



THE KING'S SCHOOL
CHESTER

Herald

All the latest news from **The King's School, Chester**

Good Morning Vietnam – the Far East trip of a lifetime

Full story on page 5



THIS ISSUE

From home grown opera to adventures in Vietnam, and from success at sports to stunning exam results, it's all been happening in the world of King's!



2.



5.



12.



17.



18.

Students set new standards with our best ever A level year



King's celebrated its best ever A level results this year and the position as the top performing school in the Chester area.

Over a quarter of students gained the coveted A* grades with 44% of the 104 King's Sixth Formers gaining A/A* grade in three A levels or more and just under 90% of all the A levels achieved were at grade A*/B.

Girls at King's performed very well indeed with 94% A*/B grades and 67% A*/A grades.

Five A* levels were achieved by Jonny Verity, who has gone to read Mathematics at Bath University.

A further 24 students gained **four A levels** with 18 of these getting **all A/A*** grades.

Four A* A levels were achieved by Matthew Temple who has gone to Cambridge to read Mathematics, Ben Hastings who has gone to University College, London, to study Astrophysics, Sean Telford who has gone to study Natural Sciences at Cambridge and Aaron Williams who has gone to read Mathematics at Imperial University, London.



Thirty-nine students gained **three A*/A grades** or above with Sophie Thompson gaining all three at A* grade. Sophie has gone to Cambridge to study History.

This year's crop of offers include Chris Robson, who has gone to study English Literature and Language at Oxford and brings the total number of Oxford and Cambridge places gained by King's to **83 in the last ten years**.

Girls lead the way with great IGCSE and GCSE results

IT HAS BEEN ANOTHER EXCELLENT SET of GCSE results for King's School! Our girls led the way with GCSE results of **60% A* grades** and **88% A*/A grades**.

Ten students gained all of their nine GCSEs at A* grade: Laurence Ankers, William Blacklock, Ellie Crisp, Emily Gregg, Georgina Hodson, Marissa Landy, Bethany McKendrick, Victoria Walker, Francesca Jebb and Jonathan Wright. Two more – Lucy Armatage and Lydia Sowden gained 9 A* plus a further A.

Ten A*/A grades were also gained by Isla Dunn (5A*/5A), Olivia Morris (8A*/2A), Kate Robson (5A*/5A) and Harry Stables (7 A*/3A).

A further **28 students** gained **9 A*/A grades**.

Half of King's GCSE courses are now International GCSEs, felt to be more rigorous than the standard GCSEs. 41% of the IGCSEs/GCSEs awarded were at A*, 73% of the IGCSEs/GCSEs awarded were at A*/A and over 97% A*/B.



Welcome to our very first Poet in Residence

King's is honoured to announce the appointment of its first Poet in Residence, Clive McWilliam. Poetry has always been very popular at King's, from Poetry Club to celebrating National Poetry Day.

HAVING A PROFESSIONAL POET IN RESIDENCE is an exciting development and means the School can build on its already strong tradition of poetry writing, reading, recording and performing. Clive's first workshop with the pupils was extremely well received. One pupil, Olivia Samson (3HL) commented, "It was a very enjoyable hour, which I believe has helped me in my English studies and added to my confidence in poetry writing." After the workshop students Laurence Ankers (L6NH) and Gabriel McClusky (L6JK) interviewed Clive to find out more about his poetry background and his top tips on writing. Students are looking forward to working with Clive in the year ahead.



Check mate! King's come out top in chess tournament



Chess may not have an equivalent to the hallowed turf of Wembley Stadium or the Royal and Ancient course at St Andrews. However, at least as far as Cheshire and North Wales are concerned, The King's School became the amphitheatre of this very ancient game in October.

OVER 100 YOUNG PEOPLE battled it out for the Junior Chess Championships in seven gruelling rounds watched by anxious parents, coaches and judges. In a repeat of last year's performance, King's pupils claimed many of the top prizes. Daniel Savidge (ShRL) was the overall winner in the Under 14 tournament with a very creditable 6.5 out of 7 while Animesh Anand (L6JK) and Alex Forrester (ShRL) were champions at school and club level for their age categories.

Susan Gorman (U6PW) took second place in the Under 18 County competition and there were good performances from Mariam Littler (ShJJ), Haran Makwana (5JM) and Arjun Balasubramaniam (ShHB). In accepting the shield for Overall Best School, Chess President, Animesh could not have looked happier than if he were raising the world cup.



Owen wins prestigious Arkwright Engineering Scholarship

Owen Haylock (L6NH) has been awarded a renowned Arkwright Engineering Scholarship. The Arkwright Engineering Scholarship is awarded to students throughout the UK who aspire to a career in engineering and related areas of design.

The sought-after Arkwright Engineering Scholarship provides students with a £600 financial award to enhance their A level studies and a range of activities to enhance their understanding and experience of engineering. King's also receives £400 for the Scholarship. Arkwright Scholarships are respected by leading universities and industrial companies and are supported by top engineering employers such as: Rolls Royce, BT, BAE Systems, National Grid, Balfour Beatty, Microsoft Research, Thales, The Royal Air Force and The Royal Navy.

Owen had to successfully complete a rigorous three-stage selection process consisting of a detailed application form, a two-hour exam and an interview hosted at a top engineering university.

In the application form Owen had to describe a technical project he has completed and explain how engineering is an interest in his life. The exam tested flair and originality in solving engineering design problems. The interview involved detailed discussion of an engineering project that Owen had conducted.

Owen's scholarship was formally presented at a ceremony hosted by The Institution of Engineering and Technology.



Congratulations to our King's Scholars 2013

The King's Scholars for 2013 were announced at the end of last term. The term 'King's Scholars' was first used by Henry VIII when he founded King's and was re-introduced at the School around eight years ago with the introduction of scholarship awards. These academic scholarships are awarded to lower school pupils based on the results of examinations and recognition of academic achievements. Scholars are awarded £500 along with the honour of having KS after their name during their time at King's.

SCHOLARSHIPS WERE AWARDED TO: Arjun Balasubramaniam (ShHB), Jamie Berry (ShBB), Anna Chadwick (ShRA), Emilia Cotgrove (ShCM), Arran Fearn (ShHB), Oliver Irvine (ShRL), Kate Jenkinson (SHCM), Mariam Littler (ShJJ), Owen Parsonage (ShJJ), Laura Scott (ShJJ), Oliver Williams (ShJJ), Sophie Cliff (3AI), Megan Gareth (3RC), Wilf Le Brocq (4AC), Amica Crewe-Read and Philippa Noble.



