



THE HERALD Winter 2019

EVERY OPPORTUNITY. ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES.



Season of goodwill

Creative Junior School pupils support children's hospice

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Welcome



Welcome to this review of Michaelmas Term at King's, which I'm sure you'll agree is a fitting testament to what is always a special time in any school. A packed calendar of festive celebrations run alongside moments of reflection as pupils, parents and staff look ahead to a new year full of opportunity and challenge.

Looking through this edition of *The Herald*, I am particularly heartened to see an abundance of student-led projects and initiatives, particularly in the context of our pastoral care provision. Our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors have now been joined by an enthusiastic team of Mental Fitness Ambassadors, trained by Mental Health First Aid England, who have been busy sharing tips and strategies to maintain a positive and robust outlook in an increasingly demanding world.

We were also delighted to hold the first meeting of our new Girls on Board scheme, a national programme designed to help girls, their parents and their teachers navigate the complexities of female friendships. This unique initiative will be driven by the input of our students and I look forward to seeing how they shape the future of this insightful project.

It is crucial that student voice is front and centre of all that is achieved at King's. Only by doing this can we hope to remain authentic and relevant to the aspirations and priorities of our school community.

Equally important is remaining outward looking, and it's wonderful to see this reflected in the number of charitable acts and community initiatives documented on these pages. It's fitting in the time of 'goodwill to all men' that so many local and national organisations have benefited from the creative and enthusiastic support of pupils from Willow Lodge, Juniors and Senior School.

I also hope you enjoy reading about some of the incredible trips enjoyed by students involved in sport, rowing and art throughout the term. It's often these trips, of course, which provide the longest-lasting and happiest memories of school life.

We are naturally very keen that all King's pupils really love their time at school and remember it fondly through the rest of their lives; hopefully they will retain plenty of editions of *The Herald* to help them!



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.



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



KING'S SENIORS & SIXTH FORM



Mental Fitness Ambassadors brought in an item which helps them de-stress.

Positive move for mental fitness

TO HELP PROMOTE MENTAL FITNESS across the school, 16 Upper and Lower Sixth Form students have now been trained in mental health awareness by Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) England.

These Ambassadors have a number of responsibilities; however, the most crucial is to promote the idea of mental fitness and help other pupils find ways to embed these skills into their everyday life.

The Ambassadors have created a Wellbeing Space, where two of them are available to speak to every lunchtime for any students who would like to talk to their peers in a supportive and positive environment.

Their role also includes being a visible presence around the school and promoting the principles of the programme via assemblies, whole school activities, poster campaigns and the parent portal.

The Ambassadors will undertake an audit of the school to establish what the student body and staff highlight as the main concerns and use this information to create objectives. They will also provide outreach talks to pupils and parents to promote mental fitness, and produce a newsletter to include stories, interviews and mental health activities whilst raising awareness of signs and symptoms of poor mental health and other related issues.

Empowering project focuses on friendships

WE ARE DELIGHTED to announce the launch of Girls on Board at King's.

Girls on Board is a unique initiative that helps girls, their parents and their teachers to understand the complexities and dynamics of female friendships. The language, methods and ideas empower girls to solve their own friendship problems, recognising that they are usually the only ones who can.



Assistant Head of Pastoral, Mrs Sumner, the Heads of Houses and the Head of Removes are working with

girls in Removes and Shells to embed the main principles.

A representative from the national project said, "By empowering girls to find their own solutions, parents need worry less, schools can focus more on the curriculum and the girls learn more effectively – because they are happier. Over 120 schools have adopted the approach across the UK and are now supporting thousands of girls in their friendships."

The Removes group have already had their first session, where they were invited to talk openly about their friendships.

Students support an array of charities



Students have worn yellow for the #HelloYellow campaign to raise awareness of World Mental Health Day, and supported the Teams4U Shoebox Appeal, a local charity who operate around the world changing the lives of deprived children and their communities, through supporting education and healthcare, providing aid and delivering shoeboxes.

To round off the Michaelmas Term, Christmas Jumper Day was a fabulously festive way to raise money for the Save the Children charity.

Some determined students achieved gold credit certificates last year, having earned 30 credits in the first year of the new praise and rewards system. Each student can nominate a charity to receive a donation on behalf of King's.

The chosen King's As 1 charity is the Bren Project, a local charity who help and support people with autism and learning difficulties. Each House proposed a charity, and then the Head of School team, along with the Charity Prefects, had the very difficult task of choosing just one charity for the whole school to fundraise for in the following terms.

THIS TERM HAS SEEN a great deal of support for a wide variety of charities.

King's Rowing Club rowed and ran the distance of Boston's River Charles (129km) in 150 minutes to raise money for the Movement Centre, a charity which delivers specialist therapy and targeted training to help young service users gain better control of their movement.

Staff and some Sixth Form students grew their moustaches for November to fundraise for men's health, whilst other students created moustache-themed treats for a bake sale.



KING'S SENIORS & SIXTH FORM



Representing student voice

HEAD OF SIXTH FORM, Mr Josh Carter, has welcomed the new Head of School Team for this academic year.

Mia Hard af Segerstad Smith (U6GLA) and her two Deputies, Georgia Spender (U6GLA) and Max Williams (U6LES), took up their roles in September.

Mr Carter said, "The Head of School Team play a vital role both within the Sixth Form and as part of the wider school community. They are central to student voice within the school, and manage School Council meetings and meet regularly with the Headmaster and Head of Sixth Form. They support the assembly system and are key representatives for the school on public occasions."

Mia commented, "As the Head of School Team, we are most excited about the fact we can represent the voices of our peers, through the School Council, which we run, and also weekly meetings with Mr Hartley and Mr Carter, where we discuss the overall running of the school and get a great amount of input into any future developments."

"Every fortnight, we present an assembly to the whole school, whereby we can prioritise what we believe is important and share that with our peers. I think that's one of the best things about being Head of School, having so much input into the future of the school."

"At the moment, we are focusing on working closely with different teachers to improve the sustainability of the school, starting by plastic usage reduction in the Sixth Form. In terms of mental wellbeing, we really want to help everyone else to have a strong, integrated support system so that people know who to go to if they ever need help, so the new Mental Fitness Ambassadors (MFA) scheme will be greatly beneficial. To extend into the community, we are organising a Head of School event with the Heads of School in different sixth forms around Chester, so as to get involved with others outside of King's and share ideas."

Meet our new Head Prefects

FOLLOWING AN APPLICATION PROCESS and election, we are delighted to have an outstanding bunch of young adults as this year's Head Prefects (pictured above).

The King's School Head Prefects operate in all areas of the school, undertaking a wide range of duties, including assemblies, open morning, parents' evening and assisting staff in the dining hall.

King's Prefects 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. All members of the Upper Sixth will be responsible for various House activities as directed by the Head of House Prefects. All members of the Upper Sixth will also be responsible for a Remove pupil and meet regularly with them in a mentoring capacity.

Joining a tradition of excellence

CONGRATULATIONS TO the following pupils, who were awarded Entry Scholarships for their performance in the Senior School entrance exams. The scholarships were awarded to those who gained the highest marks in the Maths and English exams.

