



HERALD

THE KING'S SCHOOL
CHESTER

All the news from The King's School, Chester

From success on the sports field and young composers to thought-provoking trips abroad, there's never a dull moment at King's!



Exploring Biodiversity

...the expedition to Tanzania

Full story on page 4

A record-breaking year for results!



It has been the best ever year for GCSE results at King's. Over 82% of all passes were at A* or A, with 40% of students gaining straight A*/A grades in all their subjects.

Ten students gained **10 A*s**, 9 students gained 9 A*s and a further 20 students gained straights A*/A.

96% of all passes were at A*/A/B.

The students justly deserve these great results after working with consistent endeavour in both their GCSE and iGCSE courses.

From this academic year, in addition to Maths, iGCSE courses will be introduced in Modern Languages.

The King's School A-Level results smashed all previous records. An outstanding 88.7% of



students gained A or B grades and 96.8% scored A-C grades. This is the best ever set of results and places King's firmly as one of the leading schools in the North West.

Congratulations go to all our students, who worked with determination and commitment to get these superb results, and thanks also to our dedicated teachers, who helped them achieve their potential. **Success was across the board**, with ten subjects achieving nothing lower than an A or B grade.

43% of the students gained straight A grades in all subjects.

Sam Menzies (U6ML) achieved 5 grade As; a further 12 students achieved 4 Grade As and 29 students gained 3 As.



Physics 'Student of the Year'

In November, Matthew Ireland (U6ER), was presented with the Laser Photonics Summer Academy 'Student of the Year' prize.

The Academy, which was attended by AS level physics students from both Wales and North West regions, took place at **OpTIC** in St Asaph over four weeks of the summer holidays. During this time, **Matthew designed**

and built a topographical profiler that used a laser to produce a three dimensional image of an object on a computer screen.

The glass trophy was **presented by** Caroline Gray, **Managing Director of Phoenix Optical Technologies Ltd** in the presence of **Dr Phil Harris, CEO of OpTIC Glyndwr Ltd** following a day of project presentations, demonstrations and speeches.



Sweet music for our Young Composers

At The Royal Northern College of Music

The Music Department are delighted with the news that 3 students, Seb Fayle (L6PF), Edward Andrade (L6PF) and Selim Ungut (5MP) have been selected to take part in the Royal Northern College of Music Young Composer Project.

This is an **amazing result as there are only 12 students chosen** from the whole of the North West region!

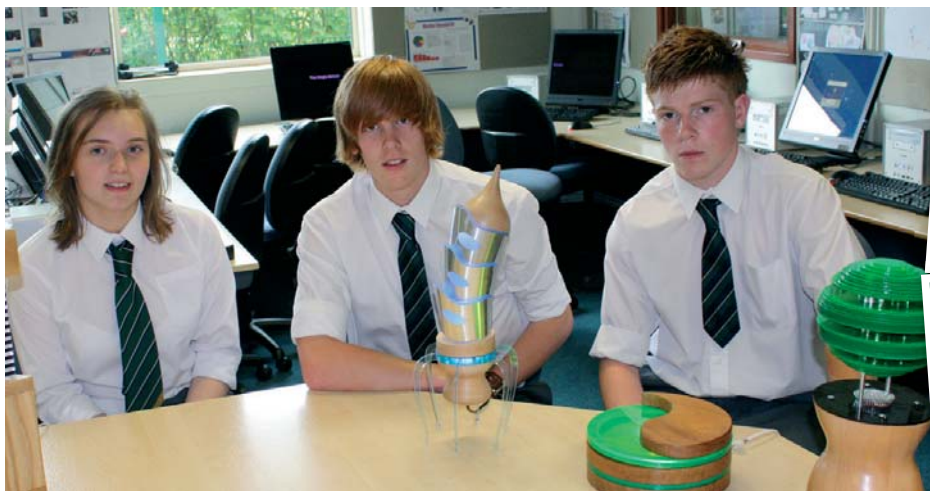
The pupils were provided with a four-note motif created by Sir Peter Maxwell Davies upon which to base a composition and they had until October 23rd to complete their work. All twelve compositions were **performed by Ensemble 10/10 at the**



RNCM in November in a concert at the end of the RNCM's New Music North West Festival.

Engineering success for Arkwright Scholars

Three King's students have this year been awarded a prestigious Arkwright Scholarship, with a fourth being shortlisted. This follows on from last year's success at getting two students from King's onto the shortlist.



The Arkwright Scholarship is offered to students with a commitment to engineering, who must be studying Design and Technology, Maths and Physics at A-Level. There is a gruelling interview process at the top engineering universities to be awarded a scholarship.

Annabelle Church (5JH), Matthew Harle (L6ML) and Morgan Jones (L6SD) went on to win a scholarship, with **William Leaman (L6PF)** being shortlisted.

The end of the summer saw the showcase exhibition of an excellent range of product design projects from GCSE and A-Level courses. **The work was of a very high standard** and the exhibition characterised the diverse range of projects exploring areas related to engineering problems, marketing, branding, consumer product design and manufacture. All students creatively employed the extensive facilities available in the Design and Technology Department at the School. Each student explored their individual design problem, sketched using **Computer Aided Design software** to model and refine



concepts to great effect; in many cases they then used our Computer Aided Manufacturing facilities to engineer professional-standard products. **Many students go on from the Design and Technology department to a range of creative and scientific careers,** including architecture, industrial design and the fashion industry, as well as civil, mechanical or aeronautical engineering.



It's a wonderful world!

Tanzania Biodiversity Expedition 2009

July 2009 saw the fourth School expedition to one of the world's biodiversity hotspots. This time fifteen students and three staff arrived safely in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, to begin an ambitious 15 day study of the forests, savannahs and coral reefs of this diverse country.



falls and soon added to the list of endemic species, with a species of African Violet living in the splash zone of the falls, a species of Pygmy Bearded Chameleon and an endemic Tree Frog.

