

King's Colours

Summer 2019

The termly newsletter of the King's School in Macclesfield



Topping out new campus!

A traditional 'topping out' ceremony was held at the School's rapidly emerging new campus. The last beam was placed atop the structure for the new academic building, marking the half-way stage for the construction project due for completion in May 2020.

VINCI Project Manager Martin Horton said: "We are delighted with progress and we will be proudly handing over what is going to be a magnificent site.

"It has been a pleasure today to welcome a group of pupils, parents and governors to show them the progress on their new school. The completion of the steel frame is a major

milestone and we will now bring in a range of different trades to complete the buildings before we start the landscaping."

King's pupils joined Dr Hyde, The Lord Lieutenant of Cheshire, David Briggs, and Chair of Governors, Dr John Kennerley, to tighten the final bolt on the final beam.

Lord Lieutenant David Briggs said: "It is clearly going to be wonderful for Macclesfield and the whole county of Cheshire and I am not surprised King's is already seeing an increase in demand for places."

Architect Andrew Brown explained: "The site is a truly magnificent setting and we

wanted to let the landscape speak, not breaking the tree line, not putting too much detail on the façade, but letting the landscape tell its story."

Dr Hyde said: "This ceremony allowed us to bring together and thank all those involved in the project so far, including our advisors, architects, engineers, builders, governors, parents and former pupils, as well as our pupils, who will benefit from this fantastic building in the years to come.

"It is fair to say that all were impressed with progress to date and excited for the future."

Outstanding Delegation Award

King's pupils won the Outstanding Delegation Award in the General Assembly of the Model United Nations.

Over 20 top schools from the length of the country took part in the forum, with each delegation taking the role of a specific country.

The seven-person team from King's was tasked with arguing on behalf of Japan in the event of a pandemic and managing the distribution of a scarce cure.

Head of History, Giles Barker, said: "The Model United Nations not only gives young people an insight into the different global perspectives, but gives them the experience of plotting their strategy and then speaking cogently in front of an audience of 300 of their peers plus a distinguished judging panel."



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Unbridled success for Equestrian squad

I was enormously honoured earlier this month to be invited to our German partner school's Europe Day. The Salvatorkolleg in Bad Wurzach is a Catholic Grammar School in Baden-Württemberg and it had planned the day following concerns for the future of Europe after the Brexit decision. Speakers from the European Parliament, France and Hungary joined local politicians, business leaders and former students to make for a very special event.



My contribution was to chart the history of Britain's post-war relationship with the EU and to identify the differences between British and Continental attitudes to Europe. With the help of our marvellous German Assistant, Andrea Schutz, I was able to get by in German and take questions. The

scariest moment came at the end when contributors spontaneously offered final thoughts to the whole school of over 1000 pupils and staff. The school orchestra then struck up the European anthem with everyone joining in with the unofficial German text: 'alle Menschen werden Brüder' (all people become brothers).

Whatever the rights and wrongs of the Brexit debate, it is incredibly important that we encourage our young people to open their eyes and minds to the people of other lands and cultures. That is why studying foreign languages remains so important.

As schools across the country abandon languages because of their difficulty, King's is determined to maintain a compulsory modern language at GCSE. Languages are a life skill and open doors to new worlds. At the end of term, I've wangled my way on to the German department's Berlin trip. This Easter our Hispanists were in Murcia, Germanists in Bad Wurzach and in May Year 5 travelled to France: wonderful opportunities to meet people, learn new things and have fun.

Whatever your level of linguistic ability, don't give up. The hard work is worth it and, with the internet, language learning has never been more accessible. Viel Glück!

