



THE KING'S SCHOOL
CHESTER

HERALD

All the news from The King's School, Chester



Open
Morning
and
Sixth Form
Information Evening
See back page for details.

Excellence achieved!

Read about the awards won in the Good Schools' Guide 2009

Full story on page 2

Education at King's: “A Transformative Experience”



Following an inspection from the Independent Schools' Inspectorate, The Governors, Headmaster and staff are delighted with the inspection report, which supports the outstanding teaching and learning here at King's.

The school is described as: “**a civilised, empowering community, created by**

exemplary governance, clear direction and leadership and a committed well-qualified staff.” The report celebrates King's as offering, “**a transformative experience.**”

The inspection team said, “The positive attitudes of pupils and the excellent relationship between pupils and staff engender an atmosphere of trust and security in which pupils' self-esteem is fostered by an

all-pervasive atmosphere of praise and personal development is nurtured, in many cases to outstanding levels.”

The education provided at King's was praised in glowing terms: “The curriculum offers an all-embracing, intellectually stimulating education. The richness of the high-quality, extracurricular experience is a paramount strength of the school”.

Double success for Economics and Business Department!

The Economics and Business Department is celebrating the success of winning two awards in the 2009 Good Schools' Guide GCSE Awards.

The first award is for best results achieved at GCSE by boys studying Economics and Business Studies at an English Independent School. The second is for the best results achieved by girls studying Economics and Business Studies at any English school.

The awards are made on the basis of **Key Stage 4 results for the three years 2006, 2007 and 2008 combined.** The judges took into particular consideration the popularity of each subject, relative to similar schools, and the success that pupils achieve, relative to the other examinations they take. **The aim is to highlight excellent teaching in individual subjects.**

Last year **Isabel Hughes (L6LB)** achieved a place in the top ten nationally in the GCSE Economics and Business exams. **Six King's students have featured in the national top ten in each of the last four years.**



First to play at the Citizenship Ceremony

The King's School was honoured to be invited to be the first school to play at the inaugural Citizenship Ceremony, organised by Cheshire West Council.

The pupils played before and during the ceremony, and were commended by both

organisers and guests for their fine performances.

The musicians involved were: **Selim Ungut (4MP)** and **Tommy Metcalf (ShMS)**, who played piano solos; **Tommy Metcalf, Lydia Sowden (RmSC)** and **Ellie Kearney-Mitchell (RmCG)**, who played a piano trio;



there was also a string quartet of **Jeremy Telford (3JK)**, **Terence Au (3ML)**, **Rachael Alcock (3GC)** and **Will Tyson (L6ER)**.

A master class for King's musicians



Two senior musicians enjoyed a masterclass with famous clarinettist **Emma Johnson**, as part of the Sir Edward German Music Festival.

Emma Johnson is a leading international soloist and the students, **Ben Cuffin-Munday (5JH)** and **Edward Andrade (5DL)**, were thrilled to be invited along with three other Cheshire/Shropshire Schools' pupils.

The invitation to join the master class, and the opportunity to learn skills from such a distinguished musician, was a real honour for Ben and Edward. They thoroughly enjoyed the experience.



Our Big Band is off to play the National Youth Music festival

The Big Band has won a place to perform at the National Festival of Music for Youth at the Symphony Hall in Birmingham in July. The 6-day festival involves 10,000 children throughout the British Isles.

The King's School Big Band was selected for the festival after submitting their latest jazz CD.

This is a great honour for the Big Band and



comes hot on the heels of another invitation, to the esteemed Cork Jazz Festival. **The Band's reputation is growing every year.**

Trinity music examinations

This term 32 pupils were entered for Trinity Guildhall Music Examinations in a variety of instruments, excluding strings.

Almost 40% of the results were at

Distinction Level and a further 50% at Merit Level.

In voice, **Daniel Titmuss (L6DY)** gained a Distinction at Grade 8. **Lizzie Roberts (5MH)** and **Hiroshi Amako (5JH)** gained a Distinction at Grade 7 level.



Adventures in the desert



During Easter 2009 an adventurous group of Shells and Thirds took part in an exciting expedition to Egypt. First on the itinerary, after the initial culture shock of arriving in the bustling, hot, noisy capital of Cairo, was a visit to the three Great Pyramids and the Sphinx and the group's first experience of bartering for overpriced souvenirs.

Then it was a long drive down the Sinai Peninsula before transferring into jeeps and heading into the desert for the first taste of a Bedouin camp in a wadi. That first night **lying out in sleeping bags on the sand with nothing above but stars (and shooting stars if you looked carefully) was just an amazing experience**, as was being woken gently by the sun the next morning as it reflected off the rock walls of the wadi; it was just beautiful – and very sandy!

The next few days were spent walking and camel-trekking in the desert passing through small Bedouin villages, seeing famous sites such as the **Rock of Inscriptions** and the **Nawamis** (ancient burial chambers) or simply sheltering from the scorching sun under weathered rock-formations and drinking chai. Once the skill of riding a camel had been mastered it was an incredibly tranquil and peaceful period giving the group plenty of chance of time for reflection.



