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King's Colours

Spring 2013 The termly newsletter of the King's School in Macclesfield

UNIVERSITY OFFERS START POURING IN

King's young academics are thrilled with the quality of university offers this year, and none are more pleased than the talented trio who have secured offers from Oxford and Cambridge in what is one of the most competitive admissions procedures in the world.

Kristina Killick (left) has been offered a place at Brasenose College, Oxford to study Law. Kristina says: "I am particularly interested in human rights and women's rights and the Oxford Law course opens up a number of career opportunities in journalism, the Civil Service and business management."

Will Haynes has won an offer from Churchill College, Cambridge to read Natural Sciences. He is fascinated by the evolution of life and wants to use his degree to become a palaeontologist.

Meanwhile young scientist Izzy Bell will go up to St. Catharine's College, Cambridge to read Natural Sciences after winning an unconditional offer following her four straight A*s in last summer's A Levels in Chemistry, Maths, Biology and Art.

The range of university offers this year has been outstanding, from Aeronautical Engineering to Zoology. There are five students applying to study Medicine, three applying for Veterinary Medicine, five for Law, a large number for engineering and science courses including two students with offers to study Motorsports Engineering and many others pursuing courses in languages, economics, arts and humanities.

Principal of the Sixth Form Ruth Roberts said: "I am delighted with the quality of offers across an incredibly wide range of subjects. Many of our students are already holding five offers and a large number of students will be going to Russell Group and other research-dominated universities."



Keir reaches national final

Sixth former Keir Birchall has reached the final of the National Science & Engineering Competition and is now one of Britain's elite young scientists in the running to become 'Young Scientist of the Year.'

Keir, who wants to study Physics at university, came up with an innovative concept to foil coin forgers while completing a Nuffield Bursary Award. Keir says: "One in 32 of all one pound coins are fake so I thought I could adapt the x-ray fluorescence techniques we had been studying at school to determine the metallic compounds of coins."





At their AGM in November 2012 the Governors made two decisions that will have long-term significance for the school. The first is to agree a new set of aims.

School aims should have two qualities above all else: the ability to inspire and memorability. The best aims envisage the school we want, not just confirm the school we have. They are a signpost for a journey rather than a destination marker.

If aims are to be realised, then it is vital that as many as possible in our community know them (by heart) and seek to realise them (through action). I am very grateful to those members of staff, pupils and parents who have helped us draw up this core element of what we seek to be.

Our Aims are:

- to challenge our pupils to aspire, work hard and achieve
- to develop lively and enquiring minds
- to foster a friendly, polite and caring community
- to support parents in raising ambitious and well-rounded individuals

The second decision is for King's to operate at some stage in the future on a single site. Changes to the local planning framework and our positive relationship with the local authority have raised the possibility that the school will be able to fund such a move. The educational benefits of a single site speak for themselves and the school's relocation on three or four occasions in its history illustrates our readiness to embrace the future whilst respecting our past.

There is a long way to go before we determine whether this goal is realisable in the next five to seven years, but it is important that you are aware of our plans and have the opportunity, should you wish, to help.

In the meantime we press on with our short-term development plans for both sites. Our recently opened sports facilities and adventure playground at Fence Avenue are already being put to good use. The Upper Junior building is due for a facelift this summer; the new Astroturf is on target for completion in September and our plans for a sports hall the year after are in development.

A hard act to follow

After 36 action-packed years, Mark Harbord has handed on the baton to the new Director of Sport, Chris Thomson. Mark joined King's as a PE teacher straight from Loughborough College and since then has been Head of Year, Head of Cricket, and Head of Boys & Sixth Form PE.

Among the remembered highlights of his career are two undefeated 1st XI cricket seasons (1990 and 1991) and the U15 Lord Taverner's Final at Trent Bridge. In rugby, high points were winning the Sedburgh 10s in 2005, the 2006 undefeated season, and going to Twickenham for the Daily Mail Vase Final in 2009. He also has fond memories of school rugby and cricket tours to Kenya, South Africa, Barbados and, especially, Pakistan.

