



The Foundation of King Edward VI

or

The King's School in Macclesfield, Cheshire

Founded by Sir John Percyvale, Kt,
by his Will dated 25th January, 1502-03.
Re-established by Charter of King Edward VI,
dated 26th April, 1552.

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Messrs Daniels, County Chambers, 6 Chestergate, Macclesfield

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Head of Foundation's Report

I am delighted to report that King's is on a high at the moment. In addition to the superb academic successes we have celebrated this year there are also significant achievements to report in many other fields of endeavour. A world champion sailor, a National Champion Fly Fisherman, a Great Britain horse rider, and national champions at Trampoline, are to be found amongst the many sporting successes in our midst, whilst the number of County representatives is too great to itemise in this summary. King's is demonstrably fulfilling its aim of achieving exemplary standards both within and beyond the classroom.

Every year, I seem to report on a Royal Visit to King's and this year was no exception, as the Earl of Wessex met school officers whilst making a visit to the Learning Zone in June.

The end of the academic year is a time to say farewell to retiring teachers. stalwarts such as Mr Geoff Laurence, who came to King's in 1978 and was Senior Tutor and Senior Subject Teacher for Mathematics; Mr Peter Murray, Head of History; Mrs Gill Taylor, English teacher and Head of House; Mr Alan McInnes, sports coach; and Mrs Gill Green, Senior Subject Teacher for French, all retired at the end of the academic year and we wish them well for the future. King's is very grateful to them for all

that they have done for the school.

King's has had another splendid year academically and I would like to congratulate the staff and the pupils on their achievements. At A level, two out of every five results (40%) were A grades and the pass rate was again 100%. The percentage of A/B grades was 71%, close to the School record. George Morrissey achieved five A grades via four A levels and an AS level; 11 pupils obtained 4 A grades, and one quarter of the year group produced 3 A grades or better. These are truly superb achievements. At GCSE, 57% of grades were A* or A which is a school record. Joschka Roffe in the Boys' Division gained 11 A*s and Sarah Regan, James Boardman and Rosie Jacot obtained 10 A* grades. Sarah also obtained another A grade and, with Lydia Rex and Hope Ward, produced 11 A/A* grades. Tom Waters achieved 12 GCSEs, mostly at A/A*. Nearly 50 pupils obtained 9 A/A* grades, another remarkable achievement.

These statistics constitute a proper tribute to the effort of all the pupils involved but none of these successes would be possible without the commitment of the teaching staff. We

all know that they work constantly on lesson preparation and marking, but it is the time that is sacrificed at lunchtime, after school, at weekends and during holidays, that makes King's the remarkable place that it is. Acting upon the simple philosophy that happy pupils do well, staff give unstintingly of their time to enhance and promote pupils' learning. In this respect, I am also indebted to the Senior Management Team, for their hard work on behalf of our pupils, their commitment, good humour and, most importantly, their patience with me and my many shortcomings.

Finally, I would like to mention the Quincentenary Bursary Scheme, a pet project of mine. It has raised more than a third of a million pounds in just six years and is now helping over a dozen pupils in the Sixth Form. This scheme predates the current desire to demonstrate a public benefit but is very pertinent in that respect. King's has always seen its place as being at the heart of the community and is demonstrating that in concrete terms. If you wish to know more about this scheme, or what King's contributes to the community, please contact my office and we will send you details of all that we offer. Indeed, I will be amazed if the content of these pages does not convince you that King's has an important role to play, not only within Macclesfield, but far beyond.



Hail ...

Welcome to the following members of staff who joined King's during the academic year 2007-2008.

Mrs Anne Alderson joined Margaret Gartside as a Learning Enhancement Coordinator. She graduated in English and Drama at Aberystwyth University and worked for many years as a Special Needs Teacher at Highfields in Stockport. She also runs courses in secondary schools in Anger Management, Social Skills, Self-Esteem, Life Skills, Problem Solving and Study Skills.

Mr Peter Allen joined us as a full-time Sports Coach. He has played professional rugby for Sale Sharks and currently plays for Macclesfield RUFC 1st XV. He has recently been working as a Community Rugby Coach for the Rugby Football Union and enjoys most sports, including cricket, football, tennis and skiing.

Mrs Catherine Bailey joined the Infant Staff replacing Fiona Williams. She graduated in Psychology from Liverpool University and had been working as a supply teacher for Cheshire County Council. Her interests include history, archaeology, theatre and walking.

Mrs Angela Balcombe previously taught at Poynton High School where she left her post as Head of Biology and Assistant Head of Year to replace Jo White in the Biology Department. She also teaches at Sunday School and organises a Reading Club.

Jane Chapman joined the library working part-time providing Administration Support both at Fence Avenue and Cumberland Street libraries.

Miss Elena De Maine joined the Junior School staff upon the retirement of Linda Turner. She is a History graduate from Lancaster University and previously taught for two years at Stonyhurst. She plays the piano, organ and violin and enjoys netball, sailing, kayaking and athletics.

Dr Sue Embrey joined us as a Science Technician in Physics. She graduated with a BSc and PhD in Pharmacy and previously worked as a pharmacist and also worked in Australia.

Mr Christophe Fico joined the Modern Languages Department, replacing Chris Randell as a French Teacher. He is a French native and has been living in England since 1998. He taught for six years at Westhoughton High School and worked as a researcher for the Channel 4 programme, *A Place in the Sun*. His interests include travelling, reading and keeping fit.

Mrs Gwen Goodings joined the English Department as a part-time member of staff. She graduated in Humanities from Huddersfield Polytechnic and took her PGCE in English with Drama at Leeds University. She enjoys walking, horse-riding, skiing and football and is the founder member of a Book Club.

Richard Harding joined the Junior Division's Year 3 team having recently gained his PGCE from Liverpool Hope University. During the Summer Term 2008, he gained valuable experience in the division as a temporary Junior Teaching Assistant in the absence of Mrs Judi Williams, who herself was on her teaching practice at the time. He is looking forward eagerly to his first teaching post. Richard enjoys sport and is a Tae-Kwon Do black belt instructor.

Mrs Sarah Hearn joined the Foundation Office as a Telephonist/Administrative Assistant. A Geography and History graduate, she worked for John Lewis as a Customer Services Assistant for two years. Her interests include keeping fit, walking, travelling and cooking, as well as supporting her sons in their sports.

Mrs Sarah Heginbotham joined us as a Lab Technician at the Fence Avenue site. She graduated in Biology from the University of Paisley.

Mr Robin Jackson left his post at Fallibroome High School to replace Liz Pentreath as Head of Religion and Philosophy. He graduated from Manchester University in Comparative Religion. He has travelled extensively and has previously led three expeditions for students to Northern India and Thailand. He is learning the Tibetan language in his spare time.

The Modern Languages Faculty has been delighted to welcome **Atsuko Koido**, who has started to teach Japa-

nese within the sixth form. She is an experienced language teacher and has worked in secondary schools both in her native Japan and also in England. Students are finding the study of the language fascinating and Atsuko has done much to give a cultural flavour to these sessions.

Mrs Rebecca Murphy joined the Girls' and Junior Divisions as a School Nurse. She previously worked as a senior staff nurse at Wythenshawe Hospital. To keep herself fit she is a keen member of a tap dancing class and her local gym.

Mrs Tracey Newton joined the ICT department running the newly created IT support desk. She joined us having previously worked at Astra Zeneca. Tracey is also a qualified Nail and Beauty Technician.

Ms Joanne Reynolds joined the Cumberland Street Biology Department as a Technician on the retirement of Ann Walker. She has a degree in Anatomical Sciences and worked as a Science Technician at Wilmslow High School. She enjoys sport, particularly tennis and travel.

Mrs Liz Rosenfield joined the Learning Enhancement team, providing support for pupils working alongside Margaret Gartside. She graduated from Crewe & Alsager with a BEd in Special Education.

Miss Victoria Smalley joined the Modern Languages Department as a Spanish and French Teacher. She graduated in French and Hispanic Studies from the University of Nottingham. She was already familiar with King's, having spent her last PGCE placement here. She also spent a year in Spain as an English Language Assistant and likes travelling, reading and dancing.

Mrs Elizabeth Taylor joined the school as System Administrator looking after the information on the Database and managing Assessments and Reports. She previously worked at Knutsford High School as Exam Officer and System Administrator. She graduated from Bristol University in Geography and has an MSc from Cranfield Institute of Technology.

Mrs Debbie Threlfall became an additional member of the Art and

Hail & Farewell

Design Department to job share with Rachel Richards on her return from maternity leave. She joined us from All Hallows School where she was Acting Head of Department and Art Teacher. She graduated in Textiles from West Surrey College and her interests include her own art work, design commissions, gardening and cinema.

Tom Bamford joined the Sports Department for the Autumn term as a part-time Rugby Coach.

David Thomson joined the school as a Games Coach, coaching rugby and cricket.

In October, we welcomed **Anastasia Gremm** as a German Language Assistant and **Julien Toury** who returned as a French Language Assistant. Three new Gap Year students joined the Foundation in January 2008, replacing Lize Maartens, Alex Nicholson and Scott Rees. They were **Andrew Caddy** from Australia, **James Hyman** from South Africa and **Annabelle Matthews** from Australia. They have worked, and played, with gusto, with all the students in every Division.

... and Farewell

Natalie Frith

Natalie Frith spent two years in the Girls' Division acting as note taker. This is not an easy role, as it requires invisibility in the classroom and 100% concentration. Natalie carried out the role in a very professional manner and became a valuable mentor to many girls in Year 11. She mixed well with the staff and entered into the life of the Girls' Division with enthusiasm. Natalie also contributed to our after school care with the Junior members of the Foundation. We wish her well.

Fran Gathercole

Fran Gathercole was appointed as School Nurse at King's in May 2005, though her connections with the school as both a parent and a valued member of Friends of King's pre-date this. Fran contributed several ideas to the department and has tended to many sick and injured pupils at Fence Avenue. We wish her all the best for the future.

Gwen Goodings

Gwen Goodings arrived at King's in September having taught previously at Glossopdale Community College in Derbyshire. From day one, her enthusiasm for the subject was obvious, and she has inspired students of all age groups. Gwen's dedication towards her classes has been tireless and the English Department wish her every success in her new post at St Joseph's Catholic School in Wiltshire.

Gill Green

We said goodbye in July 2008 to Gill Green. Gill first came to King's in 1993 and worked initially at Cumberland Street before accepting the post of Senior Subject Teacher at Fence Avenue in 1996. She had previously worked in several prestigious schools, including a spell as Head of Modern Languages at Sale Girls' Grammar School and Wilmslow High School. Her enthusiasm for French, which she fostered in the Girls' Division, was evident in the wonderful displays of work and photographs from trips. She set up the exchange with the Collège Beauregard in La Rochelle and ran it, with Martine Govin, for most of its eleven years. Gill was also well known to those running the chic clothing boutiques and shoe shops of the town and St Martin on the Ile de Ré. She would always make an impression; on one occasion buying nearly the entire stock of one shoe shop and on another asking a colleague to stand guard and redirect a cinema queue so she could carefully remove a recent film poster without arousing suspicion. Gill's dedication to the teaching and learning of French never stopped at the door of F10 - Gill always went the extra mile to help support learners in difficulty or to foster interest in, for example, drama in French. As Gill ascends to the dizzy heights of responsibility for GCSE French with AQA, we wish her well in all her future endeavours.

Ann Hunt

Ann joined us as a Lab Technician in the Girls' Division, having graduated in Chemistry with Applied Physics from Manchester Metropolitan University. She left to have her baby and to return to academic study.

Andrew Knowles

We say farewell to Andrew Knowles, the D&T technician for the past seven years. Andrew was an exceptionally

skilled craftsman who was able to turn his hand to almost anything. He was a wonderful colleague to work with, always willing to make suggestions and contribute to the work of the department and of the school. Our successful year 5 Taster Day would be nothing without Andrew's vision and hard work in setting up. He leaves to take up another technician's post at Abraham Moss School which is much closer to his home. We wish him well for the future.

Geoff Laurence

Geoff retires this term after over 100 terms in the profession, 90 of which he spent in the service of King's School. Geoff has been an unwavering yardstick for maintaining standards; needless to say, he has been a tremendous asset to the Maths department. An outstanding academician and experienced examiner, he also ran the chess club virtually single-handed from the heady days of inter-school competitions in Manchester, to the hotly contested inter-house competitions of today. For a number of years, he did sterling service as Sixth Form Head of Year during a crucial time in that role's inception. Outside, Geoff has devoted many long hours as cricket coach and umpire throughout his time here. Those taught by this extraordinary teacher, will understand as we say farewell to Higgle and Fortescue – we shall never know their like again.

Alan McInnes

Alan left King's for the third time this summer, having contributed in a very significant manner in each of his periods at the school. He first arrived in January 1955 as a 13 year-old and quickly showed his sporting ability. He progressed to captain both the Rugby and Cricket teams for two years each, an accomplishment only achieved by one other pupil, F A Jones.

Alan went to Loughborough College to gain his teaching diploma before returning to King's in 1964 as a PE teacher. He remained at the school for 5 years before moving to Marple Hall School as Head of the Physical Education department, where he taught for 28 years. During this period, Alan both played and coached sport at a very high level. He represented Sale at Rugby Union and played League for both Salford and Warrington, reaching the Challenge

Cup final with Salford. In the summers, he played cricket for Macclesfield and Cheshire. Luckily, Alan has boundless enthusiasm and energy and always gave freely of his time in taking school teams. After his playing days were finished, he coached Rugby League at both Salford and Wigan, in his final two seasons taking the latter to the Challenge Cup final at Wembley.

After Alan took early retirement from Marple in 1997, King's was very fortunate to acquire his vast knowledge and experience as a Rugby and Cricket coach. In this final segment of his King's career, he coached the Under 13 teams in both sports. Not only were the teams he took almost always successful, they enjoyed themselves as he imparted a great love of the sports. Always approachable, friendly, and helpful, not only to the pupils but staff as well, his (possibly) final eleven year stint at the school was greatly appreciated by all with whom he came into contact. We wish him well for the future.

Alison Madley

We say farewell to Alison Madley, a former King's School Sixth Form pupil, who spent part of her Gap Year with us. She joined the day after sitting her last A Level examination, to cover Ann Hunt's maternity leave as a Science Technician at Fence Avenue. She quickly fitted into the role of Chemistry, Physics and General Science Technician and even stepped into the breach to cover Biology duties for half a term, as well as putting her considerable IT skills to good use.

When Ann decided not to return, Alison put off a trip to New Zealand, and a chance to feature in the filming of *The Hobbit*, in order to continue with technician duties until a permanent replacement could be found. Alison proved to be one of the best technicians King's has had. She showed a maturity way beyond her years in coping with the demands of the job and was always cheerful, resourceful and reliable. We wish her every success in her Physiotherapy Degree course.

Liz Mitchell

Liz arrived at King's in September 1998 and completed almost a decade before moving out of teaching to work as an accounts manager for Serco. Her teaching career was the meat in the sandwich, having returned to

working in the computing industry where she was employed for many years prior to 1998. During her time at King's, Liz was a significant member of the ICT department, delivering primarily 'A' levels in ICT & Computing and then later on ECDL. Though part time, Liz was often asked to take extra classes and her willingness to put herself out for her pupils' benefit was indicative of Liz's personality. She was a gentle, caring and highly professional work colleague and is a loss to the teaching profession. Amongst the staff, Liz's talent for winning national quizzes and competitions was renowned. Whilst at King's she won an open-top sports car, numerous holidays abroad, several computers and games consoles, tickets to every conceivable concert or play, as well as a year's supply of toilet paper.

Ironically, as she takes up her role as Serco account manager for numerous schools in the NW of England, she will notice a certain King's School Macclesfield amongst that list. We wish her well in all her future endeavours.

Peter Murray

Peter Murray taught at King's for 22 years, during which time he taught History and Politics, was Head of General Studies, a Sixth Form tutor and, for the past eight years, Head of History. During this time, Peter led a great number of History trips and his trips to the World War One Battlefields and London's HMS Belfast have become legendary. Peter has always been very popular with the pupils, amongst whom he is affectionately known as "Muzzer". Despite his gruff manner, Peter devoted his career to educating and caring for the pupils in his charge. A Scholar of Trinity College Cambridge, his sharp wit and wealth of knowledge rarely missed a trick. Peter inspired a generation and, infected by his passionate enthusiasm for the subject, many pupils went on to study History at University. All at King's wish him well for the future.

Richard Nolan

Richard joined the history department covering a staff absence. We wish him well for the future.

Anne Rivers

Anne joined the staff at King's Juniors in 1999. She taught mainly in Years 4, 5 and 6 during which time she coordinated the teaching of Geography.

She took the role of Academic Head for a number of years before stepping down in 2006 and she left King's in December 2007 to take up another post in London. We wish her well for the future.

Mark Seccombe

Mark Seccombe joined the school in September 2004, a graduate of Southampton University where he studied Management and French. Mark was an outstanding teacher and worked hard to ensure that all students in his care performed to the best of their ability. During his time at King's, he organized many trips in the Economics and Business Department and ran the Pro-share competition which encouraged students to pay attention to the workings of the Stock Market.

Mark was appointed to the role of Head of PSHE and he managed this curriculum area with efficiency, introducing several improvements. Mark was an expert with ICT and developed a departmental website, whilst also providing INSET training to staff on the use of ICT in lessons.

Mark leaves King's to read for a Masters degree at Sheffield University and we wish him every success with the next stage in his career.

Gill Taylor

Gill Taylor joined King's in January 1989, after Bill Smith walked off into the sunset during the October half term of 1988. Thankfully, Gill did not follow suit and King's benefited from the energy and enthusiasm she brought to all areas of school life. Whilst at King's, Gill was a form tutor, a year group head, an amusing and entertaining compère at the charity fashion show, and provided tea and comfort at athletics meets. In addition, alongside Mr Percival, Gill was instrumental in re-establishing the House system at Cumberland Street, devising a raft of memorable competitions.

Gill worked tirelessly to create valuable resources which engaged all students whilst High Impact teaching was a regular fixture in her classroom. Gill's ICT skills also shone when designing covers for Reading Logs and Sponsored Read forms and Gill won awards for her inventive embedding of ICT in English lessons. In 2006, the website Teachit recognised the value of her Shakespeare lesson resources.

Many students were spurred on by Gill's teaching, to read more widely,

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to turn their hand to writing for pleasure and to study English at university. She encouraged at least one former pupil to join the profession: David Harbord, Head of Media Studies at New Mills School, attributes his love of English to her lessons.

Gill's ideas, her love of literature and her sense of humour are other qualities that have made an impression on those who have worked with her. Never one to be lost for words, a conversation with Gill could range from the art of the Romantic poets, via what Sylvia Plath's poem *Mushrooms* really is about, to advice on the best way to wash a penguin.

Gill Taylor is a King's icon and we wish her well in her new ventures.

Dr Janet West

Janet worked at King's for a number of years, contributing far more to the Maths department than many part-time staff could have done. In particular, her expertise in ICT has been extremely valuable in taking forward the department's use and understanding of this part of the subject. Her cheerful, friendly demeanour has been a feature in both staffrooms

and she will be sorely missed. We all wish her the very best in her new life post-King's.

Judi Williams

Mrs Judi Williams joined King's Infants on its first day in September 1997 as a Teaching Assistant in Year 1. She subsequently moved on to Year 2 before becoming the first Junior School Teaching Assistant in 2005. She developed this new role successfully over the past three years and supported many children who have found their learning to be difficult, always with an encouraging word and sensible advice. A significant legacy of her work was the transformation of the Junior 'portacabin' into the colourful and welcoming Junior School Library which is now such an important part of the School's environment. She recently qualified as a teacher, fulfilling her wishes by securing a part-time teaching job. She will no doubt be as resourceful and inspirational in her new role as she was at King's Junior Division and we wish her well for the future.



Valete

Horace Hurrell

The death of Horace Hurrell closed a long chapter in King's history. Affectionately known to all by his first name, Horace served at King's for 47 years and thousands of former pupils will remember him.

Horace began his working life with an apprenticeship at Ernest Scraggs before joining the Royal Navy. He encountered active service during the Second World War, keeping landing and assault craft operational throughout the campaign in the Mediterranean. Horace joined King's after the war, served under three headmasters, and brought his considerable expertise and knowledge into service as a maintenance engineer, a demanding and varied role which he discharged in an exemplary manner.

Since his arrival at King's in 1946, no maintenance task was found to be beyond Horace's creative resources, whilst many significant improvements were accomplished by him and his department. As new buildings were added and more specialized services installed, he extended his expertise to embrace them, carrying in his head an encyclopaedic knowledge of the physical resources and services on the school premises.

Horace's commitment to King's extended beyond the narrow confines of his departmental duties. School plays rested upon his support backstage; social events were enhanced by his skill as a barman; school dances relied upon his fearless guardianship of the door and the expulsion of gate-crashers, whilst generations of staff and boys have recognized and depended upon his knowledge, skill and advice, always willingly given. In the best sense of the term, Horace was a most loyal servant of King's, his devotion and commitment were unstinting.



Gill Taylor

Art & Design

It has been a tremendously busy and exciting year in the Art Department, with lots of new opportunities and regular events taking place.

In September, approximately forty Year 11 Art students from the Boys' and Girls' divisions visited the Yorkshire Sculpture Park, particularly to see the work of Antony Gormley, but also viewing some of the permanent collection by sculptors like Henry Moore, Barbara Hepworth and Elizabeth Frink. The park was showcasing the largest retrospective ever of environmental sculptor Andy Goldsworthy's work and it was a tremendous opportunity for the students to see so many pieces all in one place. Students were able to spend time, up close, studying and drawing from Goldsworthy's work in the Underground Gallery and were impressed by the sheer size and proportions of the works, all created from natural materials like twigs, branches and stone.

All of the students explored the outdoor exhibition spaces. Although time was limited and the weather was cold and windy, they came home with a wealth of ideas to be developed into their own coursework sculptures.

In December, Mrs Taylor co-ordinated the first Staff Art Exhibition, in which many of the talented staff employed at King's showed their work. The range of art on display was vast and unusual, covering disciplines such as painting, ceramics, photography, textiles, glass and woodcarving.

The private viewing was a delightful evening set in the Sixth Form Centre and the exhibition was accompanied by some excellent music provided by the Sixth Form musicians, which enhanced the ambience of the evening. This was a tremendous success and it is very much hoped that it is now to become a permanent part of the King's calendar of events.

In January, three students had work selected for exhibition at the Lowry in Manchester as part of an exhibition of work by students from independent schools sponsored by *Living Edge* magazine. It was a great experience for the students to see their work in such a prestigious location and they were awarded prizes of art materials for their efforts. The students participating were Jessica Hodgson, Rory Clifford and Emma Mohammed. During the spring term, the A level artists and staff spent a day in London taking in some of the exhibitions that the capital had to offer to gather information for their own work. They visited the Tate Modern to see the Marcel Duchamp and Man Ray exhibition and new works by Juan Munoz. At the V&A, the students spent time in the History of Costume gallery and had the opportunity to take in a spectacular exhibition showcasing the best works in contemporary design for the stage, including set design and costume. The result of their research was in evidence in their end of year show.

Also during the spring term, students worked with the Drama de-

partment on the set and costumes for *Ramayana*. The design utilised dramatic eastern influences and we had tremendous fun in particular, costuming the Monkey King and his followers! It was a visual feast and the artists enjoyed giving the support to Drama to create another highly professional production.

In March, 11 students from Year 10 were selected for a Gifted and Talented course at the Conway Centre in Anglesey. They spent four days drawing, painting and sculpting in and around the centre, alongside the best GCSE art students from across the county and had the opportunity to work with a host of practising artists. The pupils who attended were given their own exhibition at the end of the year alongside the A level students and this will be followed next year by a show at the Visual Arts Centre in Winsford.

In June, the Year 11 students were lucky enough to be able to visit the exhibition of Gustav Klimt's work at the Tate in Liverpool. The exhibition was fully booked for most of the year, as it has been a very long time since any of Klimt's work has been available for public viewing in this country and here the students were able to see all of his major works including one from his series for 'The Kiss', 'The Three Ages of Woman' and the recreation of his 'Beethoven Frieze'. The students were bowled over by what they saw and the work that was gathered on the day will be in strong evidence in their GCSE work next year.

The examination students at both GCSE and A level celebrated their achievements at the end of their respective courses with their end of year shows. The GCSE girls had a fabulous evening at Fence Avenue and the boys had their show in the Kent Block. The A level students took over both the Kent Block and the entire Sixth Form Centre with their shows: the events were very well attended and were a great end to the year for the students, all of whom had worked very hard.

The final event in the art calendar was the annual Year 12 trip to Trigonos in Snowdonia for four days of painting and drawing ready for the A2 course. The weather was mixed, as usual, but not as continually wet as it had been in previous years and the students produced some excellent work using locations such as Dorothea Quarry, Snowdonia itself and the Nantlle Valley. We were also



lucky enough to be given a charcoal-making workshop so that students can now manufacture their own drawing materials. It was our 8th year of running this trip and the students and staff never fail to be astounded by the tremendous creative possibilities that this area of Wales offers to artists. The ideas that were originated on the trip will be developed into their final major projects next year.

The year finished with three of our A level artists being selected from amongst hundreds from across the county to attend the Cheshire Gifted students' trip to Italy. The students, Olivia Howick, Gemma Lord and Wangui Wanjau, all from Year 12, had to be interviewed for their place by Pauline Harrison, the Art Advisor for Cheshire, and she was enormously impressed by their talent. They spent the summer preparing for a ten day visit to Tuscany in October 2008, and we look forward to reporting on their trip next year.

DI

Biology

At the end of the Summer Term we had to say goodbye to Ann Walker who had been our technician for eight years and we wondered how we might cope. However, we were so fortunate to gain the talents of Jo Reynolds, a graduate in Anatomical Sciences from Manchester University (2005), and she has swiftly become a fount of wisdom and practical design. It is no mean feat to be able to put

your hand on the required equipment in an instant in a biology dept.

The start of the year saw the introduction of a new syllabus and the team worked hard to prepare new materials for the course. This was significantly enhanced by the impact teaching activities introduced by Alan Jervis on the INSET training day.

Biology has become a very popular subject with 80 students choosing to take it up for the next year and hence we had to pull Helen Broadley back from Psychology to provide sufficient teaching staff.

Bio clubs continue to be well supported and we had trips out to the local forest and the Bollin Valley, making contacts with local ecological partnerships.

Nine A level students went to see the Body Worlds Exhibition at Manchester Museum and Dr Lancaster and Dr Pattison enjoyed a canapé reception for Prof Gunther Von Hagens, the originator of the plastination technique on display.

The Lower Sixth had a very successful visit to Nowgen, an organisation that provides educational opportunities for the study of DNA and Genetic engineering. This was most useful and provided a vital part of the input for the AS module.

Ten students undertook the new online Bio Olympiad and George Morrissey and Chris Mysko gained Bronze awards.

The GCSE exam results were extremely good with 80% gaining A or A*.

This year a number of students gained maximum scores on the hardest module (BYB7) at A2, with 16 of 29 students gaining A grades.

JRP

A-level Biology Field course

On the first Friday of the new school year, twenty-five intrepid biologists set off in the brand-new school minibuses for a three-day residential field course in North Wales. Arriving on Anglesey in time for lunch, the group spent the first afternoon examining a rocky seashore at Penmon Point.

In glorious sunshine, and much to the amazement of visiting canoeists and anglers convinced that they were witnessing some obscure druidic ritual, the students were first made to revolve and gyrate in ever more confused circles in an attempt to model the movements of the sun and the moon which gave rise to the tides. Shaken, but not stirred, the party still managed to survey the shore from top to bottom and even found time to carry out an in-depth investigation into the range of ice creams available from the local café.

Day Two was spent among the sand dunes at Aberffraw, followed by a visit to the charming little Sea Zoo set alongside the Menai Straits. Accommodation at the university in Bangor gave some flavour of student life, and most agreed that the porridge at least was excellent! On Sunday, freshwater ecology was studied on the river at Aber, with lunch eaten beneath the magnificent waterfall at the head of the valley. There was a triumphant return in time for an early tea and, despite the rigours of the expedition, with the new minibuses virtually intact.

Nowgen

Shortly before Easter, all of the Year 12 biologists had the opportunity to gain some hands-on experience of molecular genetics at Nowgen, the North West Genetics Centre, in Manchester. After an introductory presentation on the importance of genes in health and disease, students were asked to prepare a sample of their own cheek cells for analysis. They were shown how to extract DNA from these cells and how to use enzymes to cut out a specific gene associated with their own immune systems. They were then shown how to use the techniques of the polymerase chain reaction and gel electrophoresis both





to amplify, and then isolate, this gene from the rest of their DNA.

The specialist nature of the equipment involved meant that it would have been almost impossible for them to have this experience in the school environment. The opportunity to use such sophisticated equipment, in a purpose-built genetics laboratory, was much appreciated by all of those who took part.

IL

Chemistry Department

In December 07, the department said goodbye to Mr. Jim Jones as he finished his maternity cover and set out for pastures new, departing for the Scilly Isles. He made an excellent contribution to the department over a period of nine months; particularly notable was the input he offered as an experienced examiner for the subject.

Pupils from various year groups attended Chemistry-based lectures over the course of the year. These included the Royal Society of Chemistry Christmas lecture at the Albert Halls, Bolton for Year 10 pupils; Year 11 Science lectures at the Catalyst Museum in Widnes; and the Faraday lecture at Manchester University for Years 9, 10 and 11.

The department also had a visiting lecturer: Professor Young of the Materials Science department at Manchester University came to talk to Year 10 girls about the materials

used in Formula One racing cars. This provided a useful link to their GCSE Core Chemistry course.

Pupils were able to participate in two competitions this year. A very select team was chosen consisting of just one outstanding Chemist from each year group from Year 8 to Year 11 for the Royal Society of Chemistry 'Top of the Bench' competition at Manchester University. Although the pupils were not placed, it was a very interesting and rewarding day out. Pupils from Year 7 and Year 8 also took part in the Salter's Festival of Chemistry, also held at Manchester University.

JSS

Catalyst Museum

Year 10 girls went to celebrate National Chemistry Week in November by seeing a demonstration lecture from a husband and wife team who took the students through the various joys of explosives, combustion reactions and chemi-luminescence with a delivery style based somewhere between those of Tommy Cooper and Dame Edna Everage. This was one of the best lectures King's has been to, inspiring a whole new generation of female scientists, thanks to its wonderful sense of fun as well as the exceptionally interesting science that was delivered.

JSS

RSC Christmas Lecture

Year 11 girls were treated to a trip to the RSC Christmas lecture on a history of explosives. In the regal setting of the Albert Halls in Bolton, the

lecture (pictured) showed how, from the development of gunpowder by the Chinese, explosives had shaped modern society in both good and bad ways. This demonstration included exploding biscuits, flaming jelly babies and glowing gin and tonics, as well as giant worms created from foam.

JSS

Classics

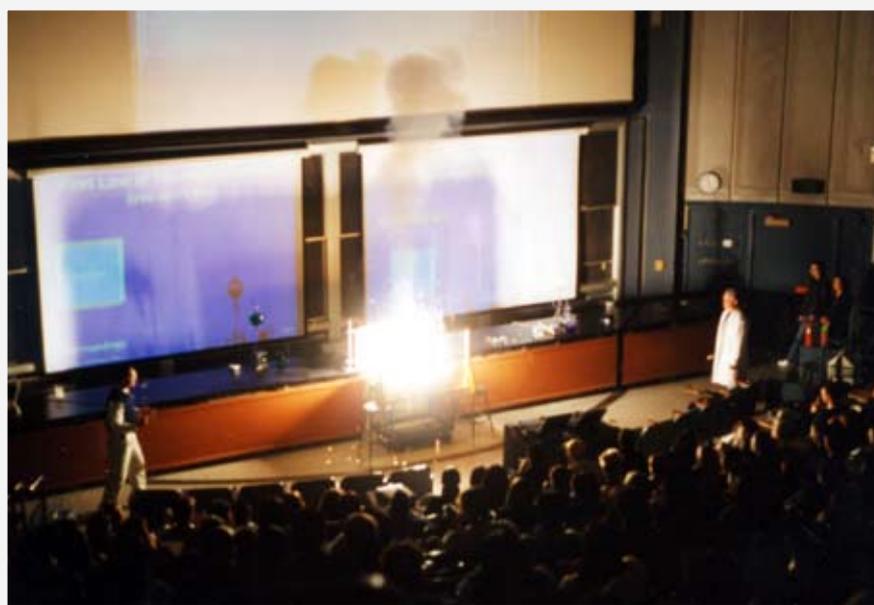
Having averaged two or three trips per year in the last three or four years, including major trips to Greece, Rome, Sicily and Sorrento, last year was a relatively quiet one for the Classics Department. However, we still found the energy to take a group of students to Manchester for a sixth form conference on Greek tragedy and several girls were entered for the North West Latin Reading Competition at The King's School in Chester, where they performed very well.

There was a record number (43) of boys and girls sitting Latin GCSE, whilst Latin and Classical Civilization A level continued to attract new pupils.

Jenny Campbell gained 120/120 in the Latin literature paper as part of her grade A at Latin A level and Jack Edwards gained 100% in the Greek Art paper as part of his grade A in Classical Civilization A2.

Having rested themselves a little, the Classics department staff are preparing two major trips, one to Rome, Pompeii and Sorrento in 2009, and to Greece or Sicily in 2010.

MTH



Design & Technology

Design & Technology has had another good year. Our exam success moved forward yet again and we are delighted with the progress all the pupils have made this year. We have benefited from a stable staff for the last few years, but sadly our excellent technician, Mr. Knowles, left just before the summer holiday to a new technician post closer to his home. All from the department wish him well for the future and he will be very much missed.

We were successful yet again with our entry into the Lego League competition, gaining a trophy for our presentation on how the school could be more efficient in its use of energy and exploring new technologies to provide this energy. Our robot worked well and the pupils were narrowly beaten in the semi final of this exciting competition.

We also had pupils winning prestigious design awards. Gemma Lord was our first Arkwright student, being sponsored through her A level product design course to support her entry into a career based around engineering. She has performed at an exceptionally high level and is a credit to this award.

Pupils from King's were given the chance to compete in a design competition to design the Bentley of the future. Some fantastic ideas were produced and Rosie Swinhoe was the winner with a super design. This is now buried in a time capsule under the new Bentley facility in Knutsford.

We have lots to be pleased with and we look forward to another exciting year producing tomorrow's essential designers and engineers.

JN

Lego League: The Power Puzzle

This year's challenge proved to be just that. It all revolved around the theme of energy and looking at providing alternative sources of energy along with making better use of existing supplies.

The competition followed its normal format with the pupils being asked to work in four specific areas: the robot challenge; the technical presentation to the judges on how the robot developed and was programmed; the research presentation task on how well the school uses its energy and ways to make the school more eco friendly; and the team work displayed on the day by the pupils taking part.

A team of around twenty-five pupils

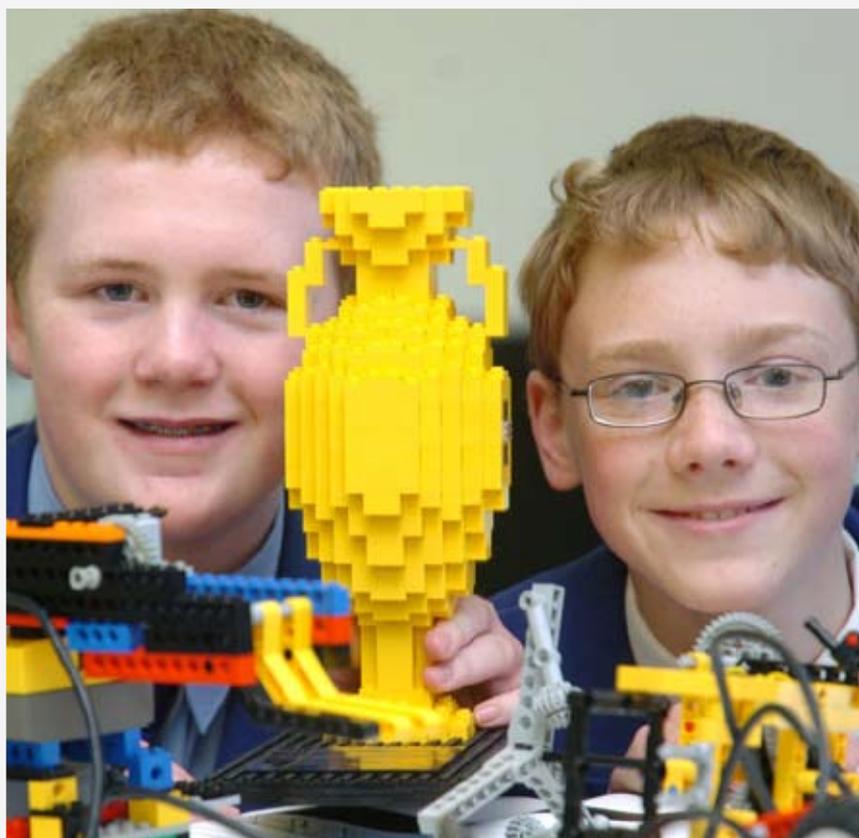
began in early September to work out the details of the challenge and begin to develop a strategy that would give the best chance of scoring most points. They organized themselves into small teams and worked together to produce working solutions, including the tools that were attached to the robot to carry out the tasks.

The basic robot developed quickly, but programming and fitting tools was not easy and the pupils had to work hard to ensure that they performed well. The robot task required the pupils to fit a solar panel, collect oil barrels from an oil rig, deliver a wave turbine to the sea, move wind turbines and power lines to provide power to communities on the playing mat, to collect corn and uranium and then deliver this, along with coal, to a power station. If that was not enough, they also had to work out how to plant trees in particular places and how to move vehicles around the board. All of this had to be done by a robot without any of the pupils touching the machine.

This year, as so many pupils were involved, two teams were entered into regional events. One team went to Jaguar Halewood, whilst a second went to the University of Manchester. Both teams performed exceptionally well, coming away with trophies for their hard work and effort but, sadly, not winning the overall Directors' award or a place in the national final.

At Jaguar, the team did a brilliant presentation on how the school uses its energy and what we could do to improve our efficiency, delivered in a television reporter's style. They thought about, and had researched, ground heat exchangers and methods of re-using heat and recycled paper to burn in boilers so that all waste material was used to the best advantage. This won the team the Best Presentation Award on the day. On the competition mat, the team fought their way through to the semi-final where they lost on points to the eventual winners. This was a great effort and was testament to the efforts of the boys and girls in the team on the day. They resolved many problems under a lot of time pressure and came away feeling very proud of their efforts.

At the University of Manchester, a much quieter day unfolded. The team worked with purpose and, having learnt from the Jaguar team's experience, they competed well on the playing mat. They made changes to



the programmes and the tools, and their consistency on the day paid off with another semi-final appearance. The presentation did not go as well at Manchester but, not downhearted, the team put together a super technical presentation of the robot's development that saw them win another trophy.

Much credit goes to all the members of the club who helped to move the team along and a special mention must be made of Andrew McDonald, 7JAIM, who was outstanding in sorting out the research presentation.

JN

Bentley Design Competition

A competition, open to all pupils in Years 7 to 11, was initiated by Bentley Motors in Manchester to publicize the opening of their new showroom at Knutsford. The competition was to design a new Bentley for the year 2020. A short list of seven or eight from each year group was selected by Mr Richards, and the judges at Bentley Manchester then selected a finalist from each year group with an overall winner from King's. The winner would be invited to the new showroom site (still being completed at the time) for the prize giving and to bury a time capsule containing the winning entries.