Eleanor Williams	(RMAI)	Ava Hardstaff	(RMMW)
Elliott Barnes	(RMAI)	Rory Maillinson	(RMMA)
Harry Graham	(RMDR)	Jake Bywater	(RMDR)
Kouki Hirakawa	(RMAI)	Daniel Goharriz	(RMMD)
Jack Nash	(RMCS)	Magdalena Bone	(RMAI)
Marcus Thornton	(RMSC)	Mark Jones	(RMCS)
Oliver Wright	(RMSC)	Benjamin Cooper	(RMMD)
Connie Dawson	(RMSC)	Lewis Howe	(RMMA)
Grace Adthead	(RMMW)	Micah Ellinson	(RMAI)
Elliott Hall	(RMSG)		



The following pupils were awarded a music scholarship and bursary:

Music Scholarship – Mia Hirakawa	(RMMW)
The Fergal O'Mahony Music Bursary – Will Evans	(RMSG)

This year's King's Scholars were honoured at July's Prize Giving Ceremony, after they were confirmed as the top performing students in Thirds.

King's Scholars include:

James Bailey	(4WAL)	Honey Holmes	(4DUT)
Emily Coopman	(4FOX)	Jack Lally	(4DUT)
Hannah Evans	(4BRD)	Alex Matijasevich	(4WAL)
Victoria Froehling	(4GLA)	Aria Praveen	(4BRD)
Mahima Hansoge	(4WAL)	Nithikka Senthil Kumar	(4DUT)
Jack Hayter	(4FOX)		



King's Sixth Form Scholars were invited to apply on the basis of their mock GCSE results, and then took part in a competitive subject-specific interview, on a subject of the student's choosing.

King's Sixth Form Scholars include:

Tom Jackson	(L6BRD)	Emma Henry	(L6WAL)
Oliver Whittlestone	(L6GRO)	Mansi Gupta	(L6FOX)
Lauren Barnes	(L6GLA)	Gabrielle Parkinson	(L6GRO)



The Investec Scholarship is awarded to Chloe Horton (L6BRD).



Quizzers reach national final

Written by Gemma Christie (SHGRO) and Imogen Aldridge (SHBRD)



THE KIDS' LIT QUIZ is an annual, international literature quiz for pupils aged 10–13. King's entered the Merseyside heat with two teams from the Senior School and one team from the Junior School. The quiz is made up of ten rounds, each of ten questions, and the themes included 'Constructions',

'Aliases' and 'Finally'. We could see the scores on the screen throughout the competition and we knew that we were all doing well, especially as each team won a set of books for getting the highest score on a round. When the last round started, they turned the screen off so we couldn't see our scores, but when the quizmaster was reading out the answers we realised we had got 9/10, meaning we had achieved 18 points, as we had saved the final round to be our 'joker' round.

Wayne then announced the results, and in third place was the King's Junior team, made up of James Christie (J4M), Martha Harrison (J4M), Vignesh Seshadri (J4O) and Alessandra Foglio (J4M). In second place was King's Senior School team 2, made up of Lily-Ella Barnard (SHGRO), Will Evans (SHBRD), Lily Chadwick (SHGRO) and Kouki Hirakawa (RMAI). And in first place was our team – Imogen Aldridge, Gemma Christie, Elliott Barnes (RMAI) and Eleanor Rogers (RMCS).

On 4 December, we caught the train to London for the National Final at the City of London School. Each of the 19 teams were announced as we walked into the hall to a big round of applause.

The competition got started and we had question rounds of titles, authors and illustrators, first pages, legendary heroes, and families. For every correct question, you gained two points, and for every question you got wrong, you lost a point. Overall, we got only two questions wrong and five right throughout the competition. There were a lot of answers that we knew but just missed out on because other teams buzzed in first.

In the end, we came joint seventh. Mrs Harding was very proud of us and bought us each a book to get signed by one of the authors attending. Elliott was very excited to get his signed by the current Children's Laureate, Cressida Cowell. It was a great end to a great day.

Creative approach is real page-turner

OUR NEW PATRON OF READING, Mike Revell, set students a competition this term to promote a book by writing a review, making a video, designing a T-shirt or creating a game.

On Christmas Jumper Day, Mike visited the students and announced the winners for each category. Entries had included some excellent book reviews, T-shirt designs for a variety of books, some video book trailers, and a Harry Potter game based on Snakes and Ladders.

The winners were:

Video – James Phillips (RMMW) – trailer for *Emily Lime* by Dave Shelton; and Gemma Christie (SHGRO) and Eleanor Rogers (RMCS) – video for *Lying About Last Summer* by Sue Wellman.

T-shirt Designs – Vithesh Subakaran (3WER) – *Stonebird*.

Review – Tom Roberts (SHGRO) and Finlay Montgomery (SHGRO) – *The Stormlight Archives*.

Game – Daniel Goharriz (RMMD) – Wands and Dementors – based on Harry Potter.

During Mike's visit, he also held a talk for Shells, where he explained what led him to become an author and focused on the books that really inspired him to keep reading. Students had some time to choose books, with recommendations from Mike.



Reading is a family affair thanks to new club

KING'S IS delighted to now host a Parents' Book Club.

The club meets once a month and discusses one book from each age category. The club has proved so popular that it is now running twice a week.

Head Librarian Mrs Harding said, "The idea is that parents are reading the same books as their children and they can talk about them and even recommend to each other. It's also a great chance for parents to meet each other, who wouldn't normally meet perhaps, and to share ideas about what to read next and what other people's children are enjoying."

This year marks the fifth annual School Book Awards, when pupils, parents and staff are encouraged to read as many of the nominated books as they can between now and the beginning of March.

A vote then takes place during Book Week, with the winners being announced at the end of March. Staff and parents will be allowed to vote across the two age categories, and there will also be an 'adult's choice' winner.



MUSIC & DRA



PERFORMANCE HITS THE RIGHT NOTE

Talented Removes took to the stage in force for a musical showcase in October.

The sell-out event involved more than 100 students who performed a variety of pieces, including *Stand By Me*, *Waka Waka* and *Someone Like You*, before coming together for the finale of a *Jungle Book* medley.

The Director of Music, Debbie Whitfield, said, "We are so incredibly proud of all the Remove students that took part in the concert. It takes a huge amount of courage to perform in front of such a large audience and the students did so excellently. The amount of talent is overwhelming, and I can't wait to see how their musicianship develops throughout their time at King's."



RECORD AUDIENCES FOR RECITAL PROGRAMME

The Lunchtime Recital Programme began with a performance from the new Head of Keyboard, Miss Banerjee.

With more than 120 students in attendance, Miss Banerjee wowed the audience with pieces by Beethoven, Debussy and Gounod.

Since then, The Lunchtime Recital Programme has gone from strength to strength, with record audience numbers and a wide variety of performers. Staff and students can look forward to the next recital in January, which will be organised by the Fourth's GCSE Music groups.



CHRISTMAS AT KING'S

The Annual Christmas Concert, Christmas at King's, was a sell-out success, with record numbers of students taking part.

There was a host of amazing solo performances, including Seb Middleton (U6DUT) and Lily Van Look (L6GLA) alongside the Wind Band, Show Choir, Concert Band, Barbershop, Schola Cantorum, String Quartet and Big Band, with the finale delivered in great style by the King's Symphony and Chorus. A huge well-done to everyone that took part – after many weeks of rehearsals, performances on the night were a real testament to students' and staffs' hard work and dedication.