Dr Simon Hyde, Headmaster



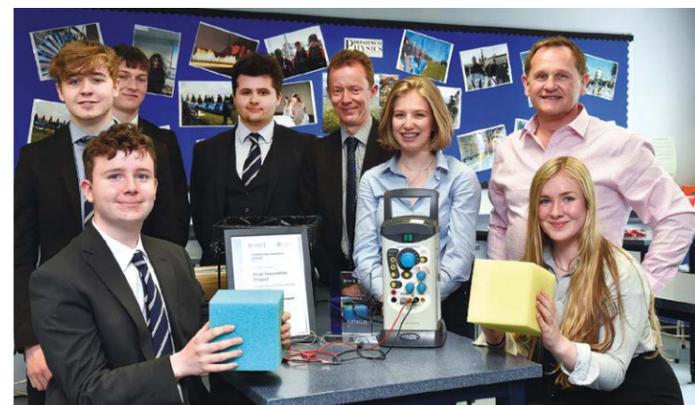
Engineering a top award for innovation

A team of Year 12 scientists have won the Engineering Development Trust's National Award for Innovation, after helping engineering company Opus Technical improve their product quality.

Six students completed a six-month project under the guidance of John Blackwell, Engineering Director with Opus, which designs and sells machinery for polyurethane foam manufacturing to the world's leading furniture, automotive and aeronautical sectors.

John Blackwell, a Chartered Engineer and STEM Ambassador, explains: "The team was tasked with helping to find a solution to the age-old problem of the polymer, from which the foam is produced, being filled with too many irregular and large bubbles. It's a long-standing issue that challenges foam manufacturers around the planet."

The team came up with a technical refinement that can be bolted on to Opus Technical's range of products. John added: "It's a genuine privilege to work with these young students. They have a purity of scientific knowledge which brings a fresh insight into the R&D process." The students presented their work to a panel of industry experts at Liverpool University, winning the University's best project award, with all six becoming national EDT Gold Award winners.



'Wonderful' Spanish trip

Over Easter, pupils enjoyed a trip to Murcia to hone their Spanish speaking skills and experience a different culture. Pupil Jussi Hill writes: "Our first full day started with a Spanish lesson, practising our ability to ask for items and ask how much. This would come in useful for the market later that day in Los Alcázares. The following day was my most

favourite when we visited Cartagena, a city which has been around for over 1,000 years.

"We learnt about its history as we toured the local Roman amphitheatre, only discovered in 1988 under a large block of flats. We were treated to a parade of Roman soldiers before a tour of the city, and bought delicious ice cream



Pupils swing into action to wow audiences

King's Senior pupils staged their famed annual 'King's Swings' concert this term, wowing a packed audience with rousing renditions of familiar jazz numbers including The Groove Master by Bob Mintzer; Blowing Hills, written by Rick Taylor and the iconic Birdland by Joe Zawinul.



Not to be outdone, King's Junior pupils won a string of top awards in the prestigious Alderley Edge Music Festival. The Year 6 Choir and the Junior Orchestra both won their categories. The adjudicator praised the choir's control, expressive harmony singing and clear diction.

Alison Lea said: "The children were simply stunning, singing

and playing intricate melodies and complex rhythms and displaying a wonderful sense of balance and ensemble."

In the individual categories Marianne Knuckey won the cello class, sister Corinna won both her classical and musical theatre vocal performances, Harriet Bright won the Grade 3 piano class, fellow pianist Oliver Pinches won silver in the Grade 1 piano class and Fraser Day won the woodwind/brass Grade 4/5 class and the Grade 5 piano class.

to Murcia

and souvenirs to take home. From Cartagena we drove to a large lighthouse which had been founded by order of Philip II of Spain only a few years before he launched his Armada against England, most likely to look out for pirates and Ottoman warships. The views from the top were breath-taking. We had a wonderful time and I hope many students sign up for next year!"



Goldsmith's Award for community work

King's pupils have been recognised for their charity, voluntary and environmental work and have qualified for the national final of the Goldsmith's Community Engagement Awards in London.

