

# KING'S HIGH NEWS

SPRING 2026



# Contents

- 03 Head Master's Introduction
- 04 King's News
- 07 A is for Adventure...
- 08 From King's to Kenya
- 12 Be Inspired
- 14 Dance show
- 16 Canine Chronicles
- 17 House News
- 18 Modern Foreign Languages
- 20 King's Science
- 22 King's Music
- 26 King's Art
- 30 King's Drama
- 34 King's Sport
- 38 Foundation
- 39 A Word from the Principal



# Head Master's Introduction



As we approach the Easter holidays, it is always a great pleasure to pause and reflect with pride on the extraordinary breadth of endeavour and achievement across our school community. The energy of the Spring Term has been palpable, and the pages that follow capture just a glimpse of the creativity and commitment that make King's High such a dynamic and inspiring place to be.

Throughout the term, we have come together to celebrate a number of important events and initiatives, including British Science Week, International Women's Day, Chinese New Year, Neurodiversity Week and World Book Day—the last bringing with it a dazzling array of literary costumes from both students and staff. These moments not only enrich our curriculum but also reflect the inclusive, thoughtful and outward-looking culture we value so deeply.

This has also been a term of exciting firsts. Our inaugural KHAPS Community Coffee Morning created a wonderful opportunity for connection, while the first ever Voices for Change Showcase, following an inspiring EPQ evening, highlighted the depth of research, scholarship and passion among our students. We were also proud to host our first Big Iftar, welcoming the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community to King's High for a very special evening of reflection and shared experience as they broke their fast at sunset.

Creativity has flourished across the arts, with our Dance Show being a particular highlight, our Literary Showcase demonstrating imagination and confidence, a superb Spring Concert celebrating musical talent, and an outstanding Middle School production of *Skellig*. Music, drama and art continue to go from strength to strength, providing students with opportunities to express themselves and to excel.

In sport, this has been a truly exceptional term. To achieve three national titles in a single week is a remarkable accomplishment, and we offer our warmest congratulations to our U18 hockey team and our U13 and U14 netball teams. Alongside this success, the launch of our Super Saturday Programme has broadened participation even further, offering a wide range of inclusive opportunities for all students to engage in sport and fitness.

Our students have also embraced an impressive programme of trips and visits. From the Changemaker trip to Kenya and the Physics trip to Geneva, to King's Links in Cambridge, Inspire visits to the Black Country Museum and Compton Verney—where our Year 7 students enjoyed a wonderful day of activities and orienteering—and cultural trips to see *Six* and *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind*, these experiences extend learning far beyond the classroom and foster independence, curiosity and global awareness.

As you read on, I hope you will share in the sense of pride that runs through all that we do.

I wish all members of our community a restful and happy Easter break.

**Dr Stephen Burley**  
Head Master

# Where Champions Train



In February, ten girls attended an exciting school trip to visit the Oxfordshire equestrian yard of Olympic gold medallist Laura Collett. The visit provided a unique opportunity to gain insight into the life and training of a top-level event rider.

During the morning, the girls watched Laura ride two young horses. As she worked with each horse, she explained her approach, highlighting the differences in their personalities, conformation,

abilities, and stages of training. It was particularly interesting to see how she adapted her riding style and techniques to suit each horse, demonstrating the importance of patience, consistency, and understanding in horse training.

Following the ridden demonstrations, the group enjoyed a guided tour of the yard. They were able to see the facilities where the horses are trained and cared for, as well as learn more about the daily routines involved in running a professional equestrian yard.

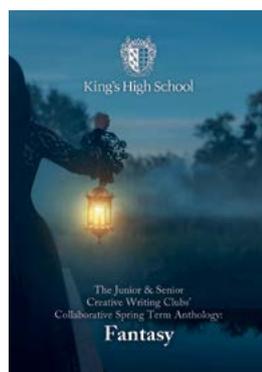
One of the highlights of the visit was meeting London 52, Laura's Olympic gold medal-winning horse. The girls were thrilled to have photographs taken with him and to see, up close, the horse that played such a key role in her Olympic success.

The visit concluded with a question-and-answer session, where the girls had the chance to ask Laura about her experiences, challenges, and achievements. She spoke about her journey in the sport, her daily routine, and the dedication required to compete at the highest level. The trip was both inspiring and educational, giving the girls a memorable insight into elite equestrian sport.



# Creative Writing Anthology

Fantasy takes centre stage in this term's Creative Writing Anthology from our talented Junior and Senior Creative Writing Clubs. Lose yourself in a magical collection of literary works, from snow dragons and potions to a pinch of cloud fluff! Available on our website in News.



# Benevolence Rocks



Our immensely talented Lower Sixth rock band, Benevolence, took their incredible performances out into the wider world this year.

If you missed them at our sold-out Jazz, Rock and Pop Concert, here's another chance to catch them live!

Join Poppy, Aimee, and Izzy,

together with Miller from Warwick School, at Southbound Café Bar in Leamington's South Town on Thursday 23 April at 8pm.

Already impressing crowds beyond King's, expect an eclectic mix of covers, including Linkin Park, Radiohead, The Killers, Longpigs, Nothing But Thieves, Ash, Supergrass, and more.

Oh, and did we mention? Tickets are free!

# Neurodiversity Celebration Week



We celebrated neurodiversity across our school community with a range of inspiring activities. A particular highlight was the stunning art installation, a truly collaborative effort — huge thanks to all the students, staff, and members of our wider community who contributed their creativity, time, and energy. Alongside film screenings, a coffee morning, and Neuro Club activities, we were also fortunate to welcome Tessa Morton from Act for Autism, who delivered an inspirational assembly that left a lasting impression, deepening everyone's understanding of neurodiversity and the importance of celebrating difference.

# Boarding at King's

Boarders across the Foundation celebrated Chinese New Year in style this year, enjoying a meal at Emperor's Restaurant in Leamington and receiving red envelopes (hóngbāo) containing coins to symbolise good fortune, prosperity, and a fresh start to the new year. Many boarders continued their celebrations with loved ones over the half term break, taking part in festivities both around the UK and back home.



# Super Saturdays

Our Super Saturdays programme at King's has been developed with a strong commitment to inclusive sport and fitness for all. In recent years, King's High has celebrated exceptional sporting success, alongside a significant increase in participation across all year groups. Super Saturdays build on this momentum, ensuring that every student has the opportunity to enjoy and benefit from physical activity.



Launched recently at no additional cost to families, the programme offers new weekend opportunities designed to broaden access to recreational sport and exercise. Initially focusing on football, badminton, and recreational games for students in Years 7 to 10, Super Saturdays provide a welcoming and enjoyable environment in which pupils can develop skills, build confidence, and stay active, promoting a lifelong love of sport and wellbeing!

# Good Schools Guide 2026

We're delighted to share that the Good Schools Guide 2026 report for King's High is now available. It offers a thoughtful, independent overview of the school, highlighting our academic strengths, pastoral support and the breadth of opportunities available to our pupils. Read the full review on our website in News.



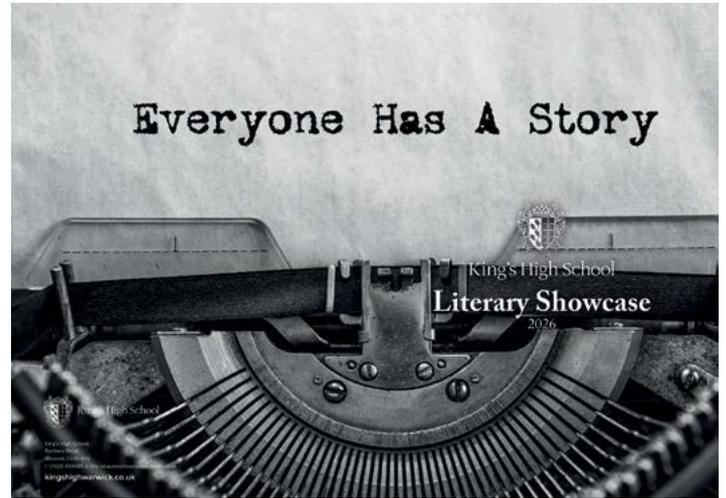
# Café Scientifique

Meet the new Café Scientifique team! After a fantastic year, the society is back with fresh energy, exciting events and a clear focus on collaboration, curiosity and imagination. From slime-making workshops to STEM changemaker quizzes, the team is already inspiring a love of science across King's!



