

The Herald

2018
Winter

EVERY OPPORTUNITY. ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES.

House competition raises the roof

See page 5



Best
results in
Cheshire!

3



Disney classic
brought
to life

8



Record-
breaking
cross country

12



Grandparents
Day

17



The Herald



Welcome



From the moment we know we are going to be parents, we are looking keenly to the future. Whether it's the anticipation of those first words or the occasional daydream of a future wedding, we have one eye fixed firmly on what lies ahead. Similarly, in education we are often tasked with the making of decisions that will impact our students well into the future. Being so proactive and outward looking, of course, is an essential part of ensuring that the experience we offer here at King's remains more dynamic, vibrant and relevant than ever.

In launching our 10-year master plan – *Transforming King's* – we are not only investing in the day-to-day experience of every pupil to pass through the school in that time, we are also providing future generations with access to state-of-the-art facilities which will remain at the heart of the community for decades to come.

Reflecting on this edition of *The Herald*, there is little doubt that the opportunities created by this investment will be maximised. From triumphs in drama, sport and music, it's a delight to see how vigorously our students continue to develop passions and interests beyond the classroom.

Following the incredible success of GCSE and A Level results in the summer, the latter of which placed us as the top performing co-educational school in the North West, King's has been buzzing with the excitement of new starters across the school. It's been wonderful to see how quickly the respective year groups have settled in and to watch as they seize every opportunity on offer.

Highlights in this edition of *The Herald* include the thrills and spills of the House competition, a record-breaking cross country performance from King's Juniors and a magical visit by Willow Lodge pupils to meet the cast of *Beauty and the Beast*. It's also always a real honour to welcome our new Head of School Team and this year is no exception.

Christmas is traditionally a time of celebration and our students have given us plenty of cause for that this term and, I am certain, will continue to do so in the future. May I take the opportunity to wish you and your family a peaceful and enjoyable Christmas and I look forward to welcoming you all back to school in January, ready for the challenge of the year ahead.

GEORGE HARTLEY
Headmaster

Contents

- 03 Amazing A Level performance
- 04 Head of School team take up new role
- 05 Pupils' saddle up for Cycle to School Day
- 06 A fascinating insight into the history of Berlin
- 07 A tribute to a classmate and friend
- 08 *Beauty and the Beast*
- 10 Music Department strikes the right chord
- 11 Independent learning in the great outdoors
- 12 Record-breaking performance at cross country competition
- 13 Action-packed adventure
- 14 *Singin' in the Rain*
- 16 Mud, mud, glorious mud
- 17 A warm welcome on Grandparents Day
- 18 A magical visit
- 19 Once upon a time...
- 20 A night full of drama at the Founder's Dinner
- 21 An inspiring visit from Sir James Dutton (OKS 1972)
- 22 Rowing Club break world record
- 23 Girls qualify to reach hockey finals
- 24 Celebrating success

Your Herald, your way



Articles written by King's pupils

This icon symbolises articles that have been written by our pupils which we believe will give them a stronger voice in our school magazine.

(KS)

The letters (KS) following a student's name indicate they are current King's Scholars.



#WeLoveKings

www.kingschester.co.uk

KING'S SENIORS & SIXTH FORM



Amazing A Level performance

In 2018:



of our students went on to study at a Russell Group University



of our leavers went on to The Times Top 20 universities



of our leavers went on to The Times Top 30 universities



In the last 5 years, 39 students received offers to study at Oxford or Cambridge

ALL THE HARD WORK AND DEDICATION PAID OFF for our Upper Sixth leavers when their outstanding A Level results placed King's as the top performing school in Cheshire and the best co-ed in the North West this year.

Following the outstanding results, eight students began courses at Oxford or Cambridge and nine are now studying medicine, dentistry or veterinary science.

Overall, 87% of grades were graded A* – B for the third consecutive year, with 64% at A*–A grade.

Mr Hartley welcomed the fantastic news, *"We are very proud to be top co-ed school for A Levels in the North West. These were a terrific bunch of results and, once again, I'd like to extend my congratulations to all the students and staff!"*

Congratulations to Tom Ramsbottom who achieved 4 A* grades. Amelia Standing, Owen Edwards and Aditya Iyer who all celebrated 3 A*s and 1 A and Olivia Wade-Jones, Oliver Kidd and Robert Clark all achieved 3 A* grades. Kieran Kumar gained 2 A* and 2 A grades, with Roberto King receiving 2 A*, 1 A and 1 B grade.

Three students (pictured, top right) celebrated top results after combining their studies with representing their country in their chosen sport.

Ameila Standing (A*, A*, A*, A) was selected for team GB for the Junior European Rowing Championships last summer. She enjoyed huge success racing in the girls' VIII, taking the silver medal and winning two gold medals in the coxless 4. Amelia is now studying Engineering at Oxford University.

Triathlete Matthew Willis (A, A, A) won gold for Team GB in the Junior men's category of the Fyn ITU Multisport World Championships Festival held in Denmark and is current ITU Duathlon World Junior Champion, ETU Triathlon Junior European Cup Gold medallist, and was part of the GB elite squad for the ITU World Triathlon Championships in Australia in September. Matthew is now at Loughborough University, where he is studying Maths, Accounting and Financial Management.

Isabelle Howell (A*, A, A) represented Wales in international hockey and played in the Commonwealth Games in Australia in April, where she scored her first official cap for the Senior Wales Hockey squad. She now attends Durham University, studying Liberal Arts.

GCSE students on cloud nine

OUR GCSE STUDENTS were on cloud nine after achieving the best GCSE results in Chester, including those sat under the recently introduced grading system.

Grade 9 has been designed to recognise individuals who have performed at the very top of the former A* grade category. Seventeen percent of the GCSEs sat at King's under the new grading system were awarded the top level 9, compared to 4.3% nationally.

Students did extremely well across the board, achieving the equivalent of 91% A*-B grades.

Forty-four per cent of all grades were at 9-8 (A*) and King's girls put in a fantastic performance with 58% 9-8 grade (A*).

This includes Mia Hard Af Segerstad-Smith and Alchemy Lucas (KS) who were two of only 732 students in the UK to achieve seven grade 9s in the new GCSEs.

Other individual successes include: Martha Mulliner (KS) with five grade 9s, five A*/8 and one A grade. Ellie Saunders achieved four grade 9s and six A*/8s, and Elinor Sharples (KS) with four 9s and five A*/8 grades.

Jonathan Carty (KS) gained three grade 9s, seven A*/8 grades and one grade 7. Maya Adiyaman (KS) achieved five grade 9s, five A*/8 and one B grade.



Welcome to our Entry Scholars

CONGRATULATIONS TO our Entry Scholars for their performance in the Senior School entrance exams in January.

The 16 scholarships were awarded to those who gained the highest marks in the Maths and English exams and the students now join a proud tradition within King's:

Felix Adey (RMAI), Joseph Buckley (RMMH), Adam De Rycke (RMAI), Lukas Pold (RMCR), Alya Ollies (RMRA), Neha Sharma (RMRC), Ben Whittlestone (RMCI), Dominic Egan (RMCR), Zafir Ahsan (RMCR), Jonni Ashton (RMCR), Lily Chadwick (RMGS), Jessica Clish (RMCI), Elizabeth Melhuish-Bolton (RMCI), Aaron Mohun (RMRA), Alexander Neal (RMDR) and Alvern Qian (RMMH).



