

The Herald

2019
Spring

EVERY OPPORTUNITY. ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES.

Incredible Cabaret cast wows audience

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year of top
university
offers

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The Herald



Welcome



IN MY MOST RECENT BLOG I explored the sometimes elusive, and always alluring, concept of true happiness and the role a school can play in helping to promote sustainable happiness and contentment in our young people.

One of the conclusions I reach is that a sense of purpose, gained largely from academic work and achievement, balanced with the pleasure derived from activities both in and out of school is essential for the well-being of students. This edition of The Herald is a fine illustration of how our students work hard to achieve both, with academic prowess and co-curricular success splashed across nearly every page.

I regularly advocate that another sound foundation for happiness and contentment is the act of showing generosity, kindness and compassion to others. It fills me with great pride to see so many examples of students taking part in, and perhaps more importantly initiating, fundraising and awareness campaigns across the school. It is essential that every pupil feels like they have a voice within our community and it's hugely gratifying for them to be the driving force of new ideas and initiatives.

Spring is famously a time of new beginnings, so it is perhaps fitting that those students taking A Levels in the summer have completed their last full term at King's, in the same period that we have been delighted to offer places to new pupils joining us in September. I only hope our newest recruits will gain as much from the vibrancy and richness of school life as they have, seizing every opportunity presented to them as they progress through King's.

GEORGE HARTLEY
Headmaster

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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



“Offers have been received for a range of courses at Russell Group universities including Chemistry, Medicine, Veterinary Science, Geography, Economics, Computer Science, Architecture, Earth Sciences, Aviation Management and Electronic and Electrical Engineering.”

Another year of top university offers

THIS YEAR HAS BEEN ANOTHER EXCELLENT YEAR for our Upper Sixth students. Their university offers have been testimony to the determination and hard work throughout the application process.

As of 21 March, 60% of students have received all five offers and 22% have four offers from their preferred universities, with six students having received offers to study Medicine and Veterinary Medicine.

This year a record breaking 31 students are also completing an Extended Project Qualification.

Many congratulations to the following 12 students who have received offers to study at Oxbridge:

- Oliver Irvine (KS)** to read Human, Social and Political Sciences at Pembroke College, Cambridge
- Arjun Periasamy (KS)** to read Economics at Girton College, Cambridge
- Rohan Yesudian** to read Medicine at Robinson College, Cambridge
- Jack Walker** to read Philosophy at Churchill College, Cambridge
- Imogen Duncalf** to read Veterinary Science at Girton College, Cambridge
- Anna Chadwick (KS)** to read Human, Social and Political Sciences at Homerton College, Cambridge
- Oliver Williams (KS)** to read Chemistry at St Peter's College, Oxford
- Adithya Ganeshram** to read Chemistry at Trinity College, Oxford
- James Clark** to read classics at Christ Church College, Oxford
- Tom Wood** to read Earth Sciences at St Anne's College, Oxford
- Ben Hardy-Jones** to read Geography at Christ Church College, Oxford
- Robin Fryar** to read Chemistry at Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford

Head of Sixth Form Josh Carter said, "Whilst Oxbridge has a habit of grabbing the headlines, it is most important that our pupils make the right decisions for themselves and go to a university that they are going to find intellectually challenging and an outlet for their abilities. As important as those applying to university are those contemplating gap years, those applying for a variety of degree apprenticeships or those pursuing art foundation courses."

School Council lead the way

WE ARE PROUD to introduce our new eSafety officers, Itsoghena Oyedeji (4LES), Jonty Spall (4GLA), Isabelle Thane (KS) (4WER) and Josh Thomas (4GRO).

Our eSafety officers completed their training with PC Malone, Youth Engagement Officer from Cheshire Police, as part of the Cheshire Safer Schools and Young People Partnership. They will be fully engaged in driving forward awareness of a range of online issues.

Also this term, the School Council met to discuss sustainability in light of the recent announcement to become an 'ecoschool'. Many topics were covered

including sustainable energy, transport, energy consumption and recycling.

School Council meetings are chaired by the Head of School Team, George Bell (U6WAL), Kate Jenkinson (KS) (U6LES) and Amelia Jones (U6WAL). Before each meeting an agenda is circulated, giving time for broad discussion within each House. During the meeting the Head of School Team then listen, question and spark discussion between the House representatives, whilst answering any questions that the reps may have about school policy and future plans.



Talented musicians

OUR MUSICIANS HAVE ONCE AGAIN been busy preparing for a variety of concerts and public exams.

We have enjoyed some wonderful performances in our lunchtime concerts, notable and most recently from Luke Williams (SHBRD), Weston Heller (3FOX) and Will Medland (U6GRO).

Many congratulations go to Mansi Gupta (KS) (5FOX) who achieved a Distinction in her Grade 8 singing exam, and to Chris Hatton (L6FOX) and to Harry Langley (U6GLA) who passed with Distinction in Grade 6 and Grade 8 drum kit respectively.

Schola were busy preparing for the Lent Service at the cathedral, including a setting of Ave Verum Corpus composed by one of their senior Tenors, Alistair Smellie (U6BRD).



Taking action for a greener future



WILLOW LODGE, the Junior School and the Senior School are beginning to work together to achieve the prestigious Eco-Schools award.

Eco-Schools is the largest global educational programme on the planet and has been running for more than 20 years. There are three awards within the scheme and King's aim to achieve all three: Bronze, Silver and the Green Flag award.

Mrs Aldridge delivered an introductory assembly to all King's pupils and the next stage is to form an Eco-Committee in each school, as well as one overarching committee where pupils from each school will work together along with teachers, support staff, parents and governors.

There are many different areas that we can focus on under the Eco-Schools umbrella: recycling, energy efficiency, transport and biodiversity are just some possibilities.

The pupils are empowered to make the decisions and drive the changes needed themselves. Whichever areas the pupils decide to focus on, working towards the Eco-Schools award is a vital and brilliant first step into King's becoming a much more sustainable school.

The students always can be relied on to generate lots of ideas and their enthusiasm is commendable.

Key issues and ideas that arise from these meetings are discussed with Mr Harle, Mr Carter and Mr Hartley and, when possible, integrated into future development plans.



House Charity Fortnight



Our eight Houses have been busy raising money for their nominated charities this term, culminating in some wonderful fundraising ideas in Charity Fortnight (4 March to 15 March).



Bradbury House organised a car wash for £5 during lunchtimes to raise money for Alder Hey. They also invited Willow Lodge and Junior School pupils to make a donation and name two big cuddly elephants (right).



Werburch House organised three big quizzes for different year groups. The quiz involved a Kahoot! on pop culture, random questions and quick thinking. Entry cost £1 per student and the money raised went to The Chester Link, a charity which supports adults with learning disabilities to live independent lives.



Grosvenor House organised its very own Spring Fete. This involved sponge the teacher, which was hugely popular! A live band, knock the cans over and an opportunity to buy popcorn and ice lollies also ensured a great event. Grosvenor raised money for Nicola's Fund, a charity that aims to improve the quality of life for children with cancer and provide support and help for their families.



Gladstone House was in charge of 'Cook for Less, Pay More'. This involved students cooking for their family and sharing a photo of their efforts on Twitter, for a charitable donation. The most inventive, delicious and cost-effective recipes will be used to create a special 'Gladstone Cookbook'. Gladstone also raised money for Alder Hey.



Fox House has organised a dodgeball competition for the beginning of summer term. Mixed teams of 20 will compete with each other until there is an overall winner. Entry costs £1 per student and the money raised will go to Share. Share supports families in crisis and people who are homeless in the North West. It also assists refugees fleeing for their lives, wherever they are in the world.