The winner was Rosie Swinhoe of 9DRM: her prize was a stunning limited edition print produced by the design team at Bentley Motors.

CAR

Drama

Cumberland Street

Ramayana

This year's production for the Dramatic Society was Valmiki's Hindu epic *Ramayana*, adapted for the theatre by David Farr. It was an adventurous choice, demanding some extremely imaginative staging. The set, designed by Miss Inman was elegant and adaptable, being transformed by Alex Smith's evocative lighting from the Court of Ayodhya, to the Forest of Chitrakut and the exotic Island of Lanka. Seas, rivers and fire appeared as did revolving magic circles in a varied and enchanting lighting plot.

Use of physical theatre also played its part in persuading the audience to engage its imagination and follow the exiled Rama through all his misadventures to be reunited with his beloved Sita. Rod puppetry was employed to allow brightly coloured chakravaka birds to fly around the stage, shadow puppets showed Rama riding an elephant in triumphal procession, and a group of well drilled boys making patterns with masks, enabled the demon, Ravana to appear with his ten heads. Jamie Holland relished the opportunities afforded by the role of Ravana, using strong vocal projection and a villainous twinkle in his eyes to present a seductive image of evil changing from charm to violence in an instant. He contrasted well with the purity and inner calm of Rama and Sita who were played with dignity, control and clear diction

by James Siddall and Jenny Campbell. Stuart Gresham and Cameron McPake provided strong support in sincere and convincing portrayals of Rama's brothers Lakshman and Bharata while Philip Humphrey and Clare Reucroft played Dasaratha and Kaikeyi with a sense of focus and commitment.

The play had only received its London premiere in February of 2007 so the Dramatic Society considered itself lucky to be granted performance rights so soon. Farr's own production had been simply staged at the Lyric, Hammersmith, with a small cast playing multiple roles but the school production was able to involve large numbers to play the hordes of Monkeys, Demons, Brahmins and exotic characters which appear in Valmiki's extraordinary tale. In such a large cast it is difficult to highlight individual performances but Oliver Gilman, James Kay and Chris Millward-McNaught as Hanuman, Sugriva and Dalit were perfectly at ease with the comedy of their simian roles and Maddie Rex created a delightfully grotesque Shurpanakha.

There were many magical and spectacular moments in the play including the building of the bridge across the ocean, Sita's immolation, and some fast moving, intricately choreographed fight sequences in which Rama and the monkeys overcame the forces of evil so that dharma could prevail and the old order be restored to the kingdom of Ayodhya.

FW



Academic Departments

Fence Avenue

The Ash Girl

In February, the Girl's Division presented a production of *The Ash Girl* by Timberlake Wertenbaker. Based on the story of Cinderella, Wertenbaker has dealt with the issues of growing up.

The cast was comprised of mainly Year 11 students who created characters with sincerity and flair. Many GCSE Drama students had designed costumes for the show and had risen to the challenge of creating imaginative and innovative designs for such characters as 'Pridefly', 'Angerbird', 'Sadness' and 'Owl'. The standard of design and performance work was outstanding.

The production was interspersed with scenes set in the forest where 'The Sins' would argue and cause havoc amongst the humans.

The mood and atmosphere created was enhanced by the original music composed by Anna Beesley as part of

her GCSE music. Anna had very much been part of the production team during the start of the project and understood how to represent each character through a musical motif. Her composition work was outstanding and helped to create a production full of contrasting moods and emotions.

The production was therefore, one in which students were given ownership and responsibility for its creation.

CPT

LAMDA Examinations.

Many of our pupils enjoyed success in acting and public speaking examinations. The examiners gave constructive advice in their reports and the students found the examinations a rewarding and challenging experi-

ence. Pupils from Year 8 through to Year 13 were entered, taking grades appropriate to their ages.

Advanced Level

Public Speaking

Gold medal

Jamie Holland (Distinction)

Bronze Medal

Elliott Howarth-Johnson

Acting

Gold Medal

Jenny Campbell (Merit)

Madeleine Rex (Merit)

Silver Medal

Tom Fisher (Distinction)

Clare Reucroft

Bronze Medal

Stuart Gresham (Merit)

Jamie Holland (Merit)

Philip Humphrey (Merit)

Elizabeth Jessop (Merit)

James Kay (Distinction)

Eleanor Lasman (Merit)

James Siddall (Merit)

Sophie Hawker

Intermediate Level

Tom Coleman *Group acting*

Naomi Gildert *Group acting*

Edward Gwatkin *Duologue*

Laura Holland *Group acting*

James Plowright *Group acting*

Michael Quinn *Group acting*

Hendrik Ratigan *Duologue*

Eleanor Strutt *Group Acting*

Sam Townley *Group acting*

George Walker *Duologue*

FW

Economics & Business Studies

Competitions

The Economics and Business Studies Department entered a number of competitions throughout the school year.

In October, the Economics students entered the national Institute of Economic Affairs Essay Writing Competition. For the second year running, a student from King's was named the runner up and Emily Middleton was awarded £500 for her essay on 'Climate Change and Government Failure'. Emily's achievement confirms her talent and ability within the subject and she has been awarded a place at Oxford to study Philosophy, Politics and Economics, starting September 2008.

In November, Sarah Falder (Captain), Emily Middleton, Matthew Sumpter, Simon Main and Tom Fisher



(Reserve) represented the school in the Bank of England's Target 2.0 Competition. They gave a presentation to members of the Bank which outlined what interest rate they would set to achieve the government's inflation target of 2.0%. The team worked well together and gained a good insight into the operation of monetary policy within the UK. Unfortunately, the team did not progress to the final of the competition, however they all enjoyed the experience and many of the students are going to study the subject at university.

Trips

The department organised a number of trips throughout the year to various businesses for both Year 12 and Year 13.

Manchester Airport Visit

In October, Year 13 Economists went on a trip to Manchester Airport as part of their module covering Work and Leisure Economics. The students needed to gain an appreciation of the airline industry and the trip certainly helped them achieve this objective. The visit involved a tour of the hangar and a talk about the airline industry.

Manchester United

In November, 25 students studying Business Studies A Level went on a trip to Old Trafford. The visit involved a tour of the ground and museum and a talk from the Club's Education Officer on the finances of Manchester United. The trip was open to all students, however, the Manchester City fans amongst the group were glad that the trip took place before Manchester United became European Champions again!

Year 13 Economics Trip

At the end of January, Year 13 Economists went on an overnight visit to London. Leaving early on Wednesday 30th, the group headed to London by train and enjoyed an action-packed day including visiting 'CQS Management' a Hedge Fund; a guided tour of the Financial District by John Blundell the Director of the IEA; dinner at Bistro 1 on the Strand and watching *Rent* at the Duke of York's Theatre. Thursday's activities included attending a conference on the European Union and a trip on the London Eye. The students really enjoyed experiencing the reality of Economics and a fun time was had by all.

Screw Fix

In March, 15 Business Studies students attended a trip to Screw Fix in Stafford. The focus of the trip was to gain an understanding of automated stock control which is covered in the A Level course.

Cadbury's World

In March, a group of Year 12 Business Studies students attended a trip to Cadbury's World in Bourneville. The aim of the trip was to build an awareness of operations management in a real world context. Students were given opportunities to tour the factory, learn the history of Cadbury's (one of the world's leading chocolate manufacturers) and even create a chocolate concoction of their own. The trip was a great success and ended with a well-timed visit to the Cadbury's discount shop, just before the approaching Easter weekend.

Salford University

In March, a group of Year 12 Business Studies students took part in a 'Business Game' organised by Salford University. The game helped the students to develop numerous skills associated with running a business including team work, communication, public speaking and problem solving. The students really enjoyed the day and it considerably enhanced their personal skill set.

Roberts Bakery

In April, a group of Year 12 Business Studies students went on a trip to Roberts Bakery for a 'hands on' experience of production methods. The visit was very educational and included the students touring the bakery and listening to a talk on human resources at the company; it also included icing gingerbread rabbits and wearing fetching food hygiene coats and hair nets! The contents of the goodie bags issued at the end of the visit were consumed very quickly.

Guest Speakers

Angela Fields

In September, Angela Fields, a Human Resources Consultant, came in to the department to talk to the Business Studies Students about Human Resources and methods of motivating employees. The interactive session enhanced the students' understanding of HR a great deal and gave them a professional's viewpoint of dealing with personnel issues within a business.

Keith Jones

In April, Keith Jones (pictured), the Managing Director of 'Silk Moth', a web design company, came to talk to the students about web-based marketing. The session was very interesting, with the students learning a lot about an area of marketing not usually covered in detail by the A Level course.



IEA Student Essay Competition

Each year the Economics and Business Studies Department enters its students for the Institute of Economic Affairs National Essay writing competition. This year, Emily Middleton gained the runners up prize, winning a cheque for £500. Her essay focused on the topic of climate change and examined whether it is an example of economic market failure. In it she questioned to what extent governments should intervene in the markets. Emily travelled to London in February 2008 to be presented with her prize.

Young Enterprise

Once again, the school took part in the National Young Enterprise competition. A group of Year 12 students set up a company called Innovation Textiles or IT for short, producing various products based around a textiles theme. One product was a tea towel that depicted the self-portraits of all the children in the Infant School. The group did very well in the competition, winning two awards, one for the best trade stand and the second for the best business report. They were also financially successful, making a profit of around £1000.

Young Enterprise aims to introduce students to the world of business and entrepreneurship and to encourage them to enter a career in business after university.

This year the King's YE team was managed by Natalie Burns from Year 12. As MD she organized her peers in an effective manner and was able to motivate them to succeed. As recognition for her achievements, she was awarded the Best Business Student in Cheshire award, beating hundreds of other contenders.

APR

English Department

*I have not toyed with a parachute cord
while perched on the lip of a light aircraft;
but I held the wobbly head of a boy
at the day centre and stroked his fat hands.
And I guess that the tightness in the throat
and the tiny cascading sensation
somewhere inside us are both part of that
sense of something else. That feeling I mean.*

Simon Armitage

It Ain't What You Do It's What It Does To You

This year, as ever in English, students have been encouraged to develop

to the full their ability to use and understand English: to explore for 'that sense of something else', 'that feeling I mean', and to have fun.

Across the age range, students have continued to excel. Harry Phillips of Year 13 and Anthony Floyd of Year 12 were singled out in the OCR English Literature examiners' report for their outstanding, incisive and mature coursework at A Level and AS Level. Tom Cunningham 9JPR was 'Writer of the Year', whilst David Marchington 7JAIM; Sam Collier and George Carter of 7CJAF; Joanna Dyson and Anusha Shafi of 7ESC; Isabelle Kenyon 7GG; and Hanja Dickinson of 8ANJB were presented with Gold Awards for their splendid Reading Project folders. Their efforts beyond the classroom typify the energy nurtured by our English staff.

In March, Whitbread award winner Michael Symmonds Roberts captivated Year 8: he read from his anthology *Corpus* and led a workshop on writing for radio. Emily Middleton also gave a reading of her poem, *The Five Stages*, which had been submitted for The Tower Poetry Prize. The department was delighted when Emily's remarkable poetic ability was recognized by the award of first prize, bringing her £3000 and the department £250.

Members of Year 9 participated in a creative writing workshop amongst the picturesque surroundings of the Wedgwood Memorial College. The work produced was exceptional and students benefited from having time

to devote to their own writing.

In November, members of Year 7 enjoyed *Private Peaceful* at the Lowry Centre; Year 8's visit to Mold to see *A Midsummer Night's Dream* was a success, with students profiting from seeing the play come alive.

Public speaking has always been a strength at King's, and this year the quality of debating in both divisions was exceptional. The audience of the House Debate final in the Boys' Division was gripped by the performances of Chris Smith and Jake Knowles of Tatton.

The Department was sad to see Mrs Taylor and Mrs Goodings depart for pastures new. Mrs T joined King's in 1989 and has enthralled students of all ages with her inimitable methods. The Department will also miss Mrs Goodings whose tireless work with Sixth Form students in particular, was appreciated.

The English Department is vibrant and forward-looking. All teaching rooms in both Divisions are now equipped with interactive whiteboards and staff are eager to use these resources to expand learning opportunities for students. Writers' Groups and Readers' Groups thrive and a Book Group has been established by students in the Sixth Form. English clinics in both Divisions act as a perfect location for students to discuss literature, life... and occasionally football, further emphasising Simon Armitage's point; it's what it does to you.

LCD



Emily Middleton receiving the prestigious Christopher Tower Poetry Prize

A Midsummer Night's Dream

During Spring term, a small group of Year 8 pupils made the journey to Mold, North Wales, to see a production of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at Theatr Clwyd.

The group was entertained by an excellent production. The simple set was effectively transformed into the enchanted forest as leaves tumbled from the heavens to carpet the floor. Successful casting of the 'painted maypole' Helena and the 'dwarfish' Hermia enhanced their strong performances while the all-white costumes of the fairies, allied to their use of the stage, created a very powerful image of invisibility. The most entertaining element of the play, however, was undoubtedly the Mechanicals' performance of *Pyramus and Thisbe* in the final scene of the play; here Shakespeare's comic characters were fully brought to life by the skill of the actors.

The group returned contented and satisfied; the power of theatre had worked its magic.

RGD

Private Peaceful

Early in the year, a small group of Year 7 and 8 pupils visited the Lowry to watch a production of the stage version of Michael Morpurgo's *Private Peaceful*.

Whilst the production altered the ending of the original story, much of the material remained faithful to the text and allowed the party to empathise with the central character as he narrated the events which led up to the moving conclusion.

The single actor impressively performed his role, working continuously on stage for a considerable length of time. The audience was given a sound insight into the childhood experiences of the protagonist, prior to his eventual enlisting to the cause in The Great War. Here, all were given an authentic view of the experience of trench warfare and a sense of the callous and unfair treatment of some of our soldiers who were executed for alleged cowardice.

The event was very rewarding and should have given the party a real flavour of what the theatre can offer.

RGD

Writers' Course

There has been a Writers' Group at the Girls' Division for several years and the idea of a residential trip dedi-



cated to writing has always appealed to us. It appeared that we were not alone in our enthusiasm, and though many wished to join us, we were only able to offer places to sixteen boys and girls.

The course was held on 6 and 7 May, at the Wedgwood Memorial College, which, located in a peaceful, rural setting near Stoke-on-Trent, was perfectly suited to our purpose. The group stayed in one of the college buildings, which had bedrooms upstairs with rooms for discussion and relaxation downstairs. However, the favourite feature, unsurprisingly, turned out to be the extensive gardens, which we were able to take full advantage of during two days of delightfully warm and sunny weather.

On the first day, we arrived mid-morning and Emily Middleton, School Captain and writer of note, conducted a poetry workshop, suggesting ways of improving our own use of imagery and sharing with us some of her own poems, several of which have won national awards. This activity was both supportive and imaginative, providing us with confidence and inspiration for the writing exercises we encountered after lunch.

We spent the evening playing a game of rounders with Mr Street and Miss Derby (who proved to be a formidable player) while Dr Banner, perhaps wisely, chose to remain on the sidelines as the photographer.

After breakfast the following morning, brief writing exercises were used to get us back into a suitable frame of mind, then we worked independently on our own writing, which we later shared with the group. We left after lunch, though we were reluctant to do so, and all agreed that the workshop had been a great success. The combination of a calm, quiet location and time for our own thoughts had fostered a beneficial degree of creativity and confidence in every participant. Our thanks go to Dr Banner and Miss Derby who organized the trip, and to Mr Street who made the journey between Barlaston and King's several times.

Katie Reid and Isabel Wilkinson

General Science

The General Science Department at Cumberland Street is extremely fortunate to have a totally refurbished laboratory (S2) which has transformed both the teaching and pupils' experience of lessons in this room. The department now has interactive whiteboards in all its laboratories at both sites, facilitating the new Year 7 scheme of work. This features an 'interactive textbook' together with a bank of resources supporting the wide variety of topics covered at Key Stage 3 in Science.



Catalyst

Catalyst

In February, the whole of Year 8 from the Girls' Division was lucky enough to see the amazing Dr Bunhead, from the Brainiacs television programme, as he performed his Exploding Energy Show.

They witnessed the destruction of a Pringles tin, a foam that could catch fire and a series of exploding balloons that battered ear drums. One lucky student was taken up to act as his assistant and found herself a little closer to an exploding tin than she wanted to be. The show finished with Dr Bunhead firing a potato through a tennis racket at 200mph to create chips. The fact that he did this with a gun made from plastic guttering and powered by hair spray made it all the more spectacular.

After the lecture the girls attended a workshop on stings and their cures. This involved looking at venom from snakes, jellyfish, bees and wasps and trying to work out what was the best cure for each sting.

JSS

Geography

We are delighted with the excellent A level results and the good number of students going on to universities to read for a Geography degree. We continue to look for innovative ways of using local, regional, national and even international landscapes to

enrich the delivery of the Geography curriculum at all of the key stages. Our well-established trips to Buxton's Poole's Cavern, Wakefield's National Coal Mining Museum and the River Dane at Swettenham and Wincle continue to prove popular and successful. Despite difficulties with recent economic factors and political fallout we continue to work on providing a spectacular 'wow & awe' trip to Iceland.

Poole's Cavern, Buxton

In October, Year 10 students went to Poole's Cavern in Buxton. The focus of the trip was to see a real-life limestone landscape, specifically, stalactites, stalagmites and pillars. Splitting into smaller groups, the boys and girls watched a short, locally-made DVD in the cavern's new presentation area. Then, after a quick visit to the café and gift shop, it was time for the hour-long underground tour through the cavern, led by an expert guide.

The cavern really is quite a spectacle, driving home to the boys and girls the power of nature and its ability to create fascinating, distinctive landscapes over hundreds of thousands, or even millions, of years.

It was an excellent day, topped off with a quick walk up to Solomon's Temple, built in 1896 on the site of a Neolithic burial mound, to scoff sandwiches and cake!

National Coalmining Museum,

In November, Year 9 boys and girls went to the NCM in Wakefield. It was the pits!

The boys and girls had to split into several different groups to enable the highlight of the trip, an hour-long underground tour, to proceed safely. Guided by genuine ex- (and very Northern) miners, the students had to don hard hats and be kitted out with heavyweight batteries and lamps. Anything with an electric charge, like MP3 players, mobile phones, or battery-powered watches, was deemed contraband and had to be handed in to the locker room for safe keeping. Then, after descending in a cage to a depth equivalent to the height of Blackpool Tower, the underground experience began.

Despite the chilly ambient temperature, the somewhat eerie drips of water, and the guides' stories of child-eating rats and near fatal catastrophes, the boys and girls really enjoyed the experience. It is a fascinating way to explore mining through the ages and it certainly embellishes classroom learning. Teachers just can't recreate that same feeling of coalmine claustrophobia and impending mineshaft doom in the classroom!

It was an excellent day and well worth the journey.

DCP

Geology

The Geology Department continued to enjoy the new facilities of its recently refurbished classroom and produced a good crop of geoscientists this year. The environment must have proved inspiring, as a healthy number applied for university courses either in Geology or with a significant Earth Sciences component.

The rain held off for the Year 12 introductory fieldwork in the Peak District. Sedimentary successions of Mam Tor and Odin's Mine provided an introduction to some of the field skills that the students would hone later in the year on their trip to Arran.

Later in the Autumn Term, Year 13 successfully completed their coursework fieldwork by investigating palaeoenvironments of some local desert sandstones.

Before Easter, the Lower Sixth sailed for the Isle of Arran for a week-long field course. After the young ladies were serenaded on the voyage across, by a guitarist from the island, the rich and varied geology of Arran

provided the focus for the week ahead.

The students battled with dreadful weather for the week. A combination of very heavy rainfall and high tides resulted in the team leaving the field centre one morning and having to wade across the flooded road to start the day's investigations.

The intrepid team tramped over many parts of the island and paid homage at a sacred geological site, James Hutton's world famous unconformity. Dinosaur foot prints and monster millipede tracts were located again and students even got a taste of some archaeology along with the geology at the appropriately named King's Cave. All survived the experience and, despite the dreadful weather this year, almost as much wildlife as geology was seen.

JAF

History

The History Department at King's continued to flourish and History remained one of the most popular options at both GCSE and A Level, testimony to the success of the department. The department obtained outstanding results during the summer. These results were not only a product of our students' excellent historical skills, but also due to the commitment of the departmental staff.

As always, the History Department prides itself on organising trips giving students the opportunity to experience historical sites both at home and overseas. There were trips to Conway Castle, Macclesfield Silk Museum, Quarry Bank Mill, Chester Cathedral, World War One Battlefields and to Russia. Not only did those trips pro-

vide an invaluable practical grounding in key aspects of the historical curriculum, but they also afforded an excellent forum in which to study history beyond the confines of the classroom.

GAW

Civil War Day

In February, Colonel Granville Thomas, of the Sealed Knot Re-enactment Society, came to King's to enrich our understanding of the British Civil War.

Firstly, Colonel Thomas, with the help of volunteers, demonstrated the thirty-six steps needed to load and fire a musket. This was incredibly interesting and funny, especially as the gun was extremely heavy and was dropped on numerous occasions!

We then explored the tactics of a battle using rows of massive spiked pikes and these hilarious guns. We were shown the three extremely long, different sizes of speared pikes, and how impossible they were to hold upright.

After that came the three different types of flags - the King's flag, Parliament's flag and the Middle way flag. We had to make the almost impossible decision of joining the flag that we thought should succeed and were amazed by the fact that the only visible difference between Parliament's army and the King's army was a piece of white cloth worn on the helmet strap.

The group was then transfixed by the power of a musket ball and we learnt of the damage it could do to the person fired at, and to the four people standing behind. We also learned how inaccurate the musket was and how the person aimed at was hardly ever hit, the unlucky people on either side often being killed instead.

Colonel Thomas then loaded and actually fired a musket: the noise was extremely shocking. Finally, we were shown the falconet, a small cannon. We covered our ears as the falconet was fired and were amazed by the speed of the cannon ball as it was shot, and also by the reactions of the Juniors on the netball court nearby.

After a very exciting day, we came back into school feeling that we knew, and would remember, a lot more about the confusing English Civil War.

Lara Knowles

Chester Cathedral Trip

On 5 March 2008, all Year 7 girls went on a History trip to Chester Cathe-



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dral. We had been learning about cathedrals as part of our Castles and Cathedrals topic. When we arrived at the cathedral we were amazed at how big it was. We split up into our teaching groups and three guides from the cathedral showed us round. We saw the shrine of St Werburgh and looked at the wooden carvings where the choir sit. There was an elephant which had hooves for feet because the person doing the carving had never seen an elephant. We sat outside in the cathedral garden to eat our lunch and then we explored the cathedral in groups of about three, filling in our worksheets, taking photos and finding out information for our project.

Girls from 7GG

Conway Castle

On 22 February, all Year 7 Boys went on a trip to Conway Castle. It took two hours to get there and when we got off the coach, we couldn't wait to explore. We went inside the castle first, where we filled in our worksheets. We found out lots of information about the castle and really enjoyed it. Then we went to the harbour, where we had fish and chips. After our lunch, we walked around the town walls. We all had a great time and were exhausted at the end of the day.

Bradley Delves and Tom Pearson

Macclesfield Silk Museum

The Year 9 pupils visited the Silk Museum for half a day in October as part of their Local History Study of Macclesfield. The group walked down into the town via the tunnel in front of Arighi Bianchi. En route, the group looked at how the River Bollin has silted up since the eighteenth century, when it provided the main source of power for local silk throwing mills.

At Water's Green, the group stopped to look at a garret above the chip shop and noted the southern boundary of the town in the medieval period. The purpose of the trip was to find out about the development of the town from 1743 onwards and the role of individuals such as Charles Roe. The children split into three smaller groups in order to rotate the activities. One started the day at the Silk Museum, the second group started at Paradise Mill, while the third began at the Heritage Centre.

Each venue had something quite different to offer. The Museum has

live silk worms, hands-on activities about silk manufacture and some superb material on the lives of ordinary people living in Macclesfield in the nineteenth century, and on the emigration to Paterson, New Jersey in the 1890s. Paradise Mill is a working museum. Guides took the group around the mill and showed us how the different types of looms worked. The Heritage Centre's exhibition began with the original silk route from China and traced the link between the silk button industry and silk throwing in Macclesfield. All the pupils used their notes from the trip to produce extended written work on the history of Macclesfield's silk industry and the reasons for its decline.

LAC

Year 10 Battlefields Trip

Fifty boys and girls went on the History Department's annual pilgrimage

to the 1st World War Battlefields in Belgium and France. The group were based in Ypres for all five days but travelled around both the Ypres Salient and the Somme. On the first day, the group walked to the 'In Flanders Field' Museum. This used to be the Old Cloth Hall in the centre of Ypres. It was destroyed completely during the War but has been rebuilt along with the rest of Ypres as a replica of the original building. There was a fabulous new temporary exhibition of the French Empire in 1914 as well as interactive exhibits about how the lives of different people changed during and after the War. Each of the pupils was given a character that they could follow by keying in their card at computer terminals around the museum. After this, the group set out for Hill 60 and Sanctuary Wood. This gave the pupils a chance to see the salient and visit some front line trenches that



have been preserved. In the evening the group went to the Menin Gate for the Last Post. Then there was some free time in Ypres where a great deal of chocolate was bought and the ten-euro sweets deal proved very popular.

During the trip the group looked at different cemeteries including those of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, Germany and France at Tyne Cot, Langemarck and Notre Dame de Lorette. All sacrifice of life proved moving and poignant. The bigger memorial parks at Newfoundland and Vimy Ridge were impressive in quite different ways. The Canadian guides were very keen to emphasize just how much the War brought together their nation and helped establish their national identity.

The pupils were happy to occupy themselves during free time on some of the evenings, while there were quizzes and even some stand up comedy on other occasions. On the final day the group visited the Wellington Quarries at Arras. This is a brand new state of the art underground museum that is well worth a visit for anyone travelling to the Somme Battlefields. The group laid a wreath at the Thiépval memorial in memory of all those old boys from King's School who laid down their lives for their country. A list of all the names was read out and again this was a very moving occasion. My thanks go to Dr Craig, Mr Williams and Mr Halewood (an honorary member of the Department) for their help in making this a very interesting, memorable and sociable trip. The fifty girls and boys on the trip behaved impeccably throughout and were a credit to themselves, their families and the School.

EPO

Year 11 History Revision Lecture

In January, 50 girls joined an SHP History Revision Course held in Maxwell Hall at Salford University.

Chris Culpin was the host. He began by establishing the concept of the big picture and stressing the importance of chronology. Chris focused on specific individuals in the Medicine Through Time syllabus such as Alexander Fleming, Louis Pasteur, Mary Seacole and Aneurin Bevan. He deliberately chose areas that are easily confused in order to revise their significance and lend some clarity.

All of the pupils enjoyed the approach that he took. There were

opportunities to join in with quick quizzes and paired work, to ask questions and there was even a musical element. The day proved very useful.

EPO

Year 12 at Hastings

This trip, like most other History trips, demanded an early start. Twenty four tired looking sixth formers met on the Rock Block at 6.15am on a cold, wet Wednesday morning for the trip to Hastings. Everyone was excited, as interest in the medieval module on the Norman Revolts is very high.

The journey proved slightly longer than expected, owing to traffic jams on the motorway. When the group arrived at around one in the afternoon, the guide, Sean Cripps, was already waiting. The group opted for lunch before the guided tour of the Hastings Battlefield. By two o'clock, the sun was shining and the party began its tour inside the grounds of Battle Abbey School. It was strange to have pupils from the school going about their ordinary business as the King's party investigated its famous grounds. Sean Cripps was very knowledgeable, and the pupils asked and answered lots of questions as he showed them around. The site has altered more than a little since the original battle in 1066, but its scale was still apparent and the story, told in such detail, proved thrilling to everyone.

Later, the group returned to the coach and travelled along the coast to Folkestone. The hotel was large and clearly popular with the older generation. After a buffet-style evening meal, all of the pupils retired to their rooms to watch the England against Croatia football match. This occupied the whole evening though the score proved a bit of a disappointment.

The following morning, the group headed north to Rochester, in order to look at the Norman keep that stands there and the impressive Norman cathedral. Today, Rochester seems equally famous for its links with Charles Dickens. The town centre was attractive and lunch proved to be fun, with everyone making the most of Rochester's small cafes and interesting shops.

Everyone had a great time and learned much about William the Conqueror and the methods he used to control England after 1066.

EPO

Sixth Form visit to London

HMS Belfast, the warship now moored in the Thames, was the unusual accommodation for a party of twenty-two A level History students from King's who went on a study trip in November. Boys, girls and staff soon got used to moving between decks by means of ladders, and even having the hatches battened down at bedtime was not so claustrophobic after the first night on board.

A full programme of talks, tours and lectures on subjects related to the Second World War was provided by staff of the Imperial War Museum, both on board the ship and at the Museum in Lambeth. Visits were also made to the National Army Museum in Chelsea and to the underground Cabinet War Rooms in Whitehall, whence Churchill and his cabinet directed the war effort. These provided insights into a dangerous period in British history and valuable preparation for a specific A level module.

The students also learnt how to navigate their way round London on foot and by Tube, and other life skills such as surviving the rush hour and budgeting for London prices!

VBW

History trip to Russia

Moscow

They say things happen in threes ...well, that certainly held true for the disasters we had on our way to Russia! One member of our group reached the front of the check-in queue at Manchester and promptly fainted; another poor soul never made it off the plane at Moscow, having left his passport in Amsterdam - and then there was the case of Dr Craig's 'almost-lost' luggage.

Yet, despite these mishaps, most of us arrived in Moscow to be greeted by falling snow and lots of traffic. I was hit by the sheer size of the city and stared out of the window trying to decipher the strange letters on the signs, whilst listening to our guide pointing out buildings left, right and centre. I also noticed how dirty all of the cars were and, although our guide assured us that Russian personal hygiene was traditionally better than that of the French, I don't think they apply their good habits to their cars.

Our next few days were spent taking in the sights of Moscow, including beautifully ornate cathedrals and impressive squares. We also had the chance to walk around the Kremlin,

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where we were reprimanded for leaning on the lampposts, and to visit the Armoury museum. Here, we saw one of Britain's gifts to Russia – a carriage that couldn't turn round corners. Considering the piles of gold they had received from the Danish and French, it's no wonder Anglo-Russian relations aren't great.

Any brief moments of spare time were filled with snowball fights or by sampling Russian 'delicacies' such as borscht. They weren't too bad but I have to admit that the last day saw me resorting to good old McDonald's.

My personal highlight of the Moscow section of the trip was our visit to the circus. It was an unforgettable experience with conga dancing poodles, jugglers, acrobats, dancers and a very bendy woman.

In fact the whole trip was great fun for anyone in the Sixth Form, whether studying History or not. Everyone learnt loads, especially those less geographically able students, who found out that Russia was just a tad bigger than France and does have a coastline after all.

Sarah Gales

St Petersburg

The group arrived in St Petersburg, Russia's second city, early in the morning after an overnight train journey that was not enjoyed by many of us, owing to the cramped carriages and less than perfect 'bathrooms', but that will certainly not be forgotten.

However, a delicious breakfast soon woke us up and we embarked on a short sight-seeing tour of the city, showing us the distinctively European and classical style of its architecture. We made a very memorable visit to one of the many magnificent orthodox churches in the city and, in addition to being humbled by the splendour of the interior, were fortunate enough to witness part of a religious service which was taking place, an event in some ways so familiar and in others so alien, that it genuinely fascinated the group.

We arrived at the hotel for a few hours' rest before proceeding to a traditional folk music and dance performance. The evening featured a variety of groups, ranging from a quartet of superbly talented male singers to a troupe of equally impres-

sive dancers, and there were few in the audience who could find nothing to enjoy, particularly after we had witnessed the commendable efforts of Mr Williams when he was 'lucky' enough to be chosen for some entertaining - for the students at least - audience participation on the stage.

The next day, we visited the world famous Hermitage Museum and if the incredible selection of fine art did not provoke gasps of wonder, then the scale and extravagance of the palace in which the museum lies certainly did, as it casts a shadow over the grandeur of virtually anything to be seen in Britain. On the same day, we also visited the palace of the Russian nobleman Felix Yusupov, who was involved in the murder of the mysterious and infamous Rasputin, and whose cellar was chosen as the site for the killing. We learned much about the lives of the Russian aristocracy before the 1917 revolution and the tale of Rasputin.

That evening, we were treated to a performance of one of Tchaikovsky's ballets, *Don Quixote*, by a Russian ballet company. The performers



told the story beautifully, captivating the audience, and showed off their incredible skills as dancers, executing pirouettes and jumps that far exceeded our expectations even of a professional ballet company. The applause was rapturous and even those who were not inclined towards ballet, could not deny the impressive talent of the dancers.

On the final day, we travelled to the palace of Katherine the Great, which contained an immense ballroom with a breathtaking painted ceiling and a long arched corridor, all completely decked in gold leaf. The last visit of the trip was to the war memorial to all who perished in the defence of the city during the Second World War, when Leningrad, as it was then called, was besieged for nine hundred days and nights by German forces.

The city had shown us a perfect mixture of Russian history, art, architecture and culture and we were all saddened to leave, but thankful to have so many fond memories to take away with us.

James Kay

Mathematics

Maths Challenges

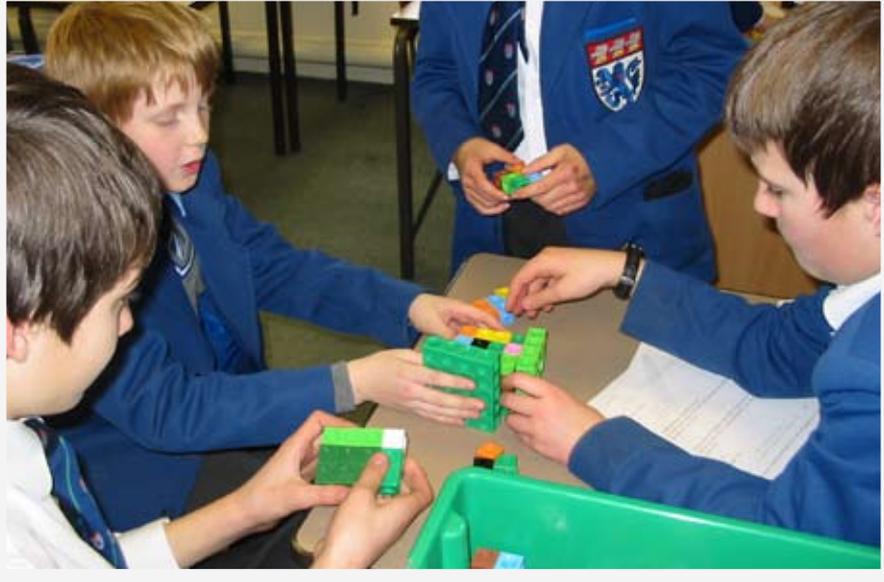
Once again, we had substantial entries for the Junior, Intermediate and Senior Challenges.

Junior (Years 6 to 8, 60 min paper), Intermediate (Years 9 to 11, 60 min paper) and Senior (Years 12 and 13, 90 min paper) Maths Challenges cover the secondary school range 11-18; together they attract upwards of 600,000 entries from over 4500 schools and colleges. The papers contain 25 multiple-choice questions; the final 10 becoming increasingly demanding. Certificates are awarded on the (approximate) basis that a Bronze places the contestant in the top 12%, a Silver in the top 6% and a Gold in the top 2% nationally, amongst all schoolchildren of eligible age. Very high scorers are invited to participate in follow-up rounds.

Results:

	Gold	Silver	Bronze
SMC*	5	6	15
IMC	15	30	25
JMC	17	31	38

*note – the numbers entering the SMC are much lower.



These are roughly in line with previous years except that we have not had 5 Golds in the SMC for over half a decade – well done to the Sixth Form Mathematicians!

Subsequent rounds:

Katherine North, Sarah Gales and Johny Marshall were invited to take the BMO (British Mathematical Olympiad) round 1 paper which is extremely tough; they found the 3 hour paper, very gruelling. Following outstanding IMC performances, Sean Wilson and Tom Baston were invited to take the demanding Cayley paper. They did exceptionally well, Sean gaining a Merit and Tom a Distinction (finishing just outside the top 50 in the UK).

Siddhvinayak Bhatnagar, David Lowndes, Hannah Smith, Joshua Hearn, and Christopher Smith were all invited to take Kangaroo papers following excellent performances in the IMC.

Supremum

Supremum was launched in October, as a fortnightly activity for Years 7 and 8 at the Boys' site, taking the top 6 or so from each year and meeting from 12:50 to 1:35. The time is spent looking at challenging maths puzzles, some from the WWW, some from past maths challenge papers, some from ancient sources(!), and other sources. Our first wave of participants enjoyed the challenge (and the free drinks) very much as they dabbled with new and exciting ideas such as building up cubes from two dimensional 'plates'.

It is hoped that a similar activity

will soon be available at the Girls' site.

GCSE and GCE results

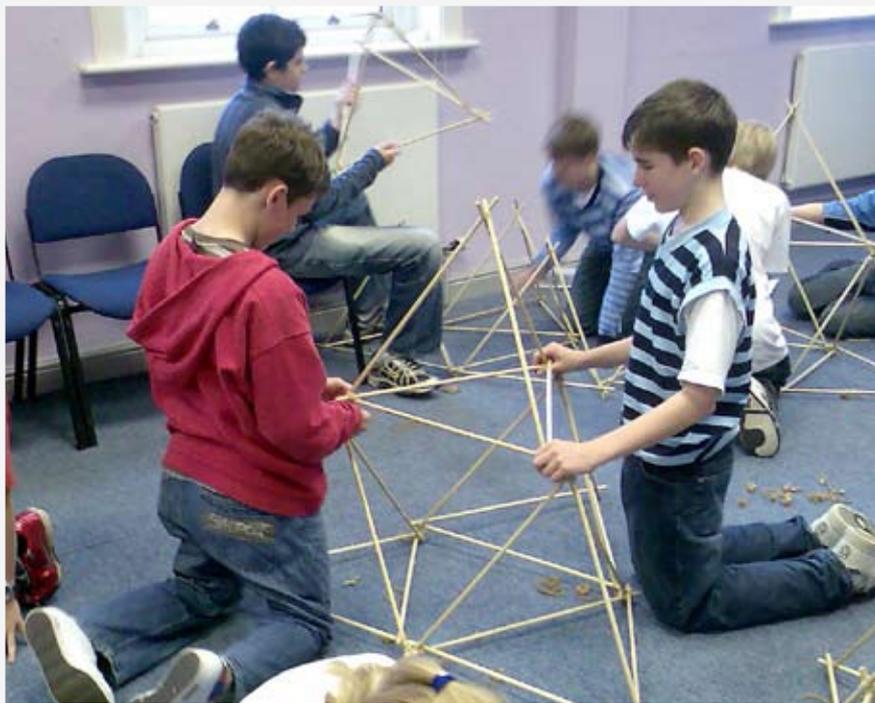
The public examination results for the department were particularly pleasing in two respects: (i) we achieved 100% pass rate in A level Mathematics for the 10th year in succession; very few (if any) large subjects can make this claim, and (ii) we achieved our long term goal of 100% A* - C (i.e. 'pass') at GCSE for the first time ever, a testimony to the hard work of all the pupils and their teachers. To put the latter into perspective, it must be remembered that every pupil must take GCSE Mathematics even if it is their worst subject (and for some, it is) and the National 'pass' rate is only 56.3%.