Their success at the regional heat came after each member of the King's team presented to a panel about how they had championed key causes throughout this year. Jemima Jordan spoke about the school's fundraising for the Hand on Heart Appeal to place defibrillators in all Macclesfield primary schools,



Rory McCabe outlined his 100km running challenge last year which raised £2,000 for Headway, Rebecca Foster talked about the school's eco initiatives, Olivia Holder discussed the annual Sixth Form Fashion Show, which has raised £50,000 for The Christie, and Sarah Abrahamse talked about the school's support for East Cheshire Hospice. Kieran Cullen recounted pupils' voluntary work with dementia patients at Macclesfield Hospital and Age UK.

The Goldsmith's judging panel stated: "We were impressed with the students' understanding of what they had learned from their community engagement activities, how these activities had changed their views on the world around them and their personal stories about how they felt they had changed the lives of others."

“**CHOOSE A JOB YOU LOVE, AND YOU WILL NEVER HAVE TO WORK A DAY IN YOUR LIFE.**
- CONFUSCIUS

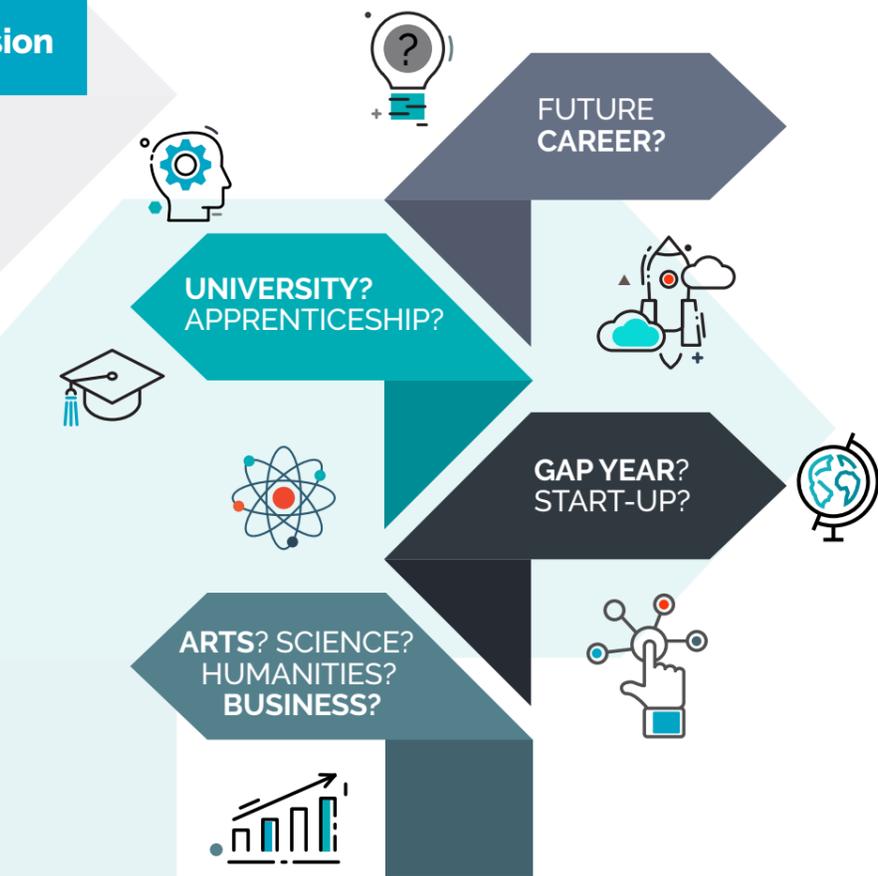
This is great advice, but how do our pupils ensure that they get a job that they love? There may be an element of luck, but early, sound planning will certainly help. That idea of planning ahead and creating your own future motivated Caroline Foster, King's Careers Officer, to apply for the role.

“It is a privilege to be able to support and guide the pupils on their next steps after school, to help them on the path towards choosing a job that they will love,” explains Caroline. “I don't recall receiving any careers advice when I was at school, we all either went to university or started work. Simple.

