

King's Colours

Summer 2018

The termly newsletter of the King's School in Macclesfield

Getting creative!

Our youngest pupils experienced an amazing Art Week in May, coming off their normal timetables to emerge themselves in all things creative.

Three visiting artists came in to work with pupils. At the start of the week, artist Gill Cosford spent a day working with Year 3 and 4 pupils on a Lowry-inspired polymer clay piece. She then returned to work with Year 1 and 2 pupils on a nature-inspired project.

Local artist Patty Callaghan worked with Pre-School and Reception pupils to create Papier Mache birds, whilst artist Maeve Bridge worked with pupils in Years 5 and 6 to create tie-dye tote bags. Art was the theme of many lessons, with literacy, French, IT and Learning Challenge just some of the lessons embracing the creative theme to look at a variety of artists from around the world.

Cecilia O'Doherty, who co-ordinated the Art Week, said: "Creative expression is such an important part of learning and all our pupils enjoyed getting messy and creating wonderfully individual pieces to go on display."



East meets west in Japanese tour

East met west when King's pupils made the 12 hour flight across 8 time zones to the 'Land of the Rising Sun'. Partnered by a sister school from New York, the trip gave the young explorers an insight into Japan's cultural and religious history and how modern life has increasingly become detached from that unique heritage.

The trip criss-crossed the country from the industrial city Osaka, to the ancient religious centre of Kyoto, to modern Tokyo and examined Japan's unique

belief systems that allow for different gods. Head of Religion & Philosophy Robin Jackson, who led the trip, said: "We learned that the Japanese are born in the Shinto religion and die a Buddhist. Most Japanese will pray to the Shinto Gods for good luck and happiness in life."

He added: "It was a fascinating experience with a full range of cultural activities, from praying to a Shinto shrine and an ancient tea ceremony ritual to visiting Tokyo's Imperial Palace."

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Rose Luckin, Professor of learner-centred design at University College, London recently told independent school heads that teaching a knowledge-based

curriculum is "naïve" because it imparts facts in a shallow way, leaving pupils unable to compete with systems such as Artificial Intelligence that can recall facts much faster. Instead, she argued, pupils should be taught to reflect on their knowledge, a method she called "meta-knowing". She also argued that schools should be teaching pupils to question how we know facts rather than just learning the facts themselves.

This is a ringing endorsement of our approach at King's, which is to teach a skills-based curriculum that develops the Learning Habits of reflecting, questioning, collaborating, reasoning and resilience.

Earlier this year we received a significant external endorsement for our curriculum with the award of the Silver Quality Mark from the Teaching & Learning Organisation (TLO). King's is the first independent school in the UK to be awarded the Silver Mark for its commitment to high quality teaching and learning and, specifically, the development of pupils' learning habits.

TLO assessed how well our teachers develop independent learning habits and behaviours and how staff enable pupils to take ownership of their own learning in furtherance of our second school aim to develop lively and enquiring minds. Teachers were complimented on their use of innovative pedagogy to engage, enthuse and fire pupils' imaginations.

Following a rigorous inspection which involved lesson observations as well as interviews with pupils and staff, TLO stated: "In many schools the development of independent learners is a well-intentioned yet largely unfulfilled pipe dream. Not so at King's – initiatives from Year 7 through to the Sixth Form are carefully designed to give learners increasing opportunities to exercise personal initiative and to undertake independent

study. Learners talk enthusiastically about these opportunities and the planned development of independent learning sets King's apart from almost all other schools."

The TLO Report featured the following headline statements about our curriculum:

- Speculation, high challenge and a can-do approach are consistent features in classrooms.
- Students feel involved in and consulted by the school and opportunities to co-design and co-deliver learning are evident.
- The school pursues its goals with tenacity and attention to detail; it approaches its own growth with an appetite of enquiry and curiosity.
- The school, as a community, is learning its way forward with a strong sense of 'shared endeavour'.

The School is keen to further develop its learning trajectories. There is one Gold TLO secondary school in the country, and King's is ideally placed to become the second.