The final action-packed day before travelling home was to climb **Mount Sinai** and visit **St Catherine's Monastery**. The group walked up the camel path then clambered (or sprinted) up the last few hundred metres of the 750 stone steps of penitence to the top of Mount Sinai at a height of 2285m. **The views were fantastic with mountains and desert as far as you**

could see, and the religious significance of the area added to the cultural and spiritual experience of the whole expedition.

The last night was spent at a hotel on the **Red Sea**, and a welcome chance to shower after five days in the desert before the journey home. **The expedition from start to finish really was a remarkable and memorable experience.**



Meet the new prefect team

Mr Toby Hughes, Head of Sixth Form has announced the new prefect team for next year. The Head of School Team is led by Head of School, Oscar Hayward (L6SB), supported by Head of Boys, Daniel Titmuss (L6DY) and Head of Girls, Emily Parker (L6DY).

The Senior Prefect Team, a **further 24 students**, have responsibility for various sections of the school from Library duties and assemblies to a Sixth Form film production and an alternative prospectus!

The Head of School Team was chosen from the Senior Prefect Team, after a rigorous selection process including a



personal statement, interview with the Headmaster and Head of Sixth Form, and voting from Lower Sixth students and teachers.

Congratulations Joe – the UK’s “Young Geographer of the Year.”



Joe Benson (5SR) won the prestigious title in a competition organised by the Royal Geographical Society.

Last year, over 1,800 pupils from across the UK entered the competition.

Joe compiled a 1,500 word description of an Arctic journey, accompanied by a video blog, and after two rounds of tough judging, scooped first prize in the senior category of the

competition for 16 to 18-year-olds. The video was shot in the garden of his home by his sister, Meredith (3JK). **His prize is a place on an once-in-a-lifetime five-week Arctic Adventure Expedition to Greenland in July.**

Joe had to identify **one luxury item** to take on his Arctic journey, which proved a toss-up between a cricket bat and a **jar of Frank Cooper’s marmalade**. After some thought, the marmalade won!



Joe hopes to further his Geographical studies in Greenland, as the expedition includes three phases in the field. The initial, science-based phase will build on long-term work in the area, including geology, survey work, fluvial and glacial studies, ornithology and invertebrates. The main emphasis of the next phase is to learn how to travel in this challenging environment. Finally, the ice phase involves a journey on the glaciers, in addition to learning essential skills for mountaineering. After such an interesting summer **Joe will return to King’s, ready to begin his A-level studies in September.**



Snowdon by bike.

On the trail of the Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award

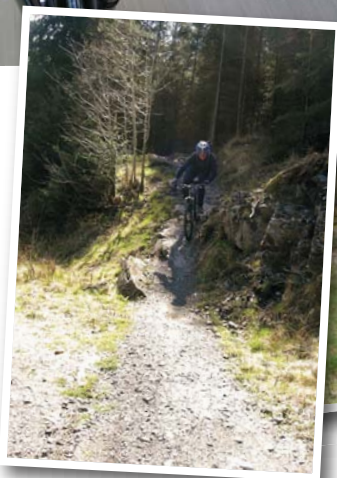


The first mountain biking expedition was a brilliant success, with huge variety in terrain. Travelling up parts of Snowdon (and back down) along road, river, forest tracks and the famous Marin trail.

Six students with their instructor, Brian, started out not knowing what to anticipate and the first major hill certainly wasn't expected. The shock of this was nothing compared to the fantastic view they had when they reached the top of the forest track, where it opened out onto a hill **looking out on Snowdon**. Here was the first more challenging section of biking, which, other than a few tumbles they all managed, reaching the bottom with high spirits.

Lunchtime arrived and they planned their attempt to bike up Snowdon.

Starting up the mountain, it was only Brian that could continue the sharp ascent, the steep relief forcing the students to dismount. Very tired and walking, they reach the summit point, at which they were ready to re-mount



their bikes and head on back down the mountain. **Tricky obstacles and cliff edges** faced on the way down seemed relatively easy compared with the climb up. The way down was enjoyable with different terrain all the way until they reach the road. The way back to the campsite saw the very **first puncture, which was fixed in no time thanks to a great team effort!** Reaching the campsite, after a steep uphill, was a relief after a hard day's biking.

Planning the 2nd day's journey the night before, proved to be the right move, as they could get straight into biking the next day. Following a different route, the first

navigational problems arose when new forest paths had been created and others destroyed, luckily Brian stepped in to help them along, and showed them the right rocky uphill path that not even he could get up on the bike! However, the next part of the journey was

beautiful. **Travelling downhill through a valley, navigating some tricky biking, they stopped at an abandoned quarry sampling the delights of Snowdonia.** The hardest mountain biking so far was here, going down a steep, rocky mountain edge, which they only really appreciated, once they had reached the bottom. It was predominantly downhill after this, travelling across fields, paths and

farm tracks, where another puncture was easily mended again. **A final fast, U-bending track brought them down, and once again they faced a long stretch along the road back to the campsite.**

A night of rain and not much sleep brought tired legs on the final day. They were dropped off at the middle of the **Marin trail**, which, when ridden the whole way round is 25 km. The trail gave good mountain-biking for most of the day and proved to be very enjoyable.

