

King's Colours

Spring 2020

The termly newsletter of the King's School in Macclesfield



Countdown is on for new campus

With just three months until completion of the construction phase, a party of councillors and local business people who were given a tour of the new £60 million campus have confirmed that it has the "wow factor." Macclesfield MP David Rutley said: "This is the first time I have visited the campus. It is very impressive and makes a truly striking statement about King's' future ambitions."

Work on the campus is now at its peak with 300 people working on the site and another 30 coordinating operations. The scheme is on target for the May 25 handover date.

Sue Bowden (pictured left), Chief Executive of North Cheshire Chamber, said: "The scale of the project is staggering, it is absolutely fantastic and a credit to the contractor VINCI and King's who are working so closely together. The economies of

scale in bringing everything together onto one site will be enormous and the pupils that attend both now and in the future are extremely fortunate to be benefitting from this amazing, forward-thinking project."

When finished, the campus will provide a main academic building, which will be flooded with natural light, plus a separate Sports Centre containing a 1,000m² main sports hall, a six-lane 25m swimming pool and Cheshire's first dedicated indoor cricket facility.

Outside, there will be 80-acres of sporting facilities including eight senior rugby pitches, four cricket pitches, outdoor cricket nets, five junior football pitches, junior rugby pitches, two all-weather Astroturf hockey pitches, six tennis and netball courts, a 400-metre athletics track, and a dedicated rounders pitch.

Cambridge offers for talented trio

A trio of talented young scientists have received offers to study at Cambridge University in September.

King's School Captain (left) Kieran Cullen has an offer to read Medicine at Clare College, Cambridge. A member of the King's Choir, Kieran was also a national award winner in the Model United Nations debating competition.

Joshua Howdle, Chair of School Council, has an offer to read Chemical Engineering via Engineering. Joshua was team leader on King's award-winning Engineering Education Scheme project. School Vice-Captain, Aisling



Day, has an offer to read Chemical Engineering via Natural Sciences. A brilliant musician, Aisling has Grade 8 in Piano and Cello, which she plays in the Halle Youth Orchestra.

Richard Davies, Principal of the Sixth Form, said: "We are very proud of these young people in receiving offers in some of the most competitive subjects at one of the world's most demanding academic institutions. They are great fun to work with and make a huge contribution to our Sixth Form community."

IN THIS
ISSUE...

P2



Meet
our new
Head

P3



Bugsy
Malone
hits
King's!

P4



Why it's
good to be
curious

As a sector, independent schools supported 303,000 jobs in 2018 and added £13.7bn to the UK economy. Our parents saved the Exchequer £3.5bn by not taking up state school places, whilst our schools provided £422m in means-tested bursaries or scholarships.



Of course, the benefits of independent schools reach far wider than simple economics. King's has always been deeply embedded in our local community; supporting charities through fundraising and volunteering as well as promoting sport, wellbeing and the arts.

Reaching Out is a new King's publication designed to capture and recognise the tremendous contribution our school makes to the local community. I read it with an enormous sense of pride and I hope you feel the same. It is available in the community section of the school website.

The main impact we make on the world will always be the contributions made by our Former Pupils. I wouldn't know where to begin in trying to calculate the social and economic value of this formidable body of people and the generations of parents who have supported them.

At the start of the Spring Term, it was the School's turn to ask for help as we put the finishing touches to our 2020 Project. In launching the largest fundraising campaign in our history (with a target of £3m), we wanted all our community (whatever their means) to be able to contribute and I hope that you will be willing to do so. *Our Shared Future* explains how you can help and is available on the website. Alternatively, you can email the school and we will be happy to talk.