Mark's energy, commitment and sense of humour will be greatly missed, but he has a worthy replacement in Chris Thomson.

Chris has come south from Fettes College in Edinburgh to take up his new post. A former U19 Northants and Huntingdonshire cricketer and now a keen runner, he studied Sport and Recreation Studies at Birmingham University, followed by a PGCE in Physical Education. He has also taught on the other side of the world, at Trinity Grammar School in Sydney.

Chris was attracted to King's because of its excellent sporting record, seeing an exciting opportunity to guide the sporting future of the whole Foundation. He will oversee the facilities redevelopment programme, which began last summer and will include a new Astroturf surface for September 2013 and a new indoor facility for 2014.



Geography George wins international trip

George Wood is on top of the world after earning a place in the British Geography Olympics team. He beat hundreds of the UK's leading young geographers to earn a place in the four-strong team which will fly out to Kyoto, Japan in July.

He impressed the selectors with his essay that examined the link between the decline in high street shopping and the rise of internet retailing and out of town shopping malls, using Macclesfield's town centre as an example.

George, who is hoping to read Human Geography at university, said: "It's a great honour to be selected and I am looking forward to seeing Japan, but we have a Geology trip to Scotland and Geography trips to Snowdonia and Iceland before the summer, so there is a lot to look forward to even before I fly out to Kyoto."

Head of Geography, Andrew Puddephatt, said: "It is a tremendous achievement and a fitting reward. We all wish him the very best in representing not only Britain, but also Geography and King's, in Japan!"



Eco warriors

The Juniors showed off their green fingers last term when they started off their Eco Garden project and took delivery of their 'super food' blueberry and cowberry bushes.

The project is part of our commitment to the Eco School Programme run by Keep Britain Tidy. King's Juniors are now working their way through the awards: Bronze, Silver and Green Flag. With funding from Friends of King's, the Eco Garden is the first phase of the development of the Lower Junior area into an outdoor learning zone.



Senior Maths success

Richard Southern has won a gold medal in the UK Senior Mathematics Challenge and qualified for the British Mathematical Olympiad Round 1, putting him in the top 1000 young mathematicians of his age. Richard, who is studying A Level Maths, Further Maths, Physics, Chemistry and Biology and wants to study Medicine at Oxford or Cambridge, is now hoping to represent the UK in Columbia later this year in the Maths Olympics.

A total of 50 King's students entered the Senior Mathematics Challenge and achieved five gold, 17 silver and 18 bronze awards. Excellent results were also achieved by Year 13 students Chris Hanak and Bill Green as well as Year 11 pupil Laura Embrey.

Geographical debate winners

Three of King's sixth formers, Lauren Garner-Jackson, Isaac Reaney and Sam Hollis were the winning team in a Geographical Association Debate on Food Security in December. The three Year 12 students put on an impressive display of knowledge and teamwork to represent the views of the UK in the model United Nations debate on food security. They triumphed over strong competition from Withington Girls and Bury Grammar School to be crowned the Cheshire & Manchester branch debate champions 2012.



ART AT THE HEART

'Not just art but creativity, innovation and independent thinking'

This is the core idea at the heart of the Art Department's approach to teaching, and a key reason for its stunning success.

From sculpture to painting, from digital media to glass, the range of disciplines on offer is astonishingly wide. Such provision, recently praised by *The Good Schools Guide*, puts King's at the forefront of independent schools. Backed by enthusiastic, inspired teaching, it results in an atmosphere of confident experimentation,

creativity and commitment that encourages students to achieve success, both academically (the results in 2012 were our best ever) and out in the world. It also ensures that they develop skills that reinforce learning in all areas of the school.

These pages give a taste of what has been happening with students past and present, in school and out, from the Infants to the Sixth Form.