“Nowadays, the workplace is a dynamic, continuously evolving landscape which gives rise to endless opportunities. There is so much choice, from degrees, apprenticeships, school leaver programmes, vocational qualifications, starting your own business and gap years, that pupils need guidance as to the best route for them. It isn't always obvious and may be different from what their friends are doing.”

Caroline believes that early engagement by both pupils and parents is vital. She explains: “One of my key objectives is to extend access to our comprehensive online careers platform Unifrog to all pupils in Years 8-13. This is a brilliant system which, amongst many other things, enables pupils and parents to search for subjects and career options to inform their decision-making. It is a great opportunity for parents to support and encourage. You will be amazed what is available.”

Caroline is often asked by pupils and parents what they should be doing to prepare for the working world. She says: “My advice is that it is never too early to start thinking about your future.



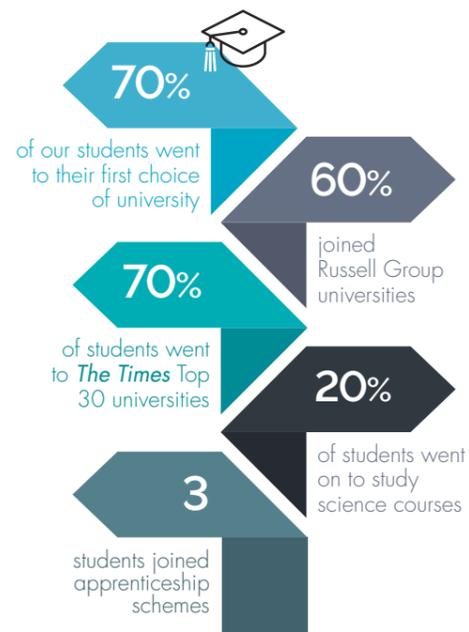
PLANNING your future

“Try to get as much work experience as possible. Often, you need to be able to demonstrate some experience just to get work experience so the earlier you start the easier it will become. All Year 10 pupils undertake a one week placement but I would advise pupils to try to build on this experience with further placements during the holidays in Years 11-13. It is an exciting world and, as Mahatma Gandhi said: ‘The future depends on what you do today’.”

Caroline is keen to broaden horizons and raise aspirations and feels one of the best ways is through our Speakers' Programme. She says: “Each term, we welcome visitors who come in to talk about their jobs in a range of fields – sometimes, pupils may feel that the speaker isn't necessarily relevant to the

path they hope to follow, but I would encourage all pupils to attend as they will always learn something relevant. Recently, Sean Threlfall from MMU gave an enlightening talk to Year 12 pupils on the opportunities offered by degree apprenticeships. Former pupil Alex Quinn also spoke passionately about the benefits of taking a gap year. She worked in an orphanage in Tanzania and became a qualified diving instructor in Thailand before starting her degree and then joining Rolls-Royce. We have also welcomed a diverse range of speakers including engineers, authors, publishers, lawyers and entrepreneurs. Next year, I will organise a full programme of speakers to visit school and share their experiences and industries with all pupils. Hopefully the

IN 2018...



TOP 15..

From Acting to Zoology, and everything in between, our students go on to study a wide range of subjects. Here are the **15 most popular courses...**

- 1 **SCIENCE** (Biol/Chem/Phys)
- 2 **BUSINESS**
- 3 **PSYCHOLOGY**
- 4 **ENGLISH** (Lit & Lang)
- 5 **GEOGRAPHY** (inc. Geology)
- 6 **MEDICINE/ VET/ DENTISTRY**
- 7 **ECONOMICS**
- 8 **ENGINEERING**
- 9 **POLITICS**
- 10 **FOREIGN LANGUAGES**
- 11 **LAW**
- 12 **HISTORY**
- 13 **COMPUTING**
- 14 **ART/DESIGN /GRAPHICS**
- 15 **ARCHITECTURE**