KING'S SENIORS & SIXTH FORM



Head of School team take up new role

CONGRATULATIONS to our new Head of School George Bell (U6WAL) and Deputy Heads of School Kate Jenkinson (KS) (U6LES) and Amelia Jones (U6WAL).

They will be supported throughout the year by the Prefect Team, which operates in all areas of King's undertaking a wide range of duties including assemblies, open day, parents' evening and assisting staff in 1541.

The selection process for prefects is rigorous and includes a detailed application. They are elected by peers and staff, followed by an interview with the Headmaster and Head of Sixth Form

Head of Sixth Form Mr Carter said, *"The prefects at King's play a vital role as the eldest pupils in the school, ambassadors and role models to the outside community and those in the lower years. Following an application process and election, I am delighted to work with, what I know will be, an outstanding bunch of young adults."*

Sports tour success in Marbella

DURING OCTOBER HALF TERM key netballers and footballers enjoyed a trip to Atalaya Park, Marbella, to improve their skills and compete in competitive matches.

Each of the football teams played three games against local academy teams. The boys played well in every game and they learnt a lot of new skills over the week. In addition to the games, they benefitted from two hours of coaching each day from Malaga Football Club coaches.



Meanwhile, the girls enjoyed netball sessions led by a coach from Manchester Thunder. They travelled to Gibraltar to play matches against local opposition as well as some other games against touring schools on-site at the hotel. When not on the pitch or court, all of the students visited Puerto Banus and had the opportunity to sample plenty of good food and pool time.



A look behind the scenes



By Owen Parsonage (KS) (U6DUT)

IN OCTOBER, students from the Design and Technology department had the privilege of visiting the works on the new school sports centre, to gain some first-hand experience of a construction site, along with the design and engineering processes behind it.

The tour began with a presentation by some senior staff on site, including the Site Manager, Architect and Structural Engineer, focusing on both the development of the sports centre and of their own experiences in their field – this proved incredibly useful for giving the students an idea of the career opportunities available beyond school, along with some idea of the level of detail that goes into the planning of a large project such as this.

After the presentations, students headed outside to the building itself. Touring around the construction site, it was fascinating for them to see how the architect and planners had worked around the existing building to renovate it, along with adding the new developments in a way that had minimal impact on the structure. Overall, it was a brilliant experience for students to see and hear about a real-life construction project on our doorstep, and will be of great help to them in their career choices for university and beyond.



A busy start to term for House pupils

AN ARRAY OF HOUSE COMPETITIONS has ensured a busy start to term for all students.

First up was the Shells' Cross Country Challenge, won in fine style by Werburgh. Next was the Modern Foreign Language competition, for all years, which took place during the week of European Day of Languages, and was won by Lester Smith.

The end of the half-term finished with the annual House Song Competition. All students took part in a number of rounds in October, culminating in a heavily anticipated grand finale.

Hosted by Mr Hartley, the audience were treated to Walsh singing *Sweet Caroline*, Lester Smith's rendition of *Take Me Home, Country Roads*, Werburgh's interpretation of *Waterloo* and Grosvenor's performance of *Our House*.

In what turned out to be a closely contested final, Walsh took the honours as judged by Mrs Cooper, Mrs Roberts, Adaora Ekwueme (RMDR), Arabella Gardiner (RMCI) and Tom Roberts (RMDR). Walsh were crowned champions ahead of Lester Smith in second place, Werburgh came third and Grosvenor in fourth place. Fox, Bradbury, Gladstone and Dutton shared fifth place.

Vital House points were won elsewhere when Walsh won a quiz and Fox was triumphant in a Biological Drawing Competition.

The Creative Writing House Quiz produced plenty of winners gaining valuable house points... Cara Hollywood took the Shells award, Carina Chau took the Thirds award, Avi Sengupta took the Fourths award, Elinor Sharples (KS) the L6 award and Andres Lyon the U6 award.



Pupils' saddle up for Cycle to School Day

THERE WERE SOME HERCULEAN EFFORTS on the first King's Cycle to School Day in October, including one father and son who biked in from Ruthin, North Wales.

Some welcome autumn sunshine greeted more than 140 pupils from across the school as they arrived on their bikes, before they were rewarded with a freshly prepared smoothie.

Pupils were also encouraged to use public transport, lift share or walk to school. The initiative, which will be repeated throughout the school year, is part of the school's commitment to Sustainable Travel.

Mrs Aldridge, Sustainable Travel Lead, commented, *"This first celebration of sustainable travel is a great way to kick-start our drive to greater sustainability as a school. Seeing so many of our school community walking, cycling, using public transport or sharing lifts is testament to the genuine commitment of our pupils to 'act local, think global'."*

We will run a similar event every term to act as a reminder of what can be achieved and the difference it can make."



Bookworms rise to the challenge

OVER THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS, the new Removes were given the chance to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge. This involved reading at least four books on the theme of 'other lands' and then producing a creative project based on one or more of the books.

Non Pratt, our Patron of Reading, had the difficult task of judging the competition before presenting the awards via Skype in a special assembly. Non was overwhelmed with the quality of entries and admitted struggling to make her final decision.

Congratulations to the pupils opposite:

Winners:

Imogen Aldridge (RMMH)

Lily-Ella Barnard (RMSC)

Samuel Griffiths (RMRA)

Read the most books (33):

Gemma Christie (RMCR)

Highly Commended:

Will Evans (RMSC)

Finlay Noble (RMSC)

Hugo Thomas (RMMH)

AS PART OF THE SUMMER READING CHALLENGE, Lily-Ella Barnard (RMSC) made a video animation based on Lissa Evans' book *Wed Wabbit*.

When presenting the awards Non asked Lily-Ella if she could send a copy of her video to Lissa, which she was delighted to do. After watching the animation, Lissa personally emailed Lily-Ella congratulating her.

Upon receiving the email Lily-Ella commented *"I didn't expect to hear anything, especially a direct email. I was really happy when it happened and couldn't quite believe it. I love all fantasy books and especially love this one, there is just something about it that caught my imagination."*



KING'S SENIORS & SIXTH FORM



A fascinating insight into the history of Berlin

By Mr P Neal, Head of History

THIRTY-ONE A LEVEL STUDENTS and four History teachers enjoyed a packed trip to Berlin over half term. On our first day, our two superb guides gave the party a fascinating introduction to Berlin's twentieth century history. The evening tour of the modern Bundestag showed just how applicable William Faulkner's line that, *'The past is never dead. It's not even past.'* is to Berlin.

Refreshed and refuelled, we visited Invalidenfriedhof and Dorotheenstadt on our second day, reflecting on the lives of German military and cultural greats such as von Schlieffen, Hegel and Brecht, who are buried in these cemeteries.

No trip to Berlin is complete without a trip to Bernauer Strasse and The Berlin Wall Memorial. This road was literally split in two from 13 August 1961 and stories of East Berliners' attempts to reach the West and the sophistication of the 1980s Wall defences were brought home to all of our party.