World Maths Day

World Maths Day, on 5 March promised to be a spectacular festival of arithmetic – King's takes on the World! We equipped everyone with usernames and passwords, encouraged pupils to practise, practise, practise and eagerly awaited the dawn of the day. Unfortunately, such was the response worldwide, that the organisers' servers were brought to a virtual standstill early in the day and most of our pupils could not even log on! We are assured that next year, every school will have the chance to be genuinely involved: watch this space.

Year 9 Mathematics Workshop

Mr Edgerton and Mrs Crowley took a mixed group of 50 pupils to The Catalyst Museum, Widnes in October. The opening activity consisted of solving a number of puzzles in small groups,



ranging from the straightforward to the very difficult and challenging. Next, the pupils split into two groups and alternated between seeing an interactive film on applications of Mathematics in the chemical industry, or embarking on building a giant tetrahedron and discussing applications of the shape and its occurrence in nature. The students wished that more time had been available to analyse a few of the problems in greater depth, and the Catalyst staff were happy to discuss this and, as it was a pilot workshop, they said they would be happy to amend things in accordance with our wishes next time. After lunch, the group followed a Maths trail through the museum with prizes for the best and most complete solutions. This involved solving a number of very diverse problems using the material in the museum galleries as well as incorporating material visible from the tower at the top of the building. It was certainly a worthwhile activity, and one which we intend to make an annual fixture.

PJC/REC

Senior Maths Challenge

The School had 35 students entering the challenge in November this year. Leeds University received, in total, papers from 57,375 participants from 1,645 centres. The average score nationally was 48.6 compared with 54.1 last year, indicating that the paper was rather more difficult.

King's students won twenty-six certificates between them. Nationally, 6 per cent earn Gold, 14 per cent Silver and 20 per cent Bronze.

The students who won Gold awards were Sarah Gales, Katherine North, Johnty Marshall, Matthew Murray and Elliot Malkin. Silver awards went to Carl Roberts, Sarah Falder, James Hay, Hannah Hills, Tom Ecclestone and David Swetman. Simon Main, George Morrissey, Rebecca Bamford, Michael Strother, James Fitzgerald, Verity Cross, Amy Wilson, Christian Bridge, Harriet Rhodes, Henry Williams, Calum Pattrick, Amy Matthewson, Chris Mysko, Sam Stockwin and Rebecca Sugden won the Bronze award.

Sarah Gales and Katherine North automatically qualified for the British Mathematical Olympiad in November: both took part in the BMO Paper 1, but found it a tough hurdle. They will be eligible next year, so the experience will have been of great benefit.

GL

Modern Foreign Languages

This was another exciting year in the languages faculty, and language learning continued to flourish throughout the foundation. This was the first year in which Spanish was made available from Year 8 onwards and the take up was extremely pleasing. We continued to broaden the language learning experience during the sixth form extended studies

programme with two classes of Japanese preparing for the Level 1 WJEC Japanese qualification, in which there were many successes. We are hoping to broaden the options still further and to be able to offer sixth formers and others the opportunity to sample and learn as many languages as possible. As usual many, many pupils and staff have been involved in the highly successful language trips which have been offered. Pupils were also taken to one-day intensive language conferences in all three main languages and given an opportunity for extended and enriched language learning.

There were high grades in A level examinations in French, German and Spanish with Harry Phillips gaining a place to read Modern Languages at Oxford University. At GCSE there were many very good grades also, with Matthew King gaining A* in the three modern languages he took. The European café on Open Day was a tremendous success involving younger pupils wearing suitable outfits, and speaking, in many cases, three languages. We were also pleased to see very high numbers of Year 8 pupils opting to continue with three modern languages in Year 9, thus bucking the national trend.

We were pleased to welcome Mr Fico and Miss Smalley to the department, and both have contributed much over the year. At the same time, we said goodbye sadly to Mrs Green who had brought us her expertise and helped build the French Department so tirelessly, particularly at Fence Avenue. We welcomed Anastasia as our German assistant and were delighted to welcome back Julien and Jenny as our French and Spanish language assistants for a further year.

Within the individual language departments it has been a busy year. In the German Department a new departmental reading scheme has been put in place using Mary Glasgow subscriptions and some excellent new reading stock has been bought for the library. The French Department was pleased with the record numbers of Year 7 pupils keen to come on the famous chateau trip. Within the classroom, there was a particular focus on GCSE this year and strategies were drawn up, discussed and agreed to produce the best possible results. The Spanish Department pioneered a scheme by which able and gifted sixth form language students were used to help support younger language

learners both within the classroom and outside. This was felt to be really successful and worth adopting by all the language departments.

The year to come will also be busy with a new AS and A level exam to prepare for and, shortly after that, a new GCSE. Also, for the first time Spanish will be learned from Years 7 to 13. Overall, one can say that language learning is very healthy at King's and it is of particular benefit to our students that, at a time of difficulty nationally for language learners, so many of them are able to benefit from a worthwhile experience of learning about a foreign language and culture.

IED

Sixth Form Chateau Study Visit

A gregarious group of Francophile students set off for the Château de la Baudonnière during the Easter holidays. The group was accommodated in a comfortable gîte near to the château and spent a week practising French, doing some activities at the château and paying various visits. They visited an unusually quiet post-Easter Mont St Michel made completely unfamiliar by the closure of the tacky souvenir shops. We were

given a presentation in the courtroom of Avranches and then improvised a mock trial there in which a stern Natalie Gildert presiding, condemned a timorous accused to an extended prison sentence for a fictitious incident linked to the consumption of Monaco, a fairly innocuous weak shandy concoction flavoured with Grenadine well known to French students. We also did some more traditional activities at the château and paid visits to meet the new Mayor of the mighty metropolis of La Haye-Pesnel. We also enjoyed the opportunity to meet the Gendarmes of the local area and to put questions to them on important current issues relating to crime and punishment. We rounded off the week with a very pleasant restaurant meal where some braver members of the group enjoyed their first prickly taste of cactus-topped pizza and Mr Fico made friends with an eight-foot tall plastic grizzly bear.

We are most grateful to Mrs Schué for organising the visit and leading the group with such insight and good humour.

La Rochelle Exchange

Around twenty students participated in the exchange this year. The group

took advantage of a new direct flight from Manchester to La Rochelle, which made the journey much easier than it has often been. A good time was had by many students as they got to grips with the French language and culture, including the correct way to dunk a flaky croissant into a bowl of coffee. The trips included visits to the Futuroscope theme park and the zoo.

The weather helped make for a very successful week. We are grateful to Mrs Darch, Mr Houghton and (at very short notice) Miss Morris for accompanying the visit.

Year 7 Château Trip

About 120 Year 7 students assembled in the rain to board the coaches for this year's château trip. Following a lengthy journey, we arrived at the two accommodation venues – one group staying at the château itself and the other being accommodated at the Château des Forges activity centre by the sea and near the town of Coutances. During the week, the pupils made great progress in the French language and engaged in a variety of different activities. The Assault Course was as enjoyable as ever and a fair number of the pupils joined the distinguished list of King's alumni who have fallen





in the (shallow) stream at the end of the course. This year there was raft-building as well as canoeing and there were some very valiant attempts to create craft which would be, well, unsinkable. Some even stayed afloat. Among the other activities there were sports tournaments, fencing, climbing and much more. The French monitors were as wonderful as ever and a great deal of French was heard and spoken over the week. The food was excellent and all groups had one most enjoyable barbecue. The trips out were very interesting also; there was one visit to the Bayeux Tapestry which put a different perspective on Anglo-French relations. All groups visited Arranches, saw the museum and were able to view at first hand the landing beaches famous from D-Day. The pupils also enjoyed the competition to buy items for a picnic from a French market and this year everyone managed to find some delicious ingredients – even those who ended up rushing to the supermarket out of desperation..... There were also no well-intentioned attempts to liberate fluffy market animals into the wild.

This was a highly successful trip and we are grateful to all the staff who gave so much time and energy in order that a good time was had by all.

German Rhineland Trip

At 5am on Saturday 5 July, 16 boys and 13 girls departed with three of their teachers for the German Rhineland. The purpose of the visit was to make provision for Years 8 and

9 to visit Germany, to enhance their understanding of the culture and life of the country.

We travelled by coach and took the Eurotunnel shuttle from Folkestone to Coquelles near Calais. We arrived at around 2pm and continued our journey through France and Belgium into Germany. We arrived at our hotel, the Rheinlust, in time for dinner.

Sunday's activities offered a taste of the traditional Rhineland. In the morning we took a boat cruise along the River Rhine from Koblenz to Braubach, where lots of photographs were taken of the beautiful Rhine valley. After lunch we enjoyed an impressive falconry display at Burg Maus in St Goarshausen, and had a guided tour of Marksburg Castle, with its famous torture chambers. After returning to our hotel for dinner, pupils and staff enjoyed a leisurely stroll along the banks of the Rhine in the locality of our hotel, Boppard.

On Monday, we experienced something of a change of pace with an all-day visit to Phantasialand, one of Europe's leading theme parks. Pupils and staff enjoyed the thrills and spills of the day. In the evening the pupils participated in a quiz based on the trip so far, and another walk around Boppard.

Tuesday again offered a different atmosphere, this time that of a large, bustling German city. In Cologne, we visited the magnificent cathedral, the Kölnisches Wasser exhibition (the home of Eau de Cologne), and satisfied our chocolate cravings with a de-

licious visit to the Chocolate Museum, then burnt off the calories with a visit to the interactive Sports and Olympic Museum. Of course, any spare time was taken up with shopping! The evening's planned activity was ten-pin bowling at a bowling alley in Koblenz, which the pupils enjoyed.

The return journey on Wednesday was taken via the Dreiländerpunkt, the meeting point of three countries, where pupils were able to stand with a foot in Holland, a foot in Germany and a hand in Belgium. We arrived back at the Rock Block at around midnight that evening, tired but happy.

The German Rhineland Trip proved, yet again, a great success. In all, this was a well-organized trip and I thank those accompanying members of staff (VCo and AH) for their support. Here's to next year!

Memmingen Exchange

This year, King's School pupils were the first to visit their partners and, unlike in past years, the visit took place in October.

In Memmingen, the pupils were able to enjoy the annual 'Jahrmarkt', a traditional German fair, and were officially welcomed by the Mayor of Memmingen. The new Headteacher of Vöhl Gymnasium, Herr Arnold, welcomed the students to the school. There was a tour of the town and a quiz with prizes. Herr Buchmann, who is Vice Chairman of the local football team, provided grandstand tickets for a very exciting match against Helmstetten on Friday night.

Several visits were also organised for the party: to Lake Constance, with boat and train journeys to Bregenz, and a ride on the cable car to the top of the Pfänder mountain, and also to Castle Neuschwanstein and Ulm.

The stay was somewhat overshadowed by the threat of wildcat rail strikes in Germany, but these did not interfere with any of the planned activities. Herr Müller from Vöhl Gymnasium organised bus transport for one trip and had contingency plans in place for the party's return to Munich Airport which, in the end, were not necessary. The visit was a resounding success for all who took part.

Goethe-Institut Lecture: Berlin

On the afternoon of Tuesday 13th November, four students from the Year 13 German set, with their teacher Mrs Holmes, travelled to Manchester to visit the Goethe-Institut both to hear

a talk on the modern history of the city of Berlin, delivered by the Director of the Goethe-Institut, Wolfgang Winkler, and to use the institute's library resources for their own research.

Year 13 Germanists were studying the novel *Ich Fühl Mich So Fifty-Fifty* by Karin König as part of the coursework that represents fifteen per cent of students' A Level marks. The text is concerned with the division, and subsequent reunification, of Germany in the post-war years and the effects that these events had on German citizens from both the East and the West.

Herr Winkler has previously visited the school to deliver this talk and it has proven to be most beneficial for the students. The talk was conducted solely in German and Herr Winkler used a wide variety of media to aid understanding, including PowerPoint presentations, overhead projections and handouts. He is an informative and passionate yet humorous public speaker and the students all commented on how enjoyable the talk was.

The afternoon was a success and a productive visit.

MSTH

Spanish Visit

A cold February morning saw a party of 20 Spanish students and 4 members of staff set off to Valladolid in northern Spain. The students, from Years 10 to 13, were to take part in a home-stay visit and enjoy a week immersing themselves in non-tourist Spain. A 24 hour coach journey took us to Valladolid where our students, nervous but valiant, were met by their host families and whisked off for a very late supper and bed after a tiring day. Lessons started at 10 o'clock the following morning and were conducted wholly in Spanish by native speaker teachers. The morning break was always eagerly awaited, when our students would congregate in a local coffee bar for coffee and pastries before returning for further Spanish lessons.

Lunch time saw the students finding their way home to their families for a lengthy and heavy lunch. Reports were made of eating many weird and wonderful things hitherto unseen but, as has been the case on previous Spanish trips, our students tried everything put in front of them and, even having discovered they had eaten sheep's stomach and pig ears,

took it all in their stride...even if determining not to try them again! One of our students, so keen to live Spanish life to the full, felt unable to say no to anything and so answered 'sí' to whatever was offered, even though this meant three helpings of Weetabix at dinner time, followed by dinner.

One of the highlights of the trip was a visit to the Bernabeu football stadium, home to Real Madrid. The 18 boys, 2 girls and staff enjoyed wandering around this impressive stadium and our students were quick to notice that Spanish football fans tend to litter the ground with 'pipas' (sunflower seeds) instead of hamburger wrappers! Many impressive photos were taken and the visit ended with a visit to the Real Madrid shop.

Keen to immerse themselves in local life, the group spent one afternoon playing football down by the river bank on a make-shift pitch, kindly organised and refereed by Mr Houghton. The pupils were eager to improve their skills so we booked an indoor pitch at a sport's centre for later in the week. A visit to a local school was arranged by one of the host families and our Year 12 students spent one morning comparing education in Spain with Britain. Our students are never likely to forget the trampolining lesson they witnessed in the gym and returned with a realistic impression of life in a Spanish school.

The most challenging aspect of the trip for our students and the one which, ultimately, provided the most entertainment, was the home-stay arrangement. Two boys stayed on a farm outside the city; three Year 13 students, who believed themselves to be mature and independent, were astonished to be looked after, in true Spanish style, by their host 'mama' who walked them to the bus stop every morning, tried to tuck them in at night and insisted on calling them 'mis 3 ratitos' ('My 3 little mice'); and Mr Fico's family, keen to offer him an insight into all things Spanish, gave him a crash course in Spanish history from the Stone Age to 2008, during the nightly aperitif.

City trips require a lot of organization and special thanks is given to Miss Smalley, Mr Fico and Mr Houghton for their never-ending support and good humour throughout the week. Our third King's Spanish trip showed our students to be resilient, fun and keen to embrace, even, at times endure, all things Spanish;

they are now looking forward to the next trip.

Music

Autumn 2007 began, as it usually does at King's, with the choirs vying with the shops for the earliest mention of Christmas. It may seem strange to be singing carols in early September, but we have no time to lose and much music to learn from memory if the choral concerts and services are to be a success. As the choirs re-form, with auditions of new members and some singers moving up from junior to senior choirs, the instrumentalists are not forgotten, with bands and orchestras beginning again after the Summer break. The Wind Band, no longer called 'Training Wind Band', enjoyed a great residential rehearsal weekend in Staffordshire in early October, followed by the String Orchestra making the first of their two weekend trips to Trigonos in North Wales in early November (what fun and food, and plenty of rehearsal).

The Year 8 Boys' Music Evening, such a success last year, was repeated with all of this year's Year 8 taking part, singing, playing, demonstrating skills on unconventional instruments - like basketballs and wooden sticks - based on exciting visits to see 'Stomp' at The Lowry. A large group of musicians from Years 11 to 13 also performed in supporting roles, having helped rehearse the performers for many weeks.

The Foundation Choir enjoyed their annual Sunday all-day rehearsal in November, followed by a sumptuous Thai banquet. The Autumn Instrumental Concert contained fine performances from a range of ensembles (flutes, guitars, percussion, saxophones); a new Jazz Octet containing senior players from the Big Band, Wind Band and Concert Band; Big Band and Jazz Band, String Orchestra and Foundation Orchestra. The latter were playing classical greats, a Bach Keyboard Concerto from the Strings and the first movement of Beethoven's First Symphony from the Foundation Orchestra. Once again, the audience were unstinting in their appreciation of the high quality of performance achieved by a very large number of pupils of all ages, made more enjoyable because of the obvious enjoyment of the performers.

As December arrived it was time

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for the choirs to excel in a King's Sings concert in the Macclesfield Methodist Church and a Family Carol Service in St Michael's Parish Church. Both occasions gave an opportunity for the BFC (Years 7 and 8 mixed choir), the Girls' Division Choir and the Foundation Choir to join together in concert and worship, the latter being a service of carols and readings from a variety of Biblical and other sources, a lovely alternative to the Foundation Choir's traditional Nine Lessons and Carols, sung in Chester Cathedral and St Michael's in alternate years.

The new year was hardly begun when the huge flute ensemble went off to enjoy a weekend at Trigonos. February began with 'The Ash Girl', a Girls' Division drama production with staff and pupil musicians playing the excellent incidental music composed for the occasion by Head Girl, Anna Beesley. At the end of the same month, as the search for Oliver and Nancy gripped the watchers of national television, King's wowed audiences with its own production of 'Oliver'; four nights of packed and enthusiastic houses thrilling to a production of youthful verve and musical quality. From a cast of over fifty pupils from Years 7 to 12, there were many outstanding performances. Stars of the future included Tom Cunningham

(Mr Bumble), Matthew Dalton (Artful Dodger), Ruairidh Nichols (Oliver), Rosie Hardy (Nancy) and Holly Fraser as a feisty, female Fagin.

The day after 'Oliver' finished, the Big Band went to St Andrew's Church, Cheadle Hulme, to give a superb concert and raise the tremendous figure of £1,200 in aid of the Barnabus Trust. King's has raised many thousands of pounds for a variety of charities over many years, the Christmas King's Sings concert being such an occasion, which raised a large sum for the local branch of Rotary International.

The String Orchestra went to Trigonos again in March and term ended with an excellent Musical Soirée given by GCSE Music students and other pupils from Years 10 and 11, followed by the BFC singing to celebrate the school on Founders' Day.

After Easter, it was the turn of Sixth Form musicians to provide high quality music in another Musical Soirée. Just before examination candidates went on study leave, the Spring Instrumental Concert brought back all the ensembles, bands and orchestras, for a final celebration, including a world premiere of a piece for String Orchestra and solo piano (ably performed by Katy Mycock, putting down her violin for the occasion), composed by our very own Mrs Beesley, who dedicated the piece 'To

Trigonos', our favourite Welsh weekend retreat. As the concert drew to a close, and a number of Year 13 pupils played the final notes of their musical lives at King's, some tears were shed but the Foundation Orchestra tried to ensure there were no sinking feelings as they performed the music from 'Titanic'. The Big Band, Jazz Band and Jazz Octet performed a whole evening of jazz early in May.

Most of the instrumental music was over for the year, but the choirs were still working hard. The BFC had a mid-May mini-tour, taking in Blackpool Pleasure Beach, Windermere Youth Hostel and a lovely Sunday afternoon concert in Cartmel Priory. The top performers from the annual Years 7 to 9 House Music Competition came together at the end of term to showcase the excellence of music achievement and promise in those years. The last senior school concert was a festival of singing, King's Sings, with all the senior choirs once again giving great entertainment, the Foundation Choir in preparation for its exciting trip to Lake Geneva, leaving on the last day of term. Over sixty pupils and seven staff flew to Geneva, staying in Evian and giving three outstanding concerts in Evian, Lausanne and Geneva. No wonder pupils remember their involvement in King's music with such affection in years to come, many returning to concerts and services as members of the audience and congregation. Indeed, such is the comradeship of the Foundation Choir that former members have now become members of an august body which rejoices in the name 'Foundation Cream', coming together for a drink after musical events and a dinner at a local restaurant.

One can only be thankful for the superb work of the peripatetic team, without whom a number of the ensembles and bands would not be possible, the excellence and dedication of one's colleagues on the Music staff, and the talent and sheer good nature of the musical pupils who bring us all such joy.

AKG

Foundation Choir Tour 2008

A combination of the beautiful French scenery, historic churches and cathedrals and the incredible Lake Geneva made for another enjoyable choir tour this year. The tour started with a long journey by coach down to Heathrow on the last day of term,





but this only gave us time to build up excitement about the tour ahead of us. We stayed in the amazing town of Evian (yes, the place where the water comes from), which, although it was very hilly, was a traditional French town and we had an outstanding view of the lake from our hostel.

The choir was fortunate enough to be able to perform in three different venues, the first being a beautiful church in Evian. This evening performance created a bubbling atmosphere and we rounded up a lot of support from the locals. The second concert was in the beautiful town of Lausanne, where we sang in a magnificent concert hall, after having taken a trip across the lake into Switzerland earlier that day. Finally, we finished off our tour, with a concert in a church in the stunning town of Geneva.

Although we did spend our time working hard, singing our little hearts out, we had quite a bit of fun as well. We had tour Olympics, consisting of three-legged football races, memory games and extreme charades. We also had the opportunity to swim in the lake; even though it was cold, it proved to be great fun. The last night brought about the event most of us had been waiting for: the talent show. The talent ranged from spoofs on Busted to story telling from *Alice in Wonderland* to boys showing a little skin. As an event that involved both teachers and students, it proved a fantastic end to a fantastic tour.

The tour was a great success and, as it was the last of my King's career, I'm glad to say it was the most enjoyable one I have been on, though sad that it was my last. I am sure I am right in saying that this tour was not only a great start to the summer for all, but that it will also prove to be a cherished memory of King's for those of us who were about to venture into the big wide world of University.

Sophie Vobra

Junior Music

The first musical event of the year was the Year 4 pantomime, which this year was 'Dick Whittington'. This version of the story featured Dick and his cat, Tiddles, played by Zarin Salehin and Alicia Roberts, who unwittingly became engaged in a battle with a villainous King Rat, played with real swagger by Sam Brindle, and his gang of evil henchrats!

All the Year 4 children learnt songs, actions and a percussion accompaniment and each class had an individual dance to learn. Favourite songs were the rock 'n' roll 'Rat Pack', and 'Downtown' made famous by Petula Clarke.

Another popular song was 'The swanee whistle waltz' which, on the night, involved Mrs Turner and Mr Shaw performing on swanee whistles which they did with great gusto, almost stealing the show!

The audience of family and friends really enjoyed seeing the enthusiasm, confidence and joy in the children's performance.

At the end of November, Christmas came early as we held our Junior Christmas Concert. This featured all of the vocal and instrumental ensembles and some of our more advanced Junior musicians performed solos. Highlights were the performance by the Wind, Brass and Percussion Ensemble of the calypso, 'Under the sea'; The String Ensemble playing a pizzicato arrangement of 'Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer' and the Lower and Upper Junior Choirs singing a variety of styles of choral pieces with great confidence. Also on this occasion, we were delighted to watch the first performance by the Junior Boys' Jazz Dance Group who moved with great style to 'Men in Black'.

The Carol Service, celebrated in St. Michael's Parish Church, ended the Autumn Term and all the Junior pupils participated. Each year group sang a song by Sheila Wilson as part of the re-telling of the Christmas story. Year 5 sang 'Let the bells ring out', a song of joy at this time of festival; Year 3 performed 'Prince of Peace' using the words that Gabriel spoke to Mary; Year 4's song was 'No Christmas Trees', telling of Jesus' humble birth and Year 6 performed 'Gloria in Excelsis' which expressed the awe and wonder of the Wise Men. Bible passages and prayers were read by Year 6 children and 6JEB performed the sketch 'Spelling out Christmas' which reminded us to think of the meaning of the celebration.

In March, the Year 5 pupils took

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part in the Macclesfield and Bollington Schools' Music Festival at the Leisure Centre. The children sang a variety of songs that included actions, and singing in rounds. The schools involved added mime and movement to several of the songs and 5NS enjoyed dancing to 'The Runaway Train'.

The cantata this year was 'Easter', written by Mrs. Lea, which told the Bible story with a series of songs and narrations.

King's individual item was the song and dance, 'Puttin' on the Ritz'. All the children enjoyed adding actions with a sparkly hat as a prop; Fred Astaire would have been proud of them!

Year 5 repeated 'Easter' for our festival Service at St. Paul's Church at the close of the unusually short Spring Term. Our Junior String Group also took part in the service and played the spiritual, 'Down by the riverside'. The Year 3& 4 choir sang two delightful songs, 'Steal away' and 'Jesus wants me for a sunbeam' with beautiful part singing from such young children.

Year 6 returned to school in April with the challenge of finishing and polishing a musical in one week!

However, their realisation of 'ANTiphony', by John Preskett and John Kane

was definitely up to the usual high standard expected from our oldest Junior pupils. The story tells of two ant colonies whose lives are changed by a visit from a couple of grass-

hopper buskers, Gaston and Cigale. The buskers' music first inspires happiness but then, encouraged by the Soldier Queen, war between the colonies. However, love overcomes all and harmony is finally restored, literally! Juliette Gorb and Josh Stephenson sang delightfully as the two grasshoppers with Jake Phillips giving a mature performance as the sly fly. Louise Bates and Laura Embrey added comedy as the rival Queens and all Year 6 children appeared in a variety of guises – soldiers, workers, courtiers, committee members, often with only seconds to change character and costume and return to the stage! It was a very happy and memorable three nights and the supportive audience of family and friends were amazed at these talented young performers.

The Junior Music Festival was held over three mornings at the end of June. There were a record 175 entries in all, and classes were held for piano, strings, brass, woodwind, percussion, voice, keyboard, guitar and ensemble.

We heard solos from oboes, French horns, flutes, violas and cellos to name just a few of the instruments played and also enjoyed flute and

recorder groups, piano, vocal and violin duets.

King's Young Musicians were encouraged to think about how to present a song to an audience; the importance of using all of the bow when playing a stringed instrument; good breath control for woodwind and brass players and lots more valuable advice.

The most important reason for the competition is to encourage the children to keep practising and to give all a chance to play in public. The competitors each earned housepoints for their house and the overall winner of the Music Competition in 2008 was Tatton.

The last full day of term was a feast of music. Year 5 soloists performed at the afternoon prizegiving and in the evening parents and pupils returned to enjoy the Summer Concert.

Year 6 class winners performed items and our many and varied ensembles showed the full range of musical talent in the Junior Department. The highlight of the concert was the world premiere, given by the Year 5 and 6 Choir, of a composition written for the choir by the renowned composer, Adam Gorb. 'Everyone Sang' is a musical setting of the poem by Siegfried Sassoon and is beautiful and



yet haunting in mood. The children rehearsed intensively in the preceding weeks to ensure that this important first performance was polished and they should be congratulated on their excellent singing in the concert. It was a wonderful experience for all involved and we thank Mr Gorb for his beautiful composition.

A/JL

Physics

Headstart – From bug to bottle

Every so often, another ‘wonder drug’ appears in the news, promising a new way to target cancer cells or relieve the symptoms of cystic fibrosis. As I learnt from the week-long course I attended this summer, the principal aim of a biochemical engineer is to bring such treatments from concept to reality.

The course, which was held at University College, London (UCL), was an excellent mix of activities including lectures, group presentations and computer-based exercises. On the first day, we were thrown in at the deep end and asked to work in groups to research the lifecycle of HIV and develop a drug to treat AIDS. Besides deciding how the treatment would work, we also had to consider how it could be manufactured, trialled and delivered to patients, before advertising our drug to a panel of judges.

Throughout the week, the teaching drew on aspects from all three major scientific disciplines as well as touching on patent law and economics. My personal highlight was a tour round the pilot plant at UCL followed by a practical, looking at the physics behind bioreactor design. It wasn’t all hard work though, as we got the chance to enjoy a banquet in Chinatown, a BBQ and a trip on the London Eye. These activities were a good time to make friends with others on the course as well as chat informally with staff and postgraduates. Since it was my first ever visit to London, I also experienced my first ride on the Tube and even rode on the front seat of one of the famous red buses!

The Headstart course was a great insight into university life and I would recommend it to anyone with an interest in using a combination of the sciences to solve practical issues.

Sarah Gales

Headstart: A Burning Issue

When I entered year 12, I knew I wanted to do something engineering related at university, but had no idea what particular aspect interested me. So when Dr Hollis showed me the course details, I looked on the website and decided Headstart could help me decide. I went to Manchester University on a general engineering course, spread over four days, with about 40 others. There seemed to be an awful lot of people there when I first entered the meeting room.

On the first day, we had a range of getting to know each other exercises and in the evening a lecture on engineering in toys. This was very fascinating and presented by an old friend of mine, which meant I had to do the experiment that got the person soaked. Meals were served in the staff dining areas and were far nicer than school dinners. Afterwards we were allowed to socialise, and I got to know about half the people there.

The second day consisted of three different engineering based activities. We were split into three teams, then into smaller groups. My team’s first activity was to connect a water system up in such a way that one of five tanks could be drained while the others were being filled, using only a limited amount of materials.

The next activity was to create a power conductor from common household goods, and to try and get it to withstand 200,000 volts. This also had to be tested under wet conditions, as the giant electricity pylons these are used on, are open to all types of weather. My team shocked even the Electrical Engineering lecturer, who was explaining everything to us, when we managed to set our conductor on fire, while it was raining; the first time he had seen this happen in over forty years’ teaching. Lunch followed, during which we experienced one of the most interesting events of the entire course. One of the girls was Jewish so had brought herself some special food. In front of everyone at the table, she opened the box, poured in two sachets of liquid, and sat back as steam began to erupt. We had to stop one person from grabbing a fire extinguisher when she explained she hadn’t exactly expected that!

The rest of lunch was uneventful, then we headed for our final activity, a go in the university’s flight simulator. Now I will admit straightaway that I

crashed it, but it is a lot harder to land an airplane than it seems in movies, especially when the man in charge of the simulation reduced visibility to almost zero. Excuses aside, it was great fun watching everyone else crash too. In the evening we went for a tour of the university and Manchester. This proved enlightening to me as I live only twenty minutes away but I learned a lot from our student guides.

The third and final day was a more relaxed one than the previous hectic one. We had presentations from previous engineering students at Manchester on what they are doing in the world of work. Faces fell when an automotive engineer told them that though he designed what could go on a car, he did not design what the car would eventually look like. After lunch, we were free for the afternoon before the farewell evening meal in a city centre restaurant. That dinner was probably the best time I had on the course, as I had formed a solid friendship with four other people and we had a whale of a time.

Then it was time for us to depart and return to our respective homes. I must say, I don’t regret one moment of it.

Sarah Gales

Nuffield research project: Opening the door – Could it be easier?

Sarah Gales gained a placement on a Nuffield research project, a scheme which gives students the opportunity to join a real research project with practising scientists in any area of science or technology. Projects run for four to six weeks in the summer vacation and students receive a bursary of £75 a week. Sarah worked with Bentley Motors in Crewe for a month during the summer holiday.

The aim of the project set for Sarah was to investigate the factors which affect the operating loads of car doors, that is, the forces required to open and close the doors using both the interior and exterior door handles. The results of Sarah’s investigation would then be used to suggest possible alternative designs that could reduce the forces required to open and close the doors on new Bentley cars. Sarah carried out numerous tests over the four week period

Among the factors which she considered were the weight of the door, the nature of the seal around the door, the length of the door handle,

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er, Chief Executive of the Engineering Development Trust of which The Year in Industry is part. In front of around 200 guests from industry and professional institutions, James received his certificate from the Institute of Physics, plus a cheque for £250.

CPH

Psychology

The Psychology Department settled happily into its new quarters in the Sixth Form Centre, where it occupies very well equipped rooms. The Departmental Website, with a wide range of notes, powerpoint presentations, details of homework set, and links to other websites, was established, whilst many relevant psychology videos were downloaded onto the shared drive for use in lessons.

Students had the opportunity to go on a number of trips and lectures including: a trip to Twycross Zoo to observe primates and listen to a talk

the route taken by the cable connecting the handle to the locking mechanism and the nature of the lubricants used on the moving parts. She was then required to produce a written report on her findings. She concluded that the factor which could be most easily changed and which would have the single most significant effect was the routing of the cable from the door handle to the locking mechanism.

Sarah found her time with Bentley Motors most rewarding and would urge other students to take part in the Nuffield Project Scheme.

CPH

A Year in Industry with Shell Global Solutions

The Year in Industry scheme provides talented young people with paid, degree-relevant work placements in their gap year. Whilst in his final year at King's, James Collinson successfully applied to take part in the scheme and subsequently joined Shell Global Solutions, a company that provides cutting-edge consultancy and technology services to petrochemical and processing industries

James performed brilliantly throughout his year with Shell, gaining the respect of all of his colleagues and was duly named as Best Physicist 2008. The awards ceremony took place at the University of Manchester Conference Centre in July and guests of honour included Dr Gordon Mizn-



on the evolution of intelligence; Villiers Park Educational Trust residential courses; Criminal Psychology Lectures at Manchester University; the Heythrop Psychology Essay competition held by the University of London and a residential Psychology Course at Nottingham University.

Twycross Zoo

The A2 Psychology students went to Twycross Zoo in Warwickshire in September as part of their Evolutionary Explanations of Human Behaviour topic. Twycross has the biggest collection of Bonobo chimpanzees. These are genetically the closest animal to humans, sharing over 97% of humans' DNA.

As ever, the zoo staff gave an excellent, interesting and informative talk which the students and staff enjoyed. A wide range of interesting and informative examples were used, provoking much debate and the group had ample time to walk around the zoo looking at the animals. Twycross specializes in primates so the group was also able to see (and hear) howler monkeys, gorillas and baboons, to name but three.

Religion and Philosophy

The Religion and Philosophy department bade farewell to Liz Pentreath (as well as the invisible rhino) and welcomed a new head of department; Robin Jackson, previously from Fallibroome School. A practising Buddhist, Robin has been able to add a new flavour to discussions about philosophical issues and is thoroughly enjoying the cut and thrust of argument and debate that echoes around the walls of L1.

Speaking of L1: the adjoining office was gutted and refreshed over the summer to become the gleaming hub of the Religion and Philosophy department at Cumberland Street. Textbooks, teaching and learning materials are now visible and accessible to all members of the department.

Access is a key word for the Religion and Philosophy department. In September the department was the first in the school to develop a 'googlepages' website. The site proved popular with the A-level and GCSE students in particular and contains countless powerpoints, worksheets and links to help them with their

studies. Recently it has linked up with the new Psychology website and is beginning to establish cross-curricular links at the crest of the IT wave.

This year, the department excelled again where it really matters. The results at both GCSE and A-level were superb. With the exception of only two or three, every student who took the GCSE achieved a grade 'A' or higher. These fantastic results mean that students who take R&P at all externally examined levels are consistently achieving the highest grades of any subject that they take. In fact, the statistics tell us that students are achieving on average one grade higher in R&P than they would have done in other subjects across the foundation. Special recognition must be given to Rebecca Agour, Malvika Acharya and David Pook, who steered the students through their exams with professionalism, enthusiasm and aplomb.

The A-level grades were also very good with philosophers achieving 3 As, 2 Bs and a C and the Religious Studies students achieving 5 As, 2 Bs, a C and a D.

The AS grades were also very encouraging. Every Philosophy student decided to continue into A2 with the potential for achieving 5 As and 2 Bs. Of particular note is the fact that no less than 5 of the 7 students are applying to continue their study of Philosophy at degree level.

Religious Studies is equally impressive. Of the 16 who started the course last year, only three have left us at A2. Again, it is worth noting that 4 of the 13 remaining students are applying to continue their studies at university level.

The headline? Nearly half of the students who took either Philosophy or Religious Studies at A level are continuing with the subject at degree level.

This speaks volumes about the department and is testament to the passion for the subject that the members of staff awake in their students.

As with most subjects, the R&P department spent much of the summer preparing for the new A-levels in Religious Studies and Philosophy. We are looking forward to teaching these for the first time this year. The new courses look fresh and dynamic and we hope that the students will continue to enjoy the issues covered as much as they have in previous years.

One important feature of any successful department is its willingness

to engage with the outside world. Last year the department did just this with two major visits. In collaboration with History, the department took every Year 9 student to the Holocaust museum (Beth Shalom) where we were fortunate enough to hear first hand experience from survivors of the concentration camps, a deeply moving experience for all who were there. Later on in the year, Year 7 students went to Liverpool where they visited the two cathedrals as part of their 'denominations' project. Some of the 3D models that were subsequently constructed were fantastic. The Year 10 boys and girls both experienced a Christian marriage (their own!) as conducted by the Reverend Squares who visited the school. The philosophers were able to pick the brains of Roger Fellows, a lecturer at Bradford University, who presented arguments for whether or not computers can think. The Religious Studies A-level students went to a conference in Manchester and experienced the power and passion of Peter Vardy, a giant in the field and a privilege to hear. Finally, Rebecca Agour organized what continues to be an invaluable revision retreat for the Year 11 students at Savio House.

The department continually seeks to refresh its methods of teaching, and with that in mind, Malvika Acharya organized a fantastic INSET for the department around the theme of a 'Theatre of Learning', in which Sue Phillips expanded our horizons with her imaginative and innovative approach to Teaching and Learning. This is something that we have already incorporated into a new and exciting scheme of work for Year 9.

We are thoroughly looking forward to 2008/9.

RJ

Charities

Sixth Form Charities

This year saw the continuation of the King's traditional Sixth Form Charity Fashion Show which raised over £3000 for Christie's against Cancer and Francis House. As ever, rehearsals were the most stressful part of the whole ordeal; the boys forced Nikki to go back to primary school teaching methods of 'fingers on the lips boys!' which proved rather effective. The girls once again proved to be the superior sex with regards to dancing, but even though the boys led them to insanity at one point, the same boys really pulled it out of the bag on the night and the cross-dressing was the most unforgettable performance of the evening. The dancers were absolutely amazing and the event organisers could not have asked for more from them. Everyone contributed in one way or another and the evening was a great success.

During February and in celebration of St Valentine's Day, hundreds of roses were sold and delivered across the Foundation by glamorous Sixth Form students. Amorous pupils, loving couples and secret admirers helped the committee to raise £271.96 for Christie's against Cancer.

*Nikki Keys, Priya Sodha and Chris Mysco
Social and Charities Committee*

Charities at Fence Avenue

In the Autumn Term the girls embarked on a very ambitious project: to build a classroom in Africa, under the auspices of Oxfam. The Girls' Divi-

sion was busy with over 50 fundraising activities taking place within the term. The Head Girl, Anna Beesley, was sponsored to (successfully) learn the name of every girl in Years 7 to 11; Form Groups held themed fairs in the Hall, and a group sang Christmas carols in Sainsbury's. There are too many activities to report on individually, but it was a privilege to witness girls working together towards a common aim. The project brought out the very best in the girls who raised over £3500, which built 2 classrooms.

After the frenzy of the Autumn Term, the Spring Term was quieter with fundraising taking place in Houses. Each House chose a charity to support and the girls were creative in their fundraising efforts.

When the summer examination period was over, girls got active with bag packing in Sainsbury's for The East Cheshire Hospice, buying and selling refreshments on Sports Day and participating in a Think Pink party at the end of term in aid of Genesis.

The girls should feel proud of their efforts. Thanks to their compassion, enthusiasm and determination, the Division donated almost £5000 to a variety of charities in just one year.

LFA

Girls' House Activities

New House Captains each year bring fresh impetus to the mixed-age House groups. This year was no exception. In at least one House the Year 11s organized a party for the Year 7 girls and for the first time a King Ball competition was held involving

all age groups.

The combination of House rivalry and fund raising was used a number of times during the year.

The highlight of the year was the House Talent Show at Christmas. This time, Capesthorne stole the show with their delightful routines based round Harry Potter, and there was even a cameo role for Mr Patey-Ford as Dumbledore.

