

The Herald

2017
Summer

EVERY OPPORTUNITY. ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES.

Farewell to Headmaster, Chris Ramsey

FULL STORY ON PAGE 4



Fundraising
at Fairtrade
Festivals

9



Seniors have
the winning
formula

10



High-flying
success for
Peter Pan

13



Willow Lodge
fun-filled
sports day

16



Welcome



THE KING'S SCHOOL
CHESTER

EVERY OPPORTUNITY
ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES

Reflecting on the success of the School year

The end of the summer term always brings reflections on the successes of the School year, and for me also, the highlights of the last decade. It is fantastic to be writing at a time when we are planning a new Sports Centre and indeed a decade of investment in the site, but much more important is the extraordinary breadth of the students' achievements. The hockey players have had an outstanding year, the rowers similarly, and musically and dramatically it has once again been a full and vibrant



KING'S
LIFE

Inside stories

- 04 **End of an era, as Headmaster Chris Ramsey departs.** After 10 years at King's, the Headmaster leaves at the end of this term.
- 05 **New Houses are named.** Creating a new legacy with the introduction of eight new Houses.
- 06 **Coming soon... our state-of-the-art Sports Centre.** Bringing the very best facilities to King's.
- 22 **Sports round-up.** Some of the exciting sports events that have taken place this term.



KING'S
SIXTH FORM

Becoming exceptional

- 08 **Fond farewells to the 2017 leavers.** Our Upper Sixth Formers head off on study leave.
- 08 **Exploring Manchester's social and political history.** A Level historians learn about the suffragette movement.
- 09 **Maths team rise to the challenge.** Our finest mathematicians compete in the Senior Maths Challenge.
- 09 **Fun and fundraising at Fairtrade Festivals.** A series of music events raises money for Water Aid.



KING'S
SENIORS

Seizing opportunity

- 10 **Hopes ride high for Alton Towers Success.** Students compete against 240 schools for new attraction.
- 10 **Chemists have the winning formula.** Students take part in CSI style forensic challenge.
- 11 **Making the news on the BBC.** Shells produce live news report for the BBC website.
- 11 **In the footsteps of Darwen.** New Natural History Club is a huge success.

term. The summer term is partly about looking forward too, and our Upper Sixth have been working towards another terrific set of university offers, our J4s building individual strengths at Plas Menai, and our Infant 2s getting ready for J1.

I hope you will enjoy reading about these many achievements, and I'm sure you will agree that they do indeed show the endless opportunities on offer here at King's.

Chris Ramsey

CHRIS RAMSEY
Headmaster



 KING'S JUNIORS
Igniting curiosity

- 12 **An exciting week of challenges and adventures in Plas Menai.** Pupils had fun celebrating their last few weeks in juniors.
- 12 **Animation brings geography to life.** Using 'Stop Motion' to develop independent learning skills.
- 13 **High-flying success for *Peter Pan*.** Bringing Neverland to life in the Vanbrugh Theatre.
- 14 **Spirit and sportsmanship shown at Junior Sports Days.** Read all about our pupils' impressive performances.



 Willow Lodge
Discovering the world

- 16 **Fun-filled sports day.** So much sporting talent in our youngest athletes.
- 16 **Willow Lodge Willow Weavers.** Pupils worked hard to create a 'peekaboo' fence.
- 16 **Teamwork solves problems.** Juniors and infants come together for a puzzle workshop.
- 17 **The recipe for a perfect lunchtime.** Pupils enjoy the best meal of the day.



 KING'S ALUMNI
Some ties last a lifetime

- 20 **Students from several decades attend alumni reunions.** Nostalgic chatting and reminiscing was the order of the day.
- 20 **The best visual effects Oscar goes to...** OKS 1994 wins an Oscar at the 85th Academy Awards.
- 21 **Britain's youngest ever Ambassador, John Everard.** Students gain knowledge of North Korea and John is awarded a Leading Light award.
- 21 **Match that: 108 score rings a bell.** Cricketer matches score from the same game 32 years ago.

The end of an era, as Headmaster Chris Ramsey departs

AFTER TEN YEARS AT KING'S, the Headmaster leaves at the end of this term. During Mr Ramsey's Headship, almost every part of the School has developed; the Vanbrugh Theatre, Caldecott Gallery and foyer, the 1541 dining hall, Willow Lodge, the new Junior School Learning Centre and the re-developed Sixth Form Centre.

Drama has, of course, been one of Mr Ramsey's passions, and he leaves a legacy, not only of the facilities the theatre gives us, but with Drama and Theatre Studies firmly and very successfully established in the curriculum. Most years, he has taught English or Modern Languages too, including English Literature sets to GCSE. He has been determined to expand and enhance the School's reach by introducing business breakfasts, law and medical conferences and better links with a wide variety of other schools.



Results have steadily improved, but he would point to Enrichment, Third Year Projects, Extended Projects, investment in Learning Support and raising the profile of Prizegiving in the summer, as equally significant signs of King's as a serious academic school. Under his leadership, marketing, alumni relations and other important non-teaching areas have been increasingly modernised and professionalised. This has allowed the School to thrive in difficult economic times and to grow when many independent schools have contracted.

Mr Ramsey has always been committed to improving, adapting and changing. So, it was perhaps no surprise that last Easter, he was appointed to lead one of London's largest academic boys' schools. There, he will still enjoy being able to support football,

hockey and (though with more geographical challenge) rowing. Mr Ramsey has educated his own three children at King's, and this last year has seen exciting plans for Houses and Faculties develop. We wish him all the best for the future at Whitgift School.

“It will be with mixed emotions that I will leave King's after ten years, working with some of the most amazing pupils you could possibly want to meet. However, I am looking forward to the challenge at Whitgift, and of course I wish George Hartley and King's much continued success.”

Chris Ramsey, Headmaster



Remembering the fallen of the Great War

PASSCHENDAELE. A small village north-east of Ypres in Belgium, even now its name remains a byword for atrocious conditions, mud, and slaughter – *“the blindest slaughter of a blind war”*, according to A.J.P. Taylor.

King's paid a heavy price that summer. Nine former pupils lost their lives in July and August 1917, all within a short distance of Ypres. Once the battle of Passchendaele (officially known as the Third Battle of Ypres) began on 31 July 1917, the killing was on such a scale and in such appalling circumstances that it would not always be possible to find or identify the dead. These were the 'Missing'.

