



illustria
The King's School in Macclesfield

It is almost incredible to believe that this is my fourth year back at King's. In September 2011, I started my first Prize-Giving Speech with a quotation from Aristotle: 'We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence then is not an act, but a habit.' Little did I realise that three short years later the school would be launching King's Learning Habits, an initiative designed to promote and develop the key learning skills of collaboration, reasoning, questioning, reflection and resilience. These Learning Habits will consciously underpin all we do at King's and build further on the excellent strides we have been making to develop lively and enquiring minds and to nurture ambitious and well-rounded individuals.

Growing and developing as a school is much the same as growing and developing as a person. You have to be prepared to take on new challenges, to experiment and to take risks. Change is an essential ingredient of life. The new timetable and school day, new curriculums in the Junior and Senior Divisions and our

new school information management system, all introduced this September, say much about the school's confidence and ambition, but they also speak volumes about the tremendous commitment and hard work of my colleagues.

The last couple of years have seen some major improvements in our infrastructure. We have completed the netball and junior cricket facilities at Fence Avenue, refreshed and rearranged our Infant and Junior accommodation and upgraded our dining halls on both sites. In the summer term we opened the new facilities on Westminster Road and it has been one of the delights of the new school year to see boys and girls from across the Foundation using the area to the full, made possible by our new timetable arrangements. Over the summer, the 'temporary' ATCO building on Coare Street was removed, allowing us to re-house the Medical Centre, Learning Support, Careers Office and Girls' changing rooms as well as to improve the look of the school.

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Headmaster's Report

The new academic year is a time for welcoming new colleagues and for recording our thanks to those who have left us. Last year saw the retirement of a number of long-serving colleagues including Paul Halewood and Diane Barker, both long-standing contributors to the school's sporting and pastoral life. Peter Illingworth retired after a remarkable thirty-four years' service to the school during which time he undertook a formidable array of positions including Head of Year, Senior Subject Teacher for Physics, Assistant Timetabler and Chief Star Gazer as Master i/c Astronomy. Amongst other leavers, Simon Mercer departed to pursue his musical freelance career and Mark Robinson was promoted to the newly created position of Head of Humanities at Ruthin School. You will find full tributes to these and other colleagues in the following pages.

I should also at this point formally welcome a number of new faces to the Governing Body. Ian Bradley joins us as the nominee of the University of Manchester where he is Head of Academic Services in the Engineering Faculty. Dr Louise Brown has been nominated by Cheshire East Local Authority where she serves as a Macclesfield ward councillor and Vice Chair of the Audit and Governance Committee. Steve Webb joins us from the business world and brings a wealth of financial and IT experience as well as twelve years as a Governor of Christ's Hospital School in Horsham. Council-

lor Janet Jackson succeeds Councillor Lloyd Roberts as Mayor of Macclesfield and it is a particular pleasure to welcome her as the embodiment of the very special relationship between the school and its home town.

I was delighted when earlier this year Stephen Wright and Chris King agreed to join the Governing Body. Stephen's qualifications as both a retired Head of Merchant Taylors' School in Northwood and a Former Pupil speak for themselves, but we are especially grateful to him for agreeing to Chair the Education Committee and to foster our links with the Merchant Taylors' Company. Chris King is Headmaster of Leicester Grammar School, which relocated to its fabulous new site at Great Glen in 2008. Chris's success in masterminding this multi-million pound project achieved due recognition this year when he was elected as the next Chairman of the Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference. King's is especially fortunate in having such an experienced and dedicated Governing Body and in welcoming these new members I should thank all our Governors for their service to the school.

It is with considerable satisfaction that I am able to record the fantastic results achieved by our students in this summer's public examinations. With almost a quarter of all A levels at

A* and 54% at A*/A, last year's Upper Sixth not only set new records, but obliterated those of their predecessors. All twelve pupils holding conditional offers from Oxford and Cambridge secured their places and crucially all of our students who chose to go to university this year have been able to do so with two-thirds heading for Russell Group institutions. Meanwhile, records were also broken at GCSE: almost a third of all entries achieved an A* and two-thirds an A*/A. The pupils far exceeded their MidYis and Yellis baseline predictions, meaning that the School can be proud of the job it has done in adding value. We should also note James Shering's special achievement in being one of only eight candidates in an entry of over 21,000 to achieve full marks in the AQA L2 certificate in Further Mathematics.

The cultural life of the school flourishes not in spite of our pupils' academic success, but because of the interdependence between what happens inside and outside the classroom. Pupils and staff with dramatic, musical, artistic and technical talents work together to produce quite outstanding results. The cast of productions as exceptional as this year's *Pirates of Penzance*, *Wind in the Willows*, *Hansel and Gretel*, *Aschenputtel* (the German department's retelling of the Cinderella story) and



Alice in Wonderland gain much more than another statistic; they gain the appreciation of delighted audiences and the experience of working and performing together. Musical highlights this year have included the fabulous 'Raise the Roof' Concert in February with proceeds to St Michael's Parish Church Roof Appeal, 'King's Swings' in May with proceeds in aid of the East Cheshire Hospice, and the extraordinarily powerful 'King's Sings' in the summer term with proceeds to Live at Home, a local charity and the Dalit Partnership, which raises funds to enable Dalit girls to have a secondary education.

The school as a whole has raised £32,000, all in support of good causes largely selected by the pupils themselves. As I have said before, what we do for others says much about who we are and I, for one, am delighted to work with colleagues who constantly remind us of our obligations to the less fortunate. We also have a tremendous number of pupils involved in local organisations and voluntary work and it was good to see this work recognised this year as Jamie Cunningham became the youngest ever national Poppy Appeal organiser, Harry Norton was named Champion Child in Silk FM's Local Hero Awards for his fundraising for The Seashell Trust and the school itself became the first ever independent school

to receive the 'Excellence in Social Inclusion Award' at a ceremony in the House of Commons. Fittingly, Harry himself collected the award on our behalf.

Part of Harry's fundraising involves his work as a talented young artist and it was with enormous pride that our fabulous art department was invited by Jobling Gowler Solicitors on Park Lane to exhibit our students' work as part of their annual art exhibition. The Private View was an affair worthy of the National Gallery and Harry's painting took pride of place as the subject of a blind auction with proceeds to the Seashell Trust. The work of our artists always impresses me and not least because it testifies to a level of ability far removed from my own. That ability is fostered by some extraordinarily committed colleagues who rejoice in the achievements of their pupils such as Alex Barlow who won an international glass art competition in February.

Sport is, of course, the final area of school life that demands our attention and what a year we have experienced! There is simply no way that I can cover every success or triumph. But I have not until now served in a school that has achieved a world second ranking as our cheerleaders did at the World Championships in Florida. I have not until now in my career congratulated a trio of Year 8 boys on their fifth consecutive national title as schools' trampolining champions. And I have not until this

year commended as splendid a team of young rugby players as our U11 side who managed the triple of an unbeaten season, victory in the AJIS Sevens and triumph in the AJIS 12-a-side competition. The Girls' Sports Dinner in July was a wonderful opportunity for us to appreciate the girls, staff and coaches for a fabulous year as they prepare for their Sports Tour to Barbados.

But the highlight of my year remains the extraordinary King's Has Talent in March. Inspired by the Friends of King's and organised by a remarkable group of Sixth Formers, it remains the best single evening's entertainment of my career. It was an evening of celebration, of competition and pure, unbridled fun. It was an evening that brought together an audience from across the school's divisions to witness a range of gifted acts from stand-up comedy and magic to music and extreme acrobatics. It entailed all that is best about our school.

Jim Rohn, the American entrepreneur, defined success as 'doing ordinary things extraordinarily well'. The last year at King's has seen us move beyond the ordinary in so many areas of school life, but I am delighted we have lost none of our community's essential groundedness. I trust you will find the proof of my words in the following pages.

Dr Simon Hyde
Headmaster



Our straight A GCSE students on results day

Hail & Farewell

Hail

Welcome to the following members of staff, who joined King's during the academic year 2013 – 2014:

Ruth Bailey joined King's nursing team, having previously worked at Wythenshawe Hospital for 17 years. She worked mainly in the paediatric A&E department, but also worked on the paediatric medical/surgical ward, children's day unit and consultant-led clinics. Her extended role was mentoring nursing students and she was greatly involved in educating qualified nurses in their professional development. When she is not looking after her three children, Ruth enjoys going to the gym and theatre.

Wayne Blaine joined the grounds department as Assistant Caretaker, replacing Mark Hornby. He previously worked at Howdens Joinery. In his spare time, Wayne enjoys spending time with his family.

Amy Broderick joined the Infant and Junior Division, having previously worked in a number of local retail outlets. Having completed her Foundation Degree at Macclesfield College, most of her time is taken up planning a wide range of activities for the Infant and Junior pupils.

Stephanie Capon, Chartered MCIPD, has recently joined King's as the School's HR Officer. She is a graduate from the University of Toronto and later pursued a further degree in HRM from Salford University. Stephanie comes to the role having worked at Macclesfield District General Hospital for 6 years, within the HR Shared Service and HR Business Partner Teams. She is a keen linguist who enjoys socialising with friends and travel when time permits.

Tom Cawthorn joined the Geography Department after three years teaching at Merchant Taylors' Boys' School. He graduated from the University of Sheffield, where he studied Physical Geography. He is also a holder of a PGCE from Liverpool Hope University. Tom enjoys a wide range of sports such as squash, football and rugby and is also a keen coarse angler.

Laura Christie joined King's to teach History and Government & Politics. She studied at Lancaster University where she specialised in Medieval British History and gained a BA (Hons) and MA (Distinction). She studied for a PGCE at Keele University, passing with distinction. Laura also has a keen interest in sports, both participating and spectating. Outside of work and sport, she has a passion for movies and music, although less as a participant and more as an avid collector.

Hannah Crockart, a graduate in English from the University of Birmingham and holder of a PGCE from the University of Manchester, joined the English department. In her spare time she takes pleasure in reading, theatre-going, cooking and travel. She is also a keen sportswoman, enjoying both netball and running.

Jennifer Dunn joined the PE and Games Department as Head of Academic PE. She is a graduate from St Mary's University College in Twickenham, holding a First in Physical Education and has wide sporting interests. Jennifer is currently captain of Cheshire Women's Cricket Team and plays Hockey in the winter.

Elizabeth Hall joined as Head of the Biology Department, having spent three years at Urmston Grammar. With a degree in Biology from Leeds University and a Masters in Evolutionary Anthropology from Durham, she is passionate about her subject. A keen sportswoman, Elizabeth plays netball

up to three times a week and has run several half-marathons for charity. She reads widely, enjoying both fiction and scientific texts.

Sarah Hopkin joined the Girls' PE Department having just spent two six-month spells coaching and playing hockey in Perth, Australia. She is a Sports Rehabilitation graduate from Salford University and competes nationally at the highest club level in her sport. She enjoys a wide range of sports, thrives from challenges and loves keeping fit.

Sally Jones joined the school from Alderley Edge School for Girls, as Head of Spanish and teaching both Spanish and French. A graduate in French and Spanish from Manchester University, and a holder of a PGCE from Sheffield, she also enjoys singing and has a passion for roller skating, which she has been doing for 5 years.

Michelle Marke joined the Infant and Junior Division, having previously worked at Cheadle Hulme High School as Art Technician and Learning Manager. She has also worked as a freelance designer and enjoys spending her spare time putting these skills to the test. She also loves being with her family, baking and the outdoors.

Scott Mattingly joined the Mathematics Department to teach both Maths and Biology. He previously spent five years working at Eastbourne College. He has a First in Natural Sciences from the University of Durham. He enjoys a wide range of outdoor sports, including climbing and mountaineering. He is a very keen hockey player and coach and currently coaches the King's Boys' 1st XI and plays for AEHC Mens' 1st team.

John O'Sullivan joined the finance team as school accountant. He graduated in Economics from the University of Manchester and qualified as a Chartered Accountant with PWC. He has held a number of senior posts in house building and construction companies. Most of his spare time is spent as a trustee for local charities and he is Chair of Governors at the primary school he first attended many years ago.

James Ross joined King's to teach Classics and French, after taking a First in Classics and Modern Languages from Trinity College, Oxford. He avows a wide array of interests including mountain walking, playing the piano, visiting the theatre and reading widely in both English and European literature.

Chelsea Rowbotham joined the Infant and Junior Division, having previously worked at the Silk Care Home and David Lewis centre in Cheshire. Most of her spare time is taken up by looking after her family.

Judith Stanion joined as Registrar in the Admissions department. She came from Alderley Edge School for Girls where she operated as both the Headmistress' secretary as well as within the Admissions team. In her spare time, she runs her own business, designing jewellery.

Wayne Swinson joined King's as a Database & Website Assistant. He is a Business Information Technology Graduate from Staffordshire University. Wayne enjoys many sports including football and he is a keen Stoke City supporter. He likes to keep fit and has completed the Potters 'Arf Marathon.

Grant Wallwork joined the Infant Department as a recent graduate from Manchester Metropolitan University, where he studied for a BA in Primary Education. Grant enjoys any adventurous activities, in particular, mountaineering, rock climbing and caving. He likes travelling and tries to explore the far corners of the globe, and recently ventured to Swaziland and Japan. Grant is also a very keen guitarist and spends most evenings practising his favourite songs.

Benjamin White joined the Business Studies and Economics department after spending 3 years at Salford City College teaching A Level Business and Economics. He graduated from the University of Manchester after studying a BA (Hons) in Business Economics and completed his PGCE at Manchester University. He is a keen footballer, enjoys running and outdoor activities.

David Williams joined the Business Studies and Economics department having taught previously at Oldham Hulme Grammar School. He is a Politics, Philosophy and Economics (PPE) graduate from the University of Manchester, and holds a PGCE from the same university. Outside school, he is a keen footballer and skier.

Farewell

Peter Allen

Peter joined King's in 2007 to bolster the already-strong rugby coaching provision and bring a professional game insight to the school-level game. Through his seven years at King's, Pete flourished, guiding rugby and cricket teams to cup finals and helping to organise rugby tours to South America, France and New Zealand. Pete accompanied 52 boys and 6 Staff to South Africa in the summer and helped to coach the 1st XV, which was composed of the boys he had first met as Year 7s. Pete was a driving force with King's rugby and he helped oversee the introduction of the high performance pathway for our most gifted and talented rugby players, along with numerous trips to Rosslyn Park with various age groups. Pete's capacity and willingness to bring out the best in a variety of squads is a rare skill and he was always dynamic, articulate and brimming with energy and enthusiasm, which pupils found infectious. Pete was not only an excellent rugby coach, but he was also an exceptional referee: he took charge of many school Cup games and weekend fixtures with great authority. Over the years, Pete expanded his role and was a very successful Head of Boys' Athletics; Cheshire Cup cricket organiser; a form tutor of great distinction; a newly qualified teacher of PE; a top class school and club rugby coach.

Pete will be missed, for his commitment and attention to detail and also for his enthusiasm to coach the game of rugby with players at every level of ability. We wish him well at Sandbach School.

GA/JM

Sue Appleton

Sue joined King's as assistant bursar in December 1987 from Brereton Hall School and was promoted to Deputy Bursar in 1992. Her background in banking and her attention to detail meant the school's day-to-day handling of money was always profession-

al and precise. As new systems were adopted over the years, it was Sue who advocated change and ensured that systems were fully functioning. Teaching colleagues relied on her to resolve pension issues and I always depended on Sue for her ability to get difficult jobs done in a professional manner. Sue always provided wise and discreet counsel in the department. Outside school, Sue was a councillor in Congleton for many years and her service was recognised when she was elected Mayor in 2002. Sue also found time to be involved with the Cub Scouts in Congleton and led a pack for over 25 years. She also found time in 1993 to achieve a BSc from the Open University.

On behalf of every one at King's, I thank Sue for everything she has done for the school, staff and colleagues. We wish her well for the future and hope she will have plenty of time for family holidays in Portugal with Ed, their grown-up children and their two grandchildren.

JMSP

Diane Barker

Diane joined King's in 1994 as a part-time PE teacher where she ably assisted Robyn Hardman to establish the Girls' PE Department in the very early years of the Girls' Division. Diane initially took responsibility for the coaching of girls' hockey and rounders, but as a true professional, her versatility and expertise for teaching a wide range of sports quickly emerged. Her contribution to the PE Department was outstanding: to curriculum PE; the extra-curricular sports programme; and also the wider school community. She was most generous with her time in coaching girls' hockey and rounders teams, and she coordinated the swimming and biathlon teams across both Divisions. As the Girls' Sports Coordinator, Diane built excellent relationships with other schools and ensured a regular programme of fixtures. Furthermore, she organised tours and

accompanied girls on hockey tours to Holland, Spain/Gibraltar and Canada, in addition to regularly assisting with Year 7 and Year 9 residential trips to Buxworth, Edale and Gradbach. Diane was involved in teaching A Level PE from its introduction in 1998 until 2013, and more recently she taught GCSE PE. In her role as Head of Year, Diane provided excellent pastoral care for the girls and admirably led and supported her team of tutors. Throughout her time at King's, Diane was a loyal colleague and friend to all in the PE Department, as well as to the staff room at Fence Avenue. Diane will be missed but we wish her a well-deserved retirement.

LB

Tom Braisted

Tom Braisted joined King's three years ago, as the school's first Human Resources Officer. His calm and professional approach to all matters regarding Human Resources was of great value to the school. His commitment and talent lay not only in this area of employment, but he gave up a number of his weekends and evenings to support the school's Duke of Edinburgh programme. Tom left to join a large industrial glass firm, and is excited by the prospect of the new challenge. He will be missed by colleagues and pupils alike.

TDS

Sharon Cooper

Sharon left us in March this year to pursue her original career in Catering at Macclesfield Golf Club. She joined us in Reprographics in 2006 and in the subsequent eight years, worked tirelessly in that role and also assisted in the Resource Centres in recent years, as an after-school supervisor. Ever organised, she was a source of great humour and warmth to pupils and staff alike. She also dealt admirably with the inevitable last-minute requests, fired at her from all angles during the working day. She even found time to

share some of her wonderful cooking and recipes with colleagues, and she is remembered with great fondness. Her dedication and willingness to help others, will be missed by all her friends.

PCP

Elena de Maine

Elena worked in the Juniors for seven years and took great pride in her role as a form teacher, first in Year 3, and later in Years 5 and 4. She dedicated herself and her time to the pastoral care of the pupils in her charge. She was a great support to the Junior PE department, and ran both the Year 5 and 4 netball teams in recent years. She shared her musical talents, supporting both Year 3 and 4 choir and Stringstars. She will be greatly missed by staff, pupils and parents alike, and we wish her well in the future.

CJHM

Paul Halewood

Paul joined King's in September 1990 from Wirral GS where he had previously taught for 11 years. In his 24 years in Macclesfield, he made a remarkable contribution to the sporting, academic and social development of innumerable generations of King's School pupils. Paul taught PE and Geography and dedicated countless hours to the school's extra-curricular programme in coaching both boys' and girls' rugby, cricket and athletics. Firm and fair, Paul thought carefully about the pupils in his care and created a supportive and engaging atmosphere in which they could learn, whether in the classroom, gym or on the sports field. He communicated well with teenage students and had an instinctive skill in working with them. His tenure as Master i/c Rugby saw an enhancement of the reputation of the school's rugby. The 1st XV was very successful under his tutelage, with the most notable year being 1995/96. Important Sevens competitions were won at Stonyhurst in 1997 and Solihull in 2000. Under his guidance, players of skill and determina-

tion were produced with both Alistair Milne and Rob Hartley representing Scotland and England (respectively) at U18 level. Jamie Greenlees progressed to the full England Sevens team and Ben Caulbeck and Craig Cooper to England Counties. The educational value for pupils of trips in Britain and abroad was a principle in which Paul firmly believed. He accompanied many expeditions. When Ian Wilson retired, Paul added girls' rugby to his wide range of commitments, a challenge which brought out the best in him: the annual pilgrimage to the Rosslyn Park Sevens was an experience that many still cherish. As Master i/c of Rugby, he organised tours to Canada twice and an epic venture taking in Singapore, Australia and South Africa. More recently, he accompanied cricket teams to the West Indies and Sri Lanka. In addition, he accompanied Geography, History, Latin and sailing trips.

His caring nature, poorly hidden beneath a thin gruff exterior, is highlighted by the unfortunate accolade of being the only member of staff to have accompanied pupils to hospital on every continent except Antarctica: a fact that, as a Geographer, will doubtless please him. Throughout his career, Paul was a successful classroom teacher, delivering Geography and PE to GCSE level. Paul is another in a long line of King's teachers who, apart from his many other roles, was also a great Form Tutor, a Head of Year for many years and a Head of House. We wish Paul a long and happy retirement, hoping that he will improve his golf, enjoy spending time with his grandchildren and venture afar with Helen.

CST

Melanie Holmes

Melanie joined the MFL Faculty at King's in 2001 as a newly-qualified teacher. She impressed from the outset, being extremely organised, meticulous in lesson planning, unerringly positive in her outlook and a superb classroom practitioner. Melanie

was swiftly promoted, first to Senior Subject Teacher in 2003, then to Head of German in 2004. In 2009, she became Head of Year in the Sixth Form Division. Alongside her managerial roles, Melanie made time to contribute to King's wider school life. She enjoyed great success choreographing the staff routines for the Sixth Form Fashion Show and set up the German Rhineland Trip, which became one of King's longest running extra-curricular trips, and celebrated its 12th year this summer. In her time at King's, Melanie sparked an enduring passion for her subject in countless numbers of pupils, many of whom continued with German beyond A Level study. In the MFL department we are unanimous in our regret at losing Melanie: she has been such a hard-working, loyal colleague and she will be very much missed. As she awaits the birth of her second child, Melanie is taking a career break to spend more time with her family, but promises that the teaching world has not lost its allure. We wish her and her family every happiness for the future.

JAIH

Peter Illingworth

Peter joined King's in 1980 as a teacher of physics. Over the next 32 years, he performed a wide range of roles within the school: Head of Year, i/c timetabling and Senior Subject Teacher in physics, to name but a few. In each of these roles, Peter brought the same intelligence, professionalism and approachability that also informed his day-to-day teaching. His ability to make physics and science come alive for high-achieving A level students, as well as Year 7 boys, was a real gift. He was always willing to offer lunchtime and after-school sessions in order to help those who needed it, to stretch those who wanted to learn more, or simply to share his love of his subject with those who felt the same way. Under his guidance, students gained entry to Oxford and Cambridge universi-

ties, found themselves gazing at the transit of Venus across the sun from the school fields and, memorably, talking on Radio 4 about physics. It is testament to Peter that his passion for teaching was as strong on his last day at King's as it was on his first. He was an exceptional Head of Year, who brought great empathy and insight to the role, alongside his phenomenal organisational and planning skills. It was no surprise that his year groups not only gained good GCSE results, but also navigated the stresses of teenage years and exams with great maturity and humour. All those who have worked with Peter have come away the better for having met him and he leaves behind a genuine legacy at the school. He will be greatly missed and we wish him many long years of happiness in his well-deserved retirement.

JSS

Simon Mercer

Simon joined King's in 2009 as an enthusiastic and energetic Director of Music. He used his outstanding musical skills within and beyond the classroom: he will be remembered for his strident organ playing at services and prize-givings, his love of all things treble forte, and especially for his sensitive performances at Remembrance Day services.

Simon's students appreciated his calm and relaxed way of learning as well as his unique sense of humour. From day one, he established that he had time for people, whenever they needed it and instilled a love of music even in the most reluctant musical learner. He was devoted to enhancing the enjoyment of pupils' practical musicianship and encouraged many to participate in the school's bands and instrumental ensembles. The repertoire he chose for his ensembles was always highly entertaining for both participants and audience alike, for example, in his final concert when the band took to playing kazoos, whistling and marching around the hall to 'The

Great Escape'. He directed a dramatic performance of 'Carmina Burana', which was an inspirational highlight for the department and the large cast. He worked generously to promote the monthly concerts for the Music At Mike's series: this will continue as a legacy in King's contributions to the wider community.

We wish Simon well in the next stage of his career, which will include overseas examining with the ABRSM, freelance playing, performing and conducting, and teaching at the Royal Northern College of Music.

JB

Rick Millar

Rick joined the school as a Junior ICT Apprentice Technician in 2013. He immediately settled into the IT support team and brought good working knowledge of IT systems to the role. His amiable and jovial manner around school made him quickly popular with staff, as did his rapid response to their IT-related issues. He left King's to join another local IT firm, specialising in the deployment of online learning resources.

TDS

Chris Moores

In the summer of 2003, during university holidays, Chris Moores joined the grounds department on a part-time basis. He graduated from Loughborough University in 2005 with a degree in Sports Technology and re-joined the department again, on a temporary basis. Chris soon became an invaluable member of staff and the position became a permanent one. During his time at King's, Chris took and passed his NVQ level 3 in groundsmanship and he gained various other qualifications. A successful local sportsman, Chris realised the importance of creating excellent surfaces for high-level competition. He was extremely skilled in the preparations of the cricket squares and cricket wickets and the fact that the main cricket square at

King's is viewed as one of the very best on the School circuit, is largely down to his efforts. Chris took great pride in all he did for the school and he was vital to the running of the department as a whole. Chris left King's to join the staff at Macclesfield Golf Club in the summer. Extremely hard-working and conscientious, we wish him every success in his new position and beyond.

SM

Tracey Newton

Tracey joined King's as the Front Line IT Support Helpdesk Manager. Her upbeat and enthusiastic attitude made her quickly popular, and her positive attitude to recent changes in the IT network made her a valuable team member. She managed a wide range of administrative tasks and supported the technical members of the team with energy and good humour. During her time within the IT Support team, her own IT expertise also increased and we will miss her for these skills, as well as her positive attitude.

TDS

Tom Parfett

Tom Parfett's association with the King's School began over 20 years ago when Tom joined as a pupil in the junior division. In addition to being a very able student, Tom was also an exceptional sportsman who played cricket for the 1st XI for four years and captained the side in his final two years. Tom was one of the few who regularly played 1st XI cricket and hockey, along with 1st XV rugby. Tom had two stints at King's as a summer gap student before joining the staff in a permanent role as a sports coach in 2013. Tom ran very successful cricket and hockey teams and his contribution to these sports in particular was appreciated by all. Tom's hard work and commitment made him a very popular figure both with staff and with the boys and girls he coached. After just a year at King's, Tom left to take up a position with the Trafford-based company, PE and Sports

Hub: we wish him all the best in this position and in his future career.

SM

Mark Robinson

Mark Robinson was Head of the History Department for four years, during which time he worked tirelessly to promote the department and inspire its students. He revised the A level curriculum, and the Boys' GCSE, as well as introducing and leading the 'Aspire' programme for Oxbridge candidates. Mark was a very popular and well-respected form tutor. During his first year at the school, he established excellent working relationships with the Year 8 boys in his form, and skilfully guided them through their remaining years in the Boys' Division. Outside the classroom, Mark accompanied three History department trips to Munich, as well as visiting Russia, the birthplace of his hero - Peter the Great. In addition, Mark was an extremely enthusiastic participant in Macclesfield's annual Barnaby parades, making appearances in a variety of guises, including a soldier from the English Civil War, an ancient Druid, a medieval peasant and a nineteenth-century factory worker. He also acted as a tennis coach and organised tournaments with other schools. We wish him well as he takes up his post as Head of Humanities at Ruthin School.

LAC

Jane Rodgers

Jane joined King's in 2000, initially as washer upper in the chemistry department. After a few years performing this role, she became general science technician at the Boys' Division. She excelled in this role, transforming the department and the practical activities that ran for Year 7 and 8 students. Her organisational skills and willingness to create new resources and practicals, helped produce an innovative course that has made general science incredibly popular with students. Her display work made the labs look colourful,

educational and fun all at the same time and her ability to cope with last-minute requests for practicals made her very popular with staff. In addition, Jane was always willing to give up her time to help with science clubs, Open Days and Life at King's events and these benefitted greatly from her enthusiasm and hard work. Her willingness to go the extra mile was always appreciated by staff. The sight of Jane returning from AstraZeneca, smoke pouring out of the windows of her car as she transported 30kg of rapidly subliming dry ice for use on Open Day, is still talked about by those who frequent the Tesco roundabout. Jane was also pivotal to the department's social events as she helped organise Christmas meals, BBQs and various get-togethers. Jane left a lasting legacy at King's and will be sorely missed by all who worked with her.

JSS

Catherine Smith

Catherine started work in the Infant and Junior Department four years ago as a specialist 1:1 support for a pupil. With her positive attitude and willingness to throw herself into every activity, she proved herself to be an invaluable support in the classroom for both teachers and pupils. More recently, Catherine took on the additional responsibility of Breakfast Club Supervisor and After-School Deputy Supervisor, overseeing the welfare of children every evening. In addition to this, Catherine was also the Holiday Club Supervisor, organising a wide range of interesting and enthralling activities for children of all ages. Catherine leaves to start her PGCE course at Manchester University, which she will undoubtedly excel in and it will not be long before she has a class of children to call her own. She will be greatly missed by staff, parents and pupils alike. We wish her every success in the future.

CJHM

Catherine Webb

Cath worked at King's for two years as a Year 4 class teacher and before that as a supply teacher. She was well known for her cheerful personality and remarkable ability to look on the bright side of any situation. Cath was known for her willingness to step in where a member of staff is required. This winter she could be seen adorning the netball courts in a variety of rather fetching hats, trying to get Year 4 to pass the ball towards the right end of the court. She almost succeeded. Her excellence on the rounders' pitch is unrivalled; her legacy of the game of 'tunnel rounders', which was enjoyed by Years 3 and 4 will, I'm sure, be with us for years to come. Cath will be greatly missed by the staff, her pupils and their parents.

CJHM

Karen Wells

Karen taught, full and part time, for 17 years. Throughout that time, she taught in Years 3, 4 and 5, working with an array of other staff. One of Karen's particular interests was ICT, where she was divisional Subject Leader. She kept abreast of the rapid changes and developments in this area and led the Division in implementing new software and hardware, such as iPads, which were introduced with great success in Year 4. Outside the classroom, Karen supported musical groups and athletics, as well as running the ever-popular ICT clubs. Karen's talents and skills will be greatly missed and we wish her all the best in her new full-time post.

CJHM

Shelagh Westaway

Shelagh worked at King's for three years, firstly as a 1:1 teaching assistant, and more recently as a Year 4 class teacher. She was a supportive and patient member of staff, who took great pride in the pastoral well-being of her classes, handling some of the more challenging pupils with an ease that

will be difficult to match. With her dry wit, she quickly became a part of the Year 4 team and worked tirelessly with her colleagues to provide a comprehensive curriculum which supported and challenged pupils in her care. Shelagh was well known for her calm and friendly personality and will be missed by both pupils and staff alike.

CJHM

Margaret Wheeler

Margaret joined the Boys' Division as the Principal's secretary in 1998. She originally worked for Bill Beatson, then for Ian Robertson, as well as looking after the staff and pupils. Her warm and welcoming smile settled and calmed staff, parents and pupils alike. During her time at King's, she involved herself in a huge number of activities within the school. Often seen cajoling pupils, she was equally at home dealing with teachers who were short of time and in need of a calming word. In the office, she was a great team player, supporting all her colleagues with enthusiasm. She worked with dedication for 16 years before retiring this year. We all wish her well for the future.

PCP

We also bid farewell to the following temporary staff:

Maria Gutierrez Fernandez, John Tedford, Rebecca Toft, Paul Williams, Chris Stretton, Bryan Carr, Kirsten Hinds, Jack Sadler, Matt Hogan, Barbara Merriman, Marion Dupont and Kathrin Epp.

Creative Work

Lamia Lababedi Year 2

Year 2 pupil Lamia was inspired by her work on India to create this beautiful mandala. She used a mixture of watercolour paint and glitter to produce this stunning design.



Rebecca Hughes Year 12

Rebecca was inspired by studies of the sea and rocks. She created her own clay recipe by adding organic material, which produced a porous and pitted effect when fired. Rebecca went on to use fused glass and frit inspired by wave patterns and the work of Jessica Griffin.

Archie Cracknell Year 6

Archie created this wonderful replica of the Beachy Head lighthouse after researching its statistics. Year 6 pupils been involved in design technology tasks of creating air raid shelters and light houses to link with their topics on World War II and Coasts. Art and design is becoming an intrinsic cross-curricular part of every subject and pupils are being set greater challenges in research and given free reign over the media they use to produce their own designs.



Harry Frost Year 13

Harry was selected for a Gifted Artists Tour of Tuscany during Year 13, where he spent a great deal of time working with other talented students. Inspired by the Tuscan landscape and its cities and towns, Harry was intrigued with the effects of light in the narrow streets and the effects of 'Chiaroscuro' became a focus for him throughout his A-level studies.



Creative Work

Rheanne Beresford Year 11

The iridescence, colour and beauty of the peacock feather inspired Rheanne's GCSE coursework. Her love of fabrics and stitch led to a variety of experimentation including feltmaking and image transfer on fabric. This composition uses felt wool and intricate metallic, machine embroidery to enhance the design.



Joshua Dykstra Year 11

Joshua said that his GCSE project, Tetris Lights, was both very rewarding and time consuming. Not only did it help him in terms of D&T but he felt it prepared him for the rest of his GCSEs, inspiring him to 'knuckle down' and get some work done. The project involved working with a range of unusual materials, which he appreciated as a rare opportunity.

Ben Chong Year 3

In Year 3, pupils studied the artist Katsushika Hokusai with a focus on his interpretation of water. After reproducing several imitation sketches of his depictions of water, young artists were challenged to build their own waterfall using aspects of Hokusai's water images. Ben's waterfall is made with a variety of media including coloured pencils, paint and shiny paper.



David Nixon Year 13

David studied natural form and rhythm in nature to inspire his ceramic and willow pieces. He studied the work of contemporary sculptors who are inspired by nature including local artist, Jeff Teasdale.



James Waters Year 1

In the Infant department writing in a range of forms is encouraged and rewarded. Emergent writers are pupils who are beginning to understand that writing is a form of communication and that marks on paper convey a message. This recount of the story of *Jack and the Beanstalk* by James Waters in Year 1 demonstrates a high level of 'emergent' writing for a pupil of only six years of age.