# Literary Showcase

Everyone has a story. And in March, a group of our students shared theirs at a very special event, organised by our rather brilliant English department at King's. They read aloud from their beautiful anthology of creative writing, and it was superb. Creative Writing is just one of over 260 clubs and activities on offer at King's High each and every week! Immerse yourself in the Literary Showcase on our website, where you'll find it in News.



# A Taste of Japan



To mark Japan's National Foundation Day, King's enjoyed a special themed menu featuring vegetable ramen, chicken katsudon, egg fried rice, and grilled corn with miso, followed by cherry blossom and chocolate cake for pudding.

The idea was the brainchild of Bethany in Year 10, and this was the second year we've marked the occasion. It was a wonderful opportunity to explore the flavours of Japan and enjoy a delicious culinary experience!

# Each of Us Has a Name

Students from King's High took part in this year's Holocaust Memorial Service in Warwick. El, Anaya and Liv in our Lower Sixth delivered a moving reading of Each of Us Has a Name by Zelda.



# World Book Day

At King's High, we love reading for pleasure, and what better way to celebrate World Book Day than by bringing our favourite stories to life? Our students were invited to come to school dressed as their favourite literary characters, and it was wonderful to see so many imaginative costumes inspired by books both classic and contemporary.

Meanwhile, Key Stage 3 were getting creative with the humble potato in a lunchtime activity called The Literary Imitator, where students transformed them into popular literary characters. They showed fantastic creativity and enthusiasm, producing a range of imaginative designs inspired by well-known books, sharing their love of reading in a fun way!



# Inspiring Peace and Togetherness



Our very own Anna Jewell, Head of Philosophy and Theology and lead for Equality, Diversity, Inclusion, and Global Perspectives, has been named a GSA Woman of the Week and has been at the heart of creating opportunities for students to explore faith, culture, and spirituality at King's High. An inspiring example of her work is the introduction of a Peace Pod, giving students a dedicated space for reflection and dialogue.

Anna recently brought everyone together to host The Big Iftar, the traditional breaking of the Ramadan fast and part of a national initiative promoting neighbourliness and shared experiences. More than 120 guests joined the celebration, making it a truly special occasion.

The event highlighted cohesion, belonging, and inclusivity, providing a chance to learn from one another, celebrate diversity, and recognise the values we share.

***"It was a wonderful evening which showcased King's at its finest, learning from each other and embracing our communities to work towards a more peaceful future."***

Anna Jewell.

# Muddy Stiletto's

Our latest Muddy Stiletto's Guide review is in, and we're thrilled to share it. Packed with insights into life at King's High – from our inspiring curriculum to our vibrant co-curricular offering – it's a wonderful snapshot of what makes our school so special. Do take a moment to read it – it's available on our website in News.



# A is for Adventure...

Excitement is building – and the adventures are almost here!

Outdoor adventure is a much-loved part of life at King's High, and we are thrilled to share the plans for our 2026 programme. Packed with exploration, teamwork, and opportunities to discover new strengths, these trips will take students to some of the UK's most stunning landscapes.

Following the success of recent expeditions to Dorset, Pembrokeshire, and Snowdonia, our adventures will once again be led by Mr Beverley, our Adventure and Leadership Programme Manager.

## Scotland Ridgway Adventure

From 23-29 May, Year 8 and 9 students will head to the Scottish Highlands with Ridgway Adventure for a week of unforgettable challenges. Mountain walking, sea kayaking, rock climbing, and abseiling are on the agenda, along with wild camping, sea swimming, and survival skills like fire lighting, shelter building, and food preparation. They'll also try lobster creeling, tackle the 'Search to Survive' remote orienteering challenge, and enjoy a beach day at Oldmoreshore complete with bodyboarding.

## Pembrokeshire Adventure

Year 9 students are looking forward to taking part in a four-day Pembrokeshire adventure from 30 March-2 April. The programme is full of action: surfing, kayaking, rock climbing, and abseiling, alongside orienteering, high ropes, coasteering, and survival skills. They'll take on obstacle courses, try raft building, practise archery, and challenge themselves on the low ropes course.



## Shooting Stars



The King's High Clay Pigeon Shooting Team had a highly successful day at the Oxford Gun Club Annual Schools' Challenge event, taking first place in the team competition.

In the individual results, Ellen secured 1st place with an impressive score of 39 points, while Erin achieved 3rd place with 36 points.

A fantastic set of results and a great achievement for the team!

## CCF

Rosie has been awarded the John Pipitone Memorial Sword Award for Best Student on the Year 11 Cadre Course.

The course included a range of demanding activities such as drill, leadership tasks, and planning exercises.

With 48 students taking part in the Cadre programme, this is an outstanding achievement for Rosie and a testament to her commitment and performance throughout the course.



# From King's to Kenya

Our experiences in Kenya this half term will stay with every single one of us for life. Mrs White had told us how amazing it would be to be a part of this inaugural trip; visiting and volunteering at the Riandira primary school, going on game drives, wild camping in the reserve – but I don't think any of us truly understood just how incredible it would be.

After an early start (4.30am) and a long flight (9 hours) we landed in Nairobi late Thursday night and after a further gruelling wait in immigration, we collapsed into a nearby hotel exhausted. The next morning we woke in the hustle and bustle of Nairobi then travelled on to Sagana, a riverside town in Kirinyaga County, located about 100 km north/2 hours drive north of Nairobi and our home for most of the following week.

We got our first real look at Kenya from the bus – this incredibly deep, red landscape contrasted with the vivid greenery of the trees. What struck me the most were the masses of billboards everywhere as we left Nairobi, giving way to the old buildings with brightly coloured advertisements on them from many years ago.

We reached the Savage Wilderness camp and settled into our cabins. Our camp was surrounded by nature, and after settling in we were able to take part in our first camp activity, zip lining! Later on in the day we went on a nature walk and got to witness the amazing communities that are located in the depths of Sagana. We were also able to see some amazing weaver birds and their incredible tear-drop shaped nests, monkeys in the huge banana trees and hundreds of geckos who all seemed determined to get into our cabins!





Waking up on our first proper morning in camp felt very surreal. The air smelled different, the sounds were strange and the heat was already building at 9am but it all added to the overwhelming sense of adventure of it all.

Before the trip we raised money for the school by walking the equivalent distance of the width of Kenya. We doubled our original target and raised just over £4,000 which will go towards a new toilet block at the school. Currently, there is one toilet for all 500 children. As it was Sunday, and the children wouldn't be at school, we headed there to start our first job – painting one of the classrooms a cheery yellow. We played music as we worked and got almost as much paint on the walls as on ourselves, but all in all a good job was done and we relaxed that evening with a swim in the camp pool and games after dinner.

The next morning was very special, we met the children for the first time and they were amazing. So friendly and smiling, but slightly wary of these strange visitors to their school. Our DIY skills were tested further today as we mended, sanded and varnished desks to be used in the classrooms. We set ourselves a target of 16 in total and managed a respectable 8 before the end of the first day.





Tuesday was our third and final day in the school and the children were getting used to us – they were particularly intrigued by our sunglasses! We had taken a few gifts with us (frisbees and footballs) and gave them out to the children, who sang us songs and showed us their local dances. By the end of our time at the primary school, we had totalled 14 refurbished desks and everyone at the school was so grateful for the difference we'd made – it was a great day and one I'll always remember.

Then came the safari part of the trip. After breakfast on Wednesday we travelled further north towards OI Pejeta Conservancy, stopping at Nanyuki on the Equator on the way to take the mandatory photos with one foot in each hemisphere!

Arriving at OI Pejeta was unforgettable and felt like stepping into our own nature documentary. Before we even began our actual game drive, we saw elephants within the first few minutes of arriving at the conservancy and rhinos as we made our way to a rhino conservation where we got to meet a rhino called Barrack who is blind – it got so close to us we even had the opportunity to pet it! After this we made our way to camp where we set up our

tents before our late afternoon game drive. On this game drive we were able to witness the spectacular sight of a pack of lions eating their prey, and managed to get an incredibly close, even frightening view of it. Every time someone spotted something, the whole bus would murmur with excited whispers and manic pointing so as not to disturb the animals. With the sun going down it was magical to see these animals in the wild: rhino, lions, hyenas and even giraffes!

We returned to camp as it got dark and had an evening of star gazing, campfire games, and truth and dare, where we able to find out some interesting facts about Mrs White! That night as we slept in our tents, we could hear the roar of lions in the park but knew that we were safe, protected by an electric fence and guarded by rangers.