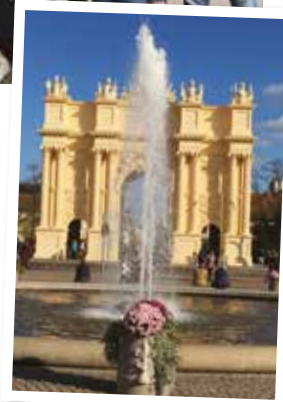
Only half an hour away by train is Potsdam but bathed in autumn sun, Frederick the Great's palace and gardens at Sans Souci seemed a different country and a world away from edgy big city Berlin. Mr S Neal's illuminating stories added an appropriately eighteenth century flavour to our tour before we returned to the city and dined at the ultra-modern Sony Centre.

By Day three, it felt like we had been in the city for weeks. A fascinating walking tour of the Scheunenviertel was followed by visits to the German Historical Museum and a behind-the-scenes tour of the Olympic Stadium. Our final visit

of the day to Gleis 17, the memorial for more than 50,000 Jews of Berlin who were deported by the Gestapo and SS, moved us all.

Even with the help of a coach on our last day, the scale of the sights at East Side Gallery, Treptower Park Soviet War Memorial and Tempelhof Airport ensured 90,000 steps were recorded over the four days. Feet may have been sore but spirits remained high as we flew back to the more mundane environs of Manchester Airport.

The students were fantastic company and superb ambassadors for the school. I hope they will all want to return to one of Europe's great cities.



STUDENTS AND STAFF took time out to pay their respects to the fallen of World War One on the centenary of Armistice Day.

Willow Lodge pupils made a soldier and a horse in their art lessons and Junior School pupils created a cascading poppy display, using the bottoms of bottles and acrylic paint. The stunning result transformed the Junior School entrance into a wonderful and moving tribute.

In the Senior School, crosses commemorating each of the 58 Old King's Scholars killed in the war were placed around the school. Students attended special assemblies led by Mr Hartley, highlighting the incredible sacrifices made by the millions who lost their lives.

Our Design Technology Department enlisted the help of Sixth Form students to create acrylic poppies to be placed on the school gates. In addition, the school's flag was flown at half-mast throughout the weekend.



Making memories at Manor Adventure

THE REMOVES MET FOR THE FIRST TIME as Senior School students during the last week of the summer holidays for the annual two-day trip to Manor Adventure.

Once they'd settled into their rooms, it was time for activities including crate stacking, archery and obstacle courses. For those who enjoyed heights, the abseil tower and the high ropes course offered even more excitement and challenge.

Everyone worked extremely well together and many new friendships were forged, helping the year group make a positive and promising start to the year.





A tribute to a classmate and friend

EVERYONE AT KING'S was deeply saddened to hear of the passing of student Rohan Ingle in August, following his long and courageous battle with leukaemia.

Rohan was a bright, popular and high-achieving Sixth Form student who joined King's in the Juniors. He was a dedicated student who excelled academically, despite his illness, and will be sadly missed by everyone who knew him.

Headmaster George Hartley said, *"Rohan was a wonderful, brave and highly gifted student who embodied the very best characteristics we would wish to see in a King's student. His loss has had a profound effect on everyone in the King's family. He always impressed me with his resilience, bravery and sheer determination to make the very best of himself."*

Mr Hartley added that Rohan will always be remembered as an *"outstanding student and first-class young man."*

Speaking at Rohan's memorial, held at the school in November, Senior Deputy Head Dr Byrne said, *"We knew Rohan in school to be an all-rounder. He loved music and was an accomplished drummer, pianist and trumpet-player and he excelled at cricket."*

Dr Byrne continued, *"Even when Rohan missed so much of his GCSE courses, he returned to school and gained reports grades that were all A*, A and 1 for effort."*

Rohan went on to achieve spectacular GCSE results across the board – 7A and an A."*

Rohan's parents were presented with a cheque for £5,808 for Ronald MacDonald House Charities, a cause close to Rohan's heart and his chosen charity. The funds were raised through an open mic night held in March, at which staff and students performed. The night was live streamed to Rohan, who was receiving hospital treatment at the time.

Dr Byrne described the open mic event as *"an incredible manifestation of the love and support people had for Rohan"*.

In a statement, Rohan's family said, *"Most importantly, Rohan was an amazing human being. His love, compassion, kindness and care for everyone was unparalleled. We have not only lost a son and a brother, we have also lost a great friend, a harmoniser, a problem solver and a techno-whiz."*

We love you and miss you so much Rohan."

A school prize, presented at the annual end of year ceremony, will now be named after Rohan as a lasting tribute to a valued student and classmate.

Mountain bike adventure for determined cadets

OVER THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS, members of the Combined Cadet Force (CCF) took part in a mountain bike expedition, taking on the formidable challenge of the Scottish 7stanes mountain bike trails.

Leading up to this challenge, the group completed the intermediate course in Delamere and the advanced course in North Wales.

The 7stanes are seven mountain biking centres spanning the south of Scotland, from the heart of the Scottish Borders to Dumfries and Galloway.

Stane is the Scottish word for stone, and at each of the 7Stane locations you will find a unique stone sculpture reflecting a local myth or legend. It also provides some truly unique mountain bike trail experiences and challenges, which vary in grades and distance.



The determination to complete the trails was evident from all the cadets who threw themselves into every challenge the course threw at them. The odd scrape and cut was soon dressed and they robustly carried on.

A busy season for DofE students



THIS DUKE OF EDINBURGH (DofE) season has been another busy one, with over 160 new students registered for the award at Bronze level.

To date, there have been 59 Bronze and 12 Silver Awards presented in school as recognition of students' achievements.

Twenty-seven pupils have successfully completed their Gold Award in 2018 and will receive their certificates at a presentation ceremony at St James' Palace, London

Mr Brown, DofE coordinator said, *"Mr Hartley and I attended a presentation in November to see some of our students receive their award."*

The Gold Duke of Edinburgh group (pictured) rose to the challenge of a four-day Assessment Expedition in September. Starting off near Welshpool, they overcame the challenge presented by overgrown river sides to successfully complete the route.



Master Cadet completes award

CONGRATULATIONS TO Max Wood (KS) (L6DUT), who recently completed the prestigious Master Cadet Course at Frimley Park.

The course has previously been open to Army Cadet Force cadets and after a small scale pilot last year, has now been opened up to CCF cadets. Max was one of the first of approximately 30 CCF cadets to have completed the course.

Max was honoured to be awarded his certificate by former Royal Marines Lieutenant General Sir James Dutton KCB, CBE, KStJ, ADC, (OKS 1972) who was visiting the school to receive his alumni Leading Light Award and to talk to 20 current Lower and Upper Sixth CCF cadets.

Read more about Sir James Dutton's visit on page 21.



BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

Over three nights the Drama Department treated the audience to a visual extravaganza with an unforgettable performance of Disney's much-loved musical *Beauty and the Beast*.





THE CAST RECEIVED a standing ovation each night, a credit to the amount of hard work they had put in to the production. With a cast of more than 50 students from Shells to Fourths, the stunning show was a joy to behold.

Hannah Evans (3BRD) confidently took on the role of Belle, a young woman in a provincial French town who sacrifices herself to save her beloved father (Ted Toovey, 3WER) and finds herself face-to-face with the fearsome Beast, played with great presence by Sameer Dhanjee, (4DUT).

