



# Herald

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

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

Learn more inside...



## On track to being the best in the world... our fantastic F1 in Schools team

Read the full story on page 3



## Students attract excellent offers all round

**Fantastic university offers for Medicine and Veterinary Science were streaming through the doors at King's. This year Upper Sixth students have received many excellent offers. Some received numerous offers at top medical and veterinary schools and all the Upper Sixth who applied received an offer of a place, making this year a very successful cohort.**

Medicine and Veterinary Sciences require dedication, hard work and academic rigour and as such are extremely challenging to pursue at university.

Offers received by Sixth Formers are:

### MEDICINE:

**Frances Alcock:** University College London, King's College London, Imperial (London) and Birmingham

**Matthew Rutherford:** Liverpool, Newcastle, Cardiff and Edinburgh

**Mathew Bradford:** Newcastle

**Erin Hollingworth:** Liverpool

**Rebekah Hagan:** Liverpool

**Haran Makwana:** Hull/York

**Shreyas Moodalbyle:** Newcastle, Birmingham and Leicester

**Gergo Erdi Krausz:** Southampton

### VETERINARY SCIENCE:

**Charlotte Knight:** Surrey, Nottingham and Liverpool

Frances Alcock and Matthew Rutherford have been phenomenally successful in receiving a rare 'full house' of offers, gaining a place at all four institutions applied to. On top of academia, Frances is one of King's senior musicians, participating in four music ensembles, playing four instruments and achieving Grade 8 in all! Frances plays piano,

violin, saxophone and flute and is a member of four music groups: Senior Strings, Chamber Orchestra, Big Band and Concert Band. Matthew also finds time to develop his CCF leadership skills as the head of RAF, whilst also dedicating time to the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

Medicine and Veterinary Science are popular courses of further education undertaken by King's students, with alumni in the field spread across the globe. Overall, King's proven track record of receiving university offers continues with 44% of

students having all five offers. 90% have at least one Russell Group offer and there have been 12 Oxbridge offers. There have been offers achieved for Architecture, Law and a variety of Arts, Humanities and Science degrees. The manner in which the Upper Sixth have approached the whole process has been exemplary and they have been justly rewarded for this focus, with a diverse range of offers from universities from St Andrews to Southampton.



## Research projects excite passion for learning

**A pioneering new initiative has been launched this year. Since September, all Third Year students have embarked on the journey of completing their own individual research projects. Students have chosen their own exciting research areas and picked the format in which they wanted to present their findings. Each individual piece of work was a glimpse into students' diligence and dedication but most importantly shows the wide range of individual interests and the passion that leaves King's students hungry to learn more.**

Over a hundred projects were completed from speeches, essays, dance performances, artwork, diaries and presentations, all of which were available in a showcase to parents, teachers and friends. As pupils have been working on their projects, they have been encouraged and mentored by members of the Senior Management Team and given never-ending support from their tutors.

It would be impossible to cover all topics but here are just a few: *Man's effect on the Great Barrier Reef*, *Thomas Pennant*, *Evacuations During the Holocaust*, *The History*

*and Maths behind golf*, *Picasso and Mondrian*, *The Seven Deadly Sins*, *Style in Space* and *Homelessness: they don't want coins they want change*.

In the future, students will depend more and more on discerning research methods as a basis for their projects and collaboration. It is groundbreaking to undertake projects like this so early in pupils' careers, which allow them to delve into an area they find fascinating and follow wherever it takes them: this really is learning for pleasure.





# F1 in Schools team's hope for the World Finals



An incredible performance at the F1 in Schools National Final at Silverstone saw six King's students bathed in confetti as they received second place and a trip to Austin, Texas, for the World Finals, subject to the team securing the sponsorship and funding. Anna Lloyd (5LM), Livvy Samson (5RC), James McDonagh (U6HF), Joshua Roberts (U6SB), Amelia Standing (5LM) and Edward Everett (U6ER) were the brilliant brains behind the Sixth Degree team, which also won 'Best Engineered Car' in the UK at the F1 in Schools Silverstone national event.



The team are hoping to attend the third leg of their adventure which will put their engineering to the test. The World Final invites teams from across the globe including Germany, South Korea, South Africa and India.

The objective of the competition is to design and make a scale model of a Formula 1 car that will drag race using CO<sub>2</sub> canisters down a 20 metre track. With recent races hitting the sub 1 seconds, these are extremely high speeds. Reaction times come into play and the tension at the race starts is palpable.

The Sixth Degree model was made using 3D computer-aided design software at King's, and in the build up to the Silverstone event their car was refined for better aerodynamics. However, the competition is not just about racing, the teams 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, so the teams must be adept at designing, branding and communicating to succeed.

Local support for the team has been spectacular and continues to grow as they prepare for World Final in Texas. With companies such as AFYA Sport, Urenco, Design Reality and many more offering support and expertise, Sixth Degree have been able to develop and improve whilst also offering an advertising platform for the sponsor, which reaches vast numbers of potential customers – King's wishes the team every success in raising the sponsorship to see their dream come true. Please visit [www.sixthdegreef1.co.uk/sponsorship](http://www.sixthdegreef1.co.uk/sponsorship) if you are interested in one of their sponsorship schemes.

Follow The Sixth Degree Team's progress on:



@SixthDegreeF1



SixthDegreeF1



## Sky correspondent Skypes in

Students who were working towards the BBC School Report day in March had the opportunity to speak to former pupil and Sky Senior News Correspondent Jonathan Samuels, with a Skype interview which he kindly scheduled between breaking news! Mr Samuels, an alumnus of King's, answered a number of questions, before offering some top tips about speaking to the camera and engaging the audience. He added that he was impressed with the students' stories.

Jake Wundke (3ND) said, "It really helped to talk to a professional and we found it very inspiring. His tips were all incredibly useful in light of our reports. I also found it really interesting to talk to a former pupil; if he could be a senior journalist, it makes us think that we could eventually do something like that one day too!"

The students' stories ranged from a guide to the EU Referendum, a discussion on the role of female authors and a report about local charity, Nicola's Fund. The final video can be found on King's TV.



## Success for maths team

Four pupils travelled to Birkenhead School to compete in the regional heats of the Team Maths Competition run by the United Kingdom Mathematics Trust. Jonathan Carty (3CM) and Lottie Cliff (3LB) were joined by Luke Mulholland (SHRL) and Louis Corrigan (SHJJ) to represent King's.

The King's Team competed against 14 other schools from the local area in four rounds, with maths problems including a cross-number puzzle and relay race. The team did fantastically well, eventually finishing among the top five schools!



## The art of debating lives on

As ever King's has participated with gusto and with credit in the annual King's – Queen's debating competition and in the national debating competition run by the English Speaking Union.

King's has continued to hold regular debates and public speaking activities on Tuesday lunchtimes, including serious, keenly-fought debates on matters ranging from British membership of the EU to the existence of Santa! Rudolph antlers were the essential props in our Christmas-themed version of Radio 4's *Just a Minute*, in which contestants aimed to speak without hesitation, deviation or repetition on such topics as Christmas jumpers, Santa's elves and 'Bah, humbug!'

The Lent Term, moreover, saw the highly successful inauguration of the in-house King's Debating Tournament, in which 16 students of all ages competed in a series of knock-out debates, culminating in a closely contested final on the motion: *this house would abolish the monarchy*. Happily, the winning team, Devanshi Chengappa (4AC) and Jack Walker (4SA) defeated all attempts to evict Her Majesty from Buckingham Palace in the year of her 90th birthday celebrations!

As the French philosopher Joubert said, 'It is better to debate a question without settling it than to settle a question without debating it.' He would, I'm sure, be glad to know that the art of debating is alive and flourishing at King's!



## New passion for Poetry Anthology

This term saw the publication of the second original King's poetry collection – *Passion for Poetry Anthology*. Named after the Sixth Form led 'Passion for Poetry' Society, this collection brings together a great selection of diverse poems written by more than 50 Senior School students over the last three years, in response to regular competitions and writing workshops.

