat papers for these follow-on rounds and the School looks forward to receiving their results.



## Increasing interest in D of E

**Students have had another busy year participating in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. Over 120 new students registered for the award, at all three levels.**

King's continues to work closely with expedition providers at The Conway Centres to ensure that pupils have a safe and enjoyable, yet enticingly challenging, expedition experience. Sixty-five bronze candidates successfully completed their practice expeditions on the Cheshire Sandstone Trail in March. The gold and silver students conducted their training expeditions on the Clwydians and Snowdonia, taking in some breathtaking views.

Eleven pupils have successfully completed their gold award including, Emily Cuffin-Munday (U6HF), Tom Cuffin-Munday (U6ER), Edward Everett (U6ER) and Shun Sato (L6NH). They all received their certificates at a presentation ceremony at St James' Palace, London, which was attended by His Royal Highness, the Duke of Edinburgh.

Pupils participating in the Duke of Edinburgh Award continue to be involved in a wide range of activities including music, photography, cooking, veterinary surgery assistants and sport. They also devote a significant amount of their time volunteering with toddler/youth groups, centres for the elderly and numerous charities.



# A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

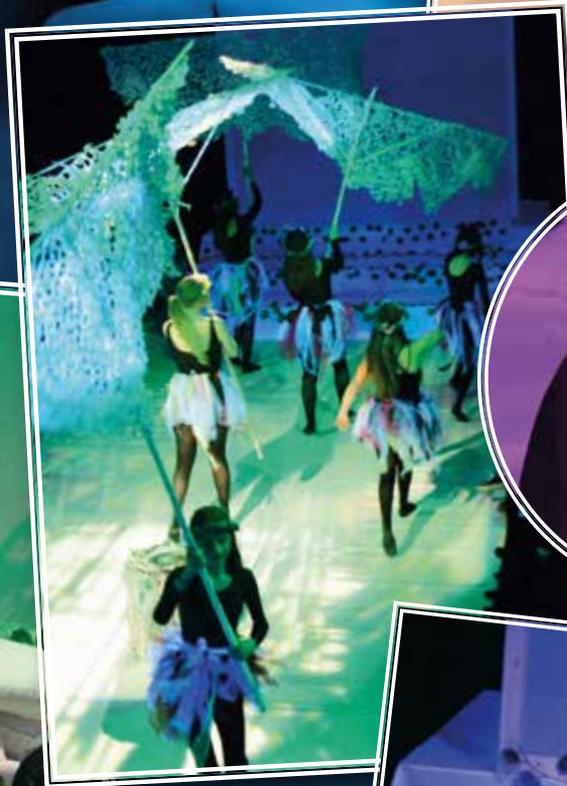
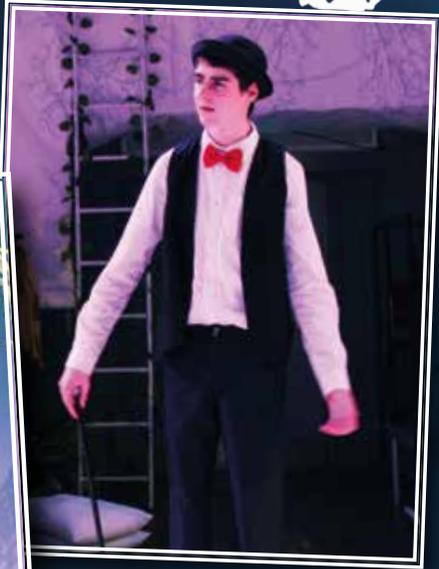
To celebrate the 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of William Shakespeare's death, King's Drama Department performed his much loved comedy *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, to sell-out audiences in March in the Vanbrugh Theatre.

The Vanbrugh Theatre was transformed, using a traverse stage configuration, to portray the dream world that the characters inhabit. The Art Department, notably Mrs Hollingworth, must be congratulated for creating a truly breathtaking set; scaffolding was draped in white material where UV painted trees engulfed the audience at various points, making this production a true spectacle. Directors Mrs Howdon and Dr McMahon merged Shakespeare's poetic language with a striking visual aesthetic to pull the audience into the contrasting worlds of the spirits and mortals. Mrs Williams (Drama) choreographed the fairies' dance sequences beautifully, and this combined with Ananda Chatterjee (L6NH) and Wil Jones' (L6JK) stunning original music and Mr Mannix's (Theatre Technician) magical lighting, resulted in some truly mesmerising moments. Miss Black (Art), and her talented Shells' enrichment team, provided the icing on the cake with a fabulous Vivienne Westwood inspired set of costumes.

There were also some standout performances by the (double) cast. Patrick Hudson (U6PW) was an absolute hoot as Bottom and his strong command of the Shakespearean language made his delivery both enjoyable and accessible in equal measure. Patrick's rapport with Barney Rule's (L6ML) highly strung Quince was joyful to watch (with Barney also offering an equally hilarious Bottom on alternate nights). Harriet Fisher (U6PW) turned in a riotously sassy performance as Hermia, juxtaposed wonderfully with Chloe Cowan (L6PL) and Rebecca Hatton's (L6HJ) intelligent portrayal of Helena. Edward Ramsey (L6HJ) and Jack Sackett (5MP) offered deliciously contrasting portrayals of Demetrius; Jack adopted a delightfully strutting and swaggering physicality as he arrogantly and ruthlessly spurned Helena, whilst Edward's portrayal was endearingly sweet and romantic. Both Tom Cuffin-Munday (U6ER) and Tom Larken (U6DB) completed the lovers with a dynamic portrayal of Lysander. The fairy world was headed up by Sam Barnes (L6BH) and Fin Paterson (L6JK) as a brooding and calm Oberon (and both were on commanding form as Theseus on alternate nights) whilst Emily Snow (L6HJ) gave a stunningly assured and professional performance as Titania. Zoe Edwards (L6SD) also turned in an admirable performance as the Fairy Queen, whilst Erika Ignata (L6CC) and Olivia McNee (U6PW) dazzled the audience with two very different, albeit equally charming, performances as Puck.

This was a true King's team effort and the collaboration certainly paid off; the result was an ethereal and enchanting evening of theatre.





## Meeting our Book Award authors

Last term, King's launched the first ever King's School Book Award, a chance for pupils and staff in the Senior School to choose their favourite book.



A committee of pupils and librarians compiled a shortlist of six books to reflect the great range of writing for children and teenagers published over the previous 18 months.