As the tumultuous love story unfolded, the audience enjoyed plenty of comic relief with a range of wonderful performances from the talented cast, including rival Gaston (Eden Hambelton-Davies, 4BRD), his devoted side-kick Le Fou (Jonny Madden, 4DUT) and the enchanted house staff of Chip (Freddie Spillane, 3WER), Mrs Potts (Freya Beyeler, 4WER), Cogsworth (King Chalapati, 4GRO), Lumiere (Bram Lucas, 3WER), Madame de le Grande Bouche (Leilani Jenkins, 4LES) and Babette (Isabelle Thane, KS, 4WER).


Special thanks must also go to Mrs Williams, Director, for organising the production and all of the staff and sixth formers who helped to ensure that the audience were swept away in a tale as old as time.





KING'S SENIORS & SIXTH FORM


Music Department strikes the right chord


OUR MUSIC DEPARTMENT has enjoyed a busy start to the year, with a number of individual and collective successes to celebrate.


 The department kicked off the year with a fantastic concert of country music given by new student Megan Basford (L6LES) in the Recital Hall. Megan is an accomplished singer/songwriter whose music has already featured on Spotify and iTunes. She treated the audience to a couple of Fleetwood Mac numbers and a few of her own tunes too.


 The Jazz Cats performed at a charity event for the Chester Lions at Eaton Hall, part of the Grosvenor Estate, and Luke Mulholland (5LES) also performed some excellent Mozart to a sell-out audience.


 The department hosted a Jazz Improvisation Workshop given by Tim Harvey's Jazz Quartet, featuring musicians from Manchester and Liverpool. Students were able to understand how the art of improvisation is explored and developed, and were later able to play alongside the band in a few well-known jazz tunes.


 School assemblies now regularly feature solo musicians from all years. Recent performances have been given by Mariam Littler (KS) (U6DUT), Martha Mulliner (KS) (L6WER), Honey Holmes (3DUT), Riyaan Yesudian (KS) (5GLA), Luke Williams (SHBRD), Ben Hardy-Jones (U6WAL) and Tim Feng (U6BRD).

 New additions to the department include a String Quartet, a Piano Trio and Ms Neal has started a Show Choir. The Concert Orchestra has been strengthened and now boasts over 60 players.

 Many congratulations to Peter Evans (3LES) who has been appointed Head Chorister at Chester Cathedral. This is a wonderful and much-deserved recognition of his vocal abilities.

 Huw Kendall (U6BRD) is as busy outside school as he is inside; he is now trombonist with the Halle Youth Orchestra and the National Youth Brass Band of Wales.

 Recent The Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM) & Trinity exam results have been outstanding. Highlights have been Anthony Audas (4WER) Grade 5 Trombone with Distinction, Imogen Duncalf (U6WER) Grade 8 Flute with Distinction, Arvind Sahni Grade 8 Violin with Distinction, Mansi Gupta (KS) (5FOX) Grade 8 Piano with Merit and Amelia Jones (U6WAL) who now has the coveted ABRSM Diploma in saxophone, with distinction.

 Just before half-term we enjoyed a wonderful soiree of instrumental music given to an appreciative audience in the Recital Hall. We heard lovely performances by our Piano Trio Honey Holmes (3DUT), Peter Evans (3LES) and Lauren Barnes (KS) (5WER) and solo performances by Huw Kendall (U6BRD), Luke Mulholland (5LES), Mansi Gupta (KS) (5FOX), Connor Dunn (5BRD), Martha Mulliner (KS) (L6WER), Amelia Jones (U6WAL), Honey Holmes (3DUT) and Peter Evans (3LES).



Enriching performance

TALENTED STUDENTS HAVE CONTINUED TO PERFORM at a care home in Gresford as part of the school's Enrichment Programme.

Music teacher Ms Latifa has continued the project with Ashgrove Care Home and the visits are something greatly valued by the residents and staff at the home.

Ms Latifa said, "There are around 15 pupils involved in this Community Action enrichment, who are all musicians from the Sixth Form. Every two weeks the pupils prepare and perform pieces to entertain the residents of the care home and lighten the mood for the afternoon. I have been leading this venture for the past two years and the pupils and myself find it a very rewarding experience."

Students whip up some show-stoppers for charity

MR HARTLEY AND DR BYRNE had the enviable task of judging the fabulous entries into our Bake Off for Macmillan Cancer Support.

After finishing the tough job of sampling all of the treats on offer, Mr Hartley and Dr Byrne announced the top three entries:

- 1st **Finlay Noble** (RMSC)
- 2nd **Oliver Jones** (RMRA)
- 3rd **Jack Hayter** (3FOX)

The talented students were awarded with prizes for their tremendous baking efforts and almost £500 was raised for the charity.





Independent learning in the great outdoors



LUCKY PUPILS HAD THE CHANCE to cook up a tasty treat in Forest School this term.

Using sticks they had stripped and sharpened in a previous session, the group were each given an apple to skewer and heat over the open flames. Once they were ready, they then coated the warm apples in a delicious mix of brown sugar and cinnamon before carefully placing back into the flames to create their very own toffee apples.

The Forest School sessions continue to let the children learn how to assess risk, make sensible and informed decisions about how to deal with situations and develop practical skills.

Hartley's Heroes

THE HEADMASTER continues to deliver a series of fascinating assemblies entitled "Hartley's Heroes".

Children from The Junior School have been inspired by six stories of bravery, endurance and service. Subjects have included conservationist Dian Fossey, explorer Ernest Shackleton, Her Majesty The Queen, former president of South Africa Nelson Mandela, equal rights campaigner Martin Luther King and Captain Bill Bailey of the Lancashire regiment. Captain Bailey was Mr Hartley's great uncle who perished fighting in Syria during WWII at the age of 23.

Pupils have found the assemblies absorbing and thought-provoking.



Science and industry comes alive

PUPILS FROM J1 ENJOYED AN EXCITING TRIP to the Manchester Science and Industry Museum, building upon the fabulous work that they have been completing in science this term, focussing on light and shadow.

Arriving at the museum, the children were wowed by the Revolution Manchester show, where they discovered Manchester's role as a nerve centre of the Industrial Revolution. They learnt about the amazing power of steam and how it powered cotton factories and transport on the world's first passenger and goods railway.

Following on from this, we took a look around the Power Hall. Once a railway transit shed, the Power Hall is now home to some of the original locomotives, rolling stock and a huge collection of engines.

The trip continued with a session in the hands-on experiment room, where the children were given the opportunity to stare into the mirror of infinity, create a tornado, measure their reactions against the speed of light and even watch their own skeleton ride a bicycle!

Class teacher Miss Ley said, *"We loved seeing science in action and particularly enjoyed finding out how the power of gears could help us lift a Mini! The final activity of the day was to take part in the Wonder of Light science show which encouraged our pupils to question 'is it really magic? Or is it science?' Working scientifically, we looked at the different ways that light travels, the properties of reflection and how light interacts with the world."*

The children were fully engaged in working out the secrets of a Pepper's Ghost magic trick, understanding that light doesn't just reflect: it can also pass through things and be absorbed. Sometimes, it does all three at once!"



Success at the tournament

WE WELCOMED nearly 160 children from local schools to take part in an Invitational Tournament this term.