Dutton House organised a movie day. This involved a Form Fashion Competition: an opportunity to dress a member of your Form, or the Form tutor as a character from a film, (please see Mr Rees, below) in clothes from a charity shop. Entries cost £2 and were judged by Mr Hartley. Dutton House is raising money for CLIC Sargent, the UK's leading cancer charity for children and young people.



Walsh House organised a Remove's disco, raising money for Papyrus, supporting the prevention of young suicide. A great time was had by all!

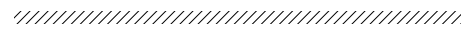


Finally, we had Lester Smith House, who took part in a sponsored sleep-out (right). Lester Smith is raising money for North Clwyd Animal Rescue Centre and Share.

MORE THAN 25 STUDENTS AND STAFF braved the elements on a sponsored sleep-out on Friday 15 March, to raise funds for ShareShop and North Clwyd Animal Rescue Centre.

Facing wet and blustery conditions, it gave all involved a brief but valuable insight into the challenges faced every night by the hundreds of thousands of homeless people across the UK.

Head of Lester Smith, Claire Sumner, said, "Giving up our beds for one night won't ever replicate what it's like to be homeless, our sleep-out was more about raising awareness of our two charities and raising money along the way. It was tough! Well done all involved."



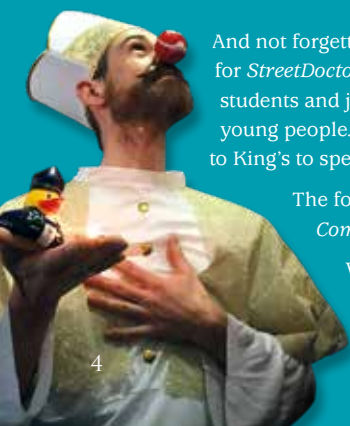
AS PART OF CHARITY FORTNIGHT, Bradbury House ran a competition to 'Name the Alder Hey Elephant'. Pupils from both Willow Lodge and Junior School entered over the course of the fortnight, before members of Dutton House presented the pupils who had won the winning names with their elephants in assembly.

The winning name from Willow Lodge was Mr Elephant, and the winning name from Junior's was Dinky.

And not forgetting the Removes, who did a sponsored activity to raise money for StreetDoctors. StreetDoctors are a national volunteer network of medical students and junior doctors who teach emergency life-saving skills to high risk young people. Ananth Ranjt (OKS 2014) volunteers for the charity and returned to King's to speak to the Removes about his amazing work.

The fortnight ended with an array of fancy dress to raise money for Comic Relief.

We are delighted to announce we raised more than £5,000 over the two weeks, which will go towards supporting some incredible causes.





Glowing review from Good Schools Guide

KING'S CELEBRATED A GLOWING REPORT from *The Good Schools Guide*, which praises both our continued academic success and a renewed commitment to student well-being, with one parent commenting that the focus of the school is on "kindness, warmth and care".

The Good Schools Guide (GSG) reviews more than 1,000 schools, covering state and independent, boarding and day, mainstream and special sectors. A GSG representative visited King's in November, spent the day touring all areas of the school, and met with an array of pupils, parents and staff.

Summarising the outstanding academic performance and vast co-curricular programme, the report concluded King's is:

"A fantastic, vibrant and friendly environment in which your child can attain high academic goals while nurturing their interests and passions, whatever they may be."

The report begins by discussing the impact of changes being made by Headmaster George Hartley.

One example cited is the scrapping of end of year exams for Year 7 and 8 students, in favour of regular assessments and the tracking of an individual's performance throughout the year.

The report says, "He wants to mix academic excellence with outstanding pastoral care. It's an educational elixir he hopes to deliver by helping students 'learn in a way that is sustainable': to take the undue pressure out of exams and introduce appropriately paced studying."

Commenting on parental feedback, it says "Parents, too, seemed very aware of the

increased pastoral emphasis; one suggested the school suffered locally from the perception that it was concerned only about academic results. 'And it's not, it's all genuinely about looking after the child,' he said."

Focusing on Willow Lodge and the Junior School, the report highlights the individual support and care given to each pupil.

One parent whose child had struggled in maths said, "the school had worked with him at lunchtimes, even pulling in a maths teacher who was also his football coach because they communicated well. They work on little weaknesses, was the parental echo; they see the whole child, and don't label them."

It also praises the Head of Infants and Juniors, Margaret Ainsworth.

"Mrs Ainsworth is a fan of children learning without boundaries, learning about team building and risk taking. She exudes warmth, care, accomplishment and efficiency. 'A well run ship' one parent said. Another described her as 'phenomenal!'"

Mr Hartley welcomed the report, saying, "We are obviously delighted with such a cracking report from *The Good Schools Guide*. It's particularly heartening to read that they were able to get an appreciation of the excellent pastoral care that sits alongside academic achievement at King's, as well as the extraordinary wealth of extra-curricular opportunities available to students.

"I am also pleased to read that the unrelenting focus we place on the support of individual pupils has been recognised, as it's this commitment to their well-being and sustainable success that defines and inspires our school community."

Rewarding expedition

OVER THE HALF-TERM HOLIDAY, students completing their Silver DofE completed a training day at Loggerheads Country Park. From here they made their way to the top of Moel Famau in time for lunch, with some fantastic views.



Travel to school day

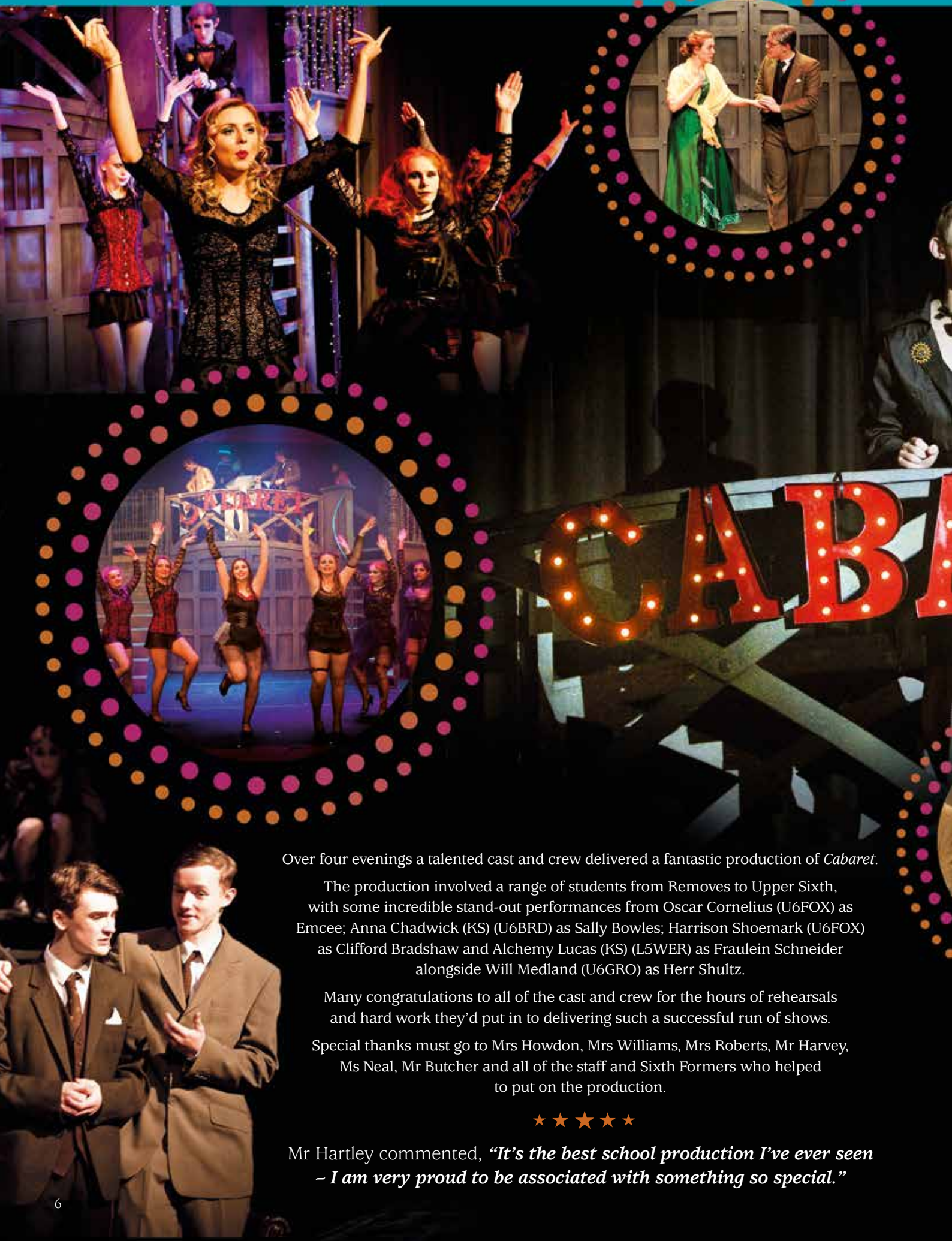
WE RECENTLY HELD OUR second Sustainability Day, promoting the importance of reducing our carbon footprint and environmental impact.