At the end of the year more money was raised at a Pink Party and a competition, Women Down the Ages, was won by Alice Taylor and Charlotte Howlett depicting Ellen MacArthur and crew. Second place went to Rosie Taylor as Amy Winehouse, with Jenni Pinches as Queen Victoria coming third. Capesthorne won the competition for a short sketch about the suffragettes, with a clever mimed musical interpretation.

The house trophy was won by Taton.

TGN

Children in Need

As in the rest of the country on 16 November, the Junior Division joined in support of Children in Need Day. As usual, the children were allowed to come into school in casual dress on this day, with a donation of £1 being requested in aid of this much-loved event. Children joined in the fun with their own fund-raising initiatives – most notably, 5AER's cake sale raised over £120 which helped to swell the total money raised by the Division as a whole to over £575.

Friends of King's

Friends of King's have had another busy year supporting the school in various ways.

In September, Sara Rex once again welcomed new parents to a coffee morning, which was a great success and gave new and old parents a chance to meet each other.

The AGM in October brought in new and very enthusiastic members to the committee; it's always really good to have an injection of fresh ideas.

In December, the committee helped at the 6th Form Fashion Show, which raises funds for charity, by providing and serving the refreshments – thanks go to Kim Ross for organising the refreshments and all the committee members who helped on the night.



Jane Bridge and her army of helpers organized a very successful Christmas Fair. This event seems to grow every year; it's our biggest fund raising event and a big thank you goes to Jane and all the committee members plus parents and friends of the school who helped.

Sara Rex also organised two very enjoyable Parents' Lunches. Parents were entertained by excellent speakers and served a delicious lunch. Sara's ability to organize and run these events and still keep smiling makes us all very grateful to have her as a member of the committee.

Joan Higham holds second hand uniform sales throughout the year; these sales not only raise funds for the school but also help parents out by offering uniforms and sports kit at very reasonable prices.

The Summer Ball was held at Adlington Hall and once again was a great success. Our appreciation goes to Sarah McNaught and Barbara Collins for their fantastic organizational skills.

In addition to the fund raising activities, Friends of King's also supported the school at various social events and parents' evenings, making numerous financial donations to the school.

We raised approximately £5,500, whilst a total of approximately £6,000 was donated.

Elaine Burgess has provided fantastic leadership for Friends of King's as our Chair and her hard work and creativity have greatly benefited this group and the school as a whole.

Friends of King's

Darfur Survivor Visit

Year 10 pupils, Isabel Wilkinson and Katie Reid (pictured), were so moved by the presentation on the genocide in Darfur they saw during last year's Enrichment residential course, that they decided to organize a visit to the school by a survivor. They contacted the AEGIS group to arrange this: it took several emails and detailed organization within the school, all of which they undertook themselves.

The survivor spoke very movingly to Year 10 about what happened to his country and what he felt the rest of the world needed to do to prevent further atrocities. As a result of the visit, the Year 10 group decided to go



to the Beth Shalom Holocaust Centre in order to learn more about Darfur. They also decided to raise money for the centre. In addition, Isabel and Katie have helped narrate a DVD, about Darfur, for the centre.

Engineering Challenge

Part of the Gifted and Talented programme, this was a super day with lots of fun. Based at Salford University, the event involved many teams from all over the North West of England. The team taken to this event comprised two Year 10 boys, Peter Nixon and Jake Knowles, and two girls from Fallibroome who joined up during a previous round at King's. The competition was based around a Lego Mindstorms system, using a Lego computer brick that was built into a simple robot, which the team had to control to make it drive around a course.

The team had a series of challenges on the day, from simply making the buggy go forward following a line, to making it climb a steep ramp and stop when it found a Lego body on the track.

Building the robot itself took about an hour, and then the hard part came - developing the programming to make it complete the tasks. The team worked exceptionally well together, quickly getting to grips with the programming skills, testing and suggesting improvements and modifications. In most of the tasks, the team was first to complete and eager to move on to more and more complicated things. By the end of the day, the ro-

bot was able to follow a line drawn on a table, navigate up the ramp and find the 'bodies' in a building.

For their efforts, the team was awarded second place in the competition, a travesty in most eyes, but all were given a fantastic trophy as a reward for their efforts. Qualification for the national final was gained by the second place finish, but because of dates and availability the team was not able to compete. Bring on next year!

European Youth Parliament

In February, a team of eight pupils from Year 12 participated in the North West Regional forum of the European Youth Parliament at Wallasey Town Hall. The students involved initially were: Josh Wood, Harry Phillips, Emily Middleton, Priya Sodha, Alex Quinn, Charlotte Turner, Helena Thornley and Julia Phillips

The pupils were allocated the title 'Constitutional Affairs', and had to oppose a motion for a resolution proposing the installation of a transcontinental pipeline to deliver fossil fuels to member states of the European Union. They also joined in other debates on the issues surrounding the questions of furthering research in the Arts and Humanities, the rise of budget air travel, and the challenges of an ageing population.

Josh Wood delivered the three minute opposing speech. He spoke with great conviction and engaged his audience throughout, making convincing arguments for the im-

plementation of Nuclear Power and for research into renewable energy sources as the energy of the future. Emily Middleton had to make a three minute summation speech, which had to take into account points raised in the debate.

The judges praised the team-work of the pupils, their passion and the quality of the strong speeches, as well as their maturity and insightful responses, and said that rarely had it been so easy to choose the winning team. Having won this heat, the team went on to represent the North West in the National finals in Durham in September.

Two new members, Jay Richardson and Christian Bridge, joined the team for the National finals at the University of Durham, where, over the course of three days, debating on a series of current political and social issues affecting citizens of the European Union took place between fourteen teams from all regions of the United Kingdom.

The team worked very hard in preparing for the debates, and were praised by the judges for their refreshing and positive approach, for their great teamwork and their innovative ideas.

Whilst they did not win the national finals, the team enjoyed their weekend and the interaction with new friends, were fantastic ambassadors for the school and a credit to themselves.

VCo

National Holocaust Museum

In December, half of Year 9 embarked on a two-hour bus journey to the National Holocaust Museum, near Nottingham. I found the visit very interesting, but rather disturbing: I was shocked to see how Jews were treated badly for no real reason.

Firstly, when we arrived at the centre we walked through a commemorative garden. I was moved by this because of the masses of flowers dedicated to people who had died, and that this was only at a centre in England. I don't know how many flowers and dedications there would have been in central Europe, where the 'action' went on.

Next, we went into the exhibition which really made me think. I was confused and dismayed to think that these people had died for noth-

ing, just for their beliefs. I was lucky enough to overhear Mr. Jackson giving a tour, so I joined it. I was not previously aware of the suffering of the Jews in World War II and all the way through I could not help but think, 'Why? Why would anyone do this? Why?' I just couldn't understand.

Then, at the end, we met a charming old couple who had been in the same concentration camp and didn't know that until they met afterwards. They both had totally different stories; both were amazing. I found the talks really interesting because it made me feel so much closer to actual events. I really enjoyed the day and would recommend anyone to visit the museum.

James Occleston

Outdoor Activities

The rhythm of the Outdoor Activity year is dictated by the seasons, so normally there are opportunities for camping, both in the valley and high in the hills, in early Autumn and Summer. This year was no exception in that a large group visited a new campsite, untried until now, near Dolwyddelan in late September. However, the weather was very inclement in the region and after an abortive attempt

to reach Crib Goch in thick mist and drizzle, it was decided to head to the sunshine on Anglesey for a game of Manhunt in the dunes near Llanddwyn Island. On the second day, the weather was no better so an early retreat to Moel Famau in Denbighshire led to much drier conditions and a good day out.

The next fixture in the calendar last autumn was the weekend in the Yorkshire Dales, when pupils can try their hand at caving and explore some very fine, sometimes challenging caverns. Saturday morning saw an early team explore Lower and Upper Long Churn, together with a crawl through the Cheesepress. After the customary lunch at Horton, the afternoon involved a strong group in a demanding journey through the Old Ing-Dismal Hill series which is very varied and strenuous, leading to an emergence after 3 hours underground about 50m from the point of entry! On Sunday, those with energy still in their system took a journey through Browgill-Calf Holes system but their exit was held up by the descent of a group of 18 coming into the cave which took nearly an hour.

In the Spring term snow was sought in the Lake District but sadly only high winds and rain were found. A keen group climbed the full length



of Grisedale, then onto the Helvellyn massif in very high winds and thick mist. The descent of Swirral Edge was enlivened by a little snow but soon the party was safely down to find that two other adult groups had been beaten back earlier in the day by the conditions, retreating to the Youth Hostel after only 2-3 hours out. Sunday saw a great improvement and in sunshine the area around Hartsop was visited with one group traversing High Street, another going by Angle Tarn to Boredale Hause and back. The sun even broke through for much of the time out.

Mr Street also led an enthusiastic group of canoeists in March to paddle on Coniston, which tested their mettle. All survived well and made a foray into the woods in Grisedale for further adventures on Sunday.

The summer term began with some of the coldest April temperatures experienced for a long time. However, the sun shone for much of the time except when the Rock Climbing trip came around. An enthusiastic gang of around a dozen gathered for a day out on the Roaches, where the easterly wind sliced through anyone sitting at the top of the crag for any time i.e. the staff! Nevertheless, in conditions reminiscent of *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, the climbing was surprisingly good as below the edge was very sheltered. The group contained a cross section of pupils from Year 7 to Year 11 and there was much talent on display. The only slight blot on the day was when one of the girls dropped like a cork into a bottle, whilst negotiating a squeeze in a session of Weaseling at the end of the day. It took the combined problem-solving skills of both staff, some determined squeezing by the girl involved, but fortunately no engineering, to get her out. Bloodied but unbowed!

The Duke of Edinburgh Award practice expeditions followed when the weather had warmed up. A beautiful Spring day was followed by a very wet Spring morning to give a full range of conditions to test the troops. They all did very well, despite the usual series of navigational errors and blisters!

However, the undoubted highlight of the summer term was the attempt on the traverse of the 'Welsh 3000' peaks in Snowdonia. With a forecast for a very hot weekend, it was always going to be tough; the group also

spanned a large range, from Year 8 to Year 12, so there were concerns over the fitness and capability of everyone involved, staff included. 14 pupils and 4 staff left Pen-y-Pass car park at 0630 and traversed the ridges of Crib Goch and Crib y Ddysgl to reach Snowdon summit and descend to a waiting Dr Fitzgerald in Nant Peris by 1045. The conditions were very humid and overcast, but after a second breakfast of porridge and bacon butties, a slightly reduced group of 12 pupils left for what was the crux ascent of Elidir Fawr. This saw 5 others drop back with a further 2 leaving the group at the top of the Devil's Kitchen after Y Garn, by which time the weather was much better, with blue skies beginning to dominate and a much fresher airstream. The Glyders came and went and then, to save time, Tryfan was sacrificed but not before Stephen Cross had decided to ensure he did the lot by doing a flying ascent and descent, which he later began to regret. At Ogwen, the group reduced to four pupils plus PME and JSS. After refuelling, they took on the grind up to the summit of Pen yr Ole Wen, now in full sunlight. It was a beautiful evening on the Carneddau but time was slipping away with darkness looming. Stephen and Joschka Roffe did the out-and-back to Yr Elen minus rucksacks, which PME ported to the summit of Carned Llewelyn and then, with much cajoling and bullying, Foel Fras was reached at sunset around 2120. There were muted congratulations as it emerged that,

sadly, Stephen, who was the only one to climb all 14 summits, had lost his camera from a hole in his sack during the last few miles. JAF joined from the valley and a descent was made to the minibus, arriving under a new moon and starlight. The four finishers were: Stephen Cross, Joschka Roffe, Ben Monsey and Harriet Rhodes, but all the pupils did very well at their own level. Some easy rock climbing was done the next day, before a weary return home. For the record, the full distance is around 29 miles with around 10,000 feet of ascent!

The year came to a close with a very successful programme of Duke of Edinburgh Award expeditions, which were undertaken in largely dry weather, a notable exception being the two-hour thunderstorm which left Dent under water and nearly caused a mutiny amongst some teams. This followed the Gold expeditions nearly being swept away on a rising tide at the Langdale site. It is as though the weather is providing a test of their character and, notably, most pupils came through with flying colours.

Y9 Camp, Gradbach

As a continuation of the outdoor pursuits programme that the pupils started in Year 7, Year 9 pupils set off in their form groups for the annual expedition and camp. There was a change of venue this year too, as the expedition teams moved away from the Edale Valley, to explore new territory around the Staffordshire Moorlands.



Events & Activities

After checking their equipment and completing a practice tent pitch at school, and being dropped off at various locations, the pupils trekked as independent groups and navigated their way to rendezvous at Gradbach campsite. Pitching their own tents and cooking their evening meal themselves proved an entertaining and educational experience for many. Pupils then settled down for the night to build up their energies for the challenges of the next day.

Scenes ranging from gourmet cooking demonstrations to strange culinary experimentation with a variety of food stuffs were noted at breakfast. Once fuelled, the teams readied themselves for trekking along their routes. Some groups passed over the Roaches ridge, others went west over Gun; all had exciting experiences as they converged to finish at the reservoir at Tittesworth.

Enjoying the adventure of being out in the wilds, taking charge of their own welfare and helping out their team members, proved a valuable learning experience for all and enthused many to sign up for the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

JAF

Wales

Thirteen students from several different years spent a day on a high ropes course on Anglesey. The weather was perfect, allowing views over the Snowdonia mountain range. The morning was spent getting used to walking across logs suspended eighty feet above the ground, and in climbing trees. The afternoon saw the group cross the high ropes course that took students across rope swings, through nets, across jumps and down zip wires, all suspended high in swaying trees. All the students did exceptionally well, on what is a difficult and challenging course.

Winter Mountaineering Trip

A team of ten pupils and three staff left King's on a bright Saturday March morning with the prospect of high pressure over the Highlands, while rain was forecast for the southern half of Britain – just the job! A long journey via customary halts for refreshment en-route, saw Pitlochry youth hostel reached as Wales headed for the Grand Slam and the sun set to bring a cold night with the promise of hard frost.

The first day on the hills saw lots

of practice in using ice-axes and crampons as well as the construction of snow belays which took seven or more pupils to destroy when loaded, thus proving their efficacy. A circuit around the summit of Meall Dearg in glorious sunshine then led to the hill nearby, known as the Boar of Badenoch, and a descent to Mr Doughty, waiting in the van for the group, just as the snow showers got heavier. Johnty Marshall's attempts to walk on water came to a damp end, so he was shunned until he had changed. The party reached what was to be the residence for the next few days shortly after; the well-sited and well-appointed Pottery Bunkhouse.

In view of the weather forecast, it was decided to go on expedition the very next day, into the Grey Corries for a traverse towards the west, finishing, hopefully, on the summit of

Ben Nevis. The ascent from the track, where the minibus left everyone, to the first summit, Stob Coire Claurigh, seemed endless, but in the last few hundred feet, the transition from Spring to Winter was made and the summit shone white in the afternoon sunshine.

The traverse to the corrie where camp was made went easily enough, on good snow, affording extensive views across the whole of the western Highlands. Finally, a steep descent was made on snow where, in a previous visit, only a scree slope had existed. This led down into a good camping area but, unfortunately, the breeze would not abate and there was much construction of protective walls around tents before everyone was satisfied. There was, however, a running water supply which reduced the need to use too much fuel in melting snow



and ice for cooking.

Snow showers driven on a brisk wind affected the camp all night and the morning scene was somewhat Himalayan. It took some time to get the group going and, almost immediately, clouds began to build. A steady traverse was made over the first two hills, then a steep climb up to the cornice on the approach to Aonach Beag. By now, the clouds were very thick and heavy snow showers were blowing across every few minutes. By the time the summit was reached, there was a complete white fog all around and, with big drops on either side, a careful eye on navigation was needed. A brief clearance with bright sunlight permitted photography and then it was on by compass to the summit of Aonach Mor, passing a lone skier en-route.

Because of the weather, the decision was taken to abandon the journey to Ben Nevis, so everyone descended to the Nevis Range car park. As soon as the ski pistes were reached, the clouds rolled back to reveal a sunny afternoon as far North as the eye could see: it was a reluctant trudge back to the van.

Sustenance was obtained in Fort William and limbs were strengthened for the next day which saw the fitter remnants of the group head up the Fiacail ridge in the Cairngorms, a fine, entertaining scramble along a snow-covered ridge of granite towers and boulders to the plateau of Coire Lochain. In bright weather, the group dropped down to the snow holes in Coire Domhainn, taking lunch in one which was particularly large, then continuing to head around the hills to the summit of Cairngorm itself, before a slithering descent of another, easier, ridge back to the waiting minibus. Overnight, the temperature rose along with the wind and, as the party left the next morning, it was a very wet and foul day – the timing had been just right.

Tylecote Lecture

Sir Christian Bonington

The school was fortunate to have Sir Christian Bonington visit in the Spring term. He gave a lecture entitled 'I Chose To Climb', a biographical tour of his early years in climbing and how he came to do what he does best. Ever modest and self-deprecating, Sir Christian continually paid homage to



those he believes were his betters on the world's peaks, lovingly describing both the immense strengths and irritating idiosyncrasies of the legendary Don Whillans, Dougal Haston and Hamish McInnes.

Sir Christian was born in Hampstead in 1935 and, as his father left the nest when he was just nine months old, was brought up by his mother. 'Combining a career in advertising with single parenthood, she necessarily allowed me to explore', remembered Sir Chris, 'which is a facet of my personality that remains inherent today.' His first experience of rock climbing came as a sixteen-year-old when he hitch-hiked to a school friend from London to Snowdonia and took on the Pyg Track from Pen y Pass, a relatively simple route, now walked by thousands, but on that day subject to an avalanche that swept the novice pair down the mountain. 'I was immediately captivated and over the next few days took on many more climbs in Snowdonia; my friend Anton, however, packed his bags, went home and never ventured into the mountains again,' related Sir Chris. After disappointing in his A Levels, Sir Chris joined Sandhurst and over the next few years, combined his career as an army instructor with his love of climbing, organizing and leading numerous Army expeditions.

It was when he met famed mountain hard man Hamish McInnes that he began to take the awesome unclimbed Alpine ascents. 'I wrote to him,' Sir Chris remembered, 'and asked if we could climb the following season. He replied, certainly, and that his preferred choice would be the North Wall of the Eiger. So the next summer I found myself at the foot of the one of the great classics of mountain climbing, as what was really a beginner, looking at unchartered territory. I was looking for any excuse and when I saw some clouds on the horizon, I quickly ran off the mountain, claiming there was a weather front coming in, much to Hamish's disgust.'

Finally, on his fourth ascent, with Yorkshire climber, Ian Clough, he made the Eiger ascent and, in doing so, they became the first British climbers to succeed at the challenge, reaching the summit on the same day as two other Britons died in a stone fall lower down the face.

Bonington also described how he was the first man to make the ascent of the South West Pillar of Drus, climbing with Don Whillans who, during the attempt had fallen off a previously unassailable face and, when hanging by a rope hundreds of feet above the rocks, had shouted to him, 'I've lost my hat. My bloody fags were in that hat.' With typical modesty, Sir Chris said, 'That left the ascent to me and I knew that if Don couldn't make it, I would be in real trouble, so I cheated and shoved some pebbles into the cracks in the face to make the climb easier.' Sir Chris delighted his audience with this, his favourite lecture: 'It is, after all, about my early days when I really didn't know where I was going,' he confided.

The King's School's Tylecote Lecture celebrates great adventurers: previous speakers have included Stephen Venables and Benedict Allen. The evening was made more pleasurable by a group of Sixth Form pupils who organized a bar and who helped Sir Chris with his book sales and autographing. This was a fine evening, combining entertainment with a social history of climbing development in Britain through the 1950s and 1960s.

PME

Sixth Form Spring Ball

The annual Sixth Form Spring Ball took place in March at a new venue: the Palace Hotel, Buxton. One hundred and eighty pupils and members of staff attended, enjoying the opportunity to relax and socialise after the rigours of January examinations. A hot buffet supper was served and a lively disco lured most people on to the large dance floor.

The ball took place in the High Peak Suite and the pupils more than matched the elegance of the surroundings with their stylish response to the black tie dress code. The Social and Charities' Committee had worked hard to promote the event, select the menu and have the suite decorated with a sophisticated black and gold theme to match the gold stars on the vaulted ceiling. It was good to see their efforts repaid with such an enjoyable event.

RHR

Stomp

On a frosty night in January, a group of Year 7 boys and girls, Year 8 boys and four Year 10 pupils boarded coaches for a long journey to Manchester. Fully armed with packed teas (or fizzy drinks and sweets) they set off to the Lowry Theatre. The group chattered and giggled the whole way to Manchester, until finally they arrived at the theatre.

They hurried off the coach as the traffic had caused a bit of a delay and each was handed a ticket. They entered the theatre and checked where their friends were sitting in comparison to them. Unfortunately, not all people were happy with the results and it ended up in a huge rush to swap tickets so as to be able to sit next to friends.

The seats were great and the group could see everything clearly and there was an air of excitement around the theatre. Finally, the lights dimmed and everyone sat still to watch the show. It started with the gang of eight making music with brooms, and you wouldn't believe the incredible sounds they were producing. The party from King's sat in amazement, eyes glued to the stage.

Through the evening the band made music with many everyday items including sinks, buckets, plungers, newspapers and bin lids, and the



group sat and watched with many different reactions. Some laughed; some stared; some tapped their feet; some were completely hooked by the performers. When the show came to an end, the mood went down a little, as it was such a disappointment that the show was over.

The group left the theatre to board the buses again, and relaxed on the coach after the excitement of the whole evening. On the same night, there happened to be a Manchester United match which, unfortunately, led to disaster for one coach which got stuck in the traffic for a least half an hour. But, all in all, it was an enjoyable night for everybody and the group left full of inspiration from the band.

George Davies 8MMA

Year 10 Work Experience

Work Experience? Nervous, scared, anxious? There were many things to consider. My work experience allowed me to visit building sites, design my own house and start 3D modelling.

I travelled up to Middlesbrough and I stayed with my cousins. I worked at my uncle's architecture business. When I arrived, I was nervous and scared. I did not know what to expect. New faces, new place, new task. The first day went well: I got to know the people around me in the office. Throughout the week it became less nerve racking and, on Wednesday, I was actually looking forward to going into work. The workers there were so kind and helpful and really made my week a lot better.

I learnt a lot of new skills including drawing, measuring and 3D modelling. The most interesting part of the week was modelling and designing my own house with the aid of com-

puter software and visiting a couple of building sites. In my opinion, it was a good job to experience for a week. It allowed me to learn new activities which I would not have learnt in school and it was easier to be more open to the world around. I found out that it was better working in a team because you can get more jobs done in a shorter space of time.

My placement has helped me towards my career decisions and it was a worthwhile experience. I tried my best and also enjoyed myself. My advice to others doing work experience is to make sure that they choose a place that they would find enjoyable and interesting. They don't want a boring week at a boring job. They should have a positive attitude and dress smartly. Then they will feel part of whichever company or business they visit.

Michael Barratt 10RGD.



Bolivia

This summer 23 students from Year 12 and 13 spent 31 days in Bolivia. This was the culmination of 2 years of fundraising and planning for the 2 teams. The trip started with the teams trekking on the Isla de Sol, home of one the most important Inca temples in South America and situated in Lake Titicaca, the world's highest navigable lake. The groups then moved onto spending 3 days in the jungle hunting for anacondas, swimming with pink river dolphins and sleeping in hammocks whilst trying to avoid the attentions of the local howler monkeys. This was followed by a long overnight bus journey to the Salar de Uyuni, the world's highest and largest salt desert. What followed was 3 days driving across the flats, stopping at small 'islands' of rock in the salt wilderness, eating in the world's only salt hotel, made entirely of salt and seeing the sun rise whilst sitting in thermal springs where the outside temperature was so cold that everyone's hair froze. The main trekking phase was done in the Condoriri range of mountains where the groups camped at 15,000 feet, braving temperatures of -15 degrees before climbing the 17,700 foot Pico Austria. This is one of the highest peaks attempted

by 6th form students and over 20 made it to the summit, which was a fantastic achievement. The rest of the time was spent in La Paz, the world's highest capital city where the students shopped in the famous witches' market where everything from love potions to lucky llama foetuses were for sale.

One of the main aims of these trips is to help a local community. This time the groups did different projects. One group worked in an orphanage in the city of El Alto, a poor semi-shanty town high above La Paz. This involved demolishing walls and helping clear an area to make a garden for the orphanage as well as working with the children. The second group helped build accommodation for teachers in a school in a remote area of Bolivia as well as helping to teach the local children English.

The trip was a fantastic success and the next expedition will be to Borneo in 2010.

JSS



Creative Work



Michael Healey Y13



Finlay McCance Y6



Ashley Hinchcliffe Y13

Looking Out For You

My granddad, Walter Sime, sadly died when my dad was only fifteen years old. Stories of him and the things he did still live on, and I feel as if I knew him well.

During the Second World War my granddad was a wholesale optician. One day, a knock came on his door from a man called Max Kochmann. He was a Jewish refugee from Germany who had come to this country with very little.

My granddad invited him in and listened to his story. He was very moved by what Max told him and decided to help him. He gave him a fair amount of money and information about the optical business and, over the course of a few months, helped him to set up his own wholesale opticians. Max Kochmann's business was based in London and, with a lot of hard work from Max and help and advice from my granddad, soon became very successful.

Grandad's business was based in Manchester and was known as Sime Optical Company. This was also a successful business. Over the years, my granddad, Walter, and Max became not only business colleagues, but great friends. Walter and his family (his wife and his son, my dad) would invite Max and family to stay with them.

Max always brought beautiful gifts for my dad, who was then only a very young boy. Max was always grateful for what Grandad had done for him during the war. They both remained great friends after the war was over. Sadly, my Grandad died of a heart attack and, a few years after this, my grandma received a letter informing her that Max had also passed away.

Elliot Sime Y8



Harry Morgan Y13

Kate Nave Y11



James Gibson Y13

Creative Work

The Giants

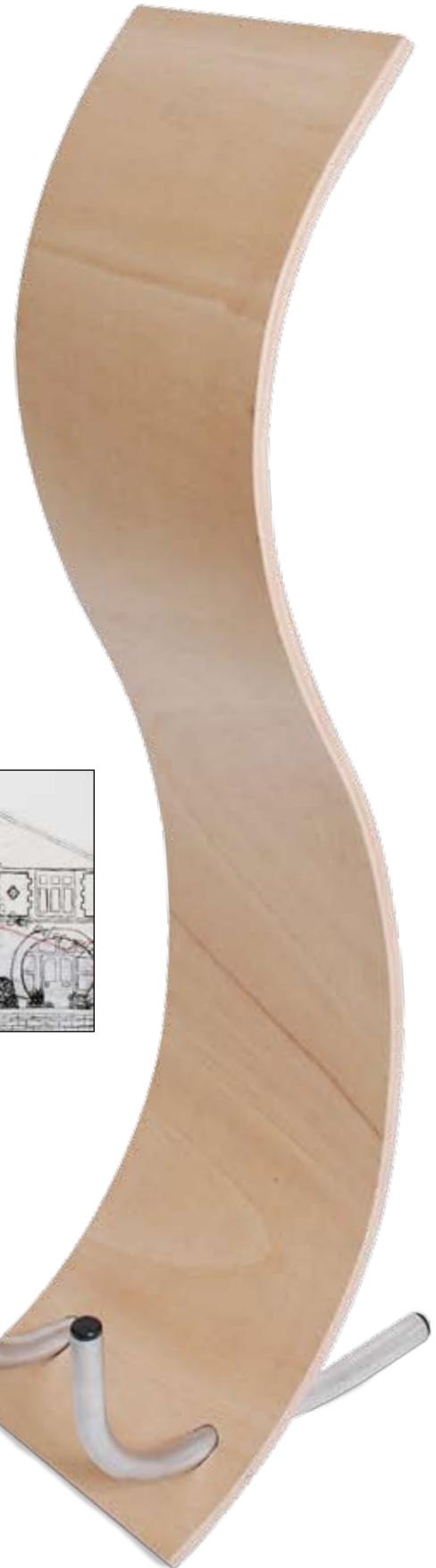
The strange smell of the milk, tickling my nose
As I make rockets. Castles. Submarines.
All formed from the red bricks that skid and crawl
Under the tables. Kipper and Biff playing with us from
Their magical worlds. And the giants that play outside.

My wobbly tooth, hanging like a snowball in my mouth.
The secure warmth of the classroom smelling like
Mud and snow and paint and fun.
Losing myself in fantastic lands while hiding
Desperately from the giants that hunt us.

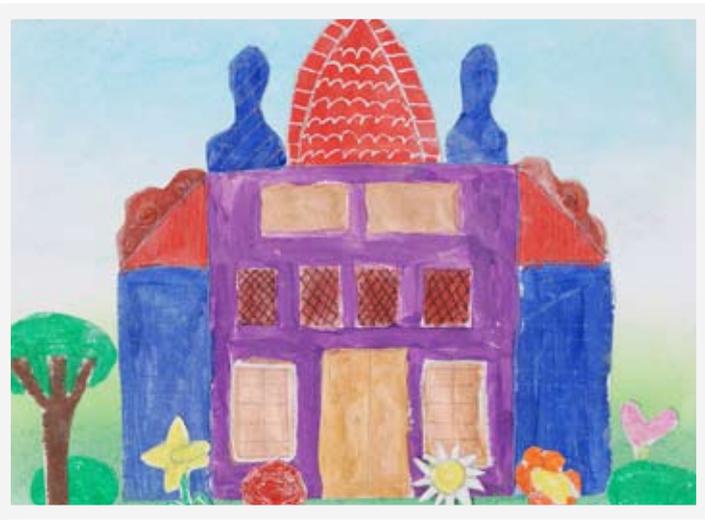
Big school and lots of responsibility – red folders and
Red bins cluttering the playground. Snake-like chalk
Drawn on the gritty ground as a passionate football skids past us.
Stuck in a fog between laughter and tears.
Now the giants are stooping to greet us.

And the sky draws in; a black cape crawls over
Garish colours. Reams of paper
Appear from nowhere and we stand there: unaided.
Decisions. Questions. Answers?
The clouds grow heavy and we, the giants, wander
Aimlessly.

Bridie Thompson Y9



Rocky Banks Y11



Hannah Li Y4

Anna Stewart Y11



Yasmin Chambers Y8



Rosalind Armstrong Y3



Robyn Hinchcliffe Y12

Creative Work

The Five Stages

It began long ago, when we pooled blood
like brothers. Respecting the membrane
of our imaginations, we never left
our confines; spent the nights conjuring fire.

Then we found the plough, ablated the fruit;
metastatic, we spread around the globe,
dividing into slaves and enslavers.
We sculpted states, guarded them like eagles,

but we needed leaders, and the weakest
succumbed; laboured till backs cracked, sinews snapped.
A biopsy of their lives showed much was missing;
ascending to the ministry of their own fate,

they rammed down the door, no longer benign,
to carve off chunks of power, form councils.
Men bought and sold their way to the top
whilst others shared the status of amoebas.

Yet there was still a canyon between us.
We struggled like strangers; chose to unite
as comrades with blows, bullets and blood.
The end was brutal: the change was complete.

Emily Middleton Y13



Rosie Turner Y5

Clara McKechnie Y11

Snapshot Grandpa

When I think of Grandpa, I see a very old man in a wheel chair, who had difficulties breathing. This is not like the man I see in old photographs. It is hard to believe that the balding, frail, little, old man I knew was the same man who had cycled round Europe in the 1930s. He looked very athletic, healthy, strong and had a thick head of hair.

Grandpa was born in Bradford in 1910 and, by the time he was four, Britain had gone to war and his father was killed in France. His mother now had to provide for her family of three boys and one girl, and Grandpa was made to earn money, even when he was at school. He was paid by Jewish neighbours to light their fires on Saturdays and this was how he got to know a Jewish boy called Solly, who became his best friend.

Grandpa's childhood was harsh because, after his father's death, the family had very little income and so he was forced to leave school at the age of twelve in order to work. His mother had a quick temper and unusual ideas about discipline: when the boys were young she made them stand at the table to eat their meals.

The first job Grandpa had was working as a lather boy in a Bradford barber's shop. He went on to do a variety of jobs including being a telegraphy boy, a farm labourer and a mill worker. Eventually, he became a railway signalman and, although it was not a very exciting job, it probably saved his life. When Britain went to war again with Germany, both his brothers were called up to fight. Francis was shot down as he parachuted into France and Tom was killed on the last day of the war, but Grandpa was not allowed to fight because he was needed to help to keep the railways running and so he survived.

As a signalman, one of his jobs was to train apprentices, but he was not very patient. One trainee kept falling asleep at work, so to teach him a lesson, Grandpa shaved off one of his eyebrows while he dozed. The boy did not realize until the next morning when he saw himself in the mirror. That was typical of Grandpa's humour: as a little boy he had hidden his own grandfather's wooden leg so that he could not get out of bed, and once, when he had been made to take his younger brother, Francis, for a walk, he had told him to chase after some ducks. Grandpa laughed as the

'ducks' turned round and began to attack the poor, startled boy. These 'ducks' were geese.

Grandpa lived a long life, dying at the age of ninety-one and, although his childhood was destroyed by one war and his brothers were killed in the Second World War, he was never prejudiced against the Germans. He had known hard times, but never complained and was content with his life. He has taught me to be happy with what I have and not to be greedy, but I would like him still to be living with us, as he could tell me about the times he remembered before the First World War and the Russian Revolution.

George Walker Y8



Tomek Pozniac Y4



Felix Yarwood Y12



Laura Powell Y11



Jake Rathbone Y13



Katie Burness Y11



Joe Bibbey Y12

On the day that I was born

On the day that I was born ...

Seven rainbows formed a glorious arch over the hospital where my tiny body lay,
 A lonely mulberry tree in the Highlands sprouted seringa and bowed down to the ground,
 A pop concert in Mongolia suddenly played a Haydn concerto,
 The leaning tower of Pisa straightened and the Wall of China
 appeared in the Mediterranean Sea,
 And Neil Armstrong sprinkled moon dust over the cot while Charlie Chaplin did handstands on the bedside cabinet.

On the day that I was born ...

Everybody from the Beano stopped being naughty and Wallace and Gromit insisted on making a cooker from the lampshade,
 A capybara in Asia sprouted fluorescent green and orange stripes and elephants trumpeted the news to the world,
 Coral reefs spelt my full name whilst all the sharks went vegetarian,
 Saturn gave Neptune its rings and the constellation Gemini spelt Happy Birthday,
 And Prince William went in a helicopter all over the world with a tail flag saying
 "WILLIAM EDWARD FOX IS BORN!"

William Fox



Rachelle Eiselt Y11



Ashley Hinchcliffe Y13

Arts & Philosophical Society

A wide range of external speakers visited the Monday lunchtime meetings for members of the Sixth Form. These included the Head of BBC Religion, Michael Wakelin (pictured); Guardian North's education correspondent, David Ward; Head of Composition at the Royal Northern College of Music, Adam Gorb; Whitbread award-winning poet, Michael Symmons Roberts; and local landscape historian and publisher, Richard Pursloe.

Members of staff also provided some lively sessions on such varied subjects as Greek Vases, the Turner Prize, and Holocaust Literature.

Pupils who attended the sessions found them stimulating and appreciated the opportunity to think about subjects beyond the confines of the curriculum. It was pleasing to see pupils contributing so well to the question and answer sessions, always raising points that demonstrated their thoughtfulness and engagement with the issues under discussion.

RHR



to Easter with healthy numbers of mainly (but not exclusively) Year 7 and Year 8 boys playing both games. Numbers did decline with the onset of the summer. Pupils could receive tuition in the rules and finer points of Go as well as continue to challenge one another (and also Mr Laurence) over the chess board. On occasions, there were visits by other members of staff; Mr Carpenter turned out to be a shockingly good Go player, and Mr O'Donnell and Mr Colville showed their skills in chess.

Towards the end of the year, tournaments were organized and a Go competition was won by Liam Had-

field of 7CJAF, whilst Hendrik Ratigan, 8CAM, won the corresponding chess knockout final.

GL/ZA

Chess and Go Club

As the title suggests, a Go Section was introduced into the programme of extra-curricular activities this year, enthusiastically run by Mr Ahmed alongside the traditional chess run by Mr Laurence. Demolition of its previous base meant the club moved to M13 and, as an experiment, the club remained open right through the year; there was a real buzz from September

Junior Chess

The term's only friendly victory resulted in a resounding win at Stockport GS by 18½ boards to 9½. Coach Mr Ireland was rightly pleased with the squad's improvement since last year when they lost and then drew their matches against the same opponents. Several players also acquitted themselves well at the AJIS Chess Congress held at Bolton School. The most notable performance came from Daniel Southern of 4JC, who won 3½ of his five matches to become champion of the U9A class, an outstanding achievement. Other members of the successful squad were Ben Winrow, Tom Eastgate, Karl Southern, Jonathan Pinches, Ben Cree, James Ireland, Jake Phillips, Toby Spencer Pickup and Siraj Lyons.

GJS



King's Karate

The King's Karate club has been up and running for a year and has been enjoyed by a number of sixth formers. Taking place during Tuesday lunchtimes, pupils have not only learned kihon (basics) including different kicks, blocks and punches, but also kata

(a set sequence of movements) and kumite (controlled fighting and fighting techniques). Many pupils have shown great potential in all aspects of karate, and have made good progress throughout the year. It has proven to be not only a good form of exercise and flexibility training, but also a good stress buster, especially around the busy exam periods. The club will continue to run next year.

Spanish Club

The Spanish Club at Fence Avenue held a Spanish Art event in June during which pupils learnt a combination of Spanish vocabulary relating to artists and paintings, as well as practising how to buy tickets to visit an art gallery in Spain. They studied paintings and practised the techniques of some notable Spanish artists, such as Picasso and Dali. The occasion was organised jointly by Spanish teacher, Miss Smalley and by Mrs Threlfall, who teaches Art, and it was a very successful cross-curricular event.

Year 7 Science Club

The Year 7 girls have proved to be very keen scientists and have proved their abilities in all aspects of Science. Over the course of three terms, the group explored many areas: for example, they grew different types of seeds; used forensic testing to find out who did what at a crime scene;

and made bouncing custard balls and an edible volcano. The year was started by thinking about what a scientist is like, and the discovery that a scientist is exactly like us.

Thanks must go to the Year 8 monitors, Hanja Dickenson and Laura Bennett, who made sure that instructions were followed and goggles were worn. Next year, this dedicated band of young scientists will join the senior Science Club, where they are sure to continue to enjoy Science.

AJB

Zoological Club

Every lunchtime, the Biology Department at Fence Avenue is open to groups of keen zoologists from across the year groups. So why is the Biology Department such a great place to visit at lunchtime, you may ask? The department is rich in biodiversity, which the girls can come and join. Firstly, we have the snakes: Pythagoras, Pluto, Artemis, Rhea and Kuiper. All are Californian Corn snakes which love to be handled and are all characters in their own right.

Then there are the fish. We have a cold water tank stocked full of Goldfish, including Elvis the one-eyed fish! We also have a tropical tank, but most impressive of all is our Marine tank. The Marine Tank is fast becoming a fantastic mini ecosystem, stocked with anemones, starfish, shrimps and



its very own Nemo. The purchase of this tank was funded by a very generous donation from Friends of King's. New additions to Zoological Club are two Leopard Geckos: Saffron and Topaz. These beautiful creatures love gorging on a diet of crickets and lessons are frequently serenaded by their tropical tunes. Finally, we must



not forget the Guinea Pigs: Rolo and Caramel, the stars of the show. Caramel and Rolo have a very good life: they graze on the lawn in the morning outside the Hall, then come in at lunchtime to receive lots of TLC from the girls.