The pupils, from ages 9-11, were invited to compete in netball and football matches throughout the afternoon. All of the competitors showed great determination and displayed excellent sporting attitudes.



Congratulations to our victorious netball squad (pictured).

KING'S JUNIORS



Record-breaking performance at cross country competition

TWENTY-SEVEN junior pupils took part in the Association of Junior Independent Schools' (AJIS) Cross Country Competition at the Rossall course.

The course was 2km long and all pupils showed great determination and bravery, allowing of all of their preparation to pay off. All pupils returned with a team medal, with the teams placing on the podium in all four categories – a record breaking effort!



U10 girls



U10 boys



U11 girls



U11 boys

There were also plenty of individual achievements to celebrate too. Ben Pold (J3S) won Silver in U10 Boys, Jacob Watson (J3B) won Bronze in U10 Boys, Lucie Thornton (J3B) won Bronze in U10 Girls and Eleanor Williams (J4M) won Bronze U11 Girls.

"We're hugely proud of their achievements, making history for being the most successful King's AJIS Cross Country teams to date."

Mrs Ainsworth
Head of Infants and Junior School

A bumper harvest



By Blazer Reporter Nora Brazaityte (J4M)



"THE SCHOOL CELEBRATED a bumper of harvest donations during the annual celebration assembly.

Hundreds of donations flooded into the Consterdine Hall from children of Willow Lodge and juniors.

All these goodies were gathered to support SHARE, a Chester charity helping the homeless locally and refugees across the world.

SHARE sent us a shopping list of the desired foods. These were collected promptly and are now packed into a container and making their way to refugee camps in Greece.

Mrs Webb, from the charity, revealed that the camps were desperately short of provisions.

A SHARE spokesman said, *"The King's pupils made an enormous harvest donation of dried goods which completely filled the van. We will be sending this food to the refugee camps on Lesbos, Greece, where there are tens of thousands of refugees who are running desperately low on food."*

People brought in a mountain of rice, baby food, teabags, sugar, pasta and dried beans.

J3B led the assembly and revealed how many people spend their days with hungry tummies. If all the hungry people held hands, the line would circle the whole world, more than 20 times.

Willow Lodge joined us for our celebration, singing a jolly song about shopping trolleys. The J1s and J2s sang Conkers, the J3s and J4s sang Harvest Samba and the whole school performed the classic, Autumn Days. Joyful singing from everybody filled the Consterdine Hall."

A fun day speaking Spanish

EUROPEAN DAY of Languages in September was a great excuse for pupils to have some extra fun in their Spanish lesson!



Action-packed adventure

INTREPID PUPILS journeyed across the English border to attend Robinwood's new activity centre in Wrexham.

This exciting two-night adventure was the inaugural J3 residential trip and was designed to promote team building and secure relationships in the three recently reconfigured forms.

More than 60 children enjoyed 15 activities in their action-packed three days, displaying their positivity, resilience and ingenuity. Pupils tackled the challenges of the terrifying giant swing; they escaped the Piranha Pool; balanced on high ropes; sailed down the zip wire; constructed ingenious rafts; and conquered the climbing wall.

Each session captured the imagination of pupils, generating excitement and enthusiasm to solve the various problems and complete the task. Children were encouraged hourly to face their fears, challenge themselves and try their best.

Teacher Mr Spellman said: *"The trip was a fantastic start to the academic year. Our new classes quickly bonded and became strong teams, giving their teachers a unique insight into the new characters sitting behind J3 desks."*



Jeans for Genes fundraising a great success

PUPILS WERE PROUD TO SUPPORT Jeans for Genes Day in September.

The event is an annual fundraising campaign for Genetic Disorders UK, a national charity which supports individuals and families affected by a genetic disorder.

Monies raised on Jeans for Genes Day fund the work of the charity and provide grants to organisations for projects that aim to transform the lives of children with genetic disorders.

Across the school we raised nearly £1,600.



Juniors on 'top' form at tournament

WE WERE DELIGHTED to host an Association of Junior Independent Schools (AJIS) Cup Qualifying Tournament for the second consecutive year in September.

The qualifying tournaments are held at five different venues across the North West of England and are used as a stepping stone into the knockout phases of the prestigious U11 AJIS Cup.

King's played host to Stockport Grammar Junior School, St Bede's College Prep School from Manchester and Newcastle School from Stoke on Trent. The tournament is played on a 'round robin' basis where the leading two schools progress to the cup stage.

It proved a very enjoyable and successful day for King's U11 footballers. They beat St Bedes 5-0 in their opening game followed by another tremendous display beating Stockport 3-0 and finished off the day with a 2-2 draw versus Newcastle.

King's finished top of the league with five points, followed by Stockport on four and Newcastle in third place with three points.





SINGIN' IN THE RAIN

AN MGM CLASSIC was given new life thanks to a cast of talented J4 pupils in June, when they tap danced their way into the audience's hearts with their staging of *Singin' in the Rain*.

Each and every pupil showcased their talents, performing superbly after several weeks of rehearsals to packed houses in the Vanbrugh Theatre in June.

The whole cast worked brilliantly together, bringing out the humour of this charming story. Characters were portrayed with great maturity and understanding, ensuring humorous moments were maximised, contrasting with the more poignant scenes.

Mention must be made of the dance routines, which were slick and spectacular. The stunning set and costume design added to the dazzling production and the pupils were in fine voice as they sang their way through the world-famous score. Huge congratulations to everyone who took part and special mention to Mr Melville and Mrs Stevens for their inspired direction and musical expertise.



AIN

WILLOW LODGE INFANTS



Paying our respects

CREATIVE PUPILS decided to commemorate 100 years since the end of the First World War by creating a stunning model of a horse decorated with poppies.

Some sources put the number of horses killed throughout the course of the war at 8 million, with many other animals also playing an active part in the battle.

Class teacher and Director of Studies Miss Johnson said, *"It is important that we remember all those who have fought to protect our country. This includes animals."*

Without these amazing, loyal and talented creatures, we may have struggled and been defeated. I was inspired to make the horse as a tribute to all the animals who have helped humankind. I created the original structure and the children papier-mâché and painted the horse.

They also created the poppies that decorate the horse. I am very proud of what we have created and hope that it is a long lasting reminder of all those who fought for us, whether on two legs or four. "

Pupils also created some beautiful felt artwork as part of the school's Remembrance Day activities.

Mud, mud, glorious mud

GRATEFUL PUPILS PRESENTED a thank you card and present to a member of our Facilities Team, who was kind enough to build them a surprise mud kitchen in the school's woodland area whilst the children were away on summer break.

Mark Jenkins said, *"When the request was put in for a new mud kitchen in Willow Lodge, I decided I would love to do it as I was inspired looking at other mud kitchens and had lots of ideas about how to create a new one."*

I enjoy building things out of wood and wanted to create something that would benefit the school, the children's education and give the children a great deal of enjoyment using it.

My aim was also to use mainly recycled materials and it probably is approximately 90 %."

The wonderful new resource has proved to be a huge hit with the children and staff alike.

Jan Callaghan, Deputy Head of Infants, said *"The children thoroughly enjoy using the mud kitchen on a weekly basis. They love making all kinds of potions and concoctions. The open-ended resources we provide in Forest School allows them to use their imaginations and investigate the world around them freely."*

We would like to extend our thanks once again to Mark for giving our pupils even more opportunity for play and exploration."