The next morning, Mrs White decided the early alarm call should be in keeping with our surroundings and so she played 'The Circle



of Life' at full volume from her speakers to wake us up! The sunrise game drive was incredibly special. There was an early mist which made everything very eerie as animals appeared from nowhere but as it burnt off, we saw more incredible sights and the highlight for me was the baby rhino with its parents. After around two hours, we returned to camp for a fantastic, cooked breakfast then packed up the camp to leave and head back to Sagana.

On our way back, we had the opportunity to visit the chimpanzee sanctuary, where rescued chimps are rehabilitated. It was both wonderful and sad to see them, but they are all being well looked after there now that they have been rescued. After the excitement of the safari, we returned to camp for a relaxed evening and planned our last morning of activities.

As water levels were low, the white-water rafting had been cancelled but instead we did 'ducky rides' which were basically smaller, two-man inflatable kayaks that we went down the river on – avoiding the snakes and spiders in the bushes along the banks! After lunch, we headed back to Nairobi with just enough time to try our bartering skills in the local markets before catching the overnight flight home.

We arrived home tired, slightly sunburnt, and definitely in need of proper showers, but I think we have all come back with memories that will last forever.

**Rosetta**  
Lower Sixth

# Be Inspired

At King's, we aim for our pupils to grow as independent thinkers who relish new challenges and have wide horizons for their learning. We encourage them to be confident about producing creative scholarship that reflects their own unique interests and questions about the world.

Inspire, our incredible academic enrichment programme at King's, is designed to help our pupils explore subjects beyond the classroom. Through talks, societies, competitions, trips, and research opportunities, they get to dive deeper into topics they're curious about and challenge themselves in new (and fun) ways. Initiatives like the Inspire Lecture Series, student-led societies, and the Inspire Essay Competition allow them to develop curiosity, creativity, critical thinking, and confidence.

Within the classroom, teachers at King's provide high-level teaching and learning that inspires all pupils, including the gifted and talented. Thought-provoking extension work, open-ended questions that stimulate link-making and critical ideas, and creative problem-solving are all part of the teaching toolkit at King's.

## Inspire Projects

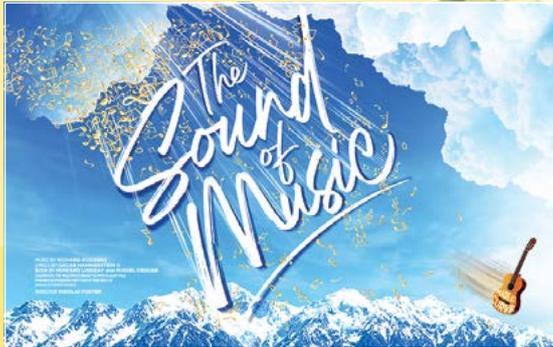
This term we have been thrilled by the exceptional work students have created for our Inspire Projects. In January, students were tasked with writing a letter to their local MP outlining an issue in their local area and proposing a solution to this problem. We were overwhelmed with the level of research, creativity and thought that went into crafting their solutions. Students chose issues ranging from the growing presence of potholes on local roads to a lack of affordable housing and elderly people's vulnerability to loneliness and social isolation. Students' ability to articulate complex issues and persuasively propose solutions to these was excellent to see and demonstrated the strong sense of agency our students have.

We have been very excited to launch the next Inspire Project, 'Defying Gravity', in which students have been challenged to create something that will stay off the ground for the longest time when dropped from a height. We are very much looking forward to seeing their creativity and ingenuity in coming up with a design that will achieve this!

## King's Links

King's students had an amazing day in historic Cambridge this term – meeting our Old Girls and getting the inside scoop on applications and university life. A truly inspiring King's Links visit!





## Inspire Culture

This term, our students have enjoyed a fantastic range of cultural experiences through our Inspire Culture programme. Trips to see *The Sound of Music*, *Six the Musical*, and *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind* have given pupils the opportunity to experience live theatre and powerful storytelling first-hand. With productions of *Henry V* and *Matilda* still to come, there is plenty more to look forward to as our students continue to explore the arts and broaden their cultural horizons.

Read more about our Inspire Academic Enrichment Programme and our series of Encounters Talks, run in conjunction with Warwick School on our website in [/academicenrichment](#)



Be inspired on our website in [/academicenrichment](#)

# Dance Showcase

The annual dance show at King's High was a spectacular celebration of movement and creativity. Students performed a variety of routines, from contemporary pieces to lively group numbers, all based on the theme 'Around the World'.

The show ended with a touching celebration for Teagan in Upper Sixth, recognising her outstanding mentorship and leadership of King's High's dance community, as she looks forward to joining Italia Conti, one of the country's leading dance academies, next year.





# Canine Chronicles

It's been another whirlwind term for our beloved Parsnip and Moose, bringing joy and tail wags to everyone at King's. Read on for their highlights!

Moose, our adorable Australian Shepherd, has had a busy Spring term! He celebrated his first birthday, made himself at home in The Oasis and loved seeing all the creative costumes on World Book Day!



Parsnip, our lovable Parson Terrier, has had quite the term at King's! The annual Dogs Trust fete took place in February, and we raised an impressive £320 and collected boxes of donations, including food and toys for the Dogs Trust in Kenilworth. A massive thank you to everyone who donated items and supported us at the fete – it was a fantastic event!

In March, members of Paws with Parsnip delivered the goodies to the trust and enjoyed a wonderful tour of the centre. We met the most adorable dog, Trixie, who was full of love and delighted to see us.

Parsnip continues to visit Clapham School Primary School in Leamington Spa, where she listens to pupils read. She loves the library and encourages the children to enjoy reading – while receiving plenty of fuss herself!

Paws with Parsnip continues to be a highlight, and Parsnip really enjoys playing in the Quad with everyone. We're looking forward to getting outside even more next term – Parsnip can't wait to show off her skills on the agility equipment!



# House News

It has been a truly fantastic start to the year for our Houses, with a strong sense of community, enthusiasm, and friendly competition evident in everything that has taken place.

Students across all year groups have embraced opportunities to get involved, support one another, and represent their Houses with pride. It has been especially lovely to see older and younger students come together, creating a real sense of belonging within each House. We asked Mrs Jones, Head of Houses, to explain what's been happening.

"Interviews for our new House Captain positions have taken place, and the incoming team looks set to be just as brilliant as this year's. We're excited to see them in action and want to say a huge thank you to our outgoing captains for their energy, leadership, and dedication. Both groups have been leading the way as we gear up for the much-anticipated House Drama competition. Each House will create a two-minute trailer, with themes ranging from reality TV to horror and documentary. With students from all year groups involved, it's a great example of vertical collaboration. We can't wait to see the final pieces after the Easter break.

"There has been great enthusiasm surrounding the Year 7 mixed benchball competition, which launches this week. With huge spectator support and plenty of excitement, the competition is currently midway through, and we look forward to seeing which House will come out on top in the finals.

"Following on from the joint House quiz in the Autumn term, this year also saw the return of the much-loved joint House song. Held in Warwick Hall, it brought everyone together in a joyful celebration of unity and school spirit. The theme was the noughties, and King's and Warwick students sang classics such as Mr Brightside, I Want It That Way, and Party in the USA. Houses were judged on participation, commitment, and performance quality, with Seacole and Franklin emerging victorious.

"The introduction of "Countdown" to our Friday morning activity programme has also been a great success. Houses competed in word rounds, a numbers challenge, and a conundrum — with the final mystery word being sketching. Its popularity means it is likely to become a regular feature in the annual schedule.

"This week, we were proud to contribute to a meaningful international project by adding paper cranes to the King's reception. And last term we sent a large number of threaded paper cranes to Japan, symbolising peace and unity between King's and the Children's Peace Memorial.

"We can't wait to launch our House Point Tracker soon so everyone can see how their House is doing as the year goes on. 2026 has already been such a great year for the Houses, with lots of participation, amazing achievements, and a real sense of community!"

## House Collaboration

One of the standout highlights this term has been the successful mixed House netball event, held jointly with Warwick School. This provided a fantastic opportunity for both collaboration and competition, with Year 11 and Upper Sixth teams taking part. Congratulations to Tubman for their victory in the Year 11 competition, and to Earhart for securing first place in the Upper Sixth matches. The event was a fantastic showcase of skill, teamwork, and sportsmanship, with incredible support from the sidelines throughout.