Duke of Edinburgh Award – students pass with flying colours



Expeditions

The Silver and Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award groups completed their final task of their assessed expeditions over the summer. Working with the expedition providers, Plas y Brenin, the groups completed their three or four day walking challenge, with one group ascending Cader Idris and another tackling Snowdon. All students were self-sufficient for the whole time, carrying their tents, food and stoves. Both groups successfully completed the expeditions with determination and enthusiasm.

Silver – awarded to:

Miles Williams (L6SD), Charles Bosworth (L6SD), Chris Anderson (L6KS), Sam Jones (L6BH), Paul Brownson (L6JK), James Kalaher (L6CC), Kate Rothwell (L6CC), James Williams (L6JK) and Nicola Temple (L6CC).

Gold – awarded to:

Rahul Avula (L6NH), Peter Boothroyd (U6SB), Jack Jameson (U6PW), Tom Jameson (U6SB), Henry Makings (U6HF), Harriet Robinson (U6JR), Chloe Stratton (U6SW), Alice Carr (U6SW), Susan Gorman (U6PW), Kieran Paterson (U6JR) and Henry Thompson (U6HF).

D of E Gold Awards

Nine students, past and present, received their Gold Duke of Edinburgh Awards, from HRH Prince Edward, in September at St. James's Palace. In recognition of the number of King's students, Headmaster Mr Ramsey and D of E Co-ordinator, Miss Roberts were also invited to the Gold Duke of Edinburgh Awards ceremony.

The students who received awards were:

2013 Leavers: Bethany Shears, Matthew Temple, Sean Telford, Jeremy Telford, Gareth Roberts, 2012 Leavers: James Barnard, 2006 Leaver: Alex Fennell, 2005 Leavers: Michael Roberts and Eleanor Barnard (U6DB).

Headmaster, Mr. Ramsey was moved by the ceremony itself, "It was moving to listen to some young people who have fewer advantages than ours do, one in particular speaking about how his life has been transformed by the discipline and purpose of the D of E scheme."

The pupils went through a rigorous process in order to gain their Gold awards. They completed five sections, each lasting up to 18 months. It was mandatory that regular commitment was displayed through volunteering with a charity or youth group, undertaking a new skill or developing an existing one and participating in a physical activity. They also had to complete a five day expedition. Our pupils participated in walking or canoeing expeditions. The final section involved participation in a residential activity for four days.



Good Morning Vietnam – the Far East trip of a lifetime

This summer, two groups of students from the Fifth Year and Sixth Form set off for an adventure of a lifetime to Vietnam to immerse themselves in the culture, assist in a number of community projects and push themselves physically trekking in the hills. This four week personal development expedition to Vietnam was the culmination of 18 months of fundraising, team building, planning and training and for most, it was the longest they had ever been away from home.

The groups flew to Hanoi and after a few days of acclimatisation, including a trip to the world heritage site of Halong Bay, headed up to the northern region of the country close to the Chinese border by overnight train. Up in the hills it was definitely a little cooler but very much wetter. The old colonial French hill station of Sapa was a great place to trek from, especially whilst being accompanied by the many ethnic ladies trying to sell their embroidery and jewellery. Trekking along the muddy edges of the paddy fields in the mist shrouded valleys was beautiful though difficult at times in the humidity and the home stays were a welcome end to the days. Once the mud had been washed off and cups of green tea gratefully accepted, the students were able to help out with preparing the evening meal; spring rolls and fried chicken and rice being a popular choice.

It was with relief, and a huge sense of achievement for some, when the trekking phase was over. A celebration meal in Sapa was appreciated by all before the groups headed out on project. One group was staying in a Red Dao ethnic tribe village and the other a Black H'Mong ethnic tribe village. Both groups were involved in painting murals on the walls of the local primary schools and making and laying concrete for paths and a playground. The work on both these projects

had been requested by the villagers and will be appreciated by them for many years to come. It was a great feeling for the students to know that they really had made an improvement to the local villagers' lives. Living in the home stays for a week also gave the students a chance to understand the culture and respect the ethnic tribes' way of life.

It was sad to say goodbye to the home stay families at the end of the project but the students were looking forward to some rest and relaxation activities, as well as being able to have a decent shower and wash their clothes. Several overnight train journeys later, the students were exploring the DMZ and Vin Moch tunnels at Hue and on from there to the My Son Temples and sights of Hoi An. Many students also took the chance to get suits and shoes made, a particular tourist attraction of the area, as well as take part in a cookery class. It was then back to Hanoi for some last minute souvenir shopping and sightseeing before flying home. Vietnam was truly an amazing destination for an expedition and a great experience for the students involved.



Prizegiving Day comes home to King's grounds

In July, the annual King's Prizegiving was held, for the first time, in a marquee on the School's Grounds. 1200 pupils, the 2013 leavers, staff and parents attended the event to see 144 prizes awarded to around 100 pupils.



AFTER A WELCOME FROM Councillor Eleanor Johnson, Chair of Governors, the outstanding achievements of many pupils were recognised with prizes awarded by Professor David Eastwood, Vice Chancellor, University of Birmingham. From outstanding academic results and honours in district, regional and national competition in sport and rowing to wonderful drama productions and spectacular musical performances, it was indeed a fine year for King's.

Pupils showcased their musical talent at the event with a range of individual and group performances.

After the Prizegiving ceremony, 550 prize winners, leavers, staff and parents enjoyed a reception of Afternoon Tea and Pimms.



Maths lectures provide the formula for success

THIS TERM KING'S HAD THE PLEASURE OF MATHEMATICIANS Matt Parker, Katie Steckles and Colin Wright coming to the School to give lectures on 'Adventures in the Fourth Dimension', 'Number Matrix: The Hidden Mathematics of Technology' and 'The Maths of Juggling'.

The lectures were open to both King's pupils and students from other schools. All three Mathematicians' lectures were found to be thoroughly engaging, useful and highly entertaining.



History trip students pay their respects to the fallen of WW1

With the Great War centenary almost upon us, it seemed appropriate to visit Ypres and the Somme on the Western Front, in whose battlefields many fought and in whose cemeteries countless thousands now lie.

IT IS DIFFICULT TO APPRECIATE the scale of slaughter and make sense of something so huge and chaotic. Visiting cemeteries and museums helps, as does walking – or sometimes running – the ground. All of these things happened, but perhaps the most important element is the quality of the guide. Returning for his 11th tour with King's, Colonel Piers Storie-Pugh once again brought history to life, captivating the group with his stories and impressing all with his vast knowledge.

