

# king's high news

Spring 09



Comic Relief at King's High

[www.kingshighwarwick.co.uk](http://www.kingshighwarwick.co.uk)

## Collaboration

### Mathematics at Work

King's High hosted the "Mathematics at Work" ISSP conference on Wednesday 21st January. Year 9 and 10 pupils from Myton School, Warwick School and King's High were placed in mixed teams and set a challenge which tested their mathematical skills in a conceptual business situation. At the end of the day each team gave a short presentation and revealed how much profit their hypothetical pizza shop had made. Abigail Simkin 10S commented, "It allowed us to see exactly how much Maths is used in the real world – something that is often difficult to fully comprehend when faced with a particularly difficult equation". A challenging and thought provoking day for all.



Year 9 and 10 pupils working together

### Upper Sixth Charity Musical Extravaganza

An evening showcasing the impressive musical talents of the Upper Sixth formers from King's High, Warwick School and Kingsley was held in the Bridge House Theatre in February. From classical singing and instrumental solos to Alex Paxton's band accompanying singers, this concert, organised purely by the Head Boy and Head Girls of the three schools, succeeded in raising an impressive £2,000 for two charities; 'Burn Aid' and 'Music as Therapy'.

### Coten End and All Saints Science Visit

Budding young scientists from two local primary schools recently visited King's to take part in scientific experiments. An impressive 117 Year 5 and Year 6 pupils from Coten End and All Saints Primary Schools made use of our innovative and up to date science equipment. They used data loggers and laptops to record results of a practical science experiment which looked at the effect of insulation on warm water cooling on ice: a great hands on experience for all involved and one to remember.



Children from All Saints Primary School experimenting

## Young Directors Festival

A fantastic new project for sixth form dramatists this year was the Young Directors' Festival. Two stunning entries from King's High won key awards, including Best Director for Rebecca Kane and *Normal* and best Stage Manager for Rosanna Seal and *Kid*.

The Festival ran over three nights in February at the Bridge House Theatre. Rebecca and Jessica Hain (directing for the lower sixth) chose extremely challenging plays, exploring the insidious corrupting psyche of the Dusseldorf Ripper in *Normal* and a dysfunctional social group of teenagers struggling to achieve the semblance of family life and come to terms with their consciences in *Kid*.

Amy Walsh gave an outstanding performance as the abused wife of the Ripper in *Normal* and Emily Prpa a girlfriend striving for the best and Francesca Neild as a teenager with definite attitude were superb in *Kid*.

Congratulations to both casts and backstage teams which included James Parris, Charlie Hamblett, Dan Strivens, Barney McElholm, Joe Carroll and Hamish Riddle from Warwick School. *Normal* will appear as part of The Edinburgh Festival Fringe.



"Best Director" winner Rebecca Kane (Year 13)

## Achievement

### Inter form Netball and Hockey Competitions

Over 100 girls from Year 9 and 10 participated in the inter form netball and hockey competitions in January. A healthy competitive atmosphere and superb sport were on display.



Inter Form Netball

### Double Swimming Success

King's High swimming team are both Freestyle and Medley Champions – winning both events at the recent Bromsgrove School Invitational Relay Gala. The girls faced some strong competition in the finals to take both titles. Well done to the team.



The winning team Millie Evans, Molly Turner, Maddie Spalding, Jenny Chapman and Emma Hutchinson

# Achievement

## Varsity Double

King's High has won the warm-up hockey match in the run up to this year's Varsity hockey challenge. We were honoured to be asked to play at this prestigious event which this year took place at the Southgate Hockey Club in London. Former pupil, Charlotte Jackson, who is studying at Oxford University, captained the Oxford hockey side in the main event.



King's High and Bablake hockey teams

It was a great day for the school all round. In an all-Midlands warm up schools contest King's High won 3-1 against Bablake School. Alison Stockdale was named "man of the match". Old Girl, Charlotte Jackson, also led her Oxford team to success against Cambridge, scoring the winning goal to take the match 2-1. Head of PE, Miss Gilbert, herself a former national hockey player, commented "This is a great day for hockey here in school - the girls played their best hockey ever and were rewarded on the big stage. It is a great achievement".



Charlotte Jackson

## Six King's Girls Achieve Oxbridge Success

Six sixth formers have been offered places at Oxford and Cambridge Universities. Below are five of the six successful students in front of Warwick Castle. From left to right: Eleanor Houghton (Christchurch College, Engineering); Charlotte Freeman (Balliol College, Chemistry); Rachel Wilkie (Jesus College, English); Laura Cairns (Churchill College, Geography) and Rosie Ball (Wadham College, Politics, Philosophy and Economics). Emily Bailey, who left King's High last year, has been offered a place at St John's reading Modern and Medieval Languages.



Oxbridge girls

## Teams Maths Challenge

A team of four King's High pupils were selected to represent their school on Wednesday 4th March in the UK Mathematics Trust TMC Regional Final held at Rugby School. The challenges aimed to promote mathematical dexterity, team working, and communication skills in a competitive setting against pupils from other schools in the region. The team did extremely well and came 2nd out of 16 teams.



King's High Mathematics Team from Left to right: Imogen Rhodes (Year 8) Sarah Williams (Year 9) Amy Hawking (Year 9) and Alicia Glennon (Year 8)

## Recognition for unique Scientific Report

For the first time the Biology Department submitted an investigation by Sally Le Page (Year 12) for the Prince Philip Award and Marsh Prize organised by the Zoological Society of London. Sally spent a year on this investigation, developing her own methods and researching totally unaided how to write a proper scientific report. Her dedication was rewarded when despite the large number of entries for this competition, Sally's unique project on, "Breathing rate and activity associated with water temperature in European common frogs" was short listed to the final four. There was no overall winner so Sally ranks at the top of this country wide competition.