Dr Simon Hyde, Headmaster

New Head appointed for September 2020

Mr Jason Slack has been appointed as Headmaster from 1 September 2020. He is currently the Head of King Henry VIII School, a highly successful co-educational HMC school in Coventry. Jason graduated from Durham University with a BSc in Physics and a PGCE in Physics and Science. He also holds an MA in Educational Management. He spent



seven years at The Grange School, Northwich, initially as Head of Physics before being promoted to Head of Science. Jason then spent five years as Deputy Head of Queen Elizabeth Grammar School, Wakefield before returning to King Henry VIII School in 2010 as Headmaster.

Jason Slack said: "It is an honour to be asked to lead King's at such a momentous point in its history. I am really excited about what the future holds and looking forward to being a part of the wonderful community and getting started on the school's next chapter."

Dr John Kennerley, Chair of Governors, said: "Jason is an outstanding and experienced Headmaster and his current school, at its last ISI Inspection, was found to be "excellent" in all aspects. Jason has already started to meet with staff and will continue to meet parents and pupils over the coming months."

New appointments to King's Governing Body

King's is delighted to welcome five new Governors with a wealth of strategic commercial, professional and educational expertise. All five are either current or past parents or former pupils. Pictured at the new campus are (from left): Louise Grainger, Dr Chris Doherty, Steve Murrels, David Higginson and Jeremy Hinds.

Louise Grainger is a Senior Civil Servant and qualified accountant with extensive experience and knowledge in central and local government finance. Pharmacologist and business innovator, **Dr Chris Doherty** spent 25 years in pharmaceutical research, working on new cancer treatments at AstraZeneca before becoming site leader in 2012. Following the decision to sell the site, he moved to new owners, Bruntwood, and has

since worked as Managing Director of Alderley Park, redeveloping the site to a new biotech site with over 200 biotech companies.

Steve Murrels is the CEO of the Co-op Group and sits on a panel that advises the prime minister on UK business. **Andrew Higginson** spent 15 years with Tesco, firstly as Finance and Strategy Director and then CEO of Tesco Retailing Services. He was also Chairman of Governors at the Royal Grammar School High Wycombe for 11 years and is currently Chairman of Poundland and Chairman of WM Morrisons Supermarkets PLC.

Former King's pupil **Jeremy Hinds** is a Director for National Retail Planning with Savills and was the lead consultant for the school's new campus.



Howzat for a visit!

Former England Cricket Coach Peter Moores (pictured far right) talked to some of our top performing young sports people and those on King's Elite Athlete Programme about the psychological aspects of sport. Focusing on four key areas, Peter explained what separates the great from the good, picking out energy, belief, hard-work and resilience as personal attributes to develop. The former King's pupil enjoyed a distinguished playing career with Sussex and Worcestershire before taking on the England Head Coach role and then leading Lancashire to their first county championship title in over 80 years.



Bugsy comes to town!

Pupils staged the classic comedy crime caper Bugsy Malone over four splurge-filled nights. With a brilliant backing band and big show choreography, it was a feast for all the senses. The feel-good gangster spoof was chosen by Director Donald Forbes "Simply because it is so much fun, with great parts and great tunes."

At the heart of the action was Bugsy, played by Josh Cheshire, a sweet-talking lady's man who meets his match in the quick-witted beauty Blousey Brown played with elegance and charm by Amelia Phillpotts.

Their counterparts were the wise cracking Tallulah played by Daisy Holden, the irascible but lovable Fat Sam played by Olly Moss and gun dealer Dandy Dan played by the debonair Matt Kaberry.

Merit First honour

King's has been recognised by The World Merit Charity as the first school on the planet to set up a Merit First Council to champion the UN's sustainable development goals. Working with World Merit for last 18 months, pupils have organised a wide range of projects including help for local foodbanks, participation in an Eco Fashion Show, organising litter picks and using recyclable plastic to make eco-bricks for a community garden. On her visit to King's, Chief Executive of The World Merit Charity Marlou Corneilssen, said: "King's pupils are unstoppable and relentless in their support of our Sustainable Development Goals and we are delighted to make King's the first ever school to win our top schools' award."



