

# king's high news

Summer 09



Photograph by Adam Woodyatt

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# Aspire

## An African Adventure

Felicity Cherry (2008 leaver) decided to make the most of her gap year and applied for the Asia and Africa Venture scheme which places volunteers into worthwhile projects all over the developing world. With education a priority in Uganda, Felicity was selected to teach at Budini School, Uganda. Felicity has settled well into the school demonstrating commitment and enthusiasm. At the end of term she hopes to enjoy a few weeks travelling around Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania before finishing her trip with an African wildlife safari.



Making a difference

## CCF Annual Inspection

King's girls again excelled themselves at the Combined Cadet Force annual inspection. Heather Smith was best cadet and the entire contingent were taught field First Aid in a most convincing and realistic manner. The afternoon concluded with a sumptuous tea having begun with an excellent lunch for visiting officers and staff.



Girls pass with flying colours

## Cambridge Tennis Captain

Old Girl and former Deputy Head Girl Lucie Browning who is studying engineering at Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge has been chosen to be the Real Tennis 1st Team Captain at Cambridge University for the next academic year (09/10). Congratulations to Lucie!



Lucie Browning

## National Recognition of Theatrical Talent

Amy Walsh (Year 12) is celebrating after winning the role of Perdita in the National Youth Music Theatre's version of Shakespeare's A Winter's Tale. This classic tale of jealousy, loss, love and reconciliation is given a magical reworking by Youth Music Theatre (YMT) this summer with music by award-winning composer and broadcaster Howard Goodall.

This will be the fourth year in which Amy has participated in a YMT project. She has also appeared with Stratford Gilbert and Sullivan Society, Stratford Operatic Society and Spa Opera in Leamington and will be playing a leading role in Cole Porter's Anything Goes later this year. Amy is taught singing by former King's High student Gaynor Keeble and hopes to read music at university.

Joining Amy on the production will be fellow King's High student Hermione Beckett, who has been appointed to the stage management team. The girls will spend three weeks in Surrey, culminating in a week of performances at the Yvonne Arnaud Theatre in Guildford.



Spotlight shines on Amy Walsh



Behind the scenes: Hermione Beckett

## Business Skills Challenge

Three Young Enterprise Companies (Pulse, Neon and Rags) from King's High and Warwick School recently competed in the Central Warwickshire Young Enterprise Finals at IBM in Warwick. The companies were judged on their presentation, annual company report and trading skills at the Trade Fair, resulting in Neon being awarded the "Best Company" with Rags as the Runner Up. Neon and Rags progressed to the next stage of the competition, the Coventry and Warwickshire Area Finals, where they did an excellent job in displaying their Trade Stands and completing a detailed presentation in front of a panel of judges.



Sir Alan's future apprentices?!

## King's High Pupils Meet Dr David Starkey

Tudor historian and author Dr David Starkey was guest speaker at a dinner held at Warwick School. This event was hosted by The King Henry VIII Endowed Trust to commemorate the 500th Anniversary of King Henry VIII's coronation. Head Girl Charlotte Lavelle sat next to David Starkey during the first part of the evening and comments, "He spoke very entertainingly about King Henry and his belief that he was England's first 'celebrity', as well as comparing the famous monarch to Barack Obama! He engaged the whole table in a conversation that ranged from our A-level subjects to America and much in between!".



Giving history a modern edge

## Achieve

### Gold Award for Foundation Wind Orchestra

Congratulations to the Foundation Wind Orchestra who achieved a gold award at the prestigious National Concert Band Festival on Saturday 18th April. The competition was held at the Welsh College of Music and Drama in Cardiff with over 5000 young musicians from all over the UK taking part. The Foundation Wind Orchestra, directed by Simon Hogg, comprises boys from Warwick School and girls from King's High School. Warwick School's Director of Music Trevor Barr said "We are very fortunate to have such talented boys and girls, and they are fortunate to have such talented teachers to coach them".