From topics as varied as visiting the Cern Hadron Collider in Switzerland to Everton football team, the experience of rowing and thoughts on the qualities of Light; this Anthology has something to interest and engage all readers. To add to the mix, the students have even written some poetry in French, German, Welsh, Latin and even Turkish in the 'Varied Voices' section! Our recent Poets-in-Residence have also contributed to the Anthology, each with one of their favourite poems.

Congratulations go to all the creative student poets, hardworking editors Emily Jones (U6PW), Barnaby Rule (L6ML) and Amy Shaheir (U6PW) and Mrs Lydon, lead teacher on poetry. Well done also to Emily Houghton (3ND) for her original cover design; Emily won the competition to design the cover for the Anthology, against some very stiff opposition.

The Anthology is available on Amazon, either as a Kindle download or a hard copy.

<http://amzn.to/1txPpQk>





## Megan shines with solar energy essay

**Megan Kendall (L6SD) has excelled in the Cambridge University, Newnham College Engineering Prize for her essay on Solar Energy.**

Megan came third in this prestigious competition that recognises academic excellence and which draws its applications from some of the best Sixth Form minds in the subject. This fantastic achievement brings with it an invitation to visit the college and £100. Megan hopes to apply to Cambridge next year and winning this competition will hopefully help her endeavours.



## Showcasing Design and Technology skills

**In May, the School held its fourth annual Design and Technology Exhibition in the gallery. Moving the event to the gallery has given the department the opportunity to show off the great work they do to a wider audience.**

The quality and range of work continues to impress and it was notable this year to see the largest group of GCSE pupils, 43 in total, take on the self-assembly lighting project with such creative and varied responses.

AS level work considered new concepts for hygienic toothbrush holders, small space living and the redesign of common everyday products. Upper Sixth students Sam Wild (U6JR) and James McDonagh (U6HF) both showcased architectural pieces, with a video fly-through of Sam's swimming centre proposal drawing much attention. This was the first year that the design department had created an interactive digital exhibition, using iPads to show folder work, and as a result, parents and staff were able to get even closer to the work created.

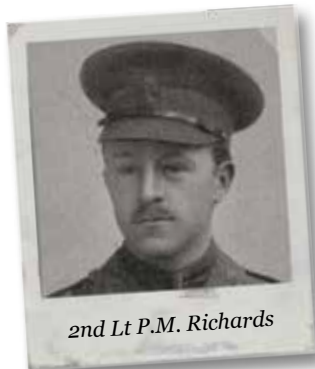


## We will remember them

At Thiepval in Picardy, northern France, on a spot where once there was a chateau, Sir Edwin Lutjens' Memorial to the Missing of the Somme has stood for the best part of a century.

Dominating the landscape all around, this enormous structure commemorates enormous loss. Carved into its panels are the names of over 72,000 men – and boys – of Britain and her Empire who fell during the Battle of Somme and whose bodies were never found. Five of the names belong to former King's pupils: Francis Denham, Frank Harris, Herbert Ikin, Llewelyn Lewis and Percival Richards.

On the School's first battlefields tour visit in 1997, these men were little more than names. The Commonwealth War Graves Commission provided some additional details, but that was it. The following year, the CWGC's records went online, fuelling interest in genealogy and family history.



Subsequent battlefield tour visits, and the realisation that before our very eyes the Great War generation was slipping away, gave impetus to learning more about the Boys of Picardy.

One of these was 19-year-old Lieutenant Francis Denham. Before he came to King's as a boarder in 1906, Denham had been to school in Germany. Ten years later, in early July 1916, he commanded a bombing detachment of 1st Battalion the Worcesters as they fought the Germans for control of trenches around Contalmaison. It was a battle that cost him his life.

If we know less about the circumstances in which the other four former pupils died, we do at least have photographs of three of them. Llewelyn Lewis stares out at us in photographs of the school



cricket team, Percy Richards looks quite chipper in his service photo, while Herbert Ikin, an artist of considerable potential, is much more pensive and serious.

For many years their memorial needed no explanation. But as the last participants in the Battle of the Somme died off, the present generation had questions that needed addressing. And so the idea of an Education Centre was conceived, in part by the School's long-time friend and distinguished battlefield guide, Piers Storie-Pugh. Built in 2004, the Centre stands at the entrance to the site of the Memorial and seeks to provide a means to answer today's questions about the events of 1916.

The School was delighted to make a donation towards the construction of the Centre, a small tribute to the five former pupils whose names the Memorial bears.



## Chess team progress to National Finals

The King's Chess A-team took another step towards the English Schools' Chess Federation trophy when they beat Newcastle-Under-Lyme School in the regional final in April.

Newcastle had proved too strong for King's B-team but the A-team triumphed in a closely-fought match with a final score of  $3\frac{1}{2} - 2\frac{1}{2}$  to King's. Daniel's spirited advocacy of the little played 'Bird's Opening' proved controversial in pre-match planning and at first things didn't go too well, with Newcastle leading by two points. However, Manny Rajapandian, already finding his feet as a new recruit to the A-team, quickly secured victory on board six. With only minutes to spare on the clocks, the match was decided by victories on boards one and two and a draw on board five.

The King's Chess A-team includes the following talented players: Rohan Yesudian (4SA), Daniel Savidge (4RH), Riyaan Yesudian (ShJJ), Danny Rajapandian (ShHB), Abhijay Chawda (ShRL) and Manny Rajapandian (ShAL).

The A-team progress through to the National Finals of the English Schools' Chess Federation trophy at Uppingham School.





# Olympian Chris' 'Row to Rio'

## King's has a long-standing history of sending elite athletes to the Olympics.

With eight highly successful athletes competing in a total of seven Olympic Games, our former pupils have travelled across the globe, participating in one of the most demanding and competitive sporting events in the world. With the first King's Olympian, Arnold Cooke, competing in Tokyo at the 1964 Games, a strong tradition has ensued leading to King's representation in the Seoul, Barcelona, Atlanta, Athens, Beijing and London Olympiads.

**Arnold Cooke (OKS 1959):** 1964 Tokyo Olympics – placed 7th (Rowing – double sculls)

**Stephen Peel (OKS 1985):** 1988 Seoul Olympics – placed 4th (Rowing – coxless fours)

**Jim Walker (OKS 1986):** 1992 Barcelona and 1996 Atlanta Olympics – places 6th and 8th respectively (Rowing – eights)

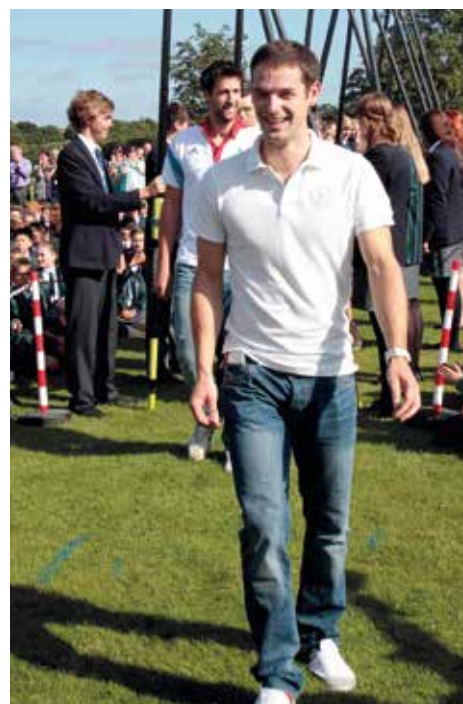
**Simon Cottle (OKS 1992):** 2004 Athens Olympics – placed 6th (Rowing – quadruple sculls)

**Tom James MBE (OKS 2002):** 2002 Athens, 2008 Beijing – Gold medallist and 2012 London Olympics – Gold medallist (Rowing – eights and coxless fours)

**Chris Bartley (OKS 2002):** 2012 London Olympics – Silver Medallist (Rowing – lightweight men's four)

**Olivia Whitlam (OKS):** 2008 Beijing and 2012 London Olympics – placed 6th and 5th respectively (Rowing – women's eights)

**James Fair (OKS 1999):** 2008 Beijing (reserve) and 2012 London Olympics – placed 4th (Hockey – goalkeeper)



King's will carry on this proud tradition in the 2016 Rio Olympic Games with Chris Bartley and his team having qualified for the Great Britain Olympic rowing team with their success at the World Championships in 2015. In a season where the GB selectors test different combinations of rowers in the build up to the games, Chris and his fellow GB member Mark Aldred, were the only rowers to race in all four international regattas. With four bronze, one silver and two gold World Championship medals, as well as a silver European and Olympic medal under his belt, Chris is one of the most experienced rowers in the lightweight four to compete at the 2016 Games.