These animals require a lot of care.



The girls play a significant role in caring for them, along with the help and support from a very dedicated Biology Technician. Zoological Club continues to thrive and grow and I look forward to reporting on our latest additions next year.

HLB



Infant School

Year 1 in Blackpool

As part of their topic work on The Seaside, Year 1 went to Blackpool to compare a modern seaside holiday with one from the Victorian age. This valuable educational outing allowed the children to experience first-hand a seaside holiday, and enjoy pastimes common to both modern and past ages.

St Michael's Church

In September, Year 1 children enjoyed a visit to St. Michael's Church. They looked at all the different features of the Church; climbed right to the top where they had a bird's eye view of the inside of the building. They learnt about bell ringers and became choristers for a while.

Town and Countryside walk

Year 1 children set off on a glorious sunny morning to visit the local countryside, the first of two walks to cover the topic of 'Town and Countryside'. The view from the top of The Hollins was brilliant and showed many different features of the landscape.

Indian life

Year 2 children learned about life in India for their topic work. To finish this topic off, Mrs Coyne was invited to tell the children of her trips to India and Sri Lanka. She brought in photos of her journeys, Indian clothes for the children and staff to try on, and described her amazing holiday: the children were enthralled. There was Indian food for lunch that day, and Mrs Coyne stayed to eat with the Year 2 children and staff.

The Sensory Centre

A wonderful time was enjoyed when Nursery staff visited the Sensory Centre on the Hurdsfield Industrial Estate with the school's three year olds. The bubble lights, trampolines, tunnels, musical ball pool and mats enabled the children to explore a number of their senses. The children acted out rhymes, went on a bear hunt and generally let off steam in a safe and secure environment.

Nursery Grandparents' Day

Grandparents' Day was in September, when Grandparents and carers were invited into class for a musical session with actions and instruments. The Nursery children had each made a

gift of a hand print, fashioned from dough, decorated and personally wrapped.

Visitor from the Dog's Trust

In October, both Reception classes had a special visitor, Angela Madigan, from the Dog's Trust, who brought along her dog, Sally, to show to the children. The children played some games with Sally and learnt about all the things a dog needs. They were allowed to stroke Sally, and they all enjoyed her visit.

MacMillan Coffee Morning

In September, the Infant School hosted their annual Coffee Morning to help raise money for MacMillan Cancer Relief. There was even greater excitement about it this year as the event was combined with the Infants' tenth birthday celebrations. There were many distinguished guests, including past staff who had helped to set up the Infants' Division in 1997. Pupils from the very first cohort were also invited to share their memories with the newer intakes.

Year Two children served drinks and sold raffle tickets. The guests were treated to songs from the Infant Choir and the event was a great success, raising over £627 for the charity.

Toddle Waddle

On Friday 25 April, the Nursery Class children dressed up as ducks and waddled, hopped, jumped and skipped around the school field in

order to raise funds for the Meningitis Trust. This was a fun way in which our three and four year olds did their bit to promote awareness of meningitis. The children were awarded stickers and certificates to celebrate their achievement.

Axel Scheffler – Author visit

On Monday 9 June Mr. Axel Scheffler, an acclaimed illustrator and author of children's books such as *The Gruffalo*, *Room on the Broom* and *Jingle Jangle Jungle*, visited. During his visit, Mr Scheffler (pictured) told the children a story, drawing illustrations as he went. These drawings were raffled during our annual charity coffee morning to raise funds for MacMillan Cancer Relief.

After the story telling session, Mr Scheffler signed individual books in return for a donation to charity. This event raised £121.90 and King's Infants also donated £150.00 to MacMillan Cancer Relief.

RSPB Coombes Valley

On Friday 16 May, Year 1 visited RSPB Coombes Valley Nature Reserve. The first activity was a senses walk, and the pupils listened to a wide range of bird song. They also used their other senses, (apart from taste), to find out about the environment.

This was followed by stream dipping in Coombes Brook and an investigation of the meadows' minibeasts.



10th Birthday Celebrations

King's Infants celebrated their 10th birthday with several events throughout the year. Commemorative merchandise was sold and there were two special visits.

'Circusology' came and taught a variety of circus tricks, such as juggling and balancing on stilts.

Then, to conclude this memorable year, there was a visit from 'Gauntlet', with a selection of birds of prey, including a vulture, a caracara and many other fascinating creatures.

Reception Airport and Pilot visit

The Reception classes have been learning about the Airport and two countries, America and Australia. They were visited by Mr. Harbige who works at Manchester Airport as a pilot and many girls and boys have now decided to become pilots. In May, there was a follow-up visit to Manchester Airport Aviation Viewing park. The tour took the pupils onto a training 'plane, and they also dressed up as bird scarers, firefighters and pilots.

ES



Year One – Italian Day

The children in 1NP enjoyed a taste of Italy this year, with a visit from two Italian chefs from the famous 'Osteria Mauro' restaurant in Mottram St. An-

drew. Enzo and his assistant Salvatore, made three different types of pasta and the children were fascinated by the electronic pasta machine. The children also made their own version of tiramisu.

NMP

Nursery – People who help us

Our topic about People Who Help Us would not be complete without a visit from the Macclesfield Fire Brigade. This year, we were particularly fortunate as two appliances arrived with eight firefighters. The children had a wonderful time sitting in the engines, aiming water at targets with the hose pipes and dressing up in the firefighter uniforms. As the fire engines left the school premises, they flashed their sirens - to the excitement of all.

JH

Northern Dragons

In January, Year Two pupils were visited by a company called 'Northern Dragons', who taught Tai Chi and the five elements of Chinese medicine. They also did some lion dancing which the pupils later performed. Parents, children and staff also enjoyed dim sum and refreshments.

ELW

Junior Division

AJIS Quiz Competition

The Junior School's quiz team of Jack Qualtrough (Captain), Laura Embrey, Edward McKee, Emily Mound and Karl Southern came a very close second place in the AJIS Quiz competition held at St Mary's College, Crosby. The team scored consistently well, receiving full marks on the Hollywood round. Sadly, two errors cost the team first place, which went to Merchant Taylor's School, Crosby.

GJS

AJIS Sings

Mrs Lea and Mr Harding accompanied 12 Year 6 choristers to Cheadle Hulme School to take part in the inaugural AJIS Sings Festival. Here they joined with children from 15 other NW independent schools to rehearse and sing together a selection of songs. The CD produced as a result is a testimony to the excellence of the young musicians and the teaching they receive.



Infant & Junior

Book Week

The Junior School pupils enjoyed a book-themed week in March. Many activities and competitions were introduced during the week which included decorating classroom doors as the front cover of a book, a Big Read Challenge, visits from parents and Senior staff who told the children about their favourite books and a Book Character Dressing Up Day. Dennis the Menace, Cruella de Ville, Dracula and Frodo the Hobbit happily rubbed shoulders and it gave the children a chance to share their favourite characters.

A highlight of the week was the three-day visit of the poet, David Horner, who led a poetry workshop with each class. The children had the chance to read some of their poems during assemblies and also really enjoyed listening to his work. About fifty children chose to give up watching television and playing computer games during Book Week, opting to enjoy extra reading time instead.

AJL

FoKJI Art Exhibition

The second FoKJI Art Exhibition proved to be another success as the Main Hall was turned into an art gallery displaying over 350 'priceless' works of art. The children enjoyed looking at their own work and those of their friends and many parents took the opportunity to purchase their children's beautifully framed 'masterpieces'.

Russian Club

Russian club continued with the children learning how to find things in a town, talk about the weather and to count in Russian. They have also enjoyed watching Russian cartoons and listening to Russian folk songs.

Styal Mill

The Year 3 students and teachers were blessed with great weather for their trip to Styal Mill. The day trip was designed to complement the Science and Geography curriculum, focusing in the morning on a study of the River Bollin whilst in the afternoon the children had collected and examined minibeasts from the pond and woodland areas.

Macclesfield Museum

The treasures of Marianne Brocklehurst were the focus of the Year 3 Ancient Egyptian study at Macclesfield museum. The children dressed as Egyptians as they were shown many fascinating artefacts. In the afternoon, all the children learned how papyrus was made and had the chance to make their own to take home.

JP

Junior Charity

During the October Open Morning, the Café du Roi (situated in the Infant Hall and operated by Madame Johnson supported by several willing Year 5 children) raised £136, which was presented to the international aid charity Medecins sans Frontieres.

In the spring term, Junior School fundraisers collected £600 for the Hope 4 the World charity which has a project to 'Build a School in Burma', and also to provide training for teachers, doctors and dentists. Mrs Kate Beavis, together with Carol May, attended an assembly to show pictures of the project, to thank the children and to collect the donation.

A positive approach to sporting activities was exemplified in the re-



sponse to the Sport Relief Challenge. On the penultimate day of term, just about every Infant and Junior School pupil took part in physical exercise to raise funds for Sport Relief. A course was set up - one mile for Juniors and a half-mile for Infants - and all were encouraged to walk, jog or run the course. The day was also designated as a non-uniform day, which raised extra funds: the final sum raised by this sponsored event was £2209.80.

GJS

Junior Skiing Holiday

An Easter Day departure from Fence Avenue in thick snow set the tone for the week. The trip left Macclesfield on time and the journey to Le Corbier via Birmingham and Grenoble was trouble-free. There was clearly a lot of snow in the resort too and we had the best snow conditions of the entire season.

The routines of the holiday were soon established and everyone coped well with the early starts and the boot room scramble. Towards the end of the week we were even early for the 9 am ski school! The morning sessions worked up a good appetite for lunch back at the hotel and enabled us to recharge the batteries for the afternoon ski.

The groups made excellent progress and improved their skiing standard: the 'beginners' group had to be renamed as 'improvers'.

Apres-ski activities followed the afternoon ski lessons and included closely contested competitions such as snow sculpting in the hotel garden.



The results were interesting, in some cases impressive - and in others, hilarious. Following the evening meal, evening activities included a town trail, quiz night and even a night back on the slopes to watch a torchlight procession of ski instructors descend the mountain to the sound of Ravel's *Bolero*.

Lots of fun, lots of snow and lots of happy memories made Le Corbier 2008 a resounding success.

DCB

Junior Division Harvest Assembly

For the first time, the whole Junior Division combined together to celebrate the harvest in the Main Hall. It was very uplifting to see all 370 or so Junior and Infant children together, supported by 30 staff, with a real sense of celebration. The Nursery children even joined in for a short while before going back to their own activities.

We also enjoyed a talk from Mrs Jenny Eades of St Paul's Church. The produce was delivered to the local Salvation Army, Macclesfield Care & Concern (who look after homeless

the Buxton Road crossing, ably marshalled by Mrs Ord, Mrs Lea and Mrs Soutter. Upon arrival at the half-way point at Tegg's Nose, refreshments and a rest were gratefully received.

The second half of the walk provided an even more pleasant walking experience as the group headed down past Tegg's Nose Reservoir, the village of Langley, Macclesfield Golf Course and along Macclesfield Canal towards the finish line.

MKW

Junior School Talent Show

After weeks of rehearsals in their respective year groups, the Talent Show took place on the afternoon of Friday, 27 June. Almost 30 acts were on display this year, with the audience being treated to talent from all four year groups. Highlights in the lower juniors included David Jessop with 'Astrajacks', a complex string twirling routine. In the upper juniors the biggest crowd pleaser was the 'Tango' performed by Henry Reavey and Adam Russ. This was a most enjoyable afternoon of entertainment

MKW

been expended, the results were: 1st: Tatton; 2nd: Gawsorth; 3rd: Capesthorpe; 4th: Adlington.

MKW

Manor Adventure weekend

Year 4 headed for Shropshire for their annual adventure weekend in May. A record number of students took part in the trip and enjoyed a mixed bag of weather from soggy assault courses to sunny zip-wires. The children had a great time exploring the huge Manor site and getting used to sleeping in dormitories. There was hardly a moment to catch their breath as they started the first of nine activities just an hour and a half after arriving. Abseiling and climbing were on the menu, as was a very wet underground maze, canoeing and kayaking. One group got to try out a brand new activity called crate stacking, which involved teetering on a growing pile of crates, with friends (and a large bag of sand) managing the safety rope. Everyone had a wonderful time and most tried things they didn't realise they were brave enough to do, at least once over the weekend.

VA

PGL Boreatton Park

A party of 85 Year 5 and Year 6 children and accompanying staff set off for an activity weekend at PGL's centre at Boreatton Park, Shropshire, with a dire weather forecast clouding their excitement. Thankfully, the heavy, thundery showers saved themselves for convenient moments. Eight events filled an action-packed weekend: low ropes, climbing, rifle shooting, kayak canoeing, zipwire, orienteering and giant swing. The latter activity proved to be the most popular as pairs of children were hauled 15 metres in the air by their fellow group members only to be released in a stomach-churning arc to the delight of the watching audience.

GJS



youngsters) and to the elderly residents of nearby Winlow Flats.

Junior School Walk

On Tuesday, 1 July, a 350-strong contingent of pupils, teachers and parents set off on its annual walk through 6 miles of Cheshire countryside. With Mr Walton and the Year 3 pupils setting a brisk pace, each checkpoint in the first half of the walk was passed through quickly, including

Junior Sports Day

Unfortunately, this year's Sports Day was hampered by inclement weather conditions, with only the Field Events taking place in the morning.

Each pupil took part in 3 events, with the choices being the high jump (Years 5 and 6) or vertical jump (Years 3 and 4), long jump, Wellington boot throw and the cricket ball/rounders ball throw.

After a great deal of effort had

PGL French Trip

In September, Year 5 and Year 6 children travelled to Northern France for an activity holiday weekend. On arrival, the children were eager to settle into the accommodation before evening games and fun entertainment.

On Saturday, the party travelled to the local town of Montreuil to visit the market and walk around the city walls. After lunch came an inspection

of a chocolate factory, sampling some hand-made examples.

On Sunday, the group experienced activities on the PGL site with their group leaders. Then they went to the beach at Boulogne for lunch, before visiting the Sea Life Centre, which was really impressive with every kind of sea creature on display. There was even a show from the seals.

The highlight of the trip was the evening disco, held at a local discothèque complete with lighting, music and games before the party left the site on Monday morning.

Everyone enjoyed the experience: for some, it was their first taste of France.

Nathan Wanjau 6MW

Year 4 Book Club

Members of the Year 4 Book Club met after school, with Mrs Cole and Mrs Ord, to discuss books chosen and read by members of the club. Other activities included drawing and writing about characters in the books, making word searches, writing stories and making book name plates.

Year 4 Chester Museum

Year 4 visited Chester Museum, where they engaged in several educational activities. These included sorting pieces of stones, shells, pottery, coal and bones; grinding herbs; looking at Roman jars, amphorae and kitchen utensils; and making mosaics. Of all these, the one I liked best was making mosaics. Later, Alasdair put on metal armour, including a sword, shield, javelin and helmet.

By now we were getting hungry, but luckily it was lunchtime. Afterwards we went downstairs and a Roman soldier told us to line up like soldiers and we walked off through the whole of Chester. The soldier was called Marcus and he told us to shout, 'Sin, sin, sin, dex, sin!'

We visited the amphitheatre where the Romans used to watch fights, and were also told about how to use a Roman toilet, not a thing I really wanted to learn about!

Back at the museum, we completed a quiz; had a look at a model of the Roman fort at Deva and at Roman locks and keys.

Emily Underwood and James Scott
4JC

Year 4 Viking village trip

Year 4 visited the Viking Village of Houlgate at Murton Park, near York, on Monday, 28 April.

The group was met by a Viking called Wulf and shown in to a hall with trestle tables and benches. Everyone, including the parents, put on a Viking dress or tunic, belt and headwear.

Year 4 then set off for the village where they met Astrid. Wulf explained that the children were new Viking settlers who would like to join the village. They set to work in their groups, hoeing the ground for planting crops, learning guard drills, making pottery lamps, collecting firewood, cleaning out the houses and making bread.

At lunch time the new settlers were invited to a feast by My Lady. There was a delicious vegetable soup and bread, cheese pasty, salad, apple, and biscuits to eat. During the meal the children told jokes and sang and danced for My Lady.

Before they left the Viking village the children all went into the Longhouse and had a look around, comparing it to their own homes. The fire made it very smoky and made everyone's eyes sting. After that, Year 4 took off the Viking clothes, and waved goodbye to Wulf and Astrid.

Tom's Midnight Garden

In January, Years 5 and 6 visited the Library Theatre in Manchester to watch a dramatic adaptation of *Tom's Midnight Garden* by Philippa Pearce. The stage was set with a giant clock face, with hands that moved to show the passing of time, and on which all the action took place

The story was presented through dialogue, music and movement with a 'chorus', shrouded in long cloaks and hats, that represented and recreated the mystery of the story, using walk-

ing sticks as props both to emphasise the action and to beat out the tick of the clock.

The complex narrative was imaginatively presented by only eight actors but their timing and characterization was superb, keeping the children's attention throughout. The only whispers heard were from pupils discussing what might happen next.

AJL

Year 5 Trip to Bramall Hall

On 4 June 2008, Year 5 visited Bramall Hall as part of their history topic on the Tudors.

The first activity was in the ball-room where tour guide, Andy, introduced several different Tudor instruments and the pupils all had a go at playing them. They formed their own Tudor band. They also tried Tudor dancing: the girls were much more successful at this than the boys.

They also visited the drawing room where they met some 'real' Tudor people: Peg, the servant and Mistress Cecily. We were able to ask them questions about their lives and about the Tudors in general, which was useful exam revision.

The pupils learnt about how Tudor houses were made, were able to put together joints and also made wattle and daub walls - but without the dung.

The final activity was a visit to the chapel where they talked about weddings and religious change under the Tudors, and wrote with quills and ink. The weather was so pleasant that the pupils ate their packed lunches on the field outside the hall before returning to school.



1st XV

A real roller coaster of a season began on a high note as a squad of largely upper sixth players, hardened after the tour to Argentina, produced good wins against Bishop Vesey's and MGS and a narrow and slightly unlucky away loss to QEGS Wakefield, a fixture that over the last 5 years has produced some tight and thrilling games. Initially, indications about the side suggested a strong and mobile pack with obvious scrum, lineout and breakdown ability and some power and pace in the backs. There was, however, a lack of an obvious play maker at half back or in the centres and back row.

The season then took a down turn with an away loss at Lancaster Grammar school; there is nothing new in suffering a defeat at Lancaster and certainly a traffic-induced late arrival did not help, but the simple fact is a competent and confident side failed to start and the result was a twenty point half time deficit. A huge second half effort was made, with Morrissey

and Laing dominating the breakdown, but the horse had already bolted and the game was lost. Circumstances can always make away fixtures difficult, especially against quality sides, but there was consternation amongst coaching staff when the side again failed to start, this time at home against a capable Stonyhurst fifteen. Once again a second half rally occurred, but, again, it was too late.

During this period, a number of issues became apparent: with the exception of Morrissey, who was exemplary in this department, there was a lack of leadership and clear decision making and senior players were not taking responsibility for the direction and management of the team on the field. The 'bits and pieces' were functioning but the whole machine wasn't working well. During this period, some serious self reflection had taken place and the reward was a very pleasing victory against the highly rated St Ambrose XV where a dominant forward performance, featuring top quality lineout work from Nicholson and jumpers Lacey and Rowbotham,

together with outstanding work at the breakdown from the back row won the game in horrible conditions. The defensive work from the backs, with Lowndes to the fore was also impressive in this game.

The variable performances continued in the run up to Christmas. Trent College were defeated in a poor performance where total scrum dominance from the hard working combination of Whiteley, T Taylor and Bryant was not used particularly well. However, this game also featured real determination and some quality attacking running from Taylor, a recent convert from hooker to centre, who was beginning to find his feet in attack and defence. However, the roller coaster continued with a toothless away defeat to a typically determined, but limited Wirral GS and an away draw at Adam's GS which featured two very good backs tries from Taylor and Lowndes and the emergence of Harding at fly-half. Harding's arrival allowed the speedy Swetman to move into the full back slot, which provided more pace from broken field situa-



tions. This game also featured some unusual law interpretations: ultimately, we escaped with a draw.

As the season had progressed, positional changes had taken place, with Lacey moving back to second row and Laing to number eight. Similarly, Stott-Sugden moved from front row to the back row in an attempt to take more advantage of his powerful ball carrying. Year 11 students Gradon and Brooks were also playing well and forcing themselves into contention. Injuries in the backs had also taken their toll and Kennedy, also from Year 11 played well. The team now had rather better structure and awareness, but confidence was, not surprisingly, fragile. However, a gritty away win over Arnold, played in very difficult conditions, did much to rebuild a shaky state of mind. Once again, the pack were dominant, but lazy defence led to us conceding two tries, which made the game more of a contest than was necessary. However, continued forward pressure and a composed place kicking display from Taylor, together with a well worked try saw us through. Again though, the side gave hints of its real quality a week later with a comprehensive victory over Lymm HS which saw half backs Harding and McGhee decision making effectively, allowing the side to dominate field position and construct good tries.

After Christmas, the short term and poor weather saw only two fixtures. Merchant Taylors' Crosby were defeated in a determined performance that saw us overcoming injuries and the lack of a discernible off-side line; whilst a much postponed game saw a pleasing victory over Bradford which featured solid defence and some creativity in attack to add to good all-round performance from winger Wales.

The 7-aside season was sadly limited in its scope this year; a short half term and wet conditions saw only three tournaments. We were short of practice at the North of England sevens and performed adequately without ever threatening the big names. However, ten days later saw a different performance at Stonyhurst, when the final was reached having secured a group win with a draw against Bradford GS; Hymers and Audenshaw were defeated in the knock out stages, before a very good performance against Sedburgh nevertheless saw defeat. In the national sevens

at Rosslyn Park, three wins and one loss to the powerful Coleg Sir Gar led to our elimination before the knock out stages. Finally, the Sedbergh Tens were cancelled after the first day due to adverse weather.

This season was unusual in that it saw some significant highs and also some difficult times, but at all times this group of players worked hard, being positive and enthusiastic in their approach. They were, in short a pleasure to be involved with and on behalf of all the coaching staff, we would like to offer our best wishes for the future.

DMH/PJP

2nd XV

This was a mixed season, but the side recovered from a very shaky start to win three of its last four games against traditionally difficult opponents. The euphoria of the early season victory against Bishop Vesey School quickly dissipated as heavy defeats by QEGS Wakefield, Lancaster RGS and Stonyhurst brought the side back to reality. Sandwiched in between, was that rarest of results, a 0-0 draw against Manchester, a game for the connoisseur! Mid-season victories over St Ambrose and Adams were matched by defeats at the hands of Wirral and Trent, before the final victories over Arnold, Bradford and Merchant Taylors', Lymm being the only reverse in the run-in to the end of the season.

The statistics tell the tale of the season: the traditionally stronger schools generally had too much for the side to cope with although skills and morale improved as the year progressed. Leaky defence, especially weak individual tackling, led to the concession of many points in three of the defeats, an aspect the side worked hard to rectify. At the other end of the pitch, the team occasionally found it difficult to break down defences and struggled to convert pressure into points. Nevertheless, the spirit of the players was positive and some players were rightly promoted into the senior side with success; when the side's key players win 1st XV places, there will inevitably be a knock-on effect.

Many of the squad will return next year all the better, and wiser, for the exposure at this level; with luck, the squad can build on its experience and

with effective and regular practice look to improve its record.

RGD

V1th Form Girls' Rugby

We soon realised that we were going to have some strong competition and, as we watched the girls from St Joseph's who were going to be hosting, walk into the hall, knew that we were certainly not the largest of rugby teams. The thought of our first tournament the next day seemed a little daunting. One of their players, who soon became known both to the girls and others in the sixth form as 'Sasha the Basher' was an up and coming England player, with a lot more experience than us and we had only had a few weeks' rugby practice out on the field with Mr Halewood and Mr Williams.

However, the tournament went a lot better than expected for both the A and B teams with everyone adjusting quickly, and we soon started to play as if we had been a team for years. With the A team finding some new confidence after their first two matches, they were ready to play St Joseph's and they beat them, which meant that King's had the winning team of the tournament.

It was rugby practice every Tuesday night from then on, with both Mr Halewood and Mr Williams trying to teach us much needed tactics and giving tips that would help in our second tournament, which was to take place in March at Giggleswick. As March approached, we had developed more as a team and were ready. Once again it was a very successful tournament, with the A team winning it, and the B team playing very well.

The next tournament was to take place in Berkhamstead, so both Mr Halewood and Mr Williams prepared themselves for a weekend away to take us down there to play. Some of the team were missing for various reasons, so this tournament was not quite as successful as the previous ones had been. With girls playing in both A team and B team matches, they soon began to run out of the energy needed for some of the hardest and toughest competition yet. Unfortunately, King's were not able to come out as the winners this time.

The final tournament was at Rosslyn Park and was the largest yet, taking place over two days. The team left school at lunch time on Wednes-

day 12th March and started the long journey to Kingston. The next day we were up and out early and it was when we arrived at the pitches that we realised the scale of the tournament, as both the boys' and girls' rugby teams were playing in one area.

Our matches started well and, facing some tough opposition, we managed to beat the first team in our group. Next came the hard part, as we faced the toughest team in the group who had to be beaten in order for us to reach the next round on Friday. After our team talk, given by our captain, Ashley, and vice captain, Charlotte, we ran out onto the pitch and quickly realised that this was a team that wanted to go through as much as we did, and that was prepared to play slightly dirtier than us. Everyone put in energy and determination, but, unfortunately, it wasn't enough and we were beaten by East Norfolk, who went on to win the tournament. Going into our last match, we kept our heads up and were determined to win. As the final whistle went, we were elated that we had won, but we had not done enough to go through to the next round. We journeyed home the next day, exhausted and frustrated at being beaten by the winning team.

This year has been a great one for girls' rugby at King's: the squad has thoroughly enjoyed it and looks forward to what next season brings.

Hollie Kimber

U16

This season has been one of mixed feelings. We have had longevity in cup competitions, reaching the final of two, one being the Cheshire cup and the semi-final of another. We had a good 15-aside season, only losing two games in our "friendly" fixtures. We also had a great coach in Mr Halewood, with his blunt, truthful approach and fiery team talks at half time. He taught us never to give up: a lesson most clearly emphasised when we came back from losing at half time against Calday to end up putting around 70 points on our total. We have also seen many players develop: an obvious example would be both our hookers. Tommy Taylor has shown his quality by being picked for the first team this year, a great achievement, whilst Nick Bianco made the transition from prop to hooker and played for the first team this year in his new role. Harry Stott has shown not only his offensive skills

this year but that his defence is solid.

Yet, this season has not always been champagne rugby and we have not always been on the right side of the result. Our heaviest loss, and I feel our most telling time, was our drubbing by Sedburgh when we lost 50-0. However, we did not let this get us down; we trained hard during the week and we beat MGS the week after. Also, unlike last season, this one has been without silver, despite being in two finals. We all took this as encouragement because it showed promise for next season.

I would like to say thank you to all the boys for making those hard yards this year and to Mr Halewood and all the staff who have coached us, but let us not forget the supporters. We greatly appreciate your continued encouragement: thank you for always showing up, whatever the weather.

Matthew King

U15

This has been a great season of rugby, with many highs – for example, reaching the last 16 of the Daily Mail Vase, - and lows, as we watched two key players being stretchered off early in the season. It has also been enjoyable



to see players coming up from the B team to play key roles throughout the season, especially Sam Travis, who deservedly won the James Painton Trophy for the most improved player. Scrum-half was strongly contested, with four people playing in the position: George Drury and Johnny Stubbs were unable to play due to injuries, with James Board and Alex Hughan stepping up to cover for them, with both making a good impact on the team, and bossing the forwards well.

After a very disappointing loss to Sandbach in the Daily Mail Cup, the team bounced back with by far the best performance of the season against Mount Saint Mary's in the Vase, winning 19 - 3 at a newly built £2.5 million sports ground. The whole team played brilliantly, but Will Hanson's precise kicking and two well worked tries from Johnny Marsden and Elliot Howarth-Johnson completed a well-deserved victory over a very good side.

Charlie Brown

U14

This year the team had very mixed results. The year started off on a high with a closely fought match against Bishop Vesey's Grammar School in which King's came out on top with a 10-7 victory. The next matches against QEGS Wakefield and Sedbergh School were fiercely contested, but did not go the team's way.

After these two matches, the team knuckled down to training. Eventually, King's was rewarded with a 29-17 win against Wirral Grammar School. This showed an improvement in the forwards' urgency to ruck and demonstrated the increasing skills of the backs. This improving maturity led to a closely fought match against Trent College, with a final score of 12-17, and to a 10-10 draw against Arnold School.

The team had a resounding win against St Edwards College with a final score of 34-5, illustrating the progress made over the year.

The final match was against an Irish touring team, Down High School and finished in a 10-10 draw. This was probably the best match of all, showing the skills the team learnt through the year. Nick Emery was Player of the Year.

Kamlesh Sodha

U13

U13A

After a disappointing start to the season, with defeats against Bishop Vesey, Manchester GS and QEGS Wakefield, the team improved dramatically, with some outstanding performances. Their commitment to training and their natural physical development ensured that, by the end of the season, the team was able to employ an expansive style of rugby in attack alongside a tight defensive alignment, which resulted in some excellent matches.

There were narrow defeats against excellent opposition. Lancaster GS (19-20), Bradford GS (31-33), in the final of the festival, St Ambrose College (5-10) (and in the semi final of the Cheshire Cup to Wilmslow (15-22)), but what excellent games of rugby they were with each of the first two agonisingly lost on the last play of the game!

The 7 a-side tournaments were curtailed by the weather but the squad was outstanding at Solihull, losing narrowly in the final to Warwick School. In atrocious conditions at Rosslyn Park, the team easily won their group, but lost in the last 16.

Outstanding individuals provided keen competition for the Nelson Trophy with Jonny Kenny at number 8, a powerful destructive forward who scored many tries; Henry Ravenscroft at scrum half, a non-stop distributor and tackler (and talker!); Harry Hayward, a strong, quick winger, whose confidence improved greatly over the season; and Ben Marsden, a fine all-round centre, who put fear into the opposition in attack and defence. The trophy, however, went to Tom Hudson, (fly half and captain), who showed a maturity on the field in his organization and leadership, as well as having excellent individual qualities in attack and defence.

U13B

The Under 13B suffered from cancellations due to weather conditions and only played 10 matches, 5 of which were won, 4 lost and 1 drawn.

After an excellent win at Manchester GS, performances faltered, particularly against Adams GS but the season finished on a high note with wins against Bradford GS (20-0) and Merchant Taylors', Crosby (17-0)

AMCl/DTB

U12

The rugby season finally closed what was a very promising beginning for all of the boys involved.

Initially, September saw a number of 'eager to impress' individuals who had a range of experience, ability and knowledge of the game. By April, it was obvious that these individuals had developed and improved a vast amount and there is no reason why they can't go on to be a successful year group next season.

The squad scored an average of 20 points per game, conceding just over half that number in the 14 fixtures played. The A Squad had their most notable victory in a 22-37 away win against local rivals, MGS. The B squad was, unfortunately, not quite as successful, but were still highly competitive players, scoring an average of 15 points per game and conceding just over 20 points from the ten fixtures, in which their losing margins were but slight. Notable results included a 15-15 draw versus St. Ambrose, a narrow defeat at the hands of Wirral Grammar 25-26 and an emphatic victory over St. Edwards College 37 - 7.

Over 60 boys participated in rugby fixtures this season, nearly two thirds of the year group total, and a great testament to their enthusiasm and commitment. It is difficult to give special mention for outstanding achievement, as all players accounted for themselves well and performed valiantly.

From the A squad, Mathew Stubbs emerged as a physical force at 12, showing an all round ability, both in attack and defence. James Parker was solid at full-back; being one of the shorter boys in the squad certainly did not cause any detriment to his self-belief and confidence in contact. With the heart of a lion, he made many try-saving tackles and last-ditch attempts at preventing opposition scoring opportunities. Ciaran McLaughlin, after a long stint learning his trade in the B squad, eventually made a step up the ladder, performing well in the back-row. The B squad proved to be a good testing ground with players regularly moving up. Special mention goes to Callum Burke at scrum half and also to George Wood: both were dedicated campaigners, narrowly missing out on A squad action on a number of occasions.

PA



U12A



U12B

Under 11

King's experienced another successful rugby season this year, with an extremely talented and enthusiastic group of players in regular attendance at training.

The season began with a series of 12 a-side fixtures for both the A and B teams, with many of the latter sampling competitive rugby for the very first time. The A team started with a comfortable 33-0 win against Liverpool College, followed by a narrow 5-0 defeat against Birkenhead Prep and another win against Merchant Taylors', Crosby by 21-0. To round the season off, the boys travelled up to

Kirkham Grammar in Lancashire for what proved to be a gruelling encounter between two very evenly matched sides. Unfortunately, this resulted in another narrow defeat 7-0. The 'B' team were also finding their feet and recorded wins against Birkenhead Prep by 31 points to 7 and against Kirkham Grammar by 35-14.

Towards the end of the Spring Term the 'A' team were involved in 7 and 9 a-side competitions at Merchant Taylors', Crosby and St Mary's Prep, Crosby respectively.

The 7 a-side competition was in fact the AJIS event, which had been held at the same venue for the past 4 years. The King's team entered with

high hopes of achieving success, after such an encouraging season. In the group phase, all matches were won with ease against Cheadle Hulme, King's Chester and Merchant Taylors' B, which sent the boys through to the Quarter-Final against Liverpool College. This proved to be a far more challenging game, with the final score being 21-12 to King's, after a spirited fight back by Liverpool College in the second half. In the semi-final, Birkenhead Prep were overcome by 21-14, which led to the final against Kirkham Grammar School.

In this match, the standard of play was tremendous, with both teams playing an exciting brand of rugby and at the end of full-time the score was 14-14. Unfortunately, extra-time proved to be a step too far for the King's players and Kirkham pulled clear and were winners by 35-14 at the end of this period. Nevertheless, a second place finish in the AJIS Cup was an excellent achievement.

Just a few days later, the King's players travelled back over to Crosby for a 9 a-side competition at St Mary's Prep School. In the group stage of this tournament, the boys were sluggish to start with and this cost them qualification into the main competition knockout stages, as they could only beat Merchant Taylors' B team 14-0 and draw the other match against Birkenhead Prep 0-0. This meant that the boys would have to settle for a place in the Plate Competition. This proved to be much less of a challenge than they were expecting, with easy wins being recorded over St Edward's by 21-0 in the quarter-final and against Rossall by 28-0 in the semi-final. This sent the team through to the Plate Final against Merchant Taylors', Crosby. Once again, this did not challenge the boys sufficiently and they were victorious by 28-0. This proved to be an excellent finish to the day, after a disappointing start, with perhaps the most encouraging factor being that the team failed to concede a point throughout the whole tournament.

This was an excellent season, with many players performing extremely well. This bodes well for the future development of rugby in the Senior School. Junior School Colours were awarded to Alec Mantel, Joseph Hale, Archie Thorneycroft, Rory Heywood and Jonathan Hammill this year.

MKW

Boys' Hockey

1st XI

The 2007-2008 King's 1st XI adhered to the King's hockey philosophy of individual skill used within a team framework but coupled this with a love of playing: consequently, they derived great pleasure from both competing at, and performing to, a high level.

The season started with the usual first round of the Cheshire Cup away at Sandbach. Once again, the opposition had had far more match practice and this, together with an outstanding contribution from their England player, resulted in a defeat when victory was perhaps too easily anticipated. The team bounced back with a run of seven matches in which they totally outplayed their opposition, including impressive victories against Merchant Taylors' School and Calday Grange GS. A blip against Newcastle-under-Lyme School was followed by five straight victories including revenge at Newcastle and excellent displays against Solihull School and Birkenhead School. This momentum could not be sustained and there were defeats in the second term against the formidable Repton team and the improving Birkenhead and Calday teams.

Two tours were undertaken in the second term: the usual festival at Bath and a first visit to Guernsey where we were hosted by Elizabeth College. The former was most enjoyable with two good victories against Sharnbrook School and Nottingham HS, but was somewhat marred by injury to Rob Wreglesworth in a game against a bad-tempered Royal Belfast Academical Institute team. The tour to Guernsey was excellent. It was superbly organised; the hosts were exceptionally hospitable and three very good games of hockey were played over the weekend, resulting in one victory, one draw and one defeat.

Robbie Smith matured as a goalkeeper this season resulting in some impressive displays of shot-stopping. He was ably deputised by James Hay who renewed his enthusiasm for the game. The usual defensive line up was Joe Worrall, Alex Reeves, Rob Wreglesworth and Ben Allsopp. Joe read the game very well and moved forward strongly with the ball. Rob showed fearless tackling and used the ball he won to good effect and was ably supported by Alex, a player who

just goes about his business of preventing opponents from getting into the circle and then moving the ball on to other players. His simple approach to the game was an example to all. Ben showed tremendous enthusiasm for the game and his team. He led by example and matured as a player over the season developing both his individual and team skills.

In midfield, Matt Murray, Francis Bryant, Matthew Stringer and James Gibson were a force to be reckoned with. As a holding player, Matt was without equal, always calm, brave and a great reader of the game. Frankie developed his stick skills to a very high level and these, together with his excellent hockey brain, resulted in some outstanding contributions in matches. Matthew was deceptively skilful when linking in midfield, but, on moving forward in the later stages of the season, he turned into a formidable goalscorer and, with 21 goals, was the leading scorer. James worked tirelessly at the top of midfield. He was incredibly strong on the ball, displayed excellent stick skills and his forceful runs led to many goal scoring opportunities. These four were ably backed up by Fergus Lowry and Emile Broome. Fergus had very good positional sense and made telling runs in attacking positions and Emile, when in confident mood, was able to exploit space and create good attacking situations.

For the majority of the season the attacking force was Adam Allmand-Smith and Jack Edwards. Adam worked incredibly hard and made strong runs on the ball whilst Jack had that unerring knack of being in the right place at the right time to finish off the good work done by others. His goals were the result of a very good reading of attacking play. Following injury, Howard Shribman forced his way into the team and displayed all that is needed of an attacker: strong running, good positional sense and strong finishing. When called upon to play, James Fitzgerald, Oliver Cowan and Chris Gibson made good contributions to the team. Indeed, this season's squad was as deep and strong as it has been for many seasons. The tour to Bath also enabled three U16 players to be blooded at senior level. They all rose to the challenge, indicating that the future is looking bright for the 1st XI next season.

The progress made over the season

was excellent. All the players should feel proud of their achievements.

Indoor Team

Friday after-school practices at Macclesfield Leisure Centre hone stick skills and sharpness. A committed and determined group of players trained regularly for the North of England tournament in Hull. They showed good ball skills and were in determined mood at the tournament. The first two games were won comfortably against Huddersfield HC and Deeside Ramblers HC, with some excellent play raising eyebrows from other teams. Inexplicably, the next game saw a complete loss of form and a most unexpected defeat. The final group game was against the eventual winners and proved to be one hurdle too many. A disappointed team returned but they could hold their heads high with the memory of their first two matches in which their play was quite spectacular.

JAD

U16 XI

Overall, this was a very enjoyable season with a close knit group of just 13 players, most of whom had played together for a number of years. The squad battled all the way through the season and although ultimately the statistics are slightly disappointing, almost all the games played finished in close results.

The team was well captained by Tom Gilsenan whose game continues to improve. A good tackler and hard hitter, Tom has the ability to control games from the heart of the defence. Andy Parton had another excellent season in goal and his contribution was always crucial in a season where every goal counted. Mike Dodd and Mat Wreglesworth led the goalscorers with 11 and 9 goals respectively; both have a keen eye for goal and both showed an increasing appetite for hard work.