Weaving together a Well-being Week



Infant and Junior pupils enjoyed a fantastic 'Enrichment Week', with a focus on well-being. Pupils embraced a range of activities that promote positivity, safety and well-being. Pupils got creative with a range of visiting artists, experienced laughing yoga, willow weaving, learnt about how to stay safe and well, what to do if someone is unwell, and how to be a community-minded citizen.



CURIOUSER & CURIOUSER

The case for being curious

According to legend, when Edwin Land's daughter wanted to see a photograph that her father had just taken, and he explained that the film would need to be processed first, she asked 'Why do he have to wait for the picture?' and the Polaroid camera was born. Anyone with any experience of young children will know that 'why?' is their most frequent question. In fact, younger children ask all kinds of questions. The average five year old asks 274 questions a day.

But as we grow older, we become more self-conscious and less willing to show that we aren't expert at things. It's interesting that the number of questions asked by children drops by an amazing 90% in their first term at school! It seems that schools are places where curiosity is in danger of being dampened and where young people get used to answering lots of questions rather than asking them.

This clearly shouldn't be the case. The spirit of inquisitiveness and inquiry that led Edwin Land's daughter to ask 'why?' is the same spirit of curiosity that has driven thinkers and scientists for centuries. It is no coincidence that two of the twentieth century's greatest scientific thinkers, Einstein and Hawking, both advocated curiosity. Einstein famously said 'the important thing is not to stop questioning. Curiosity has its own reason for existence,' and Hawking wrote 'look up at the stars and not down at your feet. Try to make sense of what you see, and wonder about what makes the universe exist. Be curious.' NASA's exploration programme of Mars is even called – you guessed it – Curiosity.

Curiosity is a crucial part of survival – being interested in the world around you and wanting to discover things is thought to be genetically based and encourages us to see the world in the round, to challenge our own beliefs and preconceptions.

Evidence shows that being curious encourages better team-working and relationships (particularly as it is closely related to empathy) and also people who self-report as curious also self-report as having a greater sense of wellbeing.

Intrinsic motivation is shown to be a crucial aspect of academic giftedness and a curious workforce has even been reported as benefiting business. Some organisations target inquisitiveness as part of their recruitment, looking for 'T-shaped employees' – where the downward stroke represents depth of skills and the horizontal stroke represents curiosity and empathy.

It is clearly a desirable trait, but it could be argued that education has tended to prioritise knowledge over investigation and expertise over uncertainty, particularly with the new GCSE and A Level regime which is a throwback to 1960s-style examinations.



It is no coincidence that two of the twentieth century's greatest scientific thinkers, Einstein and Hawking, both advocated curiosity.



Developing curiosity at King's

One of our school aims is to develop 'lively and inquiring minds' and our approach to learning puts curiosity and investigation at the heart of the way that the pupils learn and develop, encouraging them to develop their own questions about topics and teaching them how to research and investigate. This starts in the Infants and Juniors with our Learning Challenge curriculum, and continues throughout the school with a carefully planned approach to developing independent inquiry.

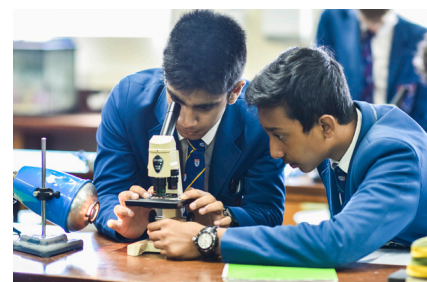
'Questioning' is, of course, one of our five 'Learning Habits' and teachers routinely encourage pupils to ask questions, research and follow their own interests. During the Spring term, curiosity has been a whole school focus, with assemblies, displays and form tutor assemblies given over to the benefits of an inquisitive approach to life and learning. Teachers have also been

setting 'curiosity homework' where students are encouraged to find things out and follow their interests in a creative manner.