*'Without art,
the crudeness of reality would
make the world unbearable.'*

George Bernard Shaw



Starting early

It was hands-on creativity for the infants and juniors when professional sculptors and textile designers visited the school in Art Week. Pupils had a chance to try out all sorts of enthralling new techniques, from willow sculptures to textile pyramids. Their work is on display in a new, permanent art installation in the entrance hall.

The baby elephant pictured is one of two made by Year 4 and Year 6 children, working with Staffordshire artist Caroline Gregson. Also pictured is textile artist Liz Spinks with Year 4 pupils Max Mousley, Archie Mattocks and Sophie Bird.



'Art washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life.' Pablo Picasso

Talent spotted

In a boom year for King's art students, here are just some of the success stories.

Harry Frost won a much sought-after place on the 'Cheshire Artists in Italy' tour, while two students, Sophia Bird and Ben Phillips, have made the national finals of the Schools Art Prize, winning a workshop for themselves and their teachers with internationally renowned textile artist Michael Brennand-Wood.

Olivia Hamblyn, runner-up (despite being only 13) in a Manchester Art Gallery competition for 12-17 year-olds, had her butterfly piece displayed there and won a workshop with professional artists.

Images by two Year 8 pupils decorate 2013 calendars. Adam-Boulton Rawlinson's delicate photo of the countryside is in *Cheshire Life's* calendar and Caitlin Plant's 'Mad Science' is in Astra Zeneca's. Caitlin was also 'first runner up' in a national competition to design a book cover for *The Railway Children*, winning ten Vintage Children's Classics.

In a major coup, the Art Department was invited to put on a showcase exhibition at the Birley Gallery in Manchester and the feedback has been extremely enthusiastic. Further events planned are an A level show in Macclesfield and an exhibition in the gallery at Jobling Gowler Solicitors, who have long supported artists in the area.



Sophia and Ben



Olivia Hamblyn



Adam Boulton-Rawlinson



Birley exhibitors



Caitlin Plant

Life beyond school

King's students regularly win places on the country's top courses for artists, architects and designers, including Architecture at Cambridge, UCL and the Architectural Association, Fashion at St Martins and Nottingham Trent, Graphic Design at Brunel, 3D Glass at Edinburgh and Digital Imaging & Games Design at Teeside. 'Design Your Future', an annual event organised by UCAS, allowed Year 12 students to find out about the opportunities available.

After university, the world is their oyster. This year, for example, Ashley Hinchcliffe, with a first class degree in Architecture from UCL, has joined a top architectural practice in Hong Kong. Helen Marten, who left King's less than a decade ago and whose recent solo exhibition at Chisenhale Gallery in London received great critical acclaim, has already exhibited widely throughout Europe and the US.

Sporting Achievements

Swimming success

Our Junior swimmers put in a strong performance when they competed in the AJIS Swimming Gala. The standard was very high and King's was delighted to have pupils in all 11 of the finals. Susie Moores put in a determined effort and won bronze for her least favourite stroke, Butterfly.



Regional cross country success

King's Junior Boys' team recently qualified for The National Schools Cross Country Final, having secured their position as one of the top four schools in the country. The team won both the English Schools Cup and the West Central Region round, in which all six boys produced exceptional performances and finished first. Pictured are: George Barker, Alex Fray, Archie Phillips, James Quinn, Cameron Redpath and Ollie Stevenson.



Outstanding rugby season

King's 1st XV have enjoyed the best rugby season in living memory with five summer tour victories across Canada, 16 straight wins and one draw in regular Saturday and Daily Mail matches, being named the Number 1 school side in the country and being awarded the Rugby World 'Team of the Month' in October. The team were undefeated during the Autumn term and managed to reach the quarter-finals of the Daily Mail cup for the first time in the school's history.