Meanwhile, in the Infant & Junior Division, the Learning Challenge curriculum is continuing to develop very similar skills. Our approach for our youngest learners was also recently endorsed by the LA External Moderation of our EYFS setting. The Moderator was full of praise particularly highlighting the excellent tracking which supports the planning and provision, the excellent knowledge of all the children, good evidence of team-working and internal moderation. This was a fantastic outcome and wonderful to have the hard work of the whole Infant team recognised in this way.

Dr Simon Hyde, Headmaster



A Chief Inspector calls...

Police Chief Inspector Laura Marler provided a talk on the increasingly complex criminal activity challenging today's Force.

Speaking to Senior Girls as part of a series of lectures from eminent role models, Laura is one of the county's most senior women police officers and leads a team of over 200 policing staff covering the Macclesfield, Congleton, Wilmslow, Knutsford and Poynton areas.

She explained: "There has been massive change in the last 20 years: social media has been of great benefit in getting out our message and explaining to the public what and why we do what we do, but it has also been part of an exponential increase in cyber-crime. How we track and handle online harassment, cyber stalking, financial fraud and online child safeguarding issues are the police force's greatest challenges."

"Policing is also an absolutely wonderful career choice, especially for today's young women, so much so that we no longer need to advertise in order to recruit."

Principal of the Girls' Division, Helen Broadley, said: "Chief Inspector Marler personifies the values we hold dear in the great British Police. Her management style is empathetic, imaginative and eager to embrace change and her approach to the public is firm, fair and supportive. Our girls were fascinated by her working life and day-to-day challenges."



Tuning in to our musical talents!



This year's King's Swings concert had a play list that read like a who's who of 20th Century greats as the 22 piece Big Band and 20 piece Jazz Band reeled off a succession of classics including Jungle Boogie Woogie and the Pink Panther. Year 7 jazz trombonist Jenny Wallace summed up the mood: "There's more freedom to play what you want, how you want, it's great fun and it actually sounds good too."

For Year 13 jazz saxophonist Alex Clarke, her participation in King's Big Band and Jazz Band has been a life changer, as she is going to the world-renowned Birmingham Conservatoire next year to study Jazz.

And signalling that there is plenty of young talent coming up through the ranks, Year 3 pianist Harriet Bright has recently charmed hearts at the Alderley Edge Music Festival to win her age group and scoop The Tree Cup which dates back to 1967. She was selected to perform at the final concert and gave a virtuoso performance with her own choice of music, Mozart's Minuet in F.



A right royal tea party!

To celebrate the most anticipated wedding of the year, our Infant and Junior pupils hosted a tea party fit for royals.

As Harry and Meghan were putting the finishing touches to their plans for the big day, our pupils enjoyed an outdoor celebration complete with bunting, sandwiches, cake and, of course, lots of crowns!

History Forum explores the medieval mind

During a full day devoted to exploring the medieval mind, King's A Level history students enjoyed lectures and seminars from five of the country's leading academics.

The day-long 'History Forum' was organised by King's Head of History, Giles Barker, to help the current cohort of 52 A Level Historians prepare for their upcoming exams and provide a taste of university learning. Five professors and specialists from St. Mary's London, Royal Holloway London, Nottingham Trent, Canterbury Christchurch and Manchester Metropolitan universities gave a series of lectures and seminars on what prompted and what resulted from the Crusades and the Wars of the Roses.



Professor of Medieval History at Royal Holloway, Andrew Jotischky, said: "If we want to understand why there is conflict in the Middle East today we have to go back in time to see the political forces that created those tensions."

Senior Lecturer in Medieval History at Manchester Metropolitan University, Kathryn Hurlock said: "In an age when there were great concerns about the pending end of the world, the Crusades were a spiritual pilgrimage not, as many might suggest, a quest for money and land. It was about reclaiming the Holy Land and protecting the Christians who were there."

David Grummitt, Head of Humanities at Canterbury Christchurch University, said: "History remains one of the most genuinely useful disciplines. It requires the student to take on large amounts of information, examine different points of view, think about them critically and form their opinion both in writing and conversation."

Be a Well Being!