As always, a particular focus was the commemoration of the Old King's Scholars who gave their lives. On this trip the group remembered no less than 14 – some with graves, some not. Although a large party, comprising 60 pupils and six members of staff, everyone was involved at some time or another, whether writing the tribute card for a wreath, laying a remembrance cross or saying a few lines of poetry. The staff and pupils were up early and out late and did justice to Lawrence Binyon's famous lines: "At the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember them."

A visit to Grove Town cemetery on the Somme was especially memorable and moving. Never before visited on a Battlefields trip, in a cemetery unknown even to Piers Storie-Pugh, the well travelled and expert guide, pupils and staff paid their respects to the grave of Wilbraham Fremantle Smith, killed during the Battle of the Somme in September 1916, as the light faded and autumn's chill set in.

Visits to museums, trenches and tunnels provided some relief from the emotional intensity of cemetery visits. The museums ranged in style from the traditional such as Hooze Crater to the modern open-plan layout of the Historial in Péronne. All found their admirers within the group, as did the many subterranean visits. While the lure

of 'Subway' proved irresistible to most students, it was the tunnels of Arras, Vimy and Albert that provided more educational nourishment, especially the Wellington Tunnels underneath Arras. Here they donned earphones and receivers as well as replica World War One helmets before descending twenty feet below the surface into a vast network of tunnels and chambers. Seeing the troops' artwork and signage on the chalk walls helped make the experience immediate and deeply touching.

Sustained by an indecent number of Belgian chocolates, the party found much else that was thought-provoking and educational. The German cemetery at Langemark afforded an instructive comparison with Commonwealth War graves cemeteries, its new entrance complete with wall-inset video screens and speakers projecting sound into an echoing chamber. The trenches at Vimy Ridge and especially those at Hooze Crater were explored eagerly, a little too eagerly by one member of staff, as she ended up sitting down in the Flanders mud. At Serre students role-played the advance of the Pals' Battalions on the first day of the Somme and experienced for themselves how difficult it is for a large number of people to move through a narrow gap at speed, and they weren't being shot at.

In five days it is impossible to do justice to the Great War but both pupils and staff have all returned with a greater understanding of this momentous event (as well as far too many Belgian chocolates) and have been inspired to seek answers to further questions. Surely a return visit is called for?



All-action adventures at the Manor...

Removes pupils embarked on the Manor Adventure Trip to Shropshire at the start of term. Pupils thoroughly enjoyed the trip, participating in activities from abseiling to assault courses.



"I really enjoyed Manor Adventure because I gained amazing experiences and made lots of new friends. All the activities were such fun and I don't think that I will ever do anything like that again. We did crate-stacking, a confidence course, an underground maze, archery, shooting and an obstacle course. It was a great experience."

Saffie (RmSB)

"Manor Adventure was an incredible place. The confidence course was very challenging because you have to be brave to go on it, however it was enjoyable. Dinner was also delicious."

Luna (RmSC)



"Manor Adventure was great fun and I was sad to go home."

Dylan (RmSC)



"Challenging, adventurous and memorable are only a few ways to describe how fantastic Manor Adventure was. It was one of the most memorable times in my life!"

Mia (RmSC)



A stylish send off for Sixth Formers

The Sixth Form Leavers Ball 2013 was held at Doubletree Hilton Hotel at the end of term.



The King's School Presents
OH WHAT A LOVELY WAR
 To mark the 100 year Anniversary of World War 1, King's Drama Department will present a Theatre Workshop's satirical musical...
March 12th-15th 2014
 Starts: 7:30pm
 Tickets: Adults: £8
 Concessions: £6

A prom to remember!

The Fifth Year prom was held, for the first time, at Carden Park Hotel in July.



Geographers explore London on weekend trip

In October, 48 intrepid Third Year geographers enjoyed a geographical weekend in London. It was a packed schedule on both days and there was some speculation about whether the geographers would be able to do everything on the busy itinerary!

HOWEVER, STICK TO THE SCHEDULE they did! On Saturday morning they visited the National Maritime Museum, to study oceanic pollution, Greenwich Royal Observatory and the Planetarium. The Planetarium show covered 'exo planets' and it brought home how small yet invariably precious the planet is. The group travelled for a visit to the Thames Flood Barrier, the inquisitive geographers asked question after question here whilst sat on the South Bank. There was a fitting end to the first day as the group had a 90 minute boat trip on the Thames. After a hearty meal at Thameside Youth Hostel the pupils continued their studies by undertaking a role play on renewable versus non renewable energy.

On Sunday morning pupils visited the Natural History Museum, particularly looking at the Geology and Ecology galleries as well as taking an obligatory stroll past T-Rex and the Blue Whale. It is still amazing to see

the size and scale of the largest living mammal on earth. After lunch pupils visited the Sea life Centre, here they learned more about pollution and conservation issues of the seas and oceans. The finale of the field trip was a visit to the London Eye preceded by a 4D film. This was a thrilling end to a brilliant weekend and it was with a heavy heart that the geographers crossed the Thames for the last time to head north.

The River Thames proved to be the meandering thread throughout the whole trip both literally and geographically. Over the course of the two days pupils learnt about the importance of the Thames throughout London's history, the use and abuse of the river and how it can be managed to cope with the onslaught of rising sea levels and increased precipitation.

The Geography Department is already planning to return to London next autumn... so Shells... watch out!



Opera night hits all the right notes

In front of a packed house, King's singing students gave a wonderful concert of vocal music in November.

STUDENTS PERFORMED A BROAD VARIETY OF SERIOUS AND LIGHTER MUSICAL STYLES. Though some singers are experienced performers, some were performing for the first time as soloists, and for them this concert represented a real performing challenge. Each song was performed with polish and style and gave an appreciative audience an insight into the work that the wonderful singing teachers do week by week. Thanks go to Miss Latifa, Mrs Tyson, Mrs Cooke and Mrs Marrs for preparing the students so well and to the students for being brave and committed to perform.



Performers were: Carmen Boyd (RmSB), Anna Chadwick (ShRA), Devanshi Chengappa (ShRA), David Daly (L6BH), Isla Dunn (L6NS), Arran Fearn (ShBB), Catriona Hogg (5JM), Marissa Landy (L6NS), Isobel Larken (4AC), Niamh Massey (5EH), Reya Patil (4CG), Katie Pownall (L6JS), Gemma Rigby (U6SB) and Zoe Rigby (5ET).

Students develop interview skills with Oxford University workshop



King's hosted an Oxford University Interview Workshop in November for Upper Sixth students from King's and other local schools.

The session was run by Dr Eleanor David who is a lecturer at Oxford University in the Modern and Medieval Language Faculty and enabled students to develop their skills in interview techniques through advice and practical activities.

Combined Cadet Force's summer adventure!

Over the summer the Cadets had a week of fun-filled and action packed activities!