From the Udzungwas the group travelled to **Mikumi National Park** for three days of



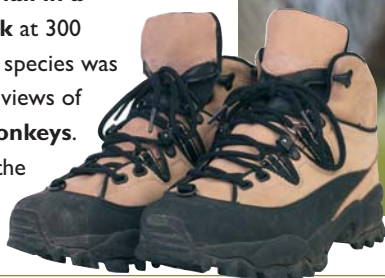
observing wildlife on safari. Mikumi, together with the Selous game reserve which adjoins it, forms the biggest area of land devoted to wildlife in Africa and in fact is **second only in**

The group travelled first to the Udzungwa Mountains National Park. The Udzungwas form part of the Eastern Arc Mountains, referred to as “the Galapagos Islands of Africa” because of their fragmented nature in a sea of savannah.

This has allowed isolated pockets of forest species to evolve in isolation from each other, the whole area thus becoming a centre of endemism and **one of the world's 34 biodiversity hotspots**, plus one of 200 WWF Eco-regions of global critical importance. The only new species of monkey found in Africa in the last 20 years was discovered in these mountains in 2005, as well as a new species of tree shrew earlier this year.

Here the group climbed to the top of **Sanje falls, the highest waterfall in a Tanzania National Park** at 300 metres. The first endemic species was soon seen with excellent views of **Iringa Red Colobus monkeys**.

The group now swam in the pools at the top of the





size, as a conservation area, to **Antarctica!** Small groups now had the chance to observe Giraffe, Zebra, Buffalo, Impala, Hippo, Crocodile, Lion, Hyena, Wildebeest and particularly Elephants. Attention was paid to the latter with observations of their herd-dynamics, identifying the Matriarch and Ascari (guard) in each herd observed. **Mikumi is extremely rich in bird species**, particularly birds of prey, and many of these were seen, including the spectacular Secretary Bird, the African Fish Eagle and White Backed Vulture. Perhaps the most exciting aspect of our time in Mikumi was that **the group camped within the park boundaries amongst the wildlife.** This made nocturnal visits to the toilet far more exciting as it required an escort from Joseph the National Park armed Guard!



Next came the underwater part of the adventure on **Zanzibar** where the Arabian Nights Hotel was the base for the six days of diving in the Indian Ocean. So followed two days of study and diving in clear and warm water after which **all the party successfully qualified as PADI Open Water divers.** Before completing the dives for the Advanced Open Water course there was time to visit a local colony of Zanzibar Red Colobus Monkeys, take a guided tour of Zanzibar's Capital, Stone Town and then a dhow voyage to observe local **Bottlenose Dolphins.**

Jozani forest is a local reserve containing an important colony of endemic and habituated Red Colobus. Thousands of years of separation from the mainland has allowed



natural selection to make some subtle differences to the same species that they saw in the Udzungwas, one obvious difference being far more red coloration on these animals' backs. In Jozani, the coastal Mangrove forest part of the reserve was also visited. Globally Mangrove forest is an extremely threatened habitat – in East Africa it is used as a fuel from which charcoal for cooking is produced. Next day they took a dhow trip off the coast of Zanzibar where they **snorkelled over reefs and through mangrove roots in crystal clear water**, ate lunch on a small offshore island then observed groups of hunting Bottlenose Dolphins.

The last two days on Zanzibar were taken up with the qualification dives for the **Advanced Open Water Certification** during which the group could begin to appreciate better the life on the reef observing Green Turtle, Black Tipped Reef Shark, Blue Spotted Ribbon

Tail Stingray, Octopus, Lionfish, Scorpionfish and Barracuda amongst many others!

So it was time to say goodbye to Tanzania. This had been an ambitious trip with a packed itinerary and in the end the reality had exceeded everyone's expectations.



Checkmate

King's crowned chess champions

In October King's played host to the North Wales and Cheshire regional championships.

143 students from throughout the region competed and King's were crowned joint secondary school champions. An impressive number of individual titles were won by:

Marvin Hayes (5MP), Davin Menon (4VL), James Carr (U6SW), Doug Forster (L6BH) and Tim Pemberton (L6JS), who were all playing in the U21 group, which included two members of the National team (one of whom is the current U21 Champion). Both Davin and Marvin gave the British Champion some stiff opposition and Marvin managed to beat one of the National team members, whilst Davin drew with him!

Marvin came 2nd in the U21 County Championship and **won the U16 County Champion crown.**

Davin Menon became the **U15 County Champion** and came 3rd in the U21 competition.

James Carr became the **U18 County Champion** and **Tim Pemberton** came 2nd in the U17 County Championship.

Douglas Forster came 2nd in the U17 Schools' Championship, **Susan Gorman (3AI)** came 3rd in the U14 County Championship and **Oscar Lloyd-Williams**



(3DB) came 2nd in the U14 Schools' Championship.

Matthew Brindley (3MP) came 3rd in the U14 Schools' Championship and **Owen Edwards (J3M)** was crowned U10 County Champion.

Other team members who contributed significantly to the winning team scores included: **Rhys Dowington (3MP), Fergus Davidson (RmLB), Haran Makwana (RmLB), and Matthew Carty (J4G)**, all in their first tournament.

King's is now firmly established as the top chess-playing school in the region, and one of the best in the country.



Judge Obadai lays down the law



As part of the King's forum series of visits, we welcomed Judge Obadai to King's to talk to guests, parents, Sixth Formers and staff. Judge Obadai gave a very interesting talk about her experience of the process of becoming a judge, and about the life of a circuit judge and the judiciary in general.



Life in Afghanistan

A major's perspective

At an assembly given to the Senior School, Major Crewe-Read presented a moving and factual account of his time in

Afghanistan, outlining, as he saw it, the positive outcomes and difficulties involved in serving his country in such a volatile environment.



Success for King's delegates at the Model United Nations



Four delegations made up of twenty-one students from both Lower and Upper Sixth and the Fifth Form represented the School in fine style at a two-day Model United Nations conference held at Cheadle Hulme School.

Ninety delegations took part from **31 Schools from the UK and abroad** and a handful of students from each committee are recognised at the Award Ceremony to reflect the quality of their contribution towards debate and the effectiveness of their speech-making. A remarkable **seven** of our delegates were recognised, some of whom were at their first conference.

Mayur Lakshmi (U6CH), Jason Brewer (U6SW) and Joe Dillamore (L6JS) were Highly Commended Delegates.