The London 2012 games saw Chris and his team in one of the most nail-biting finals of the Games with the team narrowly missing out on gold by less than a second in a dramatic photo finish, a performance the team will undoubtedly want to build upon this year. However, Chris is currently knuckling down to all-important training in preparation for Rio 2016.

Readers can follow Chris' progress at the 2016 Olympic Games by watching the 'Row to Rio'.



## Dance group delight audience

In a spectacular Senior and Junior School collaboration, The King's School Dance Group presented a wonderful dance showcase. A total of 23 dance pieces and 45 performers took centre stage in what was a mammoth production, much to the delight of the enthusiastic audience. Pupils from Junior School J1 through to Fifth Year choreographed and performed their own pieces, proving talents not just in dance but in organisation and teamwork. The performances were supported by two talented King's musicians.

The show was called *Diva Dance*, containing modern classics such as Taylor Swift's *Shake it off*, *Sax* by Fleur East, and Destiny Child's *Survivor*. The pupils excelled in each of their dance disciplines demonstrating their numerous talents. All their hard work paid off, raising the already stellar standard of dance at King's by a further few notches.

All the performers shone but there were standout performances from Carmen Boyd (3CM) and Hannah Peters (3ND), who provided the audience a chance to see their Third Year Independent Learning

Projects. Several Fifth Year students also demonstrated one of their exam pieces from their GCSE Dance work resulting in a slick and well rehearsed piece.

The show finished in style with a brilliant finale, where all 45 dancers and musicians came together, leaving the audience asking for more.



## Patron of Reading looks back – and forward

As the first year with author Jon Mayhew as Patron of Reading draws to a close, King's reflects back on the successful partnership so far.

The Patron of Reading programme has been a great success, starting with Jon setting new Removes a Summer Reading Challenge. They responded to this brilliantly, reading a great variety of books and producing some incredible creative work in response to them. Jon also celebrated the art of the Christmas Ghost Story with a competition in December, and this inspired many pupils to read some classic and modern stories, as well as write their own.

Fourth Year classes were also treated to a visit from Jon, where he talked about his own ups and downs in terms of reading for pleasure, but also

discussed the importance of reading and how it can help throughout life. The groups enjoyed sharing some 'reading confessions', particularly letting off some steam about books they have hated!

King's is thrilled that Jon has agreed to remain in the role for one more year, which could extend his post across the Infant and Junior Schools. The Summer Reading Challenge, already being promoted to pupils, is due to start again in Removes in September and Jon looks forward to seeing their competition entries.





## Inspirational locations for English and History trip

**Students studying A level English and a group made up of Removes, Shells and Third Year pupils were given the opportunity to attend a creative writing and history trip in February. The residential trip was designed to be cross-curricular in nature and gave students the chance to work with students across different age groups.**

Full of eager anticipation, the group travelled on the Friday night to Haworth in the Yorkshire Dales, famous for its industrial and literary past in the form of the Brontës, and stayed in the Youth Hostel there. This Victorian Gothic mansion provided the perfect base for the various activities.

Whilst there, the students split into two groups, with the Sixth Formers looking at creative writing inspired by their location, as well as looking at topical language issues affecting language use in today's world. The younger pupils developed their knowledge of the English Civil War and wrote stories set in this time period.

On the Saturday, the younger pupils went off to visit the Media Museum in Bradford where they had the chance to fully explore the interactive exhibits on topics such as the history of TV and radio, as well as create their own short film. This was followed by a trip to the Leeds Armoury where they were treated to various workshops on sword fighting and a further in-depth look at the English Civil War. The Sixth Formers spent time at the Brontë Museum and took an interesting look at the lives of the Brontës and the context in which they were living.

On the Saturday night, the fun continued late into the evening with the Sixth Form helping with Civil War drama workshops. A memorable moment was a Remove role play combining King Charles hiding from parliamentary forces with the cry 'Run, Hide, Tell' making use of their recent anti-terrorism training!

The younger pupils finished the weekend with a Sunday morning walk through the village, and a final visit to the Brontë Museum. All returned tired but hopefully a little inspired and more knowledgeable on their own history and sense of place in the world.



## Fun farewell for leavers

**The Upper Sixth leavers enjoyed their final day at King's, reflecting on their time here and enjoying their last day of school together.**

They started the day with a hearty 'leavers breakfast' of fruit, pastries, full English breakfast and pancakes, whilst their tutors served them teas and coffees. The breakfast was followed by games on the sports field which saw tutor groups battling it out in a competitive yet

hilarious game of tug of war and various other games. The Sixth Formers then gathered for a final year group photo before an emotional, but uplifting, final assembly.





## Volcanic experiences for Geographers

Capturing the first breathtaking view of the omnipotent Mount Etna as the plane descended towards Catania Airport, set the scene for the 2016 King's School Geography Trip.

Not only was the Sicilian spring weather on side but Etna, not to be outdone, had begun a new eruptive cycle. Enough to impress but not in the league of Virgil's account, much to Mrs Aldridge's relief.

***"Ofpitch-black, whirling smoke and fiery dust. Shooting out globes of flame, with monster tongues that lick the stars."***

*Virgil, The Aeneid*

Journeying through the Sicilian plain, following lorries loaded with citrus fruit brought home, the importance of Etna's slopes and the fertility that she provides to the five million inhabitants of the island. Team Geog began the tour by visiting the breathtakingly beautiful Alcantara Gorge. Volcanic basalt has been rapidly cooled, carved and polished by the river over thousands of years, creating incredible pentagonal and hexagonal columns.

Day two dawned, bringing geographical excitement, sunscreen and hiking boots. Beginning their journey to the home of Vulcan and the Cyclopes aka Mount Etna, the highest active volcano in Europe, firstly via coach, then by cable car and finally by 4x4 monster trucks. The ascent to one of the main craters on Etna was an experience in itself. Students witnessed evidence of past eruptions, recent lava flows and the might of Etna herself. Team Geog traversed the crater of the volcano, admiring the spectacular views of Sicily and the Ionian Sea as well as the beauty of the volcanic basalt up close. Nothing could match the Etna experience but their visit to Taormina on the return journey proved that this town really is the St Tropez of Sicily. Mrs Gareth was thrilled to visit the famous Greek theatre in Taormina and the trip became a Classics trip – for half an hour anyway!

Team Geog donned their sea legs for day three as they caught a ferry across the Tyrrhenian Sea to the Aeolian Islands, home to Stromboli, Lipari and Vulcano. After exploring the back streets of Lipari the group headed to Vulcano, possibly one of the smelliest islands in the world. The stench of sulphur hit as soon as they stepped foot on the island. However, Mr Lunn, complete with ear plugs up his nose, was ably prepared. The highlight on Vulcano was a relaxing dip in the natural hot volcanic mud pools. The lingering scent of sulphur on each swimming costume will be a lasting memento of day three!

Day four saw Team Geog head north to the Straits of Messina and Tindari. The Straits of Messina is the closest point on Sicily to mainland Italy. After exploring the town of Messina, students spent the afternoon on the Tindari beach, lagoon and spit. As well as admiring the coastal geomorphology and impressive limestone cliffs, there was a considerable amount of pebble skimming and beach sports to let the bountiful lunch go down. One pupil took it upon themselves to scour the beach for any litter that could be picked up. What a geo legend!