Guy Mason, Head of Rugby, says: "This side will be remembered for many years to come as an outstanding team. The most pleasing aspects are the fantastic team spirit and camaraderie, and also the number of youngsters in the side, with four Year 11 pupils regularly featuring. Stand out performers are the effervescent outside centre Ben Marsden; skipper Jack Sadler; England hopeful Jonny Kenny; top points scorer and full back Matt Stubbs and in the front row Mike Parker who has gained some hard yards just when the side needed some momentum. We're very sorry to lose speedster Tom Fairclough to a double leg fracture and we all wish him a very speedy recovery."



Trampolining success

Year 10 pupil Rowena Moores will be representing King's at the British Schools Trampoline Championships to be held in March alongside five other King's teams following their excellent showing at the North West Regional Championships. Five out of six King's teams qualified for the British Championships and all

teams achieved podium positions in the regional championships. The results were: U11 Girls Novice Team 2nd, with May Broadley 10th; U11 Elite Girls Team 2nd with Susie Moores 4th and Izzy Moores 10th; U13 Girls Elite Team 3rd; U15 Girls Elite Team 2nd and Rowena Moores 2nd; U11 Boys Novice Team 1st

with Luke Stevens 8th, Toby Gray 11th; and U13 Boys Elite Team 1st. King's Trampoline Coach Rachael Burrows said: "I am extremely proud of our competitors. King's has a hugely supportive team which is enabling the youngsters to realise their potential on the regional and national stage."

Former Pupils Congratulations:

Natasha Rukazenkova, who competed in the British Gas ASA Synchronised Swimming Masters Championships, coming first in both the Duet and Group Class and second in the Solo.

Dr Ian Miller, who recently celebrated his 90th birthday.

Alex Waddingham, who was selected to play rugby for Oxford University. He has also had two consecutive years representing England Students and is described by Oxford as a 'wrecking ball in the loose'.

Charlotte Green, who graduated with a first in veterinary medicine and surgery from Nottingham Vet School.

Matt Murray, who has been selected to represent Cambridge University in the 2013 Varsity Hockey Match against Oxford.

James McCormick, who is currently reigning Cheshire County Golf Champion.

John Mottram, who has been appointed Grand President of the Catenian Association of Catholic businessmen and professionals.



CBE for Disney Chairman

Congratulations to former pupil Andy Bird, Chairman of Walt Disney International, who was awarded a CBE in the 2012 Queen's Birthday Honours for services to UK media and entertainment. After leaving King's, Andy earned a BA in English from the University of Newcastle in 1985. Now, as chairman of Disney International, Andy is responsible for Disney's businesses outside of the United States and increasing brand affinity in key international markets.

Vodafone CEO reflects on happy schooldays

Former pupil Guy Laurence is Chief Executive Officer of Vodafone UK which has a turnover of nearly £7 billion and is part of one of the world's largest mobile companies.

His hugely successful career has taken him to the US, Japan and Netherlands and he credits his success to his education: "Your best chance of a successful career is having a good start – and the best start comes from a good education."

Guy warmly remembers his school days: "My fondest memories include being stage manager for the school plays, playing table football and roaring into school on a motorbike. I also remember my Physics teacher Mr Rigg and Geography teacher Mr Spalton who both inspired me to work hard and achieve my best."

"But it was activities that we did outside the curriculum that really made a difference to my future. The thing that changed my life was doing Young Enterprise, which we won. It taught me that my future lay in sales and marketing and that is what I've done ever since. We also went caving with the school and this taught me the importance of trusting people and pushing the boundaries of my comfort zone."

As the boss of one of the UK's best known brands, Guy has some straight-talking advice for current pupils: "It's easy to think that you can muck about at school and focus on a career later, but it just doesn't work that way. Even if you don't know what career you want – do yourself a favour that will last the whole of your life and focus on getting good results."

Asked what advice he would offer today's pupils, Guy says: "To succeed you need to be able to learn quickly and be



able to incentivise other people to follow your vision. There is no short cut to the top so you have to build your career step-by-step and don't fear moving company or industry. If you are not hungry for success, you won't be successful."

Hockey tribute match

The Kobbler's – the infamous King's Old Boys Hockey Club – recently held a special match to celebrate the life of former teacher Martin Badger who sadly died in 2012.