Sally Le Page

## Emily Court

Congratulations to Emily Court (Year 11) who has been selected for the England U16 Hockey Squad. Emily will be representing England in the Four Nations Hockey Tournament where they will face the best Hockey teams in Europe as Germany, Spain and the Netherlands come to Highfields, Nottingham in April.



Emily Court

## King's High Screen Saver

Year 8 pupils were given the opportunity to test their newly acquired Adobe Flash skills when a competition was held to design a King's High screen saver. The quality of entries was so high that there were two joint winners, Elizabeth Bleasdale and Alice Moffat, whose screen savers have now been installed across the school.



Competition winners - Elizabeth Bleasdale (left) and Alice Moffat

## The Tate Beckons for Alexandra

Year 11 pupil Alexandra Pullen has won a prestigious national art competition with her work of art entitled "Memories Lost and Found". The piece of art features a number of keepsakes and found objects Alexandra collected from places visited and spaces searched. Its contemporary theme caught the eye of the judges and resulted in the piece being initially exhibited at the Tate Liverpool on the 20th January among twenty-five shortlisted pieces of work. Alexandra went on to win her age category 14-18 years, and was one of three artists to be displaying their work at the Tate Modern in London.



Alexandra Pullen in front of "Memories Lost and Found" with Neil Buchanan (presenter of "Art Attack")

## Other News

### Memorial for Victoria Walkley

Victoria Walkley would have celebrated her 18th birthday on 12 January. On that day, Mrs Surber, staff and friends joined Year 13 and Victoria Walkley's parents to plant a Victoria Plum Tree in her memory.

It was a very wet afternoon, but in a lull in the downpour the group stood silently and reflectively as The Reverend Burns said some words and led prayers. Ms Bradbury read the moving Memorial for the Dead from the Yizkor and Mrs Walkley spoke of her daughter, laughing wryly about the smart shoes she was wearing of which Victoria would have approved but which caused her to slide gracefully across Red House Lawn. She thanked all Vicki's friends for their wonderful support before two of them planted hyacinths around the little tree. More of us joined Mr and Mr Walkley in adding some soil to the plot and then went to the Common Room for tea, memories and the resolution to keep closely in touch once this year group have left King's High.



Head Girl attends to the "Victoria Plum Tree" in memory of Victoria Walkley

### Healthy Eating Week

King's High conducted a Healthy Eating Week in March which included a special assembly, cooking demonstrations, food preparation and completing a Healthy Eating Questionnaire. Year 9 incorporated raising money in aid of Multiple Sclerosis through preparing and selling fruit smoothies. Year 10 also contributed to this fund raising event by preparing healthy snacks which were sold together with the smoothies.



Cooking demonstration with Warwick School chef Ralph High

### First Russian Trip for King's High

Russia was the exciting destination for thirty five Year 10-13 pupils from King's High during Half-Term. Cramming in as much of the sights and culture as they could in their brief stay, the girls visited St. Petersburg and Moscow. They were able to experience first-hand the back drop to the events they have been studying in History GCSE such as the Winter Palace and Red Square. Mrs Wellman, who led the trip, praised the girls for their enthusiasm and teamwork – everyone certainly made the most of their Russian experience.



Mrs Wellman and King's High Pupils in Red Square, Moscow

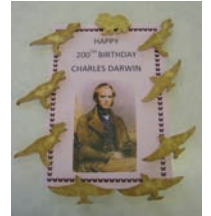
Netball tour

### Science – Darwin Day

Darwin's 200th anniversary was celebrated at school through numerous innovative events. The catering team made dinosaur biscuits for the girls and the staff enjoyed birthday cake. Years 10 and 12 made displays describing Darwin's life and his work on the origin of species by natural selection as part of their biology curriculum. The displays, erected in the main school building, were enjoyed by all girls and staff. The Art department contributed a wonderful and apt picture of a beetle collection, and a collection of books from the school library was put on display. The activities certainly fired the imaginations of the girls to learn more about this pivotal scientist.



Above: Darwin on display in Red Corridor



Right: Darwin and dinosaur biscuits

### StudyWiz

The Studywiz Virtual Learning Environment has been used at King's High since Sept 2007. Thanks to the enthusiasm of staff and pupils alike the implementation of the software has been a great success. It has become an essential tool for the delivery of resources, materials, lessons and pictures throughout the school. As testament to this achievement Mrs Prance, Head of ICT, was invited to attend the BETT exhibition at Olympia, as an exhibitor on their Studywiz stand. The day was spent talking to visitors to the show from many different schools, and Mrs Prance was able to show them how we use Studywiz at King's High by logging in directly to the school Studywiz site.



The Studywiz stand at Olympia

### Gibraltar

During half term, 29 girls went on the school's first netball tour to Gibraltar which was extremely successful and enjoyable. The girls acquitted themselves superbly against all opposition and the final tally saw King's High winning 11 of their 12 matches over the three days. Since completing the tour the girls have shown a marked improvement in their level of skill and awareness on court. Some sight-seeing was squeezed into the tight schedule so the girls were able to experience some of the culture as well as lots of netball.



### Important Dates for your Diary:

21st April

25th May (Bank Holiday) – Friday 29th May

Summer Term Begins

Half Term

22nd – 24th June

9th July

10th July

Wizard of Oz (Junior Production), Bridge House Theatre

Leavers' Dinner and Parents' Drinks Party

End of term