Students were encouraged to Bike, Bus or Bunch up!

Over 400 students and staff took part either by walking, cycling or running to school or using public transport. They were rewarded with a smoothie upon arrival to school and entry into a raffle to win The Bike Factory vouchers. A representative from The Bike Factory was also present to offer bike health-checks as a reward for cycling in.

PCSOs Lauren and Debbie, from Handbridge Park Police, joined us on the morning to mark a new partnership to improve safe and sustainable traffic around the school in the future.





Over four evenings a talented cast and crew delivered a fantastic production of *Cabaret*.

The production involved a range of students from Removes to Upper Sixth, with some incredible stand-out performances from Oscar Cornelius (U6FOX) as Emcee; Anna Chadwick (KS) (U6BRD) as Sally Bowles; Harrison Shoemark (U6FOX) as Clifford Bradshaw and Alchemy Lucas (KS) (L5WER) as Fraulein Schneider alongside Will Medland (U6GRO) as Herr Shultz.

Many congratulations to all of the cast and crew for the hours of rehearsals and hard work they'd put in to delivering such a successful run of shows.

Special thanks must go to Mrs Howdon, Mrs Williams, Mrs Roberts, Mr Harvey, Ms Neal, Mr Butcher and all of the staff and Sixth Formers who helped to put on the production.



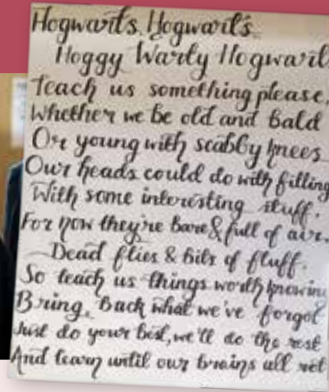
Mr Hartley commented, *"It's the best school production I've ever seen – I am very proud to be associated with something so special."*



MARET



Library round-up



WE ENJOYED A JAM-PACKED TERM celebrating the books shortlisted for our School Book Awards through author visits and Skype chats.



Every year group in the Senior School has been able to talk to at least one author this half-term. Thirds and Fifths skyped with M.A. Bennett (author of *STAGS*) and were able to find out about her inspiration for this book as well as her journey as a writer.

Fourths and Lower Sixth had a Skype chat with Will Hill (author of *After the Fire*) and it was fascinating to learn about how the text of the book had been written quite quickly, but working out the unusual structure of it had taken a lot longer!

Upper Sixth students had a Skype chat with Sarah Crossan, author of *Moonrise*, and, due to the subject matter of the book, this was a fascinating insight into Sarah's opinions on capital punishment but also gave us an understanding on why she chooses to write in verse and the emotional connection this provides for the reader.

In addition to the book awards we also held a *Harry Potter* Book Day. The library was filled with owls, *Harry Potter* themed decorations and students enjoying the many different activities that were on offer, with Slytherin emerging as the victorious House!

Lucky Removes pupils had the opportunity to talk to Lauren Wolk (author of *Beyond the Bright Sea*) all the way from Cape Cod and have chatted to Nicholas Bowling (author of *Witchborn*, OKS 2003) and Lissa Evans (author of *Wed Wabbit*). Their enthusiasm for the books was great to see and they had plenty of questions for all authors. Thanks to a bit of inside

knowledge from Mrs Gareth, they were also able to sign 'Happy Birthday' to Nicholas!

We were particularly pleased to welcome Pam Smy, author and illustrator of *Thornhill*, into the school for a day's visit. The book is a dual narrative told through pictures and words, and Pam gave a fascinating talk to all Shell pupils about her career as an illustrator of books written by others, and how an idea sparked by a derelict building led to her writing and illustrating a book herself.

The first half-term concluded with a visit from our Patron of Reading, Non Pratt, whose book *Truth or Dare* is also on the Teen Book Award list.

Our final talk came from Karen McManus. She spoke to the whole of the Fourth year as part of their English lesson, about the book *One Of Us Is Lying*. She spoke about becoming a writer after doing other things, and how although *One Of Us Is Lying* was her first published book, it wasn't the first one she wrote, which didn't get published. This helped to inspire great messages about perseverance.

After a large number of votes the winners of the School Book Awards were:

Staff Choice

Witchborn by Nicholas Bowling (OKS 2003)

Removes and Shells

- Winner *Thornhill* by Pam Smy
- 2nd place *Wed Wabbit* by Lissa Evans
- 3rd place *Midnight Gang* by David Walliams

Teen

- Winner *One Of Us Is Lying* by Karen McManus
- 2nd place *Truth or Dare* by Non Pratt
- 3rd place *Moonrise* by Sarah Crossan



Bebras Hall of Fame – Students rise to the challenge



FOLLOWING ON from the Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge last term,

three of our Computer Science students, Arthur Greenwood (5GRO), Luke Mulholland (5LES) and Gregor Montgomery (L6GRO), are now listed on the Bebras Hall of Fame.

All of the Computer Science students participated in the challenge and many enjoyed the problem solving aspect of the competition and spent a good number of hours practising past challenges at home.

Around 19 pupils who performed exceptionally well in the November Bebras challenge have been invited to participate in the TCS Oxford Computing Challenge, which will take place in early March; this challenge is more focused on computer programming than the Bebras challenge, which is more to do with computational thinking.

Triumph at art competition



The nineteenth Living Edge Schools Art Competition saw an extraordinary and varied array of entries, the sheer talent of every entrant making the judges' task quite a challenge.

Living Edge is a lifestyle magazine covering the

North West. The competition is in three parts, U14, U16 and U18, and independent schools from the North West take part. The work is exhibited at The Lowry on the day of judging.

Congratulations to Laura Scott (KS) (U6WAL) on winning first prize in the U18 category; and Mia Hard af Segerstad-Smith (KS) (L6GLA) for being highly commended in the U16 category.



To keep up with everything happening in the library make sure you are following @KSCLibrarian on Twitter.

Innovative new partnership



WE ARE VERY PROUD TO BE PART OF a new partnership between The King's School, Bishops' Blue Coat High School and Blacon High School, called Chester Schools Together.

This innovative project aims to bring together students from all three schools for a variety of exciting learning experiences, which started with a series of Saturday Masterclasses.

The Masterclasses were held at King's, Blacon and Bishops' over three consecutive weekends with mixed groups of students from each school.

The Masterclasses had an overall theme of 'creativity' and projects included a collaborative sculpture, a student newspaper and a virtual reality history learning resource.