Jack and the beanstalk

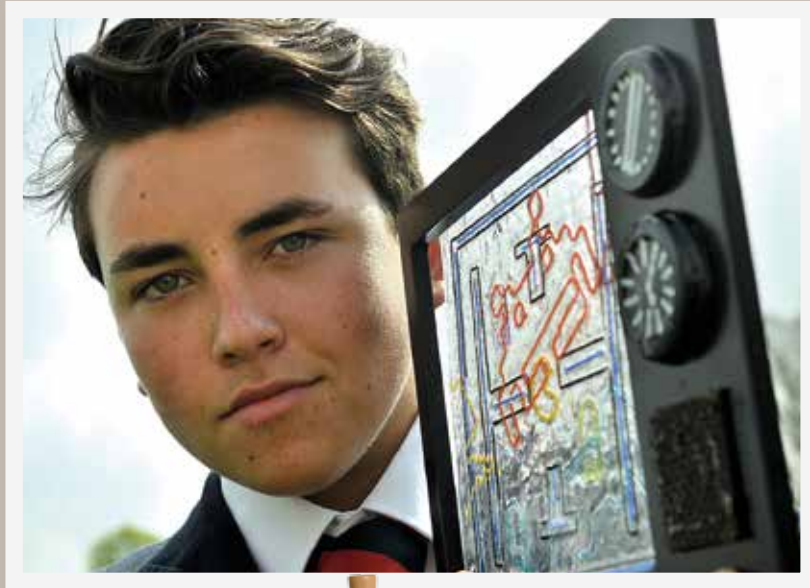
Once upon a time there was a boy called Jack who lived with his Mother and they were starving and cold. One day Jack's Mother said 'Go and sell the cow and make shaw (sure) you get a good price for it.'

So one day Jack set off to the Market with his cow. But unforch-nutly (unfortunately) all he got was, beans brown beans. When he got home he put the beans on the table and Mother saw them she was flos (furious) so she threw them out of the window. The next day Jack looked out of the window and saw a gigantic beanstalk so, he decided (decided) to climb it. When he got to the clouds (clouds) he spied a huge castle so he walked and he walked and he walked. When he got to the castle he opened the Door first, then he spied his Mothers chicken that lade (laid) golden eggs.

He quickly grabed (grabbed) the chicken but a big giant came in and shouted "Fee Fi Fo Fum," but Jack was nible (nimble) Jack was quick. He ran to the beanstalk but the giant chased after but Jack was nimble Jack was quick he climb (climbed) down the beanstalk but the giant raced after Jack, but Jack choped (chopped) down the beanstalk and that was the end of the giant. Jack and his Mother and the chicken that lade golden eggs of course lived happily ever after.

International competition win

Alex Barlow Year 11, went back to the future to win the Bullseye International Glass competition. He drew on the 1970s' Pac-Man and Space Invaders' characters to mimic a computer games screen covered with the trails of the now-antiquated characters. Alex heated and manipulated fine, coloured glass rods to form the shapes of his chosen characters and then fused the shapes onto a sheet glass panel. Alex's work was judged, in a very strong, international field, to show 'a rare attention to detail, painstaking technical excellence and an artistic gift': he won a kiln worth £1200 plus £450 for the school.



Sophie Brown Year 11

Sophie researched the sculptural forms of ornate fences, gates and bird-cages as inspiration for her GCSE examination work. Looking at catwalk fashion led to a wearable, sculptural statement using black elastic and wire. The female form is enclosed in its caged costume as if she is a prisoner or slave to fashion and its trends.



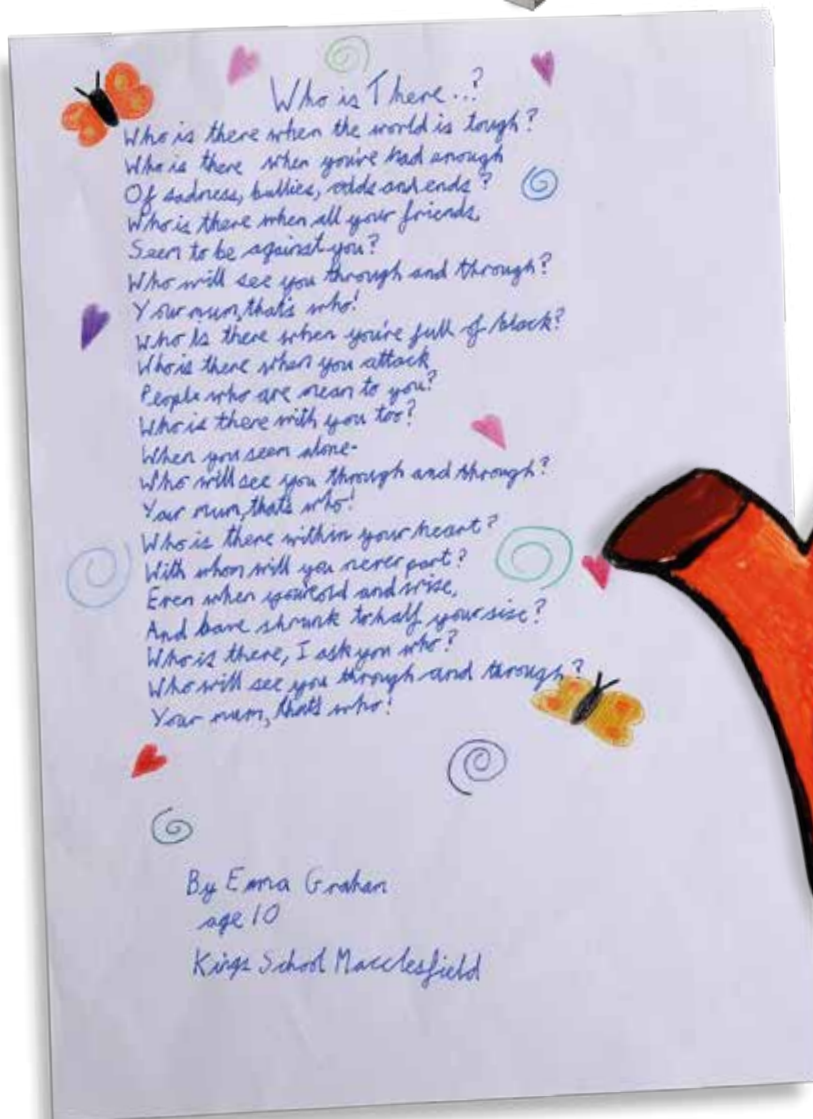
Harry Boddy Pre-School

Harry Boddy tested his printing skills by producing this wonderful autumn tree. He imaginatively used bricks for the branches and his fingertips for the leaves and fruit. Harry shows great promise for a pupil who is only 3 years old.



Harry Blackwell Year 11

Harry designed and manufactured a coffee table with a drawer in it for use in the home. He used various different joining methods and types of wood, such as plywood and sapele, which contrasted well with each other, to give a high-quality finish. Harry used natural beeswax as a protective finish for the table. His design work was predominantly done using hand-drawn sketches and annotations. He found the manufacturing stage of the project the most appealing, as he loves the practical side of design and technology.



Emma Graham Year 5

Gifted young poet, Emma Graham wrote her own free verse poem about mothers for submission to the Young Writers book on Mother's Day. Her poem Who is There? was selected for publication.

Thea Johal Reception

Reception class have produced designs for a variety of pieces of pottery. Thea Johal (above) and Arabella Huntington (overleaf) painted their pots with bright designs, using the work of Clarice Cliff as inspiration.

My Daughter, the Fox

I know a lot of things now that I'm grown. I know that in Ma's den, Light means up and about and Dark means still and quiet. I know that it's okay to chase little rabbits but not little Mas. I know that Ma has a disease which means she can't see when it's Dark. I know this because she always looks all around Outside and barks nervously when it's time to come back to the den at Dark. Even when I'm sitting right in front of her. In plain view.



'Growing, Working, Playing and Learning Together'

Twenty years on from when its doors first opened, King's Girls' unveiled a new artwork to celebrate life at Fence Avenue. Art Club members spent a year putting together the copper piping 'Tree of Life', which is adorned with over 300 tinted ceramic figures, representing pupils and staff.

The nine-foot high sculpture, which makes a lovely chiming sound, has pride of place in the entrance hall: it has already attracted much positive reaction.

The sculpture is intended to symbolise the harmony of daily life and is one of a series of activities that celebrated the 20th anniversary of King's Girls' Division.

Sometimes it's so bad that she has to press the square on the shell of the den that makes the Outside bright, like Light, even though it's Dark so that she can find me, pick me up and carry me back to our den.

This is how I knew that Ma didn't see Other Me that first night.

I woke shivering in the part of the den which we use for Quiet. A sharp scent punctured my nostrils and then filled me. I almost drowned in it. Earth, Damp, Grass, Mammal. My eyes stung and Wet blurred them as I blinked and rubbed my raw nose on the bedding trying to force it out. I tingled as my hair rose, stiff, until I felt like the Pricklies I often chase Outside. I was coated in the scent. I was switched off and still, but whirring at the same time like the screen Ma has in the den that still buzzes when it's black. I pricked my ears up, twitching impatiently, hesitantly, waiting for a sound, a clue. There was nothing but my own bang, bang, bang Inside. The scent was a sensation and it smothered me, wrapped me tight in an invisible blanket pulling me towards Outside. Suddenly I was at the high See-Out on the shell of the den and I could look right Outside like I was out there in the Dark but I wasn't. I was inside. The scent was the whole world now. I was consumed.

I was not shocked by the Other Me at the See-Out. He was like me but not. Bigger, stronger, brighter. Green eyes fixed onto mine filled with such deep Sad and Hurt that I almost cried out. Something stabbed and broke on my Inside. And then the Green Hurt was the whole world and there was nothing else. I reached out with my nose to comfort Other Me but my snout met the See-Out's invisible barrier with a hollow bump breaking up the Green. Other Me was gone. The colours shattered and there was only Dark and Cold as my balance failed me for the first time in my life. I tumbled off the height of the See-Out viewing platform and crashed to the floor. It was covered with soft Like-Grass that was unusually spiky and hurt me. My running legs were limp and wobbly as I stood and I rocked back and forth, back and forth. I couldn't see or hear and I didn't know anything apart from the

Green Hurt anymore so my tail shot between my back legs. For a moment there was no scent. Everything was blank and I was alone and Inside went bang, bang, bang as I searched. What did I know? I knew Rabbits. I knew Light and Dark. I knew that Ma had a disease. Ma. My nose searched for her scent that was Flowers, Must, Old Boxes. It hit me hard suddenly and I scrambled back onto the raised bedding rubbing my shivering body against her warmth. Soon the bang, bang, bang turned to a softer thump, thump, thump and I burrowed down deep into the bedding that was Ma's scent until it was black like Underground and I squeezed my eyes shut and I was Quiet.

Although Ma didn't bare her teeth at me when it was Light, I knew I was in trouble. I got a slap on the nose for shredding the bedding into ribbons like the ones Ma wears around her head when the White covers Outside. That's another disease Ma has: she's bare.

For many Darks afterwards, Other Me haunted the den. He never came as close as that first Dark but instead his screams shook the den so that even Ma with her diseases knew he was there. Other Me would scream and scream and scream, so I would flatten my ears back against the crown of my head to dull the sound. The Sad and Hurt forced its way in anyway but Ma held me tight against her chest, so it could not pull me.

One Dark, Other Me was at the See-Out again. The Sad and Hurt pulled me this time because Ma was Quiet and Other Me screamed when he saw me. I trembled but then it was just me, and the Green, and the scream, and then I was the scream. I was Other Me's scream. I stopped. I saw Ma stand shakily on her hind legs. Her bare pelt was white like Outside. Her eyes were on me and the window but they weren't the right eyes. Other Me was gone and then I was gone and I was next to the In-Out which is shut at Dark to protect the den from enemies.

The Shutter on the In-Out shrieked as Ma unshut it. When I looked at Ma there was only the wrong eyes. And Other Me was in the White. And there was the Green again but it was no longer Hurt. And there was no Ma.

I followed Other Me into the Dark.

Victoria Tann Year 12

'All the World's a Stage'

I sit awaiting the final scene of Hamlet, written by Master Shakespeare, who is performing tonight on stage, as Hamlet himself! All around me, the crowd grows restless as I anticipate the wonderful, yet tragic close...

Up above me, the lords and nobles sit proudly guarding their ladies, whose sunlit jewels dance upon my eye, temporarily dazzling me. The fine detail upon their silks is something unknown to the rest of us. Below me, on the ground, rough, poor apprentices mingle. They cram into the floor, a whiff of ale and dirt rising from them. One yells, one jeers, one screeches like an owl. The noise is immense.

But now, the actors come on stage again. The battered wooden platform groans under the weight of the fight; too many times has it been scratched to enjoy this. A grizzly bear next to me roars, 'Come on Shakespeare, you can do better than that!' Screams from those below contribute to the

noise, until you can barely hear the actors' lines! I fidget uncomfortably upon the eighteen inches of the bench I am perched upon. The coarse board is like sandpaper; my skin feels half rubbed off! On my other side, a man digs his excessive elbows into my stomach; we are sardines, squeezed far too tight for comfort.

I am jerked back to the play by fresh cries; one of the characters lies upon the floor, eyes unseeing, dead. Salty tears enter my mouth, crowding out the sour taste of an apple, now forgotten upon the floor. I do not notice the stale stench of the cramped theatre, for Master Shakespeare has captivated me with his words. Even the columns standing tall seem to weep as one by one, the actors fall.

As the final speech ends, the crowds disperse. We leave, somehow changed inside.

Megan Whiteley Year 8

This is Megan's response to a visit to Shakespeare's Globe Theatre.

Arabella Huntington Reception



Abdullah Atif Year 1

Abdullah produced this wonderful chalk pastel observational study of Stargazer lilies as part of a cross-curricular topic on plants. He used the work of Georgia O'Keefe as his inspiration.



Creative Work

Keerthana Ganesh Year 11

Keerthana found much of her inspiration in pattern, texture and colour. This piece was created from ceramic samples that she made whilst exploring the GCSE examination theme of 'Creepy Crawly' with a focus on butterflies and the flight of insects.



Thomas Fairclough Year 12

Tom produced his own textured block to create a tessellated, Islamic-inspired pattern on the surface of his pots. He also considered shape and opening, and used oxides to create an antique finish.



This is a response to Edward Thomas's 'Adlestrop' - about how he went to fight to defend the English countryside that he loved.

Where I Belong

I leave footprints behind me as I walk,
leaving behind the sorrows,
leaving behind the worries,
leaving behind the thoughts of the war.

I soon forget about the trauma,
the village, the countryside, the world
and all the catastrophes
within and beyond.

The enemies thrash through the land
all day, every day.

I fear they will never stop,
stop destroying our countryside.

This is the only place I can be free,
sitting here alone,
where I can forget everyone and everything,
where I belong.

Charlotte Cramp Year 9

Evie Hancox Year 11

De Stijl, a bold, enticing design movement, was the starting point of Evie's project. The focus of her designs became the trio of primary colours and use of straight lines. After market research and drawing, her mirror designs were formed. Testing and modelling helped to determine the simplest, yet most effective, design. After deciding to use aluminium, the project was sent away to be welded. Evie said that the rest of the manufacturing process had its highs and lows, and was very time-consuming, but it was worthwhile when she saw the mirror formed from a drawing which, at first, had only existed in her imagination.

**Coronation Street: a TV failure**

From the second the dreary music enters my ears, I know I am in for a long ride. The dying show that is 'Coronation Street' has entered my TV. It is the decades-old, stale bread that is impossible to force down a sane audience's throat. Uncannily mimicking the show itself, the characters are killed off one by one, in an effort to convince tired viewers to bat an eyelid. Have you seen an episode within the last fortnight? If not, then all of the characters you thought you knew have died.

Most of the time, Weatherfield can appear to be the most boring place on earth, but on the occasions that its weary viewers threaten to change the channel to 'Emmerdale', the area becomes a neighbourhood of deceit, aggression and general misfortune, stretching credibility as the producers vie to keep the viewers hooked. There is such a disproportionate rate of murder in Coronation Street, that you would have to look to the more dangerous areas of South America, to find a more perilous place to live.

A train crashes one week, destroying a shop; a madman kidnaps one of the main characters the next. How can one small street experience such a consistent succession of tragedies? Is it coincidence that a murderer decides to strike, hot on the heels of a similar event having taken place in 'EastEnders'? Call me a cynic, but I think that a pattern may be emerging.

Only the thriving actors escape. The people who stay to take part in this car-crash of a show have no real commercial value and dwell in the Rovers Return Pub.

Like a seagull without wings, 'Coronation Street' struggles to feed off a more conscious audience and may soon starve from sheer lack of interest, until it vanishes from British homes once and for all.

In accordance with their ending contracts, the expended actors manage to flee to yet another waste of a television slot elsewhere. What started as a critically acclaimed soap opera series and a popular talking point among members of the public, has become a farce. Although the actors who take part in this programme come and go, the script has not survived the test of time. The writers give the same tiresome storyline to the audience time and time again: family problems, relationship issues and even the ever-present fallouts between characters.

All the real drama can be found outside the show. There is a constantly circulating storm of gossip that surrounds 'Coronation Street'. Simply glance at any supermarket magazine shelf and you will find yourself face-to-face with the show's actors. With lives more ridiculous than the storyline itself, they pour out their most private secrets in a bid to gain more attention from their bored followers and this hogwash is lapped up by many viewers. 'Coronation Street' has become a very good way to fill the empty lives of the nation's couch potatoes.

Matthew Jackson Year 10

Learning to like it

(A response to 'How to like it' by Stephen Dobyns)

Wild maple,
Auburn huckleberry,
Sugar blossom.
reds, greens, yellows, browns.
The dog finds its voice.

Come on! It pulls me.
I lurch forward.

No! I tell the dog.
I must resist,
retreat.
Get set, are you ready?

Go.
Somewhere bright and new
with the glittering lights.

I'll find it there, my light bulb,
burning bright,
my telephone.
It calls me but I cannot answer
for again, the dog is there
Saying *Let's get crazy drunk*
pulling, yanking.
Relentless ...

Emily Cook Year 13

Coast

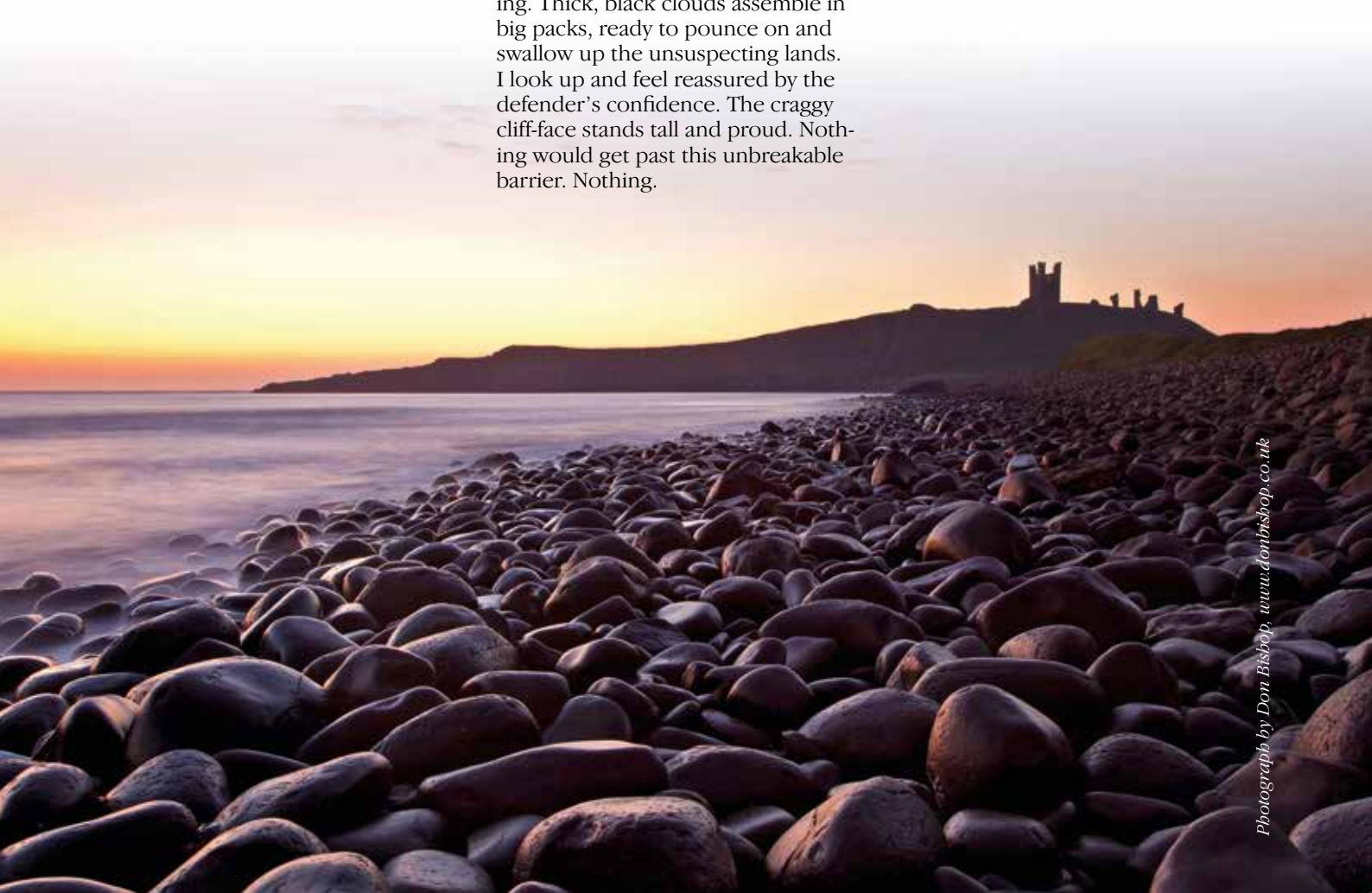
The colossal castle stands tall, totally dominating the skyline. The waves beneath, smash and crash at this titanic sea barrier, trying with all their might to break through the castle walls. All day they try, never giving up, forever relentless. But the castle still wins, stopping the waves in their tracks. Further out, I see the vast surface of the sea, warming the sea bed like a tight blanket on a cold winter's night; much more relaxed than its attacking relatives, the blanket lies still, with small creases appearing in the fabric from time to time. The sky shines down, looking into the sea like a gigantic mirror; it sees itself in the ever-moving waves. Its image is blurred; all you can see is the dull grey colour, muffled by the sea.

As I move deeper down into the castle, I find myself in a craggy dungeon. Mysterious shadows creep and crawl all over the walls, like those of the souls kept here, forgotten by all. I find myself leaning on the uneven surface, glaring into the unmistakable prison of darkness. I am shocked when I am slapped in the face by the cold, merciless wind. It shoots past like a hundred arrows, not missing anything. I look into the darkening horizon, and sense a storm developing. Thick, black clouds assemble in big packs, ready to pounce on and swallow up the unsuspecting lands. I look up and feel reassured by the defender's confidence. The craggy cliff-face stands tall and proud. Nothing would get past this unbreakable barrier. Nothing.

Enraged armies of white, battle against the cold, hard souls of the rocks. Rocky outposts slice through the surface. The soldiers now realise they've met their match and retreat to regroup. This time, twice as strong, with all guns blazing, the now-ferocious waves smash the barrier. After many hours of this, the barrier still holds, but weakened. Wind shoots past like passing bullets, whizzing through the air at great velocity. They don't miss; every target is hit and immediately affected by the cold, ferocious nature of those winds. I smell dried seaweed which has been scattered and thrown all over the beach. As I walk, the slippery rocks act as ice beneath my feet.

I like being here: I like to admire the beauty between the two sides of the battle. This is nature taking its course, which means the barriers being severely damaged as each day passes. I look up at the cliff, respecting its greatness. He is the king of these lands. He watches over everything like a beady-eyed hawk. And with that, he is a ruler. Without him, everything would be chaos, but with him, everything is balanced.

Jamie Shuttleworth Year 7



Performing Arts

Interest in the Performing Arts - in particular musical plays - begins in the Infant Division at King's. These younger children presented two Christmas productions at the end of the Autumn Term.

Pre-School and Reception performed *A Little Bird Told Me* composed by Sha Armstrong. Alex Cooper headed the cast as the Robin, speaking and singing with confidence and musicality. Patrick Busby excelled in controlling his flock of birds and the angels were beautifully portrayed by Arabella Huntington, Charlotte Baxter and Olivia McCormack. The story was narrated flawlessly by Emily Carter, Kayla Donatien and Cora Seth and all the children acted with enthusiasm and vitality. Years 1 and 2 pupils presented *A Very Magical Christmas Story* written and composed by Alison Carver. It is Christmas Eve: three children, played by Kate Piper, Frances Green and Alistair Fitzmaurice (pictured below), are given a magical book which transports them back in time. There was outstanding solo singing from Daisy Sutton, who was a memorable Mary with her pure resonant voice, Sebastian Fitzgerald and Felix Partridge. The entire cast



sang with fervour and zeal, raising the roof with the final song 'Shout Aloud, it's Christmas'.

The Goblin Next Door

Infant pupils presented *The Goblin Next Door*, a fun-filled musical by Fran Carpenter. The story is set in Fairy Dell where the Pixies, Fairies and Woodland creatures are very happy until a noisy, bad tempered goblin arrives. All the performers gave of their best: songs were rhythmic and lively and Year 2 children accompanied with percussion, whilst electric guitar was played by Grant Wallwork. Pre-School pupils were very regal woodland animals and Reception were woodland animals and Year 1 a mixture of fairies, pixies and goblins. Joseph Banks had much to learn for his role as the Goblin Man. He sang with great clarity and spoke his lines with tenacity. Felix Partridge and



Performing Arts

Rhianna Donatien, as Lord and Lady, were dignified and charming, whilst Emily Burton as Squeak the Squirrel sang her solo verse of 'Everyone Needs a Friend' with feeling and emotion. Other stars were Rosie Johnson and Daisy Sutton, who showed both musical and acting talent as fairies, and Sebastian Fitzgerald who was a most convincing leader of the pixies, Beardy. Talented instrumentalists from Year 2 also entertained with performances on a range of instruments.

Hansel and Gretel

In the autumn term, Year 4 gave a colourful and fun-filled performance of a hilarious version of the Grimm's classic: it featured the traditional characters of Hansel, Gretel, the Woodman and his wife, as well as a wicked Witch with a conscience, her wise black cat, talking woodland creatures and a cowardly lion. Toby Denton, Ruby Callaghan, Millie Crummack, Daniel Williams, Lily Cook, Jamie Pearce and Edie Waters gave very assured performances for such young children and delivered the humorous script with perfect comic timing. The many narrators spoke confidently and each class had its own featured dance whilst the whole year group sang with great enthusiasm and expertise. Favourite songs were 'Run, rabbit run' and 'The Candyman' - even the audience was encouraged to exercise its vocal chords by joining the cast to sing the community number, 'Underneath the spreading chestnut tree'. The laughter and applause communicated to the young performers that their evening's entertainment had been a hit.



Alice in Wonderland

Year 6 children gave three captivating, high-energy performances of the musical *Alice in Wonderland*. As Alice, in her various guises (played by Flossie Blackwell, Daisy Holden, May Broadley and Agnes Homer) made her wondrous journey to find the White Rabbit (Ben Sneddon), she encountered strange characters including the Dodo (Freddie Higginbotham) and his Lobster Crew, Tweedledee and Tweedledum (Jude Rossi and Luke Stevens), talking flowers, and a Caterpillar (Susie Moores). The Cheshire Cats (Mila Waseem, Christian Beeston and Zack Patterson) advised Alice to visit the Mad Hatter, March Hare and the Dormouse (William Davies, Emily Friston and Charlotte Smith) as well as the Queen of Hearts (James Bird) and the King (Bryn Barker). Year 6 pupils worked hard to perfect the many songs, dance moves and delivery of witty lines in preparation for the sell-out shows. The extremely appreciative audiences were full of praise for the children's polished performances.

Junior Concerts

In December, a choir of Year 5 and 6 pupils performed at the Macclesfield Charity Christmas Tree Festival at Park Green URC. Fay Fitzmaurice sang 'Away in a Manger' so sweetly that she brought tears to the eyes of several audience members.

The Junior Christmas Concert celebrated the hard work of all the musical ensembles. Highlights were Super Samba performing 'Samba Reggae' and Woodwind Wonders who performed a medley of Beatles' songs.

Years 3 and 4 choir were charming with their rendition of 'Do you hear what I hear?' whilst Years 5 and 6 choir closed the concert in style, singing an arrangement of 'We three Kings of Orient Are' in 5/4 time. At the Carol Service at St. Paul's Church, Year 3 sang John Rutter's 'The Colours of Christmas', Year 4 reminded us that 'Christmas isn't Christmas til it happens in your heart', Year 5 performed a lively version of the medieval song 'Gaudete' in two parts, and Year 6 presented 'Christmas Calypso' with a syncopated percussion accompaniment by Josh Rajendran and James Smith. At Easter, we visited St. Paul's Church with our Years 3 and 4 pupils. Year 4 readers delivered Bible readings and prayers very clearly. We were also treated to a song by the Choir and an arrangement of 'Lord of the Dance' by Stringstars.

The Summer Concert showcased the winners of our Year 6 music festival who performed their winning entries. Ensemble highlights were provided by Stringstars with 'The Sun Has Got His Hat On' and Guitar Ensemble's version of 'Hey Jude'. A stirring massed choir item, 'Dream On', with instrumental accompaniment, closed the concert.

A/JL

String Orchestra

With so much wind playing and jazz to set the toes tapping at King's, the String Orchestra enjoyed completing the musical menu with a beautiful repertoire spanning several centuries.

This year brought a double delight: for many years, Clare MacKinnon

has been a stalwart of the double bass section. She is, however, first and foremost, an aspiring soprano of tremendous potential. It was a highlight of the autumn term for the string players to prepare with Clare a performance of Vivaldi's beautiful motet 'Nulla in Mundo Pax Sincera'. She sang with great poise and facility, with exquisite Baroque ornamentation in the da capo section. Rachel Catlin undertook the demanding solo 'cello continuo role with impressive assurance and also gained much experience from this opportunity.

The spring brought further pleasures. Whilst many string players might cite a highly competitive game of Assassins as the highlight of their weekend in Snowdonia, the main musical thrust was to rehearse the famous Albinoni-inspired 'Adagio in G Minor' with our recently appointed organ scholar, William Fox. Two superb performances were given, in St. Michael's Church and at school. The String Orchestra responded to this expressive piece with some really rich playing; William made an impressive debut, and Laura Embrey also excelled in her performance of the substantial solo violin part.

JB

BFC Tour

The BFC's annual weekend away in June is a trip that has been enjoyed by Year 7 and 8 singers since 2006. This year, Mrs Beesley and Mrs Pyatt were joined by Mrs Smith and Miss Crockett, from the English Department, who shone in their support and didn't even seem to spot the oxymoron in the term 'Pleasure Beach!'

A day in Blackpool is a great incentive to sing in the choir, and this year's BFC lived up to the tradition of becoming soaked to the skin on Valhalla, as well as consuming the characteristically colossal cocktail of candyfloss and chips. Fortified by a good sleep at the Youth Hostel in Windermere, pupils rose to great heights on Sunday, both at the climbing wall in Kendal and in a most enjoyable concert in Cartmel Priory.

The BFC's reputation in this beautiful venue secured a warm reputation from local people, enhanced by the generous support of family and friends who travelled to hear the concert. The choir sang with both sensitivity and gusto and can feel proud of themselves for mastering repertoire



from Purcell to modern popular songs with equal conviction.

Another highlight of the occasion was the range of instrumental solos given by some of our young Music Scholars, demonstrating the breadth of musical talent with which we have the privilege to work at King's. The BFC raised £430 at this concert, for Cartmel Priory and their chosen charity, Cancer Research.

JB

King's Has Talent

In March, King's hosted its first ever talent show, based on the hugely successful 'Britain's Got Talent' format, with our own panel of judges, talented young hopefuls and live audience. Organised by the Friends of King's and a remarkable group of Sixth Formers, who planned the event, encouraged entrants, ran auditions and chose the acts for the final, the event turned out to be a wonder-

ful evening of celebration, competition and fun. The acts were fantastic, brave, professional and very varied; the judges - Mr Forbes, Mrs Broadley, Rachael Burrows-Jarvis and Kevin Dearden - provided live feedback, encouragement and humour, whilst Mr Street was a superb compère.

The show featured singers, stand-up comedians, instrumental brilliance, magicians, cheerleaders and dancers, to name just a few and give a feel for the variety of talent in the school. In addition to our competitors, a full audience was entertained by the talented Alex Voysey on guitar and our World Class Cheerleaders, with their routine from the Florida championships. The atmosphere was incredible and the sound and lighting perfected by the wonderful duo of Simon Leah and Alex Moore.

HLB



Senior Music concerts

The concert programme at King's continued with unabated momentum.

As ever, King's gave of its considered best during the act of Remembrance and William Jones' astounding playing of the 'Last Post and Reveille' in November was poised and utterly professional. Carol Services and Founders' Day Services were also moments for reflection, combined with celebration of the more meaningful aspects of our lives. The opportunity to accompany congregational and choral singing of this depth and conviction is a rare pleasure and a considerable privilege.

Gilbert and Sullivan's Savoy Operas have become something of a niche genre and, whilst immensely popular, are not now in the main stream musical theatre scene. The King's performances of 'The Pirates of Penzance' proved how wrong this omission is. The dedication of Mrs Barratt and Mr Forbes in preparing a magnificent cast and excellent orchestra ensured that the four performances were of professional quality throughout. There is something very special about events that challenge all the age groups, both genders and a vast array of differing talents to develop, support and work together in support of one goal.

King's, and the Music Department

in particular, is renowned for its community links. 'King's Sings' this year raised £2,125 to be shared between two charities. The concert included moving and stirring performances by the BFC and Foundation Choirs. There were a number of excellent soloists but most notably Sam Andresen whose singing of 'O for the wings of a dove' was truly remarkable.

The monthly lunchtime concert series at the parish church, Music At Mike's, goes from strength to strength. It gives ensembles and individual performers a chance to perform to a highly appreciative and friendly audience, many of whom travel considerable distances to be there. They enjoyed Jazz, Music for Strings, BFC, vocal and instrumental soloists, rock groups, a choir of 140 boys and staff with rock group, Barbershop singing and much more. The retiring collections from these concerts raised in excess of £2,000.

'Raise the Roof' added £1,000 to St. Michael's roofing fund. This concert featured four of our most talented musicians: Jamie Edgerton, Laura Embrey, Ellie McKenna and Kate De Campos, the Flute Choir and five of our Visiting Staff. It was a thrill to be able to accompany these stunning performers in an event which few schools could match.

I am immensely proud to have

been Director of Music at King's and have learned much in these five years. I move on knowing that the department is in very good hands. I would like to thank all of my colleagues for their support and tremendous hard work.

SJM

Tuscany

The Foundation Choir's summer tour to Tuscany enriched the lives of all who participated in it, or who came and enjoyed the concerts. Continuing the Choir's long tradition of tours throughout Europe, over sixty singers had a wonderful experience, combining a daily concert in a beautiful Italian church or cathedral with a busy schedule of sightseeing in Montecatini, Lucca, Pisa and Florence, a trip to the beach and a glorious daily indulgence of ice cream, pizza and pasta.