FOURTY-FOUR CADETS FROM THE ARMY SECTION of the CCF travelled down to Sennybridge Camp in South Wales for an incredibly exciting and busy week. Cadets worked extremely hard and took part in a huge variety of activities such as canoeing, rafting, orienteering, peacekeeping, target shooting, quad biking, clay pigeon shooting and far more. The week was enjoyed by all and notable highlights were receiving the prize for the Drill Competition, rescuing General von Trapp and all cadets shooting the Light Support Weapon.



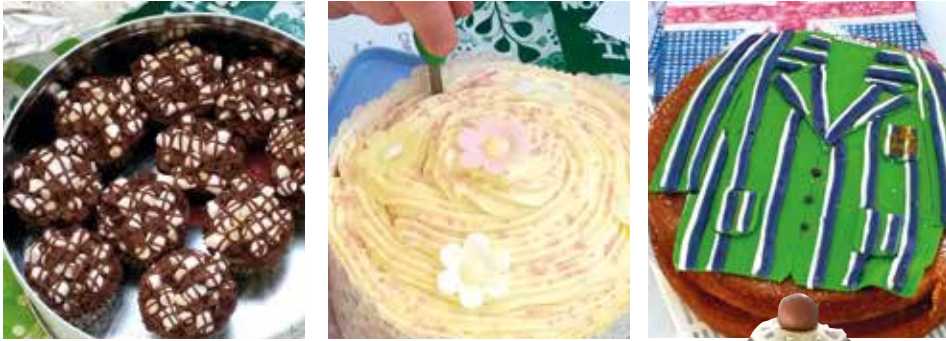
Twelve Cadets from the CCF RAF section travelled to RAF Coningsby in Lincolnshire for the Summer Camp. RAF Coningsby has a diverse selection

of aircraft operating from its airfield: Typhoon and Tornado GR4, together with the historic aircraft of the world-famous Battle of Britain Memorial Flight, i.e. much of the history of the RAF in the last 70 years. The cadets saw Fast Jets flying on a daily basis and from their tents they heard (rather than saw) the pilots practicing their night flying! Regulars from the RAF station gave up their time to show the cadets around the sections in which they work. Cadets were also taken around the Survival Equipment Section and visited the Squadrons that are based there. The staff at Coningsby had devised a very full programme for the cadets, making sure it was an excellent camp for all; they really put the cadets through their paces with the RAF fitness test, an exciting NITEX and both low and high ropes courses.

In addition, all cadets went shooting in the Digital Closed Combat Trainer and the Station Warrant Officer, responsible for the discipline of everybody on the station, took time out of his busy schedule to judge the drill competition at the end of the week. Cadets also enjoyed a VIP tour of the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight, getting much closer to the aircraft than members of the public are allowed and they found time to fit in a visit to RAF Waddington. The RAF operates seven E-3D Sentry aircraft (named after the Seven Dwarfs!) as the UK's contribution to the NATO Airborne Early Warning and Control Force and cadets were given a tour of one of them.



Cancer support day takes the cake!



In September, pupils sold cakes they had baked themselves for the Macmillan Cancer Support charity. The sale was extremely successful and with a never ending queue, pupils managed to raise over £200!

Mr Beasley, the School Catering Manager, judged the pupils baking efforts and ranked the top three best cakes on their presentation and taste: A layered sponge cake by Henry Greaves (4GC) came in at 1st place, Emily Cartwright's (3RC) lemon drizzle cake made 2nd place and Eve Jawara (RmVL) was positioned in 3rd place.



Debating team go multilingual

In November, four French and Spanish students travelled to Cheadle Hulme School in Manchester for a day of debating against other school students.

ALEX JEKOV (U6AM) AND JACK WEBBER (U6DB) (French team) narrowly lost their first debate but came back strongly and won their second, where they had to argue against the motion 'Prisons are of no use.' Alex and Jack debated with incredible confidence and they did extremely well against some tough opposition.

Alex Kerr (U6PW) and Josh Jones (U6HF) (Spanish team) had to argue against the motion 'Environmental protests are a waste of time' in their first debate and argue against the motion 'Prisons are of no use' in their second. Although they also debated maturely and eloquently against their opposition they unfortunately did not make it through to the final.

The debaters had an incredible experience which will help them with their A2 speaking tests next year.

£2,500 raised for Children in Need

Pupils raised a total of approximately £2,500 for Children in Need. Senior School pupils and Sixth Formers wore non uniform and the Junior School pupils dressed up in onesies!

ALL PUPILS CONTRIBUTED £2 each and were engaged in numerous activities to raise money for Children in Need. Sixth Formers collected money by holding a competition for 'How many sweets are in the jar?' and Year 7-Year 9 pupils had a competition to see which Tutor group could raise the most money. From baking and selling 'lollipop cakes' to sponsored silences, pupils were imaginative and enjoyed helping Children in Need.





If J4 be the cast we love, play on...

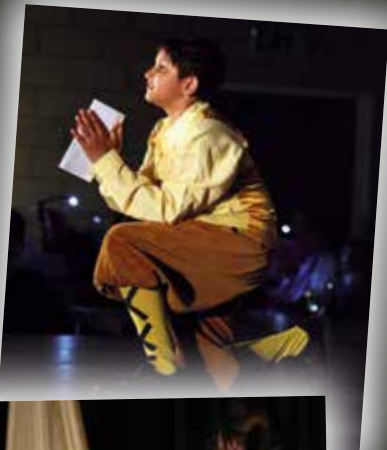


Students do the Bard (and our retiring directors) proud, with a splendid *Twelfth Night* production.

TWELFTH NIGHT was a wonderfully entertaining J4 production, packed with mystery, romance, intrigue and humour at the end of last term. All of last year's J4 pupils took part in the fantastic production. Special mention must go to the lead roles: *Emily Hynes* as Olivia; *William More* as Sir Toby Belch; *Max Wood* as Sir Andrew; *Harshi Chauhan* as Malvolio; *Matthew Hynes* as Feste; *Alchemy Lucas* as Maria; *Daniel Sharratt* as Fabian and *Jake Wundke* as Sebastian.

The performance was extra special because, due to them both retiring, it was the last time that the talented staff duo of Mrs Gibson and Mrs Roberts directed and produced a play at King's. They have worked together here for the past 15 years and Mrs Roberts has been a mainstay of productions at King's for the last 23 years.





COMING SOON: a fantastic new Learning Centre for the Junior School

By Autumn 2014, the Junior School will have a new Learning Centre.