The 3-day journey was a great experience, it wasn't easy and they often needed motivation to keep pedalling, but it was worth that effort coming down to finish at **Betws-y-Coed!**

King's + Maths = Success



Seven pupils have taken part in the Intermediate Mathematical Olympiad. This competition is only open to the highest scorers in the UK Intermediate Maths Challenge.

The top 50 students nationally in each age group receive a prize, and one of these was won by **Siobhan Barnard (5SR)**. This firmly marks out Siobhan as **one of the very best mathematicians of her age group in the country!**

Tom Menzies (5FY) also received a certificate of merit. Other students involved were **Sean and Jeremy Telford (3JK)**, **Matthew Temple (3AC)**, **Peter Johnstone (5DL)** and **Matthew Roberts (3CM)**.

The Maths Olympiad is only open to the top mathematicians in the country and it is excellent news that seven of our students participated. Most of our students are entered into the Maths Challenge and almost 60% of them gained recognition, with these seven pupils going on to the Olympiad.



Other successful Maths Challenge pupils went on to compete in the European Kangaroo which involves 5 million children in 41 countries. These successful students were:

Joseph Dillamore (5FV), **Joe Wood (5MH)**, **James Edholm (5JH)**, **Oliver Tattersall (5FV)**, **Luke Robinson (5DL)**, **James Barnard (4KL)**, **Joe Hollingworth (4EH)**, **Charles Hill (3AC)**, **Struan Nisbet (3ML)** and **Rachel Alcock (3GC)**.

Under the microscope at the Biology Challenge



Congratulations to all the 4th Year students who took part in the Biology Challenge which was run by the British Biology Olympiad Organisation.

This new nationwide challenge is set up to foster an interest in Bioscience with

questions on Biodiversity, Physiology and current developments in Biology. 25,000 students participated in the new competition. 2000 winners achieved gold, silver or bronze certificates and a further 2000 students were highly commended.

- **Ketan Dhital (4PN)** achieved a **Gold** certificate.
- **Ashleigh Milner (4PN)**, **Ryan Thompson (4MP)**, **Hannah Riley (4MP)** and **Katrina Holbrook (4PN)** achieved **Silver** certificates.
- **Bharat Sharma (4PN)**, **Victoria Wilson-Theaker (4VA)**, **Laura Haylock (4VA)**, **Hattie Webb (4KL)**, **Sally James (4KL)**, **Sam Hall (4EH)**, **Rory Benson (4VA)**, and **Emily Guest (4EH)** achieved **Bronze** certificates.

A further fourteen students were Highly Commended.

Poetry success



George Paulose (RmLB) scooped 2nd prize in the Rotary Poetry Speaking Competition, with his lively confident rendition of two poems!

Two other students, **Nicola Temple (RmLB)** and **Luke Thompson (RmLB)** participated in the competition, and the reserve competitor was **Grace Roberts (RmLB)**.



‘Mud’ beats the credit crunch

14 Sixth Form students have been taking part in the Young Enterprise scheme. They set up a company called ‘Mud’ and started by selling wellies at the school’s Christmas market, and having various cake sales at break times.

Once they had raised enough capital, they were able to start producing their main product: a promotional leaflet advertising local Chester businesses to residents.

Despite the current economic downturn, ‘Mud’ have been financially successful, making over £200 in profit, and therefore seeing a healthy return on those lucky enough to have bought shares – no mean trick in this day and age!

The company, **managed by Melody-Meacher Jones (L6DY)**, took first prize in the Best Company Report category, and second prize for its Business Plan in the Chester Board Final, held at Bank of America. This was a fantastic achievement and testimony to the hard work of the whole team. To maintain enthusiasm and commitment for a long-running project like this, alongside AS exam pressures, indicates



just what can be achieved by focused and high-achieving Sixth Formers.

Gourmet chefs in the making



amazing considering many had only started cooking six weeks previously.

The 26 pupils thoroughly enjoyed the course and are now **advocates for fresh, locally sourced ingredients** and also now regularly cook for their families at home!

The two cookery courses culminated in gala evenings, where the students prepared and **served a 7-course canapé meal for their parents and guests.** They were each presented with a copy of one of Gordon Ramsey’s gourmet books by Mr Smith and Mr Richard Brenner, Chartwells’ Operations Performance Leader.

Pupils in Third and Fourth Years have spent six weeks attending two Cookery Master Classes with Development Chef – Mr Paul Smith of Chartwells. Chartwells, the contracted caterer for the school, had offered the master classes as part of their “Eat, Learn and Live” campaign.