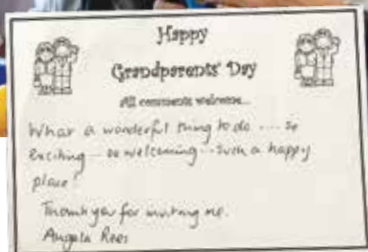


• A SELECTION OF PASTRIES and other tasty treats helped pupils to mark European Day of Languages on 26 September.





A warm welcome on Grandparents Day



GRANDPARENTS DAY is always a highlight in the Willow Lodge calendar and this year was no exception.

The pupils were thrilled to welcome their special visitors to school and proudly showed off their classroom and some of the wonderful work they have already produced.

The children prepared for their guests by baking cakes for them to enjoy with a cup of tea. The grandparents were then treated to a few songs with some fun actions.

The excited pupils then had the opportunity to show their grandparents their favourite activity from 'choosing their learning' time in class.



Out and about exploring nature

CURIOUS PUPILS have been enjoying the change in seasons by getting out and about in nature.

Walks to collect conkers and autumn leaves to use in artwork and other creative projects have proved very popular, with pupils happily donning their wellies to explore the school grounds.



Spooktacular Halloween disco fun

SPIRITS WERE HIGH at a recent Halloween disco, organised by the King's School Parents' Association (KSPA).

Ghoulish grooves and petrifying party games ensured the event was a great hit, with youngsters and parents alike

Wrap the mummy, a pumpkin carving competition and lots of other fun activities helped to raise over £1000.



WILLOW LODGE INFANTS



A magical visit



PRINCESSES, pirates, superheroes and knights in shining armour were among a very excited audience of Willow Lodge pupils who got to see the 'world premiere' of King's Drama Department's magical production of *Beauty and the Beast* in November.

The VIP guests were invited to see the talented cast's first performance of the Disney classic and judging by their reaction, they are now life-long fans.

Afterwards, there was an opportunity to meet the principal cast and several of the pupils were lucky enough to have their picture taken.



Reaching for the stars

HANDS-ON LEARNING was the order of the day when pupils enjoyed a fascinating trip to Techniquet Glyndŵr.

Pupils explored the discovery rooms where they solved puzzles and carried out mini experiments.

They then visited Glyndŵr University and sat inside a giant inflatable star dome and listened to a talk about the planets and stars. The children also explored the science garden and smelted herbs, looked closely at the pond and the recycled bottle greenhouse.



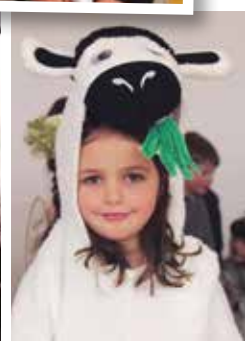


Once upon a time...

DELIGHTED PARENTS were treated to a traditional nativity play full of celebration and wonderful songs when Robins and Wrens performed Hey Ewe!

Angels, kings, shepherds, sheep and camels joined Mary, Joseph and Donkey as they followed the star to a very special destination.

The play was a perfect way to officially start the festive season at Willow Lodge and was followed by a truly magical performance from the remaining infant pupils later that week.



Delighting in Diwali

THE CHILDREN HELPED TO CELEBRATE Diwali in November with a special assembly exploring the story of Rama and Sita.

They compared some similarities with traditional fairy tales and discussed the message of 'good overcoming evil'.

In Reception, pupils enjoyed making their own clay Diya pots and also created some Rangoli patterns out of coloured rice.



KING'S ALUMNI



A night full of drama at the Founder's Dinner



WE WERE DELIGHTED TO HOST our third annual Founder's Dinner in the Vanbrugh Theatre in September.

More than 85 guests attended and were treated to a fabulous three course meal. The pressure was on the school catering team, as they knew the guest speaker on the night was none other than celebrity chef Ainsley Harriott. The team was delighted to read Ainsley's Twitter post later in the evening which read "a great event with delicious food!"

Amongst the highlights of the evening was the wonderful performances from our Barbershop Quartet, made up of 2011 leavers David McIlroy, Mike Hutchinson, Seb Fayle and Ben Cuffin-Munday. The group was originally formed whilst the boys were at King's and re-united for a one-night only performance. Ainsley Harriott shared his memories of singing in the world-renowned

choir at Wandsworth School and discussed his rise to stardom. This included his experience performing on the BBC's 'Strictly Come Dancing'.

Talented 2010 leaver Megan Lamour then took to the stage. Her performance included three beautiful ballads from the musicals *Wicked*, *Les Misérables* and *A Little Night Music*. The audience were captivated by her stunning voice and incredible talent. She then delivered an upbeat number from the musical *Betty Blue Eyes* in which she has just landed a role.

Guests included alumni and parents, and most notably acclaimed actor Ron Pickup, a 1959 leaver. Ron is best known for his roles in *The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel*, *The Mission*, *The Day of the Jackal*, *The 39 Steps* and more recently, his portrayal of Neville Chamberlain in the film *Darkest Hour*.

Feedback from guests was fantastic with old boy Kit Eatock (OKS 1963) saying, "There is always such a familiar and friendly atmosphere at King's, thanks to the Alumni staff."

Governor Ruth Ashford added, "It was a wonderful and exciting celebration of the talent and achievements of the school and students. It made me extremely proud to be a Governor of such an excellent School"



King's at Henley

ON A BLISTERINGLY HOT JULY DAY it was wonderful to welcome over 70 King's alumni and friends, spanning the generations, to our gazebo on Henley Cricket Field, to enjoy the world-renowned Regatta.

In addition to the current King's first VIII, who fought bravely against tough opposition from an Australian crew from St Joseph's Nudgee College, it was the inaugural outing for the King's Alumni quad, racing under Rex colours.

Rex Boat Club, established in the 1970s and based out of the King's School Boat House, comprises of alumni, former parents and staff and enables King's alumni rowers from different universities to row together at numerous events, including Henley.

There was high drama at the start of the day when alumnus Jack Webber (OKS 2014) was forced to withdraw due to illness and last-minute replacement Harry Higgingbottom (OKS 2016), himself returning from injury, volunteered to step in. With a delayed start Pat Hanratty (OKS 2013) stroked the crew to an early lead but they eventually succumbed to Upper Thames Boat Club who powered ahead mid-race.



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

1959 Reunion (60 years)
2 March – 11am- 2.30pm

1969 Reunion (50 years)
2 March – 6pm - 10pm

1979 Reunion (40 years)
16 March – 11am - 2.30pm

1989 Reunion (30 years)
16 March – 6pm - 10pm

1999 Reunion (20 years)
18 May – 11am - 2.30pm

2009 Reunion (10 years)
18 May – 6pm - 10pm

STAYING IN TOUCH

 **kingschesteralumni**
Connect with us on Facebook

 **kingschesteralumni**
Join our group on LinkedIn

 **@kingsalumni**
Follow us on Twitter





An inspiring visit from Sir James Dutton (OKS 1972)

IT WAS A GREAT HONOUR to welcome former Royal Marines Lieutenant General Sir James Dutton KCB, CBE, KStJ, ADC, (OKS 1972) back to King's in November.