We have a planned progression of independent learning skills throughout the Senior School. The Year 9 'Aspire' project encourages the pupils to choose a topic they are interested in and to research it, for which they are taught key research and referencing skills in the Library. IGCSE Global Perspectives in Year 12 teaches further research and critical thinking skills before a number of students take on the EPQ (Extended Project Qualification) in Year 13, where they must set and research their own question and write a 5,000 word project.



It is clearly a desirable trait, but it could be argued that education has tended to prioritise knowledge over investigation and expertise over uncertainty, particularly with the new GCSE and A Level regime which is a throwback to 1960s-style examinations.



Questioning the world around them

Being curious is also about being open to experiences, and being prepared to engage with, and question, the world around us. There are, of course, myriad opportunities for this to happen at King's, and for the students to become politically engaged. School expeditions like World Challenge and the Biology 'Operation Wallacea' research trip allow students to discover the world beyond Cheshire, and activities such as debating and the recent mock election encourage the students to consider wider political issues.

The Merit First Council is for students interested in environmental issues and with a desire to change the world for the better. These activities and events show that our students have empathy and a sense of themselves as active citizens.

Cross Country



Pupils put in a stunning set of performances at the Cheshire Schools Cross Country Championships. In Year 7, Jamie McCabe (4th) and Marianne Knuckey (6th) have both been selected to represent Cheshire at the Inter Counties Cross Country Championships in April. In the Year 8/9 category, Phillip



Goodfellow came 2nd, Iona Whaley 35th and Minnie Jansen 36th. Izzy Hammond in Year

10 came 16th and, in the Seniors, Lulu Griffiths came 4th and Peter Goodfellow came 11th. Phillip Goodfellow has now been selected to represent Cheshire at the ESAA National Schools Cross Country Championships in March.

Hockey



Senior Hockey

The girls' U13 hockey team have progressed through to the North West Round of the National Schools' Competition and will represent Cheshire in this round. The U13 squad, along with the U19 girls' squad, are also through to the 4th Round of Independent Schools' National Hockey Cup (ISHC). The U15 squad represented the school at the U16 County Tournament qualifier and won all of their games to progress to the County Finals in March.

The quality of players continues to go from strength-to-strength, with nine pupils selected for regional Performance Centres: Sophie Fletcher, Georgia Wilman, Millie



Crummack, Zac Spencer Pickup and Jake Jones (U15 level) and Izzy Moores, Lottie Dennett, Scarlett Brough and Lara Tabachnik (U17 level). This is in addition to the 20 boys and 30+ girls who have been picked for Junior Academy Centres.

No fewer than six of our Year 7 boys have selected into the regional training squads: Callum Richardson, Sam Booth, Zac Farrer, Isaac Todd, Alex Bailey and Felix Oliver-Williams.



Junior Hockey

King's U11 boys' hockey team won the AJS North West Hockey Championships for the first time, beating Kirkham Grammar in a single goal victory. The U11 girls' team were crowned Cheshire Champions, after remaining unbeaten in the IN2 County Hockey Tournament. The girls played brilliantly, and have now qualified for the Regional Finals later this term.

Ebony crowned English Champion

Brilliant gymnast Ebony Gaddum was crowned English Gymnastics Champion for ages 10–11. The Year 7 pupil now has her sights set on the Senior British Championships and ultimately dreams of the Paris Olympics in 2024 and the Los Angeles event four years later. At the English Championships, Ebony won gold medals for her beam and floor routines with a silver in the bars and a solid performance in the vault, leading to the overall gold.



Netball



It has been one of the most successful netball seasons on record. Nine girls have won County or Regional caps and three girls have made it onto the Manchester Thunder performance pathway: Poppy Fletcher and Sophie Payne (U12 Cheshire); Lucy Nutbeen (U12) and Daisy Sutton (U13 Elite Manchester Thunder Bees); Natasha Clark (U13 Cheshire); Madi Baxter (U14 Cheshire); Minty Kight (U14 Greater Manchester); Anna Warham (U15 Cheshire); Lydia Hine (U15 Manchester Thunder).