“**I AM KEEN TO BROADEN HORIZONS AND RAISE ASPIRATIONS.**
- CAROLINE FOSTER

pupils will find it inspirational and go home thinking “I want to do that!” During the summer term, as well as our Year 10s enjoying a week of work experience, we will support our Year 12s as they start their preparations for life after King's. We will hold our UCAS launch day in June to guide pupils through the university application process and they will visit Nottingham University in July to get a real insight into university life. We will also welcome a number of parents, governors and alumni who are coming

in to school to support our students through their university interviews and to provide first hand advice.
• If your child has any career-related queries, please encourage them to see Mrs Foster during her drop-in sessions:
Alan Cooper Library, Cumberland Street - Tuesday lunchtimes 1pm-2pm
Resource Centre, Fence Avenue - Wednesday lunchtimes 1pm-2pm
Pupils can also email her at caroline.foster@kingsmac.co.uk.

Sponsorship deal for cricketers

Macclesfield law firm SAS Daniels has signed a three-year sponsorship deal to support King's cricket. SAS Daniels Head of Employment & Education, Steve Foster, said: "King's cricket has been at the heart of Macclesfield sport for over 100 years and SAS Daniels is delighted to be part of their team both for this season and as they move to their spectacular new setting from 2020."

Under former county pace bowler AJ Harris and former Cheshire player Steve Moores, the First XI are aiming for a strong season. They boast four county players with Captain Angus Thomson and opener Joey Chong both having played for Cheshire and leg spinner Harry Elms and left-hand bat George Holden having played for Derbyshire. Alderley Edge second XI fast bowler Will Fosbrook will spearhead the attack with his nippy swing and seam.



Athletics successes

In May, pupils produced some fantastic performances in the Macclesfield & District Athletics Championships.

The Intermediate Girls' (Year 10) team were 1st and Junior Girls' (Year 8-9) team finished in 2nd place, while both the Intermediate and Junior boys' teams returned victorious as area champions. Several athletes qualified to represent Macclesfield at the Cheshire Schools' Athletics Championships in June. We look forward to Tom and Sam Danson's performances in the long jump, and Phil Goodfellow in the 1500m.

In the ESAA Schools' Cup competition, both Junior and Intermediate girls' team won the competition while the Intermediate boys' came third and the Junior boys' came second amongst tough competition. All progressed to the North West Regional Finals in June, at which they will compete against the best athletes in the North West, with the winners proceeding on to the National Finals in July. Individually, there were some great results: Claudia Rodriguez-Martinez and Sophie Fletcher achieved outstanding results in the 100m and 75m hurdles, and the Danson brothers amassed 40+ points each.

Rugby triumphs

King's U16 squad (pictured) triumphed in the Stonyhurst Sevens, one of the country's top sevens tournaments. In the earlier rounds, King's beat Bolton Grammar School, St Mary's Crosby, Lancaster Grammar School and Kirkby Lonsdale, holding off The London Oratory with a solid 21 - 14 win the semi-final before facing Manchester Grammar School in the final, with a 26 - 17 win. King's U18s also had a good tournament, but were stopped at the semi-finals by The London Oratory team.

King's Year 8 rugby squad also put in a brilliant set of winning performances to remain unbeaten at the world-renowned Rosslyn Park National Sevens Tournament. The U13 side won all five of their group matches in the waterfall competition. Just one week after the competition, the U13 squad went on tour to Cardiff to play matches at the famous Cardiff Arms Park Stadium and train at the University of South Wales' indoor 3G pitch.



Fantastic five selected for region

A fantastic five King's girls were selected for the England Hockey Elite Performance Centre Development programme. Lottie Dennet, Izzy Moores and Flossie Blackwell made the grade at U17 level, even though they are all still only 15, while Scarlett Brough and Lara Tabachnik, who are both 14, were selected at U15 level. The girls are now in one of 17 regional centres of excellence, aiming for selection for the North of England squads.