One of these was Old King's Scholar, Geoffrey William Watson, whose name is among over 54,000 other *“intolerably nameless names”* on the Menin Gate in Ypres. An actor and an athlete while at school (1909-1913), 21-year-old Watson, who served with the Cheshire Regiment, perished in the opening attack.

According to the regimental history, conditions were swamp-like, with no cover; *“many wounded sank in the mud and were drowned”*. No wonder a British General who viewed the battlefield broke down and asked, *“Good God, did we really send men to fight in that?”*

Seb Neal

SEB NEAL



Geoffrey William Watson (top left)

New Houses are named!

THERE HAVE BEEN FURTHER EXCITING DEVELOPMENTS on our new pastoral and management structure, and after discussions and polls with staff and pupils, we are thrilled to announce our new Houses! Each has a historic link to King's and these fine House names are sure to become an important legacy within King's history.



Bradbury

HOUSE COLOUR: *Blue*

HEAD OF HOUSE: *Mr Russell Hornby*

John Bradbury (OKS), Economist and Civil Servant, was a Permanent Secretary to the Treasury. His signature appeared on the £1 and 10 shilling notes commonly known as 'Bradburys'. He was the British Government's Chief Economic Adviser during the First World War.



Dutton

HOUSE COLOUR: *Red*

HEAD OF HOUSE: *Mr Lee Parkes*

Joseph Dutton (OKS), was a pioneer of tropical medicine and parasitologist. He died in 1905 in the Congo Free State at the age of 29 from tick fever while investigating the disease which is caused by a bacteria that was later named *Borrelia Duttoni*.



Walsh

HOUSE COLOUR: *Pale Blue*

HEAD OF HOUSE: *Mrs Amy Richards*

Mr A. St. G. Walsh, known as Johnny Walsh, was a much loved and remembered former teacher who taught mathematics and scripture from 1925-1956. The corridor where Modern Foreign Languages and Geography are situated is known as the Walsh Wing in his memory. Mr Walsh worked tirelessly after his retirement to build the archives we have today.



Lester-Smith

HOUSE COLOUR: *Lilac*

HEAD OF HOUSE: *Mrs Claire Sumner*

Mary Lester-Smith was a teacher from 1916 and then became the first female Head of the Junior School in 1930. Her brother, Henry Lester-Smith (OKS) was killed in 1917, but the family is remembered today with a trust in their name which still contributes to our bursary fund.

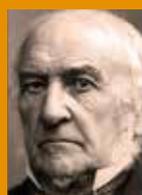


Fox

HOUSE COLOUR: *Purple*

HEAD OF HOUSE: *Mrs Krista Jones*

Michele Fox (OKS), was the first female pupil ever registered at King's in the Sixth Form from 1974-1976.



Gladstone

HOUSE COLOUR: *Orange*

HEAD OF HOUSE: *Miss Rebecca Lindsay*

William Gladstone lived in Hawarden and was four times Prime Minister. He was a Governor of King's in the 1870s.



Werburgh

HOUSE COLOUR: *Green*

HEAD OF HOUSE: *Mr Michael Lee*

St Werburgh was an Anglo-Saxon princess who became patron saint of Chester. She sought a simpler life, wanting to do good and joined the Benedictine order, eventually becoming an Abbess.



Grosvenor

HOUSE COLOUR: *Yellow*

HEAD OF HOUSE: *Mr David Blackham*

The Grosvenor family have a long-standing association with The King's School and the Duke has been Patron of the School since 1870.

Our pupils will be designing the House emblems in September and we can't wait to see what they come up with!

Coming soon... our state-of-the-art new Sports Centre

WE ARE DELIGHTED TO ANNOUNCE the investment of £4.5m in our new state-of-the-art Sports Centre. The project is planned to begin this autumn with completion in autumn 2018, (subject to planning permission).

Sport is an important part of the wider education offered here at King's with a huge range of sports on offer. King's routinely plays in the region of 1,000 fixtures per year in competitive sports, but also has a developing range of sports designed to increase participation and fitness for all. We currently share our sports facilities with 60 local community organisations and sports clubs and the new Sports Centre, with its extra facilities, will give us even more opportunities for these partnerships.

Director of Sport, Richard Lunn said, "Sport has always been an integral part of the education here at King's and the new Sports Centre will offer our pupils the very best facilities to encourage them to participate in sport and develop a healthy, active lifestyle.

Our vision for sport at King's has always been to see students leave King's with at least one sport they love and which they will continue to pursue throughout their lives. This wonderful new Centre will help all our students realise their potential across an even wider range of activities.

I look forward to this new development also giving King's the opportunity to share the facilities with even more local community sports organisations than we do already, and enabling us to continue to host many local sports tournaments and other events with much improved amenities for all."



Holding an event? Make it King's

WE ARE DELIGHTED TO ANNOUNCE that we have recently made available all our fantastic facilities here at King's. When the School is not in use, we can now offer you an outstanding choice of indoor and outdoor space for you to use, from our magnificent Vanbrugh Theatre and 1541 Dining Hall, to meeting rooms and an impressive range of sporting facilities. We are able to put together a first-class, tailor-made package for you, so whatever you have in mind; children's parties, business conferences, charity dinners, sporting events or even a marquee in our extensive grounds, we will have something to suit your needs.



KING'S SPACE

Your venue. Your event. Your way.



If you'd like to come in and view our facilities, or simply find out more, please do get in touch.
Call: 01244 689510 or email: venue@kingschester.co.uk

Cadets pass Cambrian test with flying colours

EIGHT CADETS from King's Combined Cadet Force (CCF) recently completed the Cadet Cambrian Patrol and achieved a Silver Medal for their excellent performance. Congratulations to Ben Duncalf (U6SD), Henry Greaves (U6JR), Simon Parker (U6JR), Isobel Larken (U6CC), Chloe Cowan (U6JR), Huw Smith (L6SW), Amelia Standing (L6SB) and Scot Hodgson (L6ER).

Cambrian Patrol is the toughest test a cadet can undertake and the standard of skills required is extremely high. Over the course, the cadets covered over 30km of demanding terrain in Sennybridge whilst carrying their webbing, daysacks and rifles. Along the

route, they encountered four challenges which tested their military knowledge, field-craft skills and physical stamina. Our cadets also had a non-exercise incident to deal with and sacrificed time to stop and give support to a team that needed to withdraw; this led to them winning the unofficial title of 'kindest team'!