## Ready... Steady... Bake!

A special highlight of our Open Evening was the House Bake Off, which was once again a resounding success. Our students threw themselves into the challenge with a large dollop of healthy House competitiveness!

The standard was incredibly high, and the results are in!

Earhart – Star Baker

Tubman – Best Cake

Yousafzai – Best Bread

Tubman – Highly Commended for Scones



# Modern Foreign Languages

## Spanish Exchange

We are delighted to be developing an exciting Spanish exchange with Colegio Helios, a co-educational private school located in a town around 30 km from Valencia. Earlier this term, we were pleased to welcome their Head of English to King's High as part of our growing partnership. Plans for the exchange are now underway, with suitable dates currently being explored. Watch this space for further details!



# Business Language Champions

Our students took part in the Business Language Champions event, putting their language and business skills to the test in a series of challenges themed around creating a new holiday destination. They enjoyed a careers talk from the Head of Sales at Rocco Forte Hotels, designed their own hotel, conducted business interviews in French or Spanish, and even created restaurant menus and hired bar staff in their chosen language.

The competition was fierce, but our students excelled: one team won the Best Advert Award, another were Runners-Up overall, Lucia received the Best Fluency Award, and Eloise was recognised as the Most Supportive Team Member.



# GCHQ National Language Challenge



Four Year 9 students – Isla, Sasha, Lucia, and Vivi – recently took part in the GCHQ National Language

Challenge. Participants had 25 hours across the week to complete as many interactive language challenges as possible, earning points for every code they cracked.

The girls worked brilliantly as a team, organising sessions at lunchtime and after school to pool their skills and tackle the challenges together. When the results were announced, they were thrilled to discover they had finished 218th out of 2,734 teams nationally and 21st out of 363 teams regionally.

Not only did the students excel linguistically, but they also developed their collaboration and higher-level thinking skills. Most importantly, they had a fantastic time doing it!

# When Language Meets Science

As Year 9 and Year 11 students were making their option choices, we were fortunate to welcome two expert guest speakers from the world of Modern Foreign Languages.

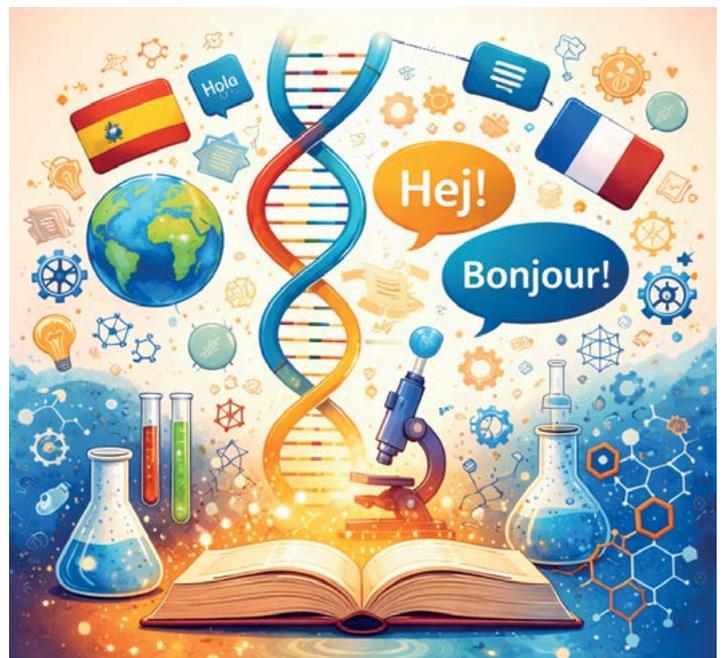
Dr Martina Zimmermann, Reader in Health Humanities and Health Sciences at King's College London, spoke to a mixed group of scientists and linguists about how her knowledge of several languages and cultures has been a tremendous asset throughout her scientific research career.

The following day, Dr Caroline Summers, Assistant Professor in Translation Studies at the University of Warwick, addressed all Year 9 students on the power of languages and their positive impact, both personally and professionally. Students were amazed to discover their own ability to translate a poem from Swedish, despite having no prior knowledge of the language!

All students left the talks with plenty of food for thought and were well-prepared to make their option choices with confidence.

# Inspirational Changemaker Competition

Congratulations to Martha in Year 8, who was crowned the winner of the Inspirational Changemaker competition for her entry celebrating Frida Kahlo.



# King's Science

## Destination Geneva

Over the Christmas holidays, our A Level physicists visited CERN (the European Organisation for Nuclear Research) in Geneva, Switzerland. CERN is one of the world's largest and most respected centres for scientific research with a strong focus on particle physics, which is one of the first modules of the A Level course.

It was an incredible opportunity for the students to see firsthand how the theory they learn in the classroom is applied in a professional research setting. We asked them to share a little about their experience:

*"Visiting CERN was a phenomenal experience for all of us aspiring physicists, as it allowed us to picture ourselves at the forefront of physics research!"*

*"Firstly, we were given a tour around CERN's antimatter factory where Leo, our tour guide, explained to us how antiprotons are produced and studied. He also told us about the safety features*

*in place to protect the scientists from radiation. Since ELENA was shut down at the time, we had the opportunity to walk around the decelerator and observe its features up close. Leo also highlighted how various institutions across the globe work together on projects like these, showing us how international collaboration is definitely the key to scientific advancement.*

*"We also saw how the huge amounts of experimental data at CERN are processed and stored in hundreds of hard disk drives, and it was inspiring to see how much data processing has developed over the years. After lunch, we visited CERN Science Gateway, an interactive experience conveying the gravity of the work conducted at CERN. This was such an exciting way to explore how the physics we learn in the classroom is applied in real-world research. We also got to explore Geneva itself and visit the United Nations, making this an extremely memorable trip for all of us."*





## British Science Week



British Science Week was themed around “Curiosity” this year, tying in nicely with our King’s High Wheel aim to develop

inquisitive learners. Starting a little earlier in March, we were very pleased to welcome back a recent former King’s student, Abhirami, who is now in her third year reading Pharmacology at the University of Manchester. She gave a brilliant, detailed and informative presentation to our Sixth Form on how HIV drugs can interact with hormone therapies. The structure and replication of HIV is part of the A Level course but this was a chance to see the real world implications of some of the theory we learn. Students also had the chance to ask about undergraduate science from someone with current experience.

During the week, the Café Scientifique team ran three workshops: on Monday, Key Stage 3 were challenged to build the strongest bridge from just 5 sheets of newspaper. On Wednesday, Key Stage 4 and Sixth Formers enjoyed the opportunity to dissect a rat.

While whole organism dissection is no longer a compulsory part of the Biology curriculum, it does provide a fascinating chance to see all the systems studied in situ and there was an audible “wow!” from our budding scientists, medics and vets. On Friday, Key Stage 3 were back in the lab to try some flame tests – another “wow” moment!

The biggest “wows!”, however, were definitely heard in the Chemistry department’s Whizz-Bang assemblies for the Key Stage 3 and 4 students. The Chemistry team demonstrated some of the amazing effects of extreme low temperatures using liquid nitrogen and dry ice, as well as the traditional explosions!

Finally, as usual, throughout the term, Café Scientifique have been collecting and editing articles for the newsletter. This term, to match the Curiosity theme of Science Week, they have titled the edition “Above and Beyond”. It even contains articles from Warwick Prep students, after the team led an inspiring assembly to explain their genuine passion for Science to Year 5 and 6 students. Make sure you take a look!

**Remember – Science isn’t always about the right answers, it’s about asking the right questions. What’s your question?**

## British Biology Olympiad 2026

We are thrilled to celebrate the fantastic achievements of our students in the British Biology Olympiad 2026, which saw 18,800 students from 1,132 schools take part nationwide.

We are proud to announce that our students have achieved Silver and Bronze awards, placing them among the top performers in the country!

- Isabelle in Upper Sixth achieved Silver Award – placing her in the top 10% of participants
- Shradhha in Upper Sixth achieved Bronze Award – placing her in the top 15% of participants

Congratulations to all our students for their hard work, dedication, and enthusiasm for Biology – an outstanding accomplishment to be very proud of!

## Welcome to Speckle and Freckle!

This term we welcomed two new pets to the school – a male and a female Leopard Gecko. They previously belonged to a local keeper who needed to rehome them and offered them to King’s as he hoped they would benefit the education of the pupils, as well as having a safe home here. Although they had been kept as a pair, we wanted to make sure that we could provide the most appropriate conditions, so we sought advice from the Herpetological Society and have now created two beautiful enclosures to best meet their needs. They now enjoy the very best gecko environment, diet, and care – and seem to be flourishing!