The students concentrated on a different food group each week, taking their fabulous



creations home with them! They have covered a great number of food skills, from **how to cook and prepare lobster and langoustines to making the best mash!**

On the final week of the course the students were given £4.50 to produce a dish of their choice. **The creations they cooked were**



Checkmate victory!



The King's School Chess Team has been victorious in the UK British Land Challenge Mega Final, held in Warrington.

After successfully playing through two qualifying rounds in this the **second-largest chess competition in the world**, and the largest in Britain, the team came home with no fewer than **five cups and several more certificates**.

180 competitors throughout North Wales and Cheshire qualified for the competition.

Trophies were won by:

- **Tsubasa Sato (U6RP)** - U18 Boys' Trophy
- **James Carr (L6SW)** - U17 Boys' Trophy
- **Marvin Hayes (4MP)** - U15 Boys' Trophy
- **Emily Moss (3CM)** - U14 Girls' Trophy
- **Susan Gorman (ShAI)** - U13 Girls' Trophy

Certificates were also awarded to **Tim Pemberton of 5FV (U16 Boys)**, **Joe McKeown of ShTK (U13 Boys)**, **Animesh Anand of RmSR (U12 Boys)** and **Jack Owen of J4T (U11 Boys)**.

Major cadet success

The King's School Combined Cadet Force (CCF) is celebrating the nomination of one of their cadets, Company Sergeant Major Elizabeth (Libby) Anderson, aged 18, for the Duke of Westminster Award.



There were 215 nominations from 10,000 eligible cadets throughout the country, of which 15 were invited to a selection weekend. **Libby was judged to be in the top five, and wins a three-week trip to South Africa.** The top five will attend a luncheon in London, hosted by the Duke of Westminster when the winning cadet will be announced. The winner will receive a trophy and £500, the runners up receiving £250.

To be judged to be in the top five cadets in the country is a tremendous honour and Libby, her family, and everyone involved in the CCF here at The King's School is delighted with her success. **Libby has been in The King's School CCF for the last six years.**

Students take centre-stage at the National Theatre



Sixth Form students from King's have been chosen to perform in a celebratory Festival of Theatre at the National Theatre, London, in July.

The school is taking part in **New Connections** – a nationwide festival of new writing for young people set up by the National Theatre. They will be performing **The Vikings and Darwin** by renowned American playwright, **David Mamet**

first at the National Theatre on Saturday, 4th July.

Directed by Emma Lucia, it is a wonderful opportunity for this group of hard-working young people to be chosen to represent this play at the **National Theatre**. They have **demonstrated a genuine commitment to the theatre-making process** and it is a huge privilege to be given a world premiere of a **David Mamet** play to stage at the National Theatre.





King celebrated by King's

This term saw the opening of two exhibitions to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the accession to the throne of the School's founder, King Henry VIII.

King's started its life in the refectory of Chester Cathedral, and it was there the school recognised this foundation with an exhibition in April.

The exhibition charted the many changes in the School in the centuries **after its foundation in 1541**, from its existence as a boys-only school, housed in a variety of Chester's landmark buildings, to the **successful**

introduction of girls and full co-education six years ago.

At the **School's Easter Cathedral Service**, 24 current pupils (symbolising the 24 "poor and friendless boys" who were the original pupils at the School) processed from the refectory to the main cathedral to pay tribute to the ties between the School and Chester Cathedral, and to pray for the continuing success of both foundations.



James Carr (L6SW) also staged an exhibition in the School Gallery about Henry VIII's life, and the school's relationship with the Cathedral. James supported the exhibition with an interesting and knowledgeable whole-school assembly about Henry, "**The Man and The Myth**".

Doors open for Madagascar school



The villagers are looking forward to welcoming visitors from King's in due course, although political unrest has forced the cancellation of the planned Sixth Form expedition to Madagascar in July.

The Head Teacher and Head of the Village have also asked King's if we could help out with the provision of a **gravity-fed water**

system, and we have willingly agreed to funding this additional project.

We are delighted to announce

that the school we are funding in Ambohimandroso, Madagascar, is now complete, as can be seen from the photos.

The community celebrated "**miady fototra**", literally "**digging the foundations**" in March, which is an **important cultural event for Malagasy**.



It was an occasion in which all villagers take part: women preparing a meal, men

preparing the building materials and important visitors attending. Among these were the District Chief, the Village Mayor and two representatives from the Ministry of Education. The eldest person in the village was also chosen to conduct a ritual ceremony asking for the blessing of their ancestors.



A capital experience!

as enjoyed by a Sixth Former



On a typical cloudy British morning in April, a group of Sixth Form students, laden with weekend bags and take-out coffee, congregated in the most populated station in the UK, Euston.

Ready to embark on a fun-filled weekend of philosophical adventuring, the group made their way to the Royal National Hotel to experience the in-depth intellect of A Level Philosophy text book writer, **Michael Lacewing**. Star-struck they settled down for a five hour **Political Philosophy conference** making notes – and the occasional doodle – which would help towards their AS and A2 Level exams at the end of the year.