The cadets finished their route well within their allotted time. Reports were then written up, meals cooked and briefings given for the next day, with the cadets finally settling down to sleep early in the morning. The challenge continued at dawn with a difficult test of their ability to plan and execute an attack.

Of the 22 teams, only two hit the Gold standard, five Silver and four Bronze, with the remainder receiving certificates of completion.

The Contingent Commander, Major Mike Lee, said:

"The King's team's Silver Medal is an indication of how hard they trained for the event, their determination and their closeness as a team. I am incredibly proud of them. It is a fantastic testament to the work of Sergeant Major Tony Brown who has transformed King's CCF into one of the best cadet establishments in the country".



Outstanding achievements in DofE awards



WE'VE SEEN spectacular success for a bumper crop of our students gaining their prestigious Silver Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) Awards.

The benefits of the DofE scheme are well known, with young people gaining skills, confidence, fun and friendship through a demanding programme of activities over a sustained period of time.

We are extremely proud of our Silver students: Ananda Chatterjee (U6NH), Anna Lloyd (L6SB), Henry Greaves (U6JR), Jack Bailes (L6ER), Olivia Samson (L6ER), Atharva Salvi (L6HF), Emily Cresswell (L6LM), Miles Meredith (L6ER), James Meakin (L6PW), Joseph Shanley (L6AM), Thomas Ardron (L6PW) and Ben Smith (L6AM).

Will they be going for Gold? Watch this space.



Exploring Manchester's social and political history



A LEVEL HISTORIANS had Manchester's rich social and political history brought to life on a study trip to the city. The day started at the home of the Pankhursts, where the first meeting of the suffragette movement took place in 1903.

They then embarked on a walking tour of the city, during which the excellent guide focused on Peterloo and the suffragettes. They also emphasised the importance of the cotton trade to the rise of the city and its imposing Victorian buildings.

In the afternoon, students had the opportunity to hold and read original early nineteenth century newspapers and journals from the archives of The People's History Museum. It was a truly inspiring day.



Rewriting a French modern classic

WHEN OXFORD UNIVERSITY called for budding film enthusiasts to embrace the world of French cinema and enter a competition to rewrite the ending of a modern classic French film, Tom Owens (L6AM) answered.

Basing his work on *Microbe et Gasoil*, Tom rewrote the end of the film in a way which captured the imagination of the judging panel amongst a highly competitive field.

The judges were so impressed with his entry, they awarded our talented linguist a commendation in this highly demanding competition!

We look forward to more pupils following in Tom's footsteps by taking on the challenge next year and in the meantime, *Microbe et Gasoil* will be available to watch at the Modern Foreign Languages Film Club soon.

Fond farewells to the 2017 leavers

IN MAY, we waved off our wonderful Upper Sixth Formers as they finished their scheduled lessons and headed off for study leave.

They were treated to a delicious celebratory breakfast in 1541, to power up for the traditional tug-of-war between tutor groups

out on the fields. We were hoping for a tough contest, but in the end, U6NH made it look all too easy and almost casually overcame the opposition!

After an emotional final assembly, finishing with words of praise and encouragement from

Mr Carter, Mrs Chadwick and Joe Langley, our Head of School, they were sent on their way.

We wish them the best of luck in all they do, we are very proud of them and excited to hear about all they are bound to achieve.



Maths team rise to the challenge



BACK IN NOVEMBER, some of our finest mathematicians competed in the Senior Team Maths Challenge (STMC) as part of the Further Maths Support Programme run by the United Kingdom Mathematics Trust. There were 34 regional heats, with the winning team from each making it to the national final in London.

The STMC tests mathematical, communication and teamwork skills. Our team was: Matteo Foglio (U6SD), Yuxin Shi (U6NH), Jonathan Ralphs (L6DB) and Tom Ramsbottom (L6SW). The team fought off tough competition to come second out of 15 teams in the area.

The students worked well as a team and kept their nerve during three gruelling rounds. Unfortunately, we narrowly missed out on securing a place at the national final in London, but there's always next year.

Business savvy students qualify for national final



OUR BUSINESS SAVVY STUDENTS have beaten off competition from fourteen other teams to win the Chester heat of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW) national business and accounting competition.

The team found out what it was like to walk in the shoes of finance professionals, as they put together strategic business advice for a real-life organisation and delivered this to their board of directors, just like chartered accountants.

Our School team impressed the panel of judges and will now go to the National Final.

Melanie Christie, ICAEW North West, Regional Director said, *"I was really impressed with the performance and strategic thinking of The King's School. These budding business advisors looked beyond the numbers and they also showed they had an excellent instinct for business and ethics in order to give well-rounded advice. Congratulations to all the teams who took part. I expect I'll be seeing more of these young people in leading business roles in the future."*

Fun and fundraising at Fairtrade Festivals



UNDER THE IMPRESSIVE LEADERSHIP of Geog Soc Chair Adrian Waddelove (U6JR), King's pupils recently ran a series of four Fairtrade Festivals.

There were events for Removes, Shells and Third Year pupils, with the highlight of the final Fairtrade Festival, where Sixth Formers were treated to a performance by the awesome band *Tourist*, who raised the roof with their impressive covers including: *Californication* by the Red Hot Chilli Peppers and *Song 2* by Blur. *Tourist* is made up of Lottie Cousins (Vocals/Bass) (L6AM) Wil Jones (Guitar) (L6SB), Louis MacDonald (Guitar) (L6LM) and Matt Reece-Jones (Drums) (L6PW).

Over the four festivals, the team raised £119.15, purely from loose change donations and this is going to the extremely worthy charity *Water Aid* who provide clean water systems. Mrs Aldridge, Head of Enrichment, said of the events, *"I hope everyone who came to the festivals enjoyed it, whether they were an enthusiastic audience member, played the Fairtrade snakes and ladders game in tutor time, watched a short film, or just bought themselves a Fairtrade chocolate bar!"*

Furthermore, I would like to thank Geog Soc for organising the festivals, all of the incredible performers and of course the pupils and staff who came along and supported these events."



KING'S SENIORS

Chemists have the winning formula

FOUR OF OUR TALENTED SCIENTISTS attended The Royal Society of Chemistry, Salters' Institute Festival of Chemistry at Liverpool John Moores University in May.