It has been well documented in the media that poor mental health in young people is increasing. During 'Mental Health Awareness Week' in May, a new government-sponsored study by University College London and the University of Liverpool revealed that in the UK, a quarter of girls and one in 10 boys exhibit symptoms of depression by the age of 14, representing a doubling in prevalence over 10 years. At King's, our commitment to the health and wellbeing of our whole school community is evident in all our Divisions. Our proactive approach has seen the implementation of a Wellbeing Programme to support our young people, staff and parents.

EMOTIONAL WELLBEING

In our Wellbeing Committees, staff and pupil leads work together to promote the emotional wellbeing and positive mental health of our pupil body. A comprehensive Wellbeing Programme is continuing to evolve and grow to ensure we are promoting healthy living, eating, physical activity and happiness.

King's pupils, as young as 3 years old, are engaged in the programme which extends throughout the School to the young adults leaving at 18 years of age. The programme involves a wide range of activities, assemblies, external speakers, information boards and, of course, lessons for all age groups. A range of literature and information events for both parents and pupils run in parallel to these.

SCARF

Our Infant & Junior Division has recently introduced SCARF to help promote positive behaviour, wellbeing, resilience and achievement amongst our youngest pupils.

SCARF is a framework for improving children's wellbeing and progress, based on the six core values of Safety, Caring, Achievement, Resilience, Respect and Friendship. The SCARF programme is centred on the 'Growth Mindset' approach: the idea that a person's outlook, actions or abilities are not fixed but can be improved with effort and resilience.

Caroline Hulme-McKibbin, Principal of the Infants & Juniors, said: "There is a proven link between pupils' health and wellbeing, and their academic progress. Children are able to develop crucial skills and positive attitudes which help them become effective learners and reach their potential. Other schools that have used the SCARF approach report that the children are happier, more positive about school and are better equipped to handle setbacks and to achieve their best academically and socially."



PRESSURE & SOCIAL MEDIA

The pressures on our young people come in many forms and most of these were not evident when their parents were young. Therefore parents, staff and young people are all learning together about these pressures and ways to combat them. The incredibly fast pace of modern life, the pressure to succeed, to look a certain way or act a certain way, coupled with extensive social media usage and external examinations are all widely recognised as sources of pressure.

Educating our parent body as well as staff and pupils is a key strand of our Wellbeing Programme. Over the last year, our events for parents have included talks on how to keep our young people safe online, on mental health and to develop stronger, more resilient and ultimately more successful young adults.

Each year, Cheshire Police train a team of staff and pupils from King's to become CEOP Ambassadors. This team work to deliver assemblies and offer support to the pastoral teams in keeping all our children safe online. Our termly E-Safety Bulletin keeps parents abreast of developments in the digital world and this is complemented by an annual Twilight E-Safety Workshop for parents supported by Cheshire Police. The next workshop on Thursday 14 June will focus on privacy settings, sharing images and online gaming.

HEALTHY MINDS

An integral part of our commitment is raising awareness of mental health problems, providing pupils with a tool kit for self-help and signposting where help can be found. Helen Broadley, Principal of the Girls' Division, said: "It's vital that we give children the skills to



talk about their feelings at an early age. As well as preventing problems being bottled up, it will give children life-long skills to help them help others as well as helping themselves deal with problems that might emerge later in life."

We are working in partnership with Mental Health First Aid England, which provides Mental Health First Aid training for pupils, staff and parents. So far, we have hosted three training courses for staff and parents and have a total of 43 members of King's staff who have received Mental Health First Aid training.

A recent Stressbuster event for Year 10 pupils was run by Julie Paterson, (pictured above) a Mental Health First Aid Accredited Instructor with Public Health England. She asked the teenagers to assess and then start to improve their self-image, outlook and approach to others.

Julie took the teenagers through the steps in recognising signs and sources of stress to help them recognise symptoms in themselves and others.

She also spoke about Type A and Type B personalities and characteristics, and how each type can learn from the other to become more well-rounded people.

RESILIENCE

We understand that the increasing demands on young people, especially leading up to exams, often cause stress and anxiety. We help to prepare our young people for the stresses of exam times with comprehensive study skills

sessions, revision mornings, advice on time management, positive visualisation, deep relaxation and Mindfulness training. We also help our pupils to identify their own learning styles and the best ways for them, as individuals, to revise and study. Learning what our individual strengths and weaknesses are is equally important as is acknowledging that failure is an important part of the learning process.