As the trip came to a close, Team Geog was treated to an end of trip quiz, courtesy of Mr Lunn, and it enabled everyone to reflect on the highlights of what had been a fabulous experience. Firstly, they never tired of hearing Mr Grisedale's joke "Don't be so Sicily". Secondly, the landscape, the weather, the food, the culture and the Sicilian people themselves made the trip truly memorable. Finally, and most importantly, the pupils themselves made the trip a brilliant one. Sixty one pupils from four year groups came on the trip and by the end of the five days, firm friendships were forged and wonderful memories created. Team Geog, both pupils and staff, were a joy to be with: enthusiastic, good humoured and curious. Thank you to Team Geog and Roll on Sicily 2020!





## Skiers visit Vermont and Boston

**33 King's pupils departed for Killington in Vermont during the Easter holidays led by Mr Hornby, Mrs Jones and Mr Downey.**

After an epic 24 hour journey which saw the group fly into New York and travel out to Vermont, the group finally arrived at the picturesque Killington Grand Hotel. Worryingly on the journey they saw absolutely no snow! However, morning brought a sunny day and snow on the slopes and the pupils and staff looked forward to getting their snow legs back. The week's skiing was varied with some excellent weather mixed with a day of rain; fortunately this turned to snow overnight and the slopes were rejuvenated the next day.

The group skied for five days with five hours tuition per day and had a host of evening activities including the cinema, bowling (Mr Downey's favourite!), quizzes and use of the 80 foot outdoor heated swimming pool. The hotel was outstanding and just a few metres away from the slopes.

After five days skiing, the group travelled to Boston. They were able to visit the famous Quincy Market along with Boston's Aquarium (Mrs Jones' favourite) and the home of the Boston Red Sox, Fenway Park.

The King's pupils were wonderful ambassadors for King's and their conduct and excellent behaviour was commented on regularly by instructors and hotel staff.



## CCF Cadets enjoy the great outdoors

**During the Easter Holidays CCF cadets headed to Nesscliffe for a week of activities. Shell and Third Year pupils conducted their activities under the brilliant guidance of Second Lieutenant Andrew Dawson, Flying Officer Neil Grisedale and Mr Jason Day. The range of activities was vast, offering pupils a chance to learn about fire making, health and hygiene, basic military skills and arrow making.**

The arrow making was wildly popular as pupils received the chance to use a willow stick, a knife, cord and some plastic to make the best arrow. The challenge was to make an arrow that would fly the furthest and the battle that prevailed put even the best and most ingenious arrows to the test.

Mr Day also conducted two days of survival training that showed pupils how to survive in extreme conditions, culminating with a night under a poncho.

The Shell and Third Year pupils finished off with eating army rations for the evening meal and having a night under the stars.



The Fourth Year and above received training in the build up to the Easter camp to prepare them for the tactical exercise they were about to experience. Each student was allocated tasks and were tested with a demanding march en route to the Forward Operating Base, each carrying all of their kit. When they arrived at the base, students were tasked with the daily operations and management of running the base and maintain lookouts. The lookout post left students responsible for being on watch for unsanctioned activities outside of base, which although fun and exciting, was very tiring!

The group also had the opportunity to act out a large scale platoon attack which lasted over four hours. All students were well rehearsed and showed great teamwork in all their advances demonstrating exemplary intuition skills. All skills from camp extraction, night sentries and fighting patrols were put to the test in this fun but pressured exercise.

All students thoroughly enjoyed the activities on offer and loved spending time in the great outdoors in a challenging, yet fun experience.





## The Blazer makes the news

*The Blazer*, the Junior School magazine, has been shortlisted for best school newspaper in the Cheshire School Awards. The newspaper is written and produced by pupils from J1 to J4 with guidance from Mrs Benson. *The Blazer* covers all the fantastic Junior School news as well as topical issues facing society. Each pupil in *The Blazer* team is responsible for researching and writing their own news article.



Six young reporters from *The Blazer* team attended the awards lunch on Wednesday 29 June, when the winner was announced by TV presenter Dianne Oxberry.

Junior school teacher Mrs Benson said, "*The nomination is a well-deserved recognition of the pupils who have shown real commitment and interest in journalism and the world around them. The skills they learn in our newsroom will serve them well throughout their lives. I'm also looking forward to seeing one of the team present the BBC's 10 o'clock news in the future!*"

Readers of *The Blazer* have included Ant and Dec, CBBC presenters and national newspaper editors, spreading the Junior School news near and far.

After all the fantastic work and energy poured into this brilliant publication, it's no wonder it has gone on to be recognised among the best school publication in Cheshire.

## Ben stars in West End musical

Junior School pupil Ben Robinson (J4S) made his West End debut in *Billy Elliot the Musical* from last November until Easter. Ben starred in the iconic British musical as Michael, Billy's best friend.

Ben attended Stagecoach in Chester and has previously appeared in UK tours of *Evita*, *Jesus Christ Superstar* and *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, as well as performing with Theatre in the Quarter in a First World War commemorative piece which toured railway stations in 2014.

Ben joined two other boys to play the role of Billy's best friend Michael, together with four boys who share the role of Billy and three girls to alternate the role of Debbie. Ben joined the show in November and on performance days attended school along with the other children from the show in London. During his home breaks in Chester he continued to attend King's.

Ben has received great reviews from all who have seen him perform. People involved with the show like Elton John (wrote the music), Ruthie Henshall (West End Icon), Stephen Daldry (renowned Director) have used words like "brilliant", "incredible", "amazing" to describe his performances.

*Billy Elliot the Musical* has now been seen by almost 11 million people worldwide and has played on five continents. In total, 90 boys have now played the iconic role on stage across the globe.

Ben is now back at King's with plenty of stories of his experience for his teachers and friends. Ben said, "My experience in *Billy Elliot the Musical* was amazing. Being in 'Billy' really improved my singing, dancing and acting skills, and I learned lots of new things about how a show works behind the scenes. Living in the house with nine other children was like having a second family. We had fun making up our own videos and playing tag in the garden. My favourite part of 'Billy' was meeting new people. In the last week of the show I met Elton John, Stephen Daldry and Tom Holland (the new Spiderman in *Captain America – Civil War*). Playing Michael in 'Billy Elliot' was one of the best experiences of my life, and I really hope to return to the West End stage some day!"





# Wizard performance by Juniors

**At the end of the Lent term, J2 parents were treated to a spectacular performance of *The Wizard of Oz*, in a packed Vanbrugh Theatre. The production, adapted from the original play for J2 by Miss Jan Anderson, provided all 53 children with a speaking part.**

Imogen Aldridge (J2H), starred as Dorothy, dazzling in her ruby slippers. She delivered an accomplished and charming performance, while accompanied by her faithful sidekick, Toto, performed by Gwil Davis (J2H). Oliver Jones (J2R) impressed with wonderful comic timing in his role as the cowardly lion and Jago Gitz Fitton (J2H) was charming as the hapless scarecrow. Lukas Pold (J2A) was a very believable Tin Man, showing great strength of character, as he joined his friends on their journey to Oz, along the yellow brick road.

Daniel Rich (J2H) commanded the audience's attention as the great and mighty Wizard of Oz. Flora Plass (J2H) and Hannah Rowland (J2R) were mesmerising as the Wicked Witch of the West and her trusty apprentice, Winnie. Olivia Marsh (J2A) as the gentle Aunt Em, rose to the challenge when confronted by the curmudgeonly Miss Gulch, portrayed convincingly by Emily Hunt (J2H).

The Musical Director, Mrs Natalie Stevens, led the marvelous singing and the children delighted the audience with their enthusiastic dancing to the memorable songs.



Miss Kirsty Savage created the stunning backdrop, along with the magician's caravan, home to the charismatic Professor Marvel, played to perfection by Musa Raza (J2A).

Backstage help was provided by a group of very efficient J4H pupils: Olivia Whorral-Campbell (J4H), Nithikka Kumar (J4H), Vibha Shetty (J4H) and Ted Toovey (J4H).



## Third victory for triathletes

**A brilliant historic fixture versus Birkenhead and Bolton Prep schools took place in May in the form of a tri-athletics tournament at Birkenhead School.**

King's scored a brilliant 160 points across J3 and J4 age groups retaining the coveted new Hughes/Black trophy for a third consecutive year.