Excitement and anticipation turned to awe as our team of four Shell pupils arrived at the high-tech super-lab at the university. Along with 20 other schools, our team took part in a Forensic Challenge, a CSI style whodunit and a University Challenge, requiring both teamwork and excellent problem solving skills.

The team rose to every challenge, demonstrating enthusiasm and meticulous work throughout and were all excellent ambassadors for our School. A creditable and very close run third prize was achieved in the University Challenge and the Chemistry Department are thrilled with the equipment that was won.

Congratulations to Mickey Nguyen (ShMP), Isabella Jones (ShMB), Jonty Spall (ShMP) and Thomas Brennan (ShCM).



Express yourself...

OUR GCSE ARTISTS travelled to London recently to see the *Selfie to Self-Expression* exhibition at the Saatchi Gallery. The exhibition is a fascinating look at our own image where the use of the smartphone has evolved into a tool of artistic expression.

The *selfie generation* has now become the *self-expression generation* as we seek to explore and, more importantly, share our inner creativity through these amazingly powerful and connected devices. Our artists thoroughly enjoyed the trip and found the use of technology to produce compelling works of art really inspiring.

Dragons' Den roman style!



SOME OF OUR YOUNG LATIN STUDENTS have been putting each other through their paces by conducting their own version of Caverna Draconum (more commonly known as Dragons' Den), Roman style of course!

In this fun event, pupils needed to decide which invention was best: a Roman aqueduct; a hypocaust heating system; or a Roman road. They put all the arguments to the test as they tried to persuade the Dragons to part with their own money.

Hopes ride high for Alton Towers success

IN APRIL, our Shells pupils were given the amazing opportunity to enter a competition to create an attraction to go alongside the gravity-defying Galactica Ride at Alton Towers. The brief was testing; to raise the profile of Alton Towers and to invent a space themed attraction to complement their popular ride.

The winning group was, Faye Monk (ShMB), Itsoghena Oyedeji (ShKJ), Ashton Parker (ShMB), Mickey Nguyen (ShMP), Nicholas Oleshko (ShMB) and Jessica Hindley (ShKJ). The team came up with the idea of an 'escape room' task. When queuing, the quicker you can escape, the quicker you get on the ride!

The team will represent the School in Telford against 240 other schools. The fantastic news is that the winning idea will then be used at Alton Towers.

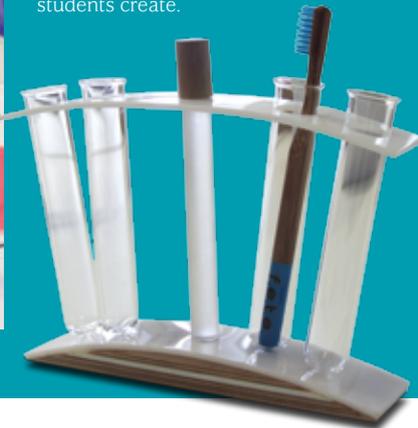


Design & Technology students showcase their projects



IN MAY, students from the Fifth and Sixth Years presented the annual Design and Technology Exhibition. This was their opportunity to showcase the wide variety and high quality of their projects. Fifth Year students designed and made self-assembly lighting and furniture, radios, MP3 speakers, as well as products inspired by nature and famous design movements. Sixth Form students completed projects focused on a range of topics including toothbrush holders and architectural models.

It has been another very successful year for the DT Department and we continue to be impressed by the innovative and technically-challenging work our students create.



In the footsteps of Darwin



TWO OF OUR MOST ENTHUSIASTIC Lower Sixth geographers, Megan Gareth (L6AM) and Chloe Morgan (L6AM), have been combining their love of geography and biology by running a Natural History Club for Removes and Shells.

The club begins with a micro-lecture about a key environmental issue. This is followed by a quiz where students try to guess the identity of a mystery animal by recognising their call or silhouette. The *Animal of the Week* feature follows, before students test their knowledge with a Kahoot! quiz with chocolate prizes on offer. The Geography Department are very grateful for Chloe and Megan's hard work.

Making the news on the BBC



A GROUP OF OUR TALENTED SHELL PUPILS produced a live news report linked to the BBC website. They created two thought-provoking storylines; one looking at gender inequality in sport and the other at the proposed housing development across the road from King's.

Our resourceful pupils conducted interviews, research, created a 'Stop Motion' animation and led the reports themselves.

What resulted was a fascinating eight minute news report which can be viewed by scanning the QR code featured below.

Our reporters have done so well that the BBC are considering using the story on local radio!

Our reporters are; Freya Beyeler (ShMB), Isabella Jones (ShMB), Emilia Jenks (ShMB), Lily Martin (ShMB), Lily Kenningham (ShKJ), Mickey Nguyen (ShMP), Molly Ellis (ShAD),



Milly Paul (ShAD), Leila Prendergast (ShKJ), Leilani Jenkins (ShKJ), Iona Rathbone (ShCM), Faith Gordon (ShMP) and Maria Rich (ShCM).



KING'S JUNIORS



Animation brings geography to life

J4H HAVE BEEN HAVING ENORMOUS FUN creating animations about the greenhouse effect, using the iPad app 'Stop Motion'. The overall aim of the project was to develop independent learning skills, as well as enhance the pupils' knowledge and understanding of the greenhouse effect. Everyone approached the task with huge enthusiasm and it shows in their work.



Scan the QR code with your device to see a particularly brilliant animation created by Eila O'Connor, Angus Rees, Louis Roberts and Vithesh Subakaran.

An exciting week of challenges and adventures in Plas Menai

OUR J4s HAD A FANTASTIC WEEK in Plas Menai celebrating their last few weeks in juniors and building new skills for the Senior School. The week was rammed with new and exciting experiences, and their behaviour was exemplary throughout. The instructors commented on their attitude, listening skills and ability, and said they thoroughly enjoyed working with all groups.

The children were involved in raft building, sailing, kayaking and power boating. They were also involved in team games, climbing, archery, low ropes and high ropes and orienteering. What an adventure they had!



An orchestra for the day

IN APRIL, four of our pupils joined forces with 80 pupils from other Association of Junior Independent Schools (AJIS) to form an orchestra for the day.