Fun and camaraderie went hand in hand with musical integrity. Much commitment was needed to perform from memory the varied repertoire of songs, ranging from Parry's stirring anthem, 'I was Glad', to gospel songs, Latin motets, African songs and arrangements of folk and popular songs, to the searing beauty of Mendelssohn's famous 'Hear My Prayer', with treble soloist Samuel Andresen.



There can be few things that touch the heart and soul so much as singing, and no words can do justice to the joy of working with young voices. The rewards are tangible, resulting not only in wonderful musical memories, but also in enduring relationships amongst people of all ages. The choir and staff are to be congratulated for the singing, which was beautiful and exhilarating in equal measure, and also for the loving fellowship that made this tour so very moving and memorable.

JB

The Golden Wotzit

The pantomime was written and stage-managed by the indomitable - and ubiquitous - Alex Moore. 'The Golden Wotzit' was a crazy quest tale, packed with endless cheesy jokes and admirably performed by a cast of sixteen boys from Year 8 and older. Each actor played a variety of parts in a stunning collection of costumes and frocks. They gave four rib-tickling performances in January, filling the Drama Hall on each occasion with the merry sounds that pantomime provokes.

DAF

Wind in the Willows

The Fence Avenue production, 'The Wind in the Willows,' took place in November. This adaptation by Alan Bennett of the classic tale offered all the fun and mayhem of Toad's adventures, along with a sharp, sophisticated humour only Bennett could provide.

The Hall was transformed into the River Bank, with a blue carpeted floor and artificial grass at stage level. The flats and cut-out props were beautifully painted by the Art Department with a car, boat, caravan and train expertly crafted by Gareth Steele.

Working on such a first-class set was an equally first-class cast. Over forty students from Year 8 through to Year 11 performed to a praise-worthy standard. This was an ensemble show, with whole-cast scenes incorporating songs accompanied by the very talented Sarah Catlin, who worked tirelessly to compose melodies, teach the music and accompany the cast during the run.

However, special mention must go to the four actors in the principal roles. They interacted superbly to

portray a group of friends with such disparate personalities. Rat (Olivia Watkins) and Mole (Kat Humphrey) created sensitive and believable characters whilst Badger (Emma Maxwell) was a feast for the eyes, with her detailed makeup and badger-like movement and voice. Maddy Phillips, as Toad, captured his manner, his walk, his upper-class voice with such flair and expertise that the audience believed the part was made for her. Maddy had tremendous stage presence and could prompt the audience to laugh at her impeccable comic timing, shout, cheer and interact with her. As any true professional, Maddy had the audience eating out of the palm of her hand. This was a truly uplifting show, with an outstanding, disciplined and talented cast.

LAMDA Examinations

Five Sixth Form students prepared and rehearsed for their Gold LAMDA examination: they passed with Merits and one Distinction. LAMDA candidates at FA were also very success-

ful. Six Year 11 girls took their Silver Medal: four gained Distinctions and two gained Merits. Two lower school students gained Distinctions in the Bronze Medal.

Year 7 and 8 Performance

Parents thronged into Fence Avenue to support their daughters in a wonderful drama evening.

Each Year 7 Tutor group performed a story of their choice, ranging from 'Malory Towers', 'The Demon Headmaster' to 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. They incorporated the physical and vocal skills developed in their Drama course. The Year 8 groups chose 'The Book Thief', two stories from 'The Grimm Tales' and 'Hairspray'.

This was a celebration of lower school Drama and an opportunity to showcase – and enjoy – the many skills essential for performance.

CPT



Pirates of Penzance

This project was inspired by a joint music-drama group visit to D'Oyly Carte's glitzy production at The Manchester Opera House. As everyone left the theatre humming the tunes and giggling at the Edwardian ridiculousness of the satirical story-line, it was agreed that it would be a memorable event to perform 'The Pirates of Penzance' ourselves.

April saw the realisation of months of rewarding, collaborative work between Music, Drama and Art departments. The result was a highly entertaining and well-received production of Gilbert and Sullivan's great Edwardian comic opera. More than fifty students were involved in a range of capacities from acting, choreographing and singing to working backstage on all manner of technical elements. Over four performances, they thoroughly engaged their audiences in the bizarre tale involving pirates, gentlemen, maidens, policemen and an extremely eccentric Major-General.

There were undoubted challenges – not least those involving the choreography of very many routines. Those challenges were admirably

overcome by a team of highly focused and motivated students. Abbie Richardson led the girls in skilfully working out several delightfully precise pieces for the maidens. These maidens (Caitlin Jacobsen, Anna Townley, Joanna Dyson, Lauren Garner-Jackson, Alex Swift, Kate Poyser, Olivia Hamblyn, Mioni Armstrong and Abbie herself) danced and sang with magnificently maiden-like charm. We were also grateful to Kate Hawker for her choreographic assistance.

Our other chief choreographer came in the formidable shape of George Walker. George's passion and knowledge of all things G&S allowed him to grasp many nettle-like complexities with both hands. He energetically sorted out pirates and policemen alike with stunning comic precision and his finely-tuned versions of 'When the Foeman Bares His Steel', 'When a Felon's not Engaged' and 'With Cat-like Tread' brought the house down each night of performance. His team of hapless policemen (Tom Lynch, John Le Moignan, Sam Brown, Harry Wallace and Sam Stokes led with great comic and musi-

cal precision by Henry Reavey), executed each routine with indubitable verve and jolliness. George himself gave a deliciously memorable performance as the Major-General, rendering one of the shows best-known and wittiest numbers, 'I am The Very Model of a Modern Major-General' with marvellous wit and dexterity.

We were blessed with having a wonderfully talented collection of soloists. Eleanor McKenna as the love-struck Mabel sang with glowing assurance, demonstrating superb pitch and vocal range. Will Poyser as King of the Gentlemen Pirates performed and sang with seat-shaking strength, precision and character - as did Ben Lynch who played Frederic and realised the role of the unfortunately indentured pirate with an incredible degree of maturity and aplomb. Juliette Gorb as the scheming Ruth who wants to have Frederic all to herself (despite the thirty-year age gap), fulfilled the role with mesmerising vocal and musical power. The purity of voice and acting skills of Henry Strutt as the Pirate King's right-hand man Samuel, was highly impressive, as were the



performances of other soloists Abbie Richardson, Mioni Armstrong and Henry Reavey.

Any musical production is only ever as good as its chorus and in this we were hugely fortunate to have a highly committed, willing and talented collection of boys who were our pirates. Oliver Rushton, David Jessop, Aarian Mehrabani, Blake Richardson, Angus Homer, Joe Gardner, James Thomas and Josh Clayfield gave of their all, developing their acting and musical skills considerably over the preparation and performance period.

The engine of the whole piece was of course the music; a series of colourful and dynamic pieces that have offered up so many familiar tunes and become firmly embedded in our musical psyche ever since the show was first performed in 1879. It is complex and demanding for even the most experienced of companies. But for a group with a range of musical experiences that had not tackled the like before, it required a skilled, patient and determined musical leader and such a one came in the dynamic form of Jane Barratt who rehearsed the cast and orchestra passionately, playing and shaping the music with endless resources of energy, and commitment. She was also able to assemble a fantastically musical orchestra: Linda Pyatt (piano), Hazel Browne (flute),

Andrew Green (violin), Anna Callow (trumpet), Sheena Smith and Jenna Self (bassoon), Tom Voysey (percussion) with the help of Simon Mercer as voice coach, gave so generously of their time and talent to ensure that the back-bone of the show was wonderfully vibrant and precise.

Somebody once famously said about stage managers and the back stage crew: 'They were hours before you, building the stage and they will be there hours after you, tearing it down. They should get your salary and you should get theirs'. This is perfectly true and when you add on top of that the whole business of sorting lighting, sound, costume as well as making sure as many people as possible come to as many rehearsals as possible over a period of eight months, then add to that all the countless other jobs, well, you begin to realize the massively important role played by those who do not appear on stage and who fail so often to gain the recognition they deserve. The captain of the back-stage team was of course the irreplaceable Alex Moore. Alex, once again, showed a level of maturity and organisational intelligence way beyond the years of any Sixth Former (or fully grown adult for that matter!). To him and all his team a great deal of gratitude is owed: Ollie Macfadyen, Andrew Massey, Alex

Voysey on lights and sound along with Ken Tomlinson, Emily Mort, Jack Lucas, Paul Roberts, Sam Andresen, George Williams and Alex Campbell all played crucial roles as 'the technical crew'. Malvika Acharya sorted and organised costumes, working alongside the indispensable wardrobe mistresses, Terri Marshall, Elaine Goulbourn and Rheanne Beresford. Debbie Inman and Debbie Threlfall found the time to make and construct a set which perfectly represented the mood and themes of our merry romp. As ever, Danni Vickerstaff, Head of Lighting at The New Vic Theatre in Stoke-on-Trent, provided an ambient and entirely atmospheric lighting design, as well as offering priceless training to the tech crew throughout the planning and rigging process.

It was my privilege to direct all this talent and offer a bit of glue to bind these fine people together. Creating this show was a particularly collaborative and joyful process. Everyone from Year 7 through to Year 13, as well as many staff, played their parts inspiringly and produced four performances that genuinely glittered with many memorable jewels of wit, vivacity and musicality.

DAF



Spotlight on Biology

King's Biology Department had a busy and successful year. Having joined as Head of Department in September, I was keen to continue the excellent academic and extra-curricular activities that the Department offers.

This year saw a group of talented Year 13 students, led by Richard Southern, take over the reins of the Cumberland Street Biology Club. They planned and delivered enjoyable and informative sessions for a group of Year 9 boys, including dissections, microscopy work and a gruelling lunchtime clearing out the pond. The student-run club was such a success that a group of Year 12 students are ready to take on the role next year, and we look forward to seeing how the club develops under their leadership.

The Fence Avenue Zoology Club continued to thrive, as large numbers of girls flocked to the Biology lab two lunchtimes each week, to see the many snakes, geckos and fish that share the departmental habitat. The girls enjoyed handling the snakes and geckos and have taken responsibility for their care, cleaning out the tanks and ensuring they are fed and watered. Mrs Broadley believes these may be the best-kept snakes in Macclesfield.

The Year 13 students enjoyed a day at the Nowgen Centre at Manchester University, gaining experience of working in a real laboratory to extract and isolate their own DNA. This workshop enhanced their understanding of genetic techniques and the rigours of scientific study. The students represented the school well, as they were praised by the centre staff for their mature approach to the work, their thoughtful questions and knowledgeable answers.

We were delighted to welcome Dr Greg Rossi, father of Jasper, Saffron and Jude, to join the Year 9 biologists at the Girls' Division for an afternoon in May. Dr Rossi (pictured), an expert in the field of drug development, provided a highly informative and



inspiring presentation to the girls. He explained in detail the processes involved in the development of new medicines and the many issues surrounding it. The girls were full of fabulous questions (as always) and they were clearly fascinated by the material being presented.

In January, a group of Year 13 students took part in the British Biology Olympiad, a national competition challenging students to answer questions outside the scope of the A-Level specification. These students certainly did themselves and the Department proud; between them, they were awarded an array of certificates: two Gold, two Silver, three Bronze, two Highly Commended and a Commended. Particular mention must go to Anna Townley and Julia Smith; with their Gold certificates, they were amongst the top 7% of students who took part in the competition. This was a fabulous result, and our best achievement in the Olympiad for many years.

The current Year 12 students are looking forward to the residential Field Trip in North Yorkshire in September. This is a new trip for the department and will allow students to gain first-hand experience of ecological techniques such as sampling along rocky shores, trapping small mammals, and studying pig and cattle farming methods.

This was a busy, enjoyable year, thanks to the efforts of our staff and students, and it was crowned with outstanding success in both GCSE and A-Level examinations in the summer.

EAH



Spotlight on Business Studies & Economics

All Change in the Department

With Miss Whalley departing for Hong Kong and Mr Livingstone heading back to Liverpool, it was all change this year for the Economics & Business Department. We were delighted to welcome Mr Williams and Mr White, who joined the department.

Target 2.0 Competition

Pupils Max Hayward, Tom Mort, Simon Fullerton and Alex Dyson presented their plans for the economy to representatives of the Bank of England. The Target 2.0 competition asks A-Level economics students to consider the current state of the economy and to advise the Bank on what to do with the exchange rate. The four students involved spent weeks researching different economic variables in the UK, in order to reach a decision. Among the areas they focused on were house price rises, energy prices, the potential for growth in the economy and the effects of quantitative easing. Max, Tom, Simon and Alex worked together to create a detailed proposal, recommending that the interest rate remain the same and that quantitative easing be reduced. The students also put a lot of effort into preparing their presentation and making forecasts for future actions - several of which have since been replicated by the Bank of England. At the competition in November, the students gave an impressive and detailed presentation, with judges commending their detailed work on quantitative easing. Whilst the boys were narrowly beaten to the next round, they did King's proud with an admirable performance.

King's of Commerce

This year saw the launch of the department's student magazine, aptly named 'King's of Commerce'. The idea behind the magazine was to allow students the freedom to research and write about any business

or economics topic in which they expressed an interest, to enrich their wider understanding. The launch and development of the magazine was masterfully orchestrated and managed under the stewardship of Year 13 pupil Sam Collier.

The magazine received wide critical acclaim from students, teachers, and parents. There have been publications on a comprehensive range of articles and a willingness to tackle interesting issues based on such themes as success and failure, ethics, or the 2020 Vision for King's. There have been feature interviews with the Head, 'vox pop' on what defines success, articles on everything from the economic crisis to Fairtrade, China, business profiles on Apple, the future of the high street, right through to Flappy Bird, FUT and a story about an innovative fire-fighting robot.

The Magazine has empowered and enriched students, enabling them to develop further an independent insight into the world of Business and Economics. We are sure that next year's magazine will be even better under the stewardship of our new co-editors, Evie Kilford and Sophie Elton. Issues are available on the website.





Young Enterprise

Once again it was an extremely successful year for our Sixth Formers, who were keen to make waves in the business world. Our budding business moguls won the prize for Best Overall Company at the Liverpool Group Invitational Enterprise competition, with a tried and tested formula guaranteed to bring in the bucks. Their King's Calendar brought in £510 in advertising, with local businesses paying up to £50 to sponsor a month. The creative team then took the photographs and laid out the design, before paying a local printer to produce the calendars. At the same event, our other team scooped the prize for Best Presentation, having a slick pitch and standing up well to cross examination from the judging panel.

After the experience of setting up and running a real business for a year, the students emerged better equipped for the world of work, with an understanding of the trials and tribulations involved in becoming an entrepreneur.

Lionheart Challenge

The Lionheart Challenge was a day-long project to come up with a specific product or service in an industry that was chosen for us (in this case the fitness, diet and wellbeing industry). We had to present every aspect of our business ideas to a panel of

judges and our competitors and were judged on the soundness and efficacy of different aspects of our business.

I found this challenge intriguing because we expanded our knowledge on all the different aspects of running a business. I enjoyed the aspect of working with other people with whom I wouldn't usually work, whilst working as a team brought different strengths together to good effect. I found the experience interesting because I had to be creative and think outside of the box to come up with an exceptionally unusual product that may have not been thought of before. I also enjoyed the presentation element to the task, as it gave me an opportunity to speak in front of an audience about something that I enjoyed doing. The Lionheart Challenge highlighted different aspects of running a business and what you have to focus on and prioritise, if you think you might wish to run a successful business in the future.

Harrison Blake 10DACW

JSM



Spotlight on Geography

The return of Year 13 pupil George Wood from Japan, (having secured third place for the UK in the World Geography Olympics), heralded another very busy academic year for King's Geography Department.

King's regional prominence for Geographical excellence continues apace, and building on last year's victory in the Manchester and Cheshire Geographical Association's Sixth Form United Nations Food Security Debating Competition, King's fielded its first ever GCSE NW Worldwide Quiz team (pictured right). Paul Roberts, Maitre Patel, David Jessop and Zachary Howdle, all from Year 10, finished 3rd and we have no doubt will be back next year to claim the top spot.

What we do best – Geographers out and about

Geography focuses on the study of the earth and human interaction with it, so what better place to study it, than in the field? Field trips this year had a local feel, ranging from North Wales, to Liverpool and the Peak District.

Year 12 and Year 13 Geographers visited Snowdonia, with Year 12 students braving the horizontal rain to review the impacts of Haul y Gwynt wind farm and, since they were already soaked, to get into the river Nant Perris to test the variables that influence downstream velocity, with the epic arête of Crib Goch and then invisible Snowdon towering above. At a later date, they tested how all this rain enters the river systems using Liverpool University's run-off simulation tank. The Year 13s, in contrast, had a balmy day by the beach (below) at Morfa Harlech sand dunes on the West Wales coast, to study vegetation



succession. Both trips, as well as being great fun, were a central component of the A-Level examination series.

We ordered the sunny weather again when the Year 11s were astounded at the scale of Cwm Idwal's glacial landforms and for the Year 10s when they visited Castleton for their GCSE controlled assessment data collection day. Here questionnaires were asked, land-use categorised, footpath erosion measured and a few ice creams devoured. However, the weather was irrelevant for our visit to see stalagmites and stalactites at Poole's Cavern, Buxton and during our trip to the Blue Planet, Chester where Year 9 became budding nature presenters on TV, creating movies on the numerous salt and freshwater ecosystems.

Changing of the guard

This year saw a new recruit being integrated into King's Geography Department: Mr Tom Cawthorn from Merchant Taylors' School, Crosby. Much to his credit, Tom forged ahead, leading key areas within the department, including organising King's





participation in the Sixth Form Manchester University evening Geography lectures, playing a central role in the revision of the department's marking and assessment programme and delivering many an engaging lesson – plate tectonic theorists via Cluedo and 'Who Done It?' spring to mind. May we also take this opportunity to congratulate Mr Paul Halewood on his retirement: he added much to King's lower school Geography over many years; one abiding memory is him being carried by a former Year 13 pupil over a wet slack on a dunal ecosystem in order to save his new boots.

Exciting plans afoot

King's Geography has a tradition of visiting awe-inspiring locations around the world to enthuse those taking part in all matters geographical and I do not think there was anyone who failed to be inspired by the Grand Canyon/West Coast of the USA, Geysers in Iceland and the young fold mountains of the French Alps. Next year is no different, with our Easter trip taking in the volcanic wonders of Mt Vesuvius and Mt Etna in Southern Italy and Sicily respectively.

Additionally, and facilitated by the school's new curriculum, we will see Year 7 pupils assessing regeneration possibilities in Macclesfield's town centre, while Year 8 will study first-hand the coastal management processes at Formby and New Brighton on the Wirral. Finally, an emerging field of employment within the broad-ranging entity that is Geography, is Geographical Information Systems (GIS) – essentially spatial mapping using advanced ICT programmes (Arcview). Pupils will be exposed to the required techniques as the year progresses. Follow every development on our twitter page - @KingsMaccGeog!

Enterprising new initiatives

The restructuring of the Year 7 - 9 Geography programme was completed this year: Year 8 now study the often confusing and contrasting arguments behind climate change, design homes for sustainable living and evaluate the nuances of the micro-weather conditions around the school, whilst Year 9 generate smart phone apps to provide assistance in the event of a tsunami. The success of this overhaul was marked by a 9% increase in the number of pupils who continue to study geography at GCSE level.

Spotlight on German



As Goethe wrote: 'To be pleased with one's limits is a wretched state.' For pupils studying German at King's, there is no danger of this.

Trips to Germany

In July, the annual trip to the Rhineland took 18 Year 8 and 9 pupils to experience German culture and way-of-life at first-hand.

My Trip to Rheinland

On the first day of the holiday, we took a tour to Marksburg Castle, the only undamaged castle left in the area, a boat trip on the River Rhein and a cable car ride to see a war memorial. We also viewed the point where the River Rhein and River Moselle meet.

On the second day, which was most pupils' favourite, we went to 'Phantasieland', a popular German theme park, where we spent the day on rides ranging from adrenaline-rushing to relaxing.

On the final day, we went to the city of Köln, where we had a chance

to explore the magnificent cathedral and shops, visited the Eau de Cologne museum, had a tasty tour of the Lindt chocolate museum and an interesting tour of the Olympic Sports museum. We had the evening to ready ourselves for the journey home, before a short 'Trip Awards' ceremony, which included something for everyone, ranging from 'Best use of German during the Trip' to 'Best Cowboy Hat'.

I really recommend this trip to younger years; it's amazing and I've made some lasting friends and memories.

Helen Nixon 9LB

Twenty-four pupils in Years 10 -13 were proud pioneers, participating in the new German exchange programme with the Salvatorkolleg in Bad Wurzach, in the beautiful southern state of Baden Württemberg. In terms of linguistic benefits, the advantages are enormous – recent research has shown that progress of one GCSE grade or more can be made within a week's immersion stay in Germany.



Other Trips

Year 11 Gifted & Talented Germanists were given the opportunity to attend Leeds University to participate in some university-style workshops based on the German film 'Die Welle'.

In addition, Year 12 students visited Manchester Metropolitan University for a day of lectures and workshops based around the A-Level topics and intended as preparation for A2. Students attended talks on German pronunciation, writing and talking about film (specifically 'Goodbye, Lenin'), and subtitling a German film, as well as having an introduction to the benefits of studying languages at university.

Drama

Girls involved in the lunchtime Märchen-theatergruppe at Fence Avenue staged a fantastic performance of *Aschenputtel* (Cinderella, pictured right) in front of an invited audience of pupils, staff, parents, and the playwright himself, Mr John Nolan, a well-loved former German teacher at King's. Everyone commented on how enjoyable the play was, and the fluency and level of the girls' language was particularly commended.



In addition, pupils from Years 9 -13 enjoyed the play *Erster Eindruck*, performed by the touring German theatre company, Onatti, in the Fence Avenue hall. The pupils found the play very entertaining and were surprised by how much they could understand. This was followed by language workshops led by staff, and pupils commented how useful the afternoon had been.

Clubs & Activities

Prospective A-Level students from Years 10 and 11 were invited on a half-termly basis to our Stammtisch, to work with existing Sixth Formers and native speakers within the department. Held at lunchtimes, workshop activities included figurative language, pronunciation and deciphering the longest German words, and were very well-received.

Michael Rauch, the German assistant, led a weekly session with Sixth Form Germanists to focus on speak-

ing skills, covering students' own interests, namely film and literature. The students enjoyed and greatly benefitted from this extra input in an informal and relaxed environment, including a trip to watch *Die Welle* at Macclesfield Film Society's Silk Screen Cinemac.

The German Junior Club met on a fortnightly basis in the Junior Division, giving a small group of Year 5 and 6 pupils an enticing taste of German. This included two visits to Fence Avenue; one was to use the superb facilities in the language lab and the second to watch the dress rehearsal of *Aschenputtel*. Additional highlights during the year were two sessions delivered by Michael Rauch: one on Christmas in Switzerland and a second on traditional Swiss songs for children.

In addition, triple linguists amongst Year 9 girls, visited the Junior Division to deliver an entertaining performance of *Der Gruffelo*.

The boys' German Club continued to work on the wonderful Projekt Austauschpaket, to promote bi-cultural exchange and partnership between King's and the Mittelschule Katzwang in Nuremberg. The boys received a Christmas box from the partner school, where former German assistant, Stine Detlefsen, teaches, and returned an 'English' box containing typical English foods, and information particularly about the traditional English breakfast.

Competitions

Pupils entered several high-profile competitions, including the UK Linguistics Olympiad, in which both Year 12 participants secured a Bronze award, as well as the Oxford German Olympiad '1914' activities. Students also competed in the Stephen Spender Prize for Poetry in Translation and the Goethe-Institut 'Digital Days' competitions.

MSTH



Events & Activities

Year 2 Portland Basin Museum

Year 2 enjoyed a Victorian-themed visit to the Portland Mersey Basin Museum. On arrival, the pupils were met by a very stern school mistress! They spent the morning in the Victorian schoolroom, taking part in Reading, Writing and Arithmetic. They saw and



heard the cane being used and had to become accustomed to being called by their surnames. All the children thought it most unfair that the education of the boys was seen as far more important than the girls and left-handed writers tried very hard to use their right hands, as instructed.

In the afternoon, pupils took part in jobs that children would have done in Victorian times. The first was as a servant in a house followed by a stint of farm work. The children also worked in a coal mine and in a mill, where they learned that if they were too slow in a task, they could easily lose a finger. The activities were presented in an entertaining way, which showed pupils the differences between life in the past compared with today. At the end of the afternoon, they were asked to choose whether they would have liked to work or go to school in Victorian times and, though two children felt that they would have preferred to work, they did admit that a 16-hour day sounded very demanding. All were relieved to

board the coach, knowing that they were returning to the comforts of 21st-century living.

CW

Infant and Junior Book Week

During Book Week, Infant and Junior pupils enjoyed exciting and stimulating activities to enhance and enrich their learning. On the first morning, pupils were astonished to find an 'alien object' which had apparently landed near to The Gables. The pupils created some very imaginative writing in response to the experience. In the afternoon, they met with the Professor and Agent G again to act out possible scenarios relating to the alien object. 2 Boards & A Passion Theatre Company led this activity throughout the day.

On Tuesday, the non-fiction author, John Malam visited (pictured below). He described the process of writing a book, beginning with a phone call from an editor. The children were fascinated to discover how pages are laid

out for print and to learn that it takes about twelve months to produce a book. John appeared in character later in the day as Frederick Horsnell, a young soldier who fought in the First World War. He read extracts from the letters that Fred wrote to his family; these tell of his search for the grave of his brother Charles, the horror he felt when he was accused of shirking his duty following an injury and his pride in being awarded the Military Medal. Year 5 and 6 pupils wrote letters, imagining that they too were soldiers in the war.

Many other activities took place during the week. Some classes visited Macclesfield Library, others spent time with other year groups sharing their favourite books. The children entered book competitions and on the final day, each pupil dressed up as a book character. During an assembly, children showed a selection of work that had been completed during the activities. This was a fitting end to a very inspiring and imaginative week.

ES



Bikeability

Now in its third year for Year 6 and second for Year 5, the take-up of cycling proficiency training has increased again. The vast majority of last year's Level 1 trainees in Year 5 went on to take Level 2 this year in Year 6.

The Year 5s spent half a day learning safe bike-handling skills and picked up some basic bike maintenance skills. Despite the rainy conditions, all participants were delighted at the end to be awarded their Level 1 certificates and badges.

Level 2 training for Year 6 ran over two days, with the focus on road awareness and experience. With six pupils each, the instructors wasted little time in getting their groups out onto Fence Avenue and into Hurdsfield, negotiating all junctions and parked cars safely whilst riding responsibly and efficiently. Classroom workshops, given later in the Summer Term on Road Safety and Bike Maintenance (from Cheshire Fire and Halfords respectively) complemented effectively the practical nature of Level 2 Bikeability.

SPCT

Year 5 Trip to Northern France

Forty-one Year 5 pupils experienced an exhilarating trip to Northern France. Each day was packed with cultural and language-enriching experiences and, back at the Chateau, evening activities included an Olympic games, a scavenger hunt in the stunning grounds and a disco on the final night. During their stay the children learnt so much: how to make 'proper' mayonnaise (the French way!); how to converse with stall holders in the street market in Étapes; how goat's cheese is traditionally made on a rural farm; how to order their own drink in a café and how boiled sweets are still traditionally made in a small family business. And all was communicated in French. For some, the most memorable day was spent in a more sombre atmosphere: the party was given a tour around the Newfoundland Memorial Park by two young Canadian guides before visiting the Thiepval Memorial to the 72,000 missing of the Somme battlefields. Another highlight was a trip to the world-famous aquarium in Boulogne, 'Nausicaa', where the children were delighted by a sea-lion show and amazed by



the variety of sea-life that they could observe at very close quarters. Each child returned with his or her own very special memories of a wonderful time in France.

AMJ

Year 6 Hollowford Centre

Fifty-nine pupils and seven staff enjoyed 48 hours of thrills, nerves, laughter and exhilaration, in and around Castleton. The cooler, damper weather hardly mattered on Friday

evening with most groups building – then 'sailing' – their own rafts or going underground to explore some of the Peak District's extensive cave systems:

The raft was harder to put together than I thought, but after a few rope burns it was good to go.

Susie Moores

I enjoyed building our raft because we all worked together – then we all jumped in!

Lauren Harbige



Events & Activities



I had to have two emergency Tuc biscuits from Mr Thomas to get me to the summit of Mam Tor.

Andrew David

Along with the caving and the hill walk, the 70-foot abseil from Millers Dale viaduct over the River Wye, was the other off-site activity:

I found the abseil over the bridge the hardest because I didn't know what to expect. I felt really nervous when I was at the top because of how high up it was. I was more reassured when I got to the middle of the bridge and was so happy when I reached the end because I had actually completed it.

Jacob Baxter

When we got onto the raft, we all knew that it would fail, but surprisingly our raft was successful.

Louis Adkins

Caving was a geography lesson that you could not only listen to, but touch and feel too.

Misba Higham

The caving was really challenging because you had to squeeze through some really tight spots.

Joe Tabachnik

We went on a massive walk up into the clouds.

Archie Cracknell



On-site, the high ropes course had variety and challenge galore for even the most sure-footed Spiderman impersonator:

One high ropes activity involved four people climbing up onto a podium and leaning back to make a star shape.

Amanda Vel

I could feel the adrenaline rushing through me as four of us had to lean back off a high pole while holding hands.

Joe Tabachnik

I really enjoyed the Leap of Faith. The nerves started kicking in when I had to jump.

James Smith

The high ropes were amazing, especially the Leap of Faith. I was nervous about making the star in the group of four and when I climbed up on the pole I was hanging on for dear life!

Lauren Harbige

Particularly impressive this year, was the fact that not one person failed to complete the abseil or a caving section, testament to the patience, dedication and encouragement of the instructors, accompanying staff - and the pupils themselves.

SPCT



Jersey Sports Tour

Thirty three Year 6 pupils enjoyed this five-day tour, which included rugby and netball coaching clinics, a tournament, and afternoon and evening excursions and activities.

Jersey was bathed in sunshine for the entire visit and this helped to make this a special and memorable trip. The island is small and compact with beautiful beaches and lovely countryside – it's an ideal destination.

The sports' coaching in both netball and rugby was of a good standard and all pupils developed their skills in a positive atmosphere amongst new friends. Pupils worked really hard and were commended on their attitude, behaviour and ability.

The boys were based at Jersey Rugby club and the girls at a new indoor Netball Centre - both were ideal. The final morning of sport saw our teams compete in the 'Jersey Games', playing in a tournament format. All received medals for their participation and one of the boys' teams was very proud to win the event and receive the trophy, with the other Year 6 team finishing as runner-up.

Excursions included the Gerald Durrell Conservation Zoo, where King's adopted an otter called Bintang, and also to an Aqua Centre: both trips were a great success with the children. They also enjoyed an afternoon of games on one of the superb beaches: playing with 32 friends in such lovely surroundings,

with just a brief interlude for a Jersey ice-cream, was voted great fun.

It was an action-packed few days and the enthusiastic and energetic tourers coped brilliantly with the itinerary; their last evening at the awards 'beach party' celebration was certainly a very energetic affair and a fitting way to complete the tour.

DCB

Girls' House Activities

Fence Avenue was a hive of activity within the House System. There were 25 exciting competitions: the aim was to cater for all and have lots of fun!

Mathematicians enjoyed Suduko, Kakuro and the Killer Quiz. Sports-women fought hard in House Hockey, Netball, Rounders and on Sport's Day. Musicians warbled in Christmas Song Competitions. Artists put their creative skills to good use as they created a canvas masterpiece in 20 minutes with the theme 'Girl Power' and decorated huge sponge cakes with a 'House' theme. Both, as you can imagine, were immensely messy.

The quick and agile raced to the cups in the Speed Stack. Book lovers relished their involvement in the Book Quiz. Scientists flooded to the Hall for the ever-popular Science Quiz and linguists for the Language Quiz. Year 11 enjoyed University Challenge, whilst the Photography and the Poetry Competitions added further breadth to our House Annual Itinerary. Academic excellence and hard



work were also rewarded with many merits.

Amongst all these activities, girls particularly enjoyed the Fence Avenue tradition of the Gym and the Cheer-leading Competitions, which saw girls flying through the air. The themed 'Seasons' Fashion Show was breathtaking, funny and the outfits created were exquisite.

On top of all this, there was the first 'Raid My Wardrobe' event, which raised a colossal £1,200 for Teenage Cancer Trust, Medcare and Make A Wish charities.

The winning House for 2013/14 was Adlington.

HLB



Outdoor Activities

In contrast to previous years, the first trip was water-borne and saw 13 pupils and three staff set off for deepest Shropshire to take a canoe journey down the Severn. A long first day enabled a lot of skills to be covered in the Canadian canoes, such as rafting up, and breaking into and out of eddies. It was such a good weekend for weather, with early mist rising on Sunday followed by warm sunshine. There was no battle this year with resident swans and on day two, a sedate journey was made to finish in Shrewsbury before the trip back to Macclesfield. However, the second trip in the Autumn Term was much more taxing. A wet departure from Macclesfield was accompanied by hail showers and an arrival in Yorkshire to discover the heating had failed. Lots of wrapping up plus an old electric heater got us through the night. The morning caving group did the Ribblehead caves, whilst the others summited Pen-y-gent in the mist and snow. We avoided heavy showers at lunchtime by being in the café, then in the afternoon the older cavers did a very interesting trip down Sell Gill Holes avoiding more heavy showers which the others got whilst orienteering. Fortunately the heating was back on at the bunkhouse and the next day was peerless: blue sky, light frost, no wind. A fantastic morning – the cavers

did Sunset Hole quickly and enjoyed the warm walk whilst the others climbed Ingleborough from Ingleton and back; we were all reunited for the customary café feast before returning home.

For our first trip of 2014, a wet and windy weekend was forecast in the Lake District, so when the group headed out on Saturday morning and it was dry with a hint of blue, everyone had high hopes, despite the rising wind. However, as we headed out towards Whiteside Bank, the gusts got stronger and began to push us around as we climbed. Then the showers began and the wind howled. At the crest of the ridge we had to lie flat to avoid being thrown bodily across the hillside and we took advantage of brief lulls to run towards shelter. In increasingly bad weather, we contoured around Raise to Sticks Pass. Brighter and drier weather came for an hour or two, but the wind did not drop and it was still gusting around 60mph on the summit of Sheffield Pike before the next big snow shower came by. In the morning, the wind was even stronger and the rain sluiced by in curtains. We left and headed to Grizedale Forest for a very wet walk in amongst the trees.



As we returned to the minibuses, the rain stopped and sunlight broke through.