The books chosen were:

- Half Bad** by Sally Green
- We Are All Made of Molecules** by Susin Nielsen
- Trouble** by Non Pratt
- Now You See Me** by Emma Haughton
- Only Ever Yours** by Louise O'Neill
- The Wolf Wilder** by Katherine Rundell

The award got off to a great start, with all copies of each book (about 70 books) being borrowed by the end of the week, some even developing a long waiting list.

During the Lent term, the library has been focusing on one book each week, running activities, competitions and interactive author events around each nominated book to help promote it. King's has been very fortunate to be able to arrange an event with five of the six authors. In January, pupils were able to connect with Susin Nielsen, who lives in Vancouver, via Skype and were thrilled to be given a virtual tour of her office, and get the chance to



ask her their questions. They gained a real insight into her inspiration for characters and the writing process.

The following week, King's again used the power of Skype to talk to Louise O'Neill. Her book is a powerful dystopian novel, which highlights the pressures on young women and girls today. Louise was very open about her own battles with eating disorders, and she left pupils and staff feeling inspired with her message about tenacity and determination being the key to success.

Emma Haughton was also able to answer pupils' questions through an online chat. A lot of questions were asked and answered with some very quick typing at both ends.

Pupils were particularly fortunate that the author of *Half Bad*, Sally Green, lives in Cheshire and was able to visit King's in February. *Half Bad* has been a phenomenally successful book (the first in a trilogy). Sally was able to give some insight into how she made the move from accountancy to writing, and how what appears to be an overnight success, is actually the result of a great deal of hard work and rejection over a number of years.

Non Pratt, the author of *Trouble* also visited for a whole day in February. Selected pupils in Shell, Third and Fourth Years were treated to workshops and all Removes through to Third Year pupils listened to a fascinating and entertaining talk about gender stereotypes in pop culture. Non also spent some time chatting to pupils and signing books.

The library have been thrilled by the reaction of pupils and staff to the Book Award and hearing the conversations about the books around School. Being able to interact with five of the authors has been a fantastic opportunity for the pupils and King's is very grateful to them for giving up their time and being so open and honest in their responses.



## Impressive debating at MUN

Six students from Fourth Year to Lower Sixth Form took part in the annual Model United Nations Conference at Manchester High School. Many prestigious schools from across the North West and Midlands took part, representing different countries from the United Nations.

King's students, representing Iraq and Senegal did a superb job over the course of the weekend, debating a number of interesting topics such as the global refugee crisis, the prospect of leaving planet earth and freedom of expression on social media.

Students made impressive contributions over the weekend, especially in the General Assembly on Sunday where the Senegal delegation, led by Oliver Irvine (4RH), really came into their own. On account of his shrewd political acumen and the girls' superb negotiation skills, the Senegal delegation won the *Outstanding Delegation* award. Oliver also received the *Best Young Delegate* award in the Security Council.

Emilia Lipton (L6NH) also impressed the judges, receiving *Highly Commended* for her role in the Health Committee.

Congratulations go to Zoe Edwards (L6SD), Oliver Irvine (4RH), Kiera Barry (L6NH), Emilia Lipton (L6NH), Tabatha Mullock (L6CC) and Anna Plunkett (L6ML) for their fantastic

efforts over the weekend. The confidence and ability they demonstrated from start to finish exemplified King's values of ambition, benevolence and cooperation. They were an absolute credit to the School and themselves.



# Comedy classic is a real treat

Cult comedy classic *The Real Inspector Hound* was the latest from King's dynamic and varied student-led theatrical offerings.



Following on from recent successes including *Amadeus*, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time* and *Frankenstein*, Lower Sixth Drama and Theatre Studies student, Edward Ramsey (L6HJ) took the directorial mantle and the end result was a slick, professional and downright hilarious evening of pure farce.

Tom Stoppard's play centres around two theatre critics, Birdboot and Moon, who are drawn inexorably into the world of a country house whodunnit. Edward Ramsey's intelligent portrayal expertly drew out Stoppard's razor sharp critique of the clichés and bitter jealousies of the reviewer's craft, whilst also fully indulging in all the silliness of the third-rate country house thriller taking place in the play-within-a-play.

Fin Paterson's (L6JK) deadpan portrayal of the embittered and pretentious

second string critic Moon, oozed all the qualities of a jealous man, whilst Tom Cuffin-Munday (U6ER) was perfectly charming as the pompous and lecherous Birdboot, who uses his column to ingratiate himself with attractive actresses. Rebecca Hatton's (L6HJ) take on Cynthia, complete with a comedic lisp, worked wonderfully alongside the straight man Simon Gascoigne (played convincingly by Simon Parker (L6ML)). Eleri Reece-Jones (L6NH) was delightful as the help, Mrs Drudge, taking full advantage of the immortal words "Hello, the drawing room of Lady Muldoon's country residence one morning in early spring," and proving, without a shadow of doubt, just how many ways one can use a feather duster on stage! Allan Prossor (L6ML), as Magnes (also known as the wheelchair-bound half-brother of Lady Muldoon's long-lost husband Albert!) implemented some fabulous dramatic flourishes off-stage whilst announcing ominously and repeatedly that he was off to oil his gun. Erika Ignata (L6CC) utilised a lively range of melodramatic tics as Felicity, and Edward Ramsey himself took on the cameo role of Hound, giving an energetic and perfectly measured performance as the inept Inspector investigating the murder case.

*The Real Inspector Hound* was a much-needed antidote to a long working week. Expertly staged, well-paced and played with joyous enthusiasm from the eight-strong cast; Edward and his team should be immensely proud of this achievement.



## CERN visit accelerates Physics studies

The annual Physics department's visit to the European Laboratory for Particle Physics – CERN – in Geneva took place in December. Twenty-four Upper Sixth Formers travelled, accompanied by Dr. Bosworth, Dr. Byrne and Mr Yates.

No access to the underground experiments was possible due to the fact that the Large Hadron Collider continues to operate once more, at record-breaking energies, as its quest for new Physics continues – perhaps supersymmetric particles; perhaps miniature black holes – who knows!

King's long time guide and friend, Katharine Leney, started off the tour with her usual excellent introduction to the Standard Model and the design and function of both the accelerators, which give energy to and steer the particles on a collision course, and the detectors which look

for the remnants of their interactions. Onto the Idea Square, a new installation at CERN, and one unconnected with high energy physics, which aims to bring together bright young people from across different disciplines to engineer novel solutions to existing problems e.g. how we drive our cars. In the official guided visit, students saw the Low Energy Ion Ring and the Antiproton Decelerator, allowing them to appreciate the principles learned in their A Level study of electric and magnetic fields.