Our four pupils, Limonée Fearn (J4M) on the clarinet, Emma Pinnington (J4S) also on the clarinet, Gabriella Rainford (J4M) on the violin, and Eloise Smith (J3S) on the cello, learned and practised many pieces, such as *Mars* by Gustav Holst, *Hall of the Mountain King* by Grieg and other well-known works. They worked hard all day alongside other orchestra members, led by conductor Mark Heron. They then performed a wonderful concert for their parents at the end of the day.

Given that all the pupils are aged 11 years or under, the outcome was truly impressive. The girls thoroughly enjoyed the day and were thrilled to take part in such a fantastic, collaborative opportunity with other local schools.



PETER PAN

High-flying success for *Peter Pan*

OUR J2 PUPILS recently transported the audience of the Vanbrugh Theatre to Neverland in their magnificent production of *Peter Pan*. The pupils were completely absorbed in their role, so much so that Miss Anderson, who directed the play, was able to enjoy the whole performance with her play script firmly shut!

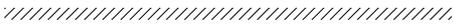
Finn Lewis (J2A) gave a very accomplished performance as *Peter Pan*, Sophie Hornby (J2P) excelled as the mischievous Tinkerbell and Imogen Shaw (J2A) brilliantly took on the role of Wendy Darling. The malevolent Captain Hook was played with fabulous comic timing by Elliott Barnes (J2P), who was ably assisted by the long-suffering Mr Smee, played by Alfred Lloyd (J2T). The wonderful singing was directed by Mrs Stevens with impressive scenery created by Miss Savage.

Well done to everyone involved for making the show such a success.



Celebrating 475 years of King's

INFANT AND JUNIOR PUPILS joined together to mark the end of our 475th anniversary year with a wonderful aerial photograph. Mr O'Neil masterminded the project, with each and every pupil taking part!



Superb performances at Celebration Concert

OUR ANNUAL Celebration Concert is always an eagerly awaited event, and this year was no exception, with an array of talent being showcased in drama, dance and music. The audience were treated to an afternoon of performances from our Orchestra, Wind Band, Brass Group, String Ensemble, Choir and Dance Club, along with some solo performances from Maisie O'Leary (J4M), Luke Williams (J4H) and Limonée Fearn (J4M). Well done to all the performers, we're already looking forward to next year's Celebration Concert.



Spirit and sportsmanship shown at



Spirit and sportsmanship were all on show as our pupils took part in the Junior School Sports Days. The atmosphere was fantastic, with parents and pupils cheering on the competitors on both days.

There were some amazing individual performances and some impressive records broken, but Falles House was ultimately victorious.



The Blazer put forward for top award

THE AWARD-WINNING EDITORIAL TEAM at the *The Blazer* is celebrating securing a place in the final of the Cheshire School Awards for the second year running! Last year, they saw off tough competition to win the prestigious *School Newspaper/Website* award and they are keen to defend their title this year.

The paper is managed by pupils, with the expert guidance of Mrs Benson, who is a former journalist, and brings a wealth of knowledge and experience of the publishing world to share with the children.

The half-termly publication was nominated by Adaora Ekwueme (J3S) and our young reporters will attend an awards lunch at the Queen Hotel in Chester, where the winner will be announced by TV presenter Dianne Oxberry.

Use your device to scan the QR code to see the latest edition of *The Blazer*.



Junior Sports Days



Arts festival fun

WE WERE DELIGHTED to host the Chester Speech and Drama Festival in April, with over 1,000 children taking part. The day was a great success and it was inspiring to see so many children getting involved in the arts that they love, such as mime, verse speaking and drama.



Lucas' story makes top 50 in Radio 2 competition

LUCAS HAIN (J1L) WAS THRILLED to learn that his story *Stones* was selected to be in the top 50 of the BBC Radio 2, 500 Words Competition!

Lucas attended the prestigious final at the Tower of London, on Friday 16 June. The winners were announced during the live broadcast of the BBC Radio 2 Chris Evans Breakfast Show; a show which attracts over 10 million listeners!

Whilst he missed out on a medal this time, he thoroughly enjoyed the experience and we couldn't be more proud of him.

Use your device to scan the QR code to read Lucas' story.



WILLOW LODGE INFANTS

Willow Lodge Willow Weavers

AS PART OF the Forest School curriculum, children have been learning the ancient art of willow weaving.

Weaving with natural materials is one of the most common crafts in the history of any human civilisation. Willow weavers throughout the ages have used their skills to make all kinds



of products, including baskets, fences and decorative sculptures.

Our Willow Lodge weavers worked hard to create a “peekaboo” fence for them to play in and enjoy. It was quite incredible to see how quickly the structure took shape and how easily our youngsters picked up the expertise to create such an impressive feature.



Teamwork solves problems!

WORKING IN TEAMS, SOLVING PROBLEMS, AND MAKING NEW FRIENDS were all on the agenda when our infants met our juniors for a super problem solving session.

The workshop involved using soft play resources and guiding the pupils in trying to solve the unique puzzles.

There were large tangram games (triangular dissection puzzles), challenging cube shapes to construct and lots of other games designed to develop new skills and to learn through participation and fun. Everyone achieved a great deal, but most importantly, everyone made new friends ready for September.

Fun-filled sports day

THERE WERE BEAMING SMILES EVERYWHERE WE LOOKED at the Willow Lodge Sports Day, as all our children ran, jumped, raced and chased to the very best of their abilities, in front of a crowd of proud parents and encouraging teachers. It was great to see so much sporting talent in our youngest athletes!



Blossoming flower investigators

OUR BUDDING SCIENTISTS IN INFANT 2 have been investigating flowering plants. They have been finding and naming the parts of plants and working out what they do. Some pupils have been talking about how leaves create energy for the plant through the process of photosynthesis.

They turned their classroom into a laboratory and conducted an experiment with cress seeds, to see if they would grow without water, sunlight and air.



Pupils in the media spotlight



MONDAY LUNCHTIMES are a treat in Willow Lodge in more ways than one. If you are lucky, you may see our talented children taking part in their Speech and Drama Club.

You can hear poems about lions, or beaches or teeth all recited from memory by our budding public speakers. And it doesn't stop there. When this picture was taken, the youngsters were getting started on their media training, being interviewed by each other about what (or who) is their favourite toy and why. All fabulous preparation for treading the boards or delivering keynote speeches.

The recipe for a perfect lunchtime

IT CAN BE HARD TO DECIDE WHAT TO HAVE for lunch sometimes. Our infants have to put their thinking caps on every day to decide what they would like to eat and then carefully write their order down.