After the riveting conference had ended and a short powder-and-paint stop at the hotel (an old

gaol made into a youth hostel!), the students made their way to the infamous **curry capital that is Brick Lane**, all settling down for an exquisite fusion of Indian cuisine. After stocking up on Eastern treats for the proposed theatre trip, the students headed to the **Playhouse**, completely unaware of the spectacle which was about to unfold. Two hours later, 30 rather bemused pupils and teachers emerged from the theatre, heading for ice cream in **Leicester Square** with the images of global destruction and scientific terror fresh in their young, naïve minds.

Awaking from a deep, meditative slumber, the team strolled towards **South Bank** with the goal of conquering the home of artists such as **Tracy Emin and Damien Hurst**, otherwise known as **Tate Modern**, in order to help the **AS students with their Philosophy of Art unit**. After stopping for a nibble in Borough market, the



gastronomic hotspot of central London, and refuelling with stewed apple, oatmeal and leek and potato soup, the **National Gallery** was visited. An evening meal was enjoyed by all in a local restaurant, followed by Karaoke. Here the eclectic mix of current and vintage tunes blasted from the speakers, not to mention the mouths of excited pupils and nostalgic staff.

Sunday morning consisted of mint-choc-chip ice cream smeared over sad faces as it dawned to pupils that today was, in fact, the last day. A quick trip to **Speakers' Corner in Hyde Park** left many hoarse after shouting down various extremists and radical thinkers before making way to **Camden Market** for a final shop and meander through the hubbub of alternative goods and sights.

At 4.10, farewells were made as a truly brilliant weekend drew to an end. Leaving with a developed knowledge of philosophy, helpful for the coming exams, and a wealth of private jokes with which to sustain them for the rest of the term, students left, most grateful to the teachers who had put together a jam-packed itinerary, and kept their unwavering patience over the entire trip.



Deutscher Austausch

At the start of April, 14 brave adventurers from Thirds to U6 set off for a German exchange and what was to be a fantastic experience.

They stayed in the beautiful city of **Leipzig** and enjoyed going to school with their exchange partners, practising their German and exploring the area. The pupils had many tours of

the surrounding towns and cities including Torgau, Leipzig and Berlin. There were also many other activities including a visit to **Dresden and the innovative Gläserne Manufaktur**, (the glass Volkswagen factory), the Frauenkirche, which has only recently been rebuilt, having been destroyed during the bombing of Dresden during the Second World



War, and a 4-seated bike ride around the Cospudener See, a large, man-made lake on the outskirts of Leipzig. This was a journey which was not just educational but very much fun as well.



Sur le Pont d'Avignon...

on the French exchange trip



In April, a selection of students arrived at school at 4am to travel to Liverpool airport. One would have expected a tired and quiet atmosphere, but the coach was bursting with chatter and laughter!

The group arrived at Avignon at noon, and waited patiently on the coach to be collected by their host families.

Their correspondents had already visited England, so this was the moment to see their French friends for the second time. **The next two days were spent with their host families, settling into their new homes,** and for some, spending the first night at a party!

The next day saw a visit to the **Pont du Gard**, a stunning piece of history from Roman times, and after a riverside packed lunch, a short drive took them to **Nîmes**, where they enjoyed a guided tour of the Roman area known as **Les Arènes**.

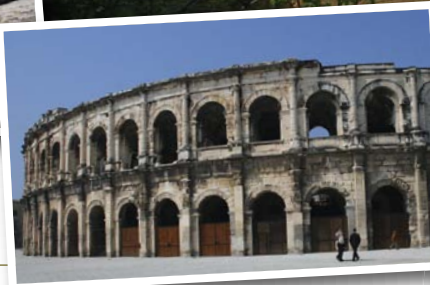
The following day, the **group spent at school with their French companions.** After a welcome message from the Headmaster and some complimentary croissants, **it was on to 3 one-hour lessons.** It was interesting to see how the lessons differed from the English system. Some of the students chose to go to a lesson taught by an Englishman named Mr Barker, who originates not far from Chester. As the school does not have lessons on

Wednesday afternoons, they spent the rest of the day with their partners, sampling the delights of Avignon.

The next three days were packed full of trips. The first was a visit to **Camargue and Les Saintes Maries de la Mer**, which is a triangular river delta where the Rhône meets the sea and a beautiful coastal town respectively. The next day entailed a trip to **Acrobranche and to Fontaine de Vaucluse.** The Acrobranche is a **high wire**

adventure course that included a one hundred metre zip wire, forty feet in the air. **Fontaine de Vaucluse** is a town with a stunning river flowing out of the bottom of a sheer rock face.

The final day saw a visit to the **Pont d'Avignon, a bridge that extends only halfway across the river Rhône,** and the Palais des Papes, a huge palace where many Popes lived until 1377.