HEALTHY BODIES

We encourage all our pupils to participate in physical activity, whether it be on competitive sports teams, through clubs or as part of our activities programme. There is something for everyone: from cricket to crossfit, rugby to rounders and sailing to squash. To complement the sports programme, we also offer Yoga and Mindfulness courses, to both pupils and staff.

High-quality food and nutritious meals are also an essential part of ensuring happy, healthy learners. Our team of dedicated chefs and catering managers, together with the school nurses and Catering Committee, work hard to offer a healthy and appetising selection of school meals. Our approach is to offer freshly prepared meals, from scratch, using fresh, locally sourced ingredients. A minimum fuss approach to preparing and cooking the food helps to keep the natural goodness and nutritional value of meals.

Junior Sports Tour



Year 6 pupils undertook a Sports Tour to the beautiful island of Jersey over the Easter break. The five-day tour included rugby and hockey coaching, clinics, a tournament and afternoon and evening excursions.

The sports coaching allowed the pupils to develop their skills in readiness for competitive fixtures on the final morning of sport. The boys were hosted by Jersey Rugby Club U11s, with the A team involved in a closely contested match, which ended in a loss by 8 tries to 5. The girls' hockey tournament included three teams from King's, with all players performing well. The A team managed to qualify for the final, where unfortunately they lost against Jersey 2-1. It was an action packed few days and our enthusiastic tourers coped brilliantly.



Andrew appointed



National League hockey star Andrew Jackson has been appointed as PE Sports Assistant to help further develop King's hockey and cricket programmes. The former U18 hockey international and powerful all-rounder for Toft Cricket Club, said: "Hockey and cricket are fast, exciting games. I want to attract as many youngsters into the sports and give them the same passion I had as a youngster and still have today."

Netball success



The U10 netball team won the North West Association of Junior Independent Schools' (AJIS) Cup, after beating The Grange 6-4 in a hard fought final. The team had earlier beaten Withington, King's Chester, Birkenhead and Bury Grammar School to assure qualification.

In the Macclesfield & District League, the U12 A team and U13 A team were both league winners, while the U12 B team and U14 team came second. The Senior first team came third overall and the U15 team came fourth. King's also won the Aggregate Cup as the strongest netball school across all age groups for the second year running.



Athletics roundup



Girls' Division athletes have powered their way to a district and county double, first lifting the Macclesfield & District and then the East Cheshire titles at both Junior and Intermediate level. The Junior team (Years 8 and 9) qualified for the North West regional A finals of the ESAA Schools' Cup in Wigan and the Intermediate team (Years 9 and 10) has qualified for the North West regional B finals in Warrington. Claudia Rodriguez Martinez won the 100m county event in 12.72 and came third in the high jump with 1m 48cm. The Minor Girls' team was 2nd in the District Athletics and 5 girls qualified for the Minors County Championships in June. Individually, Sophie Fletcher won the High Jump, with an impressive jump of 1.40m.

There have also been some significant successes for King's Boys: the Intermediate, Junior and Minor squads all dominated the Macclesfield & District Championships. In the Schools' Cup, the Inter Squad claimed second spot and will compete at Warrington Track in the Regional B Final. Individually, Sam Worthington won the 300m, Phil Goodfellow won the 1500m, Ollie Davies became the fastest Year 7 100m runner in the District, Sam Danson (Year 9) recorded a personal best in the Long Jump (5m80) and Ben Kersh again threw the furthest Javelin in the area.



An impressive 29 pupils have been selected to represent Macclesfield at the Cheshire Schools' County Track and Field Championships in June.

Rugby tour



Year 8 rugby players trod in the footprints of giants when they played at the world-renowned Cardiff Arms Park on their inaugural tour of South Wales over the Easter break.

The U13 squad played three matches against the cream of top Welsh club sides. It was their first introduction to the 15-a-side game in a region where rugby isn't just a matter of life and death, "it's more important than that," and King's boys stood tall against a strong physical challenge. Player of the Tour award went to Oliver Watson and 'Man of the Tour' went to Toby Denton.