His visit had a dual purpose, the first of which was to enable Headmaster George Hartley to present him with his 2017 Alumni Leading Light award. The award was given in recognition of his exceptional 37-year

career in the Royal Marines and his continued links to the school.

Sir James held various command and staff positions early on in his military career, before commanding 40 Commando of the Royal Marines. As a brigadier, he held two high-level staff posts – the first at the Ministry of Defence in London, as Director of NATO policy, and the second as the British liaison to the Pentagon, shortly after the September 11 attacks. This role involved assisting in planning operations in Afghanistan and early conceptual work for the invasion of Iraq.

In 2003, he led 3 Commando Brigade into Iraq as the invasion commenced and was the only British military leader to command US Forces since the Second World War – albeit for

96 hours. Which was the plan before the US marines moved north!

Jim's visit also provided a great opportunity to meet with 20 current Lower and Upper Sixth CCF cadets, who were awe-struck. He discussed his current civilian role, working for world-leading engineering firm Bechtel and how he felt that the skills and abilities gained throughout his military career, namely discipline, self-control and determination, were transferable and very valuable for a multitude of other careers.

As a fitting end to his visit Jim was asked to present CCF Cadet Max Wiid (KS) (L6DUT) with a certificate for completing the week-long Master Cadet Course at Frimley Park in Surrey – only opened up to CCF cadets this year.

Three worthy winners for the Leading Light Awards 2018

THIS YEAR, three alumni have been selected to receive the highly coveted Alumni Leading Light Award. The award recognises those whose accomplishments represent extraordinary achievement and who have also continued to contribute to the school in some way.

The winners are:



Matt Hancock (OKS 1996)

For: Carving out an incredibly successful career in politics. His recent promotion to Secretary of State for Health and Social Care is a testament to his talent and hard work. As one of King's highest profile political success stories he is a great inspiration to current pupils.



Martin Lewis (OKS 1990)

For: Demonstrating that a desire to innovate and have real passion for your chosen field can lead to success. His selfless dedication to help people who, through no fault of their own, have been caught out by modern personal finance doublespeak should be applauded.



Ravi Jayaram (OKS 1985)

For: His tireless work to enhance children's health and the understanding of key health issues as a senior paediatric consultant in Chester and through national broadcasting activities.

A panel consisting of the Headmaster, former staff, alumni, current Heads of School and the Director of External Relations formed the selection panel and were delighted to announce the winners.

Each winner will be presented with their award personally, before the end of the year.

Thank you to all who posted nominations this year – nominations for 2019 awards will open in April.



20 years of girls at King's

THE BEGINNING OF THIS ACADEMIC YEAR marks the 20th anniversary

of girls officially joining The King's School. We are celebrating 20 Years of Girls at King's with a series of articles, profiles and speakers, culminating in a special event held at the school in Summer 2019.

Female students first joined King's in the Sixth Form in 1998, and quickly became a vital part of life at the school. By 2003, King's had become fully co-ed, welcoming girls from seven to 18 years of age. Then in 2015, our infants school, Willow Lodge, opened its doors.

Our students gain a great deal from hearing about the personal and professional experiences of recent alumni and in this special year of celebrations, we want to take the opportunity to highlight the achievements of the hundreds of girls who have now attended the school.

To kick-start the year, we caught up with Holly Anne Frances Marriott (née Miles) who joined King's Sixth Form in 1998, making her one of the first girls to have joined the school.

Whilst Holly was at King's, she studied English, History and Geography for A Level, which included many trips, contributing to some of Holly's most fond memories from King's.

Holly, an Early Years Leader and Reception Teacher, said, *"I think 20 Years of Girl's at King's is such a lovely idea – slightly scary that it was 20 years ago though! We did really have a wonderful time in those two years when we were in the Sixth Form form and made life long memories."*

Q. What is your favourite memory from your time at King's?

A. Wonderful English lessons taught by some really inspiring teachers and a brilliant Geography field trip to Chamonix!

Q. Did you have a favourite teacher? If so, who?

A. Mr Hargreaves. He was very inspirational and took us on some fab trips to Stratford to watch Shakespeare. Mr Priory was a great form tutor. All of the teachers were great.

Q. How did it feel to be one of the first girls at King's?

Having come from an all-girls school it was quite a shock! It was a very fun and eventful two years though.

Q. What do you consider as the biggest challenge facing woman in the workplace and have you had to overcome any obstacles based on your gender within your career?

A. Working in primary education, I have to say that gender obstacles have not been an issue for me as it is quite a female dominated field.

Q. What would be the best piece of advice you'd give to your younger self?

A. Enjoy the present and do not be so keen to go on to the next thing. Do not be fooled by appearances. Life is about your choices so much more than your ability!

KING'S SCHOOL SPORTS



Rowing Club break world record

MEMBERS OF THE KING'S SCHOOL ROWING CLUB became world record breakers after rowing a million metres in 17 hours, 20 minutes and 25 seconds.

On Friday 5 October, 38 girls and 50 boys broke the previous time for the High School U19 Million Metre Rowing Challenge (mixed). This was an incredible achievement for the club and the King's School Rowing community, who rowed the distance in memory of ex-oarsman and alumni Finn Abberton (OKS 2014), who sadly died in 2017.

The remarkable event also raised more than £3,000 for F.A.I.R., a charity dedicated to funding research into the causes and treatment of auto-immune diseases, a cause supported by Finn. The determined rowers started the mammoth challenge at 6am

and, with the help of a team of supporters from the King's School Rowing Club Parents' Association (KSRPCA), finally finished victorious at 11.20pm.

Cakes, flapjacks and plenty of pasta and sandwiches helped to keep much-needed energy levels up as the rowers took it in turns to clock up the admirable distance.

Director of Rowing Mr Blackham said, *"As a club we wanted to commemorate Finn's life, which was so sadly cut short in 2017.*

Finn was a fine oarsman and young man, who rowed in the boys 1st VIII at King's for two seasons.

Rowing a million metres was a fantastic way to galvanise the club, parents, alumni and athletes. The athletes were fantastic on the

day, breaking the record by almost an hour and raising, currently, a total in excess of £3,500 for F.A.I.R., a charity which was close to Finn's heart and will no doubt make a real difference to athletes in the future. It was a terrific day and one to remember for the club."



The money raised will be presented to Finn's family at the annual Pudding Races, held at the boathouse on Saturday 8 December.

Special thanks must go to Owen Parsonage (KS) (U6DUT), Oliver Irvine (KS) (U6FOX) and Jack Roberts (U6DUT) who were instrumental in organising the event and representatives from the KSRCPA for their fabulous support.

Runners to represent Chester

IN CROSS COUNTRY, the girls' squad ran well at an event held at Christleton High School in October.

Runners competed in the Minors (Removes), Juniors (Shells and Thirds) and the Inters (Fourths and Fifths) competitions.

Holly Sutcliffe (RMCI) gained third place overall as did Heather Black (5WAL). Anna Harris (4FOX) came fifth overall and all three have now been asked to represent Chester in the County Cross Country event in January.



Top spot in netball tournament

OUR NETBALL PLAYERS have had a strong start to the year, with the U15 and U19 girls both claiming top spot in the Oswestry Tournament in September, beating six schools each to reach their respective finals.