The last few days of the trip were spent with the students' host families, **practising and learning more of the French** language. The farewell was hard, as for some of the group, it was the last time they would see their correspondents. However, for many, the new friends will keep in touch and further visits are being planned. **It was a fabulous trip that has helped a lot of students to grow in their language skills and cultural awareness.**



Farewell to John Hargreaves

The Headmaster announced the retirement of Mr John Hargreaves, Second Master after 11 years of service. He has been an inspirational and well-loved teacher, mentor and colleague.

John, a Cambridge graduate and Football Blue, started at The King's School in 1998. He soon became a key member of the English Department, directing and sometimes acting in, many drama productions. The photos show **John acting in 'Assassins'**. His passion for Manchester United and football in general has been witnessed on many a touchline and he has coached the Under-12's to many successes over the years. John has also coached and umpired the Under-12 cricket



team, while his other passion is for Chess: he was the founder of the now thriving, and very successful Chess Club.

John is characterised by his outstanding level of commitment to everything he does. A firm supporter of all extracurricular activities, he is particularly fond of opera and jazz, and can always be seen supporting the School's musical events, especially Big Band performances. He has been known to conduct the odd Big Band performance!

Poetry masterclass

In June one of Britain's leading poets, Simon Armitage, came to school to lead a creative writing workshop with Lower Sixth Form students, and then to give a reading to the whole of Year 10 and Year 12.

Students were enthralled from the start of his workshop as he immediately got them writing. He said that **the initial idea for a poem was the 'problem' and the poem the 'solution'**. He said that he can spend two to three weeks writing just one poem and constantly revising it until he's satisfied.

In his reading he entertained students and staff with tales of his youth, where

the local phone box was the centre of teenage life, and moved his audience with a **powerful extract** from his poem



Out of the Blue, about the 9/11 attack on the Twin Towers in New York. Never one to shirk difficult issues, in his most recent collection, called **'The Not Dead'**, Simon has written about the impact of war on soldiers who have served the British Army in Bosnia, Iraq and Afghanistan.



First Merseyside Shield Final since 1938!

The last time a King's 1st XI appeared in the final of the Merseyside Shield was 1938.

King's won the trophy that year following on from their victory in 1937.

To have reached the final again is testament to the progress the team has made since September, for not even ISFA Cup-winning sides had been able to compete against the strong Merseyside schools.

The squad of players were delighted to have the opportunity of playing at the training complex of **Everton Football Club**. Although very well served for facilities at King's, it was an eye opener to see how those involved in the professional game live.

The team's spirits were high and they looked resplendent in the new kit worn especially for

the occasion. They had played their opponents, **Deyes High of Maghull**, before and they knew that the game was likely to be a close affair. It proved to be a hard fought match with both sides struggling to show the best of their form in difficult windy conditions and the tension of the occasion no doubt coming to the fore.

In truth, there was very little to choose between either team, although on the day Deyes probably settled to the occasion slightly better than the King's team did. However, whilst they had the lion's share of the possession in the first half it was King's who created the best opening. In fact, as the game progressed and both sides cancelled each other out, Deyes had to be grateful to their keeper on five occasions for pulling off fine saves from opportunities which



on another day King's probably would have scored from.

Inevitably, such a tight game went to extra time, and it was to be a fine shot from thirty yards by Deyes which was to seal a 1-0 victory for them.

The team had performed with great pride in representing the school, and it is to be hoped it will not be another 71 years before they return to the final.

King's welcomes the famous Forty Club



The King's School welcomed the Forty Club, a national organisation of senior high-class cricket players in May.

In the past, the **Forty Club** included county and minor county players on their teams, with illustrious names

such as **Fred Trueman, Denis Compton and Ian Austin**. Now membership is open to anyone who has played 1st XI club cricket. The Forty Club side this year included **Keith Roscoe, the record wicket-taker in the Lancashire League**.

Under a central management, the Forty Club is divided into 11 districts with a chairman



responsible for matches in each sector. The Forty Club now has fixtures in around 143 schools and organises matches against some of the best school cricket teams in the country. The competition culminates in the presentation of the Forty Club Trophy at the Forty Club annual dinner in London, awarded to the school adjudged to have performed best against the Forty Club. **The top table at the dinner reads like a Cricketing Debrett!**

The King's School are the **current holders of the Forty Club Trophy awarded for 2008** and as holders were proud to welcome the Forty Club at the school in May, to play against the King's 1st XI. **The King's side included some players from last year's victorious XI, including wicket-keeper batsman Glenn Copack (L6SN), who helped steer the school to victory.**



U14 football stars a success in Barcelona

This hugely talented group of footballers had another successful and enjoyable season finally winning their first trophy together.



Collecting the Chester and District Trophy was, however, merely the icing on the cake as the season would have been deemed a great success even if they had not outplayed their local rivals Catholic High in the final.

A record of P30, W21, L7 and D2 in schoolboy football correctly suggests a very good team but does not flatter the squad. There were few, if any, undeserved victories but several of the 'seven' could

have gone either way – in particular the two memorable clashes with Shrewsbury School, after which the opposition graciously acknowledged the good fortune of their own team on the night.

