

King's Colours

Summer 2017

The termly newsletter of the King's School in Macclesfield

Music to our ears!



Four talented King's piano players and the Junior 'Woodwind Wonders' all achieved first place in their class at the Alderley Edge Music Festival.

Harriet Bright won the Prep Test category; Cora Seth scooped the Grade 1 class; Ben Sneddon, who plays in King's Big Band and Jazz Band, won the Grade 6 and 7 category; and Aisling Day won not only the Grade 8 piano class, but also the Grade 8 Cello and Grade 8 Cello and Double Bass sections.

The wonderful 25 piece Woodwind Wonders won the Large Ensemble Category with a Distinction. Judges praised their impeccable tuning, expression and ability to balance both the melody and harmony.



Meanwhile, King's other large ensembles celebrated 25 years of hitting the high notes with the annual King's Swings concert. The 22 piece Big Band and 20 piece Jazz Band reeled off a succession of classics from the 1920s up to the 1950s. Kevin Dearden, who runs King's Big Band, said: "We aim to provide something spontaneous and fun that pupils can work with in rehearsals. The play list is broad and offers something for everyone, from the Year 7 pupils up to the Sixth Form students."

Poetry in translation...

Students studying A Level foreign languages and literature met one of the North's leading literary experts, Professor Barry Wood, to learn more about the undervalued skills of the talented translator.



As part of their preparation for entry into the prestigious Stephen Spender Prize for poetry in translation, Sally Jones, Head of Spanish, organised the workshop: "To reveal how the different levels of meaning and truthfulness to the poet's intent can be achieved by the skilled translator. It is a way of enabling our most talented students to uncover in all their complexity the thoughts and feelings of some of the world's greatest writers."

Professor Barry Wood, who teaches modern poetry for the Centre for Continuing Education at the University of Manchester, said: "Translation 'is the most intimate act of reading' and allows us an insight into all forms of literature which is not available by any other means."

Barry is pictured above with former Cheshire champion for poetry recital Lauren Hayward and Robert Devon.



Feathered friends

Year 2 had a really exciting week watching their eggs hatch into chicks as part of their learning about "What makes a healthy creature?" and their focus on lifecycles.

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Head's update



The Summer Term is always a busy one, packed with leavers' celebrations, music concerts, sports days, cricket and athletics fixtures and, of course, public examinations.

This is a time of change and celebration for our Upper Sixth students, their families and our staff. The summer sees the culmination of a great deal of hard work as students embark on the next, exciting chapter of their lives at university, in the workplace or on a gap year. We hope they will all stay in touch with the school through

our Former Pupils' Association (FPA).

In May, I attended the London Dinner for former pupils who are now living and working in the South. I was delighted to hear that, for many, their passion for the school is as strong as ever and that they are keen to help expand the role of the FPA. The school too, is keen to strengthen our network of former pupils. To this end, the FPA and the school are funding a new Development & Alumni Officer role. The post holder, who will join us later this summer, will engage with former pupils and extend the range of services we can offer them once they have left school.

I am also delighted to announce the appointment of Rob Barrow as the Lord Lieutenant's representative on the Governing Body. Rob is an experienced fundraiser and a former CEO and Chairman of a FTSE 250 software company. Sharing our commitment to broadening access to King's, he will join our bursary and fundraising committee and the team driving forward our bursary generation schemes (see story below).

In recent weeks, we have been successful in bids for funding to both the Garfield Weston Foundation and The Merchant Taylors' Company of Schools: each has generously agreed to grant £50,000 toward realising our 2020 Vision. We are also incredibly grateful to those former pupils who generously continue to support both our bursary scheme and the plans for the new school.

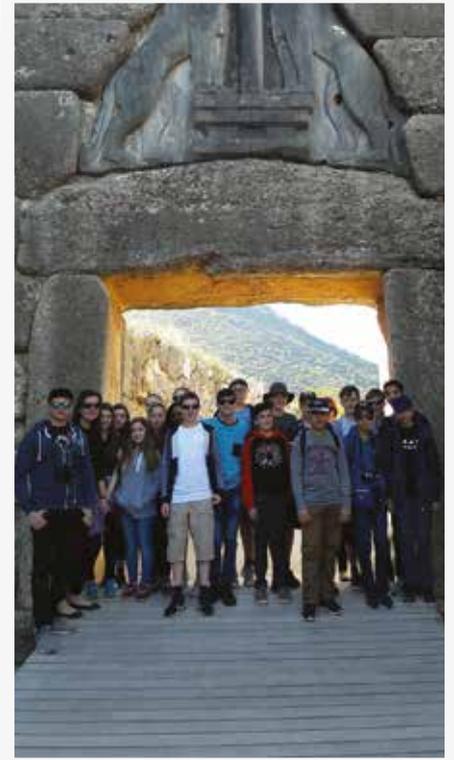
Dr Simon Hyde, Headmaster

King's welcomes new Governor Rob Barrow

Internet entrepreneur, charity philanthropist and Deputy Lieutenant of Cheshire, Rob Barrow has been appointed as a Governor at King's with the mission to help provide more bursary places.