Both Jason and Joe were at a conference for the first time having done MUN for three weeks, which is an exceptional achievement.

Matt Kilcoyne (U6AM), Oscar Hayward (U6SB), James Carr (U6SW) and Luke Howarth (5KL) were Commended Delegates. Again, James and Luke were at their first conference.

On Sunday at the General Assembly, an emergency resolution, for which no preparation was possible, was debated in front of the 500 people at the Conference. Following this, King's UAE delegation was awarded the **Best Delegation in General Assembly**. The delegation was led by **Matt Kilcoyne**, who spoke to the Assembly with passion and skill, and supporting him were **Jason Brewer, Becky Symes (U6ER), Fred Deas (U6AM), Tim Pemberton**

(L6JS) and Siobhan Barnard (L6BH).

Other delegates taking part were **Owain Morris (U6ER), Lewis Ankers (L6JS), George Rankin (U6AM), Will Coley (L6JK), James Goulbourne (L6ML), Iilina Sen (L6BH), Alex Austin (L6JS), Matthew Chadwick (L6KS), Jenny Corlett (5KL) and PJ Wang (5PN)**, most of whom were at their first conference and acquitted themselves well in their own Committees.

In January, King's will be attending MUN in The Hague. The Hague Conference is the biggest in the world for secondary school age students, and is attended by delegates from all over the world. So prestigious is the conference that its resolutions are actually presented to the United Nations itself, in New York.

Poet Laureate performs at King's

In October King's played host to Poet Laureate Carol Ann Duffy, together with musician John Sampson, who performed to an audience of almost 400 local primary school children. The event was the

launch of the Chester Literature Festival.

Carol Ann Duffy recited some of her famous children's poetry accompanied by music from **John Sampson**.

Katherine Seddon, Chester Literature



Festival, said, "It was a **wonderful start to the festival**, and we were delighted that King's were kind enough to host the event, which all the children thoroughly enjoyed."



Summer in the jungles of Borneo

This summer a group of eleven Sixth Formers set out for a four week personal development expedition into the hot and humid environment of the Borneo jungle.

This was the culmination of an eighteen month build-up of fundraising, itinerary planning, training and team building.

The team flew to **Kota Kinabalu**, capital of the Sabah region of Borneo. After an administration day, the team travelled inland towards the mist-shrouded **Mt Kinabalu**. On arrival in a remote village the team headed off on foot to **Miki's Jungle Survival camp**. Sleeping under mosquito nets, surrounded by the night jungle noises, **catching squirrel, rats and frogs in handmade traps, eating them roasted by the fire, learning 101 uses of bamboo, making darts and having a blowpipe competition, picking off fattened leeches from legs** and swimming in an ice cold river were just some of the activities the students enjoyed here.

A four day trek through jungle terrain, pineapple plantations and upland and paddy rice fields followed, and the students spent much time talking to the Dusun guides about the medicinal uses of jungle plants. **The students were also able to spend time in the evenings with the local villagers, staying in homesteads, learning how to separate rice from husks by hand, participating in traditional gong-playing and dancing, as well as playing bowls with coconuts!**

After a visit to the orang-utan sanctuary at **Sepilok**, the students headed to the **MESCOT project in the Kinabatangan region**. The deforestation in the area for palm oil plantations has caused great damage to the local environment and it is only now that **locals are realising that in order to sustain their lives and traditional communities they must return the area to primary jungle**. The students camped in hammocks in the jungle and spent their days clearing the secondary forest, **replanting primary jungle**, building boardwalks for an eco-camp and as light relief, painted murals on the walls of a village school. **It was an**



extremely beneficial and rewarding project for both students and the local community alike.

After a day's **white water rafting**, the last few days of the expedition were spent on the beautiful coral beaches of the **TAR islands**, snorkelling, sunbathing and watching out for the large monitor lizards. Evenings were spent visiting local restaurants, shopping and eating



freshly cooked shellfish from the most famous night market in Malaysia. It was a relaxing end to the most amazing expedition; the whole trip being a **lasting experience for the students in personal development, jungle survival techniques, leadership** and overriding all of this a fantastic opportunity to be welcomed whole heartedly and warmly by the people of Borneo.



Colonel leads Armistice Day services

The King's School welcomed Colonel Piers Storie-Pugh, OBE to conduct the Armistice Day services of remembrance at both the Junior and Senior Schools.

Colonel Piers Storie-Pugh is well known to staff and students who have been on the many History Battlefields trips, where he has guided and imparted his vast knowledge and experience. **Always a poignant and moving occasion**, the whole school heard Colonel Storie-Pugh recount the stories of some of the war widows and veterans' families he had accompanied on visits to loved ones' war graves. Sadly, in view of recent events, his message was as relevant today as after the First World War and he **reminded us that every day is remembrance day for those left**



behind. A specialist on the Burma campaign, Colonel Storie-Pugh chose Lieutenant John Fox OKS to signify the need to remember those who lie far away with no grave. **Remarkably, Lt Fox's great grandson is a current pupil** and attended the service. Afterwards, the Headmaster accepted a print of the Battle of Pagoda Hill, Burma, signed by the artist and by Brigadier Michael Calvert as a gift from Colonel Piers Storie-Pugh.

Mayor and Mayoress guests at CCF Dinner



The dinner was attended by officers and cadets of the contingent and their families, together with the Headmaster and Chairman of Governors, Dr David Hempsall.

The guests of honour were the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Chester.

The King's School Combined Cadet Force held its Annual Dinner for cadets past and present in September.



Visiting the Western Front

October 2009 saw the seventh History battlefields trip take place, the third to the Western Front and the first led by Mr Heap. Sixty-two students from across the school, accompanied by eight members of staff and two guides, spent six days touring the battlefields, museums and cemeteries of Ypres, Verdun, the Somme and Cambrai.



It was a learning experience second to none, the tone set brilliantly even before the group left, by Mr Heap's truly first-rate study guide, which provided a wonderful appetiser and accompaniment to the trip. The care that Mr Heap had invested into making the itinerary bespoke soon became evident. **Fifty-seven Old King's Scholars gave their lives in the First World War** and the group visited the graves or memorials of thirteen. Wreaths were laid – some provided by the school, some by the Chester Association of Old King's Scholars – and there were poignant readings of poems and prose, as well as addresses about the former pupils of the school.