THE CENTRE WILL INCLUDE a science laboratory, Art Studio and a Computer, Design Technology Workshop, plus an outdoor classroom. The Junior School reception will be relocated to the new building as will the library where it will have a new and expanded area. There will also be some new office facilities and a specialist SEN classroom.

The project will cost between £1m – £1.5m and will add state-of-the-art facilities to the Junior School, unrivalled in Chester.

Pupils in the Junior School are very excited about the addition of this new Learning Centre which will see some fantastic new areas for them to explore.



Harvest Festival reaps rewards for Hospice

The Junior School celebrated The Harvest Festival with a wonderful assembly. Many gifts were brought by the pupils for The Hospice of the Good Shepherd, Chester.

In the Harvest Assembly, pupils learned about some of the work the Hospice does for people in the area and the massive impact their work has on those needing their support. Helen Higginson, from The Hospice of the Good Shepherd thanked the children and parents for the donations made and the thought and time taken to help.



U11s invitational Netball and Football Tournament is a real winner

At the start of the school term King's held an invitational Netball and Football tournament for U11s across schools in Chester and North Wales.



THE KING'S TEAMS PERFORMED VERY WELL: The girls' netball team won the competition in grand style, winning all their matches of the afternoon! The boys' U11s A team came 2nd in the football main competition, winning five out of six matches. The boys' B team also came 2nd in the Plate competition.

The referees and umpires were all current and former King's students and, along with our Junior Sport Leaders, ran the score tables and helped with each of the school teams.



Running out on top at cross country championships

With bright skies, a sea breeze and no showers to be seen, the annual Association of Junior Independent Schools (AJIS) Cross Country Championships, held at Rossall School, couldn't have been on a better day this year and what a fantastic result it was for the Junior School.

Outperforming all other competitors, the total King's medal tally reached 23 and School records were convincingly smashed. King's 27 junior runners performed exceptionally well with the U11 girls' team winning the event for the first time in the history of the School. The U10 boys' team retained their trophy and the U11 boys' team won silver. Tom Hughes (J4P) gained gold for the second successive year!



The top 20 positions were recorded by the following pupils:

U11 Girls': Heather Black (J4H) 4th, Sophie Williams (J4P) 9th, Phoebe Binneman (J4H) 15th and Lucy Osborne (J4P) 16th.

U11 Boys': Tom Hughes (J4P) Gold, George Arnold (J4P) 15th and Fergus Rathbone (J4H) 16th.

U10 Boys': Eden Hambleton-Davies (J30) Bronze, Zak Packer (J3B) 8th, Jacob England (J30) 9th and Saul Corry (J3S) 13th.

Tag rugby tournament is a festival of friendly fun



The junior boys enjoyed playing at a Tag Rugby Festival in October, where they played against Manchester Grammar, Birkenhead and St Ambrose schools.

The festival was a huge success with no winners or losers. A true emphasis of team spirit and love for the sport from the King's boys was displayed.



Juniors hit the target on Cambridge football trip

The U11 A/B Football Squad completed a hectic but hugely enjoyable three days in Cambridge for their annual Football tour. 18 pupils played in three fixtures against Bedford Modern, Kimbolton and The Perse Schools. The A team won one, drew one and lost one, whereas the B team had a 100% record of three wins (scoring ten goals and conceding only one) – well done Mr Pownall!

As well as the football games, the boys took part in the annual Ten Pin Bowling tournament at the Lakeside Country Club and had a fun swimming session at Parkside Swimming Centre in Cambridge, whilst enjoying the company and hospitality of The Perse School's friendly host families each evening. Throughout the three days, the boys were wonderfully behaved and competed in a fair and committed manner.



Memories come flooding back for the class of '63



It was fantastic to welcome back alumni from 1963 to King's earlier in September. Some had not set foot on the School's grounds for 50 years and were amazed and impressed at the changes that had taken place.

THIS WAS THE GROUP OF PUPILS THAT VIVIDLY REMEMBERED THE OPENING OF THE NEW SCHOOL SITE on Wrexham Road by the Queen Mother in 1960. Several were involved in the events that were organised to impress on that day, including gym displays and a guard of honour of Cadet Forces. One former pupil, John Tapscott brought with him an oak leaf that several pupils were given to wear on the day. All recounted with delight the moment the Queen Mother announced that the boys would all be given a WEEK off school to celebrate – all (including the Masters) had expected one day!

The reunion also included a tour of the School conducted by current Upper Sixth students, a buffet lunch and concluded with a convivial evening meal at 'The Architect' restaurant in Chester. Many memories were recalled and entertaining anecdotes shared.

Novelist Nigel shares the tricks of the trade with students

Former King's pupil Nigel Wheeler (1961 leaver) visited School in November to present the library with a copy of his debut novel 'The Girlfriend'.

HAVING RETIRED FROM THE ARMY MEDICAL CORPS IN 2005, Nigel turned his hand to writing. The novel is based loosely on his own experiences in Berlin in the 1980s and in the military during the Falklands War.

Nigel joined Fifth Year pupils during their lesson to discuss the key considerations when writing a novel and how this differs from other forms of writing. He also spoke to Sixth Form historians about his fascinating experiences in a segregated Berlin during the 1980s.



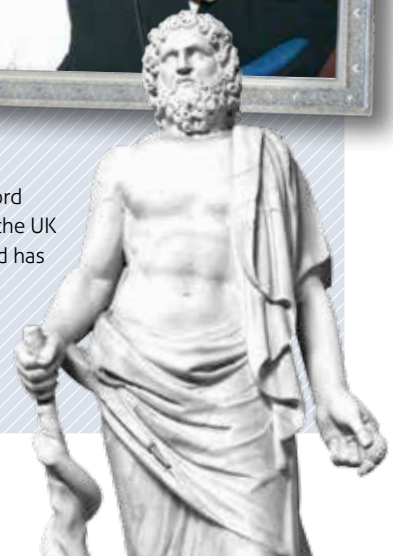
A clean bill of health for the Medics' dinner

Over 40 people gathered in The Music School Recital Hall for the first King's Medics' Dinner in November.

ATTEENDEES INCLUDED qualified medical alumni, undergraduate and current Sixth Form students, parents of current and former pupils who are medics themselves and current teaching staff. The alumni were represented by leavers from the 1960s through to 2009. Their chosen disciplines included Orthopaedics, Paediatrics, Anaesthesia, Gastroenterology, Radiography, Sonography, General Practice, Physiotherapy, Neurosurgery and Veterinary.

Our excellent Guest Speaker was Ian KamalyAsl, Consultant Paediatric Neurosurgeon at the Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust. Ian is also the national lead for Neurosurgery National Selection in the UK and has, to his name 14 peer review publications, 37 published abstracts, two book chapters and has given 58 presentations at national and international meetings.