After half term, the weather improved considerably and the canoeing weekend in mid-March was dry and largely sunny. The group spanned Years 7-11, with some pupils on their first trip. The outdoor centre in Penmachno proved a good base and on the Saturday morning the group headed to the estuary by Portmeirion to board their boats. On Sunday, the cloud-covered hills of Snowdonia were left behind, for the sun-kissed dunes of Newborough Warren, where Mr O'Donnell set up a challenging orienteering circuit. The overall winners were Jonathan Provis and David Jessop, closely followed by their other Year 10 colleagues.

In April, a mini bus full of ice axes, crampons, warm hats and climbing gear headed north to Ben Nevis Youth Hostel. Over 5 days, the team



summitted six of the Scottish Munros, including a tricky winter ascent of Ben Nevis via No. 4 Gully. The team experienced blisters, swollen ankles, challenging weather conditions, teamwork and friendship as well as a great deal of hard work and determination.

Day one saw the group successfully cross 'Steall Bridge', a precarious wire bridge needing some careful foot placements and rope work. The party went on to summit three mountains, Am Bodach, An Gearanach and Stob Coire a'Chairn each requiring crampons and ice axes plus some careful navigation and decision making.

Day two and three comprised the overnight expedition. After crossing Caingorm summit, the group successfully executed several ice axe arrest techniques, including a daring 'face first' run achieved by Jamie Edgerton. Lunch was taken in some snow caves dug into the mountain side, then the

route continued off the mountain to the bothy at Fords of Avon. The following morning after an 'inconsistent' night's sleep, the team packed up and headed up to summit Bynack More (in extremely cold and windy conditions) and then down the long descent before enjoying hot chocolate in Aviemore.

The final day saw everyone head out to Ben Nevis. After a three hour steady plod up the main public footpath, the team diverted to the summit and, equipped with ice axes, crampons, climbing equipment and helmets, headed east around the back of Ben Nevis. The team then successfully climbed No.4 Gully up to the summit. This was tiring work for everyone and the snow-filled gully was made trickier by poor visibility. After eating lunch in the emergency shelter at the top, they continued down the path through poor visibility to

what was considered by many to be the highlight of the expedition: Red Burn. This is a 300m long gully completely filled with snow; in the right conditions the total descent can be achieved in less than 10 minutes with the correct 'epic bum sliding' technique. As visibility was good enough to see from the top of the gully to the bottom, the team were able to bum slide the entire length of the gully, ice axes in hand. It was a thousand times more thrilling and hilarious than a theme park!

The last trip of the year was for Coasteering and Manhunt, based on Anglesey at a superb campsite. Early heavy rain gave way to bright sunshine, which lasted most of the weekend. A good time was had by all, despite the large swell running in the sea. It felt a bit like summer had arrived!

PME

Physics trip to CERN

In December, twenty-six A-level Physics students and three staff went to Geneva to see CERN, the largest particle accelerator in the world. Students and staff explored two museums which explore and explain the history and physics behind CERN. We ate lunch in a canteen often frequented by Nobel prize-winners and heard a lecture in the room where the discovery of the Higgs Boson was announced. Next, we visited the site – in France – where the magnets, which bend the particles being accelerated,

are constructed. We also had a tour of the particle detector ATLAS, which is used to detect antimatter. Fittingly, we relaxed that evening with 'Gravity' in 3D. On the last day of our brief tour, we did some sight-seeing in the old part of Geneva, where we visited the cathedral. One of the students started the spectacular fountain in Lake Geneva, the Jet d'Eau.

The trip was most enjoyable and brought to life the particle physics work that the students had studied in school.

SJH





The Duke of Edinburgh Award programme is designed to help equip young people with the skills to succeed in life. Research shows that DofE enriches the lives of all young people taking part in it, helping to develop the whole person – mind, body and soul – in an environment of social interaction and team working.

King's is one of the largest Directly Licensed DofE Centres in the UK, and certainly the largest in the North West. Increasing numbers of King's pupils are undertaking the awards as a way of enriching their CVs and university application forms, as well as gaining a huge range of experiences and life skills, whilst having fun and making a contribution to their wider community.

In 2013-14, there were 15 Gold, 57 Silver and 82 Bronze Awards achieved by King's pupils. Paul Bartle, who is in charge of the DofE Scheme at King's, says: 'The Duke of Edinburgh awards

are hard-earned and demand dedication, determination and a strong social conscience. They are also masses of fun and hugely inspiring for young people. The scheme perfectly complements life at King's, supporting our aims to challenge our pupils to aspire, work hard and achieve great things and to raise ambitious, confident and well-rounded individuals, who play a full role in the wider community.'

To complete the Bronze and Silver Awards, students have to undertake four types of activity: Volunteering, Physical, Skills, Expedition and, for Gold level, an additional Residential activity. Over the last 5 years, King's pupils have begun more than 1,000 awards, during which they have clocked up in excess of 20,000 hours of voluntary work to help other people, the community, the environment, charities, animals, or coaching and teaching. They have also learnt an array of skills including cooking, astronomy, keeping livestock, photography, first aid, car mechanics and many more.

Robert Nowak (pictured) is one of a number of pupils who has been working hard to complete his Gold Award, having already completed previous awards which saw him volunteer in a charity shop, pursue karate and mountain-biking and learn new

skills such as driving and cooking.



Imogen McCance (pictured) completed her Bronze Award, having undertaken sports leadership, netball, horse handling and care, as well as her expedition.



In October 2014, ten former students of King's were invited to St James's Palace to receive their Gold Award. They were: Michael Barratt, Rachel Dimery, Becky Grimes, Anton Petho, Fran Pieczarka, Dominique Roberts, Jonathan Sampson, Alex Swift, Anna Townley and Sean Wilson. The Headmaster was also presented with a certificate in recognition that King's is the first Duke of Edinburgh Centre in the country to achieve 100 award completions in one year.

JPB/CJ



Greece Trip

During the Easter holidays, Mr Houghton, Mr Halewood and Mrs Halewood accompanied a group of Latin students from Years 9 to 12. They journeyed around Greece for five days, visiting ancient sites such as the Temple of Poseidon, the Acropolis and the Oracle of Delphi.

Having slept for most of the journey from Manchester, we awoke to a blazing sun, beating down upon the hard Greek concrete. However, our journey was not yet over, and we reached our first site before even checking into a hotel. The Temple of Poseidon itself was not in very good condition, but its details were still fascinating. The setting was stunning, as the temple backed onto the glistening blue sea, and the cliff face provided a steep drop to the ocean below. Afterwards, we went to our hotel and then had a look around Athens' town centre and the shops it had to offer. Though not as culturally rich as the temple, they provided entertainment and cheap souvenirs.

The next day, we visited one of the most iconic structures in Greece: the Acropolis. From below, the masterpiece looked no less mighty than it did from up close, and the trek up the hill provided almost as much history as the destination itself. There were theatres and small temples, such as that of Dionysus, and the area was peppered with information boards. Luckily, we arrived early in the morning and the place was relatively quiet. Proceeding through the ancient stone arches, the temple of Athene Nike loomed over us, and upon reaching the Parthenon, we all had to stop and take in the view. It was in incredible condition, and preservation work was being done. Mr Houghton pointed out that the architect had signed one of the pillars. The journey back down was more awkward, as hordes of tourists had filled the walkways and staircases, but making it out alive, we entered the museum. Inside, were many pieces of intricate carving that were too delicate to leave outside, although much of it had been replicated, due to that fact that the originals were in the British Museum, (as we were told, repeatedly).

After this visit, another coach journey took us to the town of Delphi, where we arrived after dark. The small town was illuminated by tiny

lights, and the serene tranquillity contrasted with the bustling city we had just left. The buildings reminded me of the type you might find in the Alps, and the place had a very homely, cosy feel. The site we visited the next day was no less pleasant. The Oracle of Delphi sat in the side of a hill, surrounded by trees and wildflowers. We were told that a priestess would sit in one of the lower chambers and inhale 'divine fumes', predicting the future. The same day, we visited Olympia, and one of the first Olympic stadiums in existence. We wandered around the area, capturing the images with our cameras and even having our own little race. Having had our fill of intense sports, we returned to the hotel, retrieved our bags, and travelled on. Our penultimate stop, not including our return to Athens, was Bassae, which had a temple hidden in a tent atop a very large hill. Inside,

they played strange music, and the tent was too hot, but the Temple of Apollo was in fantastic condition because of it. The rooms and pillars were all clearly visible, which made imagining the place in ancient times much easier and more vivid.

Finally, in Tolon we stopped to see the Canal of Corinth, which was a breath-taking sight, even if it was man-made. The hotel was the best we had stayed in. The rooms had balcony views onto the sea, and the shopping street was filled with pleasant cafes and ice cream shops, and was just lively enough to make the bustle pleasurable. Our final night was spent eating delicious ice cream on our balconies, playing cards in the cool night breeze. Returning home, we were greeted by jealous family members, desperate for a glimpse of the wondrous time we had spent in Greece

Bradley Greatrex-Jordan 10PJP



Rugby Tour to South Africa

Fifty two pupils, accompanied by five staff and a sports therapist, left King's this summer to spend a remarkable two and a half weeks on a rugby tour of South Africa. The boys played twelve games across the country, starting in Pretoria and Johannesburg, flew to Port Elizabeth and then along the Garden Route, before finishing in the beautiful city of Cape Town. They contested with some of the biggest rugby-playing schools in South Africa, including Paul Roos Gymnasium and Jeppe High School for Boys. In stark contrast, one of the games was against a deprived township side called the Leopards: as part of that experience, the boys also coached sport



to primary-age children through the 'United Through Sport' Charity.

On arrival, players and entourage stayed at Pretoria's High Performance Centre for two days, then moved to a camp in the wilderness to play a Leopards RUFC District development side - effectively a select township side. King's boys played well, given the heat, altitude and rock-hard ground, to win both games, with Matt Stubbs and Stu Gurney getting the Scott Barrow sponsored MOTM awards. Tries in the 1st XV game (24-7) came from Matt Peakman, Tom Fairclough (after an 18-month layoff), Dan Greer and Jake Hughes. The 2nd XV also won, 24-0. After the game there was a braai and some drumming, and the boys swapped kit and ties with the township players, many of whom had never before shared a meal with a white person, which seems incredible given the last 20 years of change in South Africa. Special mention should go to both Jonny Jones and Dan Hinchcliffe, who could not play during the tour but helped with all the pitch-side jobs and duties with great distinction.

From there, all returned to Jo'burg to play a very strong side from Jeppe High School for Boys. This is one of the oldest state schools in Jo'burg, one of the top ten rugby schools in South Africa, and a school that played King's in 1993, when Jake White (World Cup Springbok Coach) was in charge. Their big derby game the previous weekend was televised on the South African version of Sky Sports with about 6,000 people watching. King's fielded three teams and the boys defended brilliantly, displaying evidence of summer training such as low chop tackles, followed by a hard contest for the ball at the breakdown. The 3rd XV lost 12-3 and were excellent against far bigger and more athletic opponents. The 2nd XV lost 22-10 but played superbly for big chunks of the game and just didn't finish their chances. The 1st XV game was the big show-piece at the end of the day and in front of a decent crowd (including many King's families in South Africa to support the teams) they played as well as any 1st XV over the last four years, dominating the contact area with good low body position. Sadly, an intercepted pass and a penalty meant they went in 13-0 down at half time. The second half was incredible, as the boys kept coming back, eventually earning a kick



to win the game. However, this went wide and they lost 13-12. Superb individual tries came from Johnny Hammill and Harry Jackson. Alec Mantel was MOTM, whilst Callum Lavelle and Rory Wallace were (respectively) 2nd XV MOTM and 3rd XV MOTM.

The tour then flew to Port Elizabeth, where the boys trained on the St George's test cricket ground before checking into the hotel, prior to playing Muir College at 1st and 2nd XV level. The tour physiotherapist was kept very busy with bumps, scrapes and knocks: unfortunately, Tom Key had to go to hospital for a double fracture in his arm, once we arrived in Port Elizabeth. The boys also went into a township Primary School and were greeted by the entire school with some singing and dancing in



assembly. They reciprocated with a rousing burst of 'Jerusalem' followed by 'Sweet Caroline'. The boys taught English and organised some sport sessions for pupils, proving themselves to be excellent ambassadors for King's.

After the bruising encounter against Jeppe HSB, perhaps not surprisingly the boys found the game in Port Elizabeth hard going. The temperature was close to 30 degrees and the pitch at Muir College was as hard as tarmac as the Port Elizabeth area endured one of the driest winters for many years. The 2nd XV started slowly but managed to come good in the end, winning 20-0, and Joe Murphy picked up the MOTM award with tries coming from Tom McClusky, Stu Gurney and Joe Murphy. The 1st XV game followed and the first half was a catalogue of individual errors that allowed the very fast wingers from Muir to capitalise, to score four tries in quick succession before the break. It was always going to be tough to bounce back from this with tired bodies and minds, and the effect of three games in five days took its toll. However, credit to the 1st XV boys as they clawed their way back into the game with four of their own tries from Archie Thorncroft (2), Oscar Kenny and Alec Mantel, before eventually bowing out 38-26 losers. MOTM was Joe Hale.

The tour then moved along the coast near to Port Alfred, then inland to the Kariega game reserve, which proved to be a superb experience. The boys were based in lodges and went on four game drives seeing elephant, rhino, lion, buffalo, giraffe, zebra and hippo, which was a fantastic experience, which will stay with the boys forever. Our time on Safari was capped with a superbly well-attended fancy dress night.

From Kariega, we travelled up the Garden Route, stopping at beautiful places like Jeffrey's Bay and Plettenberg Bay, before arriving at Mossel Bay and two nights hosting at Point High School. They were outstanding hosts and provided the most beautiful ground to date. King's played some brilliant rugby that saw them win the 3rd XV game 13-8, with tries from Jake Hughes and Tim Phillips, whilst MOTM was Jamie Cunningham. In the 2nd XV game the boys drew 7-7 with Ed Austin grabbing the only try; Olly Kenny was MOTM. In the 1st XV game, the boys put the ghosts

Events & Activities

of Muir College to bed and played brilliantly to win 33-17 with tries from Dan Percival, Johnny Hammill, Oscar Kenny, Laurence Holt and Dan Greer. The MOTM was Tom McClusky who replaced Will Hodgson, after he received a nasty blow to the face.

The next coach journey was to the beautiful town of Stellenbosch, where the tour awards dinner was held. Alec Mantel was given the Player of the Tour award for his ferocious tackling and energy in the contact area, presented by a former Junior Miss South Africa. Other award winners were Jack Qualtrough as Best Tourist, Arran McCloskey as Most Helpful, whilst Tom McClusky picked up the Top Try Scorer and Highest Points Scorer awards and capped off a fine tour.

During two days in Cape Town, visits were made to the Test rugby and cricket grounds at Newlands, the South Africa Rugby Experience and Museum, and there was also a memorable day trip to Robben Island, to see Nelson Mandela's prison cell.

In the final set of fixtures on tour,

the boys played the historic Paul Roos Gymnasium School, currently ranked 2nd for rugby in South Africa. The 2nd XV found the match incredibly hard and physical and did well to be only two scores behind at half time, however, Paul Roos proved too strong (not surprising when you consider they put out 26 rugby teams every weekend) and ran out eventual winners by 41 points to 13. Jake Percival scored King's only try, whilst Stu Gurney added the extras and two successful penalties to pick up his 2nd MOTM award. Stu also received the Most Improved Player award for his heroic efforts whilst on tour. In the 1st XV game, the side included a number of leavers for whom it was to be their last game of rugby for King's. In an emotional game, King's defended brilliantly and prevented Paul Roos from scoring any tries in 70 minutes of ferocious rugby. King's had two penalty kicks at goal but both sailed wide and just as the game looked like it might finish up 0-0, Paul Roos got a penalty and ended

up sneaking the game to 3-0. This was a truly memorable result, which brought flashbacks of the Daily Mail exit at Northampton School for Boys in 2013, but credit to the boys and all their hard work, both on tour and in the build up to it: their commitment and bravery was exceptional. The MOTM award went to Dan Greer.

In conclusion, the tour was exceptional, providing a great experience for boys and staff, both on and off the field. Credit and thanks must go to Pete Allen, Dave Thomson, John Percival, Jack Sadler and our tour physiotherapist, Phil Adshead with thanks to Scott Barrow also, for his help with the pre-tour training sessions and sponsorship of the various MOTM awards. We are also very appreciative of our sponsor, Thorneycroft Solicitors, as well as the many parents who travelled across this magnificent continent supporting and encouraging us. Your presence was vital and will long be remembered.

GAJM



Morocco

During the Easter break, sixteen students and two members of staff journeyed to Morocco for the 'Snow and Sands' expedition. The first destination was Marrakech, where students eagerly started to plan their visits to the Souks. The group was also treated to the traditional Moroccan cuisine before retiring in readiness for the snow part of the expedition.

The next day at Imlil, a village in the High Atlas Mountains, the travellers met their guides, Mohammad, Mohammad and Jamal, as well as the essential pack-carrying mules. The next day was a seven-hour trek to the Neltner refuge at the foot of Mount Toubkal. The views were spectacular and some students spent their dirham early, buying traditional Moroccan turbans. After arriving at the refuge centre, the students were treated to a lovely meal cooked by our wonderful chef Mohammad. The next day was exciting, as students tried out their crampons and ice axes for the first time, preparing for challenge of the following day, when the intrepid travellers started out at 4.30 am, in order to reach the summit of Toubkal. The climb was very challenging and students battled snow, ice, rocks and altitude to make it to the summit, where they were provided with spectacular views and plenty of photo opportunities for their efforts.



On the next day, the team made its way back to Imlil, en route for Marrakech, where students enjoyed the 'Souk Challenge' – to buy the most expensive item possible, with only 30 MAD (around £1.80).

Leaving Marrakech, the team headed for the Sahara. Along the way, they drove towards Erg Chebbi over the Tizi n Tichka pass, stopped off to see fossils at Erfoud, before ending the day in the stunning Dades Gorge. Arriving in the Sahara, the travellers chose and named their camels, before trekking to a Bedouin camp as the sun set. The Bedouin camp was an amazing experience, where all the

students slept under the stars – some were up early enough to enjoy the spectacular sunrise over the sand dunes.

On the return to Marrakech, another stop was made at Ait Benhaddou, the Hollywood of Morocco, where, amongst many others, 'Gladiator' and 'The Mummy' were filmed. A drama at the airport - a tornado and a very impressive thunderstorm – seemed a fitting end to an awe-inspiring and memorable trip to Morocco.

SG



Challenge & Enrichment

Infants and Juniors

Our programme of challenge and enrichment activities began early in the autumn term when Year 6 pupils took part in a variety of physical and cerebral activities led by Senior Head of Science, Jim Street and his team. Working in groups, pupils solved puzzles and overcame obstacles: as well as being challenging, this was a great team-building exercise, encouraging good communication and cooperation.

Two challenge workshop days engaged pupils this year; the first was presented by P4C (Philosophy for Children). Children from Years 3 – 5 took part in several activities which involved discussing philosophical issues and listening to the views of others. Rebecca Wolfendale, the P4C course leader, was impressed with the depth of logic and reasoning our pupils were able to produce. Also a 'Puzzlemania' session was organised in the summer term for pupils across the Division, to encourage them to think 'outside of the box'.

Junior Modern Foreign Languages Enrichment Week began with a visit of the Flying Theatre who gave a highly energetic performance called 'Bon Voyage'. This entertaining and educational play covered lots of useful French vocabulary in a highly imaginative way. There followed a week packed with a variety of foreign language sessions, given by staff and relatives of pupils. Bi-lingual pupils were recorded singing in their 'other' mother tongues and they shared their language skills with their peers. There were song competitions, a language treasure-hunt, French and Greek country dancing sessions, and the Upper Juniors learnt about other countries in the European Union using publications donated by the European Commission in Luxembourg.

During our Maths Enrichment Week, pupils enjoyed a visit from Kjartan Poskitt (pictured below), the author of the 'Murderous Maths' series. They were treated to a rollercoaster of maths merriment which covered topics such as money, number, shape, space, area and perimeter. Each year group in the Junior Division looked at a variety of puzzles and the theme of 'money' in their class lessons. Year 5 pupils set up and ran a Christmas Shop; this involved working in small groups to make and then price various gifts, while the follow-up work included data handling and spreadsheets to work out the costs and overall profit. It was an excellent example of how we endeavour to make learning fun, real and challenging for our pupils. Each Junior class also took part in a Times Tables Challenge with prizes being awarded to those who made the most progress during the week. Pupils in Years 5 and 6 took part in the Primary Maths Challenge,

a national problem-solving paper offered each year. Very pleasingly, our pupils achieved 19 Bronze awards, 15 Silver awards whilst Gold awards were achieved by Amanda Vel, Euan Currie, David Harris, Luke Stevens, Thomas Turner and James Bird.

Chess continued to be a popular challenge activity in the Juniors, with a thriving weekly club for all levels of players. A team of nine of our most able chess players travelled to Bolton to take part in the annual chess tournament for North West AJIS schools. David Harris and Joe Tabachnik came home with Gold medals and Freddie Higginbotham, Zac Patterson and Jamie Pearce gained Silver medals.

Year 1 children took part in a Mask Task Challenge, led by Paul Pickford, a North West Gifted and Talented educator. Pupils had been learning about the Chinese Zodiac, its twelve-year cycle and the relating animal signs. Using this knowledge, they were asked to design an unusual mask by com-





binning different parts from several animals and creating the features on the mask using a variety of different materials. Pupils then wrote evaluations of the masks, followed by creative writing involving their fantastical creatures.

Seven of our talented instrumentalists had the chance to be part of the AJIS Proms. A group of more than 60 children from various AJIS schools came together to form an orchestra for the day: Lily Cook, Bethany Henshaw and Mackenzie Blackaby were part of the string section; Sebastian Bye and Toby Gray, were members of the woodwind section, with James Smith and Joshua Rajendran, in the percussion section. During the morning, sectional rehearsals were held, whilst the full orchestra rehearsed in the afternoon under the baton of Stephen Threlfall, Head of Music at Chetham's School of Music. The children were encouraged to consider dynamics, phrasing and tempo changes, as well as watching the conductor whilst playing – no mean feat! In the evening, parents and friends heard the pieces they had rehearsed.

During the Sports Enrichment Away Day, Year 5 developed their sporting talents at our wonderful new facilities at Cumberland Street. It provided an excellent venue with ample space for the boys to develop their cricket skills, whilst the girls enjoyed learning about the game of lacrosse.

Our talented 'in house' cricket coaches provided a varied day, improving cricket fielding, batting and bowling skills. The new nets and also the front field pitch, provided ideal surfaces for the cricketers to hone their skills. England lacrosse coaches were delighted to share their extensive knowledge about this fast and exciting game (which was new to many of our pupils). The astro-turf surface was ideal and the girls

worked hard to master the basic skills of catching, throwing and scooping with their netted sticks. Staff members were impressed by the energy and enthusiasm of pupils throughout the sessions; significant progress was made by all.

A new position of responsibility, Challenge Monitor, was created in the Junior Division and Christian Beeston was outstanding in the role, providing a weekly thought-provoking challenge, which encouraged much enjoyable discussion amongst our pupils.

A/JL

Seniors

Art

In March, a talented group of Year 10 girls and boys took part in the Cheshire Art Enrichment Weekend for selected students from schools in the county. They were taught in dedi-

cated, specialist workshops, led by professional artists, teachers and makers, using a variety of different media. The course was held at the Conwy Art and Education Centre on the island of Anglesey. Our students worked from a range of starting points and, throughout the weekend, had exciting opportunities to enhance their skills and techniques. The young artists were challenged and inspired not only by the teachers, but also by their peers: all willingly worked long days, in order to develop their ideas fully. As ever, King's pupils were first-rate ambassadors for the school. The high-quality work produced will inform their subsequent practice, especially as they begin GCSE coursework in Year 11.

RAR

Drama

The Drama department took 18 enthusiastic GCSE students to the Conwy Centre on Anglesey for a highly stimulating weekend of practical activities. Over the two days, all students completed demanding but highly rewarding workshops on Physical Theatre, Puppets, Musical Theatre, Installation design and Dance. The theme for the course was World War One and all roads led to an exciting and mesmerising performance on Sunday in the seductively atmospheric chapel space. The students came away exhausted but inspired.



Challenge & Enrichment

English

Some of our most talented Year 8 writers were selected to take part in a creative writing workshop at Manchester's John Rylands library. Students from the Girls' and Boys' divisions toured this historic and fascinating building, taking notes to inspire a piece of Gothic fiction. A resident expert helped pupils work through an innovative drafting and planning process and the students took great delight in writing and reading the stories they created.

Meanwhile, students from Years 8 and 9 enjoyed a visit from award-winning teenage fiction author, Phil Earle (pictured right). Phil facilitated an engaging discussion with the students about what inspires him as a writer, talking about his passion for troubled characters who lie on the fringes of society. Some of our most able students were then selected to take part in a small-group workshop, where students drafted their own prologues to a novel, mastering the art of gripping the reader, without revealing too much!

Year 11 girls were set a tough challenge in the preparation for their GCSE exams. Some of the most able were invited to offer workshops to develop study skills for English Literature and English Language. The whole year group gathered in the hall to participate in the activities and all resources were prepared by the students themselves.

Latin

Classics student, Tom Rheinberg, was so keen to inspire his fellow pupils about ancient Rome and Greece that he invited an Oxford professor to lecture at the school.

Tom, a Year 13 student and a former



Victor Ludorum in the Manchester Classical Society's Latin reading competition, contacted the Oxford Outreach Programme and brought Professor Stephen Harrison (pictured below) from Corpus Christi College, Oxford to talk to fellow and potential classicists about Hollywood and its relationship with the ancient world. King's had 25 pupils studying Latin at GCSE and 12 studying Latin or Classics in the Sixth Form.

Mathematics

At King's each year, a number of students take part in the Mathematics Challenges, run by the UK Mathematics Trust. These challenges involve a significant degree of problem solving and mental arithmetic, on difficult papers. The highest accolade possible for each challenge is to qualify for the British Maths Olympiad; the standard for this is set exceptionally high. Only the very best candidates reach this level and there are subsequent rounds leading to an eventual

national champion.

We were delighted to see outstanding successes this year in every age group. In the Senior Challenge, King's students were awarded 8 Gold, 25 Silver and 14 Bronze awards. A special mention goes to Arthur Green and Laura Embrey, who qualified to take part in the British Maths Olympiad.

In the Intermediate Challenge, King's students achieved 15 Gold, 28 Silver and 33 Bronze awards. Pupils in the Junior Challenge achieved 11 Gold, 32 Silver and 29 Bronze awards. David Harris, 6JEB should be especially noted for achieving a Gold award against competitors three years his senior.

Foreign Languages

Talented Sixth Form linguists spent an afternoon at Parkroyal Community School, Macclesfield, leading taster lessons in languages, including German, Spanish and Latin, which were new to the primary-age pupils. A range of activities, employing creative ideas and approaches, delighted their young pupils and enthused them to discover and try other languages. For our younger students, an enrichment day was organised for Years 6 and 7, during which the pupils were asked to work together and create their own language. A small group of pupils from Parkroyal were invited to take part. In teams, they created an alphabet, a grammar system, some vocabulary and, finally, some phrases, all linked to the topic of Christmas. It was a delight to see the students collaborating enthusiastically and grappling successfully with such a challenging task.



Science

In February, six of our most able Year 13 students took part in the highly demanding and rigorous Royal Society of Chemistry Olympiad. This challenging competition required the students to think deeply about real and relevant chemistry. Hours of preparation and practice paid off as Edward Nathan (the highest scorer), Tom Cann, Anna Townley and Richard Southern secured Silver awards. Joanna Dyson achieved a Bronze award and Justine Blake was highly commended.

Also this year, Paul Thompson used his vast industrial chemistry experience to initiate an Analytical Chemistry Club for Year 13 students. They were shown how to set up an HPLC system and then used the system to confirm the assay of some aspirin tablets, using aspirin they had prepared themselves in class as the standard. The Senior Chemistry Society went from strength to strength as the students set about performing the majority of experiments from the RSC publication 'Classic Chemistry Demonstrations'. The students enjoyed tweaking the methods provided in order to perfect the ultimate visual experience. They also built and launched Star Voyager rockets four hundred feet into the air using an electrical ignition system and following a model rocket safety code adapted from the US National Association of Rocketry.

Rugby

The King's Rugby High Potential Pathway (KRHPP) is a talent identification and enrichment programme for rugby players at King's. The Pathway invites the 8 or 9 most talented rugby players from U12 - U16 to receive specialist rugby coaching, nutritional information, sports psychology support, physiotherapy advice, to visit professional rugby clubs and to meet professional players and coaches. The group (pictured below) is currently 36 strong and covers every playing position. This year, sportsmen visited Leeds Carnegie and enjoyed a stadium tour of Headingley, as well as some specialist rugby coaching on the 4G surface. Perhaps the highlight of the year was watching the England rugby team training, prior to the Autumn Internationals.

RWA

Sixth Form

Aspire

The Aspire programme has now been running for several years in the Sixth Form and has expanded from its original focus of catering mainly for Oxbridge, Medic and Vet candidates preparing for interview in the Autumn term of Year 13. These days, the programme runs all year and is open to all Sixth Formers who are encouraged to challenge themselves outside the constraints of the curriculum in a range of ways. The name of the programme stems from our school aim of challenging our pupils to 'Aspire,



work hard and achieve'. This year, as ever, sessions were wide-ranging. On one occasion, students were challenged to prepare a front page for a specialist publication of their choice. They had to work within demanding time constraints, manage teams appropriately and ask vital questions before beginning the task. On other occasions, participants debated legal and health issues, explored the creation of compelling argument and identified the features of weak propositions. Other sessions covered topics such as how languages develop or the representation of different groups of people within the media. A session about philosophy provoked lively and engaged discussion and revealed some strong opinions, as did another session in which students had to devise their own system of education.

Thinking skills are also developed in sessions when students tackle 'brain teasers' as well as reasoning questions such as, 'How many window cleaners are there in Macclesfield?' or 'How many maternity beds are there in Manchester?'. Watching our students consider the answers to such questions was very enjoyable as were their inventive and thoughtful responses to the questions, 'What happens when you drop an ant?' or 'Why are manhole covers usually round?'.

In the Autumn term, students had the opportunity to give a presentation in a subject area of their choice, introducing the group to something new and challenging. Alongside advice on how to ask and answer questions effectively and how to let an interviewer see an intelligent mind at work, these sessions are helpful as students prepare themselves for interviews.

RHR



Community Activities

Committed King's students raised thousands of pounds this year for a host of local charities. A packed calendar of fund-raising events helped raise around £32,000 for a range of good causes, including £3,000 for Children In Need and nearly £2,000 for Sport Relief.

During the Autumn term, pupils in the Boys' Division raised money for The Seashell Trust through a range of events including cake sales, a music night, school discos and non-uniform days. Year 7 pupil, Harry Norton, encouraged his peers to select The Seashell Trust as their chosen charity: amongst many other hundreds of children, it also helps his two younger brothers. Harry himself raised an incredible £80,000 for the charity this year.

In the Girls' Division, pupils chose to raise funds for Destination Florida, a local charity which sends children with serious or life-threatening illnesses on fabulous holidays. With a packed fund-raising calendar, which included cake sales, hoodies, card sales and a Santa Dash, all girls played their part in raising £5,317.

One of the highlights of Sixth Form charitable work was the annual Fashion Show.



Featuring both pupils and staff, the event showcased designer labels and outfits from local boutiques. The sell-out event raised £3,700 for The Christie.

Nearly 200 Santas took part in a 5km Santa Dash at the Derby Playing Fields. Organised by King's parent Simon Hayward, the run was part of his 505050 Challenge to raise money for The Christie which gave magnificent care and support to his friend,

the late Adam Broadbent, and Adam's family, during the last two years of his life. The event raised £2,000 for The Christie.

In the summer, King's pupils donned pink to raise money for Cancer Research in a mixed students and staff touch rugby game. The event raised £75, just part of a school-wide drive to support local charities.





An audience of more than 200 people soon assembled and for 35 minutes, watchers were entertained with a series of explosions, giant foam worms and tennis balls being fired 100s of feet into the air. Members of the audience also participated to smash flowers frozen in liquid nitrogen, fire rockets at the local burger stall and make the very popular giant foam worm. Peter Jackson set fire to his head, which produced gasps from the audience and the egg cooked in liquid nitrogen was met with awe and wonder.

The highlight, however, was the homemade bazooka which is capable of launching a tennis ball over 200 feet in the air, at a velocity of nearly 70 mph. Viewers craned their necks upwards as the ball vanished into the sky over the church, before plummeting back to earth and landing in the courtyard. The show finished with a few more explosions and the audience departed with a better understanding of science, and a sense of how exciting lessons are at King's.

JSS

King's helps pupils speak in tongues

Students from Year 6 in both King's and Parkroyal Community School enjoyed inventing their own language as part of the European Languages Day. Twenty gifted and talented students from Parkroyal – 10 girls and 10 boys – were invited to spend the day at King's, with the task to invent their own version of Esperanto.

As part of a transition and enrichment activity, the talented talkers had to come up with their alphabet, vocabulary, grammar and pronunciation, working variously on their own versions of Latin, Ancient Egyptian, Hindi and Franglais.

The event was organised by Jessica

Music in the community

The Music At Mike's calendar of year-round musical performances at St Michael's Parish Church has continued, attracting an increasingly large audience of parents, family, friends and staff. June saw a packed church for the final Music At Mike's concert of the year. The Year 7 Boys' and Friends' Choir of 110 boys sang a varied and entertaining programme. A surprise was in store for all in the final item, 'Sing', written by Gary Barlow for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations. Unknown to the boys, 18 of the male teaching staff, including the Headmaster, had been secretly practising the chorus and joined the choir for this very moving performance. The choir and soloists sang with great vitality and enthusiasm whilst the accompanying instrumentalists were terrific. Jane Barratt conducted and King's Director of Music, Simon Mercer played the piano. This was Simon's last Music at Mike's and a very fitting final King's concert, as he moves on to pursue a freelance musical career.

Other highlights of the year included the Raise the Roof concert in February at St Michael's Parish Church, which helped to raise vital funds for the church roof appeal and the King's Sings concert at the end of the year at the United Reformed Church. The BFC and the Foundation Choir played to a packed audience and raised £2,300 for Live At Home, a local charity, and the Dalit Partnership, which helps girls in the Dalit Community in India to have a secondary education.

JTB

Barnaby Bangs and Flashes

After the huge success of last year's chemical demonstration display at the Barnaby Festival, the King's team of Jim Street and Peter Jackson were not only invited back for this year's Festival, but also promoted to the prime location of the courtyard in front of St Michael's Church. The event took place in bright sunshine and, most importantly for a show that involves lots of flames and dangerous chemicals, with no wind!

Community Activities

Seth, who is pictured with Neve Chambers, Matilda Bird, April Johnson-Parsons and Martha Squire.