DRAMA AT KING'S

STIRRING PERFORMANCES IN DOUBLE BILL

Talented students rose to the challenge of staging two thought-provoking plays in November.

A cast of 11 girls performed Evan Placey's *Girls Like That* and demonstrated an impressive energy and unity throughout. With all 11 cast members playing protagonist Scarlett at some point in the play, the girls' excellent use of ensemble skills really drove home Placey's hard-hitting message about the consequences of bullying.

A cast of ten boys performed a harrowing interpretation of Anthony Burgess's cult novel *A Clockwork Orange*. All cast members worked together incredibly well to achieve an innovative and powerful piece.

STAGE COMBAT WORKSHOP

The Drama department was delighted to welcome the UK's leading stage and screen combat company to the Vanbrugh Theatre in October.

RC Annie works regularly with the Royal Shakespeare Company, and spent the afternoon teaching our Thirds Pre-GCSE Drama students and the cast of *A Clockwork Orange* how to fight convincingly and safely on stage.

A LEVEL AND GCSE DRAMA SHOWCASE

A Level Drama students directed and performed scenes from Duncan Macmillan's *People, Places and Things* and Anna Jordan's *The Unreturning* recently.

Lily Walker (L6WAL), Angus Millard (L6FOX), Carrera Sephton (L6DUT), Philippa Whitley (L6DUT), Owen Reece-Jones (L6LES), Max Prince (L6FOX), Arthur Greenwood (L6GRO), Oliver Melville (L6GRO) and Callum Kingsley (L6WER) all took part in the performances, which will contribute towards the students' Unit 3 work.

The pieces were outstanding and were the result of a great deal of hard work, skill and professionalism.

On the same evening, our talented GCSE students Annabel Kirk (4GLA), Edward Dawson (4WER), Freddie Spillane (4WER), Jessica Sedman (4WAL), Rachel Bosworth (4GLA), Tomas Wagenaar (4LES) and Phoebe Davies (4WER) wowed audiences with their performance of scenes from Arthur Miller's *The Crucible*.

KING'S SENIORS & SIXTH FORM



Netball and Football trip to Marbella

Written by Mrs Jones, Assistant Director of Sport

WE TOOK 69 STUDENTS on a football and netball tour to Marbella over the October half-term. 20 Shell girls played netball and 49 Shell and Third Year boys played football.

The boys spent five days being coached by Spanish football coaches and playing against local opposition. The girls were coached by a Manchester Thunder coach and played matches against English touring schools in Spain and club and school squads from Gibraltar.

From the moment the players arrived at the hotel, the hard work began and they were straight into

their first coaching session in the lovely Spanish sunshine. The girls spent two days training before their first match against Harrodian School from west London. The following day saw our first trip to Gibraltar to play in an evening club session. Both squads achieved success that night, and put into practice the training from the morning session.

The footballers had a great time with the super coaches from Malaga FC. The sessions were well planned and the coaches got things 'just right' with regard to making the players work hard whilst also recognising that this was a trip where fun had to be the focus.

The talented U14a side had two good wins, showing their class against some talented individuals. The U13s had a torrid first game against a superb local side, but then won a nine-a-side game at the training ground. They then had their third game cancelled owing to localised torrential rain meaning the opposition were unable to travel. Luckily, however, they were able to play a mini eight-a-side tournament at a splendid little ground in the centre of Marbella and they won each of their games convincingly.

This was a great experience which all pupils will hopefully remember fondly for many years.

Exploring Venice

Written by Mr Downey, Head of Art

VENICE IS A PLACE WHERE everywhere you turn there is something beautiful to look at or something historically and artistically relevant that needs exploring further, and it was with this in mind that the Art department took GCSE and A Level students there during October half-term.

The whole experience of being in Venice is different from being in any other city. Every building is so similar in style, colour and condition, and the ever-present feeling of faded glory and decay just helps to create a unique character and atmosphere. There are many sights and attractions to see, and students enjoyed their time trying to capture the right photograph that would supplement and support coursework back at home, and, of course, sketchbooks were worked on extensively.

We also were able to enjoy a fabulous day exploring Murano's glassware factories and Burano's colourful houses. There were prizes every day for the best sketchbook page, and the students were a credit to themselves and the school for their energy, enthusiasm and great humour throughout this memorable trip.



Students compete at iconic rowing event in Boston



Written by Ewan Weetch (U6GRO), King's Rowing Club Captain of Boats

A SELECT TEAM of nine athletes from both the girls' and boys' squads travelled to Boston, Massachusetts to represent The King's School Rowing Club at the Head of the Charles Regatta. This event is one of the highlights of the American rowing calendar, with 11,320 rowers coming together to race in 2,295 boats across the 4,800 metre course.

Jack Ramsbottom (U6WAL), Max Wood (KS U6DUT), Gregor Montgomery (U6GRO) and myself represented the senior boys' squad, with Eve Jawara (U6DUT), Helena Barker (U6FOX), Eleanor Heritage (U6FOX) and Cecilia Varbiro (U6GRO) representing the senior girls squad. Both fours were coxed by Issy Donnachie (5DUT).

The girls finished 69th out of 85 crews, beating a number of strong crews including Dublin and Boston Latin schools. The girls felt that their pace was strong and consistent, with an excellent line being taken by Issy, who steered the four past two crews.

The boys finished 57th out of 85 crews with an impressive performance, finishing three seconds behind the crew representing Sir William Borlase from Marlow, Buckinghamshire. The boys beat crews from Long Island Rowing Club and St John's Prep amongst others. Both crews produced brilliant results for the club, representing the school against a highly competitive field from across the world. The event also featured OKS Harry Brightmore, who coxed the Oxford Brookes eight to a fourth place in the men's championship eight category.





New pastoral centre set to open

IT HAS BEEN WONDERFUL TO SEE the progress being made on our new pastoral centre, and we are delighted that staff and students will be using the fantastic facilities from the beginning of Lent Term 2020.

The centre will comprise our new medical centre, the Learning Support Department and a counselling service, and will be called The Rohan Ingley Centre, in memory of Sixth Form student Rohan, who sadly passed away in August 2018, following a long and courageous battle with leukaemia, aged 17.



OUR ECO-SCHOOLS PROGRAMME is now up and running, with two pupil committee meetings this term and the first stage of the Eco-Schools Award now complete.

The committee has agreed to focus on three key areas in the first year: travel, energy, and health and wellbeing. The Sustainability Prefects, led by Hannah Peters (U6WAL) are now conducting a school-wide environmental review before the King's Eco-Schools Action Plan is written. Parents and other staff are going to be invited to join the committee next term.

This term's Golden Padlock Prize has been awarded to Victoria Froehling (4GLA) (KS) and Matthew Leitch (5LES). They each received a £15 voucher for the Bike Factory as a reward for cycling in every day.

There was a very successful Sustainable Travel Day in September, with more than 400 pupils across Willow Lodge, the Junior School and the Senior School travelling into school in a more sustainable way – on foot, by bike, via public transport or through car sharing.