After a consultation with pupils, staff and parents to create a shortlist of names, we put it to the vote. Over 500 votes were received, with Freckle (male) and Speckle (female) being the clear winners. We think these names suit them very well! They are a really welcome addition to the Science department and have proved very popular with our own Animal Club, and with parents and Old Girls who have visited in recent weeks. The Nursery children from Warwick Prep even came across to visit them as part of their Reptiles project and were very happy to see them basking under their lamps! Lucky Geckos!



# King's Music

**The Spring term has been a jam-packed one for the music department, filled with events, concerts and student successes.**

The annual Jazz, Rock and Pop concert in February showcased a dazzling and diverse display of music, including all of our jazz and rock bands alongside several soloists. The Bridge House Theatre was the ideal setting for this incredible concert.

It has been an exceptionally busy term for our chamber music groups. The Foundation Chamber Concert in February was a spectacular evening of music making of the highest quality, and there were performances from each of the Baroque chamber ensembles, quartets and trios in what was a very special and memorable concert. We also held our inaugural Ensemble Platform concert in March, giving many of the younger chamber groups a valuable performance and concert opportunity.

There were a huge number of entrants for our Young Musician of the Year competitions. We were joined by guest adjudicators Adrian Taylor (trombonist, conductor and composer) and Elspeth Dutch (principal French Horn with the CBSO) for the Junior and Senior competitions respectively. Congratulations to Annie in Year 9 and Jaya in Year 12 who were the two overall winners!

There have been an exciting array of trips this term. Early February saw all of Year 7 travelling to Symphony Hall in Birmingham to attend a CBSO schools' concert themed around space, tying in with their learning on the Instrumental Scheme. March saw many of the music scholars and award holders attend a fantastic workshop at Birmingham Conservatoire. This saw them improvising and composing a film score which was recorded in a professional studio, followed by a performance masterclass. It was a hugely inspiring day for all. This was followed by several of our woodwind students attending a workshop at the Royal College of Music, joining forces with other top musicians and finding out more about life at music college.





The term finished with two hugely impressive concerts in Warwick Hall. The Foundation concert saw the Foundation Symphony Orchestra join forces with the Wind and String orchestras, alongside King Henry Consort and Canticum in a wonderful evening of impressive music making. The King's High Spring Concert then finished off the term, and celebrated the fantastic contributions of Upper Sixth students to the musical life of the school during their time here.

Next term promises to be just as exciting. The Summer Concert will showcase the wide range of musical ensembles across the department, and our Year 7 end of year concert will feature orchestral performances from every student in the year group. We also look forward to the Junior Production of *Beauty and the Beast*!

Wishing you all the best for the Easter break.

**Adam Albrighton**  
Director of Music



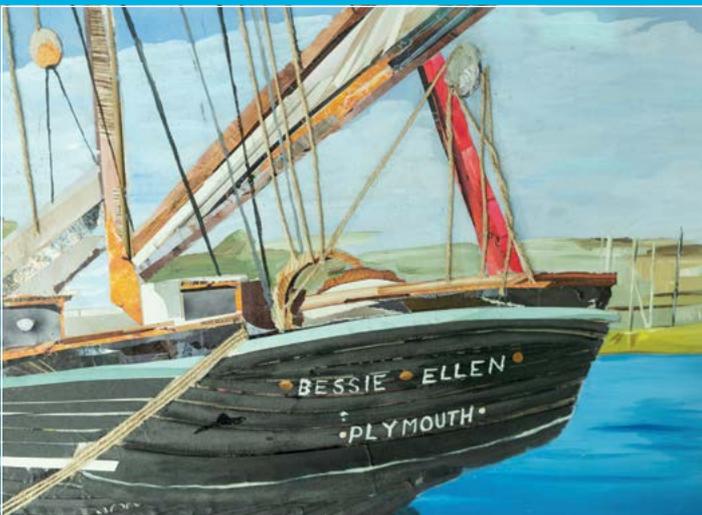




Follow King's Music on Instagram [@kingshighwarwick\\_music](https://www.instagram.com/kingshighwarwick_music) for all the latest news

# King's Art

As Director of Art, it is a pleasure to share the latest updates and successes from our vibrant and ever-evolving Art Department. This term has been filled with creativity, dedication and enthusiasm, and I am delighted to highlight some of the achievements and opportunities our students have experienced.

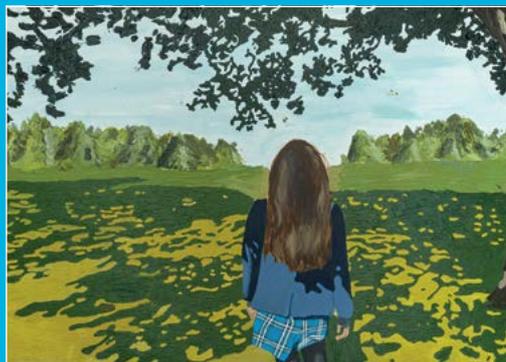
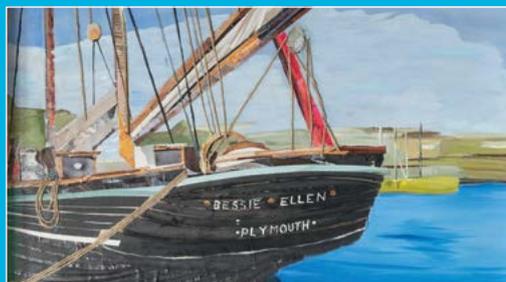


## Art Scholars Workshop: Celebrating the History of King's

This term we were fortunate to welcome visiting artist Angela Gordon Webb for a special Art Scholars workshop with students from Key Stage 3 and the Lower Sixth. The workshop focused on the second of three collaborative artworks being created to commemorate the rich history of King's High School for Girls.

Working closely with Mr Grier from the History Department, students explored the remarkable archaeological discoveries found beneath the school site. Excavations revealed significant Roman remains, including the foundations of a tithe barn of considerable size. Inspired by this fascinating local history, students developed artwork celebrating the heritage and historical importance of the land on which our school stands.

Angela Gordon Webb guided students through the creative process, encouraging them to consider how historical research can inform artistic interpretation. The resulting work reflects both the scale of the Roman structure and the layers of history beneath the school grounds. We are extremely grateful to Angela for sharing her expertise and to Mr Grier for leading the historical research behind the project. We look forward to seeing the completed piece take its place as part of this growing series of artworks celebrating the history of King's.



## Sixth Form Art Trip to London

At the beginning of February, our Lower Sixth and Upper Sixth Art students travelled to London to visit two major galleries: Tate Modern and Tate Britain. These visits provided valuable first-hand experience of significant exhibitions and offered inspiration for current coursework projects.

At Tate Modern, students explored the *Theatre Picasso* exhibition, which examines Picasso's creative work for the stage and his collaborations with theatre and ballet productions. The exhibition offered fascinating insight into Picasso's experimental approach across costume, set design and visual art.

The trip continued at Tate Britain, where students visited the *Lee Miller* exhibition. Miller's powerful and varied body of work provided rich inspiration for students as they develop their projects. For Upper Sixth students, the exhibition supported ideas for their Externally Set Assignment (ESA) for Pearson, while Lower Sixth students gained valuable insights for the development of their Component 1 coursework.

Experiencing these exhibitions first-hand allowed students to deepen their understanding of artistic practice, process and context, while gathering visual references and ideas to support their own creative work.



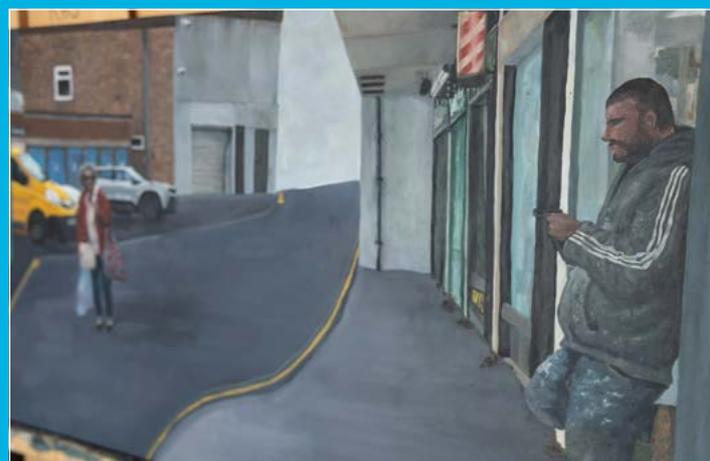
## Year 11 Trip to London: Exploring Ideas for the Externally Set Assignment



Earlier this term, our Year 11 GCSE Art students also travelled to London to support their Externally Set Assignment (ESA), which this year is based on the theme *Found*.