Comments from the young people who took part included:

“
I am very pleased because we all have different identities that have come together to make something lovely. I am very pleased as I feel I produced something amazing. It was something I wouldn't have usually done so I am proud.
 ”

The standard of work produced by each group was incredibly impressive and will now be shared between all three schools.



Anti-Bullying Ambassadors

THIRTY-TWO STUDENTS WERE INVITED to take part in a day of anti-bullying training, enabling them to become Anti-Bullying Ambassadors for the school.

The scheme is part of *The Diana Award*, an anti-bullying campaign supported by HRH The Duke of Cambridge, and aims to engage young people, parents and teachers to change the attitudes, behaviour and culture of bullying by building skills and confidence to address different situations, both online and offline.

The ambassadors can be found in the library each lunchtime for any students who have concerns and want a friendly face to talk to, other than a member of staff. Students are also able to contact the ambassadors directly. A large part of their role includes befriending others, giving assemblies and talking about internet safety.

Mini musical magic lights up the stage

REMOVE PUPILS IMPRESSED AND WOWED audiences with a host of wonderful performances in their Musical Theatre Production.

Working in four groups, they recreated scenes from *Matilda*, *The Greatest Showman*, *Oliver* and *The Sound of Music*. These pieces include scripted material, songs, dances and work created by the students over several weeks.

Talented pupils showcased an array of different skills and strengths to make each performance their own and worked admirably as a group to ensure a very entertaining evening.



KING'S JUNIORS



Charlie and Lola creator inspires pupils

WE WERE THRILLED TO WELCOME the current UK Children's Laureate, Lauren Child, to King's in December.

Lauren is perhaps best known for her 'Charlie and Lola' books and the pupils were very excited to meet such a wonderful writer and illustrator. It was fascinating to see some of the techniques that she had used for her new illustrated version of *Mary Poppins*, including using the patterns on the inside of envelopes for collage.

She talked passionately about how she discovered the inspiration for her stories and illustrations

and encouraged the children to believe that everyone has the ability to come up with their own stories. Lauren also talked about how colours and simple illustrations can effectively convey different emotions.

We were particularly pleased to be able to welcome more than 100 pupils from local primary schools, who joined our Junior School pupils in listening to and meeting Lauren. Lauren answered many questions from the audience and it was clear how enthused all the pupils were after her wonderful talk.



A slam dunk visit

CHESHIRE PHOENIX ROADSHOW visited J3 pupils in March.

King's have a strong partnership with Cheshire Phoenix and have been involved in the 'Hoops for Health' scheme for over a decade.

The larger than life ambassadors from the basketball club were led by player Dii'jon Allen-Jordan, and the workshops organised by Community Officer, Sarah Gilmore.

The aim is to provide a healthy living programme with professional sporting role models, using basketball as an activity to convey positive health messages to young people in primary schools, including the importance of keeping physically active and leading a healthy lifestyle.

In future seasons the Junior School will have a mixed team to represent the school in local tournaments.



A step back in time with the Bard



Written by Will Medland (U6GRO)

THE LAST TIME I PERFORMED in the Junior School was *Macbeth* when I was in J4, and it's been great helping the members of the current J3 and J4 out in their drama lessons as part of my school's Enrichment option with the fantastic help of Mrs Benson, who directed me alongside Mrs Gibson all those years ago.

It's nice to splurge my interest and love of Shakespeare, and it's been great fun looking back over *Macbeth* with them, which I hadn't done since the performance in J4, so it also refreshed my memory of it.

In groups we have looked over the opening scenes of *Macbeth*, and also *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, making sure they understand the meaning behind the text, but also making sure they don't see Shakespeare as a massive wall that they couldn't possibly get over, as they've shown me that they certainly can.

I hope they have enjoyed me blabbing on to them, and I'd like them to see both myself and other drama students in the Senior School as an example of what the school can offer you in later years.

Valiant Vikings in the frame

CREATIVE PUPILS produced some stunning art based on Viking mythology.





New friendships hit the right notes



JANUARY SAW THE LAUNCH of the newly formed choir '6s and 7s'.

The choir is open to J4s and Removes and is a great opportunity for students from the Junior and Senior Schools to work together. The choir currently has more than 45 members and they are busy working towards their first performance next half-term.

Assistant Director of Music Ms Neal said, "I am very lucky to be working with such a talented group of young singers. It has been wonderful to be able to work with the Juniors and Removes together and see their relationships grow through music."

The Blazer – Amazing assemblies



Written by Jonathan Das

THE CHILDREN OF J1 have presented their first assemblies, to the delight of the entire Junior School. They conquered any nerves to deliver three thought-provoking messages with confidence.

J1D entertained a packed Consterdine Hall with an assembly about the Chinese New Year. They revealed the story behind the animals of the Chinese calendar. This is the Year of the Pig. Spectators were given the opportunity to discover the animal of their year of birth.

J1G investigated respect and featured two football captains, played by Jonathan Das and Tess Walley.

J1L turned the clock back to ancient Greece and explored the greed of King Midas, whose touch turned everything to gold. The sparkling assembly included a video about their wishes for the world.



Tremendous result for top athletes

THIS YEAR WAS one of the most successful yet at AJIS Indoor Athletics, with sporting achievements going from strength to strength in the Junior School.

Twenty-nine pupils represented the school at Robin Park, Wigan, and they all displayed an excellent level of technique and skill.

The pupils enjoyed great support from the crowd and eventually celebrated a haul of 32 medals.



Making the internet safer for everyone



JUNIOR SCHOOL PUPILS marked Safer Internet Day by having year group meetings led by the J4 eSafety officers.

They presented a very thoughtful and informative presentation, delivering important messages about permission and consent in the online world, followed by a short Q&A session where pupils were able to share ideas and experiences.

Safer Internet Day 2019 was celebrated globally with the theme 'Together for a Better Internet'.

The annual event was bigger than ever, with more than 2,100 organisations and schools across the UK getting involved to help inspire a national conversation about using technology responsibly, respectfully, critically and creatively.

Our eSafety officers are Finn Cottle (J4O), Alfred Lloyd (J4O), George Moss (J4S), Soham Rath (J4S), Owen Ewart (J4S), Lauren Scoltock (J4M), Shubham Gupta (J4M) and Ashton Curwen (J4M).

KING'S JUNIORS



Bookworms battle it out

WILLOW LODGE AND JUNIOR PUPILS were invited to enter a competition called Show Your Love for Reading. Entries could be in the form of a poster, a video, a piece of writing or any other creative method. The aim of the competition was to show our Patron of Reading, Non Pratt, why King's pupils love reading. The competition was set up by Non to tie in with her visit to the school on Valentine's Day.

There were some incredible entries, making the judging process very hard for Mrs Harding and Non. However, after lots of agonising the winners were decided (see opposite).



Highly commended

Nora Brazaibyte (J4M)
Nathalie Meakin, Grace Henderson
and Izzy Roberts (J3S)
Anna Martin (Wrens)

Winners

Cameron Korkmaz-Minns – Robins
Daniel George – Wrens
Florence Davies – Nightingales
Sadhbh and Darragh Young – J2T and Nightingales
Hugh Samuel – J3B
Scarlett Tweedie – J3S
Olivia Das – J4O
Ptolemy Byatt – J4S

Sensational singers



MUSICAL PUPILS took part in AmaSing at the Storyhouse last term.

AmaSing aims to inspire communities to work together through songs and music. Pupils were working alongside other schools in Chester, singing with a live band before delivering a fantastic show in the evening.

We could not be prouder of our pupils and the boundless enthusiasm they displayed throughout the experience.



Jokes, jives and japes

TO CELEBRATE RED NOSE DAY pupils took part in a danceathon, which meant dancing non-stop for half an hour.

They also had 30 minutes of telling jokes, providing students and staff alike with plenty of laughter during their lunch break. We were highly impressed with both the standard of jokes and dancing on display.