The Sustainable Travel Days are now a regular feature of the school calendar, and the next one is scheduled for Friday 28 February.

Fresh look for classrooms

WE ARE DELIGHTED TO CONFIRM a dedicated programme of classroom refurbishment across the Junior and Senior School.

One classroom upgrade has already been completed in both Juniors and Seniors, to rave reviews from students and staff alike. Work will be scheduled to take place out of term time when possible, and we look forward to sharing future progress with parents.



Battle of the bands

WELL DONE TO ALL THE STUDENTS that took part in the House Song competition final.

House Walsh have been in the final every year so far, and this year they performed first with their fantastic rendition of Macklemore's 'Can't Hold Us'.

Gladstone performed George Ezra's 'Shotgun', which featured a wonderful video starring the students, Mr Downey and Mrs Webb. Werburgh were next to perform, marking their third appearance in the final. They performed a fantastic version of Journey's 'Don't Stop Believin'', with fantastic choreography and a great number of air guitars. Last but not least, Dutton

gave an incredible performance of Elton John and Kiki Dee's 'Don't Go Breaking My Heart'.

After much deliberation from the judges, who considered song quality, entertainment value, Prefect contribution and overall House enthusiasm, the results were announced:

Dutton 1st Place 	Gladstone 2nd Place 	Werburgh 3rd Place 	Walsh 4th Place 
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A huge well-done to all Houses that took part so enthusiastically!



Moving Remembrance Sunday service

THE KING'S SCHOOL CCF contingent attended the Royal British Legion Remembrance Sunday service and Act of Remembrance in Chester. 84 cadets from the Army and RAF sections attended, with four officers and WO2 Tony Brown also in attendance.

Robert Littler (U6DUT) was given the honour of carrying the contingent colour, with Martha Mulliner (U6WER) and Franny Davidson (U6DUT) laying the wreaths on our behalf with the Headmaster in the Garden of Remembrance. This was followed by a march procession around Chester, with a salute given to the Lord Mayor at the Town Hall.

CCF recruits have also taken part in an adventurous day of orienteering and mountain biking in Delamere Forest this term. Encountering the elements and challenges ahead of them, they threw themselves wholeheartedly into the experience.



KING'S SENIORS & SIXTH FORM



Campaign masterclass from Chester Zoo

MEMBERS OF THE SIXTH FORM have had the opportunity throughout the Michaelmas Term to work closely with Chester Zoo as part of their Enrichment sessions.

During the first session, Chester Zoo staff gave the students a talk on their recent campaigns that not only have aimed to raise awareness of wildlife and environmental issues, but have

also encouraged the local community to Act for Wildlife.

The Sixth Formers' task was to create a campaign that will encourage members of the community to take action through change in their behaviour, such as Chester Zoo's Sustainable Palm Oil Challenge, Stop Illegal Wildlife Trade and Wildlife Connection campaigns.



Quizzers scoop top spot

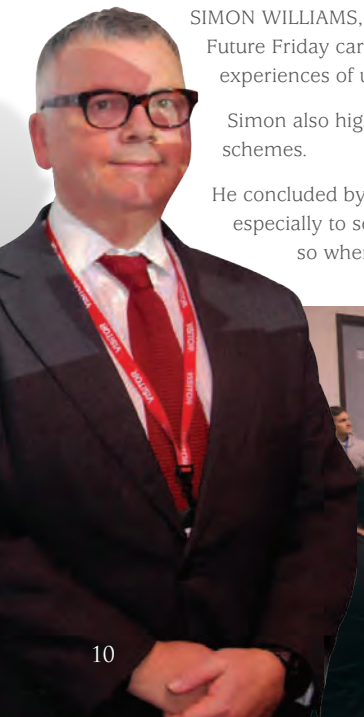
WELL DONE to Shells and Thirds Geography students, who won the Geographical Association WorldWide Quiz at the University of Chester.

Future Fridays at King's

SIMON WILLIAMS, from BNP Paribas Real Estate, visited King's Sixth Form for the first Future Friday career talks about his background in property management and his experiences of urban planning, surveying and working in urban regeneration.

Simon also highlighted routes into real estate, such as apprenticeships and graduate schemes.

He concluded by discussing how his 35 years in the industry has been very rewarding, especially to see developments progress from plans to completion, and even more so when they can benefit the community.



Dr Ravi shares his experience



DR RAVI JAYARAM, who left King's in 1985 and is now President of CAOKS, joined the Sixth Form Medical Society to deliver an informative talk.

The talk was organised by Georgia Spender (U6GLA), pictured left, who met Dr Jayaram whilst on work experience, at a careers event and an alumni dinner.

Dr Jayaram spoke to the Sixth Formers about the role of a doctor, medical school and his experience as a paediatrician.



Speaker sheds light on university life

SIXTH FORM STUDENTS enjoyed hearing from Maddie Foster of the University of Manchester, as part of their Life Skills session.

Maddie discussed a variety of things about university, including academic life, accommodation, the students' union and studying abroad.



Visit from international bestselling author-illustrator

LUCKY PUPILS were very excited to meet bestselling author-illustrator Cressida Cowell, creator of the How to Train Your Dragon series.

Cressida is also the current Waterstones Children's Laureate. She spoke to pupils

about the inspiration behind her How to Train Your Dragon books and her new publication, *The Wizards of Once: Knock Three Times*.

Cressida shared advice with pupils about creativity and endeavour, describing what it's like to have your books made into a film, and introduced pupils to the

world depicted in *The Wizards of Once* by sharing her sketchbooks to show how she develops the magical creatures and worlds in her award-winning series.

After Cressida's engaging and interesting talk, delighted pupils were able to have their books signed.

E-Safety Prefects help classmates to be SMART online

E-SAFETY PREFECTS have delivered an assembly about using the internet safely.

The Junior School is keen to utilise the knowledge and help of their own students to further educate and enhance the understanding of safe internet usage. As part of this policy, the E-Safety Prefects present a termly assembly to each of the four year groups about a different important online message.

This week's assembly focused on the five key ways to stay safe using the SMART acronym developed and shared by Childnet.

The E-Safety Prefects this year are all chosen from J4:

- Beth Ederley and Felicity Brander both look after the J1 pupils
- Diego Venturi and Calden Ashley Downing look after the J2 pupils
- Abhishek Aravind and Lydia Townsend look after the J3 pupils
- Ben Rofe and Alexander Calvert look after the J4 pupils



Something Amazing Going On

THE ENTIRE JUNIOR SCHOOL treated us to a wonderful celebration of Christmas, with J1 pupils recounting the traditional nativity story.

There were several twists in the tale, including three donkeys, namely Donkey Derby, Donkey Oatie and Christian Eeyore, all trained by former Strictly judge Len Goodman and his sidekick, Jen Badlady.

Commentaries were provided by wonderful narrators and a host of nativity characters, all of whom projected wonderfully and showed great comic timing.

Pupils from all year groups formed a wonderful mass choir and delighted the audience with songs ranging from the gentle *Ten Tiny Fingers* through to the lively and entertaining *It's a Strange Kind of Night*, with all pupils in perfect unison with their words and actions. As Mary and Joseph settled Jesus in the stable, our Junior choir sang the sensitive and beautiful song *This is the One*, and then the evening ended with a lively rendition of the title song.