The Senior First V11 qualified in the Cheshire rounds of the National Schools' Cup and went on to represent Cheshire in the North West Regional finals, playing against Lancashire, Greater Manchester, Cumbria and Merseyside. The U14 squad got through to the fourth round of the Sisters In Sport National Cup, the furthest an U14 squad has progressed. While the U15 squad have continued their success in the Independent Schools' Netball Plate, so far making it to the last 16 in Country.

Rugby



King's U12 rugby squad has finished the season unbeaten to rank fifth nationwide in the RFU rankings coordinated with The Daily Mail. Under former Leicester Academy coach, Pete Langley, the boys won all 13 of their matches, scoring 430 points and conceding 100. This was achieved with a healthy rotation of players from a pool of 18 talented boys. Furthermore, the U12B team, coached by Paul Williams, played 9 and won 8 and were ranked a brilliant third nationally.

Swimming



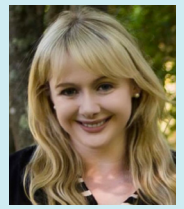
King's Junior swimmers won two individual and one team title at the AJS Swimming Gala. Alex Cooper and Noah Wild came first in the U11 butterfly and U10 freestyle respectively, whilst Lucy Clegg, Charlotte Baxter, Anoushka Mosca and Rubi Ambrey Brosnahan won the U10 girls' medley relay. The U10 girls' freestyle relay team (Charlotte Baxter, Anoushka Mosca, Rubi Ambrey Brosnahan and Jennie Banks) won silver; Charlotte Baxter claimed silver in the U10 backstroke; Mason Grady came third in the U10 breaststroke and the U10 boys' medley relay team (Alex Dale, Mason Grady, Noah Wild and Oliver Halfpenney) claimed third place.

Trampolining



King's trampolining stars dominated the North of England championships, with seven teams and four individuals qualifying for the National Finals in March. Otis Hughes was North of Britain Champion with Rueben Blackhurst second and Jamie Pearce and Oliver Pinches placed third in their categories. All 12 King's teams were placed in the top three podium places with the exception of the U11 novice girls, who were a creditable fourth. Five King's teams won gold and there were two silver medals.

Rebecca's world-first scoop



Research Fellow at Gonville & Caius College Cambridge, **Rebecca Sugden** (2009), has achieved a world first by scooping all four major international language research prizes. Earlier this year Rebecca, won the Larry Schehr Memorial Award for the best work by an early-career researcher. She has previously won the other three major prizes in foreign language literary criticism: the UK and Ireland's equivalent early-career prize, Society of Dix-Neuviémistes' Publication Prize; and two postgraduate prizes: the North American Nineteenth-Century French Studies Association's Naomi Schor Memorial Award and the UK and Ireland's Society of Dix-Neuviémistes' Postgraduate Prize.

Alex wins Jazz's 'Rising Star Award'



Jazz saxophonist **Alex Clarke** (2018) won the 'The Rising Star Award' in the 2019 British Jazz Awards, sharing the list of top award winners with the legendary Courtney Pine. Aged just 19, Alex said: "I love what I do, and just aim to keep developing my career as a professional musician. It's a great honour to win the award."

Isobelle's Apprenticeship honour

Isobelle Derrig (2014) has won 'Degree Apprentice of the Year' at the British Education Awards. The winners are chosen for their achievements both on a national and international stage and are ambassadors for British education. Isobelle was nominated for the work she has done to raise the profile of Degree Apprenticeships, her charity fundraising, and her achievements at AstraZeneca. Isobelle regularly visits local schools to speak to students about Degree Apprenticeships and she and her fellow apprentices have raised over £50,000 for the Teenage Cancer Trust.