The trip included visits to both the National Gallery and Tate Modern. At the National Gallery, students explored works by the Neo-Impressionists, studying the distinctive techniques and colour theories used by artists of the movement. Observing these paintings in person allowed students to analyse mark-making, composition and the use of light and colour in far greater detail.

Students then visited Tate Modern to experience the *Theatre Picasso* exhibition. Picasso's experimental approach to design and collaboration provided an exciting contrast to the historical works seen earlier in the day and encouraged students to think more broadly about how artists interpret and respond to ideas.



Throughout the visit, students recorded observations through photographs, sketches and written notes, gathering inspiration that will help inform their responses to the ESA theme. The day provided an excellent opportunity for students to engage directly with world-class artworks while developing ideas for their own projects.

We would like to extend our thanks to Mr Reeves for organising both the GCSE and Sixth Form trips, which were thoroughly enjoyable and inspiring experiences for all involved.

Finally, special congratulations must go to our Year 11 and Upper Sixth artists, who have worked incredibly hard this term on their Component 2 projects. These students have demonstrated impressive commitment and perseverance as they refine ideas, develop techniques and push their creative thinking. As we approach the end of term, we wish them every success as they prepare for their upcoming 10- and 15-hour practical examinations after the Easter holiday. This is a significant milestone in their courses, and we are confident that their dedication and talent will be reflected in their final outcomes.

The past term has been an exciting and productive one for the Art Department, and I am immensely proud of all the students who contribute to our thriving artistic community. I would also like to thank my colleagues for their continued support, as well as families for their encouragement of our students' creative endeavours. I look forward to seeing how our artists continue to develop in the months ahead.

**Sarah Jordan**  
Director of Art

# King's Drama

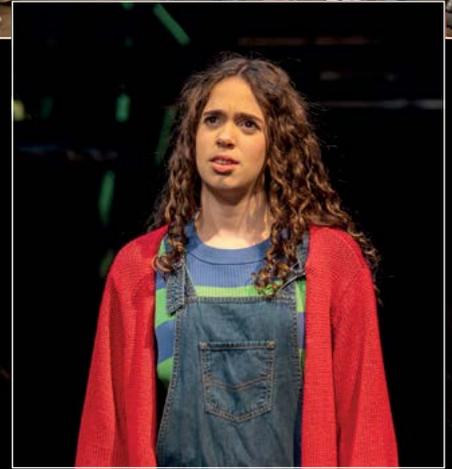


**We kicked off 2026 with a (real!) flying start, inviting professional physical theatre company Highly Sprung back to develop our fantastic annual 'Play in A Day'.**

The year group spent a thrilling and action-packed morning learning physical theatre techniques including some high-flying lifts. This culminated in an adapted version of the Hindu tale 'The Armchair Traveller' in the Bridge House Theatre, welcoming staff and parents to watch their performance. As part of our ongoing collaboration with the Modern Foreign Languages department, we were excited to introduce a multilingual element this year, including French, Spanish and several of our students' native first and second languages.

Shortly afterwards in February, our LAMDA students completed their examinations – resulting in an astonishingly high number of distinctions and glowing individual feedback. A number of these pieces were also presented as part of a high-quality LAMDA evening. It is no secret that the exams themselves are only the tip of the iceberg: these are the result of months of hard work from our students and the skilled practice of our expert, dedicated LAMDA teaching team.

In March, a short period of intensive rehearsals for the Middle School Production of 'Skellig' culminated in a moving, thought-provoking performance starring our Year 9 and 10 students. Alongside their Warwick School counterparts, our cast brought David Almond's much-loved novel to life on stage. Balancing puppetry, physical theatre and multiroling, the dedicated cast and crew sensitively captured the story of young friends Michael and Mina. As they discover a peculiar creature in the garage, one who seems part human, part owl, part angel and entirely mysterious, Michael simultaneously handles the challenge of his baby sister's illness, a new and unfamiliar school and the journey of growing up. It was a fantastic piece, expertly directed by Miss Horton.



Rehearsals for our Lower School Production, 'Beauty and the Beast' have been full of music, humour and heart. We cannot wait to invite you all to 'be our guest' for a true spectacle, led by Ms Wyatt, Mr Albrighton, Miss Flood and the dedicated Year 10 Young Directors' Team. Meanwhile, following up their cosy winter warmer of a Christmas performance, 'Fireside Tales', our King's High Inspire Theatre Company have been busily rehearsing for their June production of Chris Bush's 'The Changing Room'. This highly physical comedy is set in and around a swimming pool, following the journey of a group of teenagers into the pool – and their futures. If you want to work out how on Earth we are going to turn the Drama Studio into a swimming pool, you'll have to come along to watch!

Meanwhile, our Aspiring Creatives in Theatre have been exploring digital sound design; developing directors' concepts (including a fascinating tour of the 'Skellig' set at the Bridge House) and set and costume design across different time periods. Our 'Performing in Other Languages' troupe, led by Mrs Spring, Mrs McRoberts and Mrs Montiel have been busily preparing a very special multilingual

performance entitled 'The Importance of Being Ernesto'. Rehearsals have been full of humour, handbags and fascinating conversations about the nature of translating theatre. Alongside creating our piece on its feet, we have enjoyed many interesting discussions about how Oscar Wilde's late Victorian British humour can be translated into French and Spanish language – and contexts!

Following two excellent devised performance evenings last term, Year 11 and Upper Sixth students performed their scripted pieces to both examiners and public audiences this term, a dynamic and wide-ranging programme bringing a wide range of characters to life (and for multiroling students, often more than one character in one minute). Audiences enjoyed a wide variety of pieces ranging from The Wardrobe Ensemble's eccentric and colourful 'The Last of the Pelican Daughters' to the acclaimed Complicite's era-spanning 'The Three Lives of Lucie Cabrol' and, hot on the heels of Emerald Fennell's new adaptation of 'Wuthering Heights', a performance of 'We Three Sisters', an exploration of the relationship between three of literature's most beloved siblings. Design, with specialisms





in lighting, costume, sound and set, is also an important option at GCSE and A Level: this year, Olivia (Year 11) has produced a number of excellent lighting concepts, supported by Mrs Hackett, Mr Roberts and Mrs Spring.

It has been a busy term for theatre trips this Spring. One highlight was the world premiere of 'The Boy Who Harnessed The Wind' at the RSC, a musical adaptation of William Kamkwamba's memoir. Students thoroughly enjoyed William's inspiring story, building a windmill to improve the lives of his village. Well-known musicals were also an important part of this term's theatre diet, with trips running to Nikolai Foster's highly creative new adaptation of 'The Sound of Music' at the Leicester Curve and a touring production of student favourite 'Six' at the Wolverhampton Grand. GCSE and future GCSE Drama students enjoyed Pilot Theatre's powerful adaptation of Malorie Blackman's 'Noughts and Crosses' at the Birmingham Rep Theatre. Meanwhile, Key Stage 3 students, joined by some of their Warwick Prep counterparts, enjoyed a musical theatre workshop inspired by The Pied Piper of Hamelin with Arts Insight.

Our Drama Scholars and Ambassadors continue to be a source of inspiration to the younger generations of performers both at King's High School and Warwick Preparatory School. A high number of

our older students volunteer with Key Stage 3 Drama students, alongside supporting Year 2, 3 and 4 Drama Clubs. They are instrumental in club planning, supporting group work, developing ideas for performances and serving as strong role models. They have also been a fantastic support at Open Day, Taster Morning and our Golden Ticket performance, representing not only the confidence and performance skills of our students but also the warm, inclusive environment we are proud to promote here.

The final week of term brought some more exciting news for our Key Stage Four and Five students... our upcoming Senior Production of Into The Woods! Miss Flood's teaser campaign created plenty of excitement, with nearly 100 students gathering in the Drama Studio earlier this term ready for the reveal. Students are already busily preparing their audition material and many have also signed up to attend an exciting trip to the Bridge Theatre's Olivier Award nominated professional production of Into the Woods in London this Easter. The buzz is tangible and Mrs Spring, Mr Perry, Mr Albrighton, Miss Flood and Miss Horton cannot wait to kick off the audition process next term.