The ISOLDE facility was the destination on the second day, which hosts a range of permanent and temporary experiments designed to look at the intricate structure of nuclei. King's is grateful to Kara Lynch, Tom Goodacre and Bruce Marsh for guiding this visit and to one of King's Governors, Jon Billowes, for arranging it. The group dined in style at

Dr. Bosworth's favourite restaurants and Dr. Byrne's language skills were pressed into service to allow navigation of a demonstration in the city centre on the final night. The trip was completed by a guided visit to the United Nations Centre before the flight home, its marble floors and expensive artwork in stark contrast to the functionality of CERN.



## Sixth Formers visit Willow Lodge

**Sixth Formers visited Willow Lodge to undertake some independent research as part of their English Language A Level course.**

The students studied the infants in classrooms, across the three age groups, to gain first-hand understanding of language acquisition. Through interaction with and observation of the infants, the Sixth Formers witnessed how effectively language progress is encouraged and facilitated in lessons.

As well as extending their understanding of language development, the students also thoroughly enjoyed spending time with the infants in their state-of-the-art classrooms and out in the playground.

Willow Lodge loved having the Sixth Formers who acted as perfect role models. The infants particularly enjoyed showing off the phonological awareness and language acquisition that they had learnt so far this year.



## Luke inspires young poets

**King's was delighted to welcome back Luke Wright, our award-winning poet-in-residence, in January.**

Luke Wright spent an energetic day with pupils, leading a lively poetry workshop in the library during lunchtime and taking part in subject discussions with Sixth Form English and Politics students in the afternoon.

His visit culminated in a powerful performance in the Vanbrugh Theatre of his solo verse play *What I learned from Johnny Bevan*: a thought-provoking show which tells the story of two young men and their experiences of politics and friendship. This performance was part of his recent UK tour and was open to students in the Third Year and above, which of course resulted in a packed out theatre!



# Celebrating 100 years of the CCF



According to the 1916 School Year Book, the formation of the Cadet Corps was one of "the outstanding events" of the school year. (The other was the growth of the Junior School at recently purchased Arnold House.) There were hopes that the CCF would develop into an Officers' Training Corps "with its fuller privileges and responsibilities"



When a boarding school from Kent, which did boast an OTC, was evacuated to Chester in 1917, those hopes must have been heightened. King's, however, would never gain one.

Before the War, two obstacles stood in the way. The first was staff time: "the Masters, even as things are, are very busy men". Even so, this was not thought insurmountable – "one or two might be found to sacrifice some of their spare time and take commissions". More important was the cost. Having purchased Arnold House in 1911 to serve as the Junior School and boarding-house, the School's finances were "delicately balanced" and there was

"a very natural reluctance to undertake any fresh expenditure".

With the War in its second year, however, such barriers were overcome and, although War Office regulations forbade the formation of OTCs during the War, a Cadet Corps was formed. Commanded by Captain Woodhouse, Science master at the School, with Lieutenant Allen, Master of the Junior School, as his second in command, the total strength of the Company was 110 – between a half and two thirds of the School. All boys over 12 were expected to join, "unless physically disqualified". By 1917 there was even a Corps Band.

Members of the Corps had to provide their own uniform, consisting of tunic, breeches, puttees and cap, at a cost of £1 and six shillings. Parade drill took place twice a week, on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons and each week there was shooting practice at Arnold House, when all cadets received full instruction. There had been drill and rifle practice even before the war, but both were now on a much greater scale.

"Games and minor interests [were] subordinated to military training", which, it was claimed, improved health, bearing and behaviour and inspired leadership among pupils "greater even than games". "Swedish Physical Exercises" doubtless helped pupils' health.



Over the next two years, several boys left the CCF to serve in the Forces. Among them was the very first senior NCO in 1916, Kenneth Boswell (OKS 1914-16), who later served in the Royal Garrison Artillery and was a prisoner of war from March to November 1918, before reading History at Oxford.

In 1922 he presented a medal to be awarded at Prize Giving to the most efficient cadet, but the CCF was disbanded the following year, as government funding was withdrawn and games returned to their former prominence. For now at least, the CCF's work was done.

## Ghostly writing challenge



King's Patron of Reading, Jon Mayhew, set pupils the challenge of writing a Christmas ghost story in just 250 words, at the end of last term. The challenge was inspired by the classic story writer, M.R. James, who used to write a ghost story every Christmas for his pupils at Eton.

Jon visited during lunchtime and the best stories were read aloud, either by Jon or by the pupils themselves. The library provided a fittingly spooky Christmas atmosphere, and many pupils enjoyed the scary stories throughout the hour.

Jon was also faced with the unenviable task of choosing a winner and eventually settled on Freya Walsh (SHJJ) whose story about a ghostly hitchhiker won her a £10 book token. Max Williams (3CM) and Freya Ainsworth (SHJJ) were selected as the runners-up. Anna Devoy (3AR) was awarded with a specially dedicated copy of Jon's short story, *The Maiden Aunt*, as a special mention for the dramatic and chilling reading of her story. Mr Melville also opened up the competition to some Junior School pupils, and Bram Lucas' (J4M) story about haunted dolls was selected by Jon as the J4 winner.



## F1 teams hit top gear

**F1 in schools is a worldwide competition that is aimed at changing the perceptions of science, technology, engineering and maths for pupils from ages 9 to 19.**

The brief is to design and make a scale model of a Formula One car that will drag race using CO<sup>2</sup> canisters down a 20 metre track. With recent races hitting the sub one second, this is resulting in extremely high speeds. Reaction times come into play and the tension at race starts is palpable.

However, the challenge is not just about the racing. The teams must design and develop the car using 3D computer aided design software and test for aerodynamic efficiency, before machining their cars and preparing for races. The teams of 3-6 pupils must also put together a pit display showing the design and development process of their car and gain sponsorship to help them at various stages of the process, which becomes more important as they progress in the competition. In fact, the race is only one part of deciding the winners in this competition, teams must be adept at designing, branding and communicating to succeed.

The King's teams did just this at the recent regional event in Bromborough, competing against other schools from the North West region. The Lower Sixth team of PWH Motorsport, consisting of Henry Greaves (L6ML), Gary Guan (L6CC), Euan Hay (L6KS), Alexander Cooper (L6KS) and Matthew Williams (L6CC) won the 'Best Engineered Car Award', a repeat of their success last year. Sixth Degree, the combined Fifth Year and Upper Sixth team

of James McDonagh (U6HF), Joshua Roberts (U6SB), Edward Everett (U6ER), Anna Lloyd (5LM), Amelia Standing (5LM) and Livvy Samson (5RC) went one further, winning second place overall in the event and gaining a ticket to Silverstone where the national finals will be held in April 2016.