Over Easter, Lara went to Rotterdam to represent the UK Lions Hockey Team. The team played a friendly against the Central Holland National U14s team before playing in a three-day tournament against teams from the Netherlands, Belgium and Germany.

The UK Lions won their group and went on to finish 5th overall. Lara will also play in another international tournament in July and in Belfast in August for the UK Lions.

The girls are part of two very strong King's teams: the U14 team, which reached the North of England Finals and the U15s, which reached the county finals.

Equestrian squad qualify



King's equestrian squad competed in the Inter-Schools Grass Roots Show Jumping Qualifier. Emma Coope, Sam

Burns and Ella Bray competed in the 60cm class, coming in second place as a team. Ella placed individually in third place and Emma in fifth place. They went on to compete individually in the 70cm class, which Ella won. Emma and Ella then went on to the 75cm class, with Ella winning the class outright and Emma coming second. The team has now qualified for the 60 cm show jumping Regional Championships in December and Ella has also qualified individually in the 70 cm class.

National Champion

Jake O'Donnell has taken the orienteering competition season by storm, winning two major titles in just a number of weeks.

In the Jan Kjellstrom (UK) Championships, Jake returned as U14 UK Sprint Orienteering Champion. Of equal importance was the British Long Distance Orienteering Championships held in the Yorkshire Dales in early May, which Jake also won. Competing over 6km of limestone clad moors, Jake triumphed by just 14 seconds over his arch rival. Jake now holds 8 of the 9 major Orienteering titles, and was one of the youngest competitors in many of the events.



National Trampoline Champions



King's produced a set of stunning results in the National Schools' Championships. The Senior boys' team of Harry Pinches, Harry

Collett and Harry Wallace won the coveted gold medals in the Elite event, while there were a remarkable five second places, one third and one fourth place in the team events, with Vicky Theaker placing third individually.

King's was selected for a national recognition award for the most pupils to qualify into the National Finals and for having 50 competitors qualify for the North of Britain Zonals earlier in the season.

Record turnout for Gala Dinner



In March, there was a record turnout of 170 former pupils and staff for the annual Gala Dinner. Many took the opportunity to look around their former classrooms and browse through the archives ahead of a fabulous three-course meal.

Many attendees had travelled from across the country, with one,

David Fox, coming from California. The event raised £4,000 for the school's Bursary Fund and was sponsored by VINCI Construction.

Former Head of the Sixth Form Tim Andrews said: "Of all the schools I worked in around the country, what really sets King's apart is the incredible warmth former pupils maintain for this school."

Alumni Isabelle highlights Planet In Peril

In April, former pupil Isabelle Kenyon visited school to talk to pupils about her publishing business Fly on the Wall Press, which is "a publisher with a conscience". Isabelle spoke to pupils about her poetry and photography competition titled 'Planet In Peril', from which she will create an anthology of works including photography of endangered species and ecosystems, with poetry designed to increase public awareness of the complex issues surrounding climate change. Isabelle explains: "Planet in Peril calls for people to respond to the latest climate change research, statistics and scientific discoveries, to present science through the Arts and highlight the fate of our future through a new and exciting educational medium."

She added: "I feel very passionate about engaging young people in creative writing and am keen to inspire young people to put pen to paper."

- Isabelle's website is: www.flyonthewallpoetry.co.uk



DIARY DATES

Over 60s Lunch Club
Thursday 6 June, 12noon | Sutton Hall | £20pp

Manchester Drinks
Thursday 13 June, 6pm | Cloud 23 | £15pp

Alan McInnes Bursary Golf Day
Friday 5 July | Macclesfield Golf Club | £200 per team

Alumni Rounders Tournament
Saturday 6 July, 10.30am | Fence Avenue | BYO Picnic & Prosecco

Alumni Netball Tournament
Saturday 7 September, 10am | Cumberland Street

London Drinks
Thursday 17 October, 6pm | Browns Courtrooms, Covent Garden | £15pp

Alumni Open Day (Cumberland Street)
Saturday 28 March, 2020

To book or for more information, please email former.pupils@kingmac.co.uk

Rory's Million Metre Challenge



A group of 16 teenage philanthropists have so far raised £4,000 for the Young Minds Trust with their 'The Million Metre Challenge'. The brain child of Rory McCabe, who recruited 15 of his friends and his

younger brother, saw each of them run 100km in the month of April. Rory explains: "I chose to raise funds for Young Minds Trust because mental health is a big issue and we must all learn about the complexity of the problems young people face."