Twenty-one exceptional pupils represented King's for what was a well-fought contest. From 14 track events, King's claimed the

winning title in an astonishing eight races. Winners of the track events were: James Rudd (J3S), Will Jones (J3S), Joe Drewett (J3B), Ollie Smith (J3O), Fin Thomson (J3B),

Jake Roberts (J4H), U11 Relay A team and Under 11 Relay B team. Field performances were also fantastic with some great efforts in the high and long jump.





## Mega success for chess players

**Harry Rafferty (J1D) and Rutujay Chawda (J4H) competed in the Schools' Chess Championships Chester and North Wales Megafinal in May.**

Rutujay played magnificently throughout the competition making his way to the intense Under 11 final and sweeping up the coveted second place title.



In the Under 8 section seasoned player, Harry Rafferty, dominated the tables against some of the best players in Cheshire and North Wales. In a long and challenging competition, Harry played each game, going from strength to strength, claiming the much anticipated first place 'Supremo'.

Both Harry and Rutujay have now qualified for the Gigafinals against all schools in the North of England, Scotland and Northern Ireland. With 42 Megafinals taking place including approximately 6,500 children from throughout the UK, the Gigafinals will have a strong pool of qualifiers, promising a challenging but enjoyable final in July.



## Skiers race around the slopes

**Junior School pupils competed in the Under 11 North West Ski Federation Schools' individual and team slalom competition in Lancashire in March.**

Racing for their first time, Gabriella Holt (J1L), Casper Rathbone (J1D) and Francis Unett (J2A), joined last year's Under 8 North West Champion, Amber Millard-Smith (J1L), to make up the King's Ski team.

In the age category of children up to 11 years old, the young King's team were aged between 7 and 9 years. During what was some exhilarating races the pupils navigated the turns and challenges perfectly resulting in some excellent individual and team results.

In the Under 11 girls' competition, Amber Millard-Smith came in 10th place with a time of 19.57 seconds from 25 competitors (fastest 8 year old girl) and Gabriella Holt came 22nd with a time of 24.29 seconds (3rd fastest 7 year old girl). Francis Unett came in

18th place from 30 competitors in the Under 11 boys' competition and Casper Rathbone was placed 23rd.

The King's team finished in the top 25, a very worthy result particularly as they were new to dry ski slope competitions.

Representing King's, Amber Millard-Smith also performed incredibly well at The British Ski Academy International Schools' competition held at Les Houches, Chamonix, France, competing against pupils from all across Europe. This provided a particularly tough challenge for Amber as many schools which entered the competition are based in and around the Alps and often have PE lessons which involve skiing on real snow several times a week!



In a flurry of powdered snow, Amber navigated all the twists and turns of the two Giant and two Regular Slalom courses. Finishing in a highly commendable 17th place for the Under 10 Giant Slalom out of 30. Amber remained motivated and her determination spurred her on in the Regular Slalom race which raised her finishing position to 13th place overall with a time of 43.66 seconds. Amber was the third fastest girl from the UK in the Under 10 category.





## Supporting Race for Life and Sport Relief

**This term pupils were excited to be raising money for Race for Life and Sport Relief 2016! As some of the UK's biggest fundraising events, Sport Relief and Race for Life bring the entire nation together to get active, raise money and change lives.**

Junior and Willow Lodge pupils donned trainers to walk a mile in aid of others. Over 350 pupils and teachers flooded the Junior School playing field wearing a touch of red or pink to show their support. All the Infant and Junior pupils enjoyed running or walking the mile in a fun event whilst sparing a thought for those less fortunate than themselves.

Further activities spilled into the classrooms as pupils learnt about the very real issues facing people across the globe, as highlighted by these charities. This allowed pupils to understand more about the organisations and their fundraising efforts.



## Quick learners at Quicksticks

**The Junior U11 Quicksticks mixed gender hockey team were crowned County Champions at Alderley Edge Hockey Club.**

The Chester Champions, captained by Jacob Popplewell (J4M), were new this year to the concept of Quicksticks hockey and played brilliantly. The pupils played against the best and more



experienced teams in the Cheshire County, many of which proved to be challenging opponents. However, King's played with real energy and determination, ultimately resulting in the team being crowned champions.

Congratulations also goes to Jacob Popplewell who was voted 'Player of the Tournament' following an impressive set of performances throughout the morning. Jacob was joined by his fantastic teammates, Isabelle Whittlestone (J4H), Barnaby Wallis (J3O), Lydia Bills (J4S), Alex Matijasevich (J4H) and Jessica Sedman (J4S).



King's looks forward to retaining the county championship title next year!

## Magnificent performance at Speech and Drama Festival

**A magnificent performance at Chester's Speech and Drama Festival resulted in an array of medals for the Juniors.**

Thirteen children won coveted first prizes and more than 30 secured an impressive place in the top three, amongst tough competition. Schools from across Cheshire and beyond took part in the annual event.

Securing the prestigious Avalon Cup for King's for the seventh consecutive time, were: Olivia Whorral Campbell (J4H), Willow Waggott (J4H), Will Bociek (J4M) and Christian Pain (J4M), who performed a scene from *Private Peaceful*. Joint third place was taken by a scene from *A Midsummer's Dream* brought to life by Limonée Fearn (J3S), Liv Davis (J3S), Oliver Kendall (J3B), Maisie O'Leary (J3S), Emma Pinnington (J3B) and Lloyd Bennett (J3O).

Tom Rofe (J4S) took first place in the J3 and J4 reading at sight class.

Individual winners from J3 were Olivia Lowe (J3B), who read from Shakespeare's *The Tempest* to win the verse speaking (own choice), Jamie McMurtrie (J3S) who won the Rees Trophy for a spiritual reading, Luke Williams (J3O) won The Merton House Cup with an extract from the *Roman mysteries* series of books by Caroline Lawrence and Charlie Marshall (J3O) claimed the Hamilton Trophy with his rendition of *Something Told the Wild Geese* by Rachel Lyman Field.

Winners from J1 were: Lauren Scoltock (J1L) who won the Ainsworth Trophy for verse speaking, William Greehalgh (J1D) for his own choice poem, Hector Walsh (J1L) for his reading from *The Bible* and Eleanor Williams (J1D) took first prize in the reading at sight.

Mr Malone said, "I am incredibly proud of all our pupils who performed with such enthusiasm and delighted that their hard work resulted in some amazing results."



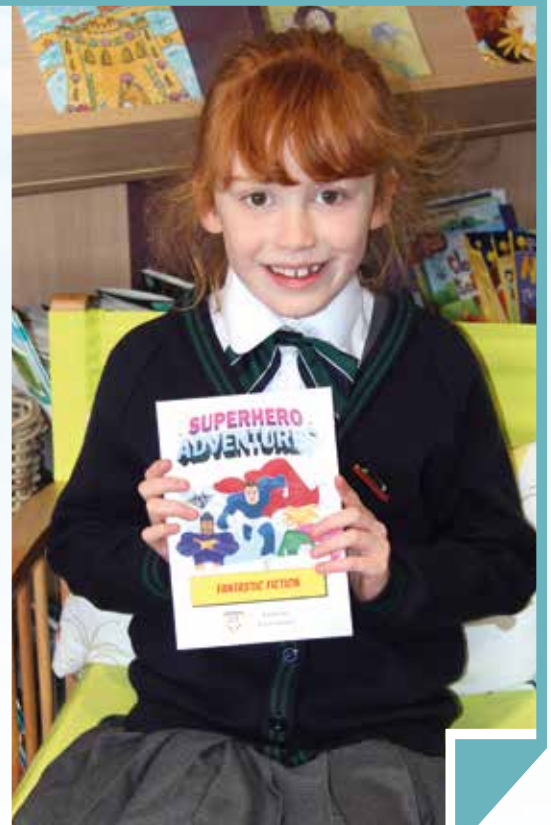


## Martha beats 5,000 to become the UK's best young writer

Six year old Martha Harrison has beaten a staggering 5,000 children from across the UK to be crowned best writer in the Young Writers' Superhero Adventure-Fantastic Fiction anthology competition. The Editorial team at Young Writers singled out Martha's exceptional story which stood out from the collection for its creativity and brilliant use of language. Martha's story, *Time Team*, follows the adventures of Jim Peters, Emily Roger and Steve Parker who become Year, Date and Time to help save the world.