Rob was a pioneer in IT development, living and working in California for much of his career, establishing and then working as the CEO and Chairman of his own FTSE 250 listed software development company SurfControl Plc, employing 650 people worldwide.

Rob's daughter Fiona is a former King's School sixth form pupil. Rob said: "I want to support local independent schools and am passionate about providing a first-rate education to all regardless of parental means, hence my interest in expanding bursary schemes at King's."



Students' five-day Greek Odyssey

Over Easter, 20 students embarked on a five-day exploration of some of the most famous sights of the Classical world.

Pupils visited Thorikos, home of the oldest surviving theatre in Greece; the Temple of Poseidon; the island of Aegina with the famous temple of Aphaea, which is even older and better preserved than the Parthenon; the mountain setting of Delphi, a true jewel of the Ancient Greek world and home of the oracle; Olympia, where pupils re-enacted the first Olympic races; and Epidaurus, the best preserved theatre in Greece.

The last day was the busiest as students visited the rare surviving bronze age town of Mycenae in the morning and then Athens in the afternoon, following Socrates' footsteps in the Agora, taking photos by the well preserved temple of Hephaestus and, finally, walking up to the Parthenon temple itself.

The students were wonderful ambassadors for the school throughout the trip and were praised for their calm, considerate behaviour.

Focus on Wellbeing Week...

Infant & Junior pupils enriched the parts normal lessons don't reach with an Enrichment Week devoted to a 'Healthy Mind, Body and Spirit'.

Principal Caroline Hulme-McKibbin said: "Modern life isn't just increasingly pressurised for adults, but sadly for children too. We want to make sure our boys and girls are equipped to handle all the challenges ahead so they can develop into strong, resilient and caring individuals who respect themselves and value others."

A variety of activities linked to Social, Moral and Cultural education and PSHE were on offer including Nature Workshops, 'Wake Up, Shake Up!' exercise sessions, yoga and meditation classes, learning about the importance of a balanced diet and keeping hydrated, as well discussions about what constitutes happiness.

Our youngest pupils learnt potentially life-saving skills during a Mini First Aid workshop, including how to stop bleeding, put people in the recovery position and phone 999



for an ambulance. Year 1 pupils visited St Michael's Church whilst Juniors had a talk on human rights and responsibilities and learned about different faiths. Guest

speaker Dean Sibson gave a talk on the value of fair play and good sportsmanship, helping children to consider how they might follow good role models.

Poetry reading wins hearts

Talented Year 11 pupil Ciara Allen won the Cheshire Poetry by Heart competition after competing alongside 40 of the top young readers of verse at the British Library. Ciara chose 'Remembrance' by Emily Bronte in the pre-1914 section and 'Originally' by today's Poet Laureate Carol Ann Duffy in the post First World War category.



Ciara, who wants to study English Literature, Psychology and French at A Level said: "I chose poems which touched me personally. It's important to live the emotion in both your voice and your facial expressions. It's about evoking the meaning and emotion of the words, as if a camera was on your face."

Success on the cards for cartoonist Christian

Year 9 pupil and National 'Young Cartoonist of the Year' Christian Beeston is proving that entrepreneurial spirit is alive and well. His thriving greetings cards business, which features 18 of his original designs showcasing local landmarks, has been picked up by a growing number of retailers including Arighi Bianchi.

In a few months, Christian has already sold over 600 cards, 80 mugs and 130 coasters. Christian is pictured (centre) with John Bianchi and Paul Bianchi and a range of his creations



Assembling together

Assemblies are an integral part of the life of King's, offering us all the chance to pause, reflect and celebrate. They support our school aims and reflect our ethos and shared values.

Assemblies come in all shapes and sizes. Divisional assemblies take place weekly and often revolve around a talk from a member of staff or an outside speaker. Year group, section and house assemblies also occur regularly and cater for topics and issues specific to a more defined number of pupils.

They play a key role supporting our curriculum by informing, inspiring and challenging our pupils. They provide time to reflect on what it takes to become responsible citizens and how to contribute effectively to a modern society through leadership and service.