Mr Heap's great grandfather, the tank commander 2nd Lt Frank Heap MC and his tank 'Deborah', provided the focus of a visit to the Cambrai battlefield. Local historian **Philippe Gorczyński**, who discovered the tank, provided a memorable account of the battle and showed the group around



his museum (setting fire to World War One cordite amid general alarm and excitement) and the nearby cemetery where several

members of Frank Heap's crew now lie. Writing on the wreath that was laid, Mr Heap quoted his great grandfather and referred to the fallen as 'all finer fellows than I shall ever be'.

One comment, made after arriving home, perhaps illustrates best what this trip – and others like it – was all about. Asked what he thought of the trip, a fourth former said: 'Great trip; it made me think.' Asked what about, he replied: 'about Life.'

There were more light-hearted moments, of course. **A Sixth-Former's thank you speech to the driver, Andy, was memorable in this regard, as was his praise for Mr Heap, who 'fair dos, has done quite a good job'.**

If dirty washing was piled high on trippers' return and children – and staff – were a little grumpy through lack of sleep, at least parents and families could be won round by Belgian chocolates. That and the fact that they could **be assured that this trip gave all those who went on it a wonderful insight into all aspects of the Western Front in the First World War.**

Mr Heap, you did better than 'quite good', you did brilliantly. Thank you. Just one more question: where next?



Musicians in tune with fundraising projects

Musicians from The King's School assisted Chester Cathedral Choir, who presented a fundraising concert at Eaton Hall. The concert was in aid of Chester Cathedral choir's tour to Paris in October 2009.

Philip Rushforth, Director of Music at Chester Cathedral presented a varied programme of choral music in the Chapel at Eaton Hall, Chester.

King's pupils **Jonathan Gleek (U6JS)**, **Jason Brewer (U6SW)** and **Miles Rosen (U6SD)**, added some wonderful jazz music with their group 'King's Jazz' in the Long



Room at the Hall, whilst guests enjoyed refreshments. **Selim Ungut (5MP)** also gave a scintillating performance on the piano.

Three students, accompanied by Mr Adrian Rushforth, Head of Strings, were also invited to perform at a charity ball in aid of the Countess of Chester Hospital, held at Marks and Spencer on the Business Park.



Playing for over an hour, **entertaining over 400 guests** at the reception, the quartet consisted of **Jeremy Telford (4DL)**, who played cello, **Terence Au (4JH)**, who played violin, and **Will Tyson (U6ER)**, who played viola. The string quartet was thanked by Chairman of the Hospital, **Sir James Sharples**, and his wife **Lady Sharples**, together with Stephen Cross, Foundation Trust Secretary of the Countess of Chester.

A Royal occasion for King's CCF Band



Nine members of the King's School CCF Band, accompanied by their OC, Captain Joseph, were honoured to be invited to play close to Buckingham Palace.

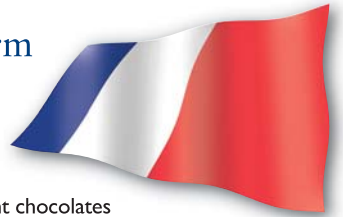
During their visit the students enjoyed a tour around the **King's Troop RHA**, learning about the regimental history and the horses, as well as visiting the stables and training ground, and seeing the ceremonial guns. The next day the students went to

see the band of the **Scots' Guards** and visit **Wellington Barracks**, before making their way down to Buckingham Palace to see the **changing of the guard**. After lunch at Wellington Barracks, the students were given a presentation by the Scots' Guards about being a professional musician and about the corps of army music. The following morning, after a final kit-check and last practice, **the band performed at the Guards' Museum and Guards' Chapel** at Buckingham Palace, attracting lots of tourists, as well as two ex-guardsmen, who listened to their performance. **The band hopes to be involved in the Edinburgh Tattoo in 2010 and the Cadet 150 at Preston, London.**



Fun and food at Côte Opale

Very early on a cold October morning, 43 excited Shell and Third Form pupils met outside the School for the departure to the Côte Opale.



For most students the trip began for real when they embarked on the ferry “The Pride of Kent”, where there was a flurry of activity to exchange money and to wander on deck to see France looming in the distance.

hand at making a croissant. This was definitely one of the highlights of the visit.

Later that day after a walk around the ramparts of the pretty old town of **Montreuil** the students were taken to a **chocolate factory**. This too had been anticipated with great enthusiasm and the trip matched the students’ expectations.

students bought chocolates to take home as presents.

The following day was spent in the market in **Le Touquet** in the morning, and the aquarium in

Boulogne in the afternoon. Many students bought souvenirs from the market and, to the teachers’ delight, all had a go at speaking French. **The Aquarium was really interesting and well laid-out; most students particularly enjoyed the Touch Pool** where sting rays and other fish swam up to be caressed. Outside the Aquarium

was a crêpe and ice cream stall, where a great deal of money was spent!



The group arrived at the hotel at seven in the evening, weary but eager to find out what the hotel and the surrounding area would be like.

There was a plentiful meal of soup, spaghetti bolognese and a typically French dessert of apple compôte – rather like apple sauce – which was met with suspicion by most pupils!

The next day saw the first of the visits. The first stop was the **bakery in Hardelot**. The students were taken inside to see the old wood-burning stove, which was 5 metres long and 2 metres deep. They learnt the difference between a wood stove and an electric oven and were interested to learn that bread cooked in a wood stove lasts 5 days longer than that cooked in an oven. **The baker demonstrated how croissants and “pain au chocolat” were made,** then let



the students loose to try their

They were met at the door by a delicious aroma of chocolate, and the shop itself was a delight to behold. Behind the scenes it became even more interesting: the factory owner explained how the cocoa beans were selected and, in impeccable English, went on to explain the whole process, **culminating in a tasting of several of the best of the hand-made chocolates.** Several of the

The final day involved a visit to **Rouen**, the medieval town where **Joan of Arc** was burnt at the stake. The students appreciated the Old Market Square and the pretty buildings, while the teachers enjoyed a most welcome coffee in a small street café.