A party of 40 players, family and friends enjoyed the match followed by a superb hog roast at Alderley Edge Hockey Club. Organiser Kelvin Briggs says: "Martin founded the Kobbler's and was not only an inspiring teacher and hockey coach but also a great friend to all who turned out for the celebration. Glasses were raised to Martin and there was much reminiscing of great hockey tours and past Kobbler antics." If you would like to join any future Kobbler gatherings please email kelvinbriggs@btconnect.com



505050 Christie Appeal

Last term, all the King's Divisions from Infants to the Sixth Form united in their efforts to raise money for The Christie Hospital. Spurred on by King's parent Simon Hayward who launched the 505050 Appeal to raise £50,000 for the hospital's new School of Oncology, our students rose to the challenge and organised a huge range of fundraising events including cake sales, discos, a Santa run and a music night.

Junior form captains and charity monitors organised a whole day of fundraising which included a 'Name the Teddy' competition and Treasure Island game. Activities organised by the Girls' Division included a fabulous evening of fine music involving students and music staff.



Our sixth form fashionistas also held their annual fashion show, which attracted a sell-out audience and raised over £4,000 for The Christie. Organiser Dom Sheratte said: "A lot of hard work went into the show, but it was a fabulous night in aid of a world class cancer centre that is close to so many people's hearts." The event couldn't have taken place without the support of many local retailers including: Bellissimo Boutique, Best Man, SOS Bramhall, John Douglas, New Look, Vicky Martin and Spivey's Web.

Simon Hayward and Howard Newhall from The Christie were delighted to come into school and be presented with cheques totalling more than £10,000, helping Simon exceed his original target of £50,000.



Congratulations to the following pupils:

Ffyon Booker for being selected for the U14 Derbyshire Netball Satellite Academy.

Gregg Booker, who has represented both the East Midlands, when he achieved second place, and the North West regions in Inter Regional Cyclo Cross Championships.

William Cann who won a silver medal at the AJIS Chess Tournament.

Oliver Clemetson, who has joined the Royal Yachting Association's UK Youth/Junior squad and **Matthew Harrison**, who joins the RYA Topper West Zone Squad.

Sion Davenport, who won the school's Design a rugby shirt competition 2012.

Tom Eastgate, Ben Cree and **Alistair Thomson** for gaining first prize in the first round of the Manchester University Cipher Challenge.

Joseph Machin, on being selected as goalkeeper for the U15 Cheshire Football squad.

Remy Miller, on being selected for the U14 Cheshire Golf squad.

1st XV Captain, **Jack Sadler** for getting into the North of England U18 rugby trial.

Will Peakman and **Tom Blackwell** for their involvement with the North Independent Schools U13 rugby side and to **Ed Horton** for his involvement with the North Independent Schools U18 side; **Harry Blackwell, Will Hodgson, Matt Peakman** and **Jacob Percival** for their selection in the Cheshire U15 rugby side.

Abigail Johnston, Sarah Laughton, Allana Buckingham, Sophie Ridley, Eleanor Toms, Victoria Blackwell, Annabel Hebb and **Natalie Stevens** who have been selected for Cheshire Hockey Teams.

Dates for your diary

12 March	EPQ Presentation Evening 6.00 pm Sixth Form Centre
13-15 March	Our Country's Good 7.30 pm CS Drama Hall
20-22 March	Year 6 Musical Honk 7.15 pm Fence Avenue Hall
22 March	Lunchtime Music Concert 1.00 pm St Michael's Church
27 March	Founders' Day Services 1.30 pm St Michael's Church
28 March	Junior Easter Service 11.00 am St Paul's Church Term ends for All Divisions

Former Pupils Association Events

3 May	London Dinner RAF Club, Piccadilly, London
28 June	Bursary Fund Golf Day Macclesfield Golf Club

For more information please email: formerpupils@kingsmac.co.uk