As well as creating the opportunity for professional networking, this enjoyable evening provided a warm and convivial atmosphere for returning alumni to look around their old school and meet up with former classmates.



High flyer Graham gains his 'Golden Wings'

The Alumni Office was recently informed of some fantastic news for recent leaver Graham Bendall.

GRAHAM WILL COMMENCE A YEAR'S TRAINING for a European Aviation Safety Agency Commercial Pilot's Licence for Helicopters at Bristow's helicopter training academy in Florida in September 2014.

Graham was one of four winners of a highly sought-after National Private Pilot's Licence (NPPL) scholarship, which he completed this summer and was presented with his 'Golden Wings'.

Following his year's training, he will return to the UK to attend Bristow's Instrument Flying School at Staverton, for an Instrument Rating qualification for Helicopters. Subject to successful completion he will then be offered a full time position. In addition to this scholarship, Graham was also the winner of an Engineering Scholarship in the summer awarded by Vector Aerospace, Gosport. All at King's wish him well with his endeavours!



Yes Minister! Congratulations to old boy Matthew

Matthew Hancock, who left King's in 1995, has been promoted in the recent Cabinet re-shuffle to Minister of State for Skills and Enterprise. In his new role he will also take on responsibility for enterprise, particularly small businesses.

MATTHEW TOOK TO TWITTER, shortly after Mr Cameron announced his move, on the social media site to say: "Delighted PM has asked me to be Minister of State for Skills and Enterprise – a lot done, a lot more to do."

It is a step up from his role as Parliamentary Undersecretary of State, where he has been in charge of further education, the government's skills strategy and apprenticeships, among other things. We wish him well and are hoping he will be able to fit in a visit to King's in the near future.

Sir Jim takes up top Gibraltar post

Sir James (Jim) Benjamin Dutton KCB CBE has been appointed Governor of Gibraltar and will take up the role this December.

He succeeds Vice-Admiral Sir Adrian Johns KCB CBE. Jim was at King's from 1964 to 1972 and was the Guest Speaker at a recent CAOKS Dinner. He spoke about his term as Deputy Commander of the International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan which was fascinating.



We didn't know they were alumni

Edward O Griffith (OKS circa 1901) – British sculptor, particularly known for his work in Liverpool. He carved the entire sculptural work at the Post Office in Victoria Street and all the stone in Holy Trinity Church in Southport, Lancashire.



Holy Trinity Church in Southport, Lancashire.



David Roberts (OKS circa 1876) – Engineer and Inventor of the caterpillar track that was demonstrated to the Army in 1907 and widely used subsequently.

If you discover any former King's pupils that you think we may not know about, please contact the Alumni Office at: alumniteam@kingschester.co.uk

Link up with our



If you haven't already, please do join our OAKS LinkedIn Group. With over 260 members it's a forum through which you can discuss any topic relating to School, past or present, or use professional connections to ask advice. All members have a connection to King's.

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

Don't forget next year's reunions are on the following dates:

8th February 2014	1964
15th March 2014	1984
10th May 2014	1994
21st June 2014	1991

Hola!

Sports teams enjoy Spanish tour

Fifty-three pupils and six members of staff travelled to Estepona, Spain in October for a combined football and netball tour.

A COMBINATION OF fantastic coaching from Netball England and Malaga FC staff saw all players develop their skills, with these further honed by games against Spanish, Gibraltar (and Welsh) opposition.

The sports side of the tour was complemented by 'down time' in the wonderful Atalaya Park resort as well as a stadium tour, sightseeing in Gibraltar, a trip to Puerto Banus and some retail therapy. Congratulations to all players for their efforts on the pitch/court and their excellent behaviour throughout the trip.



Rowers enjoy US success at Head of the Charles Tour

This year, the Senior Boys went to Boston, after the successful trip last year for the Girls' Squad.

THE 2013 HEAD OF THE CHARLES TOUR TO BOSTON, USA, was everything a modern sports tour should be. The boys were a credit to the School as they competed at the International Head race over 4.8 Kilometres upstream on the world famous River Charles. Competing in Youth Vllls, the 1st and 2nd Vlll gave a great account of themselves. The 1st Vlll came 15th and the 2nd Vlll 44th in a field of 85;

this set of results represented the best ever showing of the club at this event, with the 1st Vlll finishing as the second quickest GB Youth Vlll at the event.

Racing was also combined with a range of activities across the week. In between training sessions, the boys visited cultural and historical sites across the city, as well as the occasional trip to a shopping mall!

In addition, the Vllls trained and raced with the crews from Brookline High School, our hosts, and on the last day competed in a match over four 2000 Metre pieces.

Aside from the racing the athletes got a real feel for New England in the fall, the weather was wonderful

with clear skies and mild, warm weather. Whether on a trip to the freedom trail or racing on the river, the boys were positive about every experience. There is no doubt that the athletes return with a real feel for racing at an international event as well as a very positive experience of the USA. Great memories, plenty of traded kit and a real team environment were all major features of the trip and all athletes return with the icing on the cake as they all competed to the best of the ability at the Head of the Charles 2013.

Many thanks go to the parents who supported the trip, both in the UK with fundraising but also the parents who travelled to the USA to support the team. Thanks also go to OKS David Roberts who gave wonderful support on the trip as the 2nd Vlll coach. The boys were lucky to be inspired by such wise words.



A summer of medals for School rowers

It has certainly been a busy summer for the King's School Senior Rowers, members of the boys' 1st Vlll moved onto international duties after their successful Henley campaign.

JACK WEBBER (U6DB) AND FORMER PUPILS LIAM HUNT, GEORGE MIDDLEHURST AND TOMMY REEVES (COX) joined the Welsh squad in preparation for the Home Countries International Regatta at Nottingham. The three 1st Vlll rowers rowed in the coxless four and the Welsh Vlll. Pushing hard in the Vlll the crew, coxed by Tommy Reeves challenged the much fancied England Vlll all the way to finish 2nd. Tommy had raced earlier on in the day in the coxed four, his crew finished in 2nd after leading the race for 1500 metres. In the coxless four, Jack, George and Liam, along with an athlete from Monmouth School, faced the much fancied England and Ireland crews. The

English crew, with four of the eight Abingdon School rowers on board, were favourites after their win at Henley only three weeks before. The King's boys however produced the upset of the day, leading out of the blocks the crew moved consistently away from the England four, winning the race in true King's style and the gold medal with it for Wales.