King's High and Warwick work in perfect harmony

### King's Eco Priorities Awarded

Bhavandip Birdi and Charlotte Drummond's (Year 11) initiative in making King's High more eco-friendly has been recognised by the Warwick Society. They were presented with the Warwick Society School Award for their work in co-ordinating KHS eco-warriors group. This group has taken steps to ensure improvements such as placing red boxes around the school for recycling and putting a clear sticker on every light switch reminding staff to switch off when leaving a classroom – just two of many eco-initiatives.



Making King's greener

### Mayor presents prize for King's High pupil

Catherine Hillier (Year 8) won the prize in Class 3 of the local St. George's Day Painting Competition. The Mayor of Warwick, Councillor Anne Mellor, was happy to present Catherine personally with her prize saying that her artwork was of an exceptional standard. It is no surprise that Catherine hopes to pursue her interest in Art by studying it at GCSE level.



Catherine proudly displays winning entry

### Sixth Formers win Prestigious Bursary Awards

Sixth Former Grace Burns was presented with the Mary Dormer Harris Memorial Bursary. This award is generally made to recognise Mary Dormer Harris' special interests in drama, debating, international affairs and law. Grace's detailed and meticulous application together with her links to English Literature, politics and charity work all contributed to the unanimous decision to award Grace the bursary. Most of us know Grace because of her outstanding musical talent.



Grace Burns with Trustees

For the first time, the Gertrude Bark Award was given for stage management rather than acting and the recipient was sixth former Hermione (Mimi) Beckett. The Trustees were impressed by Mimi's academic and musical achievement together with her good organisational skills and the ability to manage, encourage and inspire. Her references confirmed the Trustees in their positive impression of Mimi, derived from her well-composed application.



Hermione Beckett receiving Local Award

## Achieve

### Midlands Schools Track and Field Championships

After coming first (Junior team) and runner up (Inter Girls Athletics Team) in the County round, King's High proceeded to compete with twenty four schools at the Midlands Finals held on June 15th and 16th. King's High Junior Girls Athletics Team (Year 7 & 8) and Inter Girls Athletics Team (Year 9 & 10) worked well and are to be congratulated on achieving fourth and sixth place overall.



Lucy Butler competing

### County Athletics Championships

Melanie Wilkinson won the Inter Girls Long Jump and Triple Jump at the County Athletics Championships on Saturday 13th June which is a first by a King's High pupil. Other girls who represented Mid Warwickshire with distinction at the championships were: Laetitia Goldberg, Emily Lewis, Katie Burrows and Amy Hawking.



Melanie Wilkinson

### Sports Awards Evening: Friday 1st May

Ashia Hanson MBE, one of the world's greatest triple jumpers, was the guest presenter for the King's High Sports Awards Evening on Friday 1st May. After answering questions from the audience about her career, Ashia presented the sports awards which recognize the significant abilities, efforts and commitment of some of our students.

Particular Sports Colours are awarded to girls who have made an outstanding contribution to their sport. Amy Reed, Charlotte Drummond, Charlotte Bostock, Francesca Barnett, and Michaela Parkes were awarded the Intermediate Athletics Colours and Melanie Wilkinson, Katy Burrows, Laetitia Goldberg, Amy Hawking received the Junior Athletics Colours.

The Key Stage Awards for Excellence, Endeavour and Commitment were presented to Kate Linford (KS3), Charlotte Drummond and Charlotte Bostock (KS4) and Felicity Allen and Alison Stockdale (KS5). The Team of the Season this year was the Junior Girls Track and Field Athletics.



Rebecca Sherren, Lucy Collins and Pippa Wassall with world record holder Ashia Hanson



Winning team celebrates athletic success



Year 11 demonstrate their artistic skills

## Enjoy

### Tudor Day

Wednesday 22nd April was the 500th Anniversary of Henry VIII's accession to the throne. To commemorate this event King's High held a Tudor Day with fun activities throughout the day from Blind Date to the Queen's Weakest Link. Michael Vale, Head of History, adorned the role of Henry VIII while six female members of staff were dressed as his wives for the day giving the lessons for KS3 a Tudor theme.



King Henry VIII and his wives – recognise anyone?