DIARY DATES

Cumberland Street Open Doors Event

Saturday 28 March | 10am–12pm | 12–2pm | 2–4pm

Manchester Drinks

Thursday 4 June, 6–9pm | Cloud 23, Hilton Hotel | £20pp

Over 60s Lunch

Thursday 11 June, 12.30pm | Legh Arms, Prestbury | 2 courses & drink | £20pp

Bursary Fund Golf Day

Friday 19 June, 12–7pm | Wilmslow Golf Club | £50pp/£200 for team of 4

Alumni Cricket Match & Front Field Farewell

Friday 26 June | Time TBC | Drinks & Picnic | Contact: stephen.moores@kingsmac.co.uk



Fashion Show

This year, all of the school's divisions have united to raise money for The Christie's ambitious plans to build a cancer care centre in Macclesfield. Pupils in the Infants, Juniors and Seniors engaged in a variety of activities including cake sales and an afternoon tea for parents. Together, they have raised nearly £4,000 for The Christie's new centre.

Last term, Sixth Form pupils raised an incredible £11,800 with their annual fashion show. Students chose the theme 'End of an Era' with fashion from the '60s through to the naughties.

The Christie's Community Fundraising Manager, Nichola Doran, said: "We are delighted to be supported by the King's School. More than 1,500 existing patients will benefit from world class cancer care close to their home when The Christie at Macclesfield opens in Autumn 2021."



Sleep Out for Homeless

King's Senior girls got a taste of life on the streets with a sponsored 'Sleep Out' and raised £1,000 for Cheshire Streetwise. Supported by counsellors from the homeless charity, the girls donned layers and took to their sleeping bags for the 6pm to 6am vigil in the gymnasium, as temperatures dipped below zero.

Pupils met Stewart and Shelley, who spent five weeks together on the streets last Autumn. Stewart, now working as a warehouse operative, said: "The worst thing is how you are perceived; most just ignore you, but some will attack you." Shelley, a qualified beauty therapist, added: "It was terrible, but Cheshire Streetwise were fantastic. They got us back in our feet. I am proud to be volunteering for them."



Georgina Bloomfield, who has been selected for the second successive year to play at the Proms for the National Youth Orchestra. She has also been promoted to one of two String Leaders playing in the First Violins.

Harriet Bright, who passed her Grade 3 Piano exam with Distinction.

Josh Cheshire, Owen Culleton and Mila Waseem, who won the first round of the ESU Mace Debating competition and progressed to Round 2.

Sam Danson, who won bronze in the Northern Indoor Athletics Championships with a jump of 6.44m.

Will Gem, who was selected for the England U14 epee squad for the Espoo Fencing Challenge in Finland, after being ranked in the top eight young fencers in England.

Billy Griffiths, who was selected for the U16 Welsh Rugby Exiles.

Jessica Haywood, who was selected for the U15 and U18 Lancashire Lacrosse squad and the U15 England Performance Lacrosse Centre.

James Krassowski, Tommaso Roncaroli, Madeline Holden and Daisy Holden who passed their Tae Kwon Do Black Belt examinations.

Elliot Naylor, who was awarded the RLSC Mixed Fleet Champion 2019 by Rudyard Sailing Club for competing in the 12 hour and 24 hour Southport Sailing Race.

Jake O'Donnell, who will represent England in Boys 14 Orienteering against France and Belgium in the Netherlands in March.

Luke Wilson, who earned selection for Wales U16 football squad to play against Slovakia.

Annabel Wong, who is the David Lloyd U9 Tennis Champion.

The **U11 footballers**, who won the Macclesfield & District Primary Schools' Tournament and represented Macclesfield at the Cheshire Cup.

The **U16 table tennis team**, who came second at the Cheshire Schools' Table Tennis Team Championships.

The **Pistol Shooting team** (Intermediate level), of Naya Jones, Francesco Roncaroli and Freddie James, which won the bronze medal at the National Championships.