KING'S JUNIORS

Experiencing life during World War II



CURIOUS PUPILS recently visited Stockport Air Raid Shelters and Museum, to learn about a significant turning point in British history.

The class learnt about life on the home front in WW2 and experienced life as an evacuee, including learning about rationing.

Pupils also used a range of artefacts to learn about this period in history. The class were then able to go into the air raid shelters and experience what it would have been like for those sheltering there.



Discovering Viking warriors

PUPILS HAVE BEEN ENJOYING studying Viking warriors and their weapons this term.

They were tasked with researching various designs to produce their own shield and then paint it with a limited colour palette. They have included symbols such as Thor's hammer and miniature helmets. They included a 'boss' in the centre, as this would be the only part of the shield that survived.

Pupils then visited Weaver Hall, where they dressed up as Viking warriors/farmers and learnt about trading before re-enacting a battle lead by a Berserker. They also acted out a Viking burial, learnt the



significance of 'grave goods', and compared to a model of a grave excavated 100 years later to see what had survived.



Terribly good theatre trips



HISTORY WAS TRULY HORRIBLE for two classes when they attended Chester's Storyhouse.

The younger children enjoyed the spectacle of *Awful Egyptians*, whilst the J3s were treated to *Terrible Tudors*.

Using actors and amazing 3-D special effects, the two shows thrilled the audience, who enjoyed the historical extravaganza.

Famous figures and events came to life in a riot of song and dance, from the fascinating Pharaohs to the horrendous Henrys.

Based upon the Horrible Histories series of books, the two shows brought history to life and enhanced the learning of all.





Creative pupils get festive for city charity project

INSPIRED PUPILS KICK-STARTED the Christmas celebrations early by taking part in an art competition in partnership with Hope House Children's Hospice.

The gingerbread-inspired theme was in conjunction with the city's business improvement district, CH1 ChesterBID, which had created a Christmas Gingerbread Village on Frodsham Square.

Pupils in King's Juniors and Willow Lodge were given the opportunity to create their own gingerbread design for the competition. The Hope House charity shop on Frodsham Street decorated the store windows with gingerbread-themed ornaments and designs.

Hope House Children's Hospice supports more than 750 local families who are either caring for a terminally ill child, or whose child has died. It

costs £6.5m every year to run the services, and 86% of this is spent on care. Approximately one month's income comes from statutory sources, and for the other 11 months of the year the hospice is dependent on public support.

Representatives from Hobbycraft, sponsors of the event, picked a winner for each class, plus another overall winner for the year group, and gifted them with a Christmas craft goody bag.

Pudsey fun for Children in Need



KING'S HAS BEEN BUSY raising money for Children in Need this term, by donating money for non-school-uniform day.

Juniors also enjoyed lunchtime activities, including a Pudsey fitness workout featuring fitness coach and author, Joe Wicks, and craft activities.

Take a look at Willow Lodge's Pudsey fun on page 18 to see how much money was raised.



Hello yellow for World Mental Health Day



FOR WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY, infant and junior students wore yellow or brought something in yellow, and donated money to raise vital funds for YoungMinds, who support children and young people with their mental health.

The pupils made a fantastic effort for the #HelloYellow campaign and had great fun dressing up the teachers too.

KING'S JUNIORS



Quicksticks Chester and District champions 2019



A MIXED SQUAD OF SIX PUPILS participated in the Chester and District Quicksticks tournament at Upton County Officers Ground. They played really well to win all six matches against local schools in their group, and met Guilden Sutton in the final.

King's won convincingly 5-0, and joint captains Ben Pold and Grace Henderson picked up the

trophy. They will now go on to compete in the county finals in March and will hopefully retain the trophy for King's.

Pictured from left to right: Aiden Coopman (J4O), Beanie Scoltock (J3H), Ben Pold (J4O), Grace Henderson (J4O), Izzy Roberts (J4O), Gus Jones (J3S).

A swimming success



WELL DONE to the Junior School girls who competed in the AJIS Swimming competition.

There were ten individual finalists and six relay teams in the finals. A fantastic achievement – well done, girls!

Triumphant for fifth consecutive year



TWENTY-EIGHT JUNIOR SCHOOL PUPILS performed amazingly well in the annual AJIS Cross Country Championships at Rossall.

All pupils returned to school wearing medals, having achieved Team Gold in the Year 6 (under 11) Girl's and Year 6 (under 11) Boy's category, Team Silver in the Year 5 (under 10) Boy's, and Team Bronze for the Year 5 (under 10) Girl's category.

The athletes posted very pleasing points totals in all events. King's runners grouped well and ran as a squad on the challenging, undulating course.

The most notable individual performance was from Ben Pold (J4O), who was crowned AJIS champion.

Individual success at the Ellesmere Sports Village:

Year 4 Boys	– Gold: Logan Sefton (J2P)
Year 4 Girls	– Bronze: Phoebe Curwen (J2P)
Year 6 Girls	– Gold: Lucie Thornton (J4S) and Silver: Holly Coates (J4O)
Year 6 Boys	– Gold: Ben Pold (J4O)

Delight as teams top group

BOTH JUNIOR GIRLS' AND BOYS' football teams have topped their group at the Chester City tournament.

The girls will now move on to the semi-final, and the boys are into the quarter-finals.





King's Invitational Tournament 2019

WE WERE DELIGHTED to welcome nearly 160 children from local schools to take part in an Invitational Tournament at King's.

The pupils, from ages 9 to 11, were invited to compete in netball and football matches throughout the afternoon. Students showed great determination and displayed excellent sportsmanship.

Results

Football Cup		Football Plate	
1st	Cherry Grove	1st	King's
2nd	Ewloe Green	2nd	Ashton Hayes
3rd	Waverton	3rd	Guilden Sutton
4th	Upton	4th	Fairholme

Netball Cup		Netball Plate	
1st	King's	1st	Guilden Sutton
2nd	Cherry Grove	2nd	Ewloe Green
3rd	Upton	3rd	Waverton
4th	Fairholme	4th	Ashton Hayes



Classroom upgrade

PHASE ONE of the Junior School upgrade has been completed, which resulted in new classrooms, a creative arts room and state-of-the-art music pods.

The next phase will see further refurbishment of classrooms and an improvement of social spaces.



WILLOW LODGE INFANTS



Pupils greet some very special visitors

WILLOW LODGE PUPILS WERE THRILLED to welcome their grandparents to the Infant school, and proudly showed off their classroom and some of the wonderful work they have recently created.

The children prepared for their guests by baking brownies for them to enjoy with a cup of coffee. The grandparents were then treated to a few of the pupils' favourite Willow Lodge songs.

A few of the comments left by grandparents included:

"Lovely to see happy children. Your facilities are great - as are the staff."

"Wonderful, so lovely to see the children in such a wonderful environment."

"Excellent afternoon and we are delighted how well Eric has settled in!"

"An excellent event. Involving grandparents is such a wonderful idea and very much appreciated. Many thanks to everyone involved."



A rip-roaring spectacular

BITESIZE THEATRE COMPANY performed *Robin Hood and the Babes in the Wood* at Willow Lodge.