Blazer interview – Exploring the truth with famous author



MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL'S BOOK CLUB were lucky enough to speak to award-winning children's writer Katherine Rundell, author of *Rooftoppers* and *The Wolf Wider*. Her latest novel, *The Explorer* is set in the rainforest. Here's what she said...

Have you ever been in a plane crash?

Ha! No, thank goodness I haven't. I've been learning to fly a small plane – exactly like the one in the book – and I'm not very good, but luckily no crashes yet!

Have you ever been to the Amazon jungle and done research?

Yes! I had the most wonderful time – I swam with wild river dolphins and caught a piranha – almost all the animals in the book are based on what I saw there.

What was your favourite animal in *The Explorer*?

Baca, the baby sloth. I wish I had a sloth.

What inspired you to become a writer?

I have always thought that books made the world larger, kinder, bolder and sharper; and I feel very lucky to spend my time imagining.

Which of your books was the hardest to write?

I think *The Explorer* went through the most drafts – I think I rewrote it 17 times. For me, the most important part of writing is rewriting.

What are you working on at the moment?

I'm just finishing my next book, which is called *The Good Thieves* – it will be out in June. It's about a gang of kids who plan a secret crime, in 1920s New York.



Have you ever written a book for adults?

Well, I'm currently writing a book for adults about the poet, John Donne – he lived in the time of Shakespeare and was I think the greatest love poet ever to write.

What is your all-time favourite children's book?

I don't think I could pick one but I do absolutely love a book called *Charmed Life* by Diana Wynne Jones.

Were you happy with the illustrations in *The Explorer*?

Yes! I think Hannah Horn, the artist, is a genius. She sent me my very own picture of Baca, to keep in my flat.

If you weren't a writer, what would you be?

I'd like to be a pilot, or professional tight-rope walker. I love to be up high, so you can see the world stretched out below.



THE KING'S SCHOOL
CHESTER

THE ARISTOCATS

TALENTED J2 PUPILS delivered a perfect production of *Aristocats!* Based on the beloved Disney film, featuring jazzy and upbeat music, the production was a non-stop thrill ride of feline fun, complete with unbelievable twists and turns. From the start the audience was gripped with an opening dance to *Stray Cat Strut*.

In the heart of Paris, a kind and eccentric millionairess wills her entire estate to Duchess (Hattie Banks, J2P), her high-society cat and her three little kittens. Laughs and adventure ensue as the greedy, bumbling butler and his cronies pull off the ultimate caper. Now it's up to the rough-and-tumble alley cat, Thomas O'Malley (Christopher Neal, J2P) and his band of swingin' jazz cats to save the day.

Every pupil put a huge amount of effort into rehearsals and the production, learning complicated dance routines and delivering some super solo performances.

Special thanks must go to Miss Savage for her work on the set design, inspired by artist El Gato Gomez. The impressive performance was directed and choreographed by Mrs Parker, whilst Mrs Stevens was the musical director. Many thanks to all other parents and staff who were also involved.



KING'S JUNIORS



Double delight for hockey superstars

OUR U11 HOCKEY PLAYERS have had a phenomenal season. Huge congratulations to our U11 Boys and U11 Girls, who are North of England hockey champions following the finals which took place in Leeds.



U11 GIRLS' TEAM	U11 BOYS' TEAM
Scarlett Wright (J4M)	William Mason (J4S)
Lauren Scoltock (J4M)	William Barlow (J4O)
Eleanor Williams (J4M)	Charlie Beyeler (J4O)
Amber Millard-Smith (J4M)	Oscar Wallis (J4S)
Sophie Hornby (J4S)	Ben Pold (J3S)
Grace Henderson (J3S)	Jack Nash (J4M)
Anna Walker (J4O)	Alexander Popplewell (J4O)
Georgina Davidson (J4M)	Rory Delafaille (J4M)
Sophie Pinnington (J4O)	Hector Walsh (J4M)
Jacob Watson (J3B)	

Football champs lift the trophy

THE U11 JUNIOR SCHOOL BOYS' FOOTBALL TEAM won the AJIS Cup for the second time in only three years. The road to victory began back in September, when 21 of the leading North West Independent Junior Schools played in five qualifying tournaments across the region. King's won their group, which included Newcastle, St Bede's and Stockport, before moving on to the knockout phase of the Cup. The next round saw King's beat one of the favourites away from home, The Grange, 6-1 before travelling to Bolton School and winning again 8-7 after extra time in the semi-final. The final was played towards the end of March and, after a toss of the coin, King's had to once again travel to play Stockport in the final, which they won with a convincing 4-2 victory to become AJIS champions once again.



TV star and explorer pops in



WE WERE DELIGHTED to welcome Ben Fogle to the Junior School to celebrate the launch of his latest book, *Mr Dog and the Rabbit Habit*.

As well as it being World Book Day, it was also publication day for Ben, so a very exciting day all round! As this is Ben's first children's book, we felt very privileged to be one of the first schools he visited.

Ben spoke about his adventures, including spending a year on a desert island, climbing Mount Everest and rowing across the Atlantic. Ben revealed that the

inspiration for his book came to him last year whilst he was climbing Mount Everest.

Ben's talk highlighted the importance of teamwork, acknowledging that it does not matter if you are not great at everything as long as you have supportive people around you. Ben also encouraged all of our pupils to continue reading, as it enables you to explore more than you are able to in real life.

Two of our pupils who had come to school dressed as Ben were lucky enough to get their picture taken with him (below).

Willow Lodge and Junior School pupils asked Ben a selection of excellent questions ranging from 'Who are successful female explorers?' to 'What is your favourite part of writing a book?'



Team effort seals victory

THE U11 GIRLS won the plate competition at the AJIS netball tournament. They played six matches, winning five and losing one, in very difficult conditions. The girls played fantastic netball and showed a great team spirit.



WILLOW LODGE INFANTS



Storybook celebrations on World Book Day

DURING BOOK WEEK there was a variety of activities going on across the school.

Willow Lodge and Junior School pupils were invited to come to school dressed as a character from one of their favourite books. We had an incredible array of costumes on show.

They were also lucky enough to have Sarah Sexton, author of *Love You Too*, visiting. Sarah read her book with pupils, taught them songs and explained her inspiration behind writing her book and why she thinks it's so important.

Throughout the week there were crime scenes in both the Junior and Senior School libraries for students to work out who caused the murder in the library out of a potential ten suspects and ten weapons.



International women's day

INSPIRED PUPILS played their part in this year's Balance for Better campaign for International Women's Day in March.

The campaign's mission statement is, "A balanced world is a better world. How can you help forge a more gender-balanced world? Celebrate women's achievement. Raise awareness against bias. Take action for equality."

Youngsters spent the day learning all about pioneering women from history and the modern day, celebrating their achievements in the fields of science, the creative arts and sport.



Fundraising fun

TASTY TREATS and delicious bakes ensured Willow Lodge's cake sale for Comic Relief was a great success, with lots of funds raised thanks to generous donations.



WILLOW LODGE INFANTS



Taking care of our feathered friends

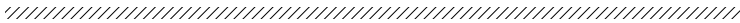
ROBINS AND WRENS have been busy learning about The Owl Babies and Their Forest Friends and have linked this to the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch.

Instead of having to go to the Forest School area to bird-spot, pupils have been making bird tables with the help of Mr Jenkins, from the Facilities Team, to put outside their classrooms. Making the tables involved getting the wood out of the tractor and

putting it all together using screws and even a drill! This gave pupils a great opportunity to learn about safety with tools.

As part of the project, Robins and Wrens have been listening to bird songs to see if they can hear the birds, as sometimes we are able to hear birds but not see them.

We're looking forward to getting lots of use out of the bird tables and seeing what birds decide to visit.