Hockey



King's U11 hockey stars won a superb double, winning both the AJIS North West regional and Cheshire County titles. In the Cheshire Championships, their slick stick work saw them beat King's Chester 2-1 in the final with goals from Tasha Clark and Ella Bray. The Association of Junior Independent School (AJIS) North West finals saw King's outclass teams from 16 other schools, including Kirkham Grammar School in the final.

Congratulations also go to the U14 girls' hockey team, who won the preliminary round of the County Hockey Tournament beating Fallibroome, Sandbach and AESG to progress to the County Finals, where the girls came runners-up.



Cross Country



In the Juniors, the final cross country event of the year was the Macclesfield & District Cross Country Championship, which saw very wet and difficult conditions. Despite this, outstanding individual performances came from Walter Travis and Oliver Bailey, who both finished 3rd in their races.

The Year 3/4 boys finished 2nd overall after fantastic runs by Walter Travis, Ludo Bywater and Joe Moores, who finished 3rd, 10th and 18th. The Year 5/6 boys went one better and were crowned Champions, with excellent runs from Oliver Bailey (3rd), Sam Booth (8th) and Alex Bailey (18th).

Hat trick heroes



It was six of the best from two King's cricketers as fast bowlers Josh Rajendran and Billy Griffiths both produced early season hat tricks. Josh, who also represents Cheshire, was playing for King's U15s against Newcastle Grammar School. His first wicket was caught at cover, the second was a yorker that hit middle stump and the third hit the top of the off peg. Billy, a pace bowler, was playing for King's U14s against

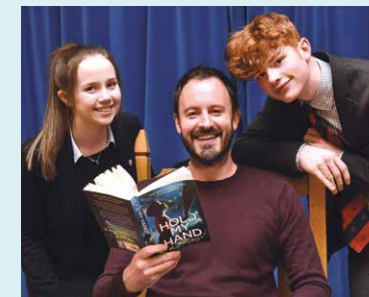
Wirral Grammar School and shattered the wickets all three times. Head of Cricket, Steve Moores, said: "To get a hat trick this early in the season is special, to get two is remarkable. I'm sure Josh and Billy will remember those moments for the rest of their lives."



Crime author speaks to pupils

Crime writer Michael Ford returned to his old school to throw the spotlight on the craft of penning a best-seller. Michael's latest book 'Hold My Hand' is on supermarket shelves nationwide. A hard-hitting psychological thriller that accurately traces contemporary police procedures, it is Michael's first adult fiction, having previously written children's literature and worked as a publishing editor.

He told King's Sixth Form students studying A Level English Literature: "Find your own voice. Don't be tempted to follow the latest trends, but write about what concerns you. If you're not authentic, you will soon be found out." Michael, who went to King's from 1991 to 1998 before going to Oxford University to read English and Classics, is now writing his second novel, speculatively titled 'Keep Her Close'.



Alumni Gala Dinner



In March, former pupils returned to their alma mater for a record-breaking gala dinner staged in the familiar surrounds of the main school hall for a genuine trip down memory lane. Before a three course meal, many of the 130 attendees enjoyed a tour of the school followed by a drinks reception in the Library. The event raised £2,000 for

the King's School Bursary Fund, plus £1,000 for the forthcoming sports tour to South Africa. Guest speaker was former Scots international rugby player Bryan Redpath, whose sons all attended King's.

England Call-Up

Former King's pupil and Sale Sharks player Cameron Redpath has been selected for the England Rugby tour of South Africa. Fly half Cameron has been cherry picked as one of England's youngest ever full squad members by coach Eddie Jones, who has described him as "one of those born rugby players". Aged just 18 and younger than Johnny Wilkinson when he was first selected for international duty, Cameron is the son of former Scottish scrum-half Bryan Redpath.