Poppy Appeal

Pupil Jamie Cunningham became the UK's youngest-ever Poppy Appeal Organiser, since the annual British Legion fund-raiser was launched in 1921. From a distinguished military family, Jamie was just 16-years-old when he took over managing the Over Peover and Chelford area in Cheshire from his brother Tom, who went to university. Jamie managed the distribution and collection of poppies and stickers throughout the sprawling rural area, raising around £3,000 for the British Legion.



also spent 6 months working with CKEF in the schools in Ghana, as part of his gap year after A levels.

Ollie rides to Paris for charity

Marathon cyclist and King's School pupil, Ollie Stevenson, completed a cycle ride from London to Paris to raise money for the Brain Tumour Charity. With father Jon, grandfather, and uncle David Cowan, the family foursome rode the 370km in just three days, spending over 40 hours in the saddle and taking three over-night stops en route. They even rode unaided without a support vehicle in torrential downpours, taking all they had to survive in their cycle packs. The men were raising money to honour Ollie's aunt, Caroline, who tragically died of a brain tumour, and

Ghana link established

This year, for the first time, King's established a link with Connecting Kids Education Foundation (CKEF), a charity driving the improvement of education in rural Ghana. Initially, King's donated school desks, tables and chairs which were shipped to Ghana and put to good use in Kissi Besease Primary School and St Peter's Nursery School. Following this, King's parents were asked to donate books for school-age children, which led to the creation of the first proper library at Kissi Besease School. More recently, parents donated second hand sports equipment and surplus or out-of-date King's kit (below), were sent to Ghana and distributed to several schools. King's pupil Harry Hayward





During Maths Week and after learning of the dreadful events unfolding in the news, Year 5 decided to dedicate the profits from the Christmas Shop to the Typhoon Haiyan Appeal. Pupils went into mass production, making items with a Christmas theme to sell for the charity, in addition to working out costs and net profit for each item. There were a variety of products on offer during the day. The jars of marmalade proved popular with the staff, and pupils had to take pre-orders to try to satisfy their customers. Some of our more enterprising pupils could even be found selling friendship bracelets, trinket boxes and Christmas Cards to the Seniors in the Dining Room. The whole enterprise was great fun and a total of £643.88 was raised for the appeal.

Perhaps the most successful charity event organised this year, was the sponsored 'Jump Rope for Heart', which took place in February. Pupils from each class experimented with different skipping skills, different lengths of rope, group skipping and skipping routines. Members of staff joined in the fun and proved quite competent at some of the more difficult skills. The Infants and Juniors raised a whopping £3,790 for the British Heart Foundation.

All in all, over the course of a very successful year, and discounting the non-monetary gifts or the second-hand desks left over from the refurbishment of the Upper Junior building which were sent to Kissi School in Ghana, the total amount raised for charity by King's Infant and Junior Division was £6,459.34.

AJL

a former friend of Ollie's who also lost his life to a brain tumour. Ollie raised £6,000 for The Brain Tumour Charity, taking the family fund-raising total to £12,000.

Infant & Junior

Charitable work

The Junior School Council, led by Charity Officers, Susie Moores and Alastair Griffin, organised a series of successful fundraising events which supported a wide range of charities. In October, a fundraising day run by the School Council and Year 6 Library Monitors raised £1,003 for Children in Need. The day saw events such as a second-hand book sale, Splat the Rat, Treasure Island and the ever-popular cake stall. Entrepreneurial skills were realised in the raffle led by Year 5 pupils, James Miller and Archie Abraham, who took their persuasive sales patter to classrooms, the staff room and even to the Principal's office, in order to maximise their sales.

Year 2 children from King's Infants (pictured) visited Harry Lawson Court in Macclesfield in order to present the residents with a wealth of Harvest gifts, kindly donated by King's pupils and their families. The children performed a rousing rendition of the song, 'Celebrate the Harvest Today' which was enjoyed by all, with many of the residents joining in with the actions. After the entertainment, the children and Infant staff took time to chat with the residents and enjoyed finding out about their grandchildren and what they might like to cook with some of their new ingredients. Year



2 Pupil Matthew said: 'When I gave my basket it made me feel good to share and it was fun to see everybody smiling.'



Sports

Athletics

Boys

King's Athletics squad had a good season and was able to compete in both the English Schools' Cup and the Macclesfield District Championship.

Initially, King's boys travelled to Denstone College for the first time for an athletics fixture and performed exceptionally well with a number of strong participants. Sam Worthington and Elliot Keen were dependable as ever in the field and there were good performances on the track from Archie Phillips and Richard Griffiths.

In Macclesfield District Athletics, there were a number of individual successes. In the Junior boys' competition, Joe Moores was placed 1st in the 200m with a time of 24.92s and also in the Shot Putt, throwing a distance of 9.48m. Additionally, Cameron Redpath and Harry Kay were placed 1st and 2nd in the 300m, with times of 41.11s and 41.82s respectively. Oscar Johnson (Year 8) competed in the high jump, a year under age, and set a personal best jump of 1.50m, eventually finishing 2nd overall. In the Inter boys' competition, King's monopolised the field event categories with 1st place finishes for Alex Krajewski in the high jump (1.65m), Tim Phillips in the triple jump (11.78m) and Elliot Keen in the discus (23.16m). There were a number of other good performances with King's boys securing top 3 finishes in the majority of events. The consistent performance of both the Junior and Inter boys' teams meant that King's boys finished 1st overall in both competitions, recording overall points scores of 67 and 73 points. During the minors event (Year 7), special mention must go to Peter Goodfellow for his excellence in the 1500m event, Oliver Payne for his exceptional pace in the 100m race and commitment to the team, and to Thomas Barker for captaining the team and performing well in the 200m event.

King's athletics season culminated

in a track league event at Manchester Grammar School, involving Stockport Grammar School and also Bramhall High School. On a beautiful sunny afternoon, King's students acquitted themselves extremely well, narrowly finishing 2nd overall behind a strong SGS team.

A huge number of athletes represented the school this season and the level of determination and commitment exhibited by our athletes was exceptional.

Track and Field: Combined Events

Two athletes represented Cheshire in the North West Regional Combined Events at Stoke in June. Oscar Johnson took part in the Junior Pentathlon. Competing as a Year 8 against Year 9 boys, Oscar found the competition very strong. However, he performed well, finishing a creditable 14th in the North West. The other athlete was a Senior Girl, Sophie Quinn. This was her first year as a combined eventer and she performed extremely well in her heptathlon, finishing 2nd individually in the North West, and going on to compete in the National finals at Boston, Lincolnshire. Here she had some outstanding events, in particular the 100m hurdles and long jump, and as a result she finished 13th in the country. Sophie showed a great deal of potential in heptathlon and this performance was in addition to her representing Cheshire in the Long Jump event at the National Track and Field Championships held in July.

PMA

Girls

This was another successful athletics season, with some great team performances and many personal bests in individual events. The Athletics Club saw around 30 girls attending regularly to train and improve in their chosen events.

The first competition was the Juniors and Inters Macclesfield and District Athletics Championships held

at the Macclesfield Athletics track at the end of April. The Inter Girls' team won the competition and the Junior Girls were 4th out of 10 schools. From this, 12 girls were selected to represent Macclesfield at the Cheshire Schools County Athletics Championships in June. In May, Year 7 girls competed in the Macclesfield and District Minors Athletics Championships and the team finished in first place, with several girls winning their individual events: 6 girls were selected to represent Macclesfield at the Cheshire Minors Championships at Warrington.

Evie Hancox (pictured below) won a silver medal in the Cheshire School's U16 Pentathlon Championships and qualified for the English Schools' Championships the following summer.

Evie enjoyed particularly strong performances in the long and high jump, 80 metre hurdles and 800 metres.

In the County Minors Championships, Lucy Griffiths ran an exciting and impressive 1,500m race, finishing 2nd with a time of 5 mins 25.5 seconds; Chantelle Carroll was 3rd in the Javelin with a throw of 21.07m, and Alex Cairns was 3rd in the discus with a throw of 15.88m. All three girls were



selected to represent Cheshire in the Inter Counties event on 3 July. Connie Ward was 4th in the Javelin (17.34m), Saffron Milner was 5th in the 100m (14.8s) and Beth Tatton was 9th in the High Jump.

In the County Championships for the Juniors, Inters and Seniors, Saffron Rossi came 2nd in the Junior Girls' Javelin competition with an impressive throw of 22.52m, whilst Natalie Stevens was 4th (20.61m). Saffron was selected to represent Macclesfield at the Mason Trophy Inter Counties Schools Athletics in Birmingham in June. Eleanor Toms won the Inter Girls' Javelin with a throw of 32.24m and was selected for the Mason Trophy competition along with Eleanor Bird - 2nd in the 200m (27.8s); Sophie Decker - 2nd in the Triple Jump (10.22m); Katie Hughes - 3rd in 800m (2mins 18 secs); and Evie Hancox - 3rd in Triple Jump (9.61m). Sophie Quinn won the Senior Triple Jump (13.1m) and was 2nd in Long Jump (5.19m), and was selected to represent Cheshire at the ESAA National Schools Athletics Championships.

Both Junior and Inter teams entered the ESAA Schools' Cup competition this year. The East Cheshire

round of the competition was held in Macclesfield and the Inter Girls were 1st out of 8 teams, with a total of 292 points, and Junior Girls were 4th out of 10, with 260 points. Both teams progressed to the regional B Finals in Warrington where all girls managed to improve their performances and increase the teams' total scores, putting the Inters in 4th place out of 13 teams and the Junior team in 5th place out of 11 teams in the NW.

Athletics at the Girls' Division goes from strength to strength and it is great to see girls representing the County and enjoying the sport. At the Annual Sports presentation evening in July, Coaches' Athlete of the Year awards were presented to Saffron Milner, Olivia Moores and Eleanor Toms.

LB

Juniors

King's Junior athletes had another very successful year. Athletics may be an individual sport, but the team spirit, the mutual support and encouragement displayed at all events amongst our athletes was exceptional; they competed and celebrated together throughout the season.

Team spirit was very evident on Sports Day as everyone in the Junior Division represented their House in a

wonderful festival of athletic events. An abundance of talent was clearly on display in the warm June sunshine and it was Capesthorpe who were the eventual winners in a close and engaging contest.

The Year 6 boys' relay team provided some of the highlights of this athletic year: the boys remained focussed and were able to produce their best in both the AJIS and The Macclesfield and District Championship finals. They won Gold in both races in impressive style and with yet another record-breaking time of 48.8 seconds on their last run of the season in Macclesfield. Charlie Boddy, William Davies, Ben Kersh and Sam Worthington put on a fabulous display of speed, commitment and team-work. They were very fortunate to have some expert tuition from Mr Worthington (Sale Harriers) and his input was a vital ingredient to the success of this well-oiled machine. Parent helper, Mrs Danson (Macclesfield Harriers) also offered invaluable assistance to our athletes this season.

Other Gold Medal highlights from the season included William Davies, who clinched the AJIS 600m title at the Championships in Wigan in a beautifully timed sprint down the





home straight, and Sam Worthington, who beat strong opposition to win the 150m to become Macclesfield and District U11 Champion; both boys enjoyed an outstanding season.

Rising star Sam Danson also demonstrated his considerable athletic abilities at the AJIS Championships with Gold Medals in both the U10 150m and the U10 Long Jump. He also helped his relay team reach their 4x100m final and was joined as a medal winner by James Payne who threw a magnificent 42.8m, to claim the Silver medal in the U10 Cricket Ball throw.

Year 5 girls also show great promise and enjoyed medal successes at AJIS. Scarlett Brough ran an inspired U10 600m final and was delighted with her Silver Medal whilst the 4x100m relay team managed to secure Bronze Medals; congratulations to Holly Burke, Izzy Moores, Sophie Scott and Lottie Dennett. There is much to look forward to in 2015.

Thanks to proud athletics captains Sam Worthington and Charlotte Smith for their help during the season. Athletics Colours were awarded to: William Davies, Ben Kersh, Charlie Boddy and Sam Worthington.

DCB

Basketball

Girls' competitive basketball arrived at King's for the first time with the formation of a Sixth Form girls' team (pictured). Overall, fifteen players trained throughout the season, with a core of ten or eleven players.

The team played two competitive matches, beating Congleton High School easily but being beaten by Rossall School in a hard-fought, tough game where the opposition, who train with their men's team, out-muscled and outplayed our girls under the baskets.

The two boys' teams had mixed seasons. Playing local schools, both the U16s and U17s beat the South Cheshire champions, Congleton High School, and St Thomas More U16s, but in the England Schools' Competition drew the usual strong teams in the U16 division; Ellesmere Port Catholic High and St Thomas Boteler (a basketball academy!). They lost a close game against Ellesmere Port by fifteen points after two players were severely injured: at the time of the injuries, King's was six points up and looking in control.

For the match against Thomas Boteler, without the injured Oliver Nowak and Dmitry Rukazenzov, the game was lost 82-38. Over 40 of the Boteler points came from well outside

the 3-point arc and one was from the centre circle.

The U17 team had even tougher opponents drawing both the Myerscough College Academy and Loreto College Academy. In both matches, the team played well but size dominates in basketball and Myerscough had 3 players over 6'8" including the current England U20 centre, while Loreto went on to win the competition after taking out Myerscough in the North West final.

Throughout Years 5 to 10, there was a great deal of interest and Senior Division house competitions were closely battled, if not totally skilled. All house matches were officiated by Year 11 boys, and my thanks go to Harry Jaques, Matt Harden, Olly Nowak, Olly Papadimitriou and Theo Roffe for their help not only in the house competition, but also for their assistance with coaching lower years.

BB

Biathlon

This year saw the British Schools' Modern Biathlon Championships held at the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, London. The chance to swim in the Olympic Pool appealed to many athletes around the country, and as a result the competition was fierce, both at the various qualifying events and at the finals in London. Over 2,500 athletes participated this year, including three King's students: Rebecca Hughes, U19; Charlotte Taylor, U17, and Katie Hughes, U15.

Having qualified comfortably for the finals, the girls travelled to London a day in advance of the competition, hoping to explore the city and the park before race day. The event was enjoyable for all involved and the girls returned from their trip with some impressive results. Katie Hughes received a silver medal for the U15 age category after delivering a strong swim and run. Charlotte Taylor also performed well to finish 6th in her age group with an excellent personal best time achieved in the pool. Rebecca Hughes finished on the podium in 3rd place, after a pleasing performance in both disciplines.

The girls are already looking forward to the coming season, when the Championships are again scheduled to take place at the Olympic Park.

Rebecca Hughes 12COD

Cheerleading

King's achieved fantastic results at the National School Cheerleading Championships in June. The competition took place at Manchester Velodrome with over a third of the Girls' Division participating. With 3,500 competitors, the competition ran over 2 days.

Each King's team was placed in the top 3 in the country with 4 out of 6 crowned National Champions. The girls returned to Macclesfield with arms full of bright shiny trophies.

King's Kittens (Year 7) 2nd place

King's Tigers (Year 7 and 8) 3rd place

King's Cats (Year 8) 1st: National Champions.

King's Simbas (Year 9) 1st: National Champions.

King's Lions (Year 10/11) 1st: National Champions

King's Allstars (Year 8-13) 1st: National Champions.

This further National success followed their international success at the World Championships earlier in the year. King's Cheerleaders are, officially, the best in the country and their coach, Rachael Burrows-Jarvis, was awarded Coach of the Year by the UK Cheerleading Association in May.

We look forward to continued success next year.

World success for King's

The sport of Cheerleading is a combination of dance, gymnastics, acrobatics and a Broadway show. In recognition of the numerous UK National titles won over the last seven years, the school was awarded the honour of being the first UK team chosen to represent the country at the World School Cheerleading Championships in Florida. Thirty girls, aged 12 to 17, spent four days trying to be the best cheerleading team in the world: they nearly succeeded!

The King's team departed sporting Union Jack hair bows, which they knew would be a big hit with the Americans. At the World Schools' Championship, the excited team was greeted with the sight of the British flag, alongside the flags of the other ten competing nations. This was it: The King's School in Macclesfield was about to compete in the World Championships.

The standard was truly 'World Class' with the top ten teams from the USA pitted against the best of the rest of the world. Jess Milton-Edwards,

Katie Fray and Lucy Miller spotted the announcer and made sure he had a lot to say about the school. This led to a marvellous, possibly unique moment, where an audience at the World Cheerleading Championships was treated to a lesson about King Edward, the Queen's visit to King's and Christopher Columbus' discovery of America.

The Stunt groups' routine was spectacular, original and had a very 'British' theme. Olivia Moores flew high into the stadium – the audience loved it. They secured 3rd place in the World (and were less than a point away from 1st place). The team took on the world with a stunning routine and King's came fourth in their category. The King's team tumbled, flew, danced, jumped and cheered in perfect time: the final pyramid was a work of art.

The best was yet to come... when both scores were taken into account, King's, in their capacity as UK representatives, were declared the second best in the world. For a UK school to take on the world and come runners-up to the Cheerleading superpower of America, was a truly astonishing achievement.

RBJ & HLB



Cricket

1st XI

The 1st XI cricket season started with a rush of fixtures and by the time term was two weeks old, the 1st XI had already played 9 matches. Wins against The Grange, King's Chester and Stockport Grammar and a defeat to a strong Denstone side, were followed by the first 20/20 double header at Shrewsbury School. King's lost off the last ball in an exciting game against Shrewsbury and having scored 143 for 3 against Cheadle, the rain came with the opposition on 63 for 7.

King's has a strong reputation in the National 20/20 cup having reached the NW final twice in recent years, but this year King's fell at the first hurdle, losing to a very strong batting line up from Wilmslow. King's took their frustration out on Altrincham in the second game of the day, batting very well to win by 95 runs, but the damage had already been done.

These initial fixtures were all limited over affairs and although the results were mixed, early signs were good. The school had strong bowling depth, although the batsmen were struggling to score runs with any consistency (Finlay McCance and Josh Towne proving to be the exceptions).

After the hectic start, the season settled down. The start of the exam period brought with it availability issues. The 2nd XI switch to Friday evening 20/20 games helped, but the increasing pressure led to significant selection issues for the 1st XI for the first time. King's were well beaten by Cheadle, who were themselves missing a few key players and then an under-strength King's team was thrashed by a full strength Lancaster.

Added to the exam problems were weather problems. In a largely excellent summer, Saturdays seemed to be uniquely damp. The two Saturday blocks against Nottingham and Manchester were completely lost to the rain (although the 2nd XI v MGS game did go ahead on the Friday evening in glorious sunshine).

In the final game of the mid-season section, Birkenhead batted well to score 182. In an excellent game, King's couldn't quite reach the required target. Matt Stubbs, who was having a fine season, was the top scorer with 47 but, although a number of batters got starts, no one was able to carry the team over the line and King's lost by 9 runs.

The season ended as it started, with a rush of fixtures, with 9 matches in total in the final two weeks. What had been a quite unremarkable and disappointing season up to that point, had an excellent finale. The sun decided to come out to celebrate

the end of public examinations and the school played some very good cricket, against the hardest of oppositions. A tense victory by just 6 runs over a very successful Bolton and an equally tense defeat by just 8 runs to Sedbergh were highlights. Leeds GS was beaten for the first time and King's had an excellent victory against Merchant Taylors'. The annual visit of the MCC side ended this year in a 5-wicket victory for King's, with good innings by all the top five batsmen and Matt Stubbs top scoring with 44 out of the 208 needed for victory.

The boys took their good form into The Festival which, now in its 40th year, was particularly notable for individual feats by four batsmen. The strength of the side throughout the year had very much been as a collective, with as many as seven bowlers each securing more than 10 victims but only one, Ben Winrow with 21 wickets, exceeded 20. The top five batsmen all made significant contributions, with several others chipping in too, and only wicket-keeper Finlay McCance, with a remarkable final aggregate of 870, challenged the heaviest run-scorers of the past. None of the players had ever scored a century in their time in the side before the festival, and then four of them - Finlay McCance (142), Callum McIlveen (141), Will Hodgson (123) and the excellent Captain, Adam Siddall (105) - all passed three figures during the



The 1st XI at The Festival

games against Rossall and Edinburgh Academy. For all the boys, getting on the honours board is a target and for Adam, in his final season, this was almost his last chance. Adam was a fantastic Captain, both on and off the field, and it was a mark of his popularity and the respect the whole team had for 'Sid' that we all enjoyed the moment as much as he did.

The last game of the season, as always, was against an Old Boys XI, and it featured some marvellous cricket. The old boys would have struggled terribly against the 1st XI attack, had it not been for an outstanding and astounding innings of 104 off just 91 balls by Alderley Edge CC's, Tom Foreman. The school side, even so, did very well to dismiss their opponents for 226, with Matt Salt taking the last three wickets in a hat trick. After good innings by McCance (46) and Toby Bianchi (39), the wiles of experienced Toft CC bowlers, Jimmy Lomas (4-55) and Joe Stanley (3-21) were sufficient to dismiss the 1st XI, 29 runs short of their target, in what was an excellent finale to the season.

As well as the Captain, Adam Siddall, the school said farewell to four other stalwarts of the side. Henry Holden and Matt Stubbs were almost permanent members of the 1st XI over the last three seasons. Henry consistently bowled well and took wickets at key moments: he was a very capable batsman, often going in

down the order to help balance the team and scored vital runs at crucial times. Matt Stubbs had a brilliant season: his clean hitting and stroke play in the middle order, often when runs were hardest to come by, were just what the team needed. All three left King's with full school colours for cricket.

The other two significant leavers were Alex Dyson and Reuben Cutts. Alex captained age group sides throughout his time at King's and, although he missed a lot of games in his final years, he returned to the 1st XI for the majority of his final season and had an immediate impact with good runs in the middle order and, just as importantly, some excellent catches at first slip. Reuben not only played a significant number of 1st XI games, he also helped to organise and run the 2nd XI. Reuben, a strong medium pace bowler, is the absolute epitome of the team player and would do anything for the squad. Both Alex and Reuben were awarded 1st XI Colours for their efforts.

All in all, this was a very enjoyable and successful season; no fewer than 22 players represented the 1st XI. The prospects for 2015, when the side will be led by Finlay McCance, look good.

SM

2nd XI

The 2nd XI enjoyed some success with 3 wins from 7 games, which was

a respectable return, especially with triumphs over schools such as King's Chester and Cheadle Hulme. Narrow defeats against MGS (4 runs) and Denstone (1 run) further reflected the strong effort by this season's 2nd XI.

Much of that success stemmed from a core of players who were available throughout the term. Matt Hardy, Matt Edge, Jamie Cunningham, Jack Brindle, Robbie Lees, Will Dowd, Reuben Cutts and JJ Goldfinch were ever-present, giving the team stability. Credit should also go to those who helped the team fulfil gruelling Away fixtures. Individual performances deserve mention, and many testify to improvements nurtured in the 2nd team. Robbie Lees' maiden school 50 against Denstone was just reward for his 3 years of service to the side, while cameos from Isaac Reaney (27*) and Andy Bryant (29*) made for a gripping run chase against Denstone that failed only by a single run.

Success in chasing down an equally imposing score away to King's Chester was comfortably achieved through a 100-run partnership between Andy Bryant (42) and Alex Dyson (71*), who, in hostile conditions, bravely negated a fearsome pace attack.

The year's most comfortable win against Cheadle Hulme was spear-headed by deputising wicket keeper Callum McIlveen (41), skipper JJ Goldfinch (50*) and, in his final game before progressing to the 1st XI, Alex Dyson (33*). In reply, 3 early wickets from Reuben Cutts helped leave Cheadle Hulme 100 runs short of their target.

With just four previously capped players in the squad for the visit to Bolton, regular players had to stand up: Jack Brindle bowled tightly, Reuben Cutts kept wicket, and Jamie Cunningham blasted a fine 38. Though we finished 40 runs short, three Year 9s gained useful experience in what was an exceptional team effort.

Mr Halewood has looked after the side for many years and, along with Mr Moores, deserves credit for ensuring that fixtures have been fulfilled. The ethos he instilled ensured everybody contributed to matches, an approach that I hope will remain for the coming seasons. Mr Slater and Mr Parfett have also taken several matches.

Reuben Cutts, 13ASP



Toby Bianchi and Callum McIlveen open the innings against Edinburgh in The Festival

U15

This was an immensely enjoyable season for the U15 squad, which developed greatly as a team. There were many contributions from a range of individuals with both bat and ball.

The season started with a spirited loss to Stockport Grammar; King's batted first and failed to get enough runs on the board, totalling 106. James Hodges played well and crafted 28 runs. An impressive effort in the field with lots of energy and high commitment levels was still not enough to prevent the home side from winning by 4 wickets.

A home match versus King's Chester brought about the first victory of the season with King's bowling the visitors out for 77. Zachary Howdle finished with outstanding figures of 4 overs, 5 wickets for only 10 runs, bowling his devilishly hard-to-play off-spinners. King's comfortably made the runs, with only 4 wickets down.

The following Saturday saw the U15s play Cheadle Hulme and after winning the toss the boys batted first. After a slow start, a quick-fire partnership from Todd Leddy and James Hodges brought the team to a strong total of 136 in 25 overs: Hodges made a rapid 51 not out. King's defended the total comfortably with Michael Abrahamse as the pick of the bowlers, with figures of 5 overs, 3 wickets for a miserly 7 runs.

A poor batting performance against Lancaster Grammar School meant that King's could only score 87 runs, with Todd Leddy 24 and James Hodges 28 the only real partnership of note against some tight bowling. Sadly, Lancaster was able to knock the runs off with consummate ease.

A first round Cheshire Cup 20/20 game against Marple Hall School was next on the horizon. Marple posted a massive 236 for 3, with their opening North of England batsman (E Young) scoring 133 off only 64 balls. King's put up a valiant attempt in reply and scored an impressive 147, with Sam Bryning scoring 32, Olly Quinn making 24 and Todd Leddy, once again, contributing with a smash and grab 26.

The team played a strong Bolton School side and King's performed brilliantly in the field to bowl them out for 81. Zachary Howdle contributed again with 4 wickets, along with Michael Abrahamse picking up 2 scalps and skipper Paul Roberts taking 2 more. After a steady start from

the openers, King's let the pressure get to them and were disappointingly bowled out 15 short of the total. Zachary Howdle picked up the Man of the Match award, with a classy 28 runs with the bat.

Finally, the season finished on a huge high with a home match against Merchant Taylors'. An inspirational performance in the field from Finlay Calder, who consistently beat the bat, complimented the hard work of Josh Bryning, who bowled outstandingly and had figures of 6 overs, 4 wickets for only 6 runs. King's won by a comfortable 9 wickets, chasing 88 with only 1 wicket falling. Sam Bryning batted very positively with a season's best of 41 not out.

Overall, the team grew in spirit, learnt from their mistakes and pulled together well when the going was tough. There were some very good individual and collective performances: James Hodges was awarded the Batsman of the Year Award, whilst Zachary Howdle was awarded the Bowler of the Year Award, for consistently taking wickets with his off-spin bowling.

GAJM/SB

U14A

This was a successful year for the U14A team. They showed considerable improvement over the course of the season, as a group and as individuals. A mark of this was the way they bounced back from three early defeats to produce a run of four games undefeated that only included one draw, and that in a tough match against an older, touring team from Dean Close. Jos Collier was excellent at the top of the batting order amassing 215 runs, and his leg spin bowling earned him 14 scalps over the term: a fine all-round achievement. Cameron MacKinnon was a consistent run scorer, finishing with 181 runs, and he did well as the team's wicket keeper. Max Turner hinted at what he might achieve in reaching double figures on four occasions, whilst Sammy Chong held the batting together in a patient 26 at RGS Lancaster. Captain Owen Jones returned from injury to contribute with the bat and ball (he took 9 wickets overall), and Tomos Rands showed promise as a left-handed batsman: his straight six at Bolton was a highlight. George Barker was determined and positive throughout the season, including in the field. Other batting contributions came from Alex

Hopwood, Joe Moores, Max Gillson, Ben Turner and Sean Neary. Rotating the strike through singles remains the key batting target area for development.

Keeran Manoharan was arguably the most consistent of the seam bowlers, collecting 12 wickets at an average of 12.83 runs per wicket. He was well supported by Sean Neary, William Peakman (8 wickets), Olly Prior and Alex Fray. However, it was the spin bowling department that caused the opposition most problems. Jos Collier often worked in tandem with fellow leg spinner Jack Wilcock, who claimed the season's only five wicket haul (5 wickets for 10 runs) in defeat against Cheadle Hulme. Angus Homer was also very effective with his left-arm spin, and he finished with seven wickets at an average of 12.71. In the field, the boys developed a better understanding of how to set fields and the different fielding roles. The highlight of the season was an excellent Cheshire Cup run that ended in a disappointing final defeat to Birkenhead. Overall five wins were recorded in eleven games against St Ambrose, Sandbach, Birkenhead, AGS and Wirral GS.

CST

U14B

The U14B squad contained a large group of enthusiastic and able cricketers, keen to test themselves against opposition schools. Unfortunately, the rain conspired against them and their early season fixture against Nottingham High School was cancelled, and despite our best attempts, other schools were unable to field B teams to offer them a contest. One inter-school opportunity did present itself against The Grange where the boys performed admirably to secure an exciting eight run win. Tomos Rands (18), Max Gillson (17), Alex Hopwood (23) and Oliver Prior (17*) all impressed with the bat, with other determined contributions coming from Blake Richardson and William Kemp. In the bowling department Kieran Bailey, Josh Burke, Oliver Prior, Ben Robinson, Alex Fray and William Kemp all performed well. The boys worked hard in training throughout the season and a number of them deservedly earned selection for the A team. In total, seventeen boys pulled on an A team shirt, which indicates a strength in depth and shows that there was little to choose between a

number of players in the year group. A number of individuals caught the eye, including Marcus Nowak, Edward Mullock, Ben Robinson, James Quinn and Ben Lauber.

CST

U13A

King's enjoyed a very successful season winning ten of the twelve games played. The highlight was winning the Cheshire Cup against Cheadle Hulme after beating Birkenhead on the same day in the semi-final.

The batting team was constructed of an opening pair, Archie Phillips and Angus Thomson. Archie is an attacking left-hand batsman who was the mainstay of many innings this year. In total he scored just under 300 runs at a tremendous average of 42. Angus Thomson improved immeasurably during the season, emerging to a stature of reliability with both defence and attack in his armoury. Harry Helms came in at number three and showed a great deal of potential. Harry and Angus both scored over 150 runs, at an average of about 16. Sam Buckingham is a very attacking player with a good technique: similarly Sam Crosby showed good potential. Will Davis scored useful runs as did

George Connolly who particularly enjoyed the cut shot. Dan Capon hit the ball well at some important moments, whilst Toby Moule, Charlie Toms and Louis Gruber all contributed in important ways. On the bowling front, Sam Cheetham bowled with great intensity and accurate outswing, always putting pressure on the batsmen. He got nine wickets but deserved more. His opening bowling partner was Charlie Toms who also bowled with great heart and effort and they were a useful partnership. Sam Buckingham would follow them with some aggressive bowling of good length and pace with dangerous movement. He is a very good prospect as an all-rounder, as is George Connolly who bowled with devastating effect on occasions and on finals day he took eight wickets for 10 runs altogether in the semi-final and final. Will Davies is capable of producing very useful spells when called upon, as are Harry Elms, Dan Capon, Louis Gruber and Toby Moule. Angus Thomson is a good, quick bowler who was a little under-used during the season but showed great potential. Charlie Fogg was also an enthusiastic supporter of the team and often produced a useful run just when needed.

The batting and bowling was backed up by some excellent fielding. Overall the team played very well and has a great deal of talent; they played with a smile on their faces and enjoyed any challenge which came before them.

CJM

U13B

The B team was comprised of over 20 players, which made for considerable competition for places and very difficult selection. In a normal year quite a few of these boys would have appeared for the A team, which is a measure of the strength in depth of this year group. The squad had a mixed season of results but their growth and development was very encouraging and will stand them in good stead for next year. They were a very friendly and happy team who always gave their best efforts and their conduct and behaviour was exemplary at all times. They were led with enthusiasm by Tom Dennett, supported by Josh Barrett. James Hudson and Harry Hehir made good contributions as did Joe Gardner, Sam Andresen and Fergus Roylance, with the rest of the boys all playing their part.

CFS



U12A

The U12As were a pleasure to coach: their enthusiasm and effort were fantastic during training and in matches. The team was captained very well by the leading run scorer, George Holden, who scored five half centuries this year at the top of the order. The batting was strong with Remy Miller, James Davis, Joey Chong and George Muirhead all contributing at the top of the innings, often setting a platform for Murray Redpath and Jack Mayfield to attack with their aggressive styles. The Bowler of the Year was awarded to Thomas Davies, bowling his off spin to great effect and often coming on to bowl following opening spells from Josh Wyatt, Murray Redpath and Jack Mayfield. Aiden Carman and George Muirhead both looked promising leg spin bowlers over the season, alongside the useful seam bowling of Remy Miller, Ben Calvin, James Moule and Oliver Payne. The fielding from this squad was outstanding, mainly down to their commitment to extra fielding practice. The team spirit was most certainly a key strength this season.

The highlight of the season was undoubtedly winning the King's 6-a-side tournament (below), beating Manchester Grammar in the final. The boys also recorded victories over Cheshire Cup champions Birkenhead, Stockport Grammar and Bolton School, with the only disappointment being defeat to Cheadle Hulme in the semi-final of the Cheshire Cup, which I know the boys are very keen to put right next year.

TJP

U12B

To have a B team squad of around 30 boys and girls was brilliant, but of course, made selection difficult each week. The commitment and determination from the squad to improve as individuals and as a group was superb. We aimed to give equal opportunities as best we could, and the staff would like to thank the players for their understanding and patience throughout the season.

Unfortunately, the weather had a big impact on the U12B team, which was on the receiving end of a number of cancellations. The season started well, however, with a 5 run victory over rivals Stockport Grammar. Special mention must go to Thomas Barker who took a hat trick in his first game. The season's other victory came in a very tight game against Bolton School. Here the team kept plugging away in the field and took the final wicket in the penultimate over to win by 5 runs. Victory just eluded the team at King's Chester, and Lancaster Grammar School proved too strong. The whole squad can be proud of the way they played over the year. They consistently turned out strong numbers twice a week for after school training and it was great to see so many U12s playing the game.

RL

Indoor Cricket

2014 saw King's enter the National Lady Taverners Indoor Cricket Competition which progressed from local competitions to a National Final at Lord's. Many new faces arrived

at training with skills transferring seamlessly from hockey and rounders, which enabled the girls to play some very competitive cricket. The U13 team, composed of many Year 7s, played very well but came up against some big hitters. The U15s blazed their way through the local competition with Eleanor Toms scoring 16 off the first three balls and getting the team off to a blistering start. The U15s went on to represent Cheshire East against Stockport Grammar School and Prenton High School for Girls. A special mention must go to Imogen Collinson who opened the bowling for the U15s as a Year 7. Despite some excellent performances, they narrowly missed out on progressing to the Northern Finals at Headingley.