#LeaveNoOneBehind

PUPILS WERE PROUD TO SUPPORT World Down Syndrome Day by coming to school wearing odd socks. This is part of the World Down Syndrome Day campaign Leave No One Behind.



Assembly that day focused on raising awareness of those with Down's Syndrome and the importance of celebrating all of our differences, and love for one another.

Pupils also enjoyed sock shaped biscuits to raise money for the Down's Syndrome Association.



Proud day for Scouts and Guides

To mark World Thinking Day, pupils in Willow Lodge were invited to wear their Girl Guiding or Scouting uniform. World Thinking Day is a day of international friendship and can also be referred to as Friendship Day, or Founders' Day.





Super Sleuths Save the Day

CURIOUS WILLOW LODGE PUPILS turned detective when they arrived at school to find a mysterious crime scene in their classroom.

The pupils soon found that the prime suspect was none other than Evil Pea, the bright green baddie from their class book, *Supertato*, by Sue Hendra and Paul Linnet.

Supertato is a superhero with eyes everywhere... until Evil Pea wreaks havoc and causes chaos in a supermarket. Overnight the Evil Pea had caused a huge mess in the infant classroom and pupils had to search for clues amongst the four crime scenes, only to discover several vegetables that had been attacked. Able assistants Mrs Ainsworth and Mr Hartley also joined in to help solve the crime and the Evil Pea's pesky crimes were soon solved.



Pupils take flight on school trip

ROBINS AND WRENS had an exciting day out at the beginning of term, visiting Cheshire Falconry Centre at Blakemere Craft Centre.

Their first activity involved going into the woods to learn about the trees and different animal habitats where rabbit and fox footprints were spotted in the snow.

The second activity was to learn about different birds of prey, especially owls. Pupils learned that owls can turn their head almost in a full circle because they have 14 bones in their neck, even more than a giraffe. They were also able to see one of the largest and one of the smallest owls.



Musical visitors delight with performance



MUSICAL STUDENTS from the Lower Sixth entertained the pupils of Willow Lodge recently.

After travelling around each classroom playing a variety of music, the pupils sang in assembly to bring the week to an exciting close.

Seb Middleton (L6DUT), Megan Basford (L6LES) and Carmen Boyd (L6WAL), accompanied by Miss Latifa, performed a selection of Disney, *Les Misérables* and Sam Smith to the delight of teachers and pupils alike.

WILLOW LODGE INFANTS



Just the Golden Ticket

LUCKY PUPILS have been exploring the story of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*.

This has involved learning where chocolate comes from, how it's made and its history, and looking at a chocolate bar which was over 100 years old.

Pupils were then treated to a chocolate making workshop where they all made their own delicious fondant treats.



Superfood skills workshop

INFANT 1 PUPILS were treated to a superfood workshop with Mrs Gooding. Pupils learned about the importance of eating healthily and how to make protein balls, with some surprise ingredients, including smashed peas!



Special visitor shares career dream

HANNAH WEBB (OKS 2016) returned to King's to give a careers talk to current Fifth and Sixth Formers about studying Veterinary Nursing at the Royal Veterinary College as part of our '20 years of girls at King's' celebrations.

20 years of girls at King's

She was kind enough to stop off at Willow Lodge to speak to pupils about what Veterinary Nursing involves and answer their wonderful questions.

Hannah also enjoyed a tour of the school with the Development Department, giving her an opportunity to see what's changed at King's since she left.

Willow Lodge pupils asked Hannah a variety of questions including 'What is the smallest animal you've treated?', 'How do you make animals better?' and 'What is your favourite animal?'



KING'S ALUMNI

RIBA



KING'S ALUMNI TEAM WAS DELIGHTED to work in collaboration with former pupil Alan Vallance (OKS 1983) to organise an outstanding alumni event in November.

Alan, CEO of the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA), kindly offered the school use of the institute's magnificent Florence Hall, located within its beautiful art deco headquarters in central London, to host an alumni get-together.

More than 100 alumni gathered for a truly memorable evening, which included speeches from two of King's highest profile alumni – Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, Matt Hancock (OKS 1995), and founder of Money Saving Expert and consumer champion, Martin Lewis OBE (OKS 1990).



From left to right: Matt Hancock, George Hartley, Ravi Jayaram, Martin Lewis.

Addressing the guests, Matt said, *"I'm here because this is what matters, that we ourselves appreciate and are grateful to that which gave us the education and the background to do what we do now. Communities are built on people paying back to the institutions and communities that supported them, without any sense of something in return and not due to a formal contract, but to a sense of social obligation."*

"I'm here because I believe deeply in the value that King's Chester brings to the boys, and now girls, that it educates, and what it can do to ensure that children get the very best start in life. I care deeply about that and I want to help in every way that I can."

Martin Lewis then took to the lectern and delivered a passionate address about a number of topics

close to his heart. These included the importance of financial education for school-aged children, in particular enabling them to distinguish between good debt and bad debt and the relationship between mental health and money.

Headmaster George Hartley closed the evening by outlining his strategic vision for the school over the next ten years and presenting the three alumni Leading Light Awards for 2018.

The awards were presented to Matt Hancock, Martin Lewis and Consultant Paediatrician Ravi Jayaram (OKS 1985) for their outstanding achievements within their professional fields and their continued links to the school.

King's 100 CHALLENGE

A vision for bursaries

IN SEPTEMBER 2016, THE KING'S 100 CHALLENGE was launched by the then Headmaster, Chris Ramsey, with the full support of the school's governing body.

Our aim is to raise sufficient funds by 2041 to create 100 extra senior school bursary places for economically disadvantaged, but talented children. In 2041, we will

A few facts... In the last 5 years:


41 bursary students have gone to **Top Universities**
Including Oxford and Cambridge

mark the 500th anniversary of our school's foundation by Henry VIII, whose ambition was to provide an education for '24 poor and friendless boys'.

We want to regain some of the philanthropic support for children from low income families that existed in earlier years and increase the number of senior school pupils on bursaries, from the current 7% to 20%.

With assistance from governors, alumni, parents, local businesses and foundations, our campaign is gaining momentum and attracting support. Our first milestone by 2020 is to raise £2 million and we're well on track!

Below is a summary of our progress to date.

56% 
Held top Prefect positions

2 
Held the prestigious Head of School position

An update on our progress and more information about how parents, who may wish to get involved, will be shared later in the year.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS 2019

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

Henley Regatta Tea Party
5 July – 11am - 3.30pm

Battlefields Trip
14 – 18 July – Parents and families are welcome to join

Annual Alumni Dinner
7 September – 6.30pm - 11pm

King's in the Capital
21 November – 6.30pm - 10pm

For more information on any of the above, please contact the Alumni Team at alumniteam@kingschester.co.uk or call 01244 689494

STAYING IN TOUCH

 **kingschesteralumni**
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 **@kingsalumni**
Follow us on Twitter

KING'S ALUMNI

20 years of girls at King's

THIS YEAR we are celebrating 20 years of girls at King's. The first female students 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-educational, welcoming girls from 7 to 18 years of age. As part of the celebration, we've been inviting alumnae back to King's to talk to Fifth and Sixth Form students about their experiences of university and professional life in a series of career talks.

Our speakers so far have included:



Scarlett Lawson (OKS 2012) – PR Manager.

Scarlett went on to study English Language and Linguistic Science at the University of York, and is currently PR Manager at Source PR. Her talk focused on the importance of stepping out of your comfort zone, studying what you love and are passionate about and being true to yourself.



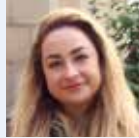
Hannah Webb (OKS 2016) – Studying at The Royal Veterinary College to become a Veterinary Nurse.

Hannah's talk focused on the requirements of her course, the support that she is able to give to animals and veterinary practices, and her favourite aspects of the degree.



Emma Ross (OKS 2005) – UK Warehouse Manager (Logistics).