The larger divisional assemblies are formal occasions, often accompanied by music from pupils: a rock band, classical ensemble, brass group or choir. The degree of formality builds a sense of community, tradition and pride in the school and the accomplishments of our pupils.

Divisional approach

A diverse range of themes are presented by teachers from across the body of staff, drawing on their expertise and own inspiration. Themes covered include equality and diversity, leadership qualities, British values, the EU referendum, human rights, facing fears to overcome challenges and developing a positive mindset. Divisions also celebrate and reflect on important events through our Remembrance services and our annual Founders' Day Service.

In the Infants and Juniors, assemblies help to create conditions that promote social and spiritual awareness and an inclusive understanding of the diverse world in which we live. Classes are often invited to present an assembly on a specific topic, such as 'Switch Off' fortnight, Fairtrade Week and internet safety, in addition to sharing their learning with the wider community. At significant points in the school year, services are held in local churches for pupils and their families at which our choirs and instrumentalists play an important role.

Targeted advice

Year Group Assemblies enable us to gather and offer targeted advice. Year 7 pupils, for example, have heard from our local Police Liaison Officer about social media, talked about time management and heard from our House Captains about ways they can get involved in the House System.

They also provide a great opportunity for pupils to practise their public speaking; most recently, 7MEH led a fantastic assembly about switching off from social media and 7KB imparted their top tips for the acquisition of study skills. The older pupils relish the chance to pass on their wisdom to younger pupils and most recently shared tried and tested revision tips with Year 7.



‘I enjoy celebration assemblies because I like to learn about other peoples’ achievements in, and especially out of, school.’

Ella Jones, Year 8





Charitable aims

Fundraising for charity is a key feature of life at King's. In September, Ruth Tobi from one of our chosen charities, Maggie's, joined an assembly and movingly described how cancer patients and their families can find a true welcome and support at the Maggie's Centre at The Christie. In January, we held an assembly of thanks and celebration when Ruth returned to King's to receive the cheque for £4,000 which was raised in just one term.

Celebration and reward

Held half-termy, these are occasions of great applause (figuratively and literally!). Certificates, trophies, medals, badges and ties are awarded to our hard working, talented and deserving pupils. In the weekly Infant Celebration Assembly, 'Kingsley Bear' is presented to a class in recognition of their hard work and positive attitude. Each half term Writers' awards and Sports awards are presented to individual children in recognition of their hard work and achievement, whilst the Princess Diana Award recognises kindness and good behaviour. In the Juniors, the Robert Batchelor Awards are presented to celebrate good work, effort and attitude, whilst School

Officers present trophies for House points, Green Cards and Best Class.

House system

Pupils gather at House Assemblies to share House successes and plan future events. They offer a wonderful opportunity for pupil leadership, led by House Captains, and evidencing collaboration across the year groups.

Unity

Whatever the occasion, assemblies bring the school together. We gather as a body of pupils and staff; we are reminded how our differences make great strength. It is our ability to pull together that makes our school community a force of great good. An assembly is a time when we can reset our moral compass, a time when the seed of future adventures may be sown. Ideas are planted and in the fullness of time actions result; from these life experiences are born.





Successful season for King's netballers

The 2016/17 season has been full of successes for our netball teams. King's Year 7 A and B netball teams both enjoyed success: the A team (pictured below) made it through to the final four in the North West in The Schools' Sport Magazine



Cup, they were finalists in the County Tournament and winners in both the Macclesfield and District League and in the one-day MDNL tournament.

The Year 8 team were runner-up in the MDNL, whilst the 1st VII were joint league winners.

Individually, the following girls have completed a season of County Netball where the places are limited to 20 per squad: Maddie Johnson (U12 Development), Izzy Moores (U14 Development), Suzie Moores (U14 County) and



Antonia Bianchi (Under 19 County).

The U11 squad also took the Macclesfield and District Primary Schools' League by storm, winning the prestigious series in unbeaten style. Netball Coach Nicola Squares said: "The girls work

incredibly hard and have great camaraderie."

The U11 squad, (pictured above), from left are: Lydia Hine, Phoebe Thomson, Madi Baxter, Sofia Ogden, Sophie Fletcher, Georgie Sanders, Sophie Johnson and Leah Shadwell.

Rugby roundup



U18 Sevens Double

The 1st VII had a tough act to follow after victory at Rosslyn Park 12 months ago. The current squad, which still contains last year's victors Tim Phillips, Sam Worthington and Sam Brindle, brought back the Plate from both the Solihull and Cheshire Competitions. In addition, they were runners up in the Cup at Stonyhurst, narrowly losing to the hosts.