Robin Hood and his merry men went on an adventure and, with the help of the pupils, were able to solve the mystery. This spectacular production combined modern storytelling and musical theatre to create a fantastic experience for the pupils.



African food tasting

LUCKY PUPILS have been completing different African-inspired activities.

The pupils have had a fantastic time learning about a different culture.

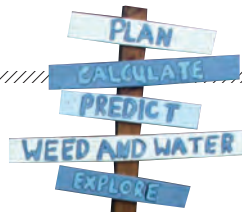




PUPILS WERE TASKED WITH researching the Great Fire of London at home and then creating a display of what they had discovered.

Creative history project

Forest School fun



BRAVING THE WET WEATHER, pupils had fun in Forest School toasting marshmallows.

The class have been working on learning fire safety, including learning how to fold a newspaper to light the fire, and how to kneel near the fire safely to toast their marshmallows.

Pupils then continued their fire safety learning whilst also experimenting with food in the outdoors.

They also enjoyed putting chocolate in the middle of a banana and then letting it warm up by the fire.



Pupils enjoy their new library additions



TRAVELLING BOOKS VISITED the school for the annual book fair this term.

The fair is held each lunchtime and after school for students to choose from a fantastic selection of books.

Furthermore, as part of Head Librarian, Mrs Ros Harding, winning SLA Librarian of the Year 2019, King's have received donations from Egmont Publishing, Macmillan Books, Caryl Press and ComicsFlix.

Walker Books gave King's £100 worth of books to be chosen from their catalogue. Mrs Harding asked King's Juniors and Willow Lodge to split the money and select books for their libraries, and pupils have been enjoying their new additions immensely.



WILLOW LODGE INFANTS



Moving Remembrance poppy display

INSPIRED PUPILS created a poppy display on the school grounds to mark Remembrance Day.

On Monday 11 November at 11am, Willow Lodge students visited the display to add their poppy and observe the two minutes' silence.

A stunning, poignant display – well done to all involved.



Fundraising fun

A HUGE 'WELL DONE' to everyone who raised money for Children in Need. Willow Lodge pupils took part in many fun activities, such as sticking dots onto a Pudsey picture.

We are pleased to say the school raised a total of £1,866.99.

An amazing amount for a great cause.



Book Bingo

ENTHUSIASTIC PUPILS have recently been participating in Book Bingo, where pupils have a bingo sheet and each square has a different book, which the pupils must read in order to tick off the squares.

When the pupils successfully complete a line of squares on their sheet, they are awarded a prize.

Current Patron of Reading, Mike Revell, had chosen topics to include on the bingo sheet, and they include "A book with a penguin on the cover", "A story set in space" and "A book your parents love".

During the final week of term, Mike visited Willow Lodge and announced those pupils who had completed their Book Bingo. For each year group, their names were put into a raffle and one lucky pupil won a book.



Maths workshop

THE TEACHING TEAM hosted a successful parents' workshop on the four mathematical operations and how they are taught within the school.

Teachers took turns explaining the different ways each year group uses the Abacus scheme for our maths teaching.

They explained the process involved in this 'Mastery approach'. Each year, the children build on their previous understanding and learning by practically exploring, investigating and revisiting different ways of working within the four operations: addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.





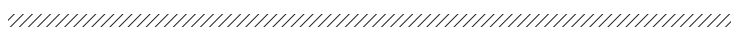
A very special Christmas nativity

THE AUDIENCE WAS TREATED TO a very special Christmas nativity in which a little bird shared some exciting news about the birth of a king.

The Reception classes performed their storytelling, acting and singing wonderfully.

Infant 1 and 2 classes performed their Christmas show featuring Ralph the Reindeer. Ralph is about to save the day when Santa's lead reindeer, Rudolph, is ill with a cold. However, there is a little problem, as Ralph can't fly! Rudolph has an idea to teach Ralph how to fly...

Well done to all pupils who took part in these fantastic festive shows.



Talented pupils get creative for Christmas

EXCITED PUPILS ENJOYED getting creative for Christmas.

In the lead-up to their Christmas performance, pupils created paper mâché penguins and a sleigh.

The Christmas creations featured in a festive display and looked fantastic.



KING'S ALUMNI



King's in the Capital – a great success

THE KING'S ALUMNI TEAM was delighted to host another successful London event on Thursday 21 November at the magnificent Oxford and Cambridge Club in Pall Mall.

120 former pupils from a range of professions and leaving years gathered together to enjoy catching up with friends, networking and learning about recent developments at the school. The evening began with a welcome drinks reception and a short speech from Headmaster George Hartley, followed by a selection of light bites and more drinks.

Anthony Fletcher (OKS 2000), CEO of Graze, then delivered an extremely interesting speech about the challenging early days at Graze in the UK and then about the company's launch in the United States. He discussed the logistical problems they faced and how they overcame them – with lots of data science and bunny rabbits!

Anthony explained how today, more than ever, societal demands drive business change, and that keeping up with those demands is a key focus for Graze; as he put it, "Society changes and you need to change with it." Examples he gave included Graze's commitment to cut 90% of plastic from their packaging and 50% of sugar from their products (which equates to three jelly beans for everyone on the planet!). The Headmaster closed the evening with a speech about his vision for King's over the next ten years.



Nickolas Grace leads drama workshop for students

ACCLAIMED ACTOR Nickolas Grace (OKS 1962) visited King's to lead a drama workshop for Drama A Level, GCSE and LAMDA students.

The workshop began with a combined vocal and physical warm-up, and then moved on to various other exercises that Nickolas uses to relax the body and mind. Students then presented a monologue of their own choosing, and Nickolas provided useful feedback to each, to help enhance their performance.

Finally, pupils had the opportunity to take part in a Q&A, where Nickolas gave some useful tips on how to succeed in the industry. He explained why life experience and passion are important to those wishing to pursue an acting career, and encouraged all students to follow their dreams.

The day before Nickolas visited King's, he was awarded a Doctor of Letters from the University of Chester in the Cathedral.



Fifty years on – The Bartered Bride

IN 1969, students from The King's School and The Queen's School took part in a production of The Bartered Bride by Czech composer Bedřich Smetana. As King's was a boys-only school, drama collaborations with The Queen's School were common.

50 years on, two former King's pupils, Anthony Russell and Andrew Green, were reminiscing about their fond memories of the production and thought it would be lovely to reunite the cast. Their idea turned into a reality, and a reunion for original cast members was held on Saturday 19 October at King's.

Sixteen original cast members from King's and Queen's met to enjoy an afternoon of nostalgia.

The event began with a visit to the Vanbrugh Theatre (the old School Hall), in which the 1969 production had been performed. It was virtually unrecognisable following the 2011 refurbishment. Following the tour, a delicious buffet-style lunch was served in the Caldecott Gallery. The 50-year gap seemed to melt away as attendees exchanged reminiscences of the production, laughter flowed, and the archive materials and original pictures from the production sparked great interest and conversation!

The event closed with a performance of the chorus from The Bartered Bride, and, even after a 50-year gap, the guests were still in good voice.



Some ties last a *lifetime*



The 153rd Annual Alumni Dinner



THE ALUMNI TEAM was delighted to host the 153rd Annual Alumni Dinner in our Vanbrugh Theatre in September.