U13 squad: Ffyona Booker, Alex Brooks, Alex Cairns, Charlotte Carroll, Imogen Collinson, Lucy Griffiths, Hannah McCormick (wkt), Olivia Moores

U15 squad: Allana Buckingham, Anna Cartwright, Alex Clarke, Imogen Collinson, Georgia Hehir, Charlotte Horne, Jennifer Johnson, Briony Phillips, Natalie Stevens (wkt), Eleanor Toms

JLD

U11

The U11s started the season with a convincing 50 run victory against Macclesfield Cricket Club and were comfortable winners over both Birkenhead Prep and Bury Grammar, with the latter being in the 1st Round of the AJIS Cup. After beating King's Chester in the Quarter Final, the boys contested a remarkable semi-final against Stockport Grammar. Batting first, King's was in turmoil early on, as the accurate Stockport bowlers tore through the top order. At a meagre 26-6, it seemed likely that the game would be over quickly, however the resolute batting of Hayden Heath ensured that the innings inched its way slowly forwards towards a more defendable total. At the conclusion of King's batting, the boys had reached a total of 56. In reply, the opening bowling pair of Josh Rajendran and Ben Kersh bowled fast and straight, taking regular wickets in the opening overs to leave the Stockport batting in tatters. Several excellent catches were taken throughout the innings, with Charlie Murray's leg spin finishing proceedings, so that Stockport reached a meagre total of only 14 runs. In the final against MGS, King's began well, with some excellent bowl-



ing from both Ben Kersh and Josh Rajendran limiting the runs scored by MGS in the opening overs. However, some positive batting from the middle order resulted in the match swinging in favour of the opposition, who finished with 92. In reply King's were faltering on 42-5, and despite the best efforts of Josh Rajendran, Charlie Murray and the lower order, they ultimately fell 13 runs short. Nevertheless, this was a super game of cricket, played in picturesque surroundings at Alderley Edge Cricket Club and the boys should feel proud of their runners up medals in the AJIS Cup.

The U11B team also participated in some 'friendly' fixtures this season. In their opening game against Birkenhead Prep, they showed a great deal of enthusiasm throughout the match. Unfortunately, some wayward bowling from the boys resulted in the opposition becoming comfortable victors by 28 runs. In their next fixture against MGS, King's batted well to post a competitive total of 284. However, a lack of discipline in the bowling department once again proved to be the boys' downfall, as MGS surpassed the King's score to register a win by 18 runs. Over the course of the season, many of the B team players gained experience in the A team and will be pushing hard for a regular place in the U12A squad next season.

U10

The U10 cricket team began their season with an away fixture against Stockport Grammar and were in-

involved in a very close game. In this 12 a-side 'pairs' game, all players were required to bat and bowl. Some accurate bowling, coupled with excellent catching in the outfield, resulted in a number of wickets being taken, with Stockport finishing on 225. In reply, King's was always in contention to win the game, with some powerful hitting by James Miller and Oliver Brown proving to be the highlight. Unfortunately, they fell 6 runs short in reaching 219. The next fixture, at home against Birkenhead Prep, was played in glorious weather. After two exciting games, King's narrowly won the A team game, but were defeated in the B team game. Overall, the batting proved to be the stronger discipline, however there is plenty still to work on in the bowling department, as many 'extras' were gifted to the opposition.

MKW/NB

Cross Country

Senior Girls

In October, an enthusiastic team of runners represented King's in the first round of the English Schools' Athletics Association Cross Country Cup competition in Warrington. Most enjoyed this flat and colourful course, but it proved to be very short and fast for our runners. Sadly, both Junior and Inter Girls' teams finished in 7th place and so did not qualify for Regional Finals. However, in November, 15 girls gave strong performances in the Macclesfield and District Cross

Country Championships held on the familiar course around Macclesfield Athletics track. There were some great performances from individual runners. In the Minor Girls' race, Lucy Griffiths was 4th; Jodie Foxton 8th; Chantelle Carroll 15th; Imogen Curtis 20th; Alex Brooks 23rd and Louisa Boden 30th. In the Junior Girls, Georgina Boden finished 7th; Olivia Moores 12th; Grace Gudgeon 22nd, and Sophie Hancock 24th. Katie Hughes won the Inter Girls' race, with Tanisha Orchard finishing in an impressive 3rd place, with Evie Hancox 6th and Amy Johnson 15th.

As a result, nine girls were selected to represent Macclesfield in the Cheshire Cross Country Championships held in Winsford, in January. Competing against the best runners in Cheshire, Lucy Griffiths and Jodie Foxton had brilliant runs, finishing in 8th and 9th place respectively, out of a field of 82 runners. Georgina Boden, Olivia Moores and Clea Kapadia were 29th, 30th and 44th out of 64 and Amy Johnson was 29th out of 40.

Lucy Griffiths and Jodie Foxton went on to achieve County Representation, running for Cheshire in the Inter Counties race, finishing in 9th and 20th places respectively.

This strong representation demonstrated the talent for Cross Country running in the Girls' Division and was especially encouraging for the younger runners, who have great potential for the future.

LB



Senior Boys

An enthusiastic team of athletes represented the school in the first round of the English Schools' Athletics Association Cross Country Cup in October at Walton Hall Gardens, Warrington. It was a fairly flat and quick course which proved to be very competitive. The two best performances in the Junior race were from Archie Phillips, who finished 8th individually and Peter Goodfellow, Year 7, who finished 15th. The two best performances in the Inter race were from Rhys Bowen (21st) and George Barker, Year 9, (24th). Both teams finished in 6th place, out of eleven schools, so King's did not progress to the next round.

The following month, saw the Macclesfield and District Cross Country Championships. We entered teams in all three of the competitions. In the Minor Boys' race (Year 7), there were outstanding performances from Peter Goodfellow (1st); Thomas Barker (4th); Jonathan Clarke-Quirk (7th) and Harry Norton (12th). As a result, King's won the team competition, and all four boys went on to run for the District Team in the County Championships, held in January. In the Junior Boys' race (Years 8 and 9), there were also outstanding performances from Cameron Redpath (2nd); Ollie Stevenson (4th); George Barker (10th) and Tomos Rands (15th). As a result, King's won the team competition, with all four boys running in the Country Championships for the Macclesfield and District team. In the Inter race (Years 10 and 11) our runners found the

competition too strong and as a result finished 4th in the team competition with the best individual performances coming from Rhys Bowen (15th) and Kieran McKeever (16th).

The Cheshire Schools' County Championships were held in Winsford. Here, competing against the best runners in Cheshire, all nine boys who represented the District performed well. In particular, two Year 7 boys were notable: Peter Goodfellow was 9th and Tom Barker 13th, in a field of 80 runners. As a result, they both represented Cheshire in an Inter County race in March. The other positions were: Harry Norton (33rd); Jonathan Clarke-Quirk (40th); George Barker (32nd); Cameron Redpath (42nd); Ollie Stevenson (54th); Tom Rands (58th) and Rhys Bowen (36th).

Along with Senior boys and girls, there was one Year 12 girl, Rebecca Hughes, who ran for the District team. She had an outstanding run, finishing 5th individually. As a result, she was selected to run for the Cheshire Senior Girls' Team at the National Finals in March at Castle Donnington.

DTB

Juniors

Runners trained hard and competed well throughout this winter season.

Early success came at the AJIS Championship held at Rossall School in October. There were two medal-winning teams. Year 5 girls secured team Silver: Izzy Moores (8) Scarlett Brough (9), Lottie Dennett (18) Sophie Scott (31) and Katie Barr (43); these five athletes produced

an excellent team score. Year 6 boys won team Bronze by the narrowest of margins and were led home by William Davies (5) followed by Jimmy Foxton (23), Ben Kersh (29), Sam Worthington (34) and Hugh Horne (37). These were great results, in a large field of more than 140 competitors, from 22 schools, in each race. Susie Moores was also congratulated for her individual 5th place in the Year 6 girls' race.

The Macclesfield and District race series was of an excellent standard and King's performed consistently well. The autumn term race concluded with all our teams placed: Years 5/6 boys finished in 1st place; Years 5/6 girls in 2nd and both our Year 4 teams were in 3rd. Year 4 girls, Lara Tabachnik, Lily Cook and Serena Pantton showed great promise and were unlucky to finish 4th team on Championship Day in March. Year 4 Boys, however, improved to become 2nd team, with Jake Leech (2nd overall) enjoying a splendid run to the finish and into individual 'silver second' position; Theo Adamski (9) and Harrison Milner (19) all enjoyed receiving their team medals and showed great potential.

Year 6 boys concluded their excellent season with three outstanding top 10 finish positions to secure team Gold: William Davies (2), Sam Worthington (4) and Ben Kersh (7) produced an unbeatable team score. Cross County Captain, William, was proud to receive the Shield on behalf of these boys and recognised the excellent support they had from



Jimmy Foxton, Jack Bray and Christian Beeston on Championship Day. Christian and May Broadley were proud to receive the endeavour award for their contributions throughout the season.

All year groups enjoyed the House Cross Country races which produced some very determined performances. Year group winners were: Year 3 - James Hartley and Ellie Adamski; Year 4 - Jake Leech and Lara Tabachnik; Year 5 - Jack King and Holly Burke, and Year 6 - William Davies and Charlotte Smith. These runners were deserved individual House Champions but it was the house of Gawsforth which was overall winner of the team event.

Cross Country Colours were awarded to: William Davies, Ben Kersh, Sam Worthington, Jimmy Foxton, Hugh Horne, Charlotte Smith and Susie Moors.

DCB

Football

The U11 football team (pictured) began the year with the Macclesfield Primary Schools' tournament held at Derby Fields, which King's was hopeful of winning for the 3rd successive year. In a tough opening fixture against Whirley, the boys were fortunate to win 1-0, thanks to a powerful shot from outside the area from midfielder Hayden Heath. After a comfortable 5-0 victory over Upton Priory, King's progressed as group winners and faced the other two group winners in a triangular finale to decide the overall champions. After a hard-fought 0-0 draw against St Alban's, the boys were unfortunate to win by only 1-0 against Marlborough, though they dominated the game and created several goal-scoring opportunities. St Alban's defeated Marlborough by a greater margin, so were crowned champions, with King's finishing in 2nd place. After winning the plate competition in the King's Invitation Tournament, the boys travelled to Bury Grammar for the opening round of the AJIS Cup. Having fallen 2-0 behind early in the match, they responded magnificently with an excellent individual effort from Hayden Heath, followed by a tidy finish from Josh Rajendran, to level the match at 2-2 at half-time. Unfortunately, the team were unable to maintain this resurgence, with two further goals scored by an excellent Bury team in the second half: Bury went on to win

the competition. In the local Primary Schools' league, King's fielded both A and B teams, with the A team experiencing a mixed set of results, winning 3 and losing 3 of their 6 games, the highlight being a 3-1 victory over the eventual winners, St Alban's. The B team performed extremely well, winning 5 and drawing 1 of their 6 games to win the league title comfortably, for the 2nd successive season.

The season finished with the Reliance Sevens Finals, held at Hollinhey School. After qualifying for the finals in March, King's hoped to retain the trophy won last year. In the semi-final match against Prestbury, the opposition scored mid-way through the second half to take a 1-0 lead; however King's showed great determination, fought back and were rewarded with a close-range effort from Josh Rajendran towards full-time. This sent the match into a penalty shoot-out. After an epic contest, it was eventually decided with an excellent save from Joey Chong, followed by the decisive penalty from William Davies. In the final King's were unable to repeat their league win against a very impressive St Alban's team at the end of the Spring term and were defeated 2-0.

King's Junior Football colours were awarded to Hayden Heath, Ben Kersh and William Davies.

U10s played several fixtures, improving significantly as the year progressed. After early season defeats against Newcastle-under-Lyme, Bury Grammar and King's Chester, the A team performed more successfully in the Spring term, starting with a domi-

nant 8-2 victory away against Birkenhead Prep. This was followed by a promising performance in the AJIS U10 Festival, held at Derby Fields, with victories recorded against The Grange, Birkenhead Prep, Westholme and QEGS, Blackburn. The season ended with an exciting away fixture against MGS. King's started briskly with some fine attacking play, however this was regularly thwarted by an outstanding opposition goalkeeper. Nevertheless, the boys persevered and were rewarded with goals either side of half-time, to lead 2-0. Unfortunately, King's conceded a soft goal mid-way through the second half and an equalising goal with a few minutes left. As the game appeared to be heading for a disappointing 2-2 draw, James Payne scored a fine winning goal to record a deserved 3-2 victory.

The B team showed a great deal of endeavour through what proved to be a difficult season. After starting with a 2-2 draw against Newcastle-under-Lyme School, defeats were experienced against Bury Grammar, King's Chester and MGS. The highlight of the season proved to be the comfortable 3-0 victory away against Birkenhead Prep, which was met with great excitement by the boys.

U9s began their school football career with a 'friendly' fixture against The Grange School, with wins for both the A and B teams. The boys then hosted Bury Grammar School early in the Spring Term. The A team impressed both sets of spectators with their dynamic, skilful play and were rewarded with a resound-



ing 8-3 victory. Unfortunately, the B team were on the receiving end of an identical scoreline. To finish the season, King's was involved in two tournaments, starting with the AJIS U9 Festival. The boys contested several short matches and performed extremely well throughout, defeating Bury Grammar, Merchant Taylors', Newcastle-under-Lyme, Westholme and Birkenhead Prep. The nature of the festival enabled the boys to play in many different positions to experience a variety of roles within the team, to which they adapted successfully. The following week, King's hosted the Macclesfield Primary Schools' U9 Festival at Derby Fields, entering two teams from Year 4 and one from Year 3. All of the boys played with great enthusiasm throughout the morning, developing their skills and teamwork as a result. Overall, the teams finished with positive records: the A team won 5 matches, the B team won 2 matches and the C team won 4 matches overall.

MW/NB/ST

Golf

King's Golf team has gone from strength to strength this year. One team entered the HMC foursomes competition and was successful in reaching the semi-finals, eventually going out to a strong team from Worksop. Matthew Aldred, Matthew and Elliot Payne, Finlay Calder, Will Hodgson, Matthew Salt, Oliver Plant, Finlay McCance and Remy Miller admirably represented the school.

For the first time, two teams also

entered the Independent School Golf Association (ISGA) competition, with great success. Both teams reached the North West regional final, ensuring that one would be representing King's in the National Final at the highly prestigious Open Championship course at Carnoustie, Scotland. Finlay Calder, Matthew Salt and Oliver Plant were the unlucky losers in the regional final, so it was Matthew and Elliot Payne, along with team captain, Matthew Aldred, who were fortunate enough to take the trip. Two excellently competitive days were spent at Carnoustie, playing both the Championship course and its equally challenging sister course, The Burnside. King's was one of twenty schools participating and the boys gave a superb account of themselves in both individual and team competition.

It is gratifying to know that there is now a well-established and highly motivated squad of golfers throughout the school, who are looking forward to even more success next year.

DAF

Boys' Hockey

1st XI

The 1st XI had a very pleasing season. With the transition in pitch facilities underway throughout the entirety of the season, it was a test of commitment for players to commute regularly to every training session and match fixture. Nonetheless, the squad accumulated an excellent set of results to reflect upon.

Their success did not come about by luck. As a group they were

very motivated and determined to improve and this showed in their focused approach to training and the huge efforts they put into each match. This was quite a young and inexperienced team, with only a few Upper Sixth form players from last season to rely on, but the team matured and with an average of 3 goals scored per match, the results demonstrate the dominance they established over the opposition in many of the fixtures.

Though every player contributed significantly to each match, there were some outstanding performances. In the defence, Callum McIlveen set himself up as an impassable force for attackers, supported by clinical tackling from Ed McKee and intelligent distribution from Jordan Grocott and Tom Lynch. In the midfield, the superb work rate of Jamie Edgerton, Henry Hodlen, Andy Bryant and Chris Taylor, diffused any attempts by the opposition to gather momentum in the field. Meanwhile upfront, Max Hayward and James Ireland ran circles around the opposition defence, collecting countless goals and several hat-tricks between them. In goal, Jonathan Goldfinch was consistently on top form, despite his relative inexperience in this role and his dynamic reaction skills continually denied the opposition's attackers any chance of glory within our D.

The squad became Cheshire Champions, winning their local group easily. At the regional qualifying tournament, the test for them would be if they could produce the quality and standard of play necessary against much more challenging opposition. In the group stages they produced a Draw, Win and a Lose. Despite an overall strong performance, this was not enough to see them through to the qualifying rounds of the Nationals. There were two highlights of the season: the 4-1 victory against Altrincham Grammar - all the more impressive when you consider that the team lost 3-5 to them in their first encounter two months earlier, and the 2-2 draw against Calday Grange, with an exceptionally strong team in an end of season battle.

The team rounded the season off with a successful and action-packed weekend tour to Bath for their hockey festival. In the closing weeks of the Easter term, we even managed to get our first match on our new Astro. Everybody was keen to



christen the new pitch with a victory, and the team did not disappoint with a 4-2 win over Cheadle Hulme. The whole team should view this season as one to be remembered with great pride and achievement. With our new facilities now in place at our home ground, next season is hotly awaited with greater national ambitions.

SFM

U16

The U16 squad had a successful season in their final year as an age group side. Their development over the years as hockey players and also as characters and individuals has been excellent. It seems a long time ago that the group as Year 8s had a long discussion on the benefits of 'team' ethics and helping each other as part of a group. The lessons were well learnt and the team became a strong unit, who were fun to be around and who always worked hard in the game.

There was certainly no shortage of talent in the team: Player of the Season, Robin Laughton captained the team in a very calm and efficient way and Josh Towne was a very strong and skilful payer who could play anywhere on the pitch. Robin and Josh were by no means the only stars in the 1st team: Harry Booton's switch from outfield player to become a very strong goalkeeper was a good one and defensively the three Olivers (MacFadyen, Andrews and Papadimitriou) were outstanding all the way through their time at school. Daniel Allmand-Smith also played in the team from the start of Year 8; he is a strong midfield player who tackled and distributed well. James Shering and Harry Meadows were both extremely skilful players; James kept the game simple while Harry had the ability to perform difficult skills extremely

well. Thomas Andresen grew with every performance and became a very reliable left midfield player. The Will Harris/Ashley Barrett combination up front was full of running, with strong positional play and good ball skills.

We wish our players all the best for the future and thank them for their contributions over the years. Some are moving; they will be missed, but we hope that they will continue to play and enjoy hockey. For those who remain, as they move into the senior sides with the benefit of magnificent new facilities, the future looks exciting.

SM

U15

This was an eventful season for the U15 team, which took on new players and built in strength and confidence as the season progressed. A weak start to the season meant losses against MGS, Hall Cross and Calday Grange, but it was good to see promising Man of the Match performances from Harry Broughton, Paul Roberts and Jonathan Provis. Sadly, key player and Captain, Harry Broughton, returned to Australia during the Christmas holiday; he was a fundamental part of the team.

After Christmas, the season got into full swing with victories over St Anselm's and Bolton, with Chris Harrop, Todd Leddy and Will McIlveen securing goals and displaying very strong performances. Towards the end of the season, there was a tough defeat to Guernsey, with Rhys Bowen and Todd Leddy playing solid games. The season finished with a very tight defeat to a strong Rossall side and another win against St Anselm's, where goalkeeper Jack Lucas pulled off an outstanding save off a penalty flick and was awarded Man of the Match.

Congratulations must go to Paul Roberts who was awarded Player of the Season. Also to Will McIlveen, Todd Leddy and Chris Harrop, who completed the first team tour to Bath and to Chris and Todd for consistently representing the 1st team and JRPC, which was a remarkable achievement.

SM

U14

This season saw a vast improvement from our previous seasons. The move from seven a side to eleven a side allowed our top players to express and develop their skill, and allowed new players to join and progress in the team. Our technical abilities improved significantly throughout the season.

Our best game was the 3-3 draw against Calday Grange in the Cup, to whom we had previously lost 5-0. This was because of the determination and drive that the team showed, as well as a hat-trick from Sam Buckingham. The highlight of the season was our 6-1 win against Bolton, in which all the team played well.

Philip Hunt was our top goal scorer, with an impressive total of 8 goals in 15 games. Callum Snook was the Player of the Season, displaying consistency and focus, as well as technique and vision. It was obvious that throughout the season, our most improved player was Ben Lauber. This season was his first with the team, and he showed glimmers of a great player, even from his first few games. As well as Ben, other new faces in our squad included Max Ridings and Sean Neary, who had both previously played the sport, with the latter scoring more than one goal a game. Kieran Jones, Daniel Bergman and Alex Fray were also new to hockey, and played and developed as the season went by.



Our defence this season consisted of Max Gillson, our Captain; Joe Laughton and Ben Lauber our centre-backs; Keeran Manoharan, who narrowly missed out on the Player of the Season award, at left-back; Kieran Jones at right-back, and our acrobatic and unconventional keeper, Adam Boulton-Rawlinson. Sean Neary, Archie Philips, Max Ridings and Oscar Jackson showed pace and flair on the wings. Callum Snook and Charlie Toms provided the spark of creativity that we previously lacked from defensive midfield. They also created a deadly link with attacking midfielder, Phil Hunt, who provided strikers Cameron McKinnon, Michael Naismith, Daniel Bergman, Alec Welch and Sam Buckingham with plenty of goal scoring opportunities.

We wish to thank Mr Moores, Mr Parfett and Mr Ainsworth for helping us not only to play, but also to enjoy the sport.

*Max Gillson 9KB
Keeran Manoharan 9KB*

U13

This was a good season from a squad of talented players who made excellent progress. The season's highlights included victories over MGS,

Newcastle-under-Lyme and Cheadle Hulme, being runners-up to Altrincham Grammar School in the Cheshire Sevens, and semi-finalists in the North England Finals, though beaten once again by a very strong team from Altrincham.

Stick skills developed at a pace for all, as our players took full advantage of coaching. Very good levels of attendance at training from the twenty-man squad and strong availability for matches generated headaches with selection, but it was a nice problem to solve. Individual players gelled into an effective team; they supported one another with sound advice and plenty of encouragement.

The low count for goals conceded is a testament to Tom Carter's strong performances as goal keeper - he kept six clean sheets and in four matches he allowed just one goal to beat him - along with impressive improvement by all players in tackling. Excellent central defensive duties carried out by Will Harrop, Louis Hogarth and Tom Dennett provided a barrier to the opposition and prevented many attacks reaching our final third. Charlie Toms, who accumulated 'points' to be our most valuable player with Sam Buckingham, just pipped him and top goal

scorer, Archie Phillips, to the Player of the Year award. Oliver Clemetson's and Harry Hehir's extensive running and confidence with the ball provided good attacking opportunities. Joshua Barratt, George Connolly, Ferguson Roylance, James Rous, Bryan Kuzov, Harvey Wild and Yuyu Xiang were invaluable team players and will no doubt in the near future become even more influential in the game.

IJR

U12 A&B

The U12 hockey season got off to a slow start. Most of our players were newcomers to the sport and the initial absence of an astroturf meant that skills and game-play developed using a large, hollow ball bobbling along a grass pitch in the fading winter light. Despite our disadvantage, both our teams managed to give the opposition a good run for their money in the majority of our early games. However, as the season progressed, our skills improved, as did our understanding of the game: finally our teams began to take shape.

We saw some excellent attacking play from Mark Stevenson, Jamie Shuttleworth, Jonny Murray and James Davis and some great defence from George Holden and Jason Ken-



ning. But perhaps most impressive, was the development of George Dickenson, who stepped up, mid-season, to cover the unfilled position of A team keeper.

As time went by, things started to look up. In February, we had our best result of the season, beating Cheadle Hulme by 6 goals to 0. Man of the Match was Cubby Callaghan, who scored a total of 4 goals. By March, we'd really got things together and managed to get both our A and B teams into the semi-finals of the Rydal Sevens Tournament, with the A team narrowly missing out on a place in the final, losing 1-0 to the host school, Rydal.

For all of our players, this season proved to have been a hugely enjoyable and memorable time. We all made lots of new friends and many talents were found. A number of our team members have now joined local hockey clubs with our A team Captain making it through to the East Cheshire County squad. With our fantastic new astroturf and a year's worth of experience under our belts, there can be high hopes for another season of excellent hockey next year!

Sam Jones 7SLQ

Girls' Hockey

U16

The season started slowly, with the girls seeming to lack in confidence and being extremely quiet on the pitch. After several after school training sessions and games lessons, their skills and positional awareness quickly progressed and they began to gel as a team, becoming more vocal on the pitch and having more confidence in their individual abilities and as a team. The most memorable game of this season was against Wilmslow High School in the Preliminary County Tournament, where the girls fought hard and were determined to keep out their key players in attack. The game ended in a draw against a very well-drilled opposition, which included many County players. The final game of the season was against Alderley Edge School for Girls with the team consisting of a couple of U15 players (Allana Buckingham and Eleanor Toms) and girls from the U16 squad, and the 2-0 win was a great way to end a season. The team showed some great attacking link up play and had a high percentage of outcomes in the circle.

Overall, the season produced a mixture of results, however the girls soon realised when they played to their best ability they definitely gave the opposition schools a good game. There were many impressive individual performances, however Abigail Johnston stood out, not only for her individual skills but for her work rate on and off the ball - her presence on the pitch was invaluable. Next year is an exciting year for Girls' hockey, especially as we will be able to host some home fixtures with our new facilities and have consistent training on the new pitches. We are confident that it will be an even more successful year.

SAH

U15

The U15 team had a fantastic season, going undefeated from September. Their first fixture was away to Rydal Penrhos, which they won comfortably 4-0, and they followed this with a 2-0 win over King's Chester. The spine of the team consisted of Allana Buckingham, Charlotte Horne, Georgia Hehir, Eleanor Toms and Natalie Stevens and, along with their team-mates, they proved too hard to beat. The



final game before Christmas, the girls were back at Upton, to take on Queen's Chester, where they secured a 3-1 victory, with top class goals from Charlotte Horne, Briony Phillips and Georgia Hehir, and some well-executed penalty corners.

After Christmas, the girls returned with renewed vigour and took on Liverpool College on a cold frosty morning: in no time they comfortably slipped in 5 goals for a convincing win. Each player had developed her awareness of teammates and her understanding of her role within the team, so that the team's attacking play was hard to challenge. Under excellent captaincy from Allana Buckingham, King's proved unstoppable and beat Altrincham Grammar School 5-0 in a very physical game: outstanding play came from Eleanor Toms, Anna Cartwright and Player of the Match, goalkeeper Emily Jacques, who proved too much for the Altrincham forwards. Quick, intense passing from Georgia Hehir, Evie Homer and Allana Buckingham forced regular errors from the Altrincham defence and King's took no time in converting every opportunity, in what was a truly outstanding game.

The last game of the season took the girls to Withington and with a couple of illnesses within the squad, call-ups were given to a few new players who took it in their stride and proved again what progress they also made this season. King's won comfortably 4-0 making them undefeated this year, which proves that they are a team to be reckoned with.

Congratulations to Allana Buckingham and Eleanor Toms who both represented Cheshire and JRPC (North of England), and Georgia Hehir who represented Cheshire this year.

VJ

U14

Previously, U14 teams have tended to rely on a couple of key players but this season we were determined to change that and the team grew in confidence, with many players, such as Evie O'Brien, Helen Nixon and Verity Griffin, playing in a multitude of positions. Some fine individual skill from Annabel Hebb saw many impressive

goals scored and a 6-0 win at Rydal proved how well the girls had bonded and progressed. Another victory came at NULS, with some excellent combined play from Victoria Blackwell and Georgina Boden.

U14 took a 3-1 defeat at Queen's Chester, which made the girls even more determined to improve. Their excellent goalkeeper, Natalie Stevens, pulled off some fantastic saves.

The girls drew to King's Chester, which was an excellent result, and another win at Liverpool College boosted the girls' confidence. In the qualifying round of the Cheshire tournament, they outplayed Wilmslow, beating them 2-0 and Holmes Chapel 5-0, with some great play. Very calm play from Saffron Rossi allowed the forwards to attack the opposition's defence time and time again, placing them in the final, which was played at Chester.

Unfortunately, the squad had a set back and lost two integral players: during club games, Annabel Hebb dislocated her shoulder and Victoria Blackwell broke her elbow, which ruled them out for the season. The girls played Withington without two crucial players but, as testament to how far they had grown as a squad, they won 1-0. Excellent play from both Natalie Stevens and Evie O'Brien, plus a fantastic goal from Verity Griffin, secured the win.

The Cheshire Final took place at the end of the season and although Annabel Hebb had returned, the team was still missing Victoria Blackwell and Emma Gosnay.

The first game was against Bishop Heber: although the team was strong and confidence high, they were unable to convert the chances created and Bishop Heber managed to sneak one past Natalie Stevens, to make it 1-0. With the

weather throwing at them every possible condition, the girls took on Queen's, but unfortunately,

they lost 1-0 in the last minute of the game.

The girls held Lymm to a 0-0 draw and they finished joint 3rd overall, which was a fantastic result, as they were playing the strongest teams in the county.

The team showed a tremendous amount of passion, commitment and improvement during the season. Annabel Hebb and Victoria Blackwell represented Cheshire and Natalie Stevens also represented Cheshire and has progressed to JRPC (North of England).

VJ

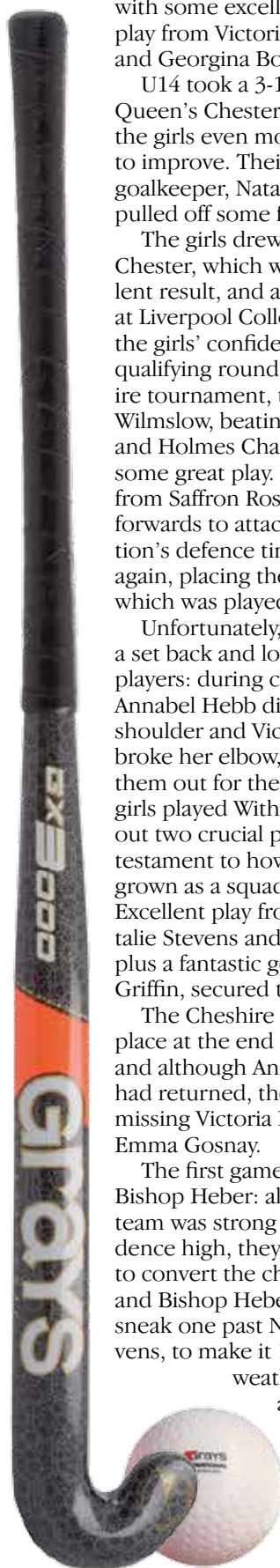
U13

This was a very successful season, with wins against Tytherington, Falibroome, Upton and King's Chester, and draws against Alderley Edge School for Girls and Rydal Penrhos. The team showed huge levels of commitment in after school training and extra lunchtime sessions, and were very keen to improve as individuals and as a team. The most memorable game was against AESG, which finished at 0-0: however the girls dominated this game, creating many scoring chances, and spent the majority of the game in the opposition's half of the pitch. With many impressive performances, the outstanding players of the season were Olivia Moores - with an extremely high work rate, she improved immensely over the season in her elimination skills and positional awareness - and Adele Le Moignan - a dominant player holding the middle of the pitch and working incredibly hard in defence and attack. Both girls played in the U14 County Finals. Many of this team will remain next year and hopefully we will see a few new faces, to be able to build on a great season.

SAH

U12

The season began with a convincing 7-1 win against Tytherington High School. With a fairly large squad of U12s, rotation was the key throughout the season to give all a chance to play. Showing huge commitment in after school sessions, their fitness, individual skills and game awareness improved dramatically and they began to gel remarkably well. Their most memorable game was against Altrincham Grammar School; with a resounding 4-0 win the girls played some of their best hockey, producing



great attacking play down the left and the right, along with a solid defence. Amongst many impressive individual performances, the outstanding players of the season were Alex Cairns, who showed her dominance as a centre midfielder, maintained possession well and worked extremely hard, and Lucy Griffiths, who stamped her mark as a right midfielder and created some great goal-scoring chances. Each member of the squad made considerable improvements; they can only continue to improve and grow as a squad next season.

SAH

U11

The U11 team started the season with a mini tournament at Stockport Grammar School, with the focus on coaching rather than on winning. The girls competed in a number of friendly fixtures against local schools with varying degrees of success.

By the time the Mini-Cheshire tournament came in February, two much improved teams headed to Chester, where they met stiff opposition but acquitted themselves very well and ended up group 2 winners. Sarah Turner bravely played on, despite receiving an accidental ball to the face.

In March, the team headed to Preston Arena for the AJIS hockey tourna-

ment where 20 schools competed. Despite being drawn in a tough opening group, the team finished 2nd in round one and eventually came 8th overall. Charlotte Warren, as Captain, encouraged her teammates and all girls showed determination and much improved teamwork.

The finale of the season was a mini tournament at Lady Barn House School. The girls narrowly missed out on goal difference, to end as runners-up to Lady Barn.

Hockey colours were awarded to: Charlotte Warren, Sarah Turner and Flossie Blackwell.

JEB

Netball

This was the most successful year to date, with many individual and team successes. In the Macclesfield and District Netball League, the sum of all the teams' netball achievements gave King's 2nd place in the Aggregate Trophy and as the second Most Improved School. 1st team Captain, Laura Venables was awarded Sports-woman of the Year.

This year has seen the highest level of netball played, with the U16 team achieving 4th place in the North West in the National Schools' Netball Competition and the highest number

of girls gaining County selection and progressing through the Performance Pathway to Regional representation. Clearly the new netball courts and the enthusiasm of the coaching staff have motivated and inspired the netballers.

With the addition of four new outdoor courts at Cumberland Street, the Sports Tour to Barbados and the workshop given by Karen Greig, England International and Manchester Thunder coach, the girls should feel well placed to face the 2014-15 season.

CJC

Seniors

Sixth Form netball was very successful this season. In the Macclesfield and District league, the first team came 2nd overall, narrowly missing 1st place, to Fallibroome in a close-fought match. For many of us, this was the closest we ever came to beating them. The match was tough, with maximum effort from all players and the end result, despite losing, was still an achievement.

With a new group of Year 12s joining the squad, it was an exciting start to see what our diverse group of netball players could offer. Over the season, the 1st team recorded wins against a number of strong schools, including QEGS Blackburn, Birkenhead, Lymm, The Grange and





Antonia Bianchi, Imogen McCance and Sophia Bird and were selected to attend North West regional screening for netball.