The one disappointment of the year was the early exit from the ESFA Cup at the hands of Cardinal Langley. It was a difficult draw. They were a very strong team with some outstanding players playing on a very poor pitch, yet this was one of the 'seven' that they could have won. The King's team missed chances, Cardinal Langley didn't.

The players rounded off the season with a very successful and enjoyable tour of the Barcelona area where they were, as always, great ambassadors for the School. One of the fixtures, against St Felieu, was to provide as stern a test as anything encountered at home and the players typically rose to the challenge, earning a draw against an Academy team who



were mostly a year older than the King's lads.

On an individual level there were many outstanding performers and performances – far too many to mention here, but all of the match reports are on the school website, and many players have, to their great credit, improved significantly over the course of the season. Although reluctant to single out individuals, **Sam Powell (3AC)** has once again, set standards in every aspect of the game and sport in general which others would do well to emulate. To be fair most, if not all, of this squad do just that and they will give Mr Yalland a memorable season next year, as well as a few headaches over team selection.



Show Jumping success for King's

Two teams, The King's Flyers and The King's Aces, have competed in the Inter-Schools' Show Jumping competition against 24 other schools.

The King's Flyers team are celebrating first place in a hard-fought battle with second place Welshpool School and third place Queen's. The King's Aces came in 4th place. The King's Flyers Team included **Cameron**

Thompson (ShAI), **Sam Ecroyd (RmGA)**, **Ben Stratton (J4H)** and **Lucy Grindal (ShAR)**. All completed good rounds but Cameron had a blistering round, a clear three seconds faster than any other rider! **Cameron went on to clinch individual 1st prize** with Sam and Ben finishing in the top ten from 96 competing riders.

The King's Aces team were **Sam Ecroyd**, **Emily Boothroyd (J4G)**, **Cameron Thompson (ShAI)**, and **Harry Stables**.



The National Schools' Regatta

The J14s performed extremely well at The National Schools' Regatta at Holme Pier Point, the National Water Sports Centre in Nottingham.



The 'A' Oct recorded the fastest time in the processional race and showed a great deal of maturity in the semi-final by relaxing their efforts slightly when it became clear that they were going to win it, thus saving their legs for the final, which they went on to win.

They are now the proud holders of the **Cherwell Cup** and each member of the crew was also presented with a **National Schools' Gold Medal**. Although the School has enjoyed much success in Quads at J14 level at National Schools' (and in the current U6th's **J14 year, the 'A' Oct won a bronze medal**), this is the first time that we have won the Gold. The 'B' Oct recorded the 5th fastest time in the processional for the Dulwich Cup, and the 3rd

fastest time in the semi-finals. **Their semi was by far the faster of the two**, however, and after such a hard race in the semis, they were pipped into 4th place in the final, so just missed out on a medal. **The Girls' Oct only narrowly failed to secure a place in the final**, having made it through the processional into the semis, but the crew had worked very hard in the last few weeks leading up to the competition and made excellent progress. The girls will hopefully be encouraged by their performance, which far exceeded earlier expectations. **This is the first time that a J14 Girls' Oct has represented the School at Nat. Schools'.**

Saturday was a bitterly disappointing day for the 1st VIII who, along with local rivals, Shrewsbury, failed to make the final of Championship Vllls, despite having beaten three of the crews in the final, including Abingdon, the silver medal-winners, at Wallingford only a matter of weeks before.

The 2nd VIII made their final but, as a light crew, a tail wind would have favoured them better than the head wind, with which they had to battle, and they could manage only **5th place**.

Nevertheless, **this was a good result for what is a very young crew.**

The only medal of the day was won by the **3rd VIII. They came 3rd in the West Cup and were awarded bronze medals, behind Eton** who beat them to the silver by just 9/10th of a second, and Hampton School!

On Sunday matters improved with another bronze medal, this time in the **Championship Coxed 4's event**, in a very exciting final: until the halfway mark of the race, there was barely a second between all six crews and at the finish, less than three seconds separated the fastest four crews. In **Championship Coxless 4's**, the very last race of the 3-day competition, and another highly prestigious event, the crew, comprising entirely of L6th boys, exceeded expectations by **making it through to the final with a performance that bodes very well for next year.**

Victory at Shrewsbury and Eton



King's School 1st VIII won 1st place, beating many of the top rowing schools at Wallingford Regatta, held at Dorney Lake, Eton.

This was an excellent performance for the squad, who went on to meet most of these teams in the **National Schools' competition** a matter of weeks later.



The King's School crews involved 45 students, travelling down to Eton to take part in a full day of races. Other notable successes were from the **J14 A Octuple** who came 2nd against a field of 23 teams. Some of the senior squad made up a coxed 4, which came 2nd from a field of 13 squads in the Intermediate 2 event.

At Shrewsbury Regatta on Saturday, King's squads had another great day with some outstanding results: the **J14 1st and 2nd quad crews won the A and B coxed-quad** events and came together to make an Octuple, which beat Shrewsbury in the final.