The joint event with the Chester Association of Old King's Scholars (CAOKS) was a hugely enjoyable evening, with more than 75 alumni returning to the school for an evening of great company, food and wine. Prior to the dinner, several former pupils enjoyed a tour of the school, led by current Sixth Formers.

Our first guest speaker, Seb Neal, Head of Faculty for Languages and Humanities, gave an amusing and informative speech covering aspects of the school's 478-year history. He was followed by Alan Vallance, CEO of the Royal Institute of British Architects, who presented several fascinating slides from RIBA's historical archive. These included original drawings of the pedestal of the Statue of Liberty by Frederic Auguste Bartholdi and Richard Morris Hunt in 1884,



and original drawings of the restoration of Chester Cathedral by Charles Hussey in 1845. This was the first time the dinner had been held at the school since 2007, and it was greatly enjoyed by all.

Leading Lights 2019



THANK YOU TO EVERYONE who participated in the Leading Light nomination process this year. It has been wonderful to read through the nominations and learn more about the amazing achievements of alumni in various fields.

Leading Light awards are given to alumni who have shown leadership, innovation and excellence in their professional, community and personal endeavours. They instil pride in their alma mater, and their accomplishments serve as an example for the King's community.

After much careful consideration, the judging panel concluded that they could not choose between two outstanding nominations and decided to award two trophies. One went to Anthony Russell, retired Senior Circuit Judge, Resident Judge for Lancashire and Recorder of Preston; and a second to Alan Vallance, CEO of the Royal Institute of British Architects.

Anthony has had a highly successful career as a barrister, QC and judge. He is also currently the editor of the CAOKS newsletter and has put a great deal of energy and enthusiasm into this endeavour. His



Anthony Russell receiving his award

commitment and support of the school has been constant, impactful and hugely appreciated.

Alan Vallance, a former President of CAOKS, has had a hugely successful career leading numerous transformation programmes in high-profile organisations, such as The Law Society. He has given a great deal of time to the school and is particularly supportive of the bursary programme, which aims to widen access to a King's education for children from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Congratulations to our winners and thank you to everyone who participated. All nominations are carried forward for three years, and if you have further evidence to add to your nomination throughout the year, please send it to alumni@kingschester.co.uk.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS 2020

1960 Reunion (60 years)
Saturday 28 March, 11am – 2.30pm

1970 Reunion (50 years)
Saturday 7 March, 11am – 2.30pm

1980 Reunion (40 years)
Saturday 7 March, 6pm – 10pm

1990 Reunion (30 years)
Saturday 14 March, 6pm – 10pm

2000 Reunion (20 years)
Saturday 28 March, 6pm – 10pm

2010 Reunion (10 years)
Saturday 16 May, 6pm – 10pm

*All events will be held at The King's School.

For more information about the reunions, or to see a list of those attending, please contact the Development Office on 01244 689494 or email Nadine Isaacs at nai@kingschester.co.uk

Festive buffet and drinks reception for alumni and supporters



IT WAS LOVELY to be able to thank in person some of those who have supported our King's 100 Challenge Bursary Campaign this year. Donations have been received from a wide variety of sources, including alumni, who benefited themselves from financial support during their time at King's.

We have made encouraging progress this year and hope this continues into 2020. There are now 57 students in the Senior School receiving full or part bursaries, an increase of 9% compared with last year. The buffet was held prior to the Christmas Concert.

STAYING IN TOUCH

kingschesteralumni
Connect with us on Facebook

The King's School Chester Alumni Forum (Official)
Join our group on LinkedIn

@kingsalumni
Follow us on Twitter

KING'S SCHOOL SPORTS



Netball round-up

NETBALL IS THRIVING and the squads have had some great matches to kick-start the season.

The U13, U15 and U19 squads have all been entered into the SNS National Schools' Cup. The U13 squad progressed to round three after some thrilling matches against Hartford High School and Cheadle Hulme High School.

In their third-round match against Alderley Edge the girls narrowly missed out progressing to the fourth round by two goals.

The U19 team knocked out Cheadle Hulme School in round one only to face Fallibroome in round two, who were outstanding and triumphed.

The U15 squad progressed into the plate competition in the SNS National Schools' Cup, they had a great match against The Grange but again narrowly missed out on progressing.

Other teams in the recent National Schools Netball Tournament included the U14's and U16's. The U16's and U19's squads both won their own district tournaments against all the schools in Chester. The Upper Sixth players in this squad have taken this title every year since Removes, which is quite an achievement.

After Christmas, the U19 squad will play in the County Tournament as well as the U12, U13 and U14 teams. These younger students will also play in district events.



Girls' hockey round-up

THE GIRLS' 1ST XI HOCKEY SQUAD started the season well, with some close and highly entertaining matches. The newly formed squad, comprising Fiftths, Lower Sixth and Upper Sixth and captained by Elsa Hodgson (U6BRD), bowed out of the third round of the Investec National Schools' Competition after a narrow defeat to The Grange in a penalty flick competition after a 3-3 draw at full-time.

The squad continues to progress in the Independent Schools' Plate Competition after losing in a penalty shuffle contest to Bromsgrove after a 2-2 draw at full-time. There have certainly been a few nerve-wracking games this season, and we wish them good luck in the Plate Competition and Cheshire Outdoor Final in March.

Top performances from squads



BOYS' HOCKEY had a promising start to the new season, winning 20 out of 29.

The U15 and younger have won 12 out of 14 games, with the U12 (pictured) maintaining a 100% record. The U14 led a tight Cheshire Cup pool, whilst the U15 progressed into the ISHC competition.

The U12 and U13 squads are developing ahead of future competitions, and more than 30 Remove players regularly attend practices. The older squad have seen an encouraging set of results for the first team, including two Cheshire Cup victories. Indoors, the U18 won half their North West finals matches and the U14 have a North West event for the first time next term.

Twenty-eight players have scored the 91 goals so far, with Alex Popplewell (RMSC) leading the way with 14, Charlie Williams (5LES) on 10 and Joe Webb (U6BRD) on 7.

In addition, 17 players have seen representative selection, including Joe Webb (U6BRD) with Wales U18s, and Abhijay Chawda (L6FOX) with the Manchester U17 Performance Centre, plus Academy Centre selection for Ben Thompson (4GRO), Hugh Houghton (3BRD), Ollie Smith (3BRD), Joe Osborne (3WAL), Barnaby Wallis (3BRD), Alfie Parkinson (SHBRD), Oscar Wallis (RMCR), Jack Nash (RMCS), Alex Popplewell, Elliott Hall (RMSG), Charlie Beyeler (RMCS), Will Simmons (RMSG) and Ollie Berry (SHGLA).

With a host of regional and national events in the Lent Term, King's look in good shape with several of the squads.

Footballing success

GIRLS' FOOTBALL has gone from strength to strength. From a small group of Shells last year, to a large group of Removes, to Thirds all now enjoying a weekly training session led by our very dedicated coach, Caitlin Thomas (U6GRO).

Three tournaments have been entered this year, two for Removes and one for Thirds. The Removes team did very well in the group stage of the outdoor tournament, being the only team to hold the winners of the tournament, Catholic High, to a draw. They also had a successful run in the five-a-side indoor tournament, beating Bishops 3-2. The older girls are keenly awaiting the next round of the Chester and District cup after a thrilling match against The Queen's School, winning in style, 5-1.