A visit to the Joan of Arc museum explained why she was burnt as a heretic but later made a Saint.

After so much culture the teachers decided it was time for some relaxation and took the students bowling. In the evening there was a presentation and a disco which was enjoyed by all. The presentation varied from the one who tried the hardest to speak French to the one who drank the most fizzy-drinks during the stay. **There was much laughter to end a fantastic trip.**



All manor of adventure!



were of the same standard as those in the more grandly named Manor.

Activities began almost immediately after arrival and the **nine groups quickly got to grips**

with a range of exciting, dangerous, scary, funny and entertaining sessions. Most

popular again was the confidence course, set high up in the trees, where pupils had to navigate a range of obstacles such as parallel bars, high ropes, fireman's pole and cargo net.

The underground maze was dark, damp and uncomfortable in comparison. Many Removes (and teachers!) showed great skill in archery and rifle shooting and could climb or abseil with style and fearlessness. One of the more entertaining activities was fencing, where all pupils, regardless of gender, had to don plastic breastplates. The boys, in particular, found these chest guards especially hilarious, and there ensued a great many photo opportunities during the fencing activity.

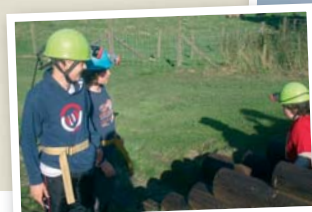
Of the team-building activities, the best was the so-called crow's nest, which involved stacking crates, while one member of the group had to stay on top of them.

Pupils appreciated the variety of food on offer – the activities left people feeling very hungry. The cooked breakfasts were greatly appreciated, as were the cooked lunches and cooked evening meals! Free time was spent **playing football, chatting, snacking, doing quizzes and (occasionally) sleeping.** The tutors really enjoyed getting to know their tutees. The pupils behaved impeccably throughout the trip and showed great co-operation and support for each other.

They were a pleasure to be with, and it was a great start to their career in the Senior School.

September saw the annual visit of the Removes to the Manor Adventure Centre in Craven Arms, Shropshire for three days of activities and team-building.

The whole year group travelled together for the first time, accompanied by their form tutors, head of year and the pastoral deputy head. **Accommodation was in the Manor and the Barn.** Those in the Barn were more than a little concerned about the name of their accommodation and imagined that they would be sleeping on bales of hay and fighting off livestock for a turn at the water trough. They needn't have worried though – the dormitories



In battle with Sandbach School



In September the King's School Games Club hosted their first friendly match against Sandbach School. A team of 13 pupils visited King's and an afternoon of table-top war-gaming ensued.

The three game systems played included fantasy **Warhammer, Warhammer 40K** (futuristic) and **Lord of the Rings**. Ten individual matches took place, and the players were joined by a staff **representative from Games' Workshop in Chester**, who was very helpful

in settling any play-disputes and assisting with the extensive rules for each game. He also brought some gaming boards and scenery for use in the matches, which added a different dimension to the play.

The club was eagerly looking forward to this fixture, as **Sandbach School** have been **National runners-up in the Games' Workshop School League finals** for the last three consecutive years. Furthermore, their team consisted of Sixth Form pupils, with some

Year 7s coming along to watch. King's School Games Club has members ranging from Removes to Lower Sixth, so 11 year old pupils faced 18 year old students.

The evening was extremely enjoyable for all concerned. There was a superb atmosphere and the King's pupils learnt much about tactics and the School League rule system. Sandbach defeated King's 8-2. However, the last match went to King's, so it ended on a high point.

King's man of the match was Nathan Addison from the Fourth Year. He displayed great strategic thinking and remained focussed upon the specific battle-mission. The prize for the King's and the Sandbach Man of the Match is to have a figure professionally painted by a member of Games' Workshop, Chester.



Outward Bound – to Ullswater

“We are better than we know; if only we can be brought to realise this, we may never again be prepared to settle for anything less.”

Kurt Hahn, Co-founder of Outward Bound



At the end of last term 11 teachers and 119 students travelled to Outward Bound, Ullswater, for six days.

This is a greatly anticipated annual event for the Third year and for the first time the year group was too large to be accommodated on a single site and so was split between the new **Howtown** centre on the eastern side of the lake and the larger **Watermillock** site on the west.



The aims of the trip are to challenge and, as with all school activities, to encourage students to fulfil their potential. The challenges may be different from anything that the student has experienced before and so they need to be open to the full range of opportunities that are presented; they are expected to have to move **well and truly out of their comfort zone**.

Students are encouraged to be self-reliant and organised, but they must also be aware of the needs of the other people in their group. In this way personal responsibility, leadership and teamwork may all be encountered within the same task.

This year the **Lake District** did not disappoint, and the weather was much better than usual, and ideally suited for the numerous activities undertaken.

The highlight for many students was the **two day expedition**, although many students do not appreciate the extent of their achievement until it is over. The long slog carrying a sizeable pack



is in stark contrast to the shorter high adrenaline activities, such as **rock climbing** and jumping from various heights into often very cold water!

All activities are not physically demanding, however, and sailing, especially in very light winds, was particularly relaxing, until the inevitable capsizing competitions and water fights.

There are also more cerebral activities, such as the planning for the **globe tech challenge**, although as this also involves a two hour run over and around **Hallam Fell** to earn orienteering points, it is not for the sedentary intellectual.

As ever the behaviour of the students was exemplary and although this is something that Outward Bound have come to expect, King's staff do not take it for granted and were proud to work with such an engaged group of young people.

King's equestrians are riding high!

The School's three equestrian teams competed in the regional Inter-Schools' competition during October.

The competition comprised a show jumping course of 8 fences, followed by a course of about 8 cross country fences, which are judged on style of jumping and the closest to an optimum time. **They performed very well**, with two teams **qualifying for the National Schools' Championship**: the 'King's Knights' in Class 2 and the 'King's Aces' in Class 3. They were both placed in second place, beating

12 other schools. There was also individual success for **Ben Stratton** 2nd in Class 2, and **Cameron Thompson** 2nd in Class 3.