After a gruelling selection camp, Ralph Elsegood (U6HF) won a seat in the GB coxless four to go to the Coupe de la Jeunesse (Junior European Championships) which were



held this year at Lucerne in Switzerland. His crew won a bronze medal on the Saturday and followed this up with a silver medal on the Sunday. Against the top junior crews from around Europe, in what is regarded as a key boat type, this was a fantastic result for Ralph who now joins the list of past King's rowers with international honours and medals.

Riding high at National Schools' Equestrian Association school qualifier



King's produced a very strong force at the National Schools' Equestrian Association (NSEA) school qualifier at Southview Equestrian centre in September.

THE SCHOOL HAD EIGHT RIDERS who took part in ten classes over two days to try to qualify for these competitive NSEA Schools' Championships. For the first time ever a Junior School member competed, Sophie Williams (J4P) riding Elvet Lonestar.

It was a very successful weekend for King's with six students qualifying for the Championships. Oliver Williams (3HL) came 2nd on Bobby in 1m jump with style class (JWS) and show jump class (SJ), he also came 2nd riding Mazing in the 90m JWS class.

One King's team came 2nd in the 80m show jumping class, qualifying for the Nationals. The team consisted of Paddy Barlow (RmVL), Eleri Reece-Jones (4DL), Katie McNamara (3HL) and Alasdair Montgomery (3HL).

Chloe Stratton (U6SW) has also previously qualified for the Nationals for dressage class.



King's girls run out double winners at cross country

The girls performed exceptionally well in the Chester and District Cross Country Championships in October.

The Minor Girls' Team (Removes) came 5th overall with Ailsa Black (RmPH) as King's highest finisher in 10th place in a race with 50 runners across seven schools. Emily Haughton (RmLB) came 25th, Jasmine Denton finished 27th, Beth Dobson was placed 30th and Ellie Saunders followed in 31st position.

The Junior Girls' Team (3rds/4ths) won their race overall. There were 42 runners in this category, Martha Owen (3AI) came 2nd, Anna Lloyd (3ML) came 7th, Siobhan Benson (3RC) was placed 11th, Isabel Thomas (ShCM) finished in 12th and Laura Scott (SHJJ) came in 23rd position.

The Inter Girls' Team (4ths/5ths) also gained 1st position. There were 17 runners in this group and Eleri Reece-Jones (4DL) came 6th, Jemima Benson (4CG) finished in 8th place, Jennifer

McDonald (4HC) came 9th, Anna Plunkett (4DL) was placed 11th, Sophie Davies (4FV) followed in 12th position and Emily Letton (4JR) finished in 15th place.

The Senior Girls' Squad (Sixth Form) had three runners (the most from any other school in the district!) and all three finished high enough to be selected for the District Team. Unfortunately there were not enough runners in this

category for an overall team to have won. All three girls finished consecutively with Jessica Arnall (U6AM) coming in 2nd place, Olivia Rogerson (L6NH) finishing in 3rd and Fiona McDonald (L6KS) finishing in 4th position.

The boys had six runners and notable performances came from Matthew Willis (3RC), who won the Junior Event and Calum Huxley (RmCR), who was 2nd in the Minors' event.



Hockey girls make the finals

King's U14 Girls' Hockey Squad made it to the North Finals held at Leeds University in November.

THE NORTH FINALS were a fantastic achievement for the U14 squad, who reached the tournament as one of the top eight schools in the North of England. This

is the first time that King's have played in the North Finals at U14 level. Every player was a credit to the School and King's could not have battled harder. The team gained invaluable

experience, proving that they can more than compete at this level. This will hopefully spur the team on to aim to compete at this level, or higher, over the next few years.



U16 Boys' Squad are crowned North of England Champions!

The U16 Boys' Hockey Squad competed in the U16 Indoor Hockey North of England Schools' Championships in Hartlepool in December.

IT WAS THE FIRST TIME KING'S ENTERED THE INDOOR TOURNAMENT. The boys competed against five northern schools: Baines, Egglecliffe, Yarm, Rossall and Queen Elizabeth Grammar Schools and defeated all of them to be crowned 'The North of England Champions'. They will now progress onto the National Finals at Whitgift School, Croydon in January 2014.



Junior and Senior **HALLOWEEN** Dance Showcase

The Junior and Senior Dance Clubs put on a spectacularly spooky show, as a late Halloween celebration in December for their friends and families. The girls began learning routines, in the Dance Clubs at the start of the Michaelmas term meeting for half an hour each week.

THE SHOW OPENED WITH the Seniors dancing street to Missy Elliot – 'Lose Control' and followed with a vocal performance from Anna Chadwick (ShRA), who sang Emile Sande – 'Read All About It' and 'Suitcase'. The Juniors danced to Harry Potter's theme song and all dancers performed together for the finale, Michael Jackson's infamous *Thriller!*



Girls' U14 Netball Squad Compete in National Schools' Competition

The girls' U14 Netball team, for the first time, entered the National Schools' Competition, held at Whitby High School, Ellesmere Port in November. King's were one of ten teams across Cheshire in the tournament.

At U13 level the girls' squad won the County Tournament and have remained unbeaten for two netball seasons, the National Schools' Competition was their toughest challenge to date. They won seven matches, drew one and lost one earning their place in the second round of the U14 National Schools' Netball, due to take place in February 2014.



STOP PRESS! STOP PRESS! STOP PRESS! STOP PRESS! STOP PRESS! STOP PRESS!



Matt's an 'iron man' Triathlon champ

In September, Matthew Willis (3RC) was crowned Champion in the British Inter-Regional Triathlon Star 3 boys' race (ages 13/14). Competing at the iconic venue Eton Dorney, Matthew won his race with a time of 00:23.36. Matthew's North West team also placed 1st.



Matt and Seb cycle right around Wales for children's charity

This summer saw Matt Groome (U6DB) and Seb Morris (OKS) cycle 720 miles for the Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital Charity. The pair cycled around the circumference of Wales. It was a demanding ten day challenge that involved Welsh cities Cardiff, Swansea and Anglesey! They raised £1305 for Great Ormond Street Hospital and were also invited down to London to present the cheque to the hospital.



Well done Sara, the eventing queen

Sara Ashworth (U6AM) has been selected for both the Talented Athlete Scholarship Scheme (TASS) Programme (2013-2014) and British Equestrian Federation (BEF) Excel Talent Programme (2013-2015). These are fantastic achievements for Sara and her horse Hero and a brilliant opportunity for her to be recognised at the absolute top of her sport. The overall aim of the TASS is to assist Great Britain's most talented young athletes who wish to optimise the effectiveness of their sports and academic programmes, propelling them towards Olympic medals, whilst ensuring that they can fulfil their academic potential alongside their sporting ambitions.