**Mrs Gracey Spring**  
Director of Drama

# King's Sport

**This term has been a truly exceptional one for sport at King's High, bringing together the culmination of competitions across a wide range of age groups and disciplines. With unprecedented success at county, regional and national level — including multiple National Finals appearances and titles — it has been a landmark season in the school's 147-year history. We are immensely proud of the commitment, talent and ambition shown by all of our pupils, which has underpinned this remarkable period of achievement.**

## Netball

This has been an extraordinary netball season and, without doubt, the most successful in the school's history. Across all age groups, pupils have shown outstanding commitment, skill and enthusiasm, with remarkable success at local, regional and national level, alongside exceptional participation across the school.

Netball has been thriving from top to bottom, with a huge number of girls representing the school throughout the term. In particular, it has been wonderful to see such strong participation in the U12 age group, with fixtures for U12 A–F teams ensuring that many pupils had the opportunity to play competitive netball and contribute to the school's success. Across the season, friendly fixtures were enjoyed against Arnold Lodge, Ratcliffe College, Solihull, Bromsgrove, St Martin's, Leicester Grammar, Bablake, Sibford, King Edward VI Stratford, Princethorpe, RGS Worcester, Rugby, Old Swinford Hospital School, North Leamington School, King Henry VIII and Southam, giving pupils valuable match experience and allowing the school's netball community to flourish.

There has also been excellent progress in league competition. The U12C, U13C, U14C and U15C teams all competed in the local league against other schools, with the U15C team enjoying a particularly impressive campaign. They performed brilliantly throughout, often competing against opposition A teams, and deservedly made it all the way to League Finals Night.

At the senior end of the school, the 1st VII represented the school superbly at the ISA National Finals, reaching the quarter-final stages before losing to a strong opposition side. Their performances reflected the quality, resilience and ambition that have characterised netball across the whole school this year.

The U15 teams also enjoyed a superb season. The U15A team were crowned County Champions and added another major achievement by winning the prestigious Uppingham Tournament. After defeating Bromsgrove in the semi-final, they went on to beat them again in the final to secure the title. The U15B team also had an outstanding run in the National Cup, progressing all the way to the quarter-final stages of the Sisters 'n' Sport competition, where they were only narrowly stopped by an opposition A team.

The U14 squad have also excelled. They were crowned Regional Champions and will go on to compete in the National Finals at the end of term, a richly deserved achievement. They also won the Bromsgrove Invitational Tournament and enjoyed an excellent National Cup run, eventually being knocked out in the quarter-finals by a strong Silverdale side.

Perhaps most remarkable of all has been the success of the U13 age group, whose performances this season have been nothing short of exceptional. The U13A team were crowned County Champions, while the U13B team underlined the year group's extraordinary depth of talent by taking the bronze medal at county level. The U13A side then became Regional Champions in the ISA competition and went on to represent the Midlands at the National Finals, where they were crowned National Champions — a tremendous accomplishment.



The U13s have also enjoyed outstanding success in both the Sisters 'n' Sport and School Sports Magazine competitions. At Finals Day at Loughborough University in the Sisters 'n' Sport competition, they beat Guildford in a tense semi-final to reach the National Final. Although they were unable to overcome a superb Blue Coat School, Oldham, side in the final, finishing second in the country was a remarkable achievement. Their national campaign is not over yet: after impressive victories over Berkhamsted and Bedford in the quarter-final and semi-final stages, they will compete in yet another national final at the end of term, where they will face Guildford once again in the School Sports Magazine Final. We wish them every success.

The U12 teams, meanwhile, have travelled extensively across the Midlands and also hosted some excellent fixtures, once again enabling large numbers of pupils to represent the school. With their County Tournament still to come, there is yet more to look forward to, and we wish them all the very best.

This season has been a wonderful reflection of the strength, depth and spirit of netball within the school. To achieve multiple national titles and finals appearances, while also ensuring such high levels of participation and enjoyment, is a tremendous accomplishment. We are incredibly proud of all the players and grateful to the staff and coaches whose support has helped make this such a memorable year for netball.

## Hockey

Although hockey fixtures are traditionally concentrated in the Autumn Term, there has been plenty to celebrate in the Spring term as well, with two regional finals, three county tournaments and two national finals providing excitement and success across the age groups. It has been a truly exceptional season for hockey at the school, marked not only by silverware and high-level achievement, but also by strong participation, committed training and continued enjoyment of the game.

Alongside the titles that have been secured, it has been wonderful to see so many pupils engaging enthusiastically in training throughout the term, developing both their skills and their understanding of the game. Friendly matches against King's School Worcester and RGS Worcester have also provided valuable playing opportunities and further contributed to the strength of hockey across the school.

The U12 team have enjoyed a superb season, culminating in being crowned County Champions. They went on to represent Warwickshire at the Regional Finals, where they played some excellent hockey and were unfortunate to be knocked out in the semi-final after conceding a short corner with just 30 seconds remaining. It was a performance full of promise and determination.

The U13 team have also had an outstanding campaign, producing impressive performances in both their 7-a-side and 11-a-side tournaments to be crowned County Champions in both formats. They too progressed to the Regional Finals as Warwickshire representatives, and we look forward to hearing how they fare at the next stage of the competition.

The U15 team were determined to ensure that the success of the younger age groups continued later in the season, and they did exactly that by securing the County title. After a cagey draw early in the tournament, they responded brilliantly and played excellent hockey throughout the remainder of the competition to be crowned County Champions. Their season is not over yet, as they are also still competing in the Sisters 'n' Sport National Cup.



Following impressive victories against KEHS Edgbaston and The Cotswold School in the quarter-finals, they have now qualified for the National Finals Day, which will take place after the Easter break. We wish them every success.

The U16 team have also had an excellent season, particularly in the England Hockey Tier 2 competition. After defeating Stowe School in their quarter-final shortly after Christmas, they booked their place in the National Semi-final. Although they were ultimately beaten by Newcastle-under-Lyme School at that stage, reaching a national semi-final is a tremendous achievement and reflects the quality and commitment of the squad.

The 1st XI have truly led from the front this year, enjoying a remarkable run in both the Independent Schools Hockey Plate competition and the England Hockey Tier 2 National Competition. In a nail-biting quarter-final against Bedford School, they held their nerve to win on penalty strokes and secure their place at the ISHC National Finals Day. There, they produced an outstanding performance against Manchester Grammar School in a match that was live-streamed for pupils at school to watch. Heartbreakingly, they conceded a short corner at the very end of the game to lose 2–1. The team showed real resilience in response, regrouping superbly to dominate the bronze medal match and finish third in the country in the competition.

Determined not to let another opportunity slip away, the same squad then travelled to the Olympic Stadium, supported by a fantastic group of cheering fans, to contest the final of the England Hockey Tier 2 competition. After a cagey start, the quality of the team shone through and they went on to beat Wells Cathedral School 6–3, earning the title of National Champions. It was a fitting and memorable way for this outstanding year group to conclude their time representing the school on the hockey pitch.

As with netball, the level of performance and achievement in hockey this season has been unprecedented. Every team won its County Tournament and progressed to Regional Finals, while the U16s reached a National Semi-final and the U18s were crowned National Champions. This has been a season of exceptional success, and one which reflects not only the talent of our players, but also their determination, teamwork and love of the game. We are incredibly proud of all that has been achieved.

## Equestrian

Kings High's equestrian girls have had another very successful Spring Term, with lots of placings and qualifications.

The girls had a very successful day at Allens Hill on February 1st, where they competed in the County Showjumping Qualifiers for Warwickshire, with the aim of qualifying for the Hickstead Championships. The 70cm team of Amy, Francesca, Minnie and Louisa placed 1st, with Francesca taking the Warwickshire County

Championship individually. The 80cm team of Amy, Francesca, Izzy and Louisa again took the win, with Izzy taking the County Championship individually. The 90cm team, consisting of Amy, Izzy and Tara, placed 2nd, with Izzy also taking the County Championship individually. All teams qualified, along with a number of individual qualifications!

The Grassroots 50cm team of Isabelle, Sophie, and James (Warwick School) also placed 1st, qualifying for the Grassroots Championships.

A number of girls have also been taking part in the Pop Up Dressage series that runs through the Winter, with girls achieving some great results. In February, there were numerous excellent results, including Minnie placing 2nd in the Intro class, Izzy placing 6th in the Prelim class and Amy placing 4th in the Novice class.