A top three finish in this event will take the King's teams to the world final at the Circuit of the Americas in Texas, USA. The teams now have time to refine their car, gain more sponsorship and prepare for what will be a tough national final. King's wishes them all the best for the rest of the competition. You can follow their progress on Twitter @kscdesign and @sixthdegreeF1.



**SIXTH DEGREE**



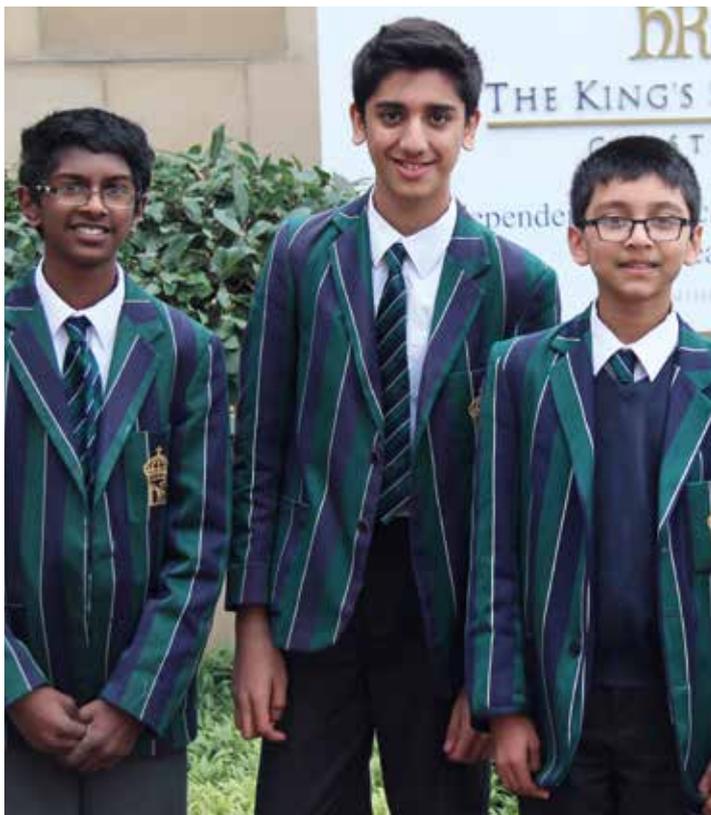
# A-team move into next round

It has been a mixed term for the chess teams unfortunately the B team (Catherine Savidge (4AC), Alexander Forrester (4FV), Mariam Littler (4AC), Ellie Barriga (3CM), Billy McCorkell (3LB) and Avi Sengupta (RMRA)) was knocked out of the second round of the English Chess Federation National Schools' Competition in a 5 ½ - ½ defeat to Newcastle-under-Lyme School. Billy McCorkell continued his excellent record by snatching a draw.

However our A-team, (Rohan Yesudian (4SA), Daniel Savidge (4RH), Riyaan Yesudian (SHJJ), Danny Rajapandian (SHHB), Abhijay Chawda (SHRL) and Manny Rajapandian (SHAL)) secured their place in the regional final with a hard-fought win over long-term rivals Altrincham Grammar (Boys) in February.

The A team had automatically qualified for the second round after reaching the Plate finals last year. There was much discussion on the bus about what tactics to adopt including research on the playing style of potential adversaries.

In the end, a comfortable 4 ½ - 1 ½ win for King's saw a tense victory on time by Riyaan and a less dramatic, but no less deserved, draw by Rohan playing as black against a higher rated opponent. The team will meet Urmston Grammar in the next round in March.



## Delamere adventure for CCF recruits

During the Michaelmas term the CCF recruits enjoyed an adventure training package in Delamere Forest, participating in mountain biking and navigation activities.

Various challenges were set for recruits to overcome and to help them gain valid skills on the bike. The last obstacle of the day was a steep hill, and despite some bumps and falls, it was negotiated with a sense of achievement.

The Micro-Navigation course is a set posted course in the depths of Delamere Forest, which tested recruits compass and map reading skills.

The CCF also continues to send senior cadets onto the Senior Cadet Instructor's Course (SCIC) where the students are doing very well, gaining valuable leadership and instructional skills that will benefit them in CCF as well as in school.

The CCF have a very busy Spring and Summer lined up, with Easter Camp and a trip to Warcop (UK Ministry of Defence military training area in Cumbria) for the Summer Camp.



## A healthy boost for girls

As part of our pastoral programme for all girls and boys, The Junior School has introduced an exciting new Juice Club, specifically for J3 and J4 girls.

The programme offers fascinating discussion-based sessions about prevalent topical issues that face girls in modern society: from friendships to body image. The discussions allow a free and non-judgemental environment for girls to share feelings and concerns and develop their questioning of the world around them.

King's always strives to provide not only an excellent education but a place where girls and boys both feel settled, safe and happy and where benevolence, co-operation and teamwork is at the core.



“I am immensely impressed with the outcome of Juice Club. My daughter has discussed the things that have been talked about, and it seems to have had an incredibly positive impact on her body image and her perception of women’s role and equality, among other things. I can only thank you for your contribution and tell you that this will be really beneficial in ensuring her good mental health as a teenager and beyond.”

Junior School – Parent

## Animated audience for Curtis

The designer of *Bob the Builder*, *Raa Raa the Noisy Lion* and *Frankenstein’s Cat* visited Junior School pupils to talk about his varied career and his books. Curtis is also the author of the *Wereworld* series, *Haunt* and a new book *The World of Warriors: A New Hero*.

To begin with Curtis explained how animation worked, quizzing and testing the enthusiastic pupils throughout. He demonstrated how all animations start out as basic shapes before they are built on to develop the character.

Curtis encouraged the pupils to try and find a hobby they enjoy and stick with it so at least

they have a worthwhile activity for their spare time, or at most, they can make a living from what they love best!

Pupils then excitedly lined up to get their books signed with a personal message and drawing. Curtis spent the rest of the day running creative writing workshops for each of the J4 classes. He explained that although stories may appear to be very different, they often follow a similar basic plot



development. He encouraged pupils to use this knowledge to write their own stories. All pupils were given the task of expanding on an opening to a story provided by Curtis, and they were able to come up with some creepy and entertaining tales.

A great day was had by all, and Curtis left the King’s Library a fantastic drawing of *Bob the Builder* transformed into a werewolf, as a memento.