King's Deputy Head, Paul Cooper, said: "It's fantastically heartwarming to see how many young people have rallied round Rory's cause. He's a young man on a mission with the power to persuade."

If you would like to support them, please see: justgiving.com/fundraising/mind-million-metre

Kindness helps Children at Chester Hospital

Alex and James Price have donated their mini Tesla car to the Countess of Chester Hospital, so that children can drive themselves for operations and investigations.



Tesla Owners UK came up with the idea of donating their Mini Tesla Model S cars to local hospitals. The idea is supported by Tesla founder and CEO Elon Musk, who is matching owner's donations. The boys will shortly donate the matched car to Crewe Hospital.

Alex and James' father gave his sons the choice between keeping the mini car or donating it. Alex and James said: "Our dad told us about how Tesla owners were donating their mini cars to hospitals. We saw the difference they made to the children and we knew it was the right thing to do."

Dad Tim added: "Taking the car to Chester Hospital was a very humbling experience and it was clear how much this means to them and the children."

Mrs Cookson, Principal of King's Infants & Juniors, said: "We all feel very proud of Alex and James. Gestures like these not only affect so many, but also demonstrate a real kindness and humanity – rich characteristics we value hugely at King's."

Samuel Andresen, who gained a Distinction for his Grade 8 Singing exam.

Albert Bogdan, Charlie Kay and **Stevie Whittaker**, who qualified for the Northern Gigafinal of the Delancy UK Chess Challenge and **Simon Trier**, who has qualified for the national Terafinal.

Fiona Beeston, who gained a Merit for her Grade 8 Singing exam.

Sebastian Bye and **Eve Carter**, who passed their Grade 6 Flute exams.

Leo Burns, Charlie Kaye, Christian Smith, Joe Moores and **Joey Chong**, who have been selected for the Cheshire Cricket Squads.

William Cann, who is now a North West Point One Tennis Champion.

Alexander Campbell, who gained a Pass for his Grade 8 Bass Trombone exam.

Thomas Danson, who secured a place in the final round of the Merchant Taylors' Photography Competition.

Aisling Day, who gained a Distinction and **Daisy Holden**, who gained a Merit, in their Grade 8 Piano exams.

Lucy Dennis, who has been placed in the top 10 for British Equestrian Eventing.

Dylan Eldershaw, who won the U14 category of the Hazel Grove Music Competition.

Emily Friston, who passed Grade 7 and **Jasmine England**, who passed Grade 8 Singing exams.

Peter Goodfellow, who has qualified for County Cross Country.

Eryn Gravett, who won the Cheshire County Ladies Golf Association Spring Stableford Junior competition and also won both rounds of the Mid-Cheshire League Junior League Team Competition.

Toby Gray, who gained a Merit for his Grade 7 Flute exam.

Reece Grady, who has been selected for the National Swimming Squad.

Billy Griffiths and **Will Ridgway**, who represented Cheshire RFC U15s and U17s respectively.

Owen Jones and **Gus Fiennes**, who represented the Independent Schools Lambs on their Tour of South Africa.

Jamie Pearce, who gained a Distinction in his Grade 4 Musical Theatre Singing Examination.

Josephine Whiteley, who gained a Merit for her Grade 6 Piano exam.

Former pupils **Cameron Redpath** and **Teddy Leatherbarrow**, who will represent England and Scotland respectively at the World Rugby U20 Championships in Argentina. Cameron was also selected for the England Rugby tour of South Africa.