The stand out player this season was Tom Higginson, who was rock-solid in defence, lethal in attack and reliable as ever with the boot. The U16s also were successful at the Warwick 7s, picking up the Plate and achieving back-to-back victories having won the Cup in 2016.

Sion selected for Welsh Exiles

Year 11 pupil Sion Davenport, (pictured right in orange scrum-cap) who is also as a member of Sales Sharks Academy, received a call-up to the Welsh Exiles U16s. He wore the famous red of Wales in a trial game versus Newport-Gwent Dragons, scoring a try on his debut performance. He is accompanied in the Sale Sharks Academy by Gus Fiennes, Will Davies and Sam Higginson. All four were very



successful at the Wellington Festival, which forms part of the England U16 selection process.

Unbeaten season for talented U11 team



The U11 rugby team has recorded an unbeaten season, winning all 15 of their fixtures. Regarded as one of the best pools of all-round young talent in recent years, King's dismantled their closest rivals with 50 points winning margins against Manchester Grammar, Stockport Grammar and Cheadle Hulme. Captain Ollie Davies

controlled the 9 man side from fly half; the powerhouse forward platform of Ben Chong, Gio Edwards, Ollie Jones, Billy Bridgewater, Noah Wolstenholme and Callum Chopping constantly provided top quality ball for scrum half Ollie Carter, with lightning quick three quarters Morgan Davies, Zac Wright, Edward Roden, Christian Tattum, James Hartley, and top scorer Billy Birkett finding the gaps.

Head of Junior PE Joe Walker said: "The last unbeaten U11 Junior side went on to be unbeaten at under 13 and 14 level. We expect them to become a superb first XV and hopefully realise their full potential."



Trampolining success

Seven King's teams qualified for the National Schools' Trampoline Finals and six of these achieved a podium position, with the U14 intermediate girls a very close 4th.

The U11 intermediate girls and boys were crowned National Champions with outstanding performances. Routines were executed with great form and consistency.



Athletics victory

Congratulations to our young athletes who competed in the first round of the ESAA Schools' Cup competition. The Girls' Year 7/8 team (pictured) came first out of 10 teams and will now go through to the regional finals in June.

Our Girls' Year 9/10 team, Boys' Year 7/8 team and Year 9/10 teams all achieved third place rankings.

King's Speech

The annual former pupils' magazine, *King's Speech*, is now available and is packed full of updates, features and articles about former pupils. If you'd like to receive a copy, please email formerpupils@kingsmac.co.uk

Tom plans African fundraiser

Former pupil and adventurer Tom Lynch is preparing to climb Mount Kilimanjaro in August for the 'Hope for Children' charity. Tom, who left King's in 2015 and went on to study Chemical Engineering at Loughborough University, is part of a 28-person university team to embark on the challenge and visit a project in Tanzania helping to educate some of the East African country's 437,000 street and working children, many of whom are refugees from neighbouring countries. Tom developed his passion for adventure at King's and was inspired by a World Challenge expedition to Namibia in 2014 when he and his fellow pupils worked on a community project to build a pipe line to carry fresh water to a remote village.



Ruby trio's success

Former pupils Jake Percival (pictured left) and Harry Blackwell, plus current student Matthew Peakman represented Cheshire U20 in a 35-5 win over Notts, Lincs and Derbyshire in April at Wilmslow RUFC. The trio had previously represented the county U20s against Lancashire in a 35-7 win.

London Dinner

In May, around 30 former pupils and members of staff gathered at the RAF Club in Mayfair for the annual former pupils' London Dinner. The hugely successful event provided not only a chance for our former pupils to catch-up with each other, but also to see former Principal Bill Beatson and hear from Headmaster Dr Hyde on the school's plans to develop its former pupils' association. There were plenty of 'new' faces at the event and lots of interest in helping to build a more extensive former pupils' network.



Congratulations to ...

Richard Barratt (2012), who has been selected for a team to represent Sheffield University in the International Graduate Competition at the HEC Business School in Canada.

Izzy Bell (2012), who graduated with a First in Natural Sciences (2016) from St Catharine's College, Cambridge. She came first in her year, achieving the highest mark in Zoology and Plant Sciences across the whole Natural sciences course for which she was awarded the Cambridge University Frank Smart Award and, as the



highest performing biologist in her college, she was also awarded the Belfield-Clarke prize for Biological Sciences. Izzy also gained her Full Blue for netball. Izzy is currently in her first year of the BBSRC PhD training programme at Cambridge, working in the Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute.

Annie Edgerton (2012), who completed a year working in the USA as a designer for Abercrombie and Fitch and returned to the UK in February to take up a role with New Look based in London.