## Basketball Hoops for Health

**The Cheshire Phoenix Basketball Team visited The Junior School to run a Hoops for Health Workshop. Coach Lavery and two star players, Akeem Ellis and Danny Huffor, taught pupils about healthy eating, the negatives of smoking and delivered an enjoyable basketball taster session.**

The Junior School has received further coaching from the brilliant Phoenix's community coaches in the run up to the Cheshire Phoenix Schools' regional tournament, to be held at the Cheshire Oaks arena.

Basketball can only be offered in co-ed schools as the teams have to be mix gender in order to compete, giving our girls and boys equal chances of being selected for the School's team. Basketball is the latest addition to the 150+ clubs currently on offer to pupils at King's, allowing ample opportunity to find an extra-curricular activity they enjoy.



## Maths fun with Roman numerals

**Pupils in J2 participated in a fun and exciting maths workshop, that explored Roman numerals and how to convert between them and the modern day Arabic number system.**

The workshop's aim was to inspire pupils to feel enthusiastic and confident about maths in a fun, engaging way. Pupils were transported back to the Roman world as servants and had to learn how to write the time for each of their daily tasks in Roman numerals.



## Triumph for AJIS athletes

**Pupils returned triumphantly from the Association of Junior Independent Schools' Indoor Athletics Competition claspng a clutch of medals.**

The Juniors were up against tough competition from schools in the region but all participants gave it their all, having fun in the process.

**Gold medals were awarded to:** Liv Davis (J3S), Henry Letts (J3O), Fin Thomson (J3B), Nakul Sreekanth (J3O), Ollie Smith (J3O), James Rudd (J3S), Oliver Smith (J3S), Fraser Black (J3B) and Sam McNeill (J4M).

**Silver medals were awarded to:** Bróna Halpin (J3O), Fraser Black (J3B), James Rudd (J3S), Issy Whittlestone (J4H) and Weston Heller (J4M).

**Bronze medals were awarded to:** Robyn Hamill (J3S), Max Dickson (J3S), Issy Whittlestone (J4H) and Jacob Popplewell (J4M).



## Top training with Liverpool FC!

**King's is delighted to be partnered with Liverpool Football Club who provide young players with an opportunity to develop and learn new techniques and skills, all under the guidance of dedicated and specially trained coaching staff in two new after school clubs.**

King's Infant and Junior Schools are proud to have such strong links with LFC, and girls and boys thoroughly enjoy all that the club has to offer. Juniors start their training in their first year at age seven.



## Footballers excel at county competition

**The Junior School footballers are officially the second best team in the county of Cheshire!**

After winning the Chester Schools' Football Tournament, the U11 football team qualified for the county finals, where they represented the city of Chester. The tournament was held at the Alexandra Soccer Centre in Crewe.

The team worked very hard throughout the competition and played some excellent football. Unfortunately they lost to eventual champions Mossley Primary School, Congleton, in the final, despite leading at half time.

However, this should not detract from the brilliant performance of the team, who should be very proud of their efforts.



# Juniors bring books to life

The King's School was awash with colour as pupils and teachers dressed as beloved children's book characters. Infants, juniors and senior pupils all showed their support for World Book Day, which encourages a global celebration of reading and literature. From princesses and pirates to witches and stickmen, everyone got involved.

The day began with a fancy dress parade during the assemblies. This gave students the chance to show off their outfits whilst peers guessed what book the character was from, with classics such as characters from Harry Potter to the unusual, such as the Pots and Pan Man from the Faraway Tree.

Infants continued the World Book Day theme with each year group participating in a book related activity. Reception spent the afternoon on a bear hunt, using the Forest Schools area, to search for the bear whilst the book was read to them. Infant 1 visited the Willow Lodge library where they had

a book treasure hunt to find certain items in various story books. Infant 2 also got involved as they produced book reviews, analysing a story and describing their feelings toward it. Throughout the day pupils also met in the library to share their favourite stories, this allowed pupils from different classrooms to mix and help each other learn.

During the Junior assembly Head of The Junior School, Simon Malone, stressed the importance of finding time to read even if pupils have a busy schedule. He pointed out that even celebrities have favourite books and find the time to read for pleasure!

The Senior School students enjoyed guessing what book each teacher's fancy dress was from, with the student identifying the most by the end of the day, winning a signed book. At lunchtime the World Book Day official quiz was held, which tested teams of students on their knowledge of classical and modern literature. Senior students also produced Book Bags, which is a story with props for the charity Claire House, that they can use in their multisensory room. Sensory books act on touch, smell,

hearing and sight allowing children with reduced senses to enjoy stories too.

A £2 donation was made by each student who came in fancy dress with the proceeds being split equally between Claire House and Book Aid.



## Story ping pong is a winner!

National Storytelling Week was celebrated throughout the School with Willow Lodge, juniors and senior pupils all getting involved.

There was a large array of collaborative activities taking place, allowing the infants and juniors to come together and take part in fun and exciting workshops. The juniors loved having the chance to perform a story book to the infants.

One of the highlights of the week was 'story ping pong'. The story commenced with Reception children, who set the scene and introduced the characters. Infant 1 children then developed the characters and started the adventure. The story then moved to Infant 2 who introduced a problem, then left it on a cliff-hanger for Junior School pupils to develop it further, before finally ending up with seniors who completed the ending. The story followed Rosie the Mermaid Queen and her friends, Sid the Squid and Twinkle the Starfish, who are confronted by a wicked Killer Whale!

To wrap up a successful week, the Third Year students put on a brilliant performance of Julia Donaldson's *The Stickman* exclusively for the infants and juniors.



## Olympian Beth inspires infants

Staff and pupils at Willow Lodge were delighted to welcome Olympian and gymnast, Beth Tweddle, MBE, to give a talk to the Infants. In the morning assembly Beth talked about her achievements and the hard work involved in reaching them. She then spent time answering the many questions from excited pupils.



Beth has a long standing history with King's as her brother attended and her father was a Governor. She has also previously provided many exciting and engaging talks at the School. As such, King's is particularly delighted to be part of Beth's Total Gymnastics programme that has been launched in Willow Lodge as part of the curriculum. The aim of Total Gymnastics is to encourage and improve grass root training

in gymnastics. By incorporating gymnastics into the P.E. curriculum it allows all Willow Lodge pupils the chance to get involved and learn a new discipline in a fun and exciting way.

Physical Education is a very important element of learning at Willow Lodge as it encourages confidence, teamwork and the ability to follow instructions.