Rowing for gold at Munich

Three King's students were selected for the Munich European Junior Rowing championships. Sam Arnot (U6PF), Stephen Jones (U6NH) and Franz Imfeld (U6NH) got through a tough selection process to be selected for the GB crew.

The highlight of the competition for the King's School was the **Eights' race** which was **won by GB Rowing** in a boat which included **two King's Chester rowers**, and was **coxed by a King's Chester boy**, i.e. King's Chester had three out of the



nine in the boat, more than any other GB school or club! **Even Eton, with a much bigger rowing squad than Kings, had only two rowers in the boat.**

Individual successes

James Ellis (5DL) has been successful in the England Fell-running trial in May. The race took place on the Lancashire-Yorkshire border, with the first two winners gaining automatic selection. Two others are picked by the selectors. After coming 4th in the race on the day, James was phoned later in the week by the National Team Manager to be told he had got the last spot. **James will be running as part of the England Junior Team in the World Youth Challenge**, a mountain race, being held in Germany later this summer. It will be James' first experience of competing outside of the UK, and against athletes of other nationalities.



Oliver Moore (Rm1R) competed in the **Olve Junior Badminton Tournament** in Antwerp during April. He gained runners-up place in the U13 mixed doubles

competition with his partner from Shropshire. The Olve tournament is an annual international tournament. At the end of April, Oliver took part in the **York 12 Open Tournament** and reached the semi-finals in the Boys' Singles and **won the Boys' doubles competition with his Cheshire partner.**

Chris Austin (3GC) and Charles Hill (3AC), have attended a preliminary **football referees' course** on June 2nd run by Chester Schools' Sport Partnership. This leads into a full referee award and it is very much hoped that they will be **offering their service to the school, and local clubs, in the near future.**



Continues on the back page.

SAILING

The Williams Brothers, **James Williams (RmSC)**, **Matthew Williams (J3O)** and **Thomas Williams (ShAI)** are all dedicated sailors.

James sails in the North Wales Topper Development Squad of six sailors, competing in events of up to 200 boats. James came in 1st place in the 4.2 Topper Northern Nationals earlier this year. In 2008, James sailed in the Optimist North West Performance Squad.

Matthew sailed in the Topper National Regatta Squad in 2008 and was named "Most Improved Sailor."

Thomas has been in the National Topper Squad for two years, after being part of the Optimist squad for 2007 and competing in the Junior GBR squad.

GIRLS COUNTY HOCKEY

King's have the most representatives at County Level this year from all the nominating schools in Cheshire.



Eleven U12 and U13 girls have attended the West Cheshire Junior Development Centre, and made it through to the West Cheshire Academy. Those girls are: **Kitty Abberton (RmMT)**, **Ellie Crisp (RmMT)**, **Ellie Kearney-Mitchell (RmCG)**, **Lucy Armatage (RmCC)**, **Anna Longson (RmCG)**, **Katie Pownall (RmPH)**, **Bronwen Hulme (RmSR)**, **Sara Ashworth (ShAR)**, **Jessica Guest (ShTK)**, **Pippa Higgins (ShMS)** and **Sian Davies (ShMS)**.

At U14 level, **Eleanor Barnard (ShAR)** and **Lexi Garnett (3ML)** represented the County Squad.

At U15 level, **Hannah Porter (4MP)**, **Kate Coppack (4KL)** and **Georgia Andrews (4VA)** represented the county.

At U16 level **Kate Saunders (5SR)** and **Annabelle Church (5JH)** represented the county and were part of the county team that won the North Counties' League.

At U17 level **Alice Plews (L6SN)** and **Siobhan Barnard (5SR)** represented the county.

At U18 level **Amy Bellis (L6CH)**, **Sarah Underhill (U6RP)** and **Sophie Clough (L6AM)** represented the county and were North League winners.

As well as this, Sophie Clough represented Wales at U18 level and Kate Saunders and Alice Plews were successful in reaching the North Pennine Pumas' Squad. Only three girls were selected from Cheshire and two of those were from King's.

HARRY ASHWORTH – TETRATHLON

To celebrate the Pony Club's 80th Anniversary, the Royal Windsor Horse Show hosted a Tetrathlon display and competition. Tetrathlon is the forerunner to the Olympic sport of Pentathlon and has four phases, running, swimming, shooting and riding. Each Region sent a mixed team of three junior competitors and **Harry Ashworth (4MP)** was asked to represent the Wales and Borders Team.



The other Regions were Scotland, Northern Ireland, North, Central and Southern England, so there were some strong competitors.

They swam at Windsor Leisure Centre, and shot and ran at Eton School all on day one. The riding phase was held at Windsor Horse Show in the grounds of Windsor Castle, on day two. Instead of a cross-country course, it was an arena jumping competition, which also included a slip rail.

Unfortunately the Wales and Borders team was just pipped into second place by Scotland!

Harry won the competition individually, with some very high scores, and was consequently invited afterwards to parade in front of the watching Royalty!

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