The competition invites entries from across the UK giving pupils the chance to showcase their fantastic creative skills and superb use of descriptive words. The very best stories are then published in a book available across the country. This year it featured 18 stories written by pupils from Willow Lodge and in pride of place Martha Harrison's story *Time Team*.

This outstanding achievement builds on the excellent results being achieved throughout the new King's Infant School, starting with exceptional baseline scores for Reception children and children in Infant 1 and Infant 2 working well above national average in literacy and mathematics.



## Wrens nest and hatch chicken eggs!

The Infants have been waiting in eager anticipation for Willow Lodge's newest May arrivals. Having learnt about spring, life cycles and different types of birds, the Wrens Reception class welcomed a new installation in the corner of their classroom.

The incubator nested 20 chicken eggs which were looked after and studied by both the Robins and Wrens Reception classes. Everyone excitedly gathered around to watch the newest members of the Willow Lodge family hatch. Once the chicks gained strength the children each took it in turns to hold them, filling the classroom with cheery chirps and happy chatter!





## Young leaders take up new roles

**Willow Lodge Infant 2 pupils are developing their responsibility skills by taking on leadership roles. Pupils have been selected for the roles based on their good behaviour and ability to interact well with their peers.**

Monitors assist the teachers by helping to tidy up at the end of each playtime and by keeping the hallways neat. Buddies make sure no-one is left out in the playground. They also help other pupils join in games.

Librarians help keep the library tidy by putting books away. They also listen to younger pupils read.

All the pupils have taken on their new roles with pride, acting as role models to the younger classes. Learning these vital responsibility skills, which develop beyond the classroom, helps the pupils transition into Junior School.



### MONITORS

Daniel Torchiano Masagué, Arabella Kendall, Kai Kennedy, Maaz Afridi, Alexander McArdle, Scarlett Tweedie, Blake Curwen and Randal Hooper.

### BUDDIES

Max Roe, Izzy Roberts, Lydia Townshend, Nihaal Sreekanth, Alessandra Foglio, James Pritchard and Ben Rofe.

### LIBRARIANS

Martha Harrison, Siena Poole, James Christie, Gus Bramhall, Rachel Joseph and Abhishek Aravind.



## 'Checking out' the food chain

**Kingfishers attended a 'Farm to Fork' visit at Tesco Broughton in May. The children learnt about where their food comes from and toured behind the scenes, seeing how supermarkets work.**

They ventured behind the bread counter to try their hand at creating fresh dough, learning about the ingredients that are used. They then met the Fishmonger and saw different types of seafood and they even got to hold a slimy shiny fish. The Kingfishers then heard about the fabulous fresh produce on offer and the wide variety of vegetables and fruits. To conclude the day the pupils spent some time working at the tills.

The day offered a great experience for all the Kingfisher children who can now make informed decisions about what they put on their plate and where it comes from.



## Robins and Wrens meet elephants and tigers

**Reception classes, Robins and Wrens, spent a day in the sunshine at the zoo, learning all about the people who help us.**

The children met all kinds of animals from elephants and tigers to monkeys and sun bears. All the animals were making the most of the sunshine, giving the pupils an excellent chance to learn about the creatures up close. Excited pupils also got the opportunity to speak with staff at the zoo and learn about what it's like to care for the animals.

A brilliant and fun day was had by all, as infants got to understand the work that goes behind looking after the huge range of animals!



## Marta turns the lens on her life after King's

**Young creative luminary, Marta Bobic (OKS 2002) is a busy woman, dashing between meetings, shooting a "very cool, and therefore very complicated" campaign for a major airline whilst also juggling several other projects and all of this is before mention of her forthcoming nuptials! King's caught up with the Executive Producer at CANADA London – to find out what has changed since finalising her exam pieces in King's art studios.**

**Hi Marta. Great to speak with you. So tell us about CANADA London.**

We're a production company specialising in television commercials, film and music videos, representing 14 directors internationally, with offices in Barcelona and London. Essentially, we work with advertising agencies and record labels to create film content for their brands and artists (such as Cadbury's, Volkswagen, IKEA, and Tame Impala, Battles, Phoenix), but the nature of what we make is incredibly broad. Live action film, 2D and 3D animation, interactive content... every brief is different!

**What's the best thing about your work?**

Getting to see talented creatives come together to make great work. It's really encouraging to be surrounded by people who are incredibly passionate about what they do, but who don't take it TOO seriously. We have to remind ourselves sometimes that even though there's a lot of pressure to create something great and deliver it on time, it's only an ad at the end of the day...! My family (who are all Doctors!) always do a good job in times of stress of reminding me that no lives are at stake!

**Since leaving King's you have continued to grow creatively. What have you learnt on your journey?**

That you have to temper your expectations and that where you want to be is going to evolve as you grapple with different experiences along the way. I was always drawn to film but I didn't ever expect I would work in an advertising agency, or a production company, until those opportunities came up and felt right to explore. It's all an adventure and it's hard to appreciate where you are until you stop and look at where you've been. A lot of young people I meet in my current role

are quite impatient, but really it's important to remember that everything you do counts and should be treated with the same dedication and curiosity.

**How did King's prepare you for the work you do now?**

I studied Art and Sciences at King's - this blend of creativity, scientific thinking and analytical spirit has really helped me achieve balance in my career. At King's, I really appreciated that I was given the space to make mistakes and learn from them! The teachers were all supportive and I feel very lucky to have been taught by them – it wasn't just about achieving the best grades, but how to work hard and be a good person! People don't realise how important this is when shaping young people.

**What do you remember most about your time at King's?**

It's a place that took achievement seriously, but also understood the value of making the experience enjoyable and having a sense of humour about things. It was a very supportive environment despite being demanding. I fondly remember being one of a small number of girls in a school of hundreds of boys, and the humour that went along with that. It's lovely to see that King's is so thoroughly co-ed today.

**What advice would you give King's students, particularly those pursuing a creative route?**

Trust and be honest with yourself! Don't let anyone else tell you what you should do, but do listen to people that know you better than yourself. I would also say do as much as you can and get as much experience as you can, even if it doesn't seem completely relevant – it all adds up. One last thing is don't be afraid to get in touch with people out there who might be able to help. Everyone loves to share knowledge and it's always good to meet as many people as you can.



## Following in the footsteps of C.S. Lewis

**Prestigious and influential, the Oxford Chancellor's essay prize for English literature is a highly acclaimed prize amongst academics, with previous recipients including the likes of C.S Lewis and submissions from authors such as Oscar Wilde.**

This annual competition is for Oxford undergraduates and this year the topic for the essay was *roots*. We were delighted and extremely proud to learn that this year's winner is alumnus, Christopher Robson (OKS 2013) for his entry *A discussion of 'longing' in modern fantasy*.

Well done Chris for a fabulous achievement, King's will be watching your progress with great interest.



## 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 Archive Walk
- Further opportunities to experience The King's Archive Walk
- Tours of the School
- 475<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Founder's Dinner

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





# Alumni all aboard HMS Belfast

Despite the blustery weather King's former pupils came out in force to attend the sell-out alumni networking event aboard HMS Belfast in April.



The evening was a most enjoyable occasion. Attendees shared wine, canapés and an iconic location in the heart of the City of London with magnificent views over the

Tower of London, the Thames, Tower Bridge and the Shard.

The warm and convivial atmosphere was palpable as former pupils, many attending an alumni event for the first time, enjoyed reconnecting with old friends, making new acquaintances and speaking with staff.

Networking aside, current parent Rear Admiral Jeremy Larken DSO, made a splash with an utterly thrilling keynote address – focusing on his experiences commanding HMS Fearless during the Falklands conflict. If you would like

to read more about the Falklands Campaign, David Wilkes, former CAOKS President, recommends *Razor's-Edge – The Unofficial history of The Falkland's War* by Hugh Bicheno.