Francesca qualified for the Addington National Championships in March, in the 80cm showjumping as an individual.

Amy rode at Moores Farm on Saturday 3rd January, representing King's High in the showjumping, where she came 6th in the 70cm individual, 6th in the 80cm individual and 2nd in the team event.

Outside of school events, Ellie and her pony, Cally, started their campaign for international dressage qualification, competing in their first Premier League event at Vale View Equestrian. They made an excellent FEI Pony Test debut, holding their own, scoring a very respectable 64%, and just missing out on a top 10 place!

We are looking forward to how the girls do at all the upcoming Championships!

Outside of competitions, a small group of girls attended a school trip to visit Laura Collett's yard, a Team GB Eventing Gold Medallist. When they arrived, the girls watched Laura train some young horses whilst explaining her process and were able to ask questions. This was followed by a yard tour where the girls were able to meet London 52, Laura's gold medal-winning horse, as well as hold Laura's Olympic, European and FEI medals. Despite the cold, the trip was inspiring and the girls had a fabulous time.

## Skiing

After a busy and successful 2025, our ski racers are now training hard in preparation for forthcoming events on the race calendar, including the English Schools Indoor champs, ISA National Indoor Champs, English Schools Dry Slope and British Schools events. After reaching an amazing 4th place out of 19 schools in the November British Finals, we are hopeful the KHS team can reach the podium at the event this season!

Strong individual performances across the 2025 English schools race series resulted in 15 Foundation skiers being selected to train with the ESSkiA national squads this Spring term. A number of students from King's High and Warwick School have taken up this invitation. Alex trained hard in Norway over half term, Loretta and Eliza will be training on their own age group camp there this Easter.

Over the Christmas break, Loretta, Eliza, Holly and Alex trained with PDS racing in the French Alps. Kitty has continued on her Alpine core programme with Uniq Snowsports, training regularly in locations across France. Austria and even in Dubai! She competed successfully in the Welsh Champs to win the U18 Giant Slalom event and will race in the British Alpine Champs being held in France over Easter.

We are seeking new skiing and ski racing talent across the Foundation schools and will hold taster sessions in April and May from our base at Swadlincote Snowsports Centre. Please look out for these or contact the PE department for further details.

We wish all of our skiers a successful racing season again in 2026!

## Cross Country

This has been an excellent term for cross country, with both individual athletes and teams achieving impressive success across a range of competitions. We are fortunate to have a number of outstanding runners within the school, and this has been clearly reflected in the strength and depth of performances throughout the season.

It has been particularly pleasing to see such strong attendance at cross country club, with pupils embracing the opportunity to improve their fitness, develop their technique and challenge themselves. The commitment shown in training has translated into confident and competitive performances in races, with many pupils demonstrating significant progress over the course of the term.

At the ISA Regional Finals, King's High athletes produced a dominant display, particularly in the younger age groups, with seven runners qualifying for the National Finals. This success was carried through to the national stage, where it was inspiring to see a King's High pupil crowned National Champion in the Year 8 and 9 competition — a fantastic achievement and a testament to both talent and determination.

Pupils also enjoyed taking part in a new addition to the fixture calendar at Tudor Hall School. This proved to be a highly successful event, with the U13 A and B teams running superbly to secure both gold and bronze medals, highlighting the depth of ability within the year group.

At the Warwickshire Championships, runners faced particularly challenging conditions, with mud and rain testing both resilience and determination. Despite this, our athletes were once again in excellent form, with eight pupils qualifying to represent the region at the National Finals later in the term — another outstanding accomplishment.

Overall, this has been a season of significant achievement, underpinned by enthusiasm, perseverance, and a genuine love of running. We congratulate all of our runners on their superb performances and look forward to seeing their continued progress in the future.

## Badminton

Badminton continues to flourish at the school, with growing participation and strong performances under the expert guidance of George and Jane at our Badminton Academy. The programme goes from strength to strength, providing pupils with excellent opportunities to develop their skills, compete at a high level and enjoy the game.

This term marked an exciting milestone as we hosted the Key Stage 3 Babolat National Schools Cup for the first time. Our team performed superbly throughout the competition, securing impressive victories against Handsworth, Sutton Girls and King Edward's. A narrow defeat to a very strong Tudor Grange side meant we were just pipped to the title, finishing as runners-up in the county — a fantastic achievement and a reflection of the team's quality and determination.



Our U16 team also travelled to compete in the Key Stage 4 version of the same event, where they faced some exceptionally strong opposition. Despite tough matches against Sutton Girls and an outstanding King Edward VI High School (KEHS) team, the squad showed great resilience and skill, recording convincing wins against Handsworth and Tudor Grange. Their performances throughout the competition were a credit to their hard work and commitment.

With such encouraging progress and success this season, badminton is in a very strong position within the school. We look forward to building on this momentum, continuing to develop our players and returning to these competitions next year with confidence and ambition.

## Football

Despite what has felt like a relentless spell of rain throughout the term, football has continued with great determination and resilience. Training sessions and fixtures have required flexibility, with a number of rearrangements, but it has been impressive to see the commitment of players and staff in ensuring the season has continued with such enthusiasm.

There have been some challenging fixtures, particularly as the U13 and U14 teams progressed into the later stages of national competitions and came up against strong opposition. While these matches have resulted in some tough defeats, they have also provided valuable experience and an opportunity for players to test themselves at a high level. Alongside these challenges, there have been a number of excellent performances and impressive victories that reflect the growing strength of football within the school.

The U12 team continue to enjoy a very positive season and are still progressing well in the County Cup. We look forward to following their journey as they head into their semi-final next term. The U14 team have also shown great promise and are now through to the third round of the National Plate competition, while the U13 squad are preparing to compete in their local schools' tournament at the end of term. We wish them every success.

There is plenty to look forward to as the season continues, with the school set to host the National GSA tournaments next term. It will be a fantastic opportunity to welcome teams from across the country to our pitches and to showcase the strength of football within the school community. Naturally, there will be great excitement in the hope of a home success.

It has been a season defined by resilience, perseverance and continued development. Despite the challenges posed by the weather, the enthusiasm and commitment of our players have ensured that football continues to grow, and we look forward with anticipation to what the next term will bring.

## Swimming and Waterpolo

Swimming has continued to go from strength to strength this term, with pupils demonstrating great commitment in training and achieving impressive results in competition. Our swimmers have enjoyed a busy and successful programme, competing in events such as the Warwick 50s and the Bath and Otter Cup, held at the Olympic pool in London. Across these competitions there have been a number of excellent individual performances, and the team results have been equally commendable. The squad finished 4th at the Warwick 50s and an outstanding 8th out of 78 schools at the Bath and Otter Cup Finals — a particularly impressive achievement given the youthful nature of the team.

The strength and depth of our swimming programme is also clearly reflected in the success of our water polo teams. Competing

against both girls' and boys' teams from across the country, our players have performed superbly, demonstrating skill, resilience and excellent teamwork. It has been especially pleasing to see the depth of talent across multiple age groups.

This season, King's High has achieved the remarkable feat of being represented across all major age-group competitions. The U13 team, having been crowned Regional Champions, will compete in the National Finals later in the term. In addition, both the U15 and U18 teams have qualified for the National Plate Finals, an outstanding accomplishment.

The U18 team have already competed in their finals and delivered an excellent performance. Despite being significantly younger than many of their opponents, they rose to the challenge admirably, narrowly missing out on a place in the final after a closely contested semi-final. They responded with great determination in the third-place play-off, producing a superb performance to secure the bronze medal — a tremendous achievement.

With the U15 and U13 teams still to compete in their respective finals, there is much to look forward to. We wish them every success as they continue what has already been an exceptional season.

This has been a term of impressive progress and achievement in both swimming and water polo. The dedication of our pupils, combined with their enthusiasm and competitive spirit, continues to drive the programme forward, and we are incredibly proud of all that has been accomplished.

## Tennis

Despite the tennis season not yet being in full flow our U16 team have represented the school superbly. Having won the league they drew Rugby School in the knockout stages of the competition. The team took a 6-0 victory and rightfully booked their place in the Regional Finals in Nottingham.

In the semi-final they played Lincoln Minster school and proved too strong for them on this occasion with an emphatic victory. It set up a final against Ellesmere College. Despite some very tight matches Ellesmere just edged us out of the title on this occasion. Congratulations to all players in the squad who finished as Regional Runners-up. We look forward to more tennis next term