*"It's fantastic to be able to offer this wonderful opportunity to our pupils. The programme allows us to make use of the excellent facilities and space, newly designed and created for such a purpose. There was certainly a buzz of excitement after Beth's visit, with many of the pupils eager to begin their gymnastics journey."*

Margaret Ainsworth, Head of Willow Lodge



## Creative superheroes

**Pupils in Kingfishers Class (I2) from Willow Lodge, demonstrated their amazing creative ability in the Young Writers' Superhero Adventures creative writing competition.**

This is a national competition where children write stories showcasing their fantastic creative skills and superb use of descriptive words. Eighteen pupils, aged six or seven, were hugely successful in their entries which will be published in an anthology to be placed in libraries across the country.

This reinforces the excellent results throughout the School, starting with exceptional baseline scores for Reception children and children in I1 and I2 working well above national average in literacy and mathematics.



## Felt bird fun

**Infant pupils were treated to several felt making workshops by local artist Cathy Rounthwaite.**

Each class took it in turns to create a bird out of felt. Pupils created Wrens, Robins, Woodpeckers and Kingfishers, all of which happen to represent the class names.

Their felt creations are included on a felt wall hanging on display in the Willow Lodge reception.

During this activity Infants learnt about the process behind making felt and developed their creative skills using photos of the birds as guides for their own work.



# Enjoying nature with Forest Schools

**Willow Lodge launched an inspirational Forest Schools programme that offers pupils regular opportunities to appreciate and enjoy their outdoor surroundings. Forest Schools aims to nurture an understanding and respect for natural places. Children experience nature first-hand through a series of engaging and achievable tasks. The Willow Lodge Forest Schools experience brings learning to life and improves a child's ability to work co-operatively, whilst offering them opportunities to take risks, make choices and initiate learning.**



around them, as well as learning together in a totally unique way.

The fire circle is central to all that happens at Forest Schools. The fire is the focal point for discussing the day's activities and a place for socialising and sharing. The activities are always hands-on and will often require the use of a range of tools, depending on the age of the children. As a group becomes more comfortable with living and working in the woodland the programme becomes more learner led and is a journey of discovery directed by the children.

Everyone can benefit from Forest Schools as it provides a valuable teaching tool for a wide range of curriculum subjects. It is also an excellent way to support and enrich the National Curriculum and engages children with a variety of needs and learning styles.

Pupils at Willow Lodge attend sessions as part of their curriculum and also on a Tuesday evening club whatever the weather. During these sessions children experience all sorts of woodland activities that help them to build an understanding and appreciation of the world



## Santa drops into Willow Lodge

**As the winter term drew to a close at King's, Father Christmas and his reindeers paid a visit to Willow Lodge and was impressed by how quickly our youngest pupils have settled into their new school.**

The infant pupils got a chance to tell Santa what they wanted for Christmas and to meet and feed the real life reindeers.



## George shares his secrets of success...

**George Nott (OKS 2014) was recently selected to play for the England U20s squad for the 2016 Six Nations. The King's Alumni team recently caught up with him as he shared his views around his success.**

### **On being included in the England Under 20s squad for the 2016 Six Nations...**

I was delighted to be named as part of the squad for the Six Nations, it has been a goal of mine for the last few seasons and I'm so excited to be involved.

### **On playing for Aviva Premiership club Sale Sharks...**

Being a member of the Sale Sharks squad is a dream come true for me, it's the perfect job and I'd love to make a long career out of it.

### **On your motivation...**

My main motivation is making my family and friends proud, my family has invested so much in me and I just want them to be proud of what I achieve.

### **On your success...**

At 20 years old I'm already happy with what I've achieved as a rugby player. Winning the European Championships with England U18 is one of my happiest moments to date and making my Sale 1st

XV team debut last year at Munster was incredible, but I know I've only scratched the surface and I'm hungry to make some more memories.

### **On teamwork...**

I think playing within a sports team is one of the most valuable things a young person can do. People can learn so much from working with others and with rugby you are forced into an environment where you are dependent on others and others are dependent on you. I think that's a really healthy position to be in as it develops you as a person.

### **On your best memories of studying at King's...**

Funnily enough my best memories at King's were on the football field. I was involved in a really successful age group and then went on to play 1st XI. King's has some amazing pitches and I now feel very lucky to have been able to play on them. Mr Horne and Mr Lunn were great mentors for me at King's, they made my time there very enjoyable.



### **On what King's taught you...**

King's taught me the importance of being multidimensional. There are lots of both academic and sporting opportunities at King's and I think that it's great that students are encouraged to do both rather than pushed down one route.

### **On inspiring others...**

I find it hard to believe that I'm inspiring people just yet but hopefully one day students at King's will be inspired by what I have achieved and be motivated to achieve whatever their goals may be.

I am pleased to see that rugby is growing in popularity at King's and it's really great to see that the students are being introduced to the sport at a young age.

## Class of '76 reunite

**Remembering school days and bringing back nostalgic memories of teachers and classmates is something everyone cherishes. It is indeed a pleasure to take a walk down memory lane and remember the good old days for all of us.**

With this in mind, and despite heavy rain and grey skies, a group of hardy individuals who all left King's in 1976, gathered at Wrexham Road on February 6th to celebrate 40 years since leaving. 60% of the year group attended, thanks in large part to the efforts of former Deputy Head prefect, Peter Bernie. With attendees having travelled from all parts of the country and one from Sydney, Australia, it was fabulous to see the camaraderie and friendship that still exists between the Old Boys.



### **Henley Tea Party – Friday 1st July 2016**

Join us at this world famous Regatta.

### **2006 Reunion – Saturday 21st May 2016**

Join King's for a get-together 10 years on! Find out what friends and former teachers are now up to and enjoy a trip down memory lane.

## Award-winning Gabriel, hits our screens again

**In January, BBC 2 aired *World War Three: Inside the War Room*, Gabriel Range's (OKS 1992) latest directorial offering.**

Using the kind of techniques he employed on the Bafta-nominated drama *The Day Britain Stopped* and Emmy winning *Death Of A President* – repurposed and faux archive materials as well as drama – Gabriel invited viewers to watch as a war room of senior former British military and diplomatic figures came together to war-game a hypothetical 'hot war' in eastern Europe, including the unthinkable – nuclear confrontation.

***"It might all be hypothetical, but it's still sobering viewing. By the time we reach the point where people are talking of an "imminent nuclear strike", you'll be glad it remains, at least for now, just that – all talk."***

Alison Graham, Radio Times.