Erin Heath (3GLA) is an outstanding captain of the team; she leads well and is always full of praise and encouragement for the whole squad. Maya Swift (3BRD), Sinead O'Mahoney (3WAL) and Evie Williams (3WER) were our goalscorers along with a spectacular chipped goal from Lily Hodge (3GLA). Margot Melville (3GRO) also displayed a reliable performance.

Busy season so far

ACROSS ALL AGE GROUPS, boys have played very close to 175 matches and tournaments, winning just about half of them.

The Removes have had a great start to the year. The fact that they avenged a 4-1 loss to Altrincham GSB with a 4-4 draw just before Christmas is evidence of their development.

In addition to performing well in the nine-a-side format, King's reached the final of the Chester and District five-a-side competition, then went one better in the equivalent seven-a-side tournament, winning out against the best schools in Chester after a thrilling penalty shootout in the final.

The U14 players were unfortunate to lose their seven-

a-side final in a similar manner.

Whilst the three teams that enter the ISFA cup competitions all had difficult draws and bowed out of their respective competitions early on, good progress was made in the ESFA cup competitions, with the U16, U15 and Removes all reaching the third round. Students in the Fifth year performed particularly well in this competition but eventually came up against a very good Bury team and, in a tight contest played away from home, went out 1-0.

Congratulations to Joe Hunter (5FOX) for his selection for the county representative team, and to first team captain Brad Miller (U6WER) for his continued involvement with the ISFA representative squad.



Super Saturdays

AS PART OF OUR COMMITMENT to providing sporting opportunities for all, we have been delighted to launch a new Saturday morning sports programme for Removes, Shells and Thirds, called Super Saturdays.

Students are invited to come along and try a range of sports every Saturday morning, with each activity running over six weekends. Activities so far have included judo and fencing, with future sessions of table tennis and badminton planned for Lent Term.



Rowers make their first steps on the international pathway

FIVE J16 AND ONE J15 ROWER were invited on the early season Welsh Junior development camp. Each of the six athletes was selected for the camp at Sophia Gardens in Cardiff after their early season promise and form on the regional circuit. It was a fine achievement for each of the athletes to attend this camp, especially as a majority of the cohort were J18 athletes and the KSRC athletes had reached the selection criteria as J16 and J15. All of the athletes learnt a great deal from the seminars and training with international-level hopeful athletes, and each of the six has high hopes for the season ahead.

The athletes selected for the camp were Issy Donnachie (5DUT), Freya Beyeler (5WER), Isabella Jones (5GLA), Emilia Jenks (5WER), Archie Barker (5FOX) and Luke Dillon (4DUT).



The Pudding Races 2019

ONCE AGAIN, the Pudding Races were a great spectacle at the rowing club as nine Senior VIII's and six J14 Octuples raced for the coveted plum puddings. Despite the high tide, frequent wintry showers and a strong stream, the crews battled well against the elements with a wonderfully warm but competitive Christmas spirit. Once the racing had been completed and the fancy dress awards had been distributed, there were further awards and notable ceremonies still to come.

The club named the new top VIII 'Henricus Rex', a name which will stay with the boat whilst it remains the top boat in the club, at which point it will revert to the 'David Roberts', named after Mr Roberts, who has made such a contribution to King's rowing over the decades.

The club also had the pleasure of welcoming home three notable alumni to name their new boats, Harry Higginbottom (OKS2016), Christian Palmer (OKS2016) and Zoe Soutter (OKS2015). The Lord Mayor was once again on hand to hand out the awards, and this year he kindly opened the new lower tier, "phase 1," of the boathouse, which has seen the club modernise and update the racking and changing room facilities.

Continuing their ongoing support, the KSRCPA once again were extremely generous in handing over another contribution cheque to the club, this year totalling over £14,000.

It also wouldn't be the annual Pudding Races without John Blackwell, our club boatman, awarding the Scantlebury Duck, this year to Gregor Montgomery (U6GRO). The club was also able to say a fitting thank you and happy retirement to Duncan Little, who retired from his coaching duties after 21 years' service. The round of applause was very fitting, reflecting the enormous contribution that Mr Little has made to King's rowing over the past 21 years.



We are always impressed with the variety and scale of our pupils' achievements outside of school and value the opportunity to celebrate their success.



Rachel Bosworth (4GLA)



Mia Hirakawa (RMMW)



Aaron Mohun (SHWAL)



Liam Yahathugoda (J4S)

Freya Artell (RMDR) has been selected for the U12 county netball team.

William Bebbington (RMSG) has been selected for the Cheshire U14 golf team, having been able to reduce his handicap from 18.2 to 9.5. He also won the Junior Order of Merit at Sandiway GC and recently retained the Junior Championships at Pryors Hayes for the second consecutive year.

Rachel Bosworth (4GLA) has been selected as a finalist for the national Pupil Library Assistant of the Year award. Rachel will attend the final in London in March 2020.

Jessica Goldsmith (J3H) achieved impressive PBs and earned medals swimming at the North Midlands Championship.

William Greenhalgh (RMDR) has been selected for the Welsh national windsurfing squad and is the youngest in his category by two years.

Bróna Halpin (3WER) has been selected for the U14 county netball squad.

Charlotte Scott (5WAL) has been selected for the U18 Cheshire netball squad.

Mia Hirakawa (RMMW) has joined the National Children's Orchestra of Great Britain.

Joe Hunter (5FOX) has been selected for the Cheshire County Boys' U16 football squad.

Oliver Mallon (RMAI) finished third at the West Cheshire Schools' cross country race.

Aaron Mohun (SHWAL) has competed successfully at very high levels of junior golf in England, Scotland, Wales and Mauritius over the past five years. Aaron's latest golfing achievement is his win in the British Junior Masters during October half-term, thereby qualifying for the British Masters in 2020.

William Moore (U6DUT) made his rugby U18 Cheshire debut against Cumbria, with Cheshire winning 36-7.

Andreu Palet (3DUT) achieved his Paddle Discover Award for kayaking; this is the second level awarded by British Canoeing.

William Pritchard (SHGLA) qualified for the National Short Course Championships in Swansea after posting a PB in the 50m butterfly race. William also runs for the North Wales team in the Inter-Regional Cross Country whose team were placed third; William was a scoring member of the team in the Brecon event.

Holly Sutcliffe (SHBRD) Holly Sutcliffe (SHBRD) who ran for Cheshire in the inter-counties event in November.

Izzy Whittlestone (4GRO) has been selected to be a part of the Manchester Thunder U15s Academy netball programme. Izzy is now also part of the North Wales U17 Talent Centre for netball.

Lily Wood (5DUT) has been selected to be a part of the Manchester Thunder Futures Academy netball programme.

Liam Yahathugoda (J4S) is celebrating a tremendous year of cricketing success. Liam was the leading run scorer at the ECB Taunton Cricket Festival 2019 for both age groups (U11 and U10), where he topped the run charts in both weeks. He was also the leading run scorer for Cheshire Youth Cricket across all age groups in 2019. Liam also won the batting awards for both U11 and U10 age groups at the Cheshire Awards Evening.

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