'The King's Aces' consisted of **Lucy Grindal (3MG)**, **Harry Stables (ShRA)**, **James Pym (ShHB)** and **Cameron Thompson (3AI)**.

'The King's Flyers' did compete again this year but were unplaced. The team consisted of **Ben Stratton (RmHL)**, **Emily Boothroyd (RmHL)**, **Lucy Grindal** and **Cameron Thompson**.

'The King's Knights' was a new team this year and consisted of **Emily Boothroyd**, **Harry**

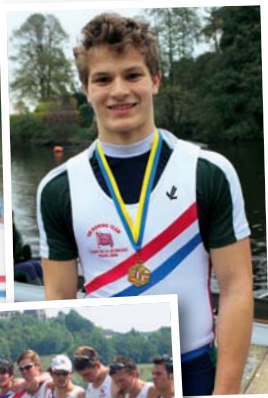


Stables, James Pym and Ben Stratton. This team was placed 2nd, and Ben was placed 2nd individually.

The National Schools' Championships will be held later this year in Bedfordshire and they are due to be televised by Sky.



King's rowers make a real splash



Over the Summer King's rowers achieved great success at National level.

In the World Junior Rowing Championships, three King's rowers were selected for the GB Men's VIII. With athletes from Eton College, St Edward's and Abingdon School, King's boys Stephen Jones, Sam Arnot and cox, Franz Imfeld, completed the line up.

The squad performed extremely well, achieving a silver medal behind Germany, a very commendable performance, as this is the elite

event for junior rowing, and many from this squad go on to be Olympians.

At the Coupe de Jeunesse in Vichy, France, **Inigo Atkin**, was one of the GB coxless four squad. He went one better and **won a gold medal**. Inigo was selected from one of five King's School trialists. In the first final, the British four, with Inigo at bow, rowed through the Spanish, French and Italian boats to take the gold. On the Sunday a very determined Italian four just edged the British boat into silver medal position.

This represented the most successful JM4-performance at the Coupe for several years.

Oliver Holt, the current King's Rowing Club Captain, was stroke for

the England VIII at the Home Countries Regatta in Nottingham this summer. The crew stormed to victory against the Home Nations to take the gold medal.

The success of the five King's rowers meant it was **one of the strongest years in the King's rowing club's history**, with so many athletes representing Great Britain over the summer.

Uphill work for cross country runners!



King's runners performed admirably in the Chester & District event in November in pretty poor conditions, with all athletes acquitting themselves well in a very competitive event.

Particular mention should go to **James Ellis (L6JS)**, who won the senior event, and **Harry Ashworth (5MP)**, who was narrowly pipped to the post in a great Intermediate race.

King's was the only school to field a team in each age group and several runners have been

selected to represent the city in the County event, which is being held after Christmas.

King's Boys' Teams came 1st in the year Inters (4th/5th year) and Seniors (Sixth Form) groups, 3rd in the Minors (Removes) and 4th in the Juniors (Shells/Removes).

King's Girls won the Minors and the Seniors team award and came 2nd in the Junior and Intermediate age group.

From the competition, many King's pupils have been chosen to run for Chester in the County Events:

Minors: 4 Boys and 6 Girls.

Juniors: 5 Boys and 4 Girls.

Inters: 5 Boys and 5 Girls.

Seniors: 5 Boys and 5 Girls.

Well done to all the teams.

Cricket ace James

James Oldman (U6SW) was selected to play for the MCC Schools' Team, which will play the England Schools Team at Lord's Cricket ground in September.



This was a huge honour for James, and King's. James was the only student to be selected for the team in the North West of England.

Everyone was delighted that James was offered this wonderful opportunity. He has played cricket for King's 1st XI for the past two years and is a hard-working and very able cricketer. A great credit to King's, he topped the bowling averages for the school in 2009, capturing 19 wickets at a rate of under 12 runs per strike, helped by a best return of 5 wickets for 35.



First class wins for cricket First XI



Just a week apart The King's School 1st XI played and won two thrilling games of cricket against MCC and CAOKS Old Boys.

MCC's batting line-up was impressive as always and this year included former pupil and captain of Cambridge University, Freddie Owen. MCC finished their Wirral schools' week at The King's School and Jamie Butler, MCC captain, commented, "The school put on a first-class performance both on and off the field and I would like to thank King's for an excellent day's cricket, and their hospitality." King's, chasing a declaration of 251, sealed victory off the penultimate ball, with another boundary from the bat of **Glenn Coppack (U6NS)**, taking him to a memorable 100 n.o. His is certainly a name to watch for the future. King's captain **Andy Leech (U6LB)** also deserves a mention for his impressive pace bowling and for supporting Glenn with an unbeaten 71, sharing a winning partnership of 117 to see his team to victory.



Another significant contribution came from **Marcus Torr (U6DY)** who scored 42. Glenn was presented with the ball by the MCC captain and will be invited down to Lord's, the home of cricket, to receive a bat in honour of his achievement. This was an outstanding performance from the team, who were very well led by Andy Leech. Glenn's tremendous performance "topped off" a wonderful victory over a talented and experienced MCC side.

The 1st XI went on to be victorious against the Old Boys from CAOKS (Chester Association of Old King's Scholars). Rain delayed the start of the CAOKS match but it was another thrilling contest despite the weather. OKS captain **Jeremy Brummitt** had assembled a side both youthful and useful. Runs came at a good rate but the school took steady wickets. In the end it was the experience of **Willy Lamb (39)** and the explosive force of last year's school captain **Oli Greening (40)** that drove the OKS score upwards and at a good rate. **Both played some exquisite shots** and it says much that both were only dismissed through run outs. Although both spinners (**Benson and Thompson**) bowled well, the

bat was once again dominant, allowing Brummitt to declare, very fairly, with OKS on 182 for 7.