BEF Excel Talent Programme aims to produce a pool of up and coming talented young riders across the England Regions who are not currently on the BEF's World Class Programme. Over the summer Sara was also selected as first reserve for the Junior British Team that competed at the Junior European Eventing Championships at Haras du Pin in France.



Rugby star George trains with England

George Nott (U6DB), an avid rugby player, has been playing for Chester 1st XV for many years now and over the last few years has also played for Sale Jets and Sale Sharks U18 Squad.

This season George is captain of the Sale Sharks. In November, George attended a three day U18 training camp for the England Squad at Loughborough University.



Will represents North England Hockey Team

William Dodd-Moore (5MP) was invited to represent the North England team in Hockey, playing against the East South and West earlier this term.



Inline Hockey Gold for GB star Jack

Jack Meadows (L6NH) travelled to California to represent Great Britain for the Inline Hockey Junior World Championship in the summer. The tournament was played at the highly acclaimed Huntington Beach and Irvine Rinks which proved a test for the team. The boiling weather often saw GB play on outdoor rinks in the middle of the day at 40°C.

The GB team started the tournament with a convincing 7-1 win over a strong Canada team in which Jack scored two goals. The team finished the group stage in a good position and advanced to the final against New Zealand. After falling behind twice, GB came out on top 4-2 with a last second goal from Jack to seal it. This U16 team is the first British team of their age group to ever win this tournament.

Netball girls get the call up



Megan Gareth (3RC) and Anna Chadwick (ShRA) have been successful, after two sets of trials, in securing places in the Cheshire County Netball Squad. Anna has also been selected for the U14 Manchester Thunder Netball Squad. Manchester Thunder is a top team in the netball SuperLeague for Senior players.



Lora Hunt (4JR) has been selected for the U15 Netball Regional Training England Programme representing North West Pathway. Lora is one of only 22 girls from the North West who have been selected for the England programme. In addition, Lora has been selected to join the Manchester Thunder U19 Netball Performance League as part of their Development Squad. Last year Lora was the only King's pupil to have competed at both county and regional level representing the U14 County Academy and U14 Regional Academy. Her exceptional success continues: Lora is one of only five girls of her age, throughout the North West, to have achieved selection for both the U15 Netball Regional Training England Programme and Manchester Thunder U19 NPL Squad.



Dame names Jack 'Good Citizen'

In November, Jack Jameson (U6PW) was awarded a Liverpool John Moores University "Good Citizenship Award" by Dame Tanni Grey-Thompson and Lord David Alton at Liverpool Philharmonic Hall. The award was given for Jack's work with and for Heswall Disabled Children's Holiday. Jack volunteered a week of his time at the residential camp for boys aged 6-16 years of age, from North West England, who have various disabilities. The award was followed by an inspirational speech by Dame Tanni Grey-Thompson DBE on overcoming disability and adversity.

STOP PRESS! STOP PRESS! STOP PRESS! STOP PRESS! STOP PRESS! STOP PRESS!



Marissa lands a place in National Youth Chamber Orchestra

Marissa Landy (L6NS) is a part of the National Youth Chamber Orchestra. She will be one of only two flautists in the NYCO. Last year Marissa successfully auditioned for the National Children's Chamber Orchestra. Subsequently, in the summer, she was invited back as a member of the National Youth Wind Ensemble, but has been offered a place as a member of the top ensemble within this organisation. They will work during a residential period after Easter that will culminate in a concert in Cambridge.



Georgia's Amplify acceptance

Georgia Spender (RmCR) has been accepted to be part of Amplify, the Children's Commissioner's Advisory Group of Children and Young People. Amplify make sure the voice of children and young people are listened to and taken seriously. They are involved in several activities, such as: leading projects, sharing views and issues that affect young people, contributing to the Government's thinking and representing children and young people's views at important meetings.



Elliot's top talent agency

Elliot Anthony (RmSB) has been signed up by London's 'Top Talent Agency' for his acting. It is an agency recognised nationally, giving him the opportunity to showcase his talent in TV, film, commercials and theatre.

Junior Individual Successes

Alex, county tennis star



This summer, Alex Matijasevic (J2R) took part in the County Cheshire Tennis Championship in the category 'eight and under' (Mini-Red, his age group in tennis until April 2014) and was the runner-up County Champion. Since the winter season started Alex has been allowed to play for the category above his age group, 'Orange: nine and under'. In less than two months of playing in this category, Alex reached 3rd position in the County Cheshire leader board.



Finn and Toby's 88 mile cycle challenge

Finn Abberton (U6DB) and Toby Miller (U6DB) rose to the challenge of the lung-busting and leg-aching Wiggle Etape Cymru. The cycle was a total of 88 miles with demanding climbs along the way. Both students completed the route including the gruelling stages of the Horseshoe Pass and World's End. Toby thought it was the 'toughest mental challenge' faced in his life so far!



Riyaan's chess success

Riyaan Yesudian (J4P) came joint second in the British U10 Chess tournament in July.



Sophie does Wales proud

Sophie Williams (J4P) represented Wales in the Home Nations Dressage Competition in August. Sophie came 5th out of 50 at Under 25 Level (yes you read Under 25 correctly!)



Tennis Master, Omid Bakhtiari

Omid Bakhtiari (J3S) has been busy over the summer winning a number of titles on the tennis circuit. Omid has been ranked number one in North Wales for 9 and under for the past twelve months.



King's rugby boys

Pupils Henry McKeever (3AI), Harry Jaquiss (3HL), Max Dunlap (3ML) and Will Cotgrove (3PS) have been selected for the U14 Cheshire squad. Henry and Will play for Chester Rugby Club and Max plays for Cald.



Sixth Formers Matthew Anthony (U6PW), James Hattersley (U6ER) and George Nott (U6DB) have also been selected for the Cheshire Rugby squad. Matthew and James play for the U18 Rugby Union squad. George has been invited to play for the Cheshire Rugby U20 squad. All three King's Sixth Formers currently play for Chester Rugby Union Football Club.



At King's, your child will soon realise their true potential.

Senior Entrance Exam:

Friday 24th January: Senior Year 7

Junior School Assessment Days:

Saturday 11th January: Junior Year 3

Friday 24th January: Junior Years 4, 5 & 6

For more details, call **01244 689553**

quoting '2014 Exam'

email: admissions@kingschester.co.uk

Colour their lives forever...

JUNIORS For girls and boys 7-11

It doesn't get any better than King's...

Junior Discovery Days:
2nd, 9th and 16th May 2014

To arrange a visit call:
01244 689553
quoting 'Junior Discovery Days'
email: admissions@kingschester.co.uk

Design by rowanmarketing.co.uk Tel: 01829 771772