## A leader in Law

In January, the School was delighted to welcome back one of our most esteemed legal alumni. His Honour Judge Anthony Russell QC, who left King's in 1970, has had a long and illustrious career within the English legal system – culminating in his appointment as Honorary Recorder of Preston, Senior Circuit Judge and Resident Judge for Lancashire Crown Courts in 2006.

Judge Russell retired as a Senior Circuit Judge in August 2015. He estimates that since becoming a barrister in 1974 he has addressed well over 25,000 jurors. He is one of six contemporary senior judges known to have studied at King's – a quite remarkable statistic.

Judge Russell has kindly agreed to volunteer some of his time to inspire future generations of legal talent at King's.



## Celebrating 475 years

In September, The King's School will have been colouring the lives of children for 475 years.

To mark this momentous occasion, the School invites Alumni to join us for a weekend of celebrations, starting Friday 16th September 2016.

### Events programme:

- Anniversary Commemoration Service
- Official Opening of The King's Walk
- Further opportunities to experience The King's Walk
- Tours of the School
- 475<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Founder's Dinner

For further information, please call the Development Office on 01244 689492.



## Remembering our Alumni...

At King's we acknowledge the importance of honouring those who have departed before us, to remember their younger selves, their achievements, survivors and lives, as the rest of us also hope to be remembered one day. Please join us in celebrating the lives of the following Old King Scholars whose deaths have recently been reported to the School.

### Keith James

Keith sadly passed away peacefully at home with his family on Wednesday 27th January 2016, after a short illness. A former pupil (OKS 1960), he was 71, a retired partner with Alfred Green & Co, Chartered Accountants of Runcorn and Chester. A devoted family man, Keith was a stalwart of the King's community. He was a former President of CAOKS and Chairman of Governors. As Chairman, Keith oversaw the first years of co-education, the massive building projects, some exciting times and some challenging ones. His integrity, love for the School, and also his forward-looking determination were wonderful to witness. His good counsel and devotion to the School will be greatly missed. Chris Ramsey, Headmaster wrote "I am deeply saddened to report the news that Keith James has passed away... no-one has been a more devoted servant of King's nor a more important custodian. This is a very sad moment for us all: the community has lost one of its greatest friends."



### Gordon Robert Lidderdale Forrest

An electrical engineer by trade, Gordon's work took him to many far flung places, including Hong Kong. "He was a good friend and will be greatly missed". (Stewart Turner OKS 1963)

### Ian Thompson

Ian moved to Vancouver in 2000 and is remembered by friends as an amazing character – the room was never dull when he was around – he was truly unique, always curious and able to use his dry wit to great effect.

### Colin Kelsey

Colin worked for most of his career as a Strategy Planner with Liverpool City Council. "He was always a great friend and will be greatly missed". (Jeremy Lloyd OKS 1963)

### Robert Newmarch

Robert is remembered as a popular and lively member of his year and a talented sportsman.



## Chris aims for Olympic double

The 2016 Olympics this year will take place in Rio with King's very own Olympic silver medallist, Chris Bartley (OKS 2002) working towards bringing home a medal for Great Britain.

Chris and the lightweight four squad qualified for Rio at the World Championships, in what was a very intense competition. The team will now be in training for Rio, for what will be a truly great spectacle leaving all on the edge of their seats.

The games will be taking place from 5-21<sup>st</sup> August, where all of the King's community will show its support and eagerly follow his progress.

## Triple success for hockey girls

The County Indoor Hockey Tournaments run across the U14, U16 and U19 age groups every year. Before Christmas, King's was successful in all three age groups in the preliminary stages, progressing through to the finals.

King's was the only school to reach the finals across all three age groups. Both U19 and U16 age groups, captained by Sophie Drew (U6SB) and Isabelle Howell (5MP), were crowned champions after victories on the finals night. The U19s beating Lymm High School and Fallibroome Academy and the U16s beating Lymm High School, Alderley Edge Girls' School and Wilmslow High School. The U14s, in their first attempt at County indoor hockey, captained by Elsa Hodgson (3AR), were runners-up.

This has been a hugely successful season for King's girls demonstrating how they are the best in the county thanks to teamwork and training. Congratulations to all the U14, U16 and U19 players who performed fantastically.



## U18 boys reach National Finals

For the past two years, King's has been U16 North of England Champions and have performed well in National Finals, this year the squad entered the U18 events with high hopes.

In the North West Rounds at Manchester Grammar School in November, the King's team was without forward Harry Armatage (L6JK) but still won its group convincingly with wins over Cheadle Hulme, Bolton and Sandbach, scoring 13 goals without reply.

In the North Finals at the same venue in December, King's impressed again and became North U18 Champions by first holding the hosts Manchester Grammar School to a 1-1 draw and then beating Yarm 3-0 and Queen Elizabeth Grammar School (QEGS), Wakefield, 2-0, to qualify for the National Finals at Whitgift School, Surrey, again in January.

At the National Finals the King's squad found themselves in a really tough group of five, which yielded eventual national winners (Repton) and

runners-up (Royal Grammar School High Wycombe) plus Millfield and Ipswich! The squad performed admirably in such talented company, and although they failed to win a match they were never outclassed and had some very big name schools 'on the ropes' many times. With Fraser Smellie (L6CC), Daniel Verity (L6CC) and Harry Armatage (L6JK) scoring a goal in one of the matches against Millfield, RGS Wycombe and Ipswich.

The final game against Repton was also very tight and stood at 1-1 when a tough decision went against them for the eventual winner near the end. Captain Will Dodd-Moore (U6JR) got a King's goal in his final match for the School, and he ended up season top scorer with 11 goals.

All the remainder of the squad are available for next season, to be hopefully supplemented by new young players, and both Dan Whittingham (L6KS) in goal and Fraser Smellie had outstanding seasons in 2015/16. Matt Williams (L6CC) and Rob Way (L6HJ) gave the team a really solid platform to build upon, with forwards Harry Armatage (L6JK) (2 goals), Dan Verity (L6CC) (5 goals) and James Temple (L6HJ) (1 goal) supplementing Will Dodd-Moore's corner threat well.

## Athletes crowned champions

**The National Indoor Athletics Competition has been running for several years, the first round being the District event for Removes and Shells girls and boys.**

The squad, with a maximum of eight competitors, compete in both individual and relay track events using the turning boards and throwing events such as the soft javelin, speed bounce, standing long jump, vertical jump and chest pass.

King's fielded full teams in both age groups and were successful amongst the girls and the boys. The Shell girls won the event ten points clear of Catholic High School and the Remove boys were also crowned champions. The Shell boys came fourth and the Remove girls seventh in the district. As champions, the Remove Boys and Shell Girls will represent Chester Schools' in the County Competition later on this term, held at Northgate Arena.