### Geography Field Trip

During the Easter holidays, the twenty two Year 12 Geography students and three staff visited the Lake District for a four day residential field trip to help with their AS studies. Physical Geography topics included the study of river and valley characteristics next to the Field Centre and the assessment of flood risk in Keswick. In contrast, Human Geography tasks saw the girls evaluating issues facing the local rural environment and an old industrial settlement (Carlisle). The girls responded to the challenges of the trip extremely well and gained many benefits ahead of their AS exam. Astonishingly for the Lake District in April the warm sun shone for almost the entire trip!



Girls waded in to field trip challenges

### Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Over Easter, the pupils were put through their paces in the practice expeditions for the Bronze, Silver and Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Awards. The girls had to deal with difficult weather conditions as the wind picked up making putting up the tents and cooking outside extremely challenging.



King's High girls fully prepared for April showers!

### Leavers' Week 2009

Head Girl, Charlotte Lavelle, Deputy Head Girl Alison Stockdale and Senior Prefect Martha Bates led Year 13 through a final week of lessons which was a great finale to this cohort's time at King's High School. Grace Burns, with other members of the prefects' team, put together a stunning concert programme for parents, staff and girls to enjoy. A charity initiative in aid of Myton Hospice included an Apprentice Day when two teams presented satirical news reviews of the final events of the term. The week concluded with a wonderful al fresco lunch provided by Mrs Dudley as we wished everyone good luck with forthcoming exams.



Year 13 say their goodbyes

### Legoland Trip

Year 7 students were able to experience first hand how computer control is used at Legoland. As part of the Information Communication Technology course, King's High organised a day trip to Legoland. The girls attended workshops in which they controlled a lego robot to move around and perform tasks.



This reinforced the topic of control technology which is part of the National Curriculum and covered during ICT lessons. After working hard the girls braved the rides despite the rain and wind, thus ending an enjoyable and educational day out.

Left: Legoland's computer control explained, Below: Rain doesn't dampen King's High spirit!





## The Wizard of Oz

Visually stunning with breathtaking sets, this year's Wizard of Oz production captured the imagination of both young and old, transporting them to the Emerald City. All cast and crew are to be congratulated on a wonderful performance; in particular the Upper Sixth back stage crew led for the last time by Katie Newton, Alice Dobson and Emilie Devenport. Director, Mrs Barker-Doherty excelled herself once again!

*Photographs by Adam Woodyatt*



## Staff Farewells

We say thank you and goodbye this term to Mrs Cave (Head of Sixth Form), Mrs Nicholson (Head of Classics) and Mrs Lucas (Music) who are retiring; Ms Lambert (Religious Studies and Spanish Teacher) and Mrs Lochner (German Assistant) who are both going to live abroad; and to Mrs Davies (Maths Teacher), Mrs Russell (ICT Teacher) and Mr Musselwhite (Bursar) who are also leaving.

We are sad to say goodbye to Mrs Cave, our Head of Sixth Form since 2002. Mrs Cave brought with her from her previous post at Oxford High School a wealth of pastoral and academic experience. Her knowledge and care of the girls have been second to none. She has led the Sixth Form tutor team, in their words, "with a combination of warmth, humour and professionalism". We have been privileged to listen to her assemblies in which she has drawn widely on current events, her own fascinating experiences of living in Ireland and South Africa, and her extensive and fine knowledge of English Literature, to inspire and always stimulate critical reflection and compassion. We have admired her writing and speaking skills and her patience in dealing with us, her colleagues, in producing those magnificent staff dramas for the entertainment of the whole school for which she will long be remembered. Mrs Cave brought that all too rare and most precious quality – wisdom – to her role at King's, and we are all the richer for it.

Helen Cave



## Forthcoming Events:

### Results Days:

20th August – AS and A2 results  
27th August – GCSE results

### Autumn Term commences:

Wednesday 2nd September 2009 – new Year 7 and all Year 12 pupils  
Thursday 3rd September 2009 – all pupils begin new term

**Taster Morning:** Saturday 26th September 2009

**Open Morning:** Saturday 7th November 2009