Denstone. We faced some tough opposition, so that perseverance and commitment to the game was paramount and team cohesion grew throughout the squad. Successful shooting and tenacious attacking from Kate Garnett, Megan Barton, Vicky Provis and Emily Mort was supported with fast-paced centre court action from Sophie Quinn, Beth Burrows, Karen Edge, Katie Fray, Hiba Kokan, Francesca Smith and Swetha Suresh. This season proved the 'zone' to be a very effective defending technique, which Laura Venables, Julia Smith and Anja Knudsen used to excellent effect against some tough shooting opposition. Injuries to key players left the team depleted towards the end of the season, but the remaining team pulled together to finish off the season. One disappointment was the poor weather; a number of games were called off and match time was reduced for both the 1st and 2nd teams. The addition of all-weather courts at the Cumberland Street site this year, will be sure to enrich future teams in both training and match play.

For many of the girls in the squad, this was a successful and memorable season on which to conclude seven years of netball. Over the years, we developed well as a team and enjoyed many amusing experiences in the process.

Team: Laura Venables (Captain),

Keren Edge, Kate Garnett, Katie Cornish, Julia Smith, Hiba Kokan, Megan Barton, Swetha Suresh, Francesca Smith, Anja Knudsen, Victoria Provis, Emily Mort, Sophie Quinn, Bethany Burrows, Katie Fray, Elaine Goulbourn and Jenny Shone.

Laura Venables 13LCW

U16

To date, this was the most successful season for the U16s. They were an extremely competitive group of netballers with huge energy, tenacity and determination. Each time the girls took to the court, the squad produced a high standard of netball and they improved markedly over the year. There was considerable quality within the squad with Eleanor Bird representing the North West, Sophia Bird and Imogen McCance playing for Cheshire County and others playing for local clubs.

The U16 squad qualified in the Cheshire rounds of the National Schools' Tournament. They went on to the North West rounds and finished a commendable fourth, having competed against some of the best Netball schools in the North West, the highest result achieved by any year group within King's. The outstanding match of the year was against Newcastle-under-Lyme, a strong netball school, which has always provided a tough test for King's teams. This year, the U16s produced tremendous netball, to beat them resoundingly.

The squad has many memories and friendships; this camaraderie not only assisted with our match play

but also made every moment of the season both immensely enjoyable and extremely special.

Imogen McCance 11VHB

U15

This was a hugely successful season for the U15 squad. The team members worked hard to advance individual skills and refine their work as a team.

The Cheshire County Tournament was held in some of the most challenging conditions and the squad played through hailstone, rain, wind and freezing temperatures. Despite the horrendous conditions, they displayed great determination and teamwork, finishing 5th within their Division.

Later in the season, the girls produced an impressive display of competitive netball in beating all teams and becoming Champions at the Rydal Penrhos invitational tournament. Here they were able to showcase some more advanced skills and zoning strategies that had been worked on in training. The squad also learnt new defending techniques which were applied during the tournament.

There were many great matches during the season with admirable wins against Liverpool College, QEGS Blackburn, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Stockport Grammar, St Edwards and Rydal Penrhos. Another highlight of the season was coming 2nd in the Macclesfield and District League. It was a proud achievement for the squad and emphasized the great improvement this year.

CJC/Georgia Cooper-Taylor 10RAA

U14

The U14s had a slow start to the season, with mixed results and a large defeat by an extremely strong Withington team. This defeat had an effect on team morale and caused the girls to lose confidence. Training sessions were limited because of poor weather conditions, but the squad regrouped and worked exceptionally hard on their basic skills and strategic play. After much hard work, commitment, desire and determination, the squad began to work together and produced some fabulous results.

The National Schools' Tournament took place in November. Some fantastic netball was played with a competitive spirit. Unfortunately, the squad did not make it beyond the first round but lessons were learnt and

further increased the determination to improve.

Good victories followed against QEGS Blackburn, Denstone, Rydal Penrhos and St Edward's, and it was clear that progress was being made. Within the Macclesfield and District Netball League, the girls went a long time unbeaten, with some outstanding match play, before they finished as runners-up, having been narrowly beaten by Fallibroome.

The Cheshire County Netball Tournament took place at the end of the season. The squad worked tirelessly and played some excellent, competitive netball, easing into the semi-finals. King's Chester proved to be an extremely hard opposition but with guidance and strategic coaching, the girls progressed into the final. Unfortunately, the team lost to Christleton 6-9, in a competitive, hard-fought final. This was a very positive end to a roller-coaster season that would not have happened without great teamwork and exceptionally hard work put in by the whole squad.

CJC/Antonia Bianchi 9SJH

U13

The U13 netball team made great progress over the season. They began with a heavy defeat against Stockport Grammar in the U13 National Schools' Cup match where, despite versatile play by Anna Kaczmarczyk and sharp defending from Ffiona

Booker, SGS were the more mature and faster team. Gradually however, the squad experienced some success in the Macclesfield and District League matches, which gave them confidence in their ability to play well.

They fought hard in the HMC Netball tournament at Stonyhurst in October, against some strong opposition. Effective movement and shooting from Sophie Moss enabled the team to finish in a credible 5th place. Although it was an exhausting day of netball, the girls thoroughly enjoyed the experience and learnt a great deal about themselves as netballers. Impressive shooting from Lizzie Adams and Sophie Moss led to excellent wins against QEGS Blackburn, The Grange, Rydal, Denstone College and Liverpool College, and combined with victories in the Macclesfield and District Netball League this gave the team increased confidence.

In the Rydal Invitation Tournament, the team played with sophistication and determination to win all the games except the final one against St Mary's Hall. This was close-fought and exciting, the result determining the winners of the tournament. Sadly, King's lost by two goals and received runners-up medals but should be proud of their achievements. Tenuous performances from Grace Gudgeon and Olivia Moores were particularly appreciated.

At the U13 County Tournament,

the team was unlucky to miss out on reaching the semi-finals by just one point. However, they played well together, demonstrating increased assertiveness and understanding of positional responsibilities.

At the end of the season, the team finished in 3rd place in the MDNL, having won all but two of their games against the local schools.

The players should be proud of the progress they have made and encouraged by their achievements this season. Several girls joined netball clubs outside school and benefited from the extra experience and opportunity to play more netball, and Olivia Moores should be congratulated on her selection for U14 County Satellites.

LB

U12

The U12 team (below) had an amazing season. From the onset it was clear that this was a year group with lots of potential. A large group of girls regularly attended Netball club after school and were most enthusiastic, displaying a good skill set in the lessons and team practices. Although they lost their first match against Withington, solid wins against QEGS Blackburn and The Grange gave them greater confidence and when they started to believe in themselves, further victories followed against Rydal, Denstone, St Edward's and Liverpool



College. The team went from strength to strength, losing to only one team in the rest of the season, aided by great shooting skills from Chantelle Carroll and Alex Cairns and sharp defending from Saffron Milner.

In the County Tournament, they played with great determination in an exhausting marathon of ten matches. They played Fallibroome in the first game and won, which gave them the confidence to go on to defeat the remaining nine teams, crowning them as County Champions!

In the Macclesfield and District Tournament (MDNL), sadly a lack of self-belief and team unity led to a defeat against Fallibroome and they finished in 2nd place. Yet, in the MDNL league matches throughout the year, King's played impressively, losing only one game and finishing in second place. The U12B team went one better in winning the MDNL trophy and finishing the season undefeated.

Several members of this squad

joined netball clubs outside school and this enhanced their game play enormously, giving greater experience of match play and contact with netball. Chantelle Carroll is congratulated on her County selection this season and we look forward to her continued success, along with Saffron Rossi who was successfully selected for U14 County Satellites. The girls have the ability to become one of King's most successful netball teams.

LB

U11

The U11 team (pictured) was able to overcome a disappointing start to the season to become the Macclesfield and District Primary Schools' Netball champions in March. Captain, Susie Moores battled with illness for the latter half of the season. Two of our U10 players, Lottie Dennett and Isabel Moores, were recruited as substitutes.

At a friendly tournament at Terra Nova School in the Spring term, the

U11 team played strongly against a tough opposition, to position 3rd overall. Susie Moores and Lauren Harbige proved a formidable duo in the shooting circle, scoring a remarkable total of 32 goals.

King's U11 team were unbeaten in the local primary schools' league. After winning four of their matches and drawing two, they were the eventual joint winners of League 1. The girls continued their winning streak in the end-of-year Primary Schools' Tournament, where they won all of their matches, including a nail-biting final against Upton Priory, in which the score was drawn until seconds before the end of the match when a calm, calculated shot by substitute Lottie Dennett, won the tournament.

King's U10 netballers have proved themselves a strong team, winning the majority of their matches, giving them confidence for future successes.

NS





Rounders

U15

This squad was an effective team, being undefeated in all of their games. They began with an impressive win against Tytherington High School and continued to be successful against Newcastle-under-Lyme and Cheadle Hulme School. Amy Follos proved to be a consistent and fluid bowler and with Rachel Catlin as backstop and the safe hands of Briony Phillips on second base, the opposition found it difficult to score even a half rounder against us. Brilliant throwing skills from Eleanor Toms and Georgia Hehir made the team very strong in fielding, and excellent batting skills from Olivia Shaughnessey strengthened their scores.

The girls also enjoyed the 20th Birthday rounders tournament in April, where they played with determination against teams of parents and sixth formers. This was a memorable and enjoyable evening, with very good rounders skills on display.

LB

U14

This was a hugely successful season for the U14s, who remained unbeaten throughout. The team got off to an outstanding start with a resounding win against Tytherington, which provided the spring-board for victory over arch rivals Newcastle-under-Lyme. With continued hard coaching, commitment and enthusiasm, the squad prepared for a succession of games. Sadly, the weather turned against us, so that what was likely to be the most competitive game, against Denstone College, was cancelled. After a slow innings on an unconventional pitch at Cheadle Hulme,

a focused team talk was required to help the team turn the score around to register another win. Scoring was difficult in the home game against Withington, who played a tight field. King's replied with some strategic bowling and a strong attacking field of their own to earn a convincing 18 ½ - 9 victory. Over the season, the squad's fielding skills were consistent and accurate, making it difficult for the opposition to score. The squad had strength and depth, and the effort, commitment and hard work certainly paid off in producing an unbeaten record for the season.

CJC/Alex Clarke, Captain (9TSJ)

U13

The girls started the season with a strong win against Tytherington, giving a good all-round team performance but, with many key players missing, they suffered a loss against a very good, well-drilled opposition, Newcastle-under-Lyme. Bad weather and unplayable pitches meant that two fixtures were cancelled, which left the girls plenty of time to polish up certain areas of their game. They followed this with their best performance against Cheadle Hulme, winning 14 1/2-9 and demonstrating great fielding skills along with effective batting. The Player of the Season was Grace Gudgeon, who was voted for on many occasions by the opposition and her team mates. She scored the highest number of rounders during the season, hitting the ball extremely well and being an effective deep fielder with a good arm. The whole team improved over the Summer term, attending extra lunchtime practices and showing their commitment to the game. They became more confident in their abilities, playing off bases and

communicating more effectively when fielding and preventing half rounders being scored by the opposition. The most improved player was Olivia Moores, an extremely versatile player, who played a number of positions but also improved her batting technique. This was a strong season for all and great team spirit was shown; the girls should certainly progress onto next season with confidence.

SAH

U12

Nearly 50% of this year group played for King's this season. There was excellent strength demonstrated in a range of positions, with a combination of determined batting and very organised and consistent fielding being employed. Several players excelled: Frankie Sawyer showed supreme confidence and scored rounders in every game she played; Beth Tatton did some terrific fielding, and took four catches in one game; Connie Ward made 'second deep' her own. After some convincing wins at the start of the season against Tytherington and Newcastle-under-Lyme, the girls suffered some narrow losses against Cheadle and Withington, despite playing very well. This year group will doubtless prove to be a strong rounders side in the years ahead.

JLD

Juniors

After-school practice for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 were, as always, very popular and well-attended. With such a short half-term, it was a challenge for Year 6 girls to find time to practise and play fixtures. The weather affected some events and resulted in the cancellation of the AJIS tournament. Nevertheless, girls played a number of fixtures, some indoors where necessary. They were always keen to attend practices and to play to the best of their ability in matches. Years 4 and 5 also played several fixtures, showing an excellent level of good sportsmanship and enjoyment of the game. The girls steadily became more consistent in their fielding and batting skills, developing their awareness of tactical play and their contribution to the team. Years 4, 5 and 6 pupils participated in the House rounders matches: Capesthorne was the unbeaten and deserving winner.

JC

Rugby

1st XV

This was another good season for the King's 1st XV under the captaincy of Oscar Kenny: they finished the season with a record of played 16; won 11; lost 5. Points scored were 454, whilst only conceding 177. On average, the team scored 28 points per match and conceded just 11 and these statistics were enough to place the school tenth in the Daily Mail national rankings.

There were many highlights of the season and most of them came in games when the side attacked with purpose and intensity and were able to get key runners beyond the gain line, whereby a well-paced off-load game could flourish. This was particularly evident against QEGS Wakefield, Lymm HS and St Ambrose. Other highlights included beating a strong Adams GS side away; Denstone College away and beating Lancaster GS for the second time in succession. Wins were also recorded over MGS, QEGS Ashbourne, Nottingham HS and Wilmslow HS, all before Christmas.

Perhaps the two most entertaining rugby spectacles, were the games against Woodhouse Grove and Sedbergh in October. These sides finished first and second respectively in the national rankings and, going into the final quarter of the games, King's led in both matches. Against Woodhouse, King's defended gallantly and yet in attack, when able to enter the opposition's 22, would

come away with points, thanks to the superb kicking of Matthew Stubbs. The game ebbed and flowed with telling contributions from both Dan Greer and Callum Burke, whilst up front Mike Parker and Oscar Kenny were immense. As the game entered injury time, King's were ahead by 14 points to 13, however, a turnover and a penalty then allowed Woodhouse to kick into the corner, win the lineout, set up a driving maul, only for their fly half to slot a drop goal to win the match as the full time whistle was blown. This was a devastating blow, but credit must go to Woodhouse: as they picked up their Daily Mail end of season award, they commented that this game was the hardest of their season.

Straight after this defeat, King's played Sedbergh under lights at Macclesfield RUFC in front of another capacity crowd and it once again proved to be a superb spectacle of top-quality, schoolboy rugby. Sedbergh ran out winners in the end, but only after they entered the last 15 minutes of the game 18-15 down. Once again, Mike Parker was outstanding and thoroughly deserved a North of England trial over Christmas. He was ably supported by Archie Thorneycroft, Jake Robinson, Dan Percival and Johnny Hammill up front, and Tom Mort who scampered over on the wing to finish a good backs move.

After such bruising encounters and close defeats, it is understandable that the boys struggled to pick themselves up in time for an unexpectedly below par midweek performance against



a strong Stockport GS side in the NatWest cup. However, as the season progressed, it was encouraging to see the likes of Jacob Percival, Will Hodgson, Harold Blackwell and Matthew Peakman, all in Year 11, consistently stepping up to make telling contributions at 1st XV level. These boys, along with Archie Thorneycroft, Harry Jackson, Dan Greer, Joey Hale and Johnny Hammill, who are entering their third season of 1st XV rugby, will be the fulcrum of the side and much of the leadership and responsibility will rest with them next season. The current squad of players are only too aware of the high expectations we have for them, as they will pull on the royal blue and white 1st XV jersey once again.

King's rugby players don't know when they are beaten, they never give





putting together the most complete fourteen minutes of Sevens I have ever seen by a schoolboy side, against Hymers College in the North of England Sevens - absolutely everything they did, in attack or defence was perfect.

Staff aim to produce intelligent, honest, courageous and skilful players, who enjoy and take pride in representing King's. We also strive to ensure they are part of a legacy and that they will have a life-long involvement and love for the game, whether on the pitch or off it. I would like to thank this year's leavers for all their efforts over the last three years: in the UK, in France, in Ireland, in Canada or in South Africa - rugby really is a global game enjoyed by many.

GAJM/JPB

2nd XV

The 2nd XV did not have the good fortune of the 1st XV team this year, but they still displayed some pleasing rugby.

Considering the age of the players, they performed very well, with personal highlights being against St Ambrose and Wilmslow HS, who were beaten in very physical encounters, by two and three points respectively. The skill level of the players improved drastically, thanks to the tactical genius of Mr Davenport, and the oc-

up and the camaraderie and team spirit of these sides is what makes the whole rugby experience at King's, for pupils, staff and parents, so very enjoyable.

I have had the pleasure of coaching many of the team members who left King's at the end of this year. Jake Robinson picked up the 1st XV Peter Matthews Cup for his effort and industry over the season, whilst the James Painton Award went to Callum Burke for an outstanding season on the pitch and huge contribution to team morale off it. Oscar Kenny was a

superb Captain, admirably supported by Matthew Stubbs, Tom Mort, Arran McCloskey, Ruairidh Nicholls, Mike Parker, Dan Percival and Laurence Holt.

In the Sevens and Tens season, Callum Burke and Laurence Holt were exceptional and it was good to have Tom Fairclough back, representing the school after his horrific injury last season. Highlights included reaching the Stonyhurst Sevens semi-final; playing against Millfield and Barnard Castle in the Sedbergh Tens at the Worcester Warriors' ground, and



casional comment from Mr Jones.

Comprehensive victories were recorded at the start of the season against MGS and Lymm HS: both games saw great work from the boys behind the scrum. The scrum half duo of Jonny Jones and Wilson Horton provided season-long service to the enigmatic fly half, Tom Key. The livewire centre pairing of Finlay McCance and the season's top try scorer, Dan Hinchcliffe, could always be counted upon to provide a very solid midfield, from which the wingers Josh Barkanyi, Jasper Rossi and Player of the Season, Jack Brierley, could operate. Captain Isaac Reaney took the full back slot; though capable of moments of magic, he also cost the side dear with some irregular goal-kicking.

Just prior to half term, the team registered two disappointing losses; the first against Woodhouse Grove and the second against Sedbergh. Despite losing 5-0 to Sedbergh, a sterling performance was given by the full team. The prop combination of Joe Murphy and Toby Sanderson helped along by Alistair Hanak's mobility and experience proved to be formidable. The hooker slot was taken by the ever-present Jack Salem and his lineout throwing skills improved throughout the season. The second row was occupied by the powerhouse of Liam Boyle, a player who was always on the first team fringe, and the hefty Tom Lucas, a hard running asset to the team. The back row was very changeable due to the quality of personnel available with Alec Mantel, Jack Qualtrough, Douglas Naismith, George Wood and Jacob Percival all able to work tirelessly when on the field.

Other members of the 2nd XV squad were Harold Thomson and Laurence Holt (when both were not on 1st team duty), utility player Jamie Cunningham, and Esteban Herpin, who was blighted by an early season injury.

After the half term break, there were three notable and creditable victories against Nottingham HS, Wilmslow HS and Solihull School.

Unfortunately, it seemed characteristic of the 2nd XV, that, after strong victories, poor results could follow. Even so, the spirit of the boys carried through to the end of the season, and they went on to beat St Ambrose, thanks to a last-second Jack Brierley moment of brilliance, and the comprehensive destruction of Altrincham



Grammar School right at the end of the season.

Over the course of the year, I believe that the results of the team did not do justice to the very attractive brand of rugby played. Though individual brilliance was frequently shown by one or two key players, not enough of the squad pushed hard for 1st XV selection.

All season long, the commitment of the boys was faultless and a true advert for the school.

Isaac Reaney (2nd XV Captain)

U16

The U16s produced an excellent fifteen a-side season and an outstanding Sevens campaign.

The players coped admirably with disruption to the squad caused by a number of factors. At the start of the year it became apparent that Harry

Blackwell and Matthew Peakman would be fixtures in the first team; later Will Hodgson, Jacob Percival, Callum Lavelle, Tom McClusky and Will Fairclough also played for the senior team. Added to this, long-term injuries to Jack Richardson, Joe Turner and Rory Wallace created further problems. Additionally, four players were involved in county and North division rugby, with two, Matthew Peakman and Will Hodgson (pictured) going on to England involvement. Despite this, the team lost only three games: away at Lancaster; a last gasp heart-breaker to Sedbergh in what was an outstanding display of rugby; and once again to nemesis Altrincham GS in the Cheshire Cup. All other games were won, many with no points conceded. Particularly pleasing were away wins at MGS, Adams GS and Kirkham GS. Most encourag-



ing was the way in which the squad developed game management, and improved fitness and conditioning throughout the year.

Jack Rodgers and Jacob Percival dominated scrums and should both be effective first team props. Jack Laing and Alex Barlow competed for the hooker birth and are developing well. In the second row, Matthew Price and Ewan Smith were very good at lineout, and mobile and aggressive around the field - later in the season Smith took responsibility for lineout management to great effect. In the back row, Oliver Kenny took over at number 8 and was strong and solid throughout the season. Callum Lavelle was outstanding throughout the season on the open side, whilst Rory Wallace and the versatile Harry Lumsden were competitive and aggressive. Mention must also be made of Ben Rowbottom who covered the second row position with determination and improved his skills throughout the year.

Credit must go to Captain Tom McClusky who brought increased maturity and control to the team, both on and off the field.

Kieran McKeever, stepping in for Will Hodgson at scrum half, ran well and linked quickly with the backs; Tom McClusky varied the options and distributed effectively to centres Max Lauber and Stewart Gurney, who ran challenging lines and also distributed well. Stewart Gurney also managed the backs defence well and always tackled bravely. The back three of William Fairclough, Ed Austin and Alex Krajewski ran with determination and pace, scoring many tries and always posed a threat. Alex Krajewski developed his game significantly over the year, both in attack and defence.

A real breakthrough was in the Sevens season, when the team won the Stonyhurst competition, showed considerable determination to win the County Plate the next day and reached the last sixteen in the national competition at Rosslyn Park. The entire squad undertook sevens training, including some brutal fitness drills, as part of their preparation for the South Africa tour. In the forwards, individual improvements allowed us depth and strike power. Jacob Percival cemented the inside forward role and improved his fitness to the point where he was virtually ever-present. Callum Lavelle was tireless and destructive at hooker and Matthew

Peakman and Oliver Kenny provided carrying power and breakdown nous on the other side of the scrum. At the Cheshire Sevens, they were supported by Harry Lumsden and Rory Wallace, who both contributed effectively.

At Stonyhurst, the tough Kirkham side was narrowly defeated in the quarters, before a comfortable win was recorded against Birkenhead School in the semi finals. In the final, King's played home side Stonyhurst and, playing their best rugby, ran out winners four tries to two. Thanks must go to PFH who in his final rugby season at King's, accompanied the boys with Mr Barrow and provided considerable tournament insight and experience.

The next day, the squad travelled to the Cheshire Sevens and found themselves in a tough group with Altrincham, Bishop Heber's, Calday Grange and St Ambrose. Perhaps inevitably, we were defeated by Altrincham before winning the other games and despite 'running on empty', very creditably went on to win the plate, defeating Lymm HS.

The National Sevens competition at Rosslyn Park created a significant challenge. King's won their group, defeating Epsom on the way, before beating Barnard Castle School in a tough first knock-out round. The next day, Eton School was the opposition and the game was sadly lost, as mistakes were made and punished at this higher level of competition. Nevertheless, the boys performed splendidly and were always a credit to themselves and King's.

I would like to extend my thanks

to the boys for their efforts and application this season: they should be proud of their performances and take great confidence from the fact that they can compete with any school in the country at both fifteen and seven a-side rugby. I look forward to following their development in senior rugby.

PJP

U15A

Of the 16 games the U15A team played this season, we won 8. We started the season strongly, with a close victory over QEGS Wakefield at home, following a nail-biting penalty kick, scored by Oliver Quinn in the dying moments of the game. We then suffered three consecutive defeats against local rivals MGS, a strong Lancaster RGS side and Lymm during which, Captain and scrum half, Samuel Brindle broke his thumb, putting him out of action for the next few months until the Sevens season began. The captaincy was handed to Owen Thomas and with it came our biggest win of the season; in our first cup match against a weak Sandbach side, we won 50 - 7, taking us into the next round of the competition. The match also boosted morale, as shown by our next victory against a challenging Woodhouse Grove line-up, once again, snatching the win in the last minutes of the game with a tense try in the corner, scored by Tobias Sayle. Confidence was high as we entered our last game of the half-term against Sedbergh but sadly, concentration slipped and the opposition put 2 tries away against us.



We lost against Nottingham High in our first match back after the break, then the weather took a turn for the worse, with snow and ice cancelling the match against Wilsmlow. The squad won in the next 3 matches against Adams GS, Stonyhurst and Denstone College. The streak was broken during a triangular competition against Solihull and Warwick, where unfortunately, we lost both games.

After Christmas, we came back strongly with two convincing victories over Kirkham Grammar and Stockport GS. Despite losing our final match as U15s in a tight brawl against Wirral GS, it was by far one of the best performances during our school career. Every player gave 100% that Saturday at Derby fields: I hope it was a game that everyone will remember, and that it was an acceptable tribute to our fantastic coach, Mr Halewood.

Tim Phillips 10PJP

U15B

It was a successful season for the U15B team, which lost only two matches overall. Guy Harrington, who took over captaincy after Michael Abrahamse moved on to bigger things with the A teams, offered encouragement to the team and was an excellent ambassador for the school.

The team also benefited from the addition of Will Allen, who, playing his first full season for the B team, was a real asset to the backline. The team gained Matt Calvin, reverting from his previous role at fly-half to a hard tackling flanker, where he was arguably the most improved player of the season.

The season started off very posi-

tively with a well-earned win against a much-improved QEGS. We continued our winning form in a comfortable victory over an MGS side who had improved drastically since we last met. However, we lost against fierce rivals Lancaster RGS, after failing to score more than a penalty, despite long periods of domination in the first half. The team bounced back with notable wins, including a comfortable victory over Woodhouse Grove, who had been one of last season's most challenging opponents. Arguably the team's best performance came against Stonyhurst, where the backline moved the ball out to the wings with more pace and precision than in the rest of the season.

The team didn't suffer another defeat until a three team round robin contest hosted by Warwick, where disappointing no-shows from two players led to the team being left with only fourteen men. Victory was secured against Solihull, but the team was then not allowed to play without a number eight, which left a hole in the backline, so that Warwick ended the afternoon victorious. Thanks to Mr Thomson and Martin Embley for their coaching during a successful season.

Ieuan Sanders 10CJM

U14A

The U14 sides had an outstanding season, to become a formidable force in rugby in the North of England. Unfortunately, the A team narrowly lost the first match of the season away to QEGS, Wakefield, 7 - 12.

Following that loss, the side recorded some notable away victories against local rivals MGS 72 - 0 and

Lymm 42 - 0. Additionally, they beat other prestigious schools such as Woodhouse Grove 50 - 5; Lancaster GS 72 - 0, and recorded an outstanding result against Sedbergh 21 - 5. The A team also had an exceptional Cheshire Cup run with victories against Bridgewater HS in the quarter final 55 - 7 and Altrincham GS in the semi-final 35 - 12, but unfortunately, they lost in the final - in torrential rain - to a strong St Ambrose College.

The team won 15 of 18 of their regular season games and had many outstanding performers, but special mention must go to Teddy Leatherbarrow for collecting the Raymond Barton Trophy, awarded to the Player of the Season, and Cameron Redpath for receiving the DM Harbord trophy, a prestigious award open to all year groups and given for an outstanding contribution to rugby over the season.

The U14 side competed well in the Solihull Sevens, unfortunately losing in the Plate final to Monmouth School. They also performed well at the Sedbergh Sevens, where they beat Sedbergh for a second time this year in the Cup semi-final, only to then lose in a closely contested final to a physical Durham School side with some strong, powerful runners. It was a pleasure to have worked with this squad and seen the improvement of many players, and I'm hopeful that they will go on to be a fantastic side in the future.

PMA

U14B

The squad was a very committed group of players who attended training with a keen positive attitude. They





defeats always followed a good win or a half-term break away from playing, so consistency was sometimes a challenge. The general skill level and the strength of the squad improved considerably. It was great to see James Hudson, Harry Botham, Dominic Corner and George Bryson-Sharples step up to A team rugby and play key roles in the squad. Toby Moule and Will Davies were the standout performers in the backs, along with the welcome addition of Angus Fiennes. As for the forwards, the captain Sam Higginson always put in a vast amount of work and Sion Davenport was the Player of the Season, with some great performances. Sion played most of the season at hooker. His skill level is good, but it was his tenacity and endeavour which pushed him out in front to win the Melson Cup. Two of the top performers, Will Davies and Sam Higginson, were recognised for their consistent displays and went on to play for North Independent Schools' Team: both were deservedly selected.

During the Sevens season, most played their part, but the standout performer and prolific try scorer was Richard Griffiths. He played a number of positions for the team and in every game, was hunting to get on the score sheet. The best Sevens team performance was in the group stages of the Solihull Sevens competition against King's Worcester. From the very first minute of the game, the team dominated. That performance enabled the team to finish 2nd in the group and go on to the final of the Plate, where they ended as runners up in a closely fought contest against St Peter's Gloucester. At the Rosslyn Park Sevens, a slow start cost the team dear as they lost the first game, then went on to win the next two games in a convincing manner.

It was a real pleasure to work with this team, as they were keen to learn and improve and showed themselves to be great enthusiasts of the game.

SCB

U13B

It was a long hard season for the U13B rugby team this year. Often facing bigger opponents and dogged by persistent injuries to key players, to their credit the boys dug in and continued to train well despite early disappointments. The team was without a win from their five fixtures in the first half-term, suffering heavy defeats to a monstrous QEGS Wakefield side

worked hard to master the skills and tactics being covered in the training sessions, but struggled to find consistency when putting them into practice in the competitive game situation. They found it particularly difficult to control a game through pressure, both in defence and attack.

The players did show that with constant reminding from the sideline, they were capable of playing a more pressurised game. This was demonstrated late in the season against Kirkham Grammar, which was probably the best all-round team performance – in the first half at least. Right from the kick-off, the team applied pressure in defence, played a fast, flat game in attack and as a result at half-time, they were in total control. However, in the second half the old habits returned and they unfortunately lost the game 22 – 19.

Despite this, the team did win games when the opposition gave them time to play, such as against Nottingham High School, Denstone and Solihull. One game was a total mismatch, as MGS played boys who were obviously A team material. The

King's boys never gave up and their efforts were rewarded with two excellent tries from Kieran Bailey, in the later stages of the game.

Several players (11 in total) stepped up to play for the A team at some point during the season. Sean Neary, Sammy Chong and George Whitehurst became regular members of the team and they were joined on occasions by: Kieran Bailey, Alex Fray, Ed Mellard, Marcus Nowak, Callum O'Shea, Tomos Rands, Jack Wales and Jack Willcock.

DPT

U13A

This season had ups and downs with regards to results and performances. The team came up against a strong QEGS Wakefield in the first outing of the season and struggled to get up to speed with the pace of the game. After that match, the boys strung together three impressive victories, one of which was a hard-fought win over Lancaster RGS.

As the season progressed, the team played well in patches but lost their way a little in the tough games. The

and a slick Lancaster Grammar outfit. One could have forgiven the U13Bs for being down-beat, but this was not the case. Under the Captaincy of Dom Corner and with strong-running Freddie Sass in the back line, the second half-term proved far more fruitful for the team. They bounced back to secure three wins from the following six matches. These included a thrilling 25-17 win over Nottingham HS, with King's crossing the line for five tries, two of which came from the 'wrecking ball' Sass with two further tries from Angus Thomson, who despite playing out of position, carried the ball strongly in the centres, and an emphatic 42-5 demolition of Solihull School. The final win of the season was in the local derby against Stockport Grammar, when the team put together a gutsy performance to run out 21-10 victors.

The ability regularly to field B teams throughout the age groups is something that sets King's apart from many schools, and with this in mind I was particularly pleased that 25 boys had the opportunity to play a part in the fixtures this year. Success is relative and while 4 wins from 13 fixtures does not immediately present itself as a successful season, it is double the number of wins that the team achieved as the U12Bs. The skills of all the players improved over

the course of the year and I am sure that if the team can avoid injury, next season will see them improve their record even further.

JSM

U12A

After only a few training sessions at the beginning of the term, it was evident that the current crop of U12 rugby players was a talented bunch. The season started with a tough encounter against Lymm HS, in which they narrowly came out victorious at 12-10, with Ike McCormick winning Man of the Match and numerous other players coming close. The next few weeks saw the team win against local rivals MGS 39-0, heavyweights Woodhouse Grove 37-0, and Yorkshire opponents QEGS Wakefield 19-15. The first four games of the season saw the team score 107 points for and only concede 25, which for a first year in competitive rugby is very impressive by anyone's standards. The U12s then went on to record wins against Nottingham HS, Adams GS, Stonyhurst, Denstone and Solihull.

The first loss of the season came against a talented Warwick side, whose offloading and pace was too much to handle. A win against Kirkham, was followed by losses to Stockport and St Ambrose on the last day of the season. The half-back pairing of Remy Miller

and Murray Redpath was superb, in a very talented back line, whilst James Davis, Ike McCormick and captain Oli Leatherbarrow in the back row, were outstanding, supported by some strong performances from the hard-working forward pack.

The bulldozing pair of Max Hine and James Warr created havoc for defences, whilst a few brilliant displays from B team centre Charlie Ward saw him drafted into the A team and it was a battle between him and flying winger Tom Barker for top points scorer. The Sevens season saw the team perform brilliantly in both tournaments entered, with Oliver Payne and Sam Stevenson needing a special mention for scoring some fine tries, whilst Murray Redpath carried on his good form from the 15 a-side game at fly half. In the forward pack, Jack Mayfield and Ike McCormick worked tirelessly, and Oli Leatherbarrow continued to lead the team by example.

Coaching these boys was a real pleasure and the whole team can be very proud of a terrific first season of school rugby. They played a total of 13 games; won 10 and recorded just 3 losses. I wish all the players the very best of luck for the future, and I will enjoy looking back on this season once the boys reach the lofty heights of the 1st XV in years to come!

JS/PW/RL



U12B

The squad enjoyed a highly successful season, winning nine of their 11 matches and losing only to such respected opponents as QEGS Wakefield and Warwick School.

From the outset, the boys displayed great enthusiasm and energy, regularly attending training and working hard at improving their skills. This transferred to matchdays, as consistency and focus was apparent throughout the season, with a strong, dynamic start to games becoming an expectation as King's was usually first to put points on the board. The hard-fought victory over Denstone College just before Christmas, captured the essence of the boys' grit and commitment. They narrowly won the game 28-24, having trailed on two occasions. Each time, they responded bravely, eventually to pip a much more physically imposing team. The game also served to display how valuable a player Oliver Payne was, scoring two tries and kicking all four conversions that ensured the game was finally won. The team was captained in the main by Josh Allmand-Smith, whose quiet yet confident leadership brought the best out of his team-mates and kept them focused.