**"A brilliantly entertaining and surprisingly thought-provoking keynote. Jeremy tells stories with humility and with such a devilish wry humour. His naval tales had us all on the edge of our seats and his approach to challenges in the field, looking after and motivating his crew, resonated with everyone – very relevant for an event organised to celebrate and strengthen our alumni community."**

Anthony Hopkinson, Director of Development



## Sports stars shine bright

**Harry Brightmore (OKS 2013)** shows phenomenal talent as a cox for Team GB competing internationally. He has represented Great Britain at two U23 World Championships in the Men's quads and Men's eights, and is reigning European University champion in the Men's eights. Harry may be setting his sights on the 2020 Games to be held in Tokyo and staff and pupils throw their full support behind this talented King's alumnus.



**Tom Williams (OKS 2012)** has been selected to represent GB this summer in the Eurosaf Match Racing Championships in Lake Ledro as he continues to sail at the top elite level. He is currently Youth Match Racing National Champion. We look forward to seeing how he gets on later this summer.



If you are performing at a top level in your sport, or indeed have an amateur achievement to share, we would love to hear from you.

## Remembering our Alumni...

**Keith Lysons**, former member of staff (History) has died aged 95. He is remembered with affection by many whom he taught. He had a keen sense of humour and was quick to spot the ridiculous in any situation. Many former pupils will also remember his brass group with individual tuition and group playing all done by kindness. The group often played during cathedral services. Keith enjoyed a long and productive retirement and taught recorder in primary school for some time.

- **Harry Dodd (OKS 1935)**
- **James Fenna (OKS 1938)**
- **Alan Williams (OKS 1944)**
- **George Morton Hodgson (OKS 1958)**
- **John Cummins (OKS 1974)**
- **Mr Ian Mellor (Former King's Modern Languages teacher)**



## Boys excel at Hockey National Plate Competition

In April, the U18 hockey squad finished third out of the 85 top English hockey schools in the National Plate Competition.

Going into the competition, the King's boys had a very successful season with the only loss in the 19 game strong season being the cup loss to eventual National Champions, Repton, leaving King's to qualify for the plate.

The National Plate competition saw King's battling hard against some of the best teams in the country beating Merchant Taylors', Crosby,

Ampleforth, Adams' Grammar School and Rugby School. As a result the team qualified for the semi-finals at the Olympic Park in London. A very tense game saw King's lose against Merchant Taylors' School, Northwood, with a commendable 3-2 score line. However King's

displayed great determination and team spirit, overcoming their semi-final loss by beating Portsmouth Grammar School 7-5 and claiming the bronze medal!



## Phenomenal sporting success for girls

**This term, phenomenal sporting success is being celebrated by girls right across the Junior and Senior Schools. Pupils representing King's in individual and team sports have put considerable effort into developing their skills and continually improving and learning from their performances.**

Successes resulting in medals or silverware have been a familiar presence this term for the King's girls. From netball, rounders and swimming to hockey, horse riding and skiing, the variety of sports which the King's girls compete and excel in is vast.

All the fantastic King's girls who have been part of a winning team or experienced individual sporting success gathered for a photo to mark their hard work over the course of this year.



# King's emerging sports stars

Whilst Chris Bartley heads to represent King's in the GB rowing squad for the Rio Olympics, here at home we have lots of pupils who are representing their country or bubbling below national selection.

Will Bach	Rowing	GB Trials
Will Bell	Hockey	Wales U18
Jacob Bell	Basketball	Wales
Aled Bennet	Hockey	Wales
Siobhan Benson	Athletics	Nationally Ranked
Llewellyn Bevan	Tennis	International
Archie Blacklock	Tennis	Nationally Ranked
Josh Dawson	Sailing	U21 Team GBR. Ranked 3rd U19. U21 Team GBR Europeans 2016.
Tom Dawson	Sailing	GBR team at international events (three times) – recently placed 4th overall and 1st GBR in recent International regatta in Netherlands (Optisprings) 240 competitors from 12 countries (inc Europe, USA and Australia).
William Dodd-Moore	Hockey	U18 Academy
Simon Ellershaw	Rowing	GB Trials
Jack Goodrich	Football	Everton Academy
Natasha Groome	Rowing	Wales Trials
Rebakah Hagan	Rowing	Wales
Harry Higginbottom	Rowing	Rowed for GB winning two silver medals at the Coupe de la Jeunesse in Hungary.
Tom Hill	Rugby	Regional
Izzie Howell	Hockey	U16/18 Welsh International
Calum Huxley	Football	Academy Football level and Wales U15 squad
Daniel Lokko	Football	Everton Football Academy
Ben Samarji	Rowing	Wales Trials
Sophie Sinclair-Reeks	Ice hockey	GB U18
Ben Stratton	Rowing	Wales
Sam Wild	Swimming	Wales
Sophie Williams	Horse riding	FEI (the highest level for 13 to 16 year olds) – recently represented Great Britain at International level at home and abroad.
Oliver Williams	Equestrian	GB International
Matthew Williams	Hockey	Wales
Matthew Willis	Athletics	Home International Cross Country Champion, English Schools' Cross Country Champion, British Triathlon and Duathlon Champion, member of the England Talent Triathlon Squad, Qualified for Youth European Triathlon Relays in Banyoles.



## Footballers grow as a team



**The story of this year's 1st XI is not one which is conveyed simply by looking at statistics and the amount of silverware which the team won. It is a story which starts at the beginning of the season with a group of players which grew in ability and character.**

The season was young when the team picked up their first silverware, running out winners in the Chester and District 7 a side tournament. Winning the tournament followed by a 3-2 win against Repton before the end of September were significant achievements for the team.

A series of strong and high scoring performances characterised the Michaelmas Term and King's went unbeaten until the beginning of December. The team did extremely well to get to the quarter final of the ISFA Cup, a prestigious national competition, where they faced Royal Russell School in Croydon. A competitively fought match saw the team lose 3-1.

As disappointing as that result was, the team continued their good run in the Lent Term. King's suffered a 1-0 loss to Sandbach, but redeemed themselves later in the term when they defeated them 2-0 in the Cheshire County Cup semi-final. Other stand out fixtures saw the team score two goals in the final two minutes of the game against Bolton to draw 4-4 and a thrilling cup tie against Mosslands in the Merseyside Shield which saw King's win 5-3 after extra time.

King's progressed to the semi-final of the Barry Burns Northern Eights in March, but inevitably a stand out result must be their 4-0 victory in the Chester and District Cup final against Bishop Heber.

Yet, with the Lent term drawing to a close, King's had three games to play: a quarter final in the Merseyside Shield, the County Cup final and the ISFA Northern Division final. Unfortunately, the Easter break saw the team lose momentum. King's lost 2-0 to West Derby in the Merseyside Shield. The County final saw King's dominate a game against a good and strong Wilmslow side, but with the same tied at 0-0 King's were forced into extra time and ultimately lost 3-1.

In the final game of the season which was once more against Repton in the ISFA Northern Division final, King's conceded a penalty in the first few moments of the game. The remainder of the match was closely contested and each side fought hard for possession of the ball, however King's lost the match 1-0.

The team had a successful season collecting two pieces of silverware, however, the real success of the season is the nature of the journey which the players took as a team. Every one of the players appeared to grow personally as characters and cohered to contribute to a marvellous team spirit.



## Rowers head into regatta season on a high

**The Rowing Club has had a particularly busy time starting with the main head races for the year marking the shift in the season from the longer head races of the winter to the shorter regattas in the summer.**

In March, the girls' 1st VIII entered the prestigious Women's Head of the River for the second consecutive year. They raced well alongside more than 300 of the strongest women's eights in the country, including Olympians, top university and club rowers, finishing in a very creditable 76th place overall.

Next to the Schools' Head of the River. This extremely challenging race of 6.8km is rowed in the opposite direction to the Oxford vs Cambridge Boat Race and always provides a true test for athletes of all ages.