## Junior rowers aim for GB success

**The Great Britain Junior Rowing team is one of the highest achieving Junior rowing teams in the world.**

Following the achievements of Harry Higginbottom (U6HF) and Alex Slater (OKS) who raced at the Coupe de la Jeunesse in Hungary last year, this season also sees a strong King's presence at the Junior Trials.

Simon Ellershaw (U6SW) and William Bach (L6SD) competed together at their first set of GB trials in November in a coxless pair, placing 11th in a competitive field. This result bodes well for the summer and both will look to improve on it at their next set of trials in February.

Harry Higginbottom (U6HF) started his second year of the process well, racing in a single scull. His result was also very promising, placing 19th out of 111 singles. Following this, Harry was invited to attend the GB Junior Rowing Team Potentials Training Camp in Arnoia, Spain.

The camp involved a week of training on both water and land, focusing on technical and physical elements of rowing. Harry will be looking to compete for a seat in the GB Junior Worlds team this summer. All three look forward to what should be an exciting season for both King's and International Rowing.



## Just desserts for French Hens

**In December, the Rowing Club held its annual 'Pudding Races' at the boathouse.**

The event involved all the Rowing Club athletes who competed in teams of eight to win the prestigious puddings. Unfortunately due to bad weather, the preliminary rounds were held in the gym, with a two minute ergo by each team member. The fastest two teams raced as scratch Vllls on the water over the challenging 300m course, with the 'French Hens' team taking the prize, winning by just a short margin over the runners up team 'Ladies Dancing'. In the junior ergo challenge, team 'Blitzen' were victorious, beating 13 other teams to the prize. The Christmas puddings were presented to the winning team by The Sheriff of Chester, Cllr Alex Black and Mrs Janet Black.



Following on from the pudding races, was the annual boat naming ceremony. This year the Rowing Club named two new boats. The first of these was a new boys' coxless pair, named after Harry Swift (OKS 2000) who was an excellent former Captain of Boats at the Rowing Club.

The second boat was also a boys' coxless pair, named after Bill Downing, a former GB lightweight in the 1989 world championships.

To conclude the successful event the Scantlebury Duck was awarded. The award is one no one tries to win as it is awarded to the person who has made the most errors of judgement during the year!

This year, the award went to student Wilf Le Brocq (L6KS) for accidentally hitting the landing stage in an VIII boat.

The event was a great success with over 200 supporters, including athletes, parents and coaches. Thank you also to the KSRCPA who provided support and refreshments throughout the day.



## Basketball team unbeaten

**The U16 1st Basketball team have had an unforgettable season coming away from all six matches undefeated by considerable and hefty margins.**

Despite the outstanding effort and teamwork the boys still review their matches with a touch of criticism, ensuring they never feel there is no room for improvement.

With such a strong team and an air that a lot can be learnt after each game, King's can only go from strength to strength.



## U16 girls net second place

The U16 netball squad became County runners-up after playing seven matches in total. The girls had a shaky start drawing in a close knit match with Christleton and then losing to eventual winners Wilmslow High School.

However from that point onwards the girls played outstandingly. Winning all their matches, with a particularly impressive win over Bridgewater High School, who had knocked them out of the National Schools' Competition in November.

The girls showed real determination and skill on the court with a well-deserved result.

**Back row:** Eloise Dooley (5PN), Annie Powell (5LN), Bethan Hill (5RC), Megan Gareh (5RC), Sophie Cliff (Captain) (5PN) and Felicity Jones (5RC)

**Front row:** Emily Cartwright (5JM) and Abi Fisher (5PN)



## Race night fun raises funds

In November, the King's School Rowing Club Parents Association held the annual race night at the School to raise money for the boat club.

The event saw competitive 'rowing' races in the dramatic setting of the Vanbrugh Theatre, which culminated in the Larken family sponsoring the winning boat, which went on to race for real at the Pudding Races.

The evening raised in excess of £1000 for the Rowing Club through a prize auction and raffle. With over 180 people attending, a great family evening was had by all, which marked the success of the new format of dinner in 1541 and the popular regatta being held in the theatre.

## Encouraging results at Invitationals

In December, the Rowing Club sent 49 athletes from the Fourth Year and above to Wallingford Head, in five Vllls crews and a coxed four crew. Both the senior Vllls placed in the top ten in the Junior 18 category. The coxed four was the second quickest junior four of the day, over the 4km course. The remaining junior Vlll also performed well.

On the 23rd January, the Fourth to Upper Sixth boys raced at the Eton Invitational Head at Dorney Lake. The Fourth Year boys' first crew came in second place and the second crew placed sixth from 22 crews. The Fifth Year crew was the fastest crew in their category, winning ahead of other boats by a margin of 50 seconds. King's first Vlll was the third fastest crew of the day, the second Vlll also put in a respectable performance. These encouraging results will help prepare the Rowing Club for another competitive season ahead.



## Rowers race to victory

In February, the Rowing Club took 14 race crews to two competitions, The Runcorn Head and The Head of the Trent.

Quickly the calm waters turned into a flurry of activity as boats from multiple schools and clubs headed for victory at both head races. After intensive training and dedication, King's crews saw all their hard work pay off with eight crews placing first, four placing second and two finishing third. The School is immensely proud of each student as all were commended for good behaviour and sportsmanship, representing King's in an outstanding way.



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

**27th May & 10th June**  
2pm-3pm

### King's Infant School Discovery Afternoons

Join us this May and June to discover how Willow Lodge can offer girls and boys aged 4-7 the best start in their journey through education. Meet the Head and hear her vision for our safe, caring and colourful Infant School, whilst your child enjoys a fun activity session.

**Call: 01244 689 553**  
Email: [admissions@kingschester.co.uk](mailto:admissions@kingschester.co.uk)

### Colour their lives forever

### Year 5 Discovery Days at King's.

23rd and 24th June 2016.

Please join us to experience a day at King's Senior School for Year 5 children. We will shine light on a vibrant, academic environment where both girls and boys, aged 11-18, can thrive.

**Call: 01244 689 553**  
Email: [admissions@kingschester.co.uk](mailto:admissions@kingschester.co.uk)

#KingsChester

### King's Juniors Discovery Days

**6th, 13th & 20th  
May  
2016**

Develop your child's true potential by discovering what sets King's Juniors apart.

**Call: 01244 689 553**  
Email: [admissions@kingschester.co.uk](mailto:admissions@kingschester.co.uk)