The season ended following a rousing and popular victory over local rivals, Stockport 62-6. I suspect that

these players will enjoy significant success in the years ahead. I have very much enjoyed working with them.

PW

U11

The U11A team enjoyed a fantastic season, winning all 11 of their competitive 12 a-side fixtures. The season began with a tough encounter against Liverpool College, which could easily have resulted in a defeat. Fortunately, after showing a great deal of determination and courage, the boys were rewarded with a narrow 26-21 victory. The toughest game of the Autumn term was against Kirkham Grammar School. King's started strongly and led 21-0 at half-time. After an early reply from Kirkham at the beginning of the second half, King's stretched their lead with two further tries, before a late consolation from the opposition brought the final score to 35-14.

At the beginning of the Spring term, the boys faced a return fixture against Liverpool College, who once again proved to be dogged opponents. Despite this a far greater 'cutting edge' from King's was decisive in securing a 31-0 victory. After several more comfortable victories, the season was rounded off by winning the 'double' of Association of Junior Independent Schools' Sevens and 12 a-side titles, which is the first time this

feat has been achieved by any school. In the Sevens tournament, held at Merchant Taylors', King's dominated from start to finish, playing their very best rugby in the knockout stages, with ferocious tackling in defence and dynamic skilful play in attack. This resulted in a convincing 42-7 win against Kirkham Grammar in the final. Towards the end of term, King's also played the same opposition in the final of the 12 a-side knockout competition, after defeating St Ambrose and Birkenhead Prep in the earlier rounds, and were narrow victors. This proved to be an exciting and nerve-racking match, with the lead changing hands several times. With the prospect of extra-time looming, captain Ben Kersh forced his way over the line in injury time, to claim a 26-21 victory. The main feature this year has been the hard-working attitude of all the boys involved, which together with a high degree of skill, resulted in this outstanding season.

The B team also performed well this year, defeating Liverpool College, home and away, and drawing against MGS. By the end of the season, several of the B team squad were pushing strongly for an A team place, which bodes well for the development of the whole squad as they move into the U12 age group next season.



U10

The U10s gained their first taste of competitive school rugby this year, showing a great deal of enthusiasm and dedication in training sessions. In their opening fixture against Terra Nova, they were involved in a closely contested match, but were unfortunately defeated, 30-15. In the second fixture, they faced a very talented Grange team, with several quick and evasive runners. Despite their best efforts, the boys were defeated 40-0. Nevertheless, there is much to build on as the boys move into Year 6, where they will experience more regular fixtures in preparation for their transition into the Senior School.

MKW/NB

Sailing

I feel it appropriate to thank Tim Andrew, Steve Carpenter and Chris Hollis for all their support and commitment over the last few years. Tim and Chris have moved on and the sailing fraternity now welcomes the appointment of Andrew Prideaux to the Physics department. Andrew has a keen interest and is looking forward to a close involvement with sailing whilst at King's.

One of the great joys of being a part of something like sailing is to watch youngsters grow and develop

in the sport and to develop as people. I would like to mention two young men in particular who are moving on to university this year – Tom Cann and Ed Nathan. Rigging boats for juniors, lifting boats, encouraging youngsters into fast, demanding, two-sail boats like the 420, these two young men have always been a great help. Tom has had a dinghy instructor's qualification for two years and Ed has just successfully completed his pre-entry course for dinghy instructor.

Pupils in Years 10 and 11 have been able to sail in Games lessons, as have the Sixth Form and our Saturday morning sailing club at Redesmere continued to be popular. On a typical Saturday, there were often fourteen boats on the water, containing sailors from Years 5 to 13.

The school now has six Toppers, two Lasers, a Laser Pizo, two Graduates, a 420 and a Scorpion. We also have an agreement with Redesmere to use six of their training Optimists. This is quite a range of boats available for pupils. Redesmere Sailing Club, especially in the persons of Gary and Brenda Lowe, continued to offer us considerable support with the use of shared facilities, rescue boats and premises.

There were thirty pupils on the annual Cumbrae sailing course this year. Five days of sailing, thoroughly

professional instruction, excellent accommodation at the Scottish National Sailing Centre with a 37' Salona yacht thrown in plus three hot meals a day and transport to and from the Clyde, is good value in anyone's terms. This year, five pupils completed the Duke of Edinburgh Silver expedition on the yacht and were also awarded their Competent Crew Certificate – no mean feat since the next step on the ladder is the five day, day-skipper course. Seven pupils completed a level two power-boat course in high speed ribs – very exciting and demanding.

Pupils in Years 7 to 10 completed RYA courses at appropriate levels.

You are no doubt maintaining a watching brief on Elliot Hanson and a rising star in the sailing tournament is Adam Russ, pictured here: King's Colours will keep you up to date.

BE

Swimming

There is a lot of enthusiasm for swimming at King's and this is epitomised in the annual House Gala. All Year 5 and 6 swimmers were given the opportunity to take part and over 100 pupils swam in 53 events during the afternoon. Adlington was the eventual winner and House Captains, Joseph Tabachnik and Mila Waseem received



the House cup on behalf of their very talented team. The Lower Juniors also competed for a House cup and took part in individual races and relays during their closely contested competition and Capesthorpe was the winning house.

The swim team competed in a number of friendly fixtures against local schools. Thirty two Lower Junior swimmers from Years 3 and 4, represented King's with great aplomb, against Cheadle Hulme School; rising stars Oliver Jones, Lara Tabachnik, Lily Cook and Eve Carter all showed excellent potential. Our Years 5 and 6 swimmers were also in action at Cheadle Hulme and at Stockport Grammar and were disappointed to be placed 2nd on both occasions; some very spirited performances gave supporting parents a lot to cheer, however, and helped prepare swimmers for the AJIS event.

King's was well-represented in a number of finals this year at the AJIS Championship and we were delighted to travel home with a clutch of Bronze medals, rewarding some excellent achievements. Susie Moores made an outstanding contribution to the Year 6 girls' team throughout the year and earned a well-deserved Bronze medal in the 4x25m Individual medley. Joseph Tabachnik was 3rd in the U11 50m Backstroke final and Ben Kersh was 3rd in the U11 freestyle event. Our only relay success came in the U11 4x25m freestyle event and Ben Kersh, Luke Stevens, Sam Worthington and William Davies all had great swims to conclude a hectic but satisfying afternoon in fine style.

Swim captains were May Broadley and Luke Stevens: both were very helpful and supportive, particularly when encouraging younger swimmers on gala days.

Swimming colours were awarded to our AJIS medallists: Susie Moores, Joseph Tabachnik, Ben Kersh, Luke Stevens, Sam Worthington and William Davies.

DCB

Trampolining

The King's School high flyers leapt their way to National glory, winning an amazing hat trick of top titles at the National, Zonal and North West Schools' Trampoline Championships this year. This success confirmed King's status as one of the country's leading schools in this sport.

The U13 Elite boys' team consisting of Harry Pinches, Harry Wallace and Harry Collett were crowned National Champions: this was the fifth year in a row that this trio of boys achieved National Champion status, which is a great achievement. The boys, still only in Year 8, were awarded Divisional Colours in recognition of their significant contribution to King's Trampoline team.

The U19 Elite girls' team consisting of Rowena Moores, Beth Burrows, Katie Fray and Katie Cornish (pictured) were also crowned National Champions, with Rowena Moores placed a superb second in the individual event. Rowena, aged 15, competed against girls several years older, to secure a remarkable achievement. One of our youngest teams, the U11 Novice boys, comprised of Ted Broadley, Elliot Naylor, Tyler Keefe and Toby Gray, won the National title. All the pupils took great delight in representing

the King's School on the top of the podium at Gateshead Leisure Centre in March.

In addition to these successes, the U11 Elite girls came in fifth place, with Susie Moores, May Broadley, Izzy Moores and Emily Friston showing real potential.

The National Championships followed both North West and Zonal Championships. At the North West Championships, eight out of nine teams qualified for the North of Britain Zonal finals, held in Hull in February. In addition to this, seven individuals qualified to represent the school.

King's dominated the North West Championships. Rowena Moores flew high and won her division in the U19 Elite girls. Rowena was joined by three more North West Champions: her sister Susie Moores, Elliot Naylor and Anna Kaczmarczyk.

RBJ & HLB



Awards & Prizes

Distinctions in Public Examinations

A Level

Pupils with 5 A*/A grades

Edward Nathan

Pupils with 4 A*/A grades

Thomas Cann
Jack Cartwright
Charlotte Harrop
Max Howard
Hattie McCance

Thomas Mort
Richard Southern
Max Sykes
Anna Townley

Pupils with 3 A*/A grades

Ellamae Blackaby
Liam Boyle
Gracie Butler
Alex Calder
Daniel Capper
George Carter
Joanne Collins
Katie Cornish
George Crummack
Reuben Cutts
Alex Dyson
Simon Fullerton
Kate Garnett
Lauren Goulder
Fred Green
Alistair Hanak
Kate Hawker

Emily Hocknell
Hiba Kokan
Amy Kowalska
Emily Lenderyou
David Marchington
Liam McGivern
Tom Meadows
Ruairidh Nichols
Emily Pegg
Michaela Poolford
Stephanie Redfern
Katie Robertson
Coralie Robson
Julia Smith
Alex Swift
Laura Venables
George Walker

GCSE

Pupils with at least 10 A*/As

Thomas Andresen
Ed Austin
Oliver Davies
William Fox
Matt Harden
William Harris
Will Hodgson
Brendan Jacot
Alexander Krajewski
Robin Laughton
John Le Moignan
Oliver Nowak
Samuel O' Brien
Oliver Plant
Henry Reavey
Theo Roffe

James Shering
Matthew Smith
Henry Strutt
Edward Thompson
Dmitri Whitmore
Aiman Aslam
Elise Boothroyd
Holly Brierley
Fiona Hepworth
Emma Jarvis
Holly Kitching
Sarah Laughton
Zoe Richmond
Maddie Townley
Millie Turner
Rosie Turner

Pupils with at least 9 A*/As

Daniel Allmand-Smith
Callum Lavelle
Harry Lumsden
Hashim Maan
Joseph Machin
Thomas McClusky
Harry Meadows
Oliver Papadimitriou
Eleanor Bird
Sophia Bird

Ella Denny
Georgia Graham
Nicole Hughes
Imi McCance
Jenny Mercer
Rowena Moores
Kira Noad
Emily Roberts
Rosana Wardle
Olivia Watkins

Special Prizes

Headmaster's Prize, Thornber
Chemistry, Senior Orchestral Prize
Headmaster's Prize, J O Nicholson
German Prize
Principal's Award, Wilmot Classics Prize
Principal's Award

Justine Blake

George Walker
Tom Rheinberg
Kate Garnett

School Prizes (all age groups)

Sainter Prize for scientific research
Maimi Wright Prize for Computing,
Physics Prize

Richard Southern
Edward Nathan

Ben Davies Poetry Prize, Boys' Division
Spanish Prize

Brendan Jacot
Ollie Clemetson

Dr Norman Maurice "Arclex"
Ridac Cup for outstanding sporting
performance

Rebecca Hughes
Matthew Stubbs

Selwyn Russell Jones Sports Prize
Marcall-Costello Award for
Endeavour in German,
Ken Brookfield Elizabethan Prize
I A Wilson Economics Scholarship
Alex Anderson Memorial Quaich
David Pook Poetry Prize, 7SLQ
Form Prize

David Marchington
Joseph Murphy
Harriet Norton

Boys' Division Robert Batchelor Prize,
Year 7 Achiever's Cup, Lower School
Reading Prize

Sam Jones

Matthew Hall

Girls' Division Robert Batchelor Prize,
Year 7 General Science,
Religious Studies (Thorneycroft) Prizes
Junior Division Robert Batchelor Prize
Junior Division Robert Batchelor Prize
Infant and Junior Division Enquiry Prize

Jodie Foxton
Thomas Knight
Charlotte Smith
Archie Abraham
Emma Graham
Oliver Hall

Highly Commended
Highly Commended

Retiring Prizes

Paul Halewood
Peter Illingworth

Finlay McCance
Thomas Cann

Former Pupils' Association Prizes

Alan Cooper Prize
Alan Cooper Prize
TT Shaw Sixth Form Prize
TT Shaw Sixth Form Prize
TT Shaw Boys' Division Prize
TT Shaw Girls' Division Prize

Kate Hawker
George Crummack
Sophie Quinn
Callum McIlveen
Will Hodgson
Rowena Moores

Upper School Prizes

Art Prize
Biology Prize
Business Studies Prize
Design & Technology Prize
Chemistry Prize
Canon F W Paul Economics Prize
English Language Prize
English Literature Prize
Extended Project Qualification Prize
T B Cartwright Extended Studies Prize
French (William Broster) Prize
Geography Prize
Geology Prize
C A Bradley History Prize
History Prize
Mathematics: Double Prize
Mathematics: Single Prize
Music, Senior Orchestral Prizes
Music Prize
Physical Education Prize
Politics Prize
Psychology Prize
Religious Studies (Thorneycroft) Prize
Ron Darlington Jazz Prize
Senior Choral Prize
Senior Reading Prize
Simon Schuler Computing Prize
Spanish Prize
Theatre Arts Prize

Mollie Dale
Anna Townley
Gracie Butler
Isabel Hibbert
Hiba Kokan
Laura Venables
Lily Papadimitriou
Alex Swift
Daniel Percival
Harry Bradbury
Nick Phillips
Sam Hollis
Reuben Cutts
Jack Cartwright
George Crummack
Charlotte Harrop
Emily Pegg
Alex Voysey
James Raval
Arran McCloskey
Will Poyser
Kate Williams
Megan Barton
Jamie Edgerton
Eleanor McKenna
Ben Collier
Lawrence Fazelynia
Tom Meadows
Alex Moore

Middle School Prizes (Boys' Division)

Head Boy's Prize	Oliver Papadimitriou
Principal's Prize	Oliver Macfadyen
Deryck Siddall Cup	William Fox
Best All Rounder Cup	Henry Strutt
Macclesfield Grammar School Challenge Cup	Oliver Plant
Boys' Division Council Cup	Theo Roffe
Year 8 Achiever's Cup	George Connolly
Year 9 Achiever's Cup	Alexander Fray
Year 10 Challenge Cup	Ben Lynch
Year 7 General Science Prize	Aidan Carman
Year 8 General Science Prize	Alex Mason
Art & Design Prize	Joe Turner
Biology, Latin Prizes	Matthew Harden
Chemistry Prize	James Shering
Dual Science Prize	John Le Moignan
English Language Prize	Thomas McClusky
English Literature Prize	James Haughton
French Prize	Harry Meadows
Geography Prize	Oliver Nowak
German Prize	Matthew Smith
History Prize	Daniel Allmand-Smith
Mathematics Prize	Dmitri Whitmore
Music Prize	Henry Reavey
GCSE Physical Education Prize	Ed Austin
Physics Prize	Callum Lavelle
Product Design Prize	Harry Booton
Religious Studies (Thornecroft) Prize	Alex Jackson
Theatre Arts Prize	Sam Brown

Lower School Prizes (Boys' Division)

Junior Choral, 8MTH Form Prizes	Sam Andresen
Junior Orchestral Prize	Timothy Parkinson

Form Prizes (Boys' Division)

10PJP	Alexander Galbraith
10DACW	Jack Lucas
10CJM	Tom Hammonds
10PAUT	Max Watt
9JN	Luke Smith
9KB	Ben Robinson
9TDC	Henry Potts
9SFM	Chris Townley
Religious Studies (Thornecroft) Prize	William Jones
8RWA	Josh Clayfield
8SJR	Tom Dennett
Religious Studies (Thornecroft) Prize	Thomas Jackson
7SLH,	
Religious Studies (Thornecroft) Prize	Sam Rogers
7CEA	Josh Howdle

Middle School Prizes (Girls' Division)

Head Girl's Prize, Religious Studies (Thornecroft), Dual Award Science Prizes	Aiman Aslam
Principal's Prize, Geography, Mathematics Prizes	Sarah Laughton
Macclesfield High School Best All-Rounder Cup, German Prize	Zoe Richmond
Year 7 Endeavour Cup	Julie Trier
Year 8 Achiever's Cup	Phoebe Pool
Year 9 Achiever's Cup, Modern Languages Prize	Nancy Xia
Victrix Ludorum Cup	Eleanor Bird
Macclesfield High School Somerville Challenge Cup	Olivia Watkins
Jenny Lee Mathematics Prize	Lilian Breese-Tovey
Jenny Lee Mathematics, Anne Cohen Astronomy Prizes	Eleanor Hopewell

Macclesfield High School	
Susan Russell Jones Cup for German	Helen Nixon
Macclesfield High School Susan Russell Jones Cup for French, History Essay Prize	Elise Boothroyd
Sue Bream Crystal Star	Anna Fenwick
Anne Craig French, English Prizes	Holly Kitching
Year 8 General Science Prize	Hannah Bailey
Art & Design Prize	Honor Price
Biology, Spanish Prizes	Imogen McCance
Chemistry Prize	Rosie Turner
History Prize	Charlotte Abbott
Latin Prize	Millie Turner
Middle School Reading Prize	Francesca Southern
Music Prize	Emily Roberts
Physics Prize	Rowena Moores
Product Design Prize	Evelyn Hancox
Theatre Arts Prize	Katherine Humphrey

Lower School Prizes (Girls' Division)

Junior Choral Prize	Megan Huddy
Junior Orchestral Prize	Alexandra Clarke

Form Prizes (Girls' Division)

10SAC	Olivia Shaughnessy
10RAA	Emily Naismith
10JAIH	Billie Carter
10LFA	Olivia Phillips
9TSJ	Lauren Hayward
9SJH	Molly Bessell
9LB	Katie Hastings
Religious Studies (Thornecroft) Prize	Liberty Kirk
8LAT	Ffiona Booker
8JLD	Emma Nockton
8LuH	Emily How
Religious Studies (Thornecroft) Prize	Katie Hayward
7LAC	Fiza Kokan
7EB	Chantelle Carroll
7HMC	Eliza Fletcher

Junior Division Prizes

English: Reading	Emily Friston
English: Speaking	Josh Rajendran
English: Writing	Zac Patterson
Mathematics	David Harris
Geography	Finn Knudsen
History	Sarah Turner
French	Amanda Vel
Art, Design & Technology	Phoebe Gleave
Music	Daisy Holden
ICT	Tom Turner
Religious Education	Charlotte Warren
Physical Education	Charlie Boddy
	Susie Moores
	Bryn Barker
	Joe Tabachnik
	Ben Kersh
	May Broadley
	Sam Worthington

Form Prizes

<i>Academic Achievement Prizes</i>	
5SM	Lottie Dennett
	Izzy Moores
5MW	Dominic Townsend
	Holly Burke
5NS	Emma Graham
	Oliver Hall
4EDM	Thomas Whitney
	William Roxborough

Awards & Prizes

4SCW	Ben Hellewell Toby Denton
4KW/LC	Millie Crummack Serena Panton
3JC	Maddie Baxter Thomas Danson
3VA/CK	Ben Chong James Hartley
Endeavour Prizes	
6JEB	Hayden Heath Joe Ward
6ST	Martha Squire Jacob Baxter
6SR	Agnes Homer Alex Keeling
5SM	Oliver Muirhead Cara Holliday
5MW	Alex McCall Alex Diedrick
5NS	Georgia Bills Harry Makin
4EDM	Eve Carter Edward Broadley
4SCW	Ruby Callaghan Lucy Evans
4KW/LC	Theo Adamski Leo Chinaea
3JC	Lydia Hine Alice Noble
3VA/CK	Josh Makin Jenny Wallace
Year 4 Young Artist Award (Mrs P J Aspinwall Trophy)	Lottie Clark
Mrs C J Hulme Y6 Musical Production Prize	Misha Higham
Cricket Trophy	Joey Chong
Chess Trophy	Jimmy Foxton Freddie Higginbotham
Robert Batchelor Prizes	Charlotte Smith Thomas Knight
Ridings Best All-Rounder Cups	William Davies Flossie Blackwell
(and the Martin Badger Cup for All-Round Endeavour)	

Music Examinations

Autumn Term 2013

Associated Board Practical Examinations

Sixth Form

Name	Instrument	Grade	Result
Jamie Edgerton	Clarinet	8	133 Dist

Boys' Division

Name	Instrument	Grade	Result
Joe Laughton	Jazz Saxophone	4	134 Dist
Marcus Nowak	Piano	3	102 Pass
Oliver Nowak	Piano	4	111 Pass
Jonathan Pinches	Piano	4	107 Pass
James Thomas	Singing	4	115 Pass

Girls' Division

Name	Instrument	Grade	Result
Sophia Biggin	Piano	2	111 Pass
Emily Jaques	Piano	3	120 Merit
Sarah Cattlin	Piano	4	115 Pass
Aisling Day	Piano	5	118 Pass
Alex Clarke	Piano	6	124 Merit
Chloe Henshaw	Piano	6	111 Pass
Emily Foster	Viola	1	113 Pass

Sarah Catlin	Cello	3	113 Pass
Rachel Catlin	Cello	6	117 Pass
Natalie Stevens	Guitar	3	119 Pass
Olivia Holder	Singing	1	118 Pass
Mollie Pettit	Singing	2	117 Pass
Lottie Thomas	Singing	3	121 Merit
Evangelina Homer	Singing	4	115 Pass
Rachel Anderson	Singing	3	117 Pass
Anna Callow	Singing	6	126 Merit
Eleanor McKenna	Singing	7	126 Merit

Junior Division

Name	Instrument	Grade	Result
Elliot Naylor	Piano	Prep Test	
Maddie Baxter	Piano	Prep test	
Alex Green	Piano	Prep Test	
Henry Noble	Piano	Prep Test	
Charlotte Warren	Piano	1	120 Merit
Amanda Vel	Piano	3	118 Pass
Madeline Holden	Piano	3	118 Pass
Ben Sneddon	Piano	3	130 Dist
Amanda Vel	Oboe	1	126 Merit
Joe Tabachnik	Clarinet	1	128 Merit

Associated Board Theory Examinations

Name	Grade	Result
Timothy Parkinson	5	77 Pass
Zoe Richmond	5	75 Pass
Megan Huddy	5	79 Pass
Eleanor Collett	5	75 Pass
Henry Reavey	6	75 Pass

Trinity/Guildhall Examinations

Sixth Form

Name	Instrument	Grade	Result
Emily Pegg	Flute	8	61 Pass

Boys' Division

Name	Instrument	Grade	Result
Jonathan Provis	Drum Kit	5	76 Merit
Oliver MacFadyen	Drum Kit	6	82 Merit

Girls' Division

Name	Instrument	Grade	Result
Lydia Shone	Flute	3	80 merit
Katie Hayward	Flute	5	73 Pass
Sophia Biggin	Drum Kit	3	70 Pass
Rebecca Ions	Recorder	5	81 Merit
Olivia Hamblyn	Piano	4	81 Merit
Emily Foster	Keyboard	4	80 merit
Fiona Beeston	Keyboard	2	82 Merit

Junior Division

Name	Instrument	Grade	Result
Toby Gray	Flute	2	85 Merit
Alex Diedrick	Flute	1	79 Merit
James Smith	Drum Kit	3	80 Merit
Euan Currie	Drum Kit	1	83 Merit
Josh Rajendran	Drum Kit	3	79 Merit
Theo Adamski	Drum Kit	1	70 Pass

Spring Term 2014

Associated Board Practical Examinations

Sixth Form

Name	Instrument	Grade	Result
Anna Townley	Piano	5	127 Merit
Laura Embrey	Piano	7	134 Dist
Brendan Jacot	Piano	8	136 Dist
Jamie Edgerton	Alto Saxophone	8	134 Dist
Katie Fray	Jazz Saxophone	5	121 Merit

Boys' Division

Name	Instrument	Grade	Result
Harry Pinches	Piano	3	127 Merit

Awards & Prizes

Henry Strutt	Piano	4	109 Pass
Ben Lauber	Guitar	2	112 Pass
James Rous	Guitar	2	118 Pass
George Connolly	Guitar	3	121 Merit
Sam Baker	Guitar	3	106 Pass
Alex Galbraith	Guitar	3	122 Merit
Rhodri Evans	Guitar	4	101 Pass
Alex Fray	Guitar	4	124 Merit
Ben Allmand-Smith	Trombone	3	123 Merit
Sam Cheetham	Singing	3	107 Pass
George Reavey	Singing	3	120 Merit
Dan Crosby	Singing	4	122 Merit
Sam Andresen	Singing	4	123 Merit
Aarian Mehrabani	Singing	4	131 Dist
Marcus Wesley	Pract. Musicianship	2	C+ Pass
Dan Crosby	Jazz Saxophone	4	118 Pass
Ben Lynch	Jazz Saxophone	5	133 Dist
Thomas Carter	Jazz Trumpet	1	127 Merit
Harry Pinches	Jazz Trombone	3	128 Merit
Harry Collett	Jazz Trumpet	3	128 Merit

Girls' Division

Name	Instrument	Grade	Result
Darcy-Rose Woodfine	Piano	2	102 Pass
Francesca Sawyer	Piano	3	117 Pass
Megan Huddy	Piano	3	133 Dist
Lauren Hayward	Piano	4	106 Pass
Charlotte Roxburgh	Piano	4	112 Pass
Lucy Gosnay	Violin	5	121 Merit
Sorrel Haughton	Violin	5	106 Pass
Chloe Henshaw	Violin	6	133 Dist
Aisling Day	Cello	5	132 Dist
Kate Marsh	Guitar	2	114 Pass
Merridy Russel	Guitar	2	118 Pass
Sarah Laughton	Guitar	5	124 Merit
Susie Austin	Flute	3	124 Merit
Alex Clarke	Flute	6	130 Dist
Elise Boothroyd	Trumpet	4	127 Merit
Anna Callow	Trumpet	7	122 Merit
Zoe Thomas	Singing	2	111 Pass
Sophie Vlissidis	Singing	2	116 Pass
Zahra Choudry	Singing	2	114 Pass
Darcy-Rose Woodfine	Singing	2	104 Pass
Ellie Watkins	Singing	3	117 Pass
Saffron Milner	Singing	3	127 Merit
Lilian Breese-Tovey	Singing	3	127 Merit
Fiona Beeston	Singing	4	117 Pass
Sophia Eastgate	Singing	4	117 Pass
Rachel Catlin	Jazz Saxophone	4	120 Merit

Junior Division

Name	Instrument	Grade	Result
William Roxborough	Piano	2	116 Pass
Lauren Harbige	Piano	3	116 Pass
Bethany Henshaw	Piano	4	116 Pass
Daisy Holden	Piano	4	130 Dist
Georgina Devon	Violin	Prep Test	
Ridley Partridge	Violin	1	136 Dist
Mackenzie Blackaby	Viola	2	123 Merit
Amanda Vel	Oboe	2	116 Pass
Oliver Sapey	Recorder	1	116 Pass
Lottie Clark	Recorder	1	120 Merit
Phoebe Gleave	Singing	1	118 Pass
Fay Fitzmaurice	Singing	1	114 Pass
Mary Squire	Singing	1	101 Pass

Associated Board Theory Examinations

Name	Grade	Result
Darragh Burke	5	84 Merit
Verity Griffin	5	86 Merit
Thomas Andresen	8	76 Pass

Trinity/Guildhall Examinations

Sixth Form

Name	Instrument	Grade	Result
Aaron Shaughnessy	Flute	8	87 Dist
Caitlin Jacobsen	Singing	6	62 Pass

Boys' Division

Name	Instrument	Grade	Result
Bradley Greatrex-Bradley ..	Keyboard	4	64 Pass

Girls' Division

Name	Instrument	Grade	Result
Eleanor Tunick	Flute	6	65 Pass
Emily Jaques	Singing	6	87 Dist
Helen Lyons	Flute	8	92 Dist
Emma Nockton	Flute	4	76 Merit

Junior Division

Name	Instrument	Grade	Result
Sebastian Bye	Flute	3	81 Merit
Jake Leech	Keyboard	1	72 Pass
Christian Beeston	Keyboard	2	85 Merit
Eve Carter	Flute	1	89 Distinction
April Parsons	Flute	2	69 Pass

Summer Term 2014

Associated Board Practical Examinations

Sixth Form

Name	Instrument	Grade	Result
Sacha Allen	Singing	7	127 Merit
William Fox	Piano	8	132 Dist
Aaron Shaughnessy	Piano	5	114 Pass

Boys' Division

Name	Instrument	Grade	Result
Sam Andresen	Trumpet	4	128 Merit
Callum Barr	Tuba	1	125 merit
Alex Campbell	Trombone	5	110 Pass
Josh Clayfield	Singing	3	106 Pass
Dan Crosby	Piano	4	123 \Merit
Sam Crosby	Trumpet	2	111 Pass
James Foxton	Guitar	2	155 Pass
Josh Green	Trombone	1	123 Merit
William Jones	Trumpet	5	108 Pas
Harry Lyons	Trumpet	5	111 Pass
Siraj Lyons	Piano	5	121 Merit
Tomos Rands	Trumpet	4	112 Pass
James Thomas	Singing	5	130 Dist
Henry Reavey	Singing	6	131 Dist
Henry Strutt	Singing	7	131 Dist

Girls' Division

Name	Instrument	Grade	Result
Ciara Allen	Saxophone	3	118 Pass
Georgina Bergman	Singing	5	122 Merit
Anna Callow	Singing	7	123 Merit
Megan Huddy	Violin	6	117 Pass
Fiza Kokan	Piano	4	115 Pass
Hanna Laniado	Trumpet	5	111 Pass
Mia MacNab	Clarinet	1	120 Pass
Katie Murphy	Cornet	5	116 Pass
Nancy Xia	Piano	8	113 Pass
Emily Roberts	Flute	8	133 Dist
Meredith Stephenson	Singing	3	120 Merit
Rachel Watson	Piano	3	118 Pass
Hannah Wilcock	Piano	4	117 Pass
Katie Wray	Singing	4	122 Merit

Junior Division

Name	Instrument	Grade	Result
Georgia Bailey	Singing	2	130 Dist
Florence Blackwell	Singing	2	128 Merit
May Broadley	Singing	3	131 Dist
Ted Broadley	Clarinet	1	112 Pass

Awards & Prizes

Jessica Burton.....	Recorder	1	120 Merit
Ruby Callaghan.....	Singing	1	130 Dist
Oliver Carter.....	Recorder	1	118 Pass
Emily Currie	Recorder	1	114 Pass
Thomas Danson.....	Singing	Prep Test	
Lucy Evans.....	Singing	1	121 merit
Emily Friston	Singing	1	138 Dist
Emma Graham	Guitar	2	122 Merit
Kate Hartnett.....	Recorder	1	120 Merit
Ben Hellewell.....	Recorder	3	108 Pass
Bethany Henshaw	Violin	4	127 Merit
Misha Higham	Singing	2	125 Merit
Maddie Holder	Singing	1	121 merit
Agnes Homer	Singing	2	126 Merit
Cicely Homer	Violin	1	123 Merit
Isabella Johnson.....	Singing	1	130 Dist
Alex McCall	Piano	1	117 Pass
Kieran Melville.....	Violin	2	101 Pass
Susie Moores	Violin	3	107 Pass
Rafael Pfister.....	Oboe	1	120 Merit
Isabelle Sharp.....	Singing	1	136 Dist
Joseph Tabachnik.....	Clarinet	2	120 Merit
Mila Waseem.....	Piano	2	115 Pass
Edie Waters	Singing	1	132 Dist
Edie Waters	Piano	Prep Test	
Isabella Whittle.....	Singing	1	131 Dist

Associated Board Theory Examinations

<i>Name</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>Result</i>
Darragh Burke.....	6	70 Pass
Dan Crosby.....	5	85 Merit
Jamie Edgerton	8	68 Pass
Juliette Gorb.....	6	78 Pass
Sorrel Haughton	5	87 Merit
Lauren Hayward	5	88 Merit
Rebecca Ions	5	87 Merit
Frances Laker.....	5	80 Merit
Hanna Laniado	5	76 Pass
Ben Lynch	6	73 Pass
Henry Reavey	8	80 Merit
Henry Strutt	8	75 Pass

Trinity/Guildhall Examinations

Sixth Form

<i>Name</i>	<i>Instrument</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>Result</i>
Joe Hale	Flute	7	72 Pass

Boys' Division

<i>Name</i>	<i>Instrument</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>Result</i>
Siraj Lyons.....	Clarinet	6	66 Pass
Aidan Carman.....	Bassoon	4	75 Merit
James Jordan	Drum Kit	3	79 Merit
Henry Brett.....	Flute	7	65 Pass

Girls' Division

<i>Name</i>	<i>Instrument</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>Result</i>
Beth Marlow	Bassoon	2	65 Pass
Emily Foster.....	Keyboard	5	85 Merit
Olivia Shaughnessy.....	Flute	7	63 Pass
Lydia Shone	Flute	4	77 Merit
Helen Nixon	Flute	4	71 Pass
Sameera Lyons	Flute	7	69 Pass

Junior Division

<i>Name</i>	<i>Instrument</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>Result</i>
Misha Higham	Keyboard	3	78 Merit
Katie Barr.....	Flute	1	75 Merit
Toby Gray.....	Flute	3	88 Dist
Serena Panton	Flute	1	78 Merit
Alex Diedrick.....	Flute	2	88 Dist

The King's School in Macclesfield

Registered Charity: 1137204

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

Supplemental Royal Charter granted by
Elizabeth II, 11th February 2009.

Governing Body as at 31st August 2014

Chairman:

Dr J W Kennerley, BPharm, MRPharmS, PhD

Vice Chairman:

J R Sugden MA, FIMechE, CEng

Co-opted Governors:

I Bradley BSc

P T S Boyd

R A Greenham FRICS

Dr J W Kennerley BPharm, MRPharmS, PhD,

C King MA PGCE

A McInnes

Mrs A E Nesbitt BA

C R W Petty MA (Cantab)

Brig K Ross OBE

Mrs J Spinks MA, PGCE

J R Sugden MA, FIMechE, CEng

S Webb

Ms J White BSc

S Wright MA

Ex-officio Governor

Mayor of Macclesfield

Nominated Governors

Appointed by the Lord Lieutenant of the County of Chester

A N Dicken BSc, CEng, FICChemE

Appointed by Cheshire East Council

Dr L Brown BSc, PhD

J P Findlow LLB

Mrs H Gaddum

Appointed by the Rt Revd the Lord Bishop of Chester

M Strutt BA

Officers of the Foundation as at 31st August 2014

Head of Foundation:

Dr S Hyde MA, DPhil

Director of Finance and Clerk to the Governors:

J M Spencer Pickup BSc, ACA

Solicitors:

sas daniels LLP, County Chambers, 6 Chestergate, Macclesfield

Auditors:

Messrs Josolyne & Co, Chartered Accountants, Macclesfield

Bankers:

National Westminster Bank PLC, Macclesfield