At lunch, our hungry pupils follow the delicious smells into the dining hall, where they are eager to get their plates filled.

To accompany the main selections, there are lots of fresh vegetables – something to suit everyone's taste buds. It's knife and fork time and, as always, it is wonderful to see super table manners everywhere you look. After munching and crunching, all that remains is lots and lots of empty plates and happy children.

Time to eat, time to chat and time to refuel, ready for another exciting afternoon.



Non's our new Patron of Reading



WE ARE THRILLED to announce that the very popular author Non Pratt, has agreed to be our Patron of Reading. Non is the author of four young adult books, the first of which, *Trouble*, was longlisted for the Carnegie Medal, shortlisted for the YA Book Prize and came second in the first King's School Book Award. Non visited the School in February last year and pupils have been demanding her return ever since!

Non takes over the position from Jon Mayhew who has been our Patron for two years. Jon has always been a great friend to the School since his first book, *Mortlock*, was published in 2010. He has been a wonderful Patron, visiting the School on numerous occasions to talk to pupils, judge competitions, award prizes and most recently, to talk to parents at our library open evening.

We are so grateful to Jon for all he has done for us, although he will be a hard act to follow, we are sure that Non will rise to the challenge.



Book Week ends with hidden treasure

IN MARCH, all the Removes and many keen readers from other year groups gathered for the results of all the Book Week competitions and the School Book Award.



All tutor groups were challenged to create a collage of their reading journey. RmDR were chosen as the winners with their fantastic display which showed a favourite book for each year of their lives. RmCH were given a special commendation for going beyond the brief and creating a treasure hunt of their favourite books. Emma Henry (3HS) and Lucy Plunkett (3HS) won a prize for recognising all 12 members of staff "caught reading".

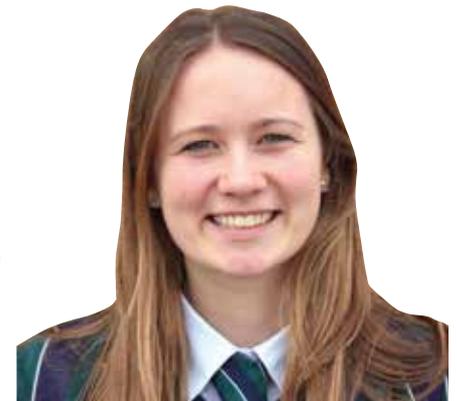
We are delighted to announce that *Am I Normal Yet?* by Holly Bourne was the worthy winner of the School Book Award.

Music round-up

Millie gains two Grade 8s!

Amelia Jones (5VL) is now the proud holder of two Grade 8 certificates, one in flute and the other in saxophone. She took both exams in the same exam period and scored a whopping 144 in her saxophone exam: one of the highest in the country.

Here is a reminder of some of the other wonderful musical events that have taken place this term.



475 Cathedral Concert



Open mic night is a roaring success



Spring Concert at St. Werburgh's Church

Walking, running, skipping and jumping for charity!

FRIDAY 5 MAY was a lovely day for a walk and our infants and juniors walked, ran, skipped and jumped round the sports fields to raise money for the *Walk for Life* charity. The event was organised by Mr O'Neil and the Junior School teachers, who provided music, medals and lots of encouragement to everyone who took part. The pupils looked wonderful in their bright clothes and accessories and most importantly, they raised an impressive £415.59 for such a good cause.



Macmillan say “thank you” for cake and bake

BACK IN MARCH, Georgia Worsnop lead J2T in organising a cake and bake sale to raise money for *Macmillan Cancer Support*. Georgia and the rest of the class were delighted and proud to receive a letter of thanks and a certificate of recognition from *Macmillan* for all their hard work.



Comic capers raise a smile – and funds.

THERE WAS FUN AND FUNDRAISING here at King's on Comic Relief Day with a riot of red in Willow Lodge and the Junior School, and eye-catching costumes in the Senior School. We raised over £1,500.

Thanks to everyone who made the day so special. Please visit Pupil News on our website for more pictures.



Support for local SHARE charity

ANJALI BALAKRISHNAN (J4M) and her mother recently launched a campaign with the help of the Junior School Charity Prefects, Imogen Brander (J4M) and Dolly Anderson (J4H), to support the local *SHARE* charity. *SHARE's* mission is to collect and deliver essential aid such as food, water, clothing and shelter to anyone who is homeless, wherever they are. The team asked our juniors to donate bags of items that would comfort people who had lost all their belongings. The girls were delighted that they had collated a mighty 63 bags to pass to *SHARE* trustee Mrs Debra Webb. Well done to everyone who contributed to this wonderful project, it was a fantastic result.



Charity run raises a smile

LEADING BY EXAMPLE, two of our Junior School teachers ran the Chester Half Marathon in aid of the *Once Upon a Smile* charity in May.

Mrs Nicola Tomlinson, in her first ever half marathon finished in the impressive time of 1:59 and Mr David O'Neil finished with an incredible time of 1:34.

The athletic duo reported that it was a perfect day for running and that they had wonderful support out on the streets of Chester.

The Junior School also had cake sales and competitions and in total over £350 was raised.



KING'S ALUMNI



Class of 2007

Students from several decades attend alumni reunions

THIS TERM we have been delighted to host a number of reunions. We welcomed back our classes of 1967, 1987 and 2007. Each of the days were a great success, with lots of nostalgic chatter and reminiscing. For some it was the first time they had seen their old school pals since leaving and it was lovely to see, on all counts, that the camaraderie between them all had not waned.

It's always wonderful to see our alumni back at King's. If you have studied at the School and have a group you'd like to reconnect with, please get in touch and we'll get the ball rolling for you!



Class of 1987



Class of 1967



Celebrating King's sporting achievement, spirit and endeavour.

King's Alumni Founder's Dinner 23rd September 2017

This year's Founder's Dinner will focus on celebrating King's great sporting traditions. Guests will dine with alumni ambassadors who have achieved particular distinction in sport – be it in the stadium, on the water, on the track or in the boardroom.

Please contact us on 01244 689492 or email alumniteam@kingschester.co.uk for further information.

The best visual effects Oscar goes to...

ALREADY AN EMMY NOMINEE for his work on hit television series *Rome*, Doug Larmour (OKS 1994) alongside his peers at leading visual effects studio, Moving Picture Company (MPC), has won an Oscar at the 85th Academy Awards.