Emma has succeeded in making a mark in her chosen field and was named in a list of the top 100 logistics influencers in 2018. She is also a Director of the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport and heavily involved in the young professionals of the field, both in the UK and internationally.



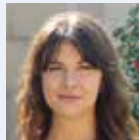
Hayley Milner (OKS 2014) – Masters student in Law, Business and Management.



Emily Moss (OKS 2013) – Masters student in Applied Linguistics at UCL and part-time English as a Second Language teacher.



Lydia Hunter (OKS 2005) – Head of Digital at L'Oreal Paris.



Miranda Harle (OKS 2012) – Client Manager at Whalar.

Join us on the 6th July to celebrate this momentous milestone!

We'll be hosting an afternoon of fun, fizz, which includes afternoon tea in our fabulous newly re-developed Sport Hall. Former and current pupils and parents are invited to listen to three inspiring women talk about their personal journey to success.

For more information about ticket prices and how to book, contact Nadine Isaacs on 01244 689494.

Memories shared at reunions

1969 LEAVERS returned to school on 2 March for their 50-year reunion. The evening included a tour led by current Sixth Formers, a delicious three-course meal and a look through archive material from the 1960s.

There was plenty of animated discussion and sharing of anecdotes and memories from days gone by. It was a great opportunity to re-kindle old friendships, make new ones and catch up with old teachers.

Over 40 alumni returned to King's on Saturday 16 March for their year group reunions. The first, for 1979 leavers, was held in the morning and began with coffee and a tour of the school, led by current Lower Sixth

pupils. This particular cohort have stayed in regular contact with each other, thanks in large part to the efforts on one particular Old Boy Nigel Cryer. It was lovely to see the camaraderie and strong bonds of friendship that still exist 40 years on.

With attendees travelling from Australia, Italy, Norway and the USA, the event continued on into the evening with a meal at Oddfellows on Lower Bridge Street.

1989 leavers met later in the evening and enjoyed a three-course meal and informal presentation featuring archive material, including their Removes class photos!

Keep on rowing after King's



DID YOU KNOW you can now row for King's after you've left?

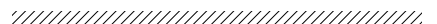
King's Alumni Rowing has been formed to allow ex-pupils to continue to enjoy rowing at the school and has formed crews to participate at other major rowing events held on the Dee, the Thames and at Henley Royal Regatta.

It is part of the Rex Boat Club, a British Rowing club based within the school Rowing Club's boathouse and made up of parents and friends of the school. The club currently has two eights, four quads/fours, a double and two singles. Formed Alumni crews can also utilise school boats for particular notable events, when required and if cleared by the Director of Rowing.

2018 saw alumni rowers take part in the Henley Regatta for the first time, under the name of Rex Boat Club, competing against Upper Thames Boat Club in the Wyfold Challenge Cup. It was a tough challenge and a close race, with Upper Thames winning by a small margin.

King's Alumni Rowing has a Captain, Patrick Hanratty 2018–2019 – pat1995.ph@googlemail.com, who is helped by Area Secretaries Tommy Reeves, North – tommy.reeves@hotmail.co.uk and Hannah Blaikie, South – hblaikie@hotmail.co.uk.

Get in touch with them to find out more about rowing after King's.



1969 Leavers



1979 Leavers



1989 Leavers



King's Success at the National Schools' and National Sculling Heads

Rowing Together for Healthy Minds



OLIVER IRVINE (KS) (U6FOX)

KSRC HAS BECOME one of the first school boat clubs to become affiliated with the mental health movement



RTHM (Rowing Together for Healthy Minds), which is a partner of Mind Charity. The student-led organisation is unique as it not only aims to raise money for mental health charities such as Mind, but its key goal is to raise awareness of mental health within the sport.

The student executives of the club, Owen Parsonage (KS), Jack Roberts and Oliver Irvine, have organised the affiliation. It involves displaying posters and literature around the club, nominating and promoting mental well-being champions within the club, and racing in the RTHM T-shirts underneath King's kit.

The entire 1st VIII will be taking the role of mental well-being champions. The purpose of the role is to show members of the club where to find help. This means that they are an additional point of contact for people who are suffering from a mental health problem or have concerns about themselves or others.

The student executives have arranged for King's crews to join many others and race at School's Head in the RTHM tech tops. We believe that actions speak louder than words, and having all King's athletes racing in the tops will help convince both our club and others that mental health isn't something to be ashamed of talking about.

WITH 80 ATHLETES SELECTED TO RACE at the Schools' Head and a further 46 selected to race at the National Sculling Head, the national level races on the Thames and at Dorney Lake were set to be an exciting time for the King's School Rowing Club. Severe weather hampered the Schools' Head, resulting in seven crews being unable to race; a further octuple at the Sculling Head was also withdrawn.

The crews that did get the opportunity represented the club and school with pride. The boys 1st VIII (Championship Viii) returned in style to the top eight in the country, finishing eighth in the field and setting expectations and hopes high for the summer months ahead. The girls championship boat, the J16 VIII, also rowed a strong course and

finished in eighth place in their event. The boys championship level Viii's at their respective levels also produced encouraging results, with the J16 VIII finishing in 11th and the J15 VIII finishing in eighth.

The following Monday was the turn of the J14 and J15 sculling crews to compete at Dorney Lake. The girls boated an octuple and coxed quad and competed well at their first national level event.

The J15 boys coxed quad also put in their best performance of the season so far. The J14 boys octuples both completed a successful head race season. The J14 boys 2nd octuple produced a fantastic result, placing fourth in their category. The J14 1st octuple finished in second place overall; this was a fine achievement for the crew with 43 octuples in the field.

Inter-regional time trials

ON SUNDAY 3 MARCH, our rowers travelled to Northwich Rowing Club to compete for selection into the North West Rowing Team.

The 1000m time trial was held on the Northwich Head race course and the winners of each category gained selection to represent the North West at the Junior Inter-Regional Regatta (JIRR), held in Peterborough on 27 April. We were greeted with some wet and cold weather, but it was no hindrance to our trialling athletes: we took the conditions in our stride and held some great form throughout the day.

Our selected athletes are:

WJ15 4+	J14 2x	J16 4+	J16 8+
Issy Donnachie (4DUT)	Luke Dillon (3DUT)	Mia Jones (5FOX)	James Henry (5WAL)
Emilia Jenks (4WER)	Bram Lucas (3WER)	Barney Easter (5WER)	William Standing (5WER)
Lily Wood (4DUT)		Luke Mulholland (5LES)	Matthew Dodds (5GRO)
Freya Beyeler (4WER)		Josh Acton (5DUT)	Dan Sykes (5WER)
Isabella Jones (KS) (4GLA)		Dan Roberts (KS) (5DUT)	Owen Reynolds (5GRO)
			Max Warner (5WAL)
			Arthur Greenwood (5GRO)
			Callum Kingsley (5WER)
			Mark Turner (KS) (5GRO)

The JIRR is for J14-J16 rowers and a range of boat classes, both rowing and sculling. The UK is split into 12 regions and the competition is to gain points within each boat class (first place = maximum points and 12th place = fewest points). We have been successful in this competition in the past and look forward to competing with our selected athletes.



KING'S SCHOOL SPORTS



Badminton team battle it out



AFTER VICTORY in the Chester round, King's U14s travelled to Ellesmere Port Sports Village for the Cheshire County Finals.

Oliver Harrington (3DUT), Edward Tweedie (SHGRO), Oliver Kendall (SHFOX), Millen Batra (SHELs) and Rohith Muthuvelu (SHDUT) ended the event with the incredible result of 20 games won and none conceded.

In the Regional Finals, King's put in a very creditable performance, finishing third overall. The players all competed extremely well, with the highlight being Oliver Harrington's defeat of the eventual winners Manchester GS's first seed.