In reply the school set out to accumulate steadily, not lose too many wickets, and really chase in the last 20. Mike Roberts trapped Olly Thompson early on but otherwise **the plan was well executed by skipper Glenn Coppack and Adam Dunbavand (L6BH). Dave Atkin's** entry into the attack removed Coppack for 19 and then Torr for 2 but Adam was able to bat on, showing great temperament and an ever-increasing array of shots. Well supported by fellow team members **Harry Peel (L6BH) (33)** and **Joe Benson (L6JS) (19)**, the school moved on well towards its target. The pace of **Andy Morris** and Dave Atkin accounted for five of the school's batsmen but the middle order gave Dunbavand great support. His departure for an excellent 66 was something of a concern but a bright and breezy 25 from **Ben Williams (U6AM)** brushed aside all anxieties, driving the run rate back down with some enterprising hitting. **Arthur Thomas (L6SD)** and **Edward Peel (5KL)** saw the school home in the final over and, as the OKS scorer Saul Marks put it, 'Crash, bang, wallop and it was all over'.

Crowned Kings of Athletics

The Chester and District Minors' Athletics Championships, held in Wrexham, produced many excellent results for King's.

The girls' team was placed 2nd overall and the boys' 4th out of the 11 district schools. Based on their excellent performances, ten individuals were selected for the District Team. They were:

Boys': Ben Johnson (4DL), Elliot Horsburgh (RmPH), Jack Powell (ShJJ), Harry Stables (ShRA) and Scott Griffiths (ShAR);

Girls': Ellie Green (ShHB), Lucy Armatage (ShAR), D'arcy and Gaby Tuite (ShJJ) and Kitty Abberton (ShAR).

Most notable successes were **Lucy Armatage** in the 800m and **D'arcy Tuite** in the 1500m, who are **now both District Champions** in their event.



The Cheshire County Championships were held in Warrington, and **once again many fine performances were achieved:** Lucy Armatage took 2nd place in the 800m, Ben Johnson 2nd in High Jump, Gaby Tuite 3rd in the Hurdles and D'arcy Tuite took 2nd place as part of the Chester relay team.



Setting sail for success

King's has a number of talented sailors: Tom Williams, Tom Joesbury, James Williams and Edward Downes, who have all had great success!



Photograph supplied by Peter Newton photography.

Tom Williams (4CM) has been selected for the RYA GB National Junior Topper Squad and Welsh National Topper Squad for the 09/10 season.

Tom gained his place after a busy summer attending the **Topper National competition**, the **World Championships** in Austria, and 5 nationwide competitions around the country. He came 3rd in the **Welsh Youth Championships** and 26th out of 350 boats at the National this year.

Being in the GB squad will require considerable commitment with residential training camps and a **week-long squad camp in Hayling Island**. Over half term Tom was invited by the RYA to attend a 3 day Elite Squad Training in Weymouth with the top 45 junior sailors in the country who compete in the 5 RYA Junior boats, of which **Tom was one of 9 Topper sailors to be invited**.

Tom Joesbury (ShJJ) has been competing in the Optimist Dinghy. **Tom was selected to represent Wales in the Eric Twiname Championships** this year, the RYA's premier junior sailing event, finishing 9th out of 72 Optimist sailors selected to represent their regions.

Tom was also the best improved sailor at the Optimist Inland National Championships, improving 165 places from last year's result to finish 7th at Under-13 level, and 41st overall. He finished the season, after competing in 3 national events, being ranked 44th in the UK.

This is Tom's second season of competitive sailing and he has now been selected to sail with the Welsh National Optimist squad and the GB Intermediate Optimist squad, which provides a fantastic opportunity to receive top level coaching and training.

James Williams (ShHB) competing in all the Topper Nationwide Series and the week-long Topper Nationals, secured a place in the Welsh National Topper Squad. James has also been awarded a place in the inaugural 4.2 GB National Topper Squad **having won a number of 4.2 sailing events during the year**. This is a squad of 14 sailors who are focusing on a smaller topper sail to improve sailing techniques and skills.

Edward Downes (3DB) again having attended a number of topper events over the summer, has been selected for the West Zone topper sailing squad. Edward, competing for the first time in the National competition at Pwllheli gained 5th place in the bronze fleet. A series of 2 or 3 races can take up to 6 hours of solid sailing and **Edward was selected for the squad** after many qualifying events.

All these sailors will now be involved in an intensive winter training programme from now until March when the sailing events then start until September/October next year.

Individual successes

King's students **Oliver Church (3TK)** and **Jonathan Verity (4CM)** have been selected for the **Pennine Pumas** (North of England) U15 team at the England Hockey high performance camp later this month. **Adam Dunbavand (L6BH)** and **Lewis Ankers (L6JS)** were also chosen for the U17 team.

This year, seven girls from King's have gained **regional and national**



honours for hockey and netball:

Kate Saunders (L6ML) – selected for North of England U17 Hockey Squad.

Hannah Phillips (U6AM) – plays for Welsh U19 netball and the Celtic Dragons.

Sophie Clough (U6AM) – plays hockey for the Wales U18 Squad and at club level, hockey for Bowden.

Siobhan Barnard (L6BH) – represented the U17 County Hockey squad and North at U18 level playing for the Pennine Pumas.

Alice Plews (U6NS) – represented the County Hockey squad at U17 level and the North at U18 level playing for the Pennine Pumas.

Hannah Dent (4CM) – plays for North East Wales Hockey at U17 level.

Katey Beggan (4VL) – plays for Cheshire U15 Hockey & North East Wales U17 Hockey.

Tom Armatage (3DB) has been selected for the Under-14 UK Lions hockey squad. The squad is chosen from throughout the entire UK. Tom regularly attends squad training in camps with UK coaches in Nottingham.

James Ellis (L6JS) raced in the British and Irish Mountain Running Championships, the culmination of the fell racing season. He finished in a below par 16th place as a result of previous injuries, but finding out he had still won a medal, as England finished 3rd, did help lift his spirits.



From Chester to the Philippines

Book donation boosts The Michael Children's Library

Last term, around 2,000 books in total, including those from King's, were donated to The Michael Children's Library, located in the Municipality of Parang, Maguindanao Philippines library, which was set up as a result of an initiative by a local Chester schoolboy.

The books were packed in Chester way back in August 2008. However, it took a long time for the library to open as

the books travelled by ship from the UK to Parang.

The co-ordinators then had to contend with a long period

of power blackouts. The power was recently restored, although remaining erratic, and a decision was taken to finally open the facility two weeks ago, much to the delight of local teachers in the area.