Doug is a veteran of the visual effects industry and has worked on a string of Hollywood hit movies including the *Harry Potter* film franchise and Ridley Scott's *Prometheus* as well as several blockbuster television series such as *Game of Thrones*.

He is currently MPC's Global Head of Compositing. Compositors work in film and television production, blending together layers of previously-created material, including rendered computer animation, special effects, graphics, 2D animation, live action and static background plates to create a desired look and feel for a production.

Doug has been working in the visual effects industry for nearly two decades. He learnt his skills on the job, beginning his career as a runner. Students interested in following in Doug's footsteps can pursue training at university or a technical school. There are also plenty of internship opportunities available in the industry for students.

We would like to offer Doug our congratulations from everyone here at King's.



Some ties last a *lifetime*

BRITAIN'S YOUNGEST EVER

Ambassador, John Everard, talks History and Politics

IN MARCH, we were thrilled to welcome back John Everard (OKS 1972) to deliver a lecture to our History and Politics Sixth Formers. Having held the roles of both Ambassador to North Korea and Co-ordinator of the UN Security Council's Panel of Experts on Sanctions, it was a real privilege for our students to hear John's expert insight into current events in North Korea. It was a superb opportunity for our students to gain a real understanding of the issues and how they impact the world around us.

It was also a wonderful opportunity for the Headmaster to present John with our *Leading Light* award in acknowledgement of his remarkable career as a British Diplomat which spanned nearly thirty years and four continents. As the youngest ever British Ambassador when he was appointed to Belarus, John built an embassy from the ground up just a few short years after the fall of the Soviet Union. He also skilfully managed diplomatic relations as the UK ambassador to Uruguay during a period of economic crisis and the country's election of its first left-wing government.

We are very grateful that he was willing to share his time and expertise to inspire and inform our students.

2017 *Leading Light* Awards

We need your help to choose from a dazzling array of home grown talent. Who should receive our next *Leading Light* awards?

Now's the time to nominate yourself or any Old King's Scholar you feel is deserving of this highest of accolades for alumni – our *Leading Light* award.

Nominees will have shown leadership, innovation and excellence in their professional, community and personal endeavours. They instil pride in their alma mater and their accomplishments serve as an example to the whole King's community.

The nomination deadline is Friday 14 July 2017.

**To make a nomination, please contact
Liz Gwyther on: 01244 689492 or
email: alumniteam@kingschester.co.uk**



Match that: 108 score rings a bell!



IN APRIL, we hosted the Cheshire branch of the XL Club (Forty Club) in their annual match, which has become the season's 'curtain-raiser'.

The game ended in a draw, but the match was particularly notable for our captain Matthew Thompson's (U6BH) century in his side's total of 206 for 2. His 108 not out score matched the score of Tom Jones (OKS) in the same match in 1985. This in itself is remarkable enough, but to add to the coincidence, Tom was one of our guests for the day as a member of the XL Club team.

Tom and Matt were able to compare notes on their innings. As it is Matt's last term here at King's, we hope to welcome them both back in future years, though hopefully neither will score a century when playing against us!

What a day for rowing star Harry

FORMER STUDENT, Harry Higginbottom (OKS 2016), pictured to the immediate left of the Prime Minister Theresa May, recently competed in the Sutherland Memorial Cup at Henley.

Harry rows for the Leander Club and competed against Upper Thames Rowing Club. We are delighted that the Leander Club was victorious, beating Upper Thames by three lengths over the 1500m race.

The Leander Club is one of the most historic, prestigious and successful rowing clubs in the world, its athletes having won 125 Olympic and Paralympic medals since 1908.

To top off a very successful day, their medals were presented to them by the Prime Minister, Theresa May.

Well done to Harry on this success and also for his recent accomplishment in securing a place at Princeton, what an achievement!



STAYING IN TOUCH...

Join in the conversations and stay connected through our social media networks.

 **kingschesteralumni** | **Connect with us on Facebook**

Explore photos from King's past and present, reminisce on your school days, and share your latest news and stories with us and your fellow alumni.

 **kingschesteralumni** | **Join our group on LinkedIn**

Discover networking opportunities run by the School, connect with peers working in your field and find out how King's can help your career.

 **@kingschester** | **Follow us on Twitter**

Follow our group on Twitter and keep up-to-date with our latest news and events.

Congratulations to our Hockey Champions

IN APRIL, at London's Olympic Park, the Senior 1st team squad of 15 players won the 2017 England Hockey National Plate competition, emerging victors from over 80 top hockey schools and eclipsing last season's Bronze Medal in the same event.

In the semi-final, King's won 1-0 against the impressive Millfield School, progressing to the final against Merchant Taylors' School, London. After leading 3-1, we were pegged back to 3-3 but held our nerve in the penalty shoot-out to take the title. Congratulations to all involved, the culmination of many years of playing together with commitment, determination and spirit.



Rain, rain, go away... we want to play!



EVERY SATURDAY DURING THE SUMMER TERM we play block fixtures against other North West schools. In May, King's played Altrincham Grammar School for Boys, with King's hosting four games while two teams went away to Altrincham. We regularly field A and B teams at U12 and U13 levels, with U14s and U15s each having a team.

Unfortunately, the vagaries of the North West weather meant that only one game was completed, but in most matches an innings was completed, meaning most of the pupils got to play.

We play in the region of 100 games each summer, with the 1st XI hosting luminaries such as the XL Club (Forty

Club) and MCC. King's also plays Manchester Grammar School, Bolton School and Stockport Grammar School, among others, and our competitive fixture list challenges even the best players.

In addition to the matches, teams have training before and after school, plus lunchtime fielding or one-to-one sessions.

Notable performances this season have come from several players, with 1st XI captain Matthew Thompson (U6BH) impressing with the bat. King's also have several talented players lower down the School, with over ten pupils involved in representative cricket.

Game, set and match to tennis team

BACK IN MAY, on a glorious sunny day, we hosted the annual Associated Junior Independent School tennis tournament. Joe Osborne (J4H) and Duncan Boyd (J4S) represented King's in this U11 singles competition.

Duncan did particularly well to win his group and qualify for the semi-finals.

The standard of competition was high and Manchester Grammar School were the eventual winners, but our young players thoroughly enjoyed the event and gained valuable experience for their next competition.