Dan Cotterill, James Boardman and Allie Potter were the mainstays of the defence. Dan played in the centre and formed a good partnership with Tom Gilsenan. James and Allie were at right and left back both tackling and distributing the ball with increasing confidence.

The ever improving Ben James played in the centre with Robert Wreglesworth, just in front of him. Ben reads the game very well and his passing and distribution were excel-

lent all season. Dan Alderley, Alex Eyre and Joschka Roffe, all played predominantly in the midfield and all made big improvements in all areas of the game.

James Burke partnered Mike Dodd up front; James has an excellent eye for the ball and if he's prepared to put in the hard work could make an excellent striker.

All the players have the ability to play 1st XI hockey next season, but they will be competing for places with some very good, established players. If they are prepared to work they will get a great deal of enjoyment out of their remaining time playing hockey at King's, and beyond.

U15XI

This was a disappointing season in many ways for a small U15 Hockey squad whose collective talents were many. There was no lack of determination on the pitch, notably against Sandbach, when the team battled to the end to try to win, despite finishing the game with only eight players through a series of mishaps.

Andy Taylor was a committed captain who led by example, while Tom Bridge developed into a resolute sweeper who showed a refreshing interest in learning new skills. James Spencer was a strong runner with the ball and fulfilled a key role in linking defence and attack. Leading goal scorers were Bridge, mostly from set plays, and Spencer, with five goals each, while Ryan Morris scored four.

Next season, the team will play in regional and national cup competitions and could still make an impact in these events.

GC

U13 XI

A large squad of very keen and enthusiastic boys started the season. By the end of the season, great strides had been made in all areas. Fitness levels, tactical awareness, knowledge of the rules and core skills were all improved and the team laid the foundation for greater involvement and more fixtures in 2008 - 2009.

The team played both small sided and eleven a-side matches with varied success. They had hard fought draws with Macclesfield (twice) and Cheadle Hulme; they were narrowly defeated against Newcastle and were well beaten by a strong Rossall side.

The captain's job was shared between Will Galloway and Chris Hall,

who both did a very good job with the goalkeeping duties split between Anton Petho and Ben Horner. All the squad played in at least one game and the signs are good that this could be a very successful team in future years.

Girls' Hockey

King's Girls had a fine representation again in the Cheshire County Hockey Teams.

Congratulations to Katherine Baker, Rebecca Bamford who continued to make an enormous contribution to county hockey and to Sarah Pickering who after much determination over the years, deservedly made it through to join them in the U18 team.

Sophie Fox went through as an U17 but played a regular role in the U18 team.

Hatty Ravenscroft and Sarah Branley made a big impact with the U16 team.

Jae Bowers continued through from the development squad into the U15 team and Victoria Lomas and Maddie Coutts into the U14s.

Lara Knowles made an impressive start to her hockey career with the county U14s, when her potential was soon recognised and she was invited to attend the North squad training.

The Inter - House Tournament was enthusiastically fought out in all age groups with Capesthorpe the overall winners.

1st XI

A very successful year as U16s, and the loss of key players, meant that last year was always going to be a difficult

year to follow for this team.

However, with the very talented Katherine Baker again at the helm and the return of strikers Rachel Burgess and Charlotte Henshaw (but with a new-found role in centre defence,) and GK Sarah Gales giving the team the benefit of two Goal Keepers, the future looked positive.

Defenders Hannah Woodley, Liz Brierley and Rebecca Saxon were ably supported by the very industrious sweeper, Rebecca Bamford.

Having played so well last year in goal, Zoë Wolstencroft bravely took on the role as midfielder, but injury unfortunately took its toll.

Newcomers, Jess Braddock and Emma Davies were very welcome support for striker Sarah Pickering.

Despite the challenges, the new side worked very well together and played some very respectable hockey. To hold their own against established regional players, beating Queen's Chester in the Cheshire round of the National Tournament but losing to the eventual winners, has to be viewed as significant progress and bodes well for next year.

DMB

U16 XI

What a well-adjusted group of players! Keen, motivated and always well turned out in number, often with too many to play at the same time. This was part of their strength: they understood the need for 'fresh legs' and timely interchanges of positions throughout the games. The superb display of passing and interplay was often greatly admired and comment-



ed on by the opposition staff: their games were a delight to watch.

Captain Sarah Branley quietly engineered her team to concentrate and focus. Her midfield dominance and speed had a wonderful quality and at no time did she succumb to defeat, which approach was matched by defender Hatty Ravenscroft.

Hatty's tackling and explosive sprint skills were tested to the limit. She would take on anyone of any size, never satisfied until she took possession of the ball and ran it out of danger. Hatty was a very capable match for the secret weapon of the Tytherington school team, England U17 Football Captain and she could be confident of cover if needed from the defenders Grace Duckworth, Sophie MacFadyen, Sophie Woodley, Hannah Smith and the ever reliable Goal Keeper Alex Smith. Ellie Smith and Ali King were tireless workers in midfield.

Sweeper Sophie Fox blossomed out of all recognition during the year. Her modest nature overshadowed what turned out to be a steely determination and tremendous positive presence on the pitch. She would feed the awaiting forwards, swift by nature: Virginia Coates, Jess Quinlan and Caroline Shorland, all hungry for goal scoring opportunities.

Keen to embrace the enthusiasm of this dedicated unit, Sarah Vickers joined late on in the season to become the U16 XI 'Super Sub'.

There is much to look forward to as these keen and enthusiastic ambassadors of King's Girls' Division graduate to the 1st XI squad.

DMB

U15 XI

Unfortunately, these girls started the season without a win under their belts, but they were not without the desire or enthusiasm, just belief in themselves. The success in the summer term of the rounders team (involving many of the same girls) highlighted the strengths that they had and so, with continued disciplined practice from the whole squad, and finding the most appropriate formation, they proved that it was possible to secure success.

A momentous occasion came in September when they beat Withington Girls. Having realized the need for more assertiveness on the pitch, they made the opposition fight for possession of the ball instead of giving

it to them. Maintaining possession, being first on the ball and ensuring all passes were accurate were the main goals of the year. Individual talent began to shine through as they began to believe in themselves and worked hard on their skills and support of each other.

Despite some heavy defeats, the team is to be congratulated on encouraging results against some of the best players in the region, showing signs of improvement and development over the year.

DMB

U14 XI

The season began with a large mixed ability squad which was rather lacking in confidence. Some early defeats did little to boost morale however, Hannah Gradwell's superb reactions and goal keeping skills kept the scores respectable. Gradually, individuals began to improve their ball handling skills and understand their positional roles, and a draw against Mount St Mary's lifted team spirits and confidence. Later in the season a victory in a return fixture against St Edwards allowed the team to even up the score of the previous fixture. Well-rehearsed set pieces and determined play from the County players, Jae Bowers and Victoria Lomas, saw a well-deserved victory against Newcastle under Lyme School in December.

In the U14 County Hockey tournament in March at Weaverham school, the team played with spirit and determination but sadly finished in fourth place. Niamh Burke scored the only goal of the tournament and Hannah was again outstanding in goal. The season culminated in the HMC 7 a-side tournament at QEGS in Blackburn. The 7 a-side game was clearly too fast and unfamiliar to our players who were not tenacious enough against the strong hockey schools of Arnold and Kirkham, although they secured a win against Stoneyhurst. The whole team benefited from the experience and displayed huge progress over the season.

LB

U13 XI

The U13 girls' hockey squad had a very promising year. At the start of the year, the squad included very accomplished, experienced players and some who were very new to the game but had bags of enthusiasm and commitment. This was a great mix and, as

the year progressed, there was a notable improvement in every single player, particularly in their understanding of teamwork which fostered a strong spirit of togetherness. The team captain, Maddie Coutts, led by example with her determination and passion. She was ably assisted by the vice-captain, Lara Knowles, and the other girls responded to their direction and input. Individually, there were some very strong performances, with Holly Smith particularly impressive throughout the year. Sarah Pearson and Megan Bailey typified the group's desire to improve themselves. The girls' efforts at the Cheshire County mini-hockey tournament when they drew against St Bede's College and Chester's King's School before being knocked out of the tournament by Altrincham were particularly impressive. The girls gained invaluable experience from playing some of the county's top teams.

ZT

Junior Hockey

Hockey players had a busy season and took part in both inter house, inter school and tournament matches.

The house hockey event gave an opportunity for Year 5 and 6 players, who have regularly been attending hockey club, to form teams and compete in a 7-a-side tournament. Tatton were the proud winners and their captain, Poppy Nathan, collected the trophy on behalf of the team. All benefited from the experience of competing and working as a team.

Inter school matches against Orme House, Liverpool College, and King's Chester helped the teams to prepare for the AJIS and the Cheshire mini Hockey Tournaments. Improving results demonstrated a positive development in skills and positional understanding as the season progressed.

Catherine Smith proved to be an influential and talented captain and she received her hockey colours along with Poppy Nathan, our top goal scorer, at the end of the season. Congratulations to both these players!

DCB/JEB

1st XI Tour to Sri Lanka

King's enjoyed a memorable and culturally educational tour whilst playing a lot of cricket against a strong cricketing nation. The team covered many miles travelling between numerous different venues in the southern half of the country. All the matches were played on first class cricket grounds, many of them in test match stadiums. The team did not find it easy to perform to their full potential: a mixture of travel, excitement, heat and awe distracted them and they were only just getting into their stride by the end of the tour. By then, however, they were also exhausted by two weeks' intensive activity.

There were some pleasing performances and the boys learnt a great deal about their likely prospects for the coming season.

The hotels were excellent, with a very wide choice of food, swimming pools and comfortable en-suite rooms shared by three or four boys. Travel too was comfortable and provided a close view of the life of Sri Lanka. The landscape was very beautiful with tropical rainforests and delightful sea scenes. By the roadside, simple stalls doubled up as homes for many. Thousands of three-wheeled rikshaw vehicles called 'Tut-tuts' buzzed around the road whilst dogs wandered across it in front of the honking coach.

The boys experienced several aspects of Sri Lankan life. They saw the destruction caused by the tsunami and visited the house of a boy who had lost six members of his extended family. They saw many types of wild life such as monkeys, bats, lizards, spiders and snakes and visited elephant and turtle sanctuaries. The temperature was always in the nineties, but it was extremely humid and it rained far more than expected. Happily, only

one game was lost to the weather, but this break was used to advantage for a trip to the famous Sigirya Rock. The Sri Lankans were extremely friendly, and our guide, Sunni, was always with us and was well-liked by the boys

The trip was coordinated to run alongside the test match series between England and Sri Lanka and the boys saw two days of test-match cricket, meeting Prior, Panesar, and head coach, Peter Moores, in the process. All agreed that the tour was a terrific experience.

SM/CJM/PFH

1st XI

Having enjoyed a very tough but rewarding tour to Sri Lanka, King's 1st XI started the season in high spirits. The contrast in the weather between Sri Lanka and England in April could not have been greater. After the first game was cancelled for rain, the second against King's Chester was played in the coldest conditions imaginable. King's Chester won a low scoring encounter, with Captain Jonathan Barratt unable to bat having dislocated a finger attempting a tricky caught and bowled.

In the following games against Denstone and Bishop Vesey's, the school chased 126 and 124 comfortably enough but even in these games a trend of poor starts to the batting had begun. It was this trend that the team failed to shrug off all season, with average first, second and third wicket partnerships all below 10. What also became apparent was the fighting qualities of the team because, in general, the batting as a whole did not fail and we did generally post good totals.

Against Stockport, King's amassed 191, thanks to a fine 77 from skipper Barratt and against Cheadle Hulme

125, with a gritty 34 from Mike Walsh. Indeed, Walsh played a number of really resolute innings, often only of 30 or 40, but always worth more given the situations in which he was batting. King's bowled well but lost both games narrowly; it was the first defeat against Stockport for a number of years and possibly the first defeat ever against Cheadle Hulme. Both oppositions were strong in 2008 and King's a relatively young side, hopefully getting better, but both defeats were hard to take and there was a fear that the season could be a struggle.

The following game saw the team well beaten by a very strong Nottingham side but King's played some of their best cricket up to that point. The bowlers had been leaking wides and no balls, and occasional misfields and dropped catches had cost us dearly in previous games. Against Nottingham, the out cricket was excellent and the bowlers all bowled well. On an excellent wicket in good weather, King's did well to restrict the opposition to 217 for 7 in 50 overs with spinners, Tom Coleman and Jimmy Lomas, bowling well in tandem. A poor start, poor shot selections and a couple of tough umpiring decisions saw King's all out for 150 with Mike Walsh contributing a stubborn 35. Against Newcastle, King's finally got off to a good start with 44 on the board before the loss of the first wicket only to then be 46 for 6 and struggling badly before Mike Walsh (69*) came to the rescue in partnerships with first Joe Stanley (17) and secondly Jimmy Lomas (37*) that enabled the team to declare on 183 for 7. In a 'time' game King's again bowled well, to have Newcastle 9 wickets down with 14 overs left only to be frustrated by the final pair who managed to bat out the time remaining for a draw.

Lancaster GS also managed to hold



on for the draw; they were 8 down chasing 194, with Jimmy Lomas (42 and 3 for 39) continuing his good all-round form. Against Manchester Grammar School, King's were bowled out for 169. After a poor morning session against an innocuous bowling attack, King's needed vital lower-order runs from Marsden (35) and Barratt (46). MGS scored 115 for the first wicket with U15 E Bullock (109) scoring the majority of runs but still lost 6 wickets in the chase. If King's had had a little more luck early on in the innings, or managed to post another 20, then the story could have been different.

Cricket fortnight started with a game rained off against Birkenhead and an easy victory against a poor Lytham side. Lytham succumbed to 64 all out and the game was over at lunch. The school had an excellent victory against MCC in the following game. MCC declared on 212 for 5 and after being 183 for 9, King's won the game with an undefeated last wicket partnership of 30. Johnny Marsden starred with the bat with an excellent undefeated 53. It was a good day for the Marsden family; Johnny's father, Bob, had scored 78 for the MCC and on the same day his younger brother Ben scored 100 for the U13s!

The following day, the school travelled to Sedbergh in good spirits. Sedbergh had had an excellent season, winning almost all their games to that point. King's won the toss, batted and immediately started losing wickets. At 47 for 5 the fear was that for once the tail would not rescue the side and we would be bowled out very cheaply. But a combination of extras (37) and a magnificent 53 from U14 Alex Thomson, who opened the batting and was ninth man out, helped King's post 139; probably not enough but at least something to bowl at. The King's bowlers set about their task in magnificent fashion; tight, hostile, quick bowling and excellent fielding, left Sedbergh at 47 for 7 after 26 overs in a 45 over game. King's were eventually undone by Walkinshaw and Wilson, batting at 6 and 9 respectively. Their partnership of 89 saw Sedbergh to the brink of victory and King's lost a magnificent game of cricket by two wickets.

After an abandoned game against Rossall, King's had another low scoring encounter against Bolton. King's bowled first and the rejuvenated King's attack decimated the Bolton

top order, leaving them all out for 67. Stockwin (2 for 21), Stanley (2 for 5) Lomas (2 for 18) and Barratt (3 for 12) shared the wickets after another impressive performance in the field. But, as in previous games, when King's are batting nothing seems to be easy and at 59 for 6 the unthinkable looked like it could happen; it didn't and King's duly won by 4 wickets but not without a scare.

The first game at the festival in Edinburgh was against Ipswich and this was the most disappointing performance of the season. King's struggled to 122 on a difficult wicket with only Walsh (28) and Marsden (21) showing any real resilience. For once, the bowlers had a bad day and Ipswich knocked the runs off with only 3 wickets down. The school put the loss behind them to secure a comfortable 8 wicket victory against Edinburgh in the following game; good bowling, fielding and captaincy saw Edinburgh dismissed for 124. After comfortably the highest opening partnership of the season, of 75 between Tim Saxon (24) and Ben Foreman (43), the result was never in any doubt. Barnard Castle (who had lost to Edinburgh on the first day) beat Ipswich on the same day which left the festival nicely poised with all four teams with one win each.

In the final festival game, Jimmy Lomas (59) Joe Stanley (20) Johnny Marsden (31) and Sam Stockwin (19*) all batted excellently for King's to post a very respectable 183. Barnard Castle started very well, scoring 59 for the loss of the first wicket and reached 165 for 5 with 5 wickets left before collapsing to 173 all out. It was an excellent way to end the festival and again showed the resilience of the team and also the skills of the captain Barratt who managed the bowlers and fielders very well in the closing overs.

King's finished the season with games against Radford College from Australia, Denstone and The Old Boys. An under-strength King's side were well beaten by a strong Radford team; in a game reduced to 30 overs after heavy rain, Radford posted 204 (R Carters who has already played first grade cricket in Australia falling one short of his century on 99) and King's replied with 147 for 9. Having been 45 for 7, King's were indebted to youngsters Andrew Hodgson (57) and Jake Knowles (29) for achieving some respectability. The game against Denstone was lost to the weather

completely and the game against the Old Boys was abandoned after the old boys had batted and scored 185ao.

The three leavers, Barratt, Walsh and Allsopp, will all be missed, not just for their performances with the bat and ball, but also for their collective contribution to the side as a whole. Jonny captained the side, Ben was vice captain and 'encourager-in-chief' with Mike acting as a senior advisor.

Of the 23 scheduled fixtures, 7 were won and 8 lost, the rest drawn, cancelled or abandoned. The statistics would say that this was a poor season, but in many ways it was one of the most enjoyable seasons in recent years. There was a genuine team spirit amongst the side, helped by the trip to Sri Lanka and also by the fact that all players knew that they would be called on to perform at some stage during the matches. Although there was a lack of high scores and five wicket hauls, there were a number of excellent all round performances. It was hard to pick a batting order when so many players had scored runs and equally difficult for the captain to use all the bowlers at his disposal, when almost everyone in the side bowled.

The captaincy decisions next season will be made by Jimmy Lomas who had an excellent season in 2008. Jimmy missed the majority of the 2007 season after a cricketing injury that almost stopped him playing again; his determination and courage not only to play but to play to a high standard, was one of the most satisfying aspects of the season. He will have a hard act to follow. Jonny Barratt, who is one of the few players to play 1st XI cricket for 5 full seasons, had captained the side well in 2007, and although at first reluctant to continue the position, he captained even better in 2008. Always ready to make changes in the bowling attack and in the field, it was appropriate that Jonny won the 'Most Valuable Player' award in 2008 based on points awarded for runs, wickets, catches and run outs, just pipping Jimmy Lomas to the award.

The 2009 season is awaited with excitement and anticipation. How much will the younger players improve and contribute? Who will make the 'big' score? Will the side capitalise on the foundations they have laid this season?

U15 XI

The U15 XI, captained by Tim Saxon, had a good season overall. Victories were achieved over Stockport, Cheddle Hulme, Nottingham, Newcastle and Lytham, but there were also hard lessons to be learned in defeat against Bishop Vesey's, Lancaster, MGS, Bury and Bolton.

An excellent individual performance came from Jake Knowles, 40 not out against Stockport. John Armitage took 3-7 against Nottingham, with James Bowyer on his debut match for this team taking 2-4. Tim Saxon and Tom Livesley batted well against Newcastle, scoring 42 and 32 not out respectively. Although we lost against Lancaster, Matt Jones bowled well 3-14, and George Drury was the best of the batsmen on 38. John Armitage was unbeatable with 71 not out at Lytham and James Board the best of the bowlers with 2-4. Sam Rodman scored 30 and Ross Elliott 24 against Wilmslow in the last match of the season, which was unfortunately rained off.

Ross Elliott and Will Hanson were particularly sharp in the field and welcome additions to this team. Alex Andrews, Declan Sully and Ollie Collins also played with commitment.

King's progressed to the semi-final of the Cheshire Schools cup: in the first round meeting Shavington with Tim Saxon scoring 99 and Ben Marsden 56 not out. Johnny Marsden took 5-15 and Jo Seddon 3-8. The next round against Sandbach had Johnny Marsden scoring 77 and Andy Hodgson 41. Encountering Stockport for the second time in the season in the quarter-final brought a hard earned 31 from Jake Knowles and then an unbeaten 33 from big hitter, Tom Livesley. In the bowling, Johnny Stubbs took four wickets and Will Hanson took the final wicket with his first ball! However, the cup chase came to an end against West Hill, who were a very strong side. West Hill batted first and scored exactly 100 with wickets coming from Hodgson, Armitage and Stubbs. After a slow start King's was given a fighting chance with a very quick 17 from Jake Knowles and a well controlled 37 from Tom Livesley. However, it was not to be, as King's fell 9 runs short of their required total with 11 balls to spare.

U14

King's U14s enjoyed a very good season which saw them win nearly two-thirds of their matches and come very close to winning the Cheshire Cup. They are a very talented side with many able to bat and bowl proficiently and also field well. This leads to high expectations and they often deliver. It is impossible to maintain top standards every time but this team work hard at their game and play with great enthusiasm so when it does not go right, it is not for want of trying.

Early in the season, King's struggled a little against strong sides. As the season went on, they gained consistency and so it came as quite a shock when they failed to win the Cup. In the semi-final, they had won magnificently against a strong Stockport Grammar team and this, together with the win over MGS, was the highlight of the season.

Tom Foreman (399 runs, 18 wickets and 6 catches), the captain, led from the front with bat and ball and learned a lot about the complexities of captaincy. He was well supported by Andrew Hodgson (412 runs, 21 wickets and 3 catches), another highly able all-rounder. Hannah Gradwell (143 runs) improved further on the batting front, as did Kamlesh Sodha (148 runs) and Greg Eyre (175 runs and 9 wickets) and Callum Jones (80 runs, 4 wickets and 6 catches). The latter two also bowled well and have much potential. Sam Leech's batting (108 runs) came on measurably, and he kept wicket both reliably and enthusiastically. Phil Gibson (12 wickets) looks a very good opening or first change bowler now and James Gwatkin (9 wickets) also became a regular. Eddie Gwatkin (7 wickets) showed great improvement with his leg-spin and this augers well for next season. Vivek Akula (53 runs) batted well and was difficult to get out. Matthew Rogerson (38 runs and 5 catches) and Charlie Leddy (39 runs and 3 catches) played well and next year will have a lot more to do if any of the team get picked for the 1st team.

The team has excellent spirit, a good work ethic and are very enjoyable to work with. Although it was disappointing not to win the Cup, they can reflect on the fact that it was their first cup loss in three years; and there is always next year.

U13

An early Easter and reasonable weather contributed to a good summer of cricket. The U13 team was captained by Ben Marsden (pictured) who smashed a number of records at this level. He scored 4 centuries (in the previous 29 seasons only 3 centuries in total had been scored by King's batsmen at U13 level) and accumulated 835 runs at an average of 69.6. The aggregate is way above anything seen previously. The team as a whole improved considerably on their performances as U12s. Ben Saxon, James and David Barton, Tom Slater, Chris Hall and Jamie Winrow all averaged in excess of double figures with the bat. Matt Mountney with 23 wickets was leading wicket-taker and James Barton, Dom Sheratte, Aswad Khan, Ben Marsden and Chris Hall all captured more than 10 wickets. David Barton was an excellent wicket-keeper and included 10 stumpings amongst his victims. The general standard of fielding and catching was very impressive.

The season started with a practice match against a Macclesfield CC U13



CJM

side which resulted in a comfortable 40 run victory. This was followed by a disappointing defeat against Bishop Vesey School, who only managed 76 all out, thanks largely to Matt Mountney (4 for 17). We could only muster 62 in reply with just 2 players reaching double figures.

The first away fixture was at neighbours, Stockport Grammar. Ben Marsden contributed 50 in a 25 over total of 134 for 3, which was more than enough as James Barton captured 3 for 14. The first fixture in the Hopkins Cup campaign against Tytherington saw a strong start by Ben Saxon (26) and Ben Marsden (54) and our 135 for 5 in 20 overs was enough to yield a 54 run victory as Matt Mountney took 4 for 7 in just 7 balls, including a memorable hat-trick. An unbroken 2nd wicket partnership of 131 between Ben Marsden, who achieved his first-ever century, and James Barton (27 not out) gave an imposing 30 over score of 172 for 1 against Cheadle Hulme, who were bowled out for 120 for a good win.

A close game against Nottingham High School resulted in a 7 run victory and this owed a lot to Ben Saxon's unbeaten 65 as he batted all through the innings for his best performance of the summer. The first half term ended as always with a fixture against Newcastle High School, which in recent years has always been very high scoring. This year was no exception, as Ben Marsden (124 not out) and Jamie Winrow (31) added 140 for the 3rd wicket and we posted the imposing total of 215 for 3 in 30 overs. In reply, Newcastle were bowled out for 111.

Brine Lees School, Nantwich, was the next port of call in the Hopkins Cup. An extremely rapid 44 by James Barton and a solid unbeaten 30 by Ben Saxon helped King's to 144 for 2 in 20 overs. Aswad Khan with 4 for 13 and James Barton (3 for 11) were largely responsible for restricting the home side to 107 for 9.

After losing to a formidable Lancaster side, the quarter-final Hopkins Cup game at Birkenhead was also lost by 7 runs, despite good individual contributions from Tom Slater (24 not out), Matt Mountney (3 for 21) and Ben Marsden (3 for 19). A spirited reply against MGS, who had posted 229 for 3 in 35 overs, could not stave off our 3rd consecutive defeat. Ben Marsden (31), James Barton (27), Tom Slater (30), and Chris Hall (29)

all got good starts but failed to go on to 50s and we finished on 183.

Against the visiting Far North team from Johannesburg, Ben Saxon with 35 was main contributor to King's 116 for 7 in 30 overs; the visitors managed just 108 for 9 in reply. A thrilling last ball win against Birkenhead served as some revenge for our earlier cup defeat (Ben Marsden took 4 for 13). King's Chester was beaten by 44, thanks to a magnificent 130 not out by Ben Marsden and 4 for 29 by Dom Sheratte. Ben bettered this next day, with 139 not out against Bury GS, whilst Henry Ravenscroft with 3 for 11 was main wicket-taker as Bury were dismissed for just 53. A formidable Bolton side were held to 115 for 9 (Jamie Winrow 3 for 20) but only Ben Marsden with 31 offered much resistance in our weak reply. Lytham batted slowly, posting just 95 for 3 in their 30 overs, a score we overcame in just 14 overs with Ben Marsden unbeaten on 58. Our final fixture was against Wilmslow – David Barton with 26 was highest scorer in our 104 for 7. Jamie Winrow took 3 for 5 as Wilmslow were bowled out for 85 in reply.

A large squad always results in great enthusiasm for B team fixtures and we managed 6 games in the summer. Although we only secured 1 victory at King's Chester, where Tom Hennell scored his first ever half-century (52 not out), supported by Josh Wilson (44) and Ciaran Houghton-Barcoe (3 for 14), there were some notable contributions in other games: Wilson 25 against Birkenhead and 3 for 7 against Bolton; James Crosby 27 not out; Tom Slater 25 not out and Sam Dowd 4 wickets for just 1 run against Prestbury; Tom Hennell 26 at Birkenhead.

The large number of boys involved and the pace of their improvement as cricketers make this a year group to watch in the future and there is a strong likelihood that several will go on to play at a good level.

GL/AMCl

Junior Cricket

U11

Practice nights this year saw a regular attendance of 30 or more boys, which set the tone for the season, with the players being keen to improve their skills and enjoying highly competitive matches against local independent and primary schools.

The A team had a very successful season, winning 7 out of the 9 matches that were completed and reaching the AJIS Cup Final. In the early part of the season it was very clear that this was going to be a real 'team' effort, with all 11 players being competent bowlers and batsmen, as well as being very athletic in the field. Wins were secured against Cheadle Hulme, Bury Grammar (twice), Liverpool College, Stockport Grammar, Bolton and QEGS, Blackburn. In the AJIS Cup Final, which was played against Bolton School at Stockport Grammar, the boys came up against a very powerful side and despite their best efforts could only muster 68 all out, after electing to bat first. This was unlikely to challenge such a strong team and despite the best effort of the King's players, Bolton won by 8 wickets. Nevertheless, to have reached the AJIS Final was a fine achievement.

The B and C teams also made great progress this year, with wins being recorded against Bury Grammar, Stockport Grammar and Black Firs Primary School, Congleton.

This was a super season and Junior School Colours were awarded to Finlay McCance, Manu Akula and Ben Winrow.

MKW

U10

A small but keen group of Year 5 cricketers did not begin the season auspiciously with defeats at the hands of Altrincham Prep (off the last ball!), Stockport GS and Birkenhead Prep.

Their spirit undiminished, the team continued to listen and learn, resulting in a much-improved performance at Bury Grammar School where the match was won by 9 runs. This was followed by a close, but well-deserved, win against Prestbury Cricket Club, which brought the brief season to a close. The squad possesses several players with all-round potential who can look forward to more successes in the future. The B team also struggled to contain their opponents but never gave up.

Athletics

Girls' Division

The Athletics season was busy and especially exciting this year with many individual and team successes.

In the Macclesfield and District Athletics League, the Year 7 team finished in second place, one point behind the winners, whilst the Years 8 and 9 team and the Year 10 team were first and second respectively.

At the Macclesfield and District Athletics Championships, the Year 7, 8 and 9 teams came third and the Year 10 and 11 finished in second place overall. Individual performances at this event were particularly strong with 14 girls being selected to represent Macclesfield at the Cheshire Athletics Championships.

In the Junior girls' category, Rafia Aslam performed especially well in her Long Jump, gaining herself a school record with a jump of 4.54m. She went on to represent Cheshire at the Inter-Counties' Athletics at Alexander Stadium in Birmingham.

At the Year 7 Minors Cheshire Athletics Championships, Annabel Brooks ran a fantastic 1500m race, breaking the U13 School record with a time of 5.47.7s and Laura Venables proved to have great potential in the Hurdles, breaking another School record with a time of 12.7s.

The most exciting team performances of the season came in the English Schools' Athletics Association events. The Junior Team (Years 7 and 8) won the County Round at Macclesfield with some outstanding individual performances from all members of the team especially Rafia Aslam and Sophie Preece, who

were the highest scoring individuals, which contributed to a team total of 299 points. This score secured them a place at the Regional North West B finals in Warrington, where most team members improved on their previous performances. The competition here was tough against many good athletic schools across the North West, but that did not deter our enthusiastic and able athletes. King's girls won this event with a score of 197. Clearly there is great potential in this squad of athletes whose aim is to reach the National Finals next year.

Girls' Division Sports Day

Having postponed Sports Day to 4 July (due to poor weather the previous week), the sun shone and everyone participated with determination and a fantastic House spirit. There were lots of good performances and everyone appeared to enjoy themselves. In particular, there were some outstanding performances with 12 Sports Day records being broken, some of which had been established in the early days of the Girl's Division.

Girls' Division Cross Country

Although there were few cross country events, there are some very talented runners in the Girls' Division, demonstrating great potential for the future. In the Macclesfield and District Cross Country Championships in December, 12 runners were selected to run in the County Cross Country championships in Winsford in January.

In Year 7 Alix Davies (2nd), Annabel Brooks (4th), Laura Venables (9th) and Kate Garnett (11th) represented Macclesfield in the Minors County

Cross Country Championships along with Lara Knowles (5th), Sophie Preece (12th) and Holly Smith (13th) from Year 8. Alix, Annabelle and Lara also ran in the Inter-Counties Competition.

LB

Junior Athletics

King's Juniors enjoyed one of their most successful athletics years on record and were very pleased to take part in a number of meetings throughout the season.

The team enjoyed local track and field competition meetings against Cheadle Hulme School and Stockport Grammar School which were excellent opportunities to rehearse for the major events of the year.

Both sprint relay teams won gold at the Macclesfield and District event, to conclude an excellent evening of competition, and add vital points to secure an overall victory for King's Juniors. It was a memorable occasion and the boys' 4x100m team achieved a winning time of 59.2 seconds breaking the event record set back in 1990. Congratulations to Harry Jackson, James Ireland, Raife Copp-Barton and Sam Stockman.

This team also enjoyed an emphatic win at the AJIS competition and so they achieved a remarkable double, completing the season in style.

Sam Stockman deserves a special mention as he added to his relay double by winning the 600m on both occasions and he also leapt to success at the AJIS Championships to win the Long Jump with a distance of 4.40m.

Younger athletes will hopefully continue to strive for success next season and will have benefited enormously from being part of such a hard working, talented squad of athletes in 2008.

DCB

Biathlon

World Biathlete competitor Hannah Hills (pictured overleaf) had an outstanding win with 2278 points, 50 more than her nearest rival, in the North West Regional competition in Blackpool on 11 November. This gold medal performance, ranked her top athlete going into the National finals in February. Unfortunately, due to injury, she was not able to compete.

As always, Year 7 newcomers approach this new experience with great enthusiasm and this year was



Other Sport

no exception. However, as the date for The Midlands Schools' Biathlon Championship clashed with a school hockey and netball fixture, only 2 Year 7s and 2 Year 8s took part. Laura Venables Year 7 and Chloe Abbotts Year 8, finished in very creditable 7th place, just out of the National qualifying positions. However Year 7 Alix Davies and Year 8 Lara Knowles' 4th places meant they had booked their seats to the finals in February, where they both achieved creditable places: Lara 37th and Alix 30th.

DMB

Cheerleading

Year 7 King's Kittens

The girls learnt to work exceptionally well together as a team, developing new skills and growing in confidence. Their performance at Nationals was superb for such a young team and they should be proud of their achievement.

Katie Cornish was recognized for her role as Kittens' Cheerleading captain, which she executed convincingly, organizing the team and guiding them to a remarkable performance. Ellen Barratt rose to her role as Vice-Captain superbly and her energy and enthusiasm encouraged others.



Years 8 and 9 King's Cubs

The journey the Cubs have taken to become the professional team that they are and National Champions has been phenomenal. All the girls are enthusiastic and highly motivated as well as being very encouraging of each other and helpful if another team member is struggling with a skill. The Cubs have been fully committed and put maximum effort into every practice. Their performance at the Nationals, which made them National Champions, was very impressive.

Chloe Venables was recognized for her role as the Year 8 and 9 Cheerleading captain: she has been a very mature leader and the Cubs have looked up to her, whilst the guidance she gave to the team members, was essential. Chloe's hard work obviously paid off as she steered them to National Champions status.

RB

Equestrian

Showjumping

Charlotte Howlett, Annabel Brooks, Holly Pinkham, Gemma Lord, Emma Hutcheon, Rosie and Alice Taylor, Olivia Muncaster and Josh Rhodes attended Showjumping training and team selection sessions at Smallwood Equestrian Centre and Beaver Hall Equestrian Centre. The final team, composed of Josh Rhodes, Annabel Brooks, Olivia Muncaster, Beth Anderson and Emma Hutcheon, competed in the Interschools Showjumping Competition at Southview Competition Centre on 4th May. The team was

placed 3rd in the 75cm class and 2nd in the 85cm class, with Josh Rhodes winning the individual rider competition.

Dressage

The Equestrian Squad Dressage team has made an impressive start to this year's activities. Lauren Hanley, Rosie Swinhoe, Emma Hutcheon, Olivia Muncaster, Petra Gillian and Beth Anderson have all participated in dressage training sessions with Jo Stoyell at Smallwood Livery yard. Their progress in their schooling has been marked, and reflected in their success at competitions. Emma Hutcheon was joint first with Lauren at our first competition, with Emma also winning the second class. At Beaver Hall, King's had a clean sweep of success with Lauren Hanley, Rosie Swinhoe and Rosie Taylor all winning their classes.

JMP/REM

Football

U10

The U10 football season began with an unusually small pool of players from which to choose. Fortunately, the players were keen to succeed and, after a shaky start, they improved throughout the year. They suffered defeats at the hands of The Grange, Bolton School, Birkenhead Prep, Stockport GS, Merchant Taylors' and King's Chester before the A team's first victory against Black Firs JS, Congleton. The final matches away at Arnold School, Blackpool confirmed the improvement that the A and B teams made both in terms of skill and confidence. The A team fought hard to draw 2-2 whilst the B team ended the season on a high note with a 3-2 success.

U11

King's enjoyed a successful football season, with three 11 a-side teams regularly representing the school, together with two 7 a-side teams in the local Primary Schools' cup and league competitions.

In the 11 a-side format a number of very competitive matches were played against all of the usual AJIS schools in the North-West, with the A team beating Cheadle Hulme, Redcourt St Anselm's, Bury Grammar and King's Chester, whilst drawing against Stockport Grammar and Birkenhead Prep. Unfortunately, there were also two



defeats this year, against The Grange and St Ambrose, with the latter being decided in the last seconds of extra time in the AJIS Cup quarter-final.

The B team also played extremely well, with wins being achieved against Redcourt St Anselm's and Birkenhead Prep, whilst the C team won against The Grange and Birkenhead Prep.

In the Macclesfield Primary Schools' 7 a-side league, both the A and B teams were victorious, topping their respective groups, which also included Upton Priory and Marlborough, with the B team winning all 4 of their matches.

In the early part of the season, King's qualified for the finals of a 7 a-side tournament, held at Puss Bank, and finished in 3rd place after losing 1-0 in the semi-final to Ivy Bank. In the 3rd/4th place play-off, King's beat Upton Priory 1-0.

Towards the end of the season, the team managed to reach another finals day, this time in the CIBA 7s, which was held at Hollinhey PS in Sutton. In a closely fought semi-final, King's was defeated 1-0 by Gawsorth in extra-time, which meant another 3rd/4th place play-off, this time against Park Royal, which resulted in a 2-1 win after extra-time.

This was a highly enjoyable season, with a group of motivated and talented individuals, who were a pleasure to coach throughout. Junior School Colours were awarded to Joseph Hale, Raife Copp-Barton and Matthew Richardson this year.

MKW

Netball

1st VII

The Senior Netball Team attended regular Wednesday afternoon fixtures and training, in which the team gelled quickly, finishing as joint runners-up in the Macclesfield and District Netball League, with many successes against local schools. For the first time in King's history, the squad entered the local adult league and won all but 2 of their games.

At the U19 Cheshire County Tournament, the team narrowly missed getting into the semi-finals, coming 6th out of 12 teams.

U16

This squad displays incredible talent both in individual skill and in their intelligence, grasping all concepts of team work, tactics and strategies.

Although fixtures are kept to a minimum for Year 11 teams, they enjoyed victories against Stockport Grammar School and QEGS Blackburn, but narrowly lost to Cheadle Hulme.

At the U16 Cheshire County Tournament, the girls enjoyed a great day of excellent netball, finishing 4th out of 16 teams.

The squad also enjoyed regular fixtures in the local Macclesfield adult league, where they won all their matches.

U15

When we started training back in September 2007, the Under 15 netball squad had been a struggling team with low self-esteem, who had to build on their basic netball skills and confidence. The girls improved tremendously, to become a squad with potential. They won the Year 10 (B) Macclesfield District League, which was a fitting success for all the girls' hard work and efforts.

CJC

U14 County Netball Tournament

The forecast given was very poor and King's had come prepared. However, the rain stayed away. King's were in a tough section, having to play against some strong netball schools. The girls were psyched up for a competitive morning of high-quality netball. The first game was against Alderley Edge. Annie Edgerton was given the hard task of marking a six-foot Goal Shooter; she did an amazing job at GK and King's won 8-5.

The girls continued to play brilliant netball all morning; their will to win, their team work and control were outstanding, and they played an excellent standard of netball.

King's were section winners, and every member of the team gave unstintingly. The shooters, Izzy Bell and Ellie Barratt, worked hard to score some very significant goals. The centre, Emily Pasquale, kept control of the game with Elisha Diamond and Megan Jones in support, whilst defenders, Danni Allwright and Annie Edgerton fought hard.