The boys' 1st VIII and 2nd VIII finished 10th and 8th respectively and, while not necessarily the results the King's boys had been hoping for, the results acted as perfect motivation for forthcoming summer competitions.

The girls' 1st VIII performed well, given the extremely strong nature of the crews they faced and their relative inexperience with four J16s on board. Finishing 9th in girls' Championship eights, the King's girls learned many lessons for the future and the high standard of their subsequent training at the Belgium Easter Camp, and on the Dee, reflected this progress.

The boys' J16 1st VIII placed 5th and their 2nd VIII came 9th. The J15 1st VIII placed 6th and the J15 2nd VIII raced to a well



deserved 2nd place, with the VIII finishing 2nd, returning very positive results for the crews and showing potential for great success in the future.

Credit should also be given to the mixed quadruple scull, which claimed an impressive 4th place in a first ever entry from King's into this category, reflecting the co-educational nature of the School.

The following day belonged to the junior section of the Rowing Club. 56 J14 and J15 athletes attended the National Sculling Head at Dorney Lake, home to the 2012 Olympic Regatta. The J14 boys' 'A' crew had the best result of the day, finishing 1st in their division in a field of 60 crews. The boys' 'B' and 'C' octuples also raced well finishing 9th and 2nd respectively in their events. King's was one of only eight

schools able to boat three boys' octuples, showing a strength in depth which will bode well for the future of the Club.

The J14 girls raced one octuple and two quads, with the octuple placing 11th out of 25 crews, while the quads placed 28th and 38th respectively. The J15 girls entered two quads into the race with the 'A' boat placing 33rd and the 'B' boat placing 47th.

Next came the Easter training camps with seniors spending a week in Belgium and the J14s decamping to Peterborough for a valuable few days of mileage, crew building and technical work. Both camps were an enormous success with a great deal of hard work and enthusiasm shown from all of the 113 athletes.





## Promising future lies ahead for rowing teams

**Immediately following the Easter camps, two King's eights were selected to represent the North West region at the Junior Inter-Regional Regatta. First up was the J15 girls racing an age group up in the women's J16 eights. After only two outings in the crew, they raced hard to land a place in the 'B' final. Then it was time for the J16 boys to race in the J16 eight event. They rowed an excellent race to land bronze medals in the 'A' final.**

In the final lead up to the National Schools' Regatta in May, the Club attended Nottingham City Regatta where all crews gained significant multi-lane racing experience. At the Shrewsbury Regatta 63 athletes, ranging from J14 quadruple sculls to Senior double sculls, raced well culminating with the senior girls' double scull winning an intense final against Bewdley RC and the boys' J14 quadruple sculls getting through to finals in both the main and plate events.

The National Schools' Regatta represents one of the major highlights of the rowing year and this year was no different, with a record of 111 athletes representing King's over the three days of competition. J14 events took place first and King's showed great hope for the future with five octuples racing. Both the boys' 'A' and girls' 'B' octuples

raced strongly to reach the 'A' finals while the boys' 'B' octuple won their 'B' final. The remaining crews should be very proud of their efforts and look forward to bright futures in the sport.

Saturday's racing involved six eights and a Championship quadruple scull. Both J15 boys' crews made the 'A' finals with each finishing in a very respectable 5th place. The J15 girls found the going tough, but will no doubt have benefitted from the experience gained. The boys' 2nd boat managed a creditable 7th place in the 'A' final, while the boys' 1st VIII, raced hard to reach 3rd in the 'B' final. The girls' 1st VIII comprising five J16s, two Lower Sixth and only one Upper Sixth student, again raced to their potential, sadly missing out on a place in the 'A' final but showed much promise for the coming seasons.

Sunday meant small boats day and King's crews were entered into Championship events across a range of boat classes. In what were very testing conditions, 'B' final wins were registered by the boys' Championship coxless four, girls' J16 coxed four, boys' J16 coxless four and boys' 1st coxed four crews.

With the standard of their rowing improving year on year, all of the King's crews left Dorney Lake proud of their efforts, as well as fully motivated to take the next step towards making King's the best co-educational school rowing programme in the UK.

Thanks goes to the dedicated team of talented coaches and boatmen, as well as to all of the parents who continually give up their time to help the Club's teams prosper.



## Rounders team maintain winning run

**King's has continued its tradition of winning the Chester and District Rounders Tournament for the fourth consecutive time, in May. The competition kicked off with a match against Bishop Heber, some excellent fielding meant that King's stumped out members of the opposition. However when King's came to bat the team had little luck connecting with the ball and getting vital points, losing 3.5-2.**

The second and third game saw King's pick up momentum, with Isabel Thomas and Smruthya Ganeshram (captain) sending the ball flying. The team beat Abbey Gate College and Upton in quick succession qualifying for the semi-final against Queen's. Due to some inaccurate bowling on Queen's part, King's was awarded a half rounder for each 'no ball', thus gaining a full 5 rounders overall, in addition to one excellent full rounder, leaving the score at 6-4.5 and handing King's a place in the final.

The final saw King's battle it out against Bishop Heber once again. The match was closely contested with each team demonstrating some excellent fielding and batting. In the end only half a rounder separated the winners, with King's celebrating a 4.5-4 score line.

The brilliant team consisted of Captain Smruthya Ganeshram (4AC), Isabel Thomas, Rachael Goodwin (4SA), Erin Morgan (4VL), Grace Rajapandian (4VL), Mehtaab Shergil (4SA), Molly Webber (4SA), Catherine Savidge (4AC), Eliza Edwards (4VL), Laura Scott (4RH), Issy Alvarez (4FV) and Olivia Hughes (4RH).





## Athletes run up impressive points total

In May, King's entered four teams in the English Schools' Athletics Competition held at Victoria Park Athletics Track, Warrington.

In the Intermediate boys' and girls' competitions the best individual performances of the day went to Ellie Saunders (3AR) throwing 7.83m in the shot and gaining 17 points; Tomas James (4AC) running the 300m in 41.8 seconds and getting 19 points, taking his total to 28 for the day and Sam Flory (4RH) running 100m in 12.5 seconds scoring an impressive 31 points in total for the boys. The girls finished 9th overall and the boys 7th.

In the Junior boys' and girls' competitions the team results were impressive, with the King's girls winning the competition and securing a place in the North West Final. The boys came third with Thomas Hughes (ShAL) scoring 22 points in the 200m, running it in 26.2 seconds and a huge

38 points for his day's results. Eden Hambledon-Davies (RmCR) scored 23 overall in the high jump and 1500m; Joseph Harnett (ShRL) scored 23 overall in the 100m and long jump and Henry Bell (ShRA) 25 points overall in the shot and 800m.

So the Removes and Shells Girls progressed through to the North West Final and are crowned North West Runners-Up after having a phenomenal day of competitive athletics at Robin Park, Wigan. They competed against 11 other North West Schools including Queen's, Altrincham Grammar, Kirkham Grammar, Canon Slade of Manchester, Trinity School, Merchant Taylor's, St Julie's Catholic High School, Sandbach High School and West Kirby Grammar.

The most notable performances of the day came for Olivia Barnes (ShAL) running the 100m in 13.6s securing 23 points. Olivia was also part of the relay team that scored 18 points after running 58.9s. Lucy Osborne (ShHB) was the top scoring athlete of the day for King's as she ran the 800m in 2m44.2s, a personal best, gaining 20 points. She threw the javelin 21.33m gaining 21 points. There were equally impressive results for Lizzie Hunt (ShRL) scoring 18 points in the 200m (29.6s) and 18 points in the High Jump (1.32m).



Tilly Irvine (ShAL) scored 21 points in the 200m (28.9s) and 13 points in the shot (6.45m). Heather Black (ShRL) ran 800m in a personal best of 2m39.6s gaining 21 points and throwing the discus 13.64m. Freya Ainsworth (ShJJ) got 20 points after running the 1500m in 5m33.8s and throwing the shot 6.37m (13 points).

Despite taking part in individual events, each individual's points were collated to give a total overall team score for King's. The supportive atmosphere and the sense of being part of a team was overwhelming, spurring each individual to give it their all.



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