Hoop, hoop, hooray!

IN APRIL, our Junior School Basketball team managed to secure the title of Cheshire Phoenix Champions!

The team consisted of: Lloyd Bennett (J4H), Dolly Anderson (J4H), Maisie O'Leary (J4M), Liv Davis (J4M), Brona Halpin (J4H), Limonée Fearn (J4M), Will Saul (J4S), Joe Osborne (J4H), Max Quail (J4S) and Jake Harrison (J4M).

They comfortably won the two group games 8-0 and 12-0, but then a nervy semi-final followed where the players had to dig deep to finish with a 2-0 victory. However, they saved the best for last, with a fantastic performance in the final vs Upton Heath; winning the game with a very impressive 14-2 scoreline!

Amazingly, the team only conceded one basket throughout the whole tournament, demonstrating consistently strong defence and brilliant offence.

Team manager Mr O'Neil had these words to say about his superb squad,

"Many thanks for all the support from family members. Without doubt the best team performance I have witnessed at any basketball tournament during my time at King's. All members of the squad have been a pleasure to work with during the lunchtime coaching and extra break time shooting sessions. They listened carefully to all the tactics given and looked very well disciplined on court."

The team members won tickets to watch the British Basketball League play-off final at the O2 Arena in May.



Successful medal season on the water

THE EASTER BREAK was a busy time for the rowing club, as 35 senior boys headed to Belgium for the annual training camp. A further 17 senior girls spent a week in Henley and Dorney Lake; whilst 42 Third Form rowers made the trip to Peterborough. At the Ghent Regatta, the boys, 1st and 2nd VIII won a Silver and Bronze Medal in the inaugural Vllls challenge event, missing out on a Gold Medal to a Hungarian U23 VIII.

Back in the UK, the first weekend of competition saw a great victory for the J16 coxed four of Will Medland (5AC), Owen Parsonage (5VL), Oliver Irvine (5RH), Jack Roberts (5VL) and cox, Miemie Austin (L6HF), representing the North West at the Inter-Regional Regatta. On the same weekend, the J14 squad had numerous wins at the Birmingham Regatta, with the girls' 1st Octuple winning their event. King's had an excellent day at Shrewsbury Regatta two weeks later, with wins over their Salopian rivals in the J14 boys' A and B octuples; with both girls' octuples winning their events as well.

Next it was the turn of the senior boys' coxless four at Nottingham City Regatta with their impressive win of the coxless fours, the crew consisting of Iwan Bulkeley (U6SD), Stanley Moir (L6LM), Ben Samarji (U6JC) and Tom Ramsbottom (L6SW).



104 athletes represented King's at the annual National Schools' Championships at Dorney Lake. Nine of the School's crew made their respective B finals, with the girls' 2nd J14 Octuple finishing a very credible 4th position in their A final. The row of the weekend, belonged to the J16 combination of Jack Roberts (5VL) and Oliver Irvine (5RH) who finished the regatta with an impressive Silver Medal in the J16 coxless pairs.

The annual regatta in Chester gave many of the School crews a final opportunity to represent the club on home waters this year. The J16 coxless

pair, girls' J15 coxed four and boys' J14 double scull were victorious with the senior girls' quad winning the time trial outright. The subsequent club barbecue and family fun regatta was attended by over 200 rowers, parents and guests and was once again a fantastic occasion.



Inspiring individual sports success

Aled Bennett



HOCKEY: HUGE CONGRATULATIONS TO ALED BENNETT (5RH) who has been the Wales U16 Captain for the 2016-17 season and he will be captaining the squad again in the forthcoming European Championships this summer.

Izzie Howell



HOCKEY: SIXTH FORMER IZZIE HOWELL (L6PW) has been selected to play for the Welsh Under 18 Women's Hockey Squad in various International Test Series. Izzie trains regularly with the squad in Cardiff as part of the National Age Group Welsh training programme.

Joe Webb



HOCKEY: JOE WEBB (4RC) has been selected for the Welsh U16 National Age Group Squad and he will be attending training camps in Cardiff, where the squad are training for the Futures Cup.

Matt Williams



HOCKEY: MATT WILLIAMS (U6CC) goes from strength to strength at Hockey Wales. Next season, he intends to continue with the Hockey Wales Development Programme whilst at University and he is in the running to be training with the squad as they work towards the Commonwealth Games.

Wilf Le Brocq



ROWING: WILF LE BROCQ (U6KS) was the only junior cox to be selected to represent Great Britain at the Munich Regatta in May, at the Olympic Course Munich, coming home with two Gold Medals!

Oliver Harrington



BADMINTON: OLIVER HARRINGTON (RmNG) has excelled at the English National Badminton Championships, by coming third in the Under 13 Doubles Competition. He then went on to compete in the Victor Olve International Tournament in Belgium over the Easter weekend. He was over the moon to achieve third place in the U13 doubles competition, achieving his first international success.



THE KING'S SCHOOL BURSARY GOLF CLASSIC Portal Hotel Golf & Country Club

Friday 22 September

Join us for the inaugural King's Golf Classic to raise funds for the King's 100 Bursary Challenge and to support our sporting infrastructure.

The day is followed by a four course presentation dinner with guest speaker and entertainment from 7:00pm.

**For more information, please call
01244 689 488**

THE KING'S SCHOOL OPEN DAY SATURDAY 7 OCTOBER

Join us to discover a world of inspirational learning.

Simply call or email to reserve your place. We look forward to seeing you!

01244 689 553

admissions@kingschester.co.uk

Willow Lodge 9.30am to 12.00pm
For pupils aged 4-7

KING'S JUNIORS 10.30am to 1.00pm
For pupils aged 7-11

KING'S SENIORS 1.00pm to 3.30pm
For students aged 11-16

KING'S SIXTH FORM 1.00pm to 3.30pm
For students aged 16-18

KING'S SIXTH FORM

OPEN EVENING

THURSDAY 5 OCTOBER 4.20PM

Join us at our Sixth Form Evening to continue your journey towards an exceptional future.

Simply call or email to reserve your place. We look forward to seeing you!

01244 689 553

admissions@kingschester.co.uk

Becoming *exceptional*

If you haven't already, come and discover the opportunities and world of possibilities on offer here at King's.

Call us on: **01244 689 553**
email: admissions@kingschester.co.uk