DIARY DATES

Friday 29 June

Former Pupils' Cricket Match | The King's School

Friday 6 July

Bursary Fund Golf Day | Macclesfield Golf Club

Saturday 1 September

1st XV Festival and Former Pupils' 7s | Derby Fields

Friday 7 September

Former Pupils' Hockey Match | The King's School

Thursday 18 October @ 6pm

London Drinks in the City | Covent Garden | £15

Sea Life Trust benefits from Eco-King's

This term saw the launch of our inaugural Eco-King's charity project in the Boys' Division. Led by Miss Lally, the cross-curricular project aims to raise awareness amongst our Year 7 and 8 pupils of our impact on the global environment and, specifically, the need to reduce, re-use and recycle. Pupils have been looking at the scale and impact of plastics in our oceans and how they can make a difference as individuals.

Starting with a litter pick, the project has taken pupils on a journey of discovery that has included looking at what they use and waste, how they can recycle and upcycle, as well as specific topics on how waste degrades and decomposes. Eco-topics have been the subject in English, Science, Art, and languages as well as in the Debating Society and the school newspaper.



Our official Eco Week will take place 18 – 22 June and will feature a range of activities to showcase pupils' work and fundraise for The Sea Life Trust. At the end of Eco Week, on Sunday 24 June, pupils will participate in the Barnaby Festival's 'Macc-Tastic Less Plastic' event outside St Michael's Parish Church. There will be displays of the pupils' work, their upcycling creations and TED style talks.

Rory runs 100k for Headway

Determined pupil Rory McCabe has raised a huge £2,088 for Headway, the brain injury association. Rory set himself the challenge of running 100km in the month of April and not only managed to achieve this, but also exceeded his fundraising target by 156%.



Rory chose to support Headway after the Boys' Division nominated it as their chosen charity. Rory explained: "Headway is an amazing charity that supports people with brain injuries and their families. Every year, one million people have a head injury and 135,000 people are admitted to hospital because of the severity of their injuries. Headway provides support to these people and helps them get back on their feet."

CONGRATULATIONS TO...

Niya Alias, Sammy Earnshaw, Phillip Delikouros, Ben O'Donnell, Amelia Phillpotts and Katy Raddcliffe, who won third place in the Merchant Taylors' School Quiz.

Samuel Andresen and Fiona Beeston, who both passed their Grade 7 Singing exam with Merit.

May Broadley, who won the U16 Congleton Triathlon.

Jacob Brown, who did exceptionally well on the UKMT intermediate Maths Challenge to qualify for the Hamilton Challenge, in which he achieved a Merit.

Sarah Catlin, who passed her Grade 6 Double Bass exam with Distinction.

Joey Chong, who has been selected for the Cheshire U15 Cricket team, **Harry Elms**, who has been selected for the Derbyshire U17 Cricket team, and **Angus Thomson**, who has been selected for the Cheshire U17 Cricket team.

Aisling Day, who passed her Grade 7 Music Theory exam with Distinction.

Jasmine England, who passed her Grade 6 Singing exam with Distinction.

Oliver Gotts, who won a bronze medal at the British Indoor Inline Speed Skating Championship for 1000m, in the U13 category. He broke 3 British records at the European Inline Cup in Groß-Gerau, Germany.

Emma Graham, who received a special commendation for her entries in the Portico Library Awards for Young Readers and Writers.

Maahir Halwani, who came joint 1st (Distinction) in Years 7-9 Prose Reading at the Alderley Edge Festival.

Daisy Hammersley and Megan Whiteley, on gaining silver awards in the UK Linguistics Olympiad 2018.

Madeline Holden, who passed her Grade 6 Piano exam with Distinction.

Jake Jones, who has been selected to represent the North West (Tensworth) U13 Hockey Squad in the UK Championships.

Owen Jones, who represented the ISRFC Lambs on tour playing against Croatia and Italy XV's.

Ollie Leatherbarrow, who captained a Scotland U16 XV.

Keerthi Menon, who won a place on the Writing Saturday Club, run by Manchester Metropolitan University.

Charles Morrison-Hughes, who finished 3rd in a Cheshire U15 closed squash tournament and is now seeded 3rd in the County.

Joe Tabachnik, who has been selected for the U17 Manchester Performance Centre in hockey.

The **1st VII Rugby Team**, who won the Cheshire Sevens title and were Rosslyn Park Bowl quarter-finalists.