Having reached the final, the girls kept their concentration and the belief they could win, though, as they were to play Alsager, national finalists, it was going to be a tough game. In a very evenly contested final, the girls' tenacity never faltered, but a couple of costly errors meant that Alsager

pulled ahead by two goals and the final score was 9-7 to Alsager.

CJC

U14 Macclesfield District League

This is a competitive league and has some strong netball schools, such as All Hallows and Wilmslow. This group of Year 9s worked tirelessly, being entirely dedicated to their sport. They were extremely disciplined and developed into a strong, competitive squad, to become Year 9 Macclesfield District League Champions. This is a great achievement for the girls and very much deserved. The Under 14s have huge potential and will go from strength to strength.

CJC

U13

This squad consisted of some very able players and a regular 20 - 25 attended training throughout the season.

Fixtures started with a contest against Withington Girls' School, who always produce strong and capable teams; although both A and B teams lost (A team by 1 goal), it gave the group the determination to work hard and improve. After further losses during September to Manchester High and Stockport Grammar School, the squad raised their game and went on to beat St Edwards, King William, Cheadle and QEGS, Blackburn, later in the season.

In the Macclesfield and District League, the squad only lost one match to eventual winners Fallibroome. They were invited to tournaments at Mount St Mary's; an HMC Tournament at QEGS Blackburn; and the Cheshire County Tournament at Hartford, where they were runners-up each time. If the squad continues to work hard in 2008, they will be collecting winners' medals next season.

U12

A large and lively squad began what was to be a busy season with boundless energy and enthusiasm. In the Macclesfield and District netball league on Wednesdays after school, the A team were quite successful winning 5 out of 8 matches and the B team won 2 out of 6 matches. However, on Saturdays, the opposition proved to be much stronger and the teams were less successful. Nevertheless the squad remained keen and eventually settled into their positions, taking more notice of coaching points

Other Sport

and making some progress in team play.

At the Macclesfield and District U12 netball tournament in March at Poynton School, both teams played with determination. The A team won their first section of matches and went through to the Cup section to finish in fourth place.

LB

Junior Netball

The Junior netball teams had a very busy time this past season. All teams in Years 3 and 4 played their first proper netball match against Stockport Grammar in March, and looked to be a promising side for the future. Years 5 and 6 had an excellent year in terms of their progress and achievement. All girls in both year groups had the chance to play competitive netball, and a total of 49 matches were played during the season.

The season ended in fine style.



Although King's A team narrowly missed the final play-offs in the AJIS netball tournament, they won their local Macclesfield league and, in a nail-biting final, went on jointly to win the Macclesfield Primary Schools' Netball Tournament.

Victoria Provis was an outstanding netball captain and next year should be a good one as both the Year 5 A and B teams were unbeaten!

NS

Orienteering

The school team attended 17 fixtures across the North West of England, East and West Midlands and Yorkshire. It was pleasing to welcome a number of newcomers to the sport, and one of them, Jonathan Emery, achieved a significant amount of success in his first year. He managed first place in all but two of his competitions and represents a real talent for the future. There were also some good performances from Michael Jacot and Sean Malkin. Mr O'Donnell and Sean had some good battles over the year with honour pretty much even. Sean looks forward to 2008-2009 with every chance of making the North West team. Steven Whitehouse started in the Spring term and showed promise in the events he attended.

Once again it was a very successful year for Elliot Malkin (pictured). He was awarded the most improved junior in the North West Squad. This is a prestigious award as the NW are the best region in the UK. Elliot helped them once again win the junior inter-regional championships in late June. He came fourth in the Welsh 6 day championship, 8th in the British Elite championships, and 12th in the Jan Kjellstrom International Trophy in April. He was very unlucky not to be picked for a British Junior Squad tour in July. Over the course of the next year, he will challenge for a place to represent England in the under-19 age group.

COD/PJC

Rounders

U12

This year the Girls' teams entered the Macclesfield District Rounders League, a new event which had many teething troubles but nevertheless provided opportunities for developing skills and team play. Saturday matches allowed for further devel-

opment and there were some commendable performances. Alix Davies was particularly impressive, having honed her batting technique in placing the ball accurately and powerfully between first and second post, and making some very memorable and important catches against Newcastle-Under-Lyme school.

LB

U13

As usual in the Summer Term, there was lots of interest from Year 8 in the exciting game of Rounders. With some great hitters in the team, scoring rounders was not a problem and the excellent bowling, catching and fielding skills in the squad, made for a successful season.

The teams were entered into the local Rounders League where the girls came 2nd, losing to eventual winners Fallibroome in the last match.

There were only a few Saturday fixtures due to the weather, but an enjoyable, sunny and successful match took place just prior to the end of term at Newcastle-under-Lyme, where the team were eventual winners, 30 rounders to 11.

U14

This year group is a strong developing squad with depth, ability and potential. They have shown fantastic skill with the bat scoring many rounders and the fielding skills have been second to none. Unfortunately, the season was hampered by bad weather and so the team were unable to play all the fixtures.

U15

This year group has always enjoyed playing Rounders and look forward to the Summer Term. Due to the weather, there were fewer fixtures than usual but the squad enjoyed victories against Tytherington, Poynton and All Hallows.

The squad displayed some excellent individual skill, taking difficult catches, plus superb throwing from the deep by Katie Pickering. Hannah Sugden, Fliss Kimber and Kanza Khan enjoyed some fantastic success with the bat, scoring several rounders.

Sailing

Cumbrae Sailing Course

This year's sailing club course at the Scottish national sailing Centre on

Great Cumbrae Island in the Firth of Clyde took place at the end of the summer term. The group set out on Sunday 6 July.

Our aim this year was to give every sailor the chance to experience 'big boat' sailing on a Jeanneau 37 *Somerled* which the centre made available for the week. We were able to do even better than this as the centre's second cruiser, an Elam 36, *Santa Vey*, was also available. John Simpson skippered the *Santa Vey* on a three-day 'Start Cruising Course' with Tom Woolliscroft, Euan Scott and Chris Gibson aboard. This group visited Rothesay, sailed through the Kyles of Bute, Tarbert and Aran. *Somerled* had some interesting sailing; her most demanding sail was the return trip from Brodick Bay where a forecast 14 – 16 knot wind changed direction from S.E. to N.E and speed to 30+ knots. The crew responded ably and special mention has to be made of Max Wilkinson for organising Ali Bremner and Henry Williams in reefing the boat. The group overnighted in Largs' Marina because of the magnitude of the waves breaking over the pontoon at Cumbrae.

All of the instructors made a point of saying how much they enjoyed being on the water with the groups. Their enthusiasm and commitment are complemented by a friendliness and willingness to help each other that is much appreciated.

Swimming

Each year some of our swimmers enter the Borough Championships and enjoy the local competition. This year King's also entered the Rotary Club of Alderley Edge and Bollin Valley charity swimathon, as opposed to the Macclesfield Lions Club Swimathon, because half of the money raised could be put towards our Girls' Division charity – the Oxfam 'Build a Classroom' fund.

A Year 8 contingent comprised of Chloe Abbott, Jess Burns, Maddie Coutts, Lara Knowles, Sarah Pearson and Mrs Barker swam in relay formation for 55 minutes, completing 125 lengths to raise a total of £213.

Katherine Edgar achieved a Bronze medal in the individual 100m Backstroke Final at the English Schools' Divisional Championships in September at the Europa Pool in Birkenhead. Unfortunately when the ESSA Team Relay championships came round in

November, some of the boys in our previously successful U16 team were carrying injuries. Teams were entered for the U14 boys and U14 - 16 girls and despite many under age swimmers, there were some very encouraging performances which bodes well for the future.

Thankfully the mixed nature of the Newcastle-under-Lyme Relays suits King's very well. The U16s defended their title in the Medley Relay and swam a second faster but were pipped into a disappointing 3rd place by Merchant Taylors' and Bradford Grammar. However, it was a different story in the Freestyle where the swimmers were runners-up last year. This time they swam a most exciting race, beating Bradford convincingly by 2 seconds (unfortunately missing the record by 0.3 of second). This constitutes a fantastic first place over some of the best swimmers in the region. Tom Gilsean, Daniel Cotterill, Katherine Edgar and Alice Bailey proved to be a formidable team.

Alice Bailey was selected for the Cheshire County Team which competed in the Annual Inter Counties Championships in October. Her dedication to training is reaping rewards now, as she has achieved several of the extremely tough qualifying times for the National Championships to be held in August at Ponds Forge, Sheffield.

In recognition of the Year 11 boys' dedication to their club training and regular commitment to the school team over the last five years, the following boys were awarded Divisional Colours; Tom Gilsean (who in his own right has achieved numerous NQTs over the years); Daniel Cotterill, (who has each year since Year 7 competed in the Schools' Biathlon championships and reached National finals); Alex Eyre and Jonathan Ratcliffe who made up the relay team which has been so successful throughout the Boys' Division.

DMB

Junior Swimming

Swimmers have taken part in a number of events during the year and have competed in regional and local inter-school events as well as our very own, all inclusive, inter-house gala.

The girls took part in their AJIS event at Merchant Taylors' School, Crosby. Sixteen schools competed from the North West and the standard of competition was high. Cham-

pionship records were broken and those reaching finals had to produce personal best swims. Many congratulations go to Rowena Moores who won a bronze medal in the 4x25m Individual Medley event.

The boys also travelled to Merchant Taylors' School and faced similarly tough opposition. King's swimmers were represented in two finals and Sam Stockman (50m freestyle) and Rory Heywood (4x25m individual medley) were both proud to secure silver medals.

The Macclesfield and District Swimming Gala was held in May and King's successfully defended the title. The evening produced some great swims and the team enjoyed the competition, with the races and the results very closely contested.

At a local level, King's enjoyed a Year 5 and 6 gala against Cheadle Hulme School. Over 30 swimmers took part and all had to do their very best to secure an overall victory. The relay teams proved to be tough to beat again, securing very valuable extra points.

The swimming year concluded with the inter-house events. Year 4 swimmers enjoyed a race day and all had the opportunity to compete for their house, with Tatton winning the Lower Junior trophy. The Upper Junior House swimming gala took place in May and was an exciting afternoon of competition, with over 30 races for a packed gallery to cheer. Capes-thorne were the winners.

DCB

Trampolining

Trampolining creates a very stressful situation in competition, yet King's Girls have learnt to handle this pressure and performed so well that they became the top team within Cheshire, the North West, and North Britain. Katie Cornish produced one of the best performances of all the senior girls, to be placed seventh in Britain in the 'Elite' category, a remarkable achievement.

Ellie Barratt and Catrin Nicholas assisted in coaching the juniors and became very proficient in this role.

RB

Teaching Staff 2007 - 2008

Head of Foundation: Dr S Coyne, PhD; BSc Hons, University of Liverpool; MEd, University of Manchester; PGCE, Chorley College

Principal of Sixth Form Division: T H Andrew, MA Hons, Exhibitioner of St Catharine's College, Cambridge, English

Deputy Head; Director of Studies: D J Pook, BA Hons, University of Durham, Theology; PGCE, Cambridge; Master of Theology, Philadelphia

Principal of Girls' Division: Mrs S E Spence, BA Hons, Leeds University, English; PGCE, Leeds

Principal of Boys' Division: I J Robertson, BSc, University of Birmingham, Biological Sciences; PGCE, Manchester.

A J Hallatt, BA Hons, University of Wales (Swansea), English; Certificate of Education, Southampton

A K Green, BA Hons (Mus), University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne

D M Harbord, Certificate of Education, Loughborough College, BA(Open), Educational Studies

G Laurence, MA Hons, New College, Oxford, Mathematics; Certificate of Education, Oxford

P Illingworth, BSc Hons, University of Birmingham, Physics; PGCE, Manchester; CPhys; MInstP

D Gee, Alsager Training College, Certificate of Education

Dr C P Hollis, PhD; BSc Hons, University of Leeds, Physics; CPhys; MInstP

T G North, BSc, University of Bath, Mathematics; Certificate of Education, Brunel

R G Davenport, BA, Middlesex Polytechnic, General Arts; MA, Phys Ed, Leeds; PGCE, Loughborough

Mrs J Beesley, BA Hons, University of Bristol, Music; Certificate of Education, Cambridge

P Murray, BA Hons, Scholar of Trinity College, Cambridge, History & Theology; Certificate of Education, Manchester Polytechnic

D T Browne, BA (Open) Mathematics; Certificate of Education, Durham

Ms G Taylor, BA Hons, University of London, English; PGCE, Liverpool

J A Dodd, BSc, University of Liverpool, Mathematics; PGCE, Liverpool

P F Halewood, Sunderland College of Education, University of Durham; Certificate of Education

F Walker, Licentiate London Academy of Music, Certificate of Education

P Williams, BA Hons, University of Loughborough, Physical Education, Sports Science and History; PGCE, Cardiff

P M Edgerton, MA Hons, Exeter College, Oxford, Geology; PGCE, Manchester

M Patey-Ford, BA Hons, Ravensbourne College of Art & Design, Graphic Design; PGCE, London

P J Percival, BSc Hons, University of Aberystwyth, Environmental Science; MSc Applied Environmental Investigation, Manchester Metropolitan University; PGCE, Leeds

Mrs C H Bingham, BSc Hons, University of Sussex, Geography; PGCE, Reading

Mrs V Costello, BA Hons, University of Leeds, German; PGCE, Leeds

Mrs G Green, BA Hons, University of Keele, French and English; Certificate in Education, Keele

Miss D Inman, BA Hons, Liverpool Polytechnic, Fashion and Textiles; PGCE Art & Design, Liverpool Polytechnic

C O'Donnell, BSc Hons, Birmingham University, Software Engineering; PGCE, Leeds

Mrs D M Barker, BEd Hons, I M Marsh College of Physical Education, Liverpool

C J Maudsley, BSc Hons, University of Manchester, Mathematics; MSc Mathematics; PGCE, Cambridge

Mrs V B White, BEd Hons, University of Durham, History; MA, University of Liverpool

Mrs L Booker, MMedSci, Sport & Exercise Science, University of Sheffield; BA Hons, Liverpool Institute of Higher Education, Phys Ed & Geography; PGCE, Leeds

Mrs K Griffin, MA Hons, University of Dundee, English; PGCE, Aberdeen; MEd (Open)

Mrs C A Harrison, BSc Hons, University of Sussex, Mathematics with Physics; PGCE, Manchester

M T Houghton, BA Hons, Worcester College, Oxford, Classics

Dr J R Pattison, PhD, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Immunology; BSc Hons, Imperial College, London, Biochemistry; PGCE, London.

Mrs L F Adams, BA Hons, University of Nottingham, Classics; PGCE, Cambridge

P J Colville, BSc Hons, University of Leicester, Mathematics & Astronomy; MSc, University of East Anglia, Theoretical Mechanics

Mrs E P Olsen, BA Hons, Hull University, History; PGCE, De La Salle College, Manchester

Mrs C L Pyatt, GRSM, LRAM, Royal Academy of Music, London; PGCE, Manchester

Mrs J T Barratt, GTCL Hons, LTCL (Pft), Trinity College of Music, London; PGCE, City of Birmingham Polytechnic

Mrs A E Mitchell, BSc Hons, Birmingham University, Mathematical Sciences

A McInnes, Diploma of Loughborough Colleges (Physical Education); Ministry of Education Teaching Certificate with distinction in Mathematics, Nottingham University

Mrs H L Broadley, BSc Hons, Nottingham University, Zoology; PGCE Science, Worcester College of Higher Education

M J Brown, BSc Hons, University of Sheffield, Physiology; PGCE Biology and Combined Science, City of Birmingham Polytechnic

Dr L C Palazzo, BA, University of Durham, General Studies; Laurea in Lingue e Lettere Straniere, University of Bari, Italy; BA Hons, University of Natal, Durban, English; MA, University of Natal, Durban, English; PhD, University of Durham, English; PGCE, Manchester Metropolitan University

Mrs C P Thompson, BA Hons, Middlesex Polytechnic, Performance Arts; PGCE, Manchester Metropolitan University; Advanced Teaching Certificate and Diploma in Teaching Studies, Manchester University

Dr G N Banner, PhD, BA Hons, MA, Sheffield University, English Literature

Dr J A Fitzgerald, PhD, MSc, University of Sheffield, Palynology; BSc Hons, University of Manchester, Geology; PGCE, Liverpool Hope University College

D R Marshall, BSc, University of Manchester, Computer Science; PGCE, Manchester Metropolitan University

C A Richards, BSc Hons, Brunel University, Design & Technology with Education; Certificate of Education, Brunel University

Mrs M A F Gartside, BSc Hons, University of Birmingham, Chemistry; PGCE, University of London

Miss C Buckley, HND Leisure Studies, All England Netball Association Tutor of Tutors

Mrs R A Agour, BA Joint Hons, University of Leeds, Arabic & Religious Studies; PGCE, Manchester Metropolitan University, Religious Studies

Dr J M Pinkham, BSc Hons, University of Birmingham, Biochemistry; PhD, University of Birmingham, Biochemistry

A Rice, BA Manchester University, Sports Studies & Sociology; PGCE, West London Institute of Education, PE & Special Educational Needs

J Street, BSc Hons, Imperial College, Chemistry; PGCE, University of Bristol, Science

Mrs M Holmes, BA Hons, University of Liverpool, English & German; PGCE, Edge Hill College of Higher Education, Modern Languages

Mrs K Darch, BA Hons, King's College London, French; PGCE, Keele

Dr S J Hartnett, BSc, DPhil, University of Sussex, Physics; PGCE, Exeter

Mrs J S Locke, BSc Hons, Durham University, Chemistry; PGCE, Nottingham

J Nichols, BEd Hons, Crewe & Alsager College of Higher Education, CDT

Miss E Schué, BA, University of Nanterre-Paris, English Literature, History & Linguistics; PGCE, Reading

J P Bartle, BSc, Loughborough University, Chemistry; PGCE, Loughborough

I E Dalgleish, MA, Merton College, Oxford, English & Modern Languages; PGCE, University of London

Miss K E Easby, MA, BA, University of Manchester, Classical Studies; PGCE, St Mary's College, Twickenham

Mrs Z Taylor, BA Hons, Manchester Metropolitan University, Textile Design; PGCE, Manchester Metropolitan University

Mrs R E Crowley, BSc Hons, University of Manchester, Mathematics; PGCE, University of Manchester

A P Reeve, BA, York University, Economics & Economics History; PGCE, York University

Mrs R A Richards, BA Hons, Buckinghamshire Chilterns University, 3D Design; PGCE, Manchester Metropolitan University

S Carpenter, PhD, BSc, University of Warwick, Engineering & Materials Science; PGCE, Warwick

Dr L A Craig, BA Hons, Manchester Metropolitan University, Social & Economic History with Sociology; PGCE, Manchester

Mrs L E Hewitson, BA Hons, Lancaster University, Economics; PGCE, Leeds

Dr I Lancaster, PhD, BSc Hons, University of Wales (Bangor), Oceanography; PGCE London, MSc, Durham

Mrs R E Maddocks, BA Hons, Manchester University, Politics & Modern History; PGCE, York

Ms C Morton, BA Hons, University of Sheffield, French & Spanish; PGCE, Liverpool; MA, Sheffield, English Language Teaching & Linguistics

D C Parkes, BA Hons, Sheffield University, Geography; PGCE, London

M T R Seccombe, BSc Hons, University of Southampton, Management Science & French; PGCE, Warwick

Miss A Sheen, BSc Hons, Salford University, German & Italian; PGCE, Sheffield

P Thompson, BSc Hons, University of Manchester, Chemistry; PGCE, Manchester Metropolitan University

Miss L C Watkins, BSc Hons, University of Manchester, Chemistry; PGCE, Liverpool

Miss M Acharya, BA Joint Hons, University of Hull, Philosophy and Theology, PGCE, Ripon and York

Miss L C Derby, BA Hons, University of Leeds, PGCE, Leeds

Miss J A I Morris, BA Hons, University of Exeter, Modern Languages German, PGCE, Leeds

Mrs R H Roberts, MA Hons, (Oxon), English and Modern Languages, PGCE, Manchester

Dr J A West, BSc Hons, Manchester University, Mathematics, MSc Manchester University, Pure Mathematics, PHD, Liverpool University, Pure Mathematics, PGCE, Manchester

Miss S H Waller, BSc Hons, University of Liverpool, Pharmacology, PGCE, Liverpool

Z Ahmed, BSc Hons, University of Sheffield, Materials Science and Physics, PGCE University of Manchester

Miss K Bailey, BA Hons, Leeds Metropolitan University, Business Management, PGCE, Huddersfield University

Ms M McMaster, BSc, University of Manchester, Psychology, MPhil, Psychology, PGCE, Manchester Metropolitan University

A Puddephatt, BA Hons, University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Geography, PGCE, Manchester Metropolitan University

Mrs A Alderson, BA Joint Hons, Aberystwyth University, English & Drama, PGCE Manchester

Mrs A Balcombe, BSc Hons, University of Lancaster, Biological Sciences, PGCE, Keele University

C Fico, Licence Lettres et Civilisations Etrangères (BA), Université de Haute-Alsace, PGCE, University of Manchester

Mrs G Goodings, BA Hons, Huddersfield Polytechnic, Humanities, PGCE, Leeds

R N Jackson, BA Hons, University of Manchester, Comparative Religion, PGCE, University of Manchester

Miss V Smalley, BA Hons, University of Nottingham, French & Hispanic Studies, PGCE, University of Manchester

Mrs D Threlfall, BA Hons, West Surrey College of Art & Design, Textiles, PGCE, London (Goldsmiths)

Mrs A Koido, BA, Gunma University, Maebashi, Japan, English and English Literature

Mrs E Rosenfield, BeEd Hons, Crewe and Alsager College

Junior Division Staff

Principal of Junior Division: G J Shaw, BSc Hons, University of Leeds, Mathematics; PGCE, Leeds

Vice-Principal (Junior Department): Mrs A Lea, BMus Hons, University of Manchester, Diploma in Orchestral Studies, Goldsmiths College, London; PGCE, Manchester

Vice-Principal (Infant Department): Mrs E Warburton, BEd Hons, Cheltenham and Gloucester

Mrs V F A Atkins, BSc Hons, University of Bath, Mathematics; PGCE (Primary), Bath

P J Atkinson, Diploma of Teaching, Victoria College, Melbourne

Mrs C Bailey, BA Hons, PGCE, Liverpool

Mrs D C Baker, BEd Hons, Bedford College of Higher Education

Mrs J E Brown, MSc, University of Strathclyde, Forensic Science; BSc Hons, University of Leeds, Microbiology; PGCE, Manchester

Mrs M G Byrne, BA Hons, Economics and Geography, PGCE

Mrs J Cole, BA Hons, University of Exeter, History; PGCE, Christ Church College, Canterbury

Mrs R Cookson, BA Hons, South Bank University, London, European Community Studies; PGCE, Bristol

Mrs L Cunliffe, BSc Hons, Manchester Metropolitan University, Psychology, PGCE (Primary), Manchester Metro-

Appendix 1

Staff 2007/2008

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Miss E De Maine, BA Hons, History, Lancaster University; PGCE, Lancaster

Mrs A Eardley, BA Hons, Manchester Metropolitan University, English & History; PGCE, Manchester

Mrs J Hankinson, Teaching Certificate in Early Years, Coventry Teaching College

R J Harding, BA Hons, History of Modern Art, Manchester; MA Contemporary Art Theory, Goldsmith's College, London; PGCE, Liverpool Hope University

Mrs A M Johnson, BA Hons, Hull University, French Studies; Certificate for Teachers of the Deaf and PGCE, Manchester

Mrs L Johnston – Certificate of Education from Bishop Lonsdale College of Education.

Mrs S E Ord, BA Hons, Manchester Metropolitan University, English; PGCE, Manchester

Mrs J H Panton, BA Hons, University of Birmingham, Russian Language and Literature, PGCE (Primary), Manchester

Miss N Partington, BA Hons, Manchester Metropolitan University, Early Years Education; NNEB, Preston

Miss E Smith, BA Hons, University of Wales Institute Cardiff, Primary Education

Mrs N Squares, MA, Music Culture & Politics; BMus, PGCE, Cardiff University

Mrs J T Sykes, Certificate of Education, Mary Ward College

M K Walton, BEd Hons (Primary), University of Wales, Bangor

Mrs K Wells, BA Hons, University of Leicester, Politics, Foundation Art Certificate, Bourneville School of Art; PGCE, Manchester

Mrs C Whelpton, BSc Hons, Loughborough University, Social Administration; PGCE Primary, Newcastle

Support Staff

Mrs S Appleton, BSc (Open), DMS, Deputy Bursar

D Atkinson, Caretaking, Cumberland Street

Mrs B Ault, Infant Secretary

A Bailey, Deputy Head Groundsman

Mrs G N Barber, Teaching Assistant

S Barber, ICT Technician

Mrs S Bamberger, Teaching Assistant

Miss V Banks, Teaching Assistant

L Beaden, Caretaker, Cumberland Street

M Butterworth, ICT Manager

Mrs N Butterworth, Director of Finance Secretary

Mrs C Caton, Library/Office Assistant

D Coates, Groundsman

Ms J Chapman, Library

Ms S Collinson, Reprographics

Mrs M E Connor, Girls' Division Secretary, i/c Cover Girls' Division

Mrs K Davies, Teaching Assistant

Mrs C Dewhurst, Careers Officer, Fence Avenue

K Dunkley, Head Caretaker, Fence Avenue

Mrs D Dunkley, Assistant Caretaker, Fence Avenue

Mrs J T Egerton, RGN, School Nurse

Mrs T L Elliott, Head of Foundation's Secretary

Dr S Embrey, BSc, PhD, Science Technician

C Fairhurst, Caretaking, Fence Avenue

Mrs N J Few, Teaching Assistant

A Flynn, Caretaking, Cumberland Street

Miss N Frith, Teaching Assistant (Notetaker), Fence Avenue

Mrs F E Gathercole, RGN, RM, School Nurse

Mrs A Gierc, Teaching Assistant

Mrs L Green, Admissions Secretary

Mrs G Gribble, Foundation Secretary

Ms D Harper, HNC, Sixth Form Division Secretary, i/c Community Action

Mrs J Harris, Accounts Assistant

C Harrison, Assistant Caretaker

Mrs S Hearn, BA Hons, Foundation Office Telephonist/Admin Assistant

Mrs S Heginbotham, Laboratory Technician

Mrs L Hollis, BA Hons, i/c Foundation Office, i/c Cover Boys' Division

T Houghton, Maintenance, Cumberland Street

Miss A Hunt, Science Technician, Girls' Division

Mrs J Illingworth, Assistant Head of Admissions

Mrs S Ingmire, Learning Enhancement

P Jackson, Senior Science Technician

Mrs V Jackson, Teaching Assistant

Mrs V Kendal, Sixth Form Division Secretary

Mrs D King, Foundation Office/IJR Secretary

A Knowles, Art/Technology Technician

Mrs M Kyranonis, Catering Manager, Cumberland Street

Mrs J Laidlaw, MCILIP, Librarian, Girls' Division

Mrs C Lasman, BA, Junior Secretary

M Lawlor, School Engineer - Head of Maintenance

S Leah, ICT/AVA Technician

A Leonard, Groundsman

Mrs F McArthur, Careers Officer, Cumberland Street, Exams Assistant

C McCormack, Groundsman

Miss A J Madley, Science Technician, Fence Avenue (Maternity Cover)

C Moores, Grounds

S Moores, Commercial Manager, Head Groundsman, i/c Cricket

Mrs R Murphy, RGN, School Nurse

Mrs T Newton, IT Support

Mrs A Page, Laboratory Assistant

Mrs G Parry, BA (Open), MCILIP, Foundation Librarian, Cumberland Street

Mrs P C Percival, BA, MPhil, Office Manager

C F Potter, ACIOB, FGBC, Estates Manager

Mrs A P Powell, SRN, SCM, Foundation Nurse

Mrs J Quoroll, Catering Manager, Fence Avenue

Mrs S E Raw-Rees, Estates Office

Ms J Reynolds, Biology Technician, Cumberland Street

Mrs J Rodgers, General Science Technician

Mrs S Searle, Teaching Assistant

C S Shingles, Teaching Certificate, Loughborough, BEd, Nottingham, Cricket and Rugby Coach

Mrs M E Smith, School Shop Manageress

Mrs L Snook, BA, Library Assistant

J M Spencer Pickup, BSc, ACA Director of Finance and Clerk to the Governors

Mrs E Taylor, Systems Administrator

Mrs C Waterer, Learning Enhancement

Mrs E Welsh, Teaching Assistant

Mrs J M Wheeler, Boys' Division Secretary

Mrs J Williams, Teaching Assistant

Mrs L Wilson, Library Assistant

Coaches

C S Shingles - rugby/cricket

D Jones - rugby

B Edwards - sailing

L A Batchelor -squash

P Allen - rugby

D Thomson - rugby/cricket

T Bamford - rugby

A2/AS Results 2008

Key: A&D: Art & Design; B: Biology; BStd: Business Studies; C: Chemistry; CC: Classical Civilisation; Comp: Computing; CT: Critical Thinking; D&T: Design & Technology; D: Drama and Theatre Studies; Ec: Economics; ELang: English Language; E: English Literature; F: French; FM: Further Mathematics; GStd: General Studies; G: Geography; Geol: Geology; Ger: German; H: History; IT: Information Technology; L: Latin; M: Mathematics; Mu: Music; Phil: Philosophy; P: Physics; Pol: Politics; Ps: Psychology; RStd: Religious Studies; S: Spanish; SpStd: Sport and PE.

Allmand-Smith A..... BStd, Ec, H, M (AS)
 Allsopp B..... BStd, Ec (AS), G, GStd (AS), IT
 Anderson S..... Comp, CT (AS), D&T, P
 Arnold B..... BStd, B, C, GStd (AS), M (AS)
 Bailey S..... B, Ec, F, GStd (AS), M (AS)
 Banks J..... Elang (AS), F, M, P, Pol (AS)
 Barratt J..... CT (AS), Ec (AS), H, Ps, Rs
 Bellamy H..... A&D, BStd (AS), Elang, Ps
 Brett J..... CT (AS), D&T, G, H, P (AS)
 Bridge C..... C, H (AS), M, FM, P
 Broadbent B..... B, C, CT (AS), P (AS), Ps
 Burgess R..... BStd, GStd (AS), Ps, Rs, SpStd (AS)
 Butterworth R..... BStd, Geol, G, GStd (AS), Ps (AS)
 Campbell J..... G, L, M
 Clayton E..... CT (AS), H (AS), Phil, Ps, Rs
 Cottis S..... Ec (AS), Elang, GStd (AS), IT, Ps
 Cowan O..... A&D, GStd (AS), IT, M, P (AS)
 Cox C..... B, C (AS), E, F, P (AS)
 Cross V..... C, E, M, FM (AS), P
 Edwards J..... CC, M, Phil
 Falder S..... B, Ec, F, M
 Ferdani K..... C (AS), CT (AS), Elang, H, M
 Fisher T..... Ec, H (AS), M, Ps
 Fitzgerald J..... A&D, M, P (AS), Ps
 Fowler J..... A&D, H, Ps
 Fowler S..... BStd, Elang, GStd (AS), Ps
 Fox J..... B, H, L, P
 Garner I..... A&D (AS), Ec, G, GStd (AS), Ps
 Gildert N..... F, M, P (AS), Ps
 Gillespie A..... B, Ps, S, SpStd (AS)
 Gilman O..... B, C, Comp (AS), P
 Greaves A..... BStd, GStd (AS), H (AS), Ps, Rs
 Harmsworth G..... E, GStd (AS), H, Phil, Ps (AS)
 Healey M..... A&D, CC, Ec (AS), H, Pol (AS)
 Hearn B..... C, G, GStd (AS), H (AS), M
 Henshaw C..... BStd, Ec, M, Ps
 Hinchcliffe A..... A&D, M, P (AS), Ps
 Hodgson J..... A&D, Elang, E (AS), M (AS), P (AS), Ps (AS)
 Holland J..... Elang, Ger, H, M
 How L..... BStd, CT (AS), Elang, H, M (AS)
 Howsley P..... B, Elang (AS), Pol (AS), Ps, Rs
 Hurst T..... C (AS), D&T, GStd (AS), M, P
 Illingworth J..... BStd, GStd (AS), IT, M, P (AS)
 Jones J..... A&D, Geol, Ps, Rs

Kennerley C..... BStd, B (AS), GStd (AS), H, Ps
 Kershaw H..... B (AS), C, F, Ps
 Keys N..... BStd (AS), F, M, S
 King-Smith M..... B, G, IT (AS), Rs
 Lacey B..... C, G, GStd (AS), M, P (AS)
 Laing P..... C, Geol, M (AS), P
 Lloyd J..... B, C, Geol, GStd (AS), M (AS)
 Lock H..... C, M, P (AS), Rs
 Lowndes R..... A&D (AS), B (AS), CC (AS), Ec (AS), Geol, G
 Lowry F..... BStd, Ec (AS), G, H
 Main S..... Ec, G (AS), M, P
 Marlow K..... B, C, F, Ger
 Maudsley S..... B (AS), GStd (AS), H, Phil, Ps
 McGhee C..... A&D, D&T, GStd (AS), IT
 Meakin N..... B, Elang, G (AS), H, M (AS)
 Middleton E..... Ec, Ec(AEA), E, H
 Mobbs D..... A&D (AS), BStd, G, SpStd
 Morrissey G..... B, C, H, M, FM (AS)
 Mycock E..... BStd, B, GStd (AS), M (AS), Ps
 Mysko C..... B, C, C (AEA), M, P (AS)
 Nesbitt E..... C, H, M, P
 Nicholson J..... BStd, G, H, IT (AS)
 Nouri M..... B, C, Ps
 Peel S..... A&D, Comp (AS), D&T, IT (AS), Ps (AS)
 Phillips H..... E, F, Ger, Ger (AEA), Mu
 Phillips J..... A&D, Ger, M, P
 Quinn A..... BStd, G, GStd (AS), Ps, SpStd (AS)
 Rathbone J..... A&D, D&T (AS), M, P
 Reucroft C..... B, D (AS), Elang (AS), Ps, SpStd (AS)
 Rex M..... Comp, H, M, FM (AS)
 Richardson J..... B, C, GStd (AS), M (AS), Ps
 Roberts C..... C, E, M, FM, P
 Rowbotham T..... E (AS), F, Ps, S
 Roworth D..... Ec, H, P, Pol (AS)
 Roxborough B..... A&D, Elang, Phil (AS), Ps (AS)
 Shone H..... D (AS), Elang, GStd (AS), H, Ps
 Siddall J..... Ec, G (AS), H, M, Pol (AS)
 Sizeland J..... BStd, Ec (AS), GStd (AS), H, Ps
 Smith R..... B, C, CT (AS), M (AS), Ps
 Sneddon F..... B, C, M, P
 Sproats F..... BStd (AS), B, Ps, SpStd
 Stanton N..... A&D (AS), BStd, Elang, G, GStd (AS)
 Stott-Sugden J..... B, G, GStd (AS), Ps, SpStd (AS)
 Stretton K..... CC (AS), Elang, E, Rs
 Stringer M..... BStd, Ec (AS), IT (AS), SpStd
 Sumpter M..... Ec, Ec (AEA), H (AS), M, Phil
 Swetman D..... B, C, G, M
 Taylor J..... B, Geol, Ps, SpStd (AS)
 Thorneycroft B..... BStd, D&T, G, H (AS)
 Thornley H..... Elang, E (AS), G, M (AS), Ps
 Turner C..... C, M, P
 Tweedie J..... GStd (AS), H, Ps (AS)
 Wales N..... BStd, C (AS), Ec (AS), GStd (AS), M (AS), Ps
 Walker R..... B, C, GStd (AS), M (AS), Ps
 Walsh M..... Elang (AS), G, Ps, SpStd
 Whitehurst J..... CT (AS), Ec (AS), Geol, M, P

Appendix 2 Examination Results

Whiteley G.....	B, C, SpStd
Wilmot S.....	BStd, C (AS), F, S
Wong M.....	B, C, E
Wood J.....	CT (AS), Ec, H (AS), Phil, Ps
Woolliscroft T.....	BStd (AS), Comp, H (AS), M, P
Worrall J.....	A&D, D&T (AS), Ec, M
Wreglesworth R.....	B, C, G, P (AS)

GCSE Results 2008

Key: A&D: Art & Design; As: Astronomy; B: Biology; C: Chemistry; D&T: Design and Technology; D: Drama and Theatre Arts; E: English Language; EL: English Literature; F: French; G: Geography; Ger: German; H: History; L: Latin; M: Mathematics; Mu: Music; P: Physics; RE: Religious Education; Sc: Science Dual Award; Sp: Spanish; St: Statistics.

The following candidates gained grades A*-C.