Ruairidh Nichols (2014), who has been chosen for the lead role in the UK premier of the musical *"It Should'a Been You"* which will be on at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival this year.

Community

Community spirit is very much alive and well, as King's pupils continue to engage with our local and global community.



In May, students got behind the first-ever **Macclesfield Garden Festival**, which was the brain child of former King's pupil and garden designer Jon Tilly. Our Year 12 students created a Yarn Tree, which was positioned outside the Town Hall and decorated with over 1,000 leaves created by our own Infants & Juniors as well as those from schools across Macclesfield. Each leaf featured

the child's favourite line from a book, poem or story. Reception children created a dinosaur for the Prehistoric garden whilst our musicians and Songbirds choir entertained visitors to the Floral Art Marquee and St Michael's church.

Fashion-conscious pupils walked the walk at Manchester Airport

to contribute a stunning £6,606 to the Runway on the Runway charity fashion show. Under the iconic Concorde, Sixth Form students, alongside pupils from other schools, staged a fabulous fashion show which raised a massive £50,000 for the Teenage Cancer Trust.



This academic year has seen the Boys' Division raising funds for **Connecting Kids Education Foundation (CKEF)**, a charity that supports the education of children in Ghana. King's has supported the charity for 3 years now, with donations of books, old sports equipment and kit, and old desk and chairs.

Ellen Blamires, Director of CKEF, reports that all the schools they support in Ghana are going well. "The literacy rate at Kisse Besease is now approaching 100% and at Anum has increased from 25% to 80% within 3 years. St Peter's Nursery continues to struggle with inadequate buildings.



"Each day the school furniture, provided by King's, is packed overnight in a 20' shipping container to be brought out again the following morning. These circumstances are not

ideal, but at least it keeps the children in school and helps prevent delinquency and potential child pregnancies. We sincerely hope that the funds that you are raising this year will help finance more permanent class room facilities at St Peter's."

Congratulations to:

Oliver Bailey, who is currently ranked third in UKA English U11 fell running.

Fionn Carmen, Dan Harrop, Natalie Stevens and **Jen Young**, who graduated from the EES scheme at Liverpool University and received a Gold Crest Award.

Kathryn Bennett, who was overall champion at the Greater Manchester Floor and Vault Gymnastics Competition after winning Silver on vault and Gold on floor.

Jacob Brown, for achieving a Distinction in the UKMT Intermediate Mathematics Olympiad, two years early for his age class.

Alex Campbell, who secured a place in the National Final of the Warhammer Age of Sigmar School League Competition, due to take place in July.

Joey Chong, selected for Cheshire U14 cricket, **George Muirhead** and **James Davis**, selected for East Cheshire U15 cricket and **Angus Thomson**, selected for Cheshire U16 cricket.

Imogen Collinson and **George Holden**, who have been selected for Derbyshire U15 and **Harry Elms**, who has been selected for Derbyshire U17 cricket.

Thomas Dennett, who came 8th in the NSEA Winter Dressage Final at Adlington.

Rebecca Foster, who represented the county in March in the Cheshire Schools' Athletics Association cross country race against Merseyside, which was won by Cheshire.

Alexander Fray, Adam Garnett, Matthew Peakman and **Lucy Somekh**, who achieved a Bronze Medal in the Biology Olympiad and **Alex Galbraith**, who achieved a Gold Medal.

Oliver Gotts, who won a Gold Medal at the European Inline Speed Skating Cup Championships in Germany.

Eryn Gravett, who came second in the 9-hole Junior Spring Stableford competition held at Knustford Golf Club by the Cheshire County Ladies Golf Association.

Daniel Crosby, Ellie Hopewell, Amy Johnson, Zarin Salehin and **Emily Underwood**, who achieved Highly Commended in the Biology Olympiad.

Ollie Leatherbarrow, who represented Sale Sharks U15s rugby.

Kieran Melville, Sam Parry and **Tommaso Roncaroli**, who secured a place in National Final of the Warhammer Age of Sigmar School League Competition, due to take place in July.

Remy Miller, who came 4th in the England U16s Open Championship in Shrewsbury.

Charles Morrison-Hughes, who won the Cheshire Junior Squash Grand Prix Competition.

Archie Phillips, who played for U16 England Hockey against the Netherlands.

Arthur Seth and **Cora Seth**, who completed the Bala Challenge 8 mile and 14 mile walk (respectively) and raised £500 for The Hope Foundation for street children in India.

Sam Wilcock, who won Bronze medal in the 60Kg division at the ICO British Kickboxing Championships.

The **Y3/4 Boys' cross-country team**, who won the Macclesfield & District Primary Schools' League.