The U19 girls then capped this off with winning the U19 District Tournament in October with a clean sweep of wins.

For the first time, King's netball teams have entered the National Schools Competition. The U13 had a tough game against Scarisbrick Hall College, losing narrowly after a slow start. The U15 were triumphant in their first round match against Hartford High School but lost out to The Grange in the second round.

The U15s reached the semi-final of the Cheshire Round of the National Schools' Netball tournament in November, with the U19s coming fifth in their group. Both the U13s and U15s have shown massive improvements since coming back from tour in Marbella and have an exciting season ahead.





The U16 County Tournament Squad

Girls qualify to reach hockey finals

THE MICHAELMAS TERM has been full-on for the Senior Girls' Hockey Squads with County Preliminary Rounds and The Investec National Schools' Tournament.

Both teams have qualified for the County Outdoor Finals in March after winning their first rounds. The U16s, who are the current County Champions beat tough opposition King's Macclesfield, The Grange School and Bishop Heber to top their group. The squad now look forward to the final held at King's Macclesfield in March.

The U18s had a slightly easier first round fixture against West Kirby. A single victory sent them through to their final, also scheduled for March.

The National Schools' Tournament this year has changed, with schools playing in a knock-out format. King's beat Shrewsbury School 4-0 at home in Round 1 and were blessed with another home draw against King's Macclesfield in Round 2 of the competition, beating them 6-1. Round 3 saw King's draw away to Repton School. Repton are the current National Schools' Champions and have been for the last three years, with an impressive 11 titles since 2005. Having won their Round 1 and Round 2 matches comfortably 17-0 and 10-0, the 1st XI knew the game would be a challenge.

The 1st XI adapted their formation to counteract the strengths of Repton and if it wasn't for some excellent goal keeping from Chloe Beetschen the score line would have been greater. King's lost 5-0 and even though their Investec Cup run is over for this year, they can be extremely proud of the way they played and the margin of their defeat. The experience of the fixture and confident and positive approach of this newly formed squad was impressive.



The U18 County Tournament Squad

A solid start to the boys' hockey season



BOYS' HOCKEY has seen a solid start to the season, winning thirteen and drawing one of their 20 school matches to date.

The junior teams have built on experiences gained in recent years and – with a good influx of Remove players - have swept all before them at U12, U13 and U14 level with the latter reaching the Cheshire Cup Final after three convincing wins.

The senior teams have been competitive, with the U16's winning one and losing one in a very open Cheshire Cup group. The new 1st team has found the going tough in some difficult fixtures but they have improved week on week and haven't been outclassed by anyone.

The U13s are due to start their Independent School Hockey Cup programme too, with a home match against Sandbach coming up.

Individually, Aled Bennett (U6GRO), Joe Webb (L6BRD) and Connor Dunn (5BRD) continue their involvement with Wales squads, with Paul Kroeze (5WAL) and Abhijay Chawda (5FOX) both working hard with the Regional Performance Centre squad in the England Hockey system.

HENLEY ROYAL REGATTA AND INTERNATIONAL REGATTAS

THE HENLEY REGATTAS' are the conclusion of the racing calendar for the senior crews at the rowing club. At the Women's Henley Regatta, the girls top crew, the girls J16 four attempted to qualify in the J16 coxed fours event. With only eight places available to both domestic and International crews the competition was tough and although the girls didn't gain a space, they rowed the race of their season.

At the Henley Royal Regatta, the boys 2nd VIII attempted to qualify in the Temple Challenge Cup (University Viii's.) The competition was tough, despite not qualifying, the boys again put in their performance of the season. The boys 1st VIII pre-qualified into the Princess Elizabeth Cup (School Viii's) and drew St. Joseph's Nudgee College, Australia in the round of 32. Despite a strong start, the Australian unit proved too strong for our boys, eventually beating them by 2¼ lengths.

On the International stage, Jack Roberts qualified for the England team for the Home Countries International Regatta whilst Owen Parsonage (KS) won a seat in the Welsh team. Both boys faced each other on opposite teams at this event. Owen raced as part of the Welsh coxless four whilst Jack was elected as the England Team captain, eventually lifting the team trophy as well as winning gold medals in both the Viii's and the coxed fours event.

OLIVER!

TEN STUDENTS WERE INVOLVED in Castaway Theatre's production of *Oliver!* at The Storyhouse recently.

The students involved in the production were: Harrison Shoemark (U6FOX), William Medland (U6GRO), Oscar Cornelius (U6FOX), Sameer Dhanjee (4DUT), Tomas Wagenaar (3LES), Ted Toovey (3WER), Oliver Kendall (SHFOX), Alfie Parkinson (RMMH), Rory Flynn (SHLES) and Matthew Underwood (5WER).

The production was spectacular, a credit to the number of hours that had been dedicated to rehearsals. We're exceptionally proud of all the students involved and we're sure all of the audiences were left wanting more!



Photographs courtesy of Mark Carlisle and Castaway Theatre

Anna Harris (4FOX)



Anna Harris (4FOX) was selected for the England team for the Junior Home International orienteering competition in Scotland earlier this month.

Prior to this at the Junior Inter Regional Championships Anna came third in her two-year age band W16. The Junior Inter Regional Championships is treated as the National Junior Championships, as all of the best juniors in the country take part in this event.

Anna had further success the following day where she competed as part of the relay team.

Tom Wood (U6GLA)



Congratulations to Tom Wood (U6GLA) on securing first place in the UK U18 Inter-regional Orienteering Championship event. The championship is made up of teams of four from the nine regions of England and teams representing Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Tom beat the current British champion by a significant margin and the event has provided good preparation for the British Championships.

Leah Fidling (4DUT)



Congratulations to Leah Fidling (4DUT) – selected for the UK Junior Topper Squad. Lots of training and competitions to come, so good luck Leah!

Well done to Leah Fidling in RYA British Youth Sailing (North England) Regional Junior Championships at Ullswater Yacht Club this weekend. First overall and first girl in the Topper Championship Fleet.

Adam De Rycke (RMAI) and Henry Lunn (3GRO)



Congratulations to Adam De Rycke (RMAI) (pictured) and Henry Lunn (3GRO) who have been selected for their respective Welsh Regional Performance Centre (RPC) cricket squads. This involves weekly sessions during the winter and summer plus four Festival days in Cardiff.

Emily Rossiter (U6GLA)



Emily (U6GLA) has recently been accepted into the North of England Lacrosse team as well as the England National Academy.

Lily Wood (4DUT)



Lily (4DUT) has successfully gained a place in Manchester Thunder's U15 squad. Manchester Thunder now operates the regional pathway for England netball and only 20 girls from across the region are in the squad.

Huw Kendall (U6BRD)

Huw Kendall (U6BRD) is as busy outside school as he is inside; he is now trombonist with the Hallé Youth Orchestra and the National Youth Brass Band of Wales.

We would love to celebrate more of our pupils' achievements beyond school in the next edition of The Herald. Please get in touch via KSCNews@Kingschester.co.uk

The King's School, Wrexham Road, Chester CH4 7QL

Willow Lodge: 01244 689470 Junior School: 01244 689520 Senior School: 01244 689500

Email: admissions@kingschester.co.uk

www.kingschester.co.uk



THE KING'S SCHOOL
CHESTER