Girls' Division

Adams H.....	A&D, Sc, E, EL, Ger, H, M, RE
Attenborough C.....	B, C, E, EL, G, Ger, M, P, St, D&T
Banks R.....	A&D, B, C, E, EL, F, M, P, D&T
Barratt L.....	A&D, Sc, E, EL, F, Ger, M, RE
Barton E.....	D, Sc, E, EL, Ger, H, M, RE
Beesley A.....	Sc, E, EL, F, Ger, H, M, Mu, St
Bell K.....	A&D, D, Sc, E, EL, F, H, M
Birch M.....	B, C, D, E, EL, Ger, M, P, RE
Branley S.....	D, Sc, E, EL, F, Ger, M, RE
Bridge D.....	B, C, E, EL, F, H, L, M, P
Bromley R.....	B, C, E, EL, F, Ger, M, P, RE
Burness K.....	D, Sc, E, EL, G, Ger, M, D&T
Byatte C.....	Sc, E, EL, G, Ger, H, M, RE
Chatwin L.....	B, C, E, EL, F, G, M, P, D&T
Coates V.....	Sc, E, EL, F, Ger, H, M, RE
Cochrane C.....	D, Sc, E, EL, F, Ger, M, RE, St
Collins R.....	A&D, D, Sc, E, EL, F, H, M
Cornish E.....	D, Sc, E, EL, F, H, M, RE
Diamond S.....	Sc, E, EL, Ger, H, M, RE, D&T
Draysey E.....	B, C, D, E, EL, F, G, M, P, St
Duckworth G.....	Sc, E, EL, F, G, Ger, M, Sp
Eardley E.....	A&D, B, C, E, EL, G, Ger, M, P
Eiselt R.....	A&D, Sc, E, EL, Ger, M, RE, D&T
Fox S.....	B, C, E, EL, F, G, L, M, P
French V.....	B, C, D, E, EL, F, Ger, M, P, St
Garratt L.....	B, C, E, EL, Ger, H, L, M, P
George C.....	B, C, E, EL, G, Ger, H, M, P
Gibson N.....	D, Sc, E, EL, H, M, Mu, Sp
Gilmour E.....	Sc, E, EL, F, M, Mu, RE, Sp
Gosling E.....	A&D, Sc, E, EL, F, H, L, M, St
Hallworth L.....	Sc, E, EL, F, M, Sp
Harrison B.....	A&D, B, C, E, EL, Ger, H, M, P
Hawker S.....	D, Sc, E, EL, F, H, L, M
Holland L.....	D, Sc, E, EL, G, Ger, M, RE
Hope L.....	B, C, E, EL, F, L, M, Mu, P, St
Howlett A.....	Sc, E, EL, F, G, H, M, RE
Hudson G.....	A&D, B, C, E, EL, Ger, M, P, RE

Hutcheon E.....	A&D, B, C, E, EL, F, G, M, P
Jacot R.....	Sc, E, EL, F, G, Ger, H, M, St
James H.....	B, C, E, EL, F, Ger, M, P, RE
Javle S.....	B, C, E, EL, Ger, H, M, Mu, P, St
Jeffrey F.....	B, C, D, E, EL, Ger, M, P, RE, St
Johnson A.....	B, C, E, EL, F, Ger, M, P, RE
King A.....	Sc, E, EL, F, H, M, RE, D&T
Lasman E.....	D, Sc, E, EL, Ger, H, M, RE
Lavassani Y.....	B, C, E, EL, F, Ger, M, P, RE
Logothetis K.....	B, C, E, EL, F, G, H, M, P
Loynes H.....	A&D, B, C, E, EL, F, G, M, P, St
Macfadyen S.....	Sc, E, EL, F, G, H, L, M, St
Mallinson A.....	A&D, B, C, E, EL, Ger, H, M, P, St
McKechnie C.....	A&D, Sc, E, EL, F, L, M, RE, St
Milverton K.....	D, Sc, E, EL, F, H, M, RE
Mobbs V.....	A&D, Sc, E, EL, F, G, H, M
Murray K.....	Sc, E, EL, F, G, H, L, M
Nave K.....	A&D, B, C, E, EL, Ger, M, P, RE, St
Newton G.....	Sc, E, EL, F, H, M, RE, D&T
Ollier S.....	B, C, D, E, F, H, M, P
Parrish H.....	B, C, E, EL, Ger, H, M, P, RE
Platt K.....	Sc, E, EL, F, G, H, M, RE
Powell L.....	A&D, Sc, E, EL, F, Ger, H, M
Pullen G.....	A&D, B, C, E, EL, F, M, P, RE
Quinlan J.....	B, C, E, EL, F, Ger, M, P, RE, St
Ravenscroft H.....	B, C, D, E, EL, F, Ger, M, P, St
Regan S.....	As, B, C, D, E, EL, F, L, M, P, St
Rex L.....	As, B, C, E, EL, F, H, L, M, P, St
Riedhorst C.....	D, Sc, E, EL, F, G, H, M
Roberts V.....	B, C, D, E, EL, F, H, M, P
Robinson C.....	Sc, E, EL, F, G, M, RE, D&T
Roxborough E.....	A&D, Sc, E, EL, F, H, L, M,
Secdon E.....	D, Sc, E, EL, Ger, H, M, Sp
Shaw K.....	D, Sc, E, EL, F, H, L, M
Shorland C.....	D, Sc, E, EL, F, H, M, RE
Smith A.....	Sc, E, EL, F, G, H, L, M
Smith E.....	D, Sc, E, EL, F, Ger, M, RE
Smith H.....	B, C, E, EL, G, Ger, L, M, P, St
Stafford L.....	Sc, E, EL, F, G, H, M, Mu
Stewart A.....	Sc, E, EL, F, H, M, RE, D&T
Sumpter A.....	A&D, Sc, E, EL, G, Ger, H, M, St
Vickers S.....	D, Sc, E, EL, F, G, H, M
Ward C.....	A&D, B, C, E, EL, F, Ger, M, P
Ward H.....	As, B, C, E, EL, G, Ger, H, M, P, St
Warner N.....	Sc, E, EL, Ger, H, M, RE
Wilbraham S.....	B, C, E, EL, Ger, H, M, P, D&T
Woodley S.....	A&D, Sc, E, EL, F, G, H, M
Woodruff F.....	D, Sc, E, EL, Ger, H, M, RE
Young-Southward G.....	Sc, E, EL, F, H, L, M, RE

Boys' Division

Key: A&D: Art & Design; B: Biology; C: Chemistry; D&T: Design and Technology; D: Drama and Theatre Arts; E: English Language; EL: English Literature; F: French; G: Geography; Ger: German; H: History; L: Latin; M: Mathematics; Mu: Music; P: Physics; RE: Religious Education; Sc: Science Dual Award; Sp: Spanish; St: Statistics.

Appendix 2 Examination Results

The following candidates gained grades A*-C.

Alderley D.....	B, C, E, EL, F, G, L, M, P
Allen W.....	B, C, E, EL, G, Ger, H, M, P
Barratt A.....	Sc, E, EL, F, G, H, M, RE
Bianco N.....	B, C, E, EL, F, G, Ger, M, P, St
Bibbey J.....	B, C, E, EL, H, M, P
Blunt B.....	B, C, E, EL, F, H, M, P, RE
Boardman J.....	B, C, E, EL, F, H, L, M, P, St
Boden A.....	Sc, E, EL, Ger, M, RE
Boothroyd J.....	B, C, E, EL, F, H, M, P, St, D&T
Brooks N.....	Sc, E, EL, F, G, L, M, D&T
Brown D.....	Sc, E, EL, F, H, L, M
Brown H.....	B, C, E, EL, F, H, L, M, P
Burke J.....	B, C, E, EL, F, G, H, M, P, St
Burke R.....	Sc, E, EL, G, Ger, H, L, M
Butterworth J.....	B, C, E, EL, F, H, L, M, P
Calder A.....	B, C, E, EL, F, M, P, D&T
Calvert J.....	B, C, E, EL, F, H, L, M, P
Chadwick A.....	B, C, E, EL, F, H, L, M, P
Charlesworth T.....	B, C, E, EL, F, H, L, M, P
Chopra K.....	B, C, E, EL, Ger, H, M, P
Clifford R.....	Sc, E, EL, F, G, M, D&T
Coleman T.....	D, Sc, E, EL, F, H, M, RE, St
Collinson M.....	B, C, E, EL, G, Ger, M, P, D&T
Connolly C.....	Sc, E, EL, G, Ger, M, Sp,
Cornish C.....	B, C, E, EL, F, H, L, M, P
Cotterill D.....	B, C, E, EL, G, Ger, H, M, P
Coutts S.....	Sc, E, EL, F, G, H, M, D&T
Cross S.....	B, C, E, EL, Ger, H, M, P, St, D&T
Cummings A.....	B, C, E, EL, F, H, L, M, P, St
Darlington S.....	D, Sc, E, Ger, M, RE
Davies A.....	Sc, E, EL, F, H, M, RE
Dillon T.....	Sc, E, EL, H, M, RE
Dodd M.....	B, C, E, EL, Ger, L, M, Mu, P, St
Elliott M.....	Sc, E, EL, F, H, L, M, Mu
Eyre A.....	B, C, E, EL, F, Ger, H, M, P
Ferdani D.....	B, C, E, EL, F, H, M, P, RE, St
Flaherty D.....	Sc, E, Ger, M
Fox J.....	Sc, E, EL, G, M, D&T
French B.....	B, C, E, EL, F, G, M, P, St, D&T
Gilsenan T.....	B, C, E, EL, F, L, M, P, Sp
Goncalves J.....	Sc, E, EL, F, H, M
Gradon J.....	B, C, D, E, EL, F, H, M, P
Greatbatch A.....	Sc, E, EL, F, G, L, M, D&T
Gresham S.....	D, Sc, E, EL, Ger, H, M, RE
Hall J.....	B, C, E, EL, F, H, L, M, P
Hanrahan C.....	D, Sc, E, EL, F, Ger, H, M
Hardman T.....	Sc, E, EL, G, H, M, D&T
Hasan H.....	B, C, E, EL, Ger, H, M, P, RE, St
Hearn J.....	B, C, E, EL, F, G, H, M, P, St
Hill A.....	Sc, E, EL, F, H, M, RE, D&T
Hill A.....	Sc, E, EL, F, H, M, D&T
Holden W.....	Sc, E, F, G, H, M
Holt J.....	Sc, E, EL, F, G, Ger, H, M
Howell T.....	Sc, E, F, H, L, M
James B.....	B, C, E, EL, F, L, M, Mu, P, St
James L.....	D, Sc, E, EL, H, M, RE
Jeffrey H.....	B, C, E, EL, F, G, H, M, P
Kamran H.....	B, C, E, EL, F, H, L, M, P, St
Kennedy L.....	B, C, E, F, G, M, P
King M.....	Sc, E, EL, F, Ger, H, M, Sp
Lloyd J.....	B, C, E, EL, Ger, M, P, St, D&T
MacPherson A.....	B, C, E, EL, F, H, L, M, P, St
Macleod F.....	Sc, E, M, RE, D&T
Mandalia N.....	B, C, E, EL, F, H, M, P
Mannion M.....	B, C, E, EL, F, H, L, M, P
Marlow R.....	B, C, E, Ger, H, M, P, Sp
Marriott J.....	Sc, E, EL, Ger, H, M, RE, D&T
McHale S.....	B, C, E, Ger, M, P, G
Meaden G.....	Sc, E, M, RE
Mearman J.....	B, C, E, EL, F, G, IT, M, P, D&T
Monro B.....	Sc, E, EL, F, G, H, M, RE
Monsey B.....	Sc, E, EL, G, Ger, H, M, D&T
Morris E.....	B, C, E, F, G, H, M, P
Parton A.....	B, C, E, EL, F, M, Mu, P, Sp
Pasquale G.....	B, C, D, E, EL, F, G, M, P
Pinnington N.....	Sc, E, EL, F, H, M, RE, D&T
Plowright J.....	D, Sc, E, EL, F, G, H, M
Potter A.....	B, C, E, EL, F, L, M, Mu, P, St
Quinn M.....	D, Sc, E, G, Ger, M, D&T
Ratcliffe J.....	Sc, E, EL, F, G, M, Sp
Raza A.....	B, C, E, EL, G, Ger, M, P, D&T
Rehman S.....	Sc, E, EL, F, H, M, RE, D&T
Rhodes J.....	B, C, E, EL, F, G, M, P, Sp
Roffe J.....	B, C, E, EL, F, Ger, H, L, M, P, St
Roworth P.....	B, C, E, EL, G, Ger, M, P, St, D&T
Ryan J.....	B, C, E, F, H, M, P
Seale C.....	D, Sc, E, G, Ger, H, M
Shaw A.....	B, C, E, EL, F, G, H, M, P
Sheratte S.....	Sc, E, EL, F, G, M, Sp, D&T
Sinclair Smith H.....	Sc, E, EL, F, G, Ger, H, M
Smith A.....	B, C, E, EL, F, G, M, P
Smith A.....	D, Sc, E, EL, Ger, H, L, M, St
Stewart R.....	Sc, E, F, M, D&T
Stott H.....	Sc, E, EL, F, H, M, RE, D&T
Taylor T.....	B, C, E, EL, F, G, H, M, P, St
Tenwolde O.....	Sc, E, EL, F, H, M, D&T
Thomson J.....	B, C, E, EL, Ger, H, M, P, RE
Thornber R.....	Sc, E, EL, F, H, M, RE
Thorneycroft F.....	Sc, E, EL, G, H, M, RE
Thorp S.....	D, Sc, E, EL, H, M, RE, Sp
Tilston D.....	B, C, D, E, EL, F, M, P, D&T
Townley S.....	B, C, D, E, EL, F, G, M, P, St
Vass P.....	B, C, E, G, Ger, H, M, P
Waters T.....	B, C, E, EL, F, Ger, L, M, P, RE, St
Wilkinson M.....	B, C, E, EL, F, G, H, M, P
Williamson J.....	B, C, E, EL, G, Ger, H, M, P
Wreglesworth M.....	Sc, E, EL, F, G, M, D&T
Wrigley N.....	B, C, E, EL, G, H, M

Appendix 3 Higher Education

Pupils Admitted to Higher Education 2008

Name	Destination	Subject
Allmand-smith, A M.....	Queen's University Belfast	Business Management
Allsopp, B L.....	Loughborough University.....	Computing & Management (2009)
Anderson, S.....	University of Birmingham.....	Computer Science/Software Engineering
Arnold, B H.....	Keele University.....	Medicine
Bailey, S L.....	University of Birmingham.....	Modern Languages
Banks, J S.....	Re applying 08/09	
Barratt, J.....	University of York	History
Bellamy, H K.....	Art Foundation Course	
Brett, J E.....	University of Birmingham.....	War Studies
Bridge, C G.....	Oxford, St Catherines College	Materials Science
Broadbent, B.....	University of Nottingham.....	Pharmacy
Burgess, R.....	Loughborough University.....	Social Psychology
Butterworth, R.....	University of Manchester	Geology (2009)
Campbell, J F E.....	University of Manchester	Geography
Clayton, E M.....	University of St Andrew's.....	Psychology (Arts)
Cottis, S L.....	Staffordshire University.....	Applied Information Technology
Cowan, O J.....	De Montford University	Architecture
Cox, C L.....	University of Manchester	Zoology with a Modern Language
Cross, V J.....	University of Bath	Pharmacy
Edwards, J J.....	University of Bristol.....	Philosophy
Falder, S L.....	Oxford, Worcester College.....	Law
Ferdani, K.....	Queen Mary, University of London	History (2009)
Fisher, T.....	University of Leicester.....	Business Economics
Fitzgerald, J.....	University of Nottingham.....	Architecture & Environmental Design
Fowler, J R.....	Re applying 08/09	
Fowler, S.....	Leeds Metropolitan University.....	Sociology
Fox, R J H.....	Cambridge, Peterhouse College.....	Law
Garner, I F.....	University of Nottingham.....	Geography
Gildert, N.....	University of Sheffield.....	Mathematics with French
Gillespie, A J.....	University of Sheffield.....	Modern Languages (2009)
Gilman, O P.....	Re applying 08/09	
Greaves, A D.....	Re applying 08/09	
Harmsworth, G.....	University of Leeds	Philosophy
Healey, M J.....	University of Leeds	Classical Civilisation
Hearn, B.....	University of Leeds	Geography
Henshaw, C.....	The University of Exeter	Business and Management
Hinchcliffe, A N.....	Glasgow School of Art.....	Architectural Studies
Hodgson, J.....	Macclesfield College	Art Foundation Course
Holland, J.....	University of Warwick.....	History and Politics
How, L.....	Lancaster University	Film and Cultural Studies
Howsley, P.....	University College London	Psychology
Hurst, T E G.....	University of Manchester	Engineering with Foundation Year (2009)
Illingworth, J.....	Leeds Metropolitan University.....	Accounting and Finance (2009)
Jones, J E.....	Art Foundation Course	
Kennerley, C J.....	Re applying 08/09	
Kershaw, H.....	Re applying 08/09	
Keys, N L.....	University of Nottingham.....	Modern Language Studies
King-Smith, M S.....	Re applying 08/09	
Lacey, B.....	University of Leeds	Chemistry
Laing, P.....	Re applying 08/09	
Lloyd, J J.....	Loughborough University.....	Human Biology
Lock, H E.....	Re applying 08/09	

Lowndes, R	Aberystwyth University	Environmental Earth Science (2009)
Lowry, F J	Sheffield Hallam University	Building Surveying
Main, S	University of Birmingham	Mathematics
Marlow, K	University of St Andrew's	French-German with Year Abroad
Maudsley, S K	The University of Edinburgh	Psychology (2009)
McGhee, C T	Art Foundation Course	
Meakin, N J	Re applying 08/09	
Middleton, E	Oxford, Wadham College	Philosophy, Politics and Economics
Mobbs, D	University of Reading	Geography (Human and Physical)
Morrissey, G	Re applying 08/09	
Mycock, E	University of Sheffield	Accounting & Financial Management
Mysko, C	Newcastle University	Medicine
Nesbitt, E	Oxford, St Edmund Hall College	Chemistry
Nicholson, J	Sheffield Hallam University	Business Property Management
Nouri, M	Keele University	Pharmacy
Peel, S D	University of Teeside	Computer Animation
Phillips, H	Oxford, Magdalen College	Modern Languages
Phillips, J M	Cambridge, Robinson College	Architecture
Quinn, A C	Re applying 08/09	
Rathbone, J G	University of Nottingham	Architecture & Environmental Design
Reucroft, C	Re applying 08/09	
Rex, M K	The University of Edinburgh	History
Richardson, J A L	University of Sheffield	Medicine (Phase One)
Roberts, C O	The University of Warwick	Mathematics
Rowbotham, T J	University of Nottingham	Modern Language Studies
Roworth, D W	Aberystwyth University	Economic & Social History with Economics
Roxborough, B	Art Foundation Course	
Shone, H	University of York	English Language and Linguistics
Siddall, J R P	University of Manchester	Economics
Sizeland, J R	Sheffield Hallam University	Criminology and Psychology (2009)
Smith, R	Re applying 08/09	
Sneddon, F J	Royal Veterinary College	Veterinary Medicine
Sproats, F	Re applying 08/09	
Stanton, N J	Sheffield Hallam University	English Language
Stott-Sugden, J	Re applying 08/09	
Stretton, K	Nottingham Trent University	Photography/Photography in Europe
Stringer, M J	Re applying 08/09	
Sumpter, M D	University of Nottingham	Economics
Swetman, D	Newcastle University	Medicine (stage 1 entry)
Taylor, J	Re applying 08/09	
Thorneycroft, B	Aberystwyth University	Physical Geography
Thornley, H	University of Nottingham	English Studies
Turner, C J	Re applying 08/09	
Tweedie, J E L	Re applying 08/09	
Wales, N J	University of Stirling	Business Studies
Walker, R K	Keele University	Medicine
Walsh, M	University of Liverpool	Geography for Management
Whitehurst, J	University of Manchester	Civil Engineering
Whiteley, G	Re applying 08/09	
Wilmot, S	University of Nottingham	Management Studies with Spanish
Wong, M M C	Liverpool John Moores University	Pharmaceutical Science and Biological Chemistry
Wood, J M	Gap Year	
Woolliscroft, T	Aberystwyth University	Physics (2009)
Worrall, J R	University of Kent	Architecture
Wreglesworth, R	University of Sheffield	Environmental Science

Appendix 4 Awards & Prizes

Distinctions in Public Examinations

A & AS Level

Pupils with 5 A grades

George Morrissey
Jay Richardson

Pupils with 4 A grades

Christian Bridge
Jenny Campbell
Verity Cross
Sarah Falder
James Fox
Chris Mysko
Emily Nesbitt

Harry Phillips
Julia Phillips
Carl Roberts
Fiona Sneddon
David Swetman
Rebecca Walker

Pupils with 3 As

Hannah Bellamy
Estelle Clayton
Jamie Holland
Philippa Howsley
Simon Main
Katherine Marlow

Emily Middleton
Robbie Smith
Matthew Sumpter
Helena Thornley
Michael Walsh

GCSE

Pupils with at least 8 A*/As

Hetty Adams
Charlotte Attenborough
Andrew Barratt
Anna Beesley
Maia Birch
James Boardman
Jack Boothroyd
Daisy Bridge
Jacob Calvert
Laura Chatwin
Rory Clifford
Charlotte Cochrane
Elidh Cornish
Stephen Cross
Adam Cummings
Michael Dodd
Emma Draysey
Max Elliott
Alexander Eyre
Dominic Ferdani
Sophie Fox
Victoria French
Laura Garratt
Naomi Gibson
Emily Gilmour
Emily Gosling
Justin Hall
Bobby Harrison
Hikmat Hasan
Sophie Hawker
Josh Hearn
Lauren Hope
Alex Howlett
Rosanna Jacot

Benedict James
Sukanya Javle
Florence Jeffrey
Abbie Johnson
Hassan Kamran
Ali King
Eleanor Lasman
Yasmin Lavassani
Alex MacPherson
Sophie Macfadyen
Amy Mallinson
Milo Mannion
Vicky Mobbs
Ben Monro
Kate Nave
Allie Potter
Laura Powell
Jessica Quinlan
Jonathan Ratcliffe
Sarah Regan
Lydia Rex
Joschka Roffe
Kate Shaw
Alex Smith
Alex Smith
Hannah Smith
Laura Stafford
Amy Sumpter
Sam Townley
Carys Ward
Hope Ward
Tom Waters
Max Wilkinson
Genevieve Young-Southward

Special Prizes

Head of Foundation's Prize,
Ben Davies (Poetry),
Economics (Canon F W Paul) Joint Prize Emily Middleton

School Prizes (all age groups)

Sainter (for scientific research),
Physics Middle School Prize Lydia Rex
Maimi Wright for Computing Simon Anderson
Dr Norman Maurice *Arclex* Joint Prize
Biology Prize Laura Chatwin
Selwyn Russell Jones Sports Prize George Morrissey
Thornber Chemistry Development Prize,
History (CA Bradley) Prize Emily Nesbitt

Ros Marcall Prize for Endeavour Amy McCulloch
Ken Brookfield Elizabethan Prize,
Macclesfield Grammar School
Challenge Cup &
Middle School French Prize Joschka Roffe
I A Wilson Economics Scholarship Alex Green
Ron Darlington Jazz Prize &
Development Trust Scholarship
Major Award Amy Matthewson

Retiring Prizes

Geoff Laurence Ben Marsden
Gill Green Rebecca Sugden

Upper School Prizes

Art (Selwyn Russell Jones) Jessica Hodgson
Biology, Classics (Wilmot), History,
Development Trust Scholarship Essay James Fox
Business Studies Sam Wilmot
Chemistry Fiona Sneddon
Design and Technology Chris McGhee
Religious Studies (Thorneycroft)
Economics (Canon F W Paul) Joint Prize,
Mathematics:Mechanics Sarah Falder
English Language Hayley Shone
English Literature,
French (William Broster),
German (J O Nicholson), Music,
Development Trust Scholarship Essay Harry Phillips
General Studies (T B Cartwright),
Development Trust Scholarship Essay Georgina Harmsworth
Geography, Theatre Arts Joint Prize Jenny Campbell
Geology Rick Butterworth
Mathematics: Statistics Chris Mysko
Mathematics Double Carl Roberts
Philosophy Jack Edwards
Physics Christian Bridge
Psychology Estelle Clayton
Senior Choral Joint Prize Emma Mycock
Senior Orchestral Sophie Vohra

Appendix 4 Awards & Prizes

Senior Reading	Jamie Holland
Simon Schuler Computing Prize	Sarah Cottis
Sports Studies	David Mobbs
Theatre Arts Joint Prize, Development Trust Scholarship Essay	Maddie Rex
Religious Studies (Thorneycroft)	Jonathan Barratt

Development Trust Scholarships

Major Award	Hannah Lock
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Middle School Prizes (Boys' Division)

Deryck Siddall Cup	Sam Townley
Art & Design, Design Technology (Graphic Products)	Matthew Wreglesworth
Biology	Max Wilkinson
Chemistry, German	Michael Dodd
Design & Technology (Resistant Materials)	Ben Monsey
Religious Studies (Thorneycroft)	Kester Banks
English, Theatre Arts	Stuart Gresham
Geography	Andrew Barratt
History, Latin, Music	Max Elliott
Mathematics	Hikmat Hasan
Physics	James Boardman
Spanish, Best All Rounder Cup	Matthew King
Middle School Reading	David Marchington
Dual Science	Alex Smith
Year 7 Achiever's Cup	Edward Nathan
Year 9 Achiever's Cup	David Ormrod-Morley
Year 10 Challenge Cup, Year 10 Major Research Award	Will Hanson
Principal's Prize	Will Holden
Boys' Division Council Cup Joint	Angus Quinn James Occleston
Year 7 General Science Prize	Edward Laughton
Year 8 General Science Prize	Will Haynes

Year 10 Research Project (Boys' Division)

<i>Major Awards</i>	Christopher Fray Jem Greenway Jake Knowles Christopher Smith
<i>Award</i>	Kieran Brady

Lower School Prizes (Boys' Division)

Junior Choral Joint Prize	William Poyser
Junior Choral Joint Prize 7LAC Form Prize	Sam Hollis
Junior Orchestral	Richard Barratt

Form Prizes (Boys' Division)

10RGD, Year 10 Research Award	Sean Malkin
10PJP	John McGowen-Fazakerley
10JAD	Charlie Brown

10MTH	Matthew Harris
10PFH	Cameron McPake
8KDa	Jamie Hammill
8CAM	Chris Hanak
8DG	Will Haynes
8MMA	George Davies
Religious Studies (Thorneycroft)	George Walker
9CJM	Andrew Hodgson
9DMH	Sean Wilson
9SHW	Nathan Jordan
9JPR/KLB	Scott Malkin
Religious Studies (Thorneycroft)	James Gwatkin
7JAIM	Ciaran McLaughlin
7CJAF	Nick Harrington
7KEE	Tom Meadows
Religious Studies (Thorneycroft)	Tom Mort

Middle School Prizes (Girls Division)

Macclesfield High School 'Best All-Rounder' Cup Joint Prize	Victoria French Alexandra King
Art & Design	Kate Nave
Design & Technology	Rachelle Eiselt
Chemistry, Mathematics	Florence Jeffrey
Religious Studies (Thorneycroft)	Flora Woodruff
Dual Award Science, Geography, Macclesfield High School Challenge Cup	Rosie Jacot
English	Sophie Hawker
French, Latin	Sarah Regan
German	Yasmin Lavassani
History	Daisy Bridge
Music	Anna Beesley
Spanish	Emily Gilmour
Theatre Arts	Sarah Vickers
Middle School Reading, 9SJH Form Prize	Bridie Thompson
Anne Craig French Prize	Molly Ross
Year 7 Endeavour Cup	Patricia Duart-Llacer
Year 9 Achiever's Cup	Megan Jackson
Victrix Ludorum Cup (Sports), 10RAA Form Prize, Year 10 Major Research Award	Katie Pickering
Jenny Lee Mathematics Prize	Jenny Wilson
Macclesfield High School Susan Russell Jones Cup for German	Chloe Venables
Principal's Prize, Year 10 Research Award	Katie Reid
Sue Bream Crystal Star	Louise Cross
Anne Cohen Prize	Hope Ward
History Essay Prize	Eleanor Lasman
Year 7 General Science Prize	Rebecca Lowndes
Year 8 General Science Prize, 8LFA Form Prize	Amy Sanderson

Appendix 4 Awards & Prizes

Year 10 Research projects (Girls)

Major Awards	Rachel Withington Isabel Wilkinson Emelia Bell
Awards	Victoria May Sumaiya Salehin

Lower School Prizes (Girl's Division)

Junior Choral	Mary Thorp
Junior Orchestral	Elizabeth Marshall

Form Prizes (Girl's Division)

10GNB	Emma Butterworth
10MPF	Amy Jacobsen
10SAC	Alice Taylor
9LB	Georgina Lucas
9DRM	Zoe Taylor
<i>Religious Studies (Thorneycroft)</i>	Lauren Doy
8REC	Lucy Brown
8AJB	Hanja Dickenson
<i>Religious Studies (Thorneycroft)</i>	Rafia Aslam
7GG	Kate Bremner
7ESc	Brogan Gallagher
7VHS	Ellen Barratt
<i>Religious Studies (Thorneycroft)</i>	Isabelle Kenyon

Other Prizes

Robert Batchelor Prizes

Junior Division	Tom Lynch
Junior Division	Emily Mort
Girls' Division	Rebecca Lowndes

Junior Division Prizes

English: Reading	Emily Mound
English: Speaking	Raife Copp-Barton
English: Writing	Jonathan Pinches
Mathematics	Laura Embrey
Science	Johnny Hammill
Geography	Joseph Hale
History	Jamie Edgerton
French	Alex Moore
Art, Design & Technology	Alistair Thomson
Music	Juliette Gorb
ICT	Tom Eastgate
Religious Education	Jenna Self
Physical Education	Bethany Burrows
Swimming	Rory Heywood
Games: Boys	Sam Stockman
Games: Girls	Victoria Provis

Form Prizes

First Form Prize

6JEB	Katharine Fray
6MW	Raife Copp-Barton
6PA	Laura Embrey
5AGE	Sarah Loughton
5As	William Fox
5NS	Rosie Turner
4KW/VA	Eleanor Toms
4JC	Zarin Salehin
4SEO	Amber Murray
3JP	Molly Bessell
3LC	Fionn Carman

Second Form Prize

5AGE	Matthew Brooks
5NS	Nicole Hughes
5AS	Holly Brierley
4JC	Sameera Lyons
4KW/VA	Hannah Li
4SEO	Charlie Pozniak
3JP	Georgina Boden
3LC	Kieran Bailey

Endeavour Prize

6JEB	Mioni Armstrong
6MW	Harry Jackson
6PA	Manu Akula
5AER	Louise Marchington
5AS	Honor Price
5NS	Fiona Hepworth
4JC	Emily Underwood
4KW/VA	Max Watt
4SEO	Samuel Wallace
3EDM	Imogen Clowes
3JP	Marlon Potts
3LC	Robert Devon

Ridings Best All-Rounders Prizes (and the Martin Badger Cup for All-Round Endeavour)

Mrs C.J Hulme Year 6 Musical Production Prize	Katharine Fray Declan McLaughlin
	Nathan Wanjau

Autumn Term 2007

Associated Board Practical Examinations

Sixth Form

Name	Instrument	Grade	Result
Georgina Harmsworth	Violin	2	112 Pass
Olivia Howick	Singing	5	118 Pass
Amy Matthewson	Singing	7	123 Merit
Allie Potter	Trumpet	8	108 Pass
Alison Smith	Singing	7	113 Pass
Sophie Vohra	Singing	6	126 Merit

Boys' Division

Name	Instrument	Grade	Result
Alex Andrews	Piano	2	104 Pass
Richard Barratt	Trumpet	5	125 Merit
Jack Brierley	Trumpet	2	105 Pass
Ben Hope	Trumpet	2	122 Merit
Sam Howell	Piano	5	103 Pass
Alex Langton	Singing	2	126 Merit
Fraser McCormick	B Flat Cornet	1	121 Merit
Ruairidh Nichols	Piano	2	100 Pass
Robert Nowak	Piano	3	112 Pass
Daniel Southern	Piano	1	120 Merit
James Spencer	Jazz Alto Sax	5	114 Pass
William Strutt	Singing	2	117 Pass
Charlie Wray	Alto Saxophone	1	117 Pass

Girls' Division

Name	Instrument	Grade	Result
Rachael Bates	Singing	5	108 Pass
Gabriella Brough	Singing	3	133 Dist
Amy Jacobsen	Piano	3	124 Merit
Lara Knowles	Singing	4	130 Dist
Sophie Preece	Piano	1	130 Dist
Katie Reid	Singing	6	130 Dist
Emma Rheinberg	Piano	5	103 Pass
Charlotte Sampson	Piano	4	112 Pass
India Sleem	Cello	3	117 Pass
Eleanor Strutt	Singing	4	134 Dist
Bethany Tallents	Clarinet	3	120 Merit
Mary Thorp	Singing	3	133 Dist

Junior Division

Name	Instrument	Grade	Result
Louise Bates	Violin	3	116 Pass
Elisabeth Clivery-Adamson	Piano	1	107 Pass
Jamie Edgerton	Clarinet	2	130 Dist
Jamie Edgerton	Treble Recorder	1	138 Dist
Joseph Hale	Piano	1	105 Pass
Anna Howarth	Piano	1	114 Pass
Hannah Li	Violin	1	122 Merit
Ben Lynch	Piano	1	124 Merit
Imogen McCance	Violin	3	122 Merit
Helen Moore	Piano	1	114 Pass
Francesca Rijks	Singing	1	134 Dist
Henry Strutt	Violin	1	121 Merit
Henry Strutt	Singing	1	138 Dist
Bethany Wilcock	Piano	2	105 Pass

Teaching Staff

Stephen Carpenter	Cornet	4	123 Merit
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Associated Board Theory Exams

Name	Grade	Result
Rachel Bates	5	66 Pass
Amy Jacobson	5	84 Merit

Stephanie Main	5	80 Merit
Katherine Marlow	5	96 Dist

Spring Term 2008

Associated Board Practical Examinations

Boys' Division

Name	Instrument	Grade	Result
Harrison Blackaby	Jazz Alto Sax	2	133 Dist
Robin Chatwin	Jazz Tenor Sax	4	121 Merit
Sam Hollis	Clarinet	1	120 Merit
Christopher Meadowcroft	Jazz Alto Sax	2	109 Pass
Joe Morrison	Trombone	5	114 Pass
Thomas Mort	Trumpet	1	126 Merit
Edward Nathan	Guitar	2	111 Pass
James Porter	Jazz Alto Sax	3	120 Merit
Alex Quinlan	Guitar	2	112 Pass
James Raval	Alto Saxophone	2	130 Dist
Jonathan Sampson	Jazz Alto Sax	4	122 Merit
Alex Smith	Guitar	5	120 Merit
William Strutt	Horn	3	127 Merit

Girls' Division

Name	Instrument	Grade	Result
Alice Bailey	Piano	3	115 Pass
Megan Barton	Violin	2	130 Dist
Anna Beesley	Violin	8	127 Merit
Katherine Holt	Piano	6	130 Dist
Rosanna Jacot	Violin	8	132 Dist
Ellie Johnson	Jazz Alto Sax	3	130 Dist
Georgina Lucas	Piano	1	124 Merit
Clare Mackinnon	Piano	6	100 Pass
Maria Maximous	Piano	2	108 Pass
Stephanie Redfern	Piano	1	110 Pass
Emma Rheinberg	Jazz Alto Sax	2	137 Dist
Charlotte Sampson	Jazz Alto Sax	3	126 Merit
Alex Smith	Singing	5	127 Merit
Eve Worthington	Jazz Alto Sax	2	133 Dist

Junior Division

Name	Instrument	Grade	Result
Holly Brierley	Piano	1	116 Pass
Matthew Brooks	Piano	1	130 Dist
Laura Embrey	Piano	1	140 Dist
Katherine Fray	Jazz Alto Sax	1	132 Dist
Katharine Fray	Piano	2	113 Pass
Ted Heywood	Jazz Alto Sax	1	121 Merit
Charlotte Horne	Piano	1	118 Pass
Sarah Loughton	Piano	2	108 Pass
Jonathan Pinches	Horn	1	122 Merit
Olivia Watkins	Piano	2	120 Merit

Sixth Form

Name	Instrument	Grade	Result
Michael Buckley	Piano	5	108 Pass
Jenny Campbell	Percussion	6	131 Dist
Katherine Marlow	Violin	6	115 Pass
Matthew Murray	Guitar	5	108 Pass
Katie Mycock	Violin	7	122 Merit
Sophie Vohra	Violin	6	118 Pass

Teaching Staff

Stephen Carpenter	Jazz Cornet	3	114 Pass
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Appendix 5 Music Examinations

Spring Term 2008

Trinity/Guildhall Examinations

Boys' Division

Name	Instrument	Grade	Result
Joshua Berry	Piano	5	68 Pass
Jonathan Downs.....	Oboe	4	64 Pass
Jordan Holt.....	Flute	4	66 Pass

Girls' Division

Name	Instrument	Grade	Result
Hetty Adams	Flute	8	77 Merit
Amelia Beresford.....	Flute	2	75 Merit
Justine Blake.....	Flute	3	82 Merit
Kate Dewhurst	Oboe	4	84 Merit
Rebecca Humphreys..	Flute	3	71 Pass
Rebecca Lowndes.....	Flute	2	79 Merit
Emma Mohammed	Flute	1	77 Merit
Emma Simpson	Keyboard	2	77 Merit

Junior Division

Name	Instrument	Grade	Result
Ben Amey	Recorder	1	81 Merit
Molly Bradbury.....	Recorder	1	73 Pass
Joe Hale	Flute	3	76 Merit
Alex Krajewski	Keyboard	1	87 Dist
Ben Lynch.....	Recorder	2	77 Merit
Louise Marchington ...	Flute	1	73 Pass
Grace Pulley.....	Flute	2	81 Merit
Aaron Shaughnessy....	Flute	2	77 Merit
Elizabeth Stephenson	Recorder	1	85 Merit
Sam Stockman.....	Oboe	3	80 Merit

Associated Board Theory Exams

Name	Grade	Result
Kim Lawrence.....	5	81 Merit
Elliot Malkin.....	5	91 Dist
Sarah Mycock	5	74 Pass

Summer Term 2008

Associated Board Practical Examinations

Sixth Form

Name	Instrument	Grade	Result
Thomas Ecclestone....	Trombone	1	134 Dist
Sarah Gales.....	Piano	7	114 Pass
Elliot Malkin.....	Guitar	6	120 Merit
Alison Smith	Guitar	6	120 Merit
Henry Williams	Alto Saxophone	5	120 Merit

Boys' Division

Name	Instrument	Grade	Result
Michael Barratt.....	Trombone	5	117 Pass
Keiran Brady.....	Guitar	3	124 Merit
George Carter	Horn	4	125 Merit
Matthew Darbyshire ..	B Flat Cornet	2	123 Merit
Philip Gibson.....	Guitar	4	102 Pass
Alastair Hanak	Violin	1	123 Merit
James Hill.....	Trumpet	3	114 Pass
Andrew Hodgson	Alto Saxophone	4	122 Merit
William Machin.....	Trumpet	4	130 Dist
Ben Mason.....	Tuba	1	130 Dist
Matthew Self.....	Trombone	1	135 Dist
Richard Southern.....	Piano	2	120 Merit
Joshua Vohra	Horn	3	125 Merit

Girls' Division

Name	Instrument	Grade	Result
Rachael Bates	Piano	1	122 Merit
Eleanor Bowman.....	Clarinet	4	110 Pass
Josie Bray.....	B Flat Cornet	2	112 Pass
Hanja Dickenson.....	Clarinet	5	120 Merit
Naomi Gibson	Piano	5	115 Pass
Hiba Kokan.....	Violin	1	127 Merit
Hiba Kokan	Piano	5	130 Dist
Georgie Lucas.....	Violin	4	118 Pass
Olivia Soutter	Piano	7	120 Merit
Olivia Soutter	Violin	6	122 Merit
Anna Steward	Alto Saxophone	1	131 Dist
Mary Thorp.....	Viola	4	120 Merit
Mary Thorp.....	Piano	3	134 Dist

Junior Division

Name	Instrument	Grade	Result
Adam Garnett.....	Guitar	1	102 Pass
Thomas Huddy.....	Trumpet	1	127 Merit
Elliot Keen	Violin	1	115 Pass
Jennifer Lane	Horn	1	130 Dist
Alice Mckinnon	Violin	1	131 Dist
Tim Moores	Violin	1	112 Pass
Francesca Millin.....	B Flat Cornet	1	127 Merit
Rowena Moores	Violin	2	117 Pass
Lydia Myers	Violin	1	120 Merit
Poppy Nathan	Piano	3	130 Dist
Charlie Pozniak.....	Piano	2	131 Dist
Jack Qualtrough.....	B Flat Cornet	1	130 Dist
Henry Reavey	Piano	4	130 Dist
Zarin Salehin.....	Piano	2	131 Dist
Zarin Salehin.....	Violin	4	127 Merit
Sophia Sparrow.....	Viola	1	110 Pass
Henry Strutt	Violin	2	106 Pass
William Thomson.....	Violin	1	118 Pass
Joshua Towne	Clarinet	2	127 Merit

Summer 2008

Trinity/Guildhall Examinations

Boys' Division

Name	Instrument	Grade	Result
Harrison Blackaby.....	Flute	6	77 Merit
Adam Edwards	Flute	5	68 Pass

Girls' Division

Name	Instrument	Grade	Result
Ellen Barrett	Flute	5	75 Merit
Elizabeth Bell.....	Flute	7	68 Pass
Eleanor Boardman....	Flute	2	89 Dist
Elizabeth Bray.....	Flute	5	70 Pass
Gabriella Brough.....	Piano	1	81 Merit
Caitlin Cornish	Flute	5	87 Dist
Phoebe Fox.....	Flute	5	71 Pass
Amy Higginbotham....	Flute	5	89 Dist
Hannah Higham.....	Flute	6	68 Pass
Emily Pegg	Flute	4	72 Pass
Sally Percy	Flute	4	79 Merit

Junior Division

Name	Instrument	Grade	Result
Thomas Lynch.....	Flute	2	78 Merit