The library has now opened and the books are now being used by children from four different elementary schools in the town. It is hoped that the presence of this, the only serviceable library in Parang, will **spark interest among young readers** to pick up books and advance the literary programme.

The Junior School wish to continue to support this most worthwhile initiative, and should any pupils have any

unwanted books in good condition, then they should be brought into the Junior School, where they will be arranged for their delivery to the Philippines.



Junior Quiz team answers the challenge



In November, the Junior School Quiz team took part in the annual AJIS (Association of Junior Independent Schools) Quiz.

Twelve teams took part and the King's team were in the top three all morning.



Throughout, they exemplified great teamwork and, of course, terrific general knowledge. Birkenhead Prep were worthy winners but throughout **King's kept them on their toes** and, after an extremely exciting contest, **were delighted to come 2nd overall.**

Juniors tough it out to win Sefton Triathlon

A large squad of 24 Junior School pupils ventured to Sefton for the first time to participate in the biggest community triathlon in Europe.

Triathlon is a fast-growing sport, combining in this case a pool swim with a bike race on grass (very difficult!) and a final run along the path next to the beach, and the infamous Gormley Statues.

In the **Junior Boys' event** all squad members

performed brilliantly in the swim, and looked fit and healthy on the bike. **Sam Pode** led the team home in 8th position, closely followed by



Alex Sharples in 9th position. Overall The King's Junior School had five competitors placed in the top 35. **The team was crowned 'Champion School'** and received the AJIS trophy – a remarkable achievement.

The mini-tri team of Bethan Pode, Amelia Standing and Isobel Wild (J1 and J2) won their category and are pictured with their medals and shields.

The girls also won bronze in the Junior competition (J3 and J4).



Making the grade at Cambridge

...Juniors in soccer success



The recent Junior School soccer tour to Cambridge proved a great success. The staff had a good time, thanks to the generous hospitality they received from everyone involved and due to the excellent behaviour displayed by the team.

They were a credit to us in every way. **They were great fun, whilst maintaining a high level of self-discipline.** Consequently, a relaxed atmosphere based on mutual respect prevailed. A real sense of 'team ethic' was in evidence.

On the field of play, they performed well after a sluggish first ten minutes on the pitch! Playing three games in three days is hard work... it takes its toll on the manager, too! Trying to be fair to all squad members, whilst still aiming to be fully

competitive, is a difficult juggling act for the coach at times and can account for a degree of inconsistency in performance. However, they managed the balance quite well, as our results suggest.

In the first game against **Bedford Modern**, King's made a slow start and but for some good goalkeeping combined with some sloppy finishing from their opponents they could, and should, have been a couple of goals down early on. However, King's led at half time thanks to some slick marksmanship. They dominated play in the second half and ran out **convincing 6-2 victors**.

At **Kimbolton**, a beautiful setting combined with a fine playing surface, King's never really "got going" and the play was somewhat scrappy. Nonetheless, they secured a **most comfortable 4-0 victory** without scaling any great heights.

The match against **The Perse** is often a difficult encounter, as a combination of factors begin to take effect... the competitive action, travelling, games of bowling, swimming, the consumption of burgers, sweets, cans of Coke begin to take their toll. This year, was no exception, particularly early on in the game. The new regime at The Perse had placed King's in a different changing room and on a different pitch to the norm. The opposition were also warming up with great intensity. Was this a case of mind games?



Once again King's started slowly and soon found themselves a goal down. They had to work hard to "steady the ship" which they did through both effort and skill. They overcame the deficit to **lead at half time 2-1**.

The opening salvos of the second half were fairly even, although the Perse goalkeeper was called upon to make four or five Gordon Banks quality saves. As **the game wore on so King's stepped up their momentum, turning out 5-1 winners**. Apart from the first ten minutes, they had played really well!

Off the field, there is also a success story to be told. Opposing staff were impressed by the boys' general manner, whilst host families were also full of praise for the way the boys conducted themselves. The coach driver, too, complimented the boys' behaviour, as did members of the public at the motorway service station.

An excellent impression of King's was formed.



Tennis Aces selected for LTA training

Tom Thelwall-Jones (J3M) and **Llewelyn Bevan (J3W)** attended Lawn Tennis Association selection days at Bolton Arena, and were both selected for the regional LTA training camps. This selection means **they are amongst the top 24 boys in the country** at this age group.



Author David welcomed back to King's

Newly-published author **David Whitley** returned to King's to a great welcome in October.

After completing two readings, one to the Junior School and one to the Removes, he spent hours signing books for pupils and staff. **David, who left King's in 2003**, completed his book launch tour at King's. His book, **The Midnight Charter**, is getting fantastic reviews.



David's success is wonderful to see. He was kind enough to send the School preview copies of his book and it is already a firm favourite with the pupils! **Staff and pupils are delighted for David, who contributed widely to school life when he was a pupil, and is now a wonderful ambassador for King's.**



Illustrating a wealth of talent ...for Children's Book Week

The work of the new Children's Laureate, Anthony Browne, was the inspiration for a competition open to all Junior School pupils to celebrate Children's Book Week.

Children were invited to illustrate their favourite story in the style of Anthony Browne. The response was huge and the standard of entry very high, but after much deliberation, the winners were announced as:

- **Miranda Thompson J1G**
- **Lauren Gorst J2D**
- **Lucy Emsden J3W**
- **Daniel Warr J4T**

21 further pupils were awarded highly commended for their fabulous work.



Several of Anthony Browne's wonderful books have now been purchased for the Junior School library.

Daniel Warr and James Wynn-Edwards (J4T) subsequently met the author at a literature festival, where a **signed book was donated to the school.**

King's hosts inter-primary tournament

The King's School has hosted a netball and football tournament for seven visiting primary schools for years 5 and 6.

On a beautiful day, the visiting teams from **Upton Heath, The Firs, Duddon, St Peter's, Farndon, Waverton, Christleton,** and **The King's Junior School** competed vigorously for the football and netball cups. All teams played up to six games, splitting into cup and plate competitions after the first round.

The final results were:

Football Champions: The King's Junior School A

Netball Champions: The King's Junior School A



Football Plate winners: Christleton

Netball Plate winners: Christleton

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