County champion joy for squad

AFTER A TIGHTLY CONTESTED FINAL against The Grange, King's Macclesfield and Queen's, our U18 team were crowned U18 county hockey champions.

This was the last representative 11-a-side tournament for the U6 members of the squad and proved to be a great end to their hockey careers at King's.



Boys hockey team reach final

THE U12 BOYS HOCKEY SQUAD competed in the North West Championships and beat Wirral, Manchester Grammar School and King's Macclesfield without conceding a single goal, propelling them to the final.

King's then drew a tense match against Cheadle Hulme 1-1, eventually losing in the penalty shootout but still securing a place in the Northern final, where they won four games, drew one and lost one, finishing third overall.



Celebrating storming season

IT'S BEEN A BUSY TERM FOR GIRLS NETBALL with Chester and district tournaments.

The U15 team were crowned Chester and District champions and the U12a, U13b and U14 teams all gained the title of Chester and District Netball Tournament runners-up.



Strong performances in tough clashes



FOLLOWING THEIR WIN at the England Hockey In2Hockey event which qualified them for the North of England Finals, King's progressed to the Independent Schools Cup Quarter Final.

In the Quarter Final King's played the holders last year, Calday. King's dominated play but were matched for spirit by Calday who were the only team to hold them to a draw. Joe Osborne (SHWAL) gave them a first half lead but Calday levelled before half time from a short corner. Osborne restored the lead from the penalty spot midway through the second half but King's were caught out with four minutes left when a fast break equalised. 2-2 at full time, Calday led 2-1 in the penalty contest with only one more each to take. Lloyd Bennett (SHGRO) scored under pressure to make it 2-2, then William Saul (SHDUT) made a vital save to keep King's in the tournament.

Saul then made an even better save to keep out the first sudden death stroke and Wallis calmly scored to give King's a memorable victory.

They progressed into the ISHC semi-final where they went down 4-2 to St George's College Weybridge at Birmingham University. Osborne gave King's the lead and later pulled it back to 3-2 but they couldn't quite recover.

King's qualified for the 3/4 playoff where they lost 4-1 to Bristol GS in the bronze game, trailing 2-1 late on they conceded two late goals as they pushed up. Adam Thwaite scored the King's goal (SHBRD).

Overall, the boys came fourth nationally in U13 hockey which is a huge achievement that they should be very proud of.



Basketball team scoop county title



OUR U14 BASKETBALL TEAM have been crowned County Basketball Champions following their victory in the finals at the Cheshire Schools Games.

Huge congratulations and best of luck for next season!

Miraculous Matt rises to the challenge

IT IS FANTASTIC TO SEE Matt Willis (OKS18) going from strength-to-strength in his athletic endeavours since leaving King's last summer.

Matt took part in the World Cross and finished 25th in the field, placing him as the second highest European competitor and highest placed Brit since 2008 – equal to Mo Farah's best position.

Congratulations, Matt!



Remarkable Removes claim top spot



A talented squad from King's took part in the first National Schools' Championship County Tournament for their age group this term.

King's defeated Alderley Edge, Falibroome and The Grange on the way to the semi-final against a strong Wilmslow team. It was close throughout but they prevailed after penalty strokes, reaching the final against King's Macclesfield.

The final was a tense affair and after some excellent work in goal by Adaora Ekwueme (RMDR), it finished 1-1 resulting in another penalty shoot-out. They held their nerve and after a fantastic penalty save by Adaora, Eva Kenningham (RMAI) calmly scored the winning penalty to confirm King's Chester as County Champions.

Congratulations to the squad of Adaora Ekwueme, Eva Kenningham, Siya Saha (RMDR), Piya Saha (RMAI), Emily Hunt (RMDR), Holly Sutcliffe (RMCI), Jessica Clish (RMCI), Georgina Brown (RMSC), Ffion Chilton (RMDR) and Arabella Gardiner (RMCI).

Individual achievements

We are always impressed with the variety and scale of our pupils' achievements outside of school and value the opportunity to celebrate their success. Please let us know what you or your child have been up to by emailing KSCnews@kingschester.co.uk

Fin McNamee (3GLA)



Fin McNamee (3GLA) – placed just outside top 20 in GB Ski Champs and is now included in GB Development squad.

Aled Bennett (U6GRO) and Joe Webb (L6BRD)



Aled Bennett (U6GRO) and Joe Webb (L6BRD) - have been selected to represent Wales U18 Hockey after a very tough selection process. Aled has also received the honour of being picked for the Senior Men's training squad for Wales.

Carmen Boyd (L6WAL)



Cheshire Police cadet graduation.

Fin Thomson (SHFOX) – two North Wales championship titles (50 Fly and 400IM) plus five silvers and six bronzes.

Sophie Williams (5LES) – ‘mixing it’ with the top dressage riders in the UK at the Advanced Medium 98 class, a class dominated by professional adult riders - Sophie's first regional since her move to horses from ponies five months ago.

Benjamin Stanley (SHBRD) – Irish Football squad selection – Republic of Ireland ‘Emerging Talent’ squad and NW ISFA Squad.

Raef Watts (4FOX) – U15 Cheshire Rugby squad – also training in the 40 strong Sale Sharks Dev group with weekly sessions in strength and conditioning, nutrition, self-development and rugby skills.

Ted Arnold (3LES) – Sale Sharks U14 rugby.

Oliver Harrington (3DUT) – U15 badminton champion.

Aaron Mohun (RMRA) – Cheshire Union U12 County Boys Squad.

Jasmine Denton (L6WAL) & Ellie Saunders (L6GLA) – U21 North Wales Netball Talent Centre.

Izzy Whittlestone (3GRO) – U14 Cheshire Netball squad.

Charlotte Scott (4WAL) – selected to represent Cheshire in U17 Netball tour in Northern Ireland

Theo Irvine (SHFOX), Fraser Rossiter (SHGLA), Fraser Brown (SHWAL), Angus Rees (SHWER), Joe Hird (SHWER), Tomos Mira (SHGRO) – selected for Sale Sharks Dev. Programme.

Brad Miller (L6WER) – ISFA U17s at Sheffield United.

Will Jones (3GLA) – playing for Manchester United in Boston, Massachusetts.

Woody Pochin (3GLA) – selected for Sale Sharks DPP as a lock forward/centre.

Jake Liddle (4DUT) – Cheshire U15 rugby, County Cricketer and achieving County honours in two sports.

Josh Thomas (4GRO) – North Wales Taekwondo Championships 2019 Gold sparring in boys heavyweight and silver in patterns.

Caitlin Thomas (L6GRO) – bronze patterns in her first ever taekwondo competition.

William Pritchard (RMDR) – William competed in the regional swimming championships in Llandudno in February. Competing in nine events he then qualified for seven finals, earning himself a total of 10 PBs and a Bronze medal for 50m Fly. That was all before William's success in selection for the IRC cross country at Loughborough two weeks earlier.

Leah Fidling (4DUT) – 5th in Topper National Winter Championships at Weymouth and Portland Sailing Academy, 2nd girl to finish in the National Event Series 3 at Datchet sailing club.

Jake Harrison (SHDUT) and James Bailey (3WAL) – played for Cheshire Phoenix vs Leicester Riders. Scored nine and 52 points respectively in an 85-69 victory.

Jake Harrison (SHDUT) – been selected to represent Wales in Basketball.

Will Jones (3GLA) and Vimal Yoganathan (SHBRD) – selected for the ISFA NW football squad.

Will Moore (L6DUT) – vc of Chester RUFC Colts team, who has been selected for the Cheshire u17 team.

Georgia Spender (L6GLA) and Elsa Hodgson (L6BRD) – passed their Level 1 Hockey Umpire award.

Mahir Ahsad (3DUT) – 12 hour sponsored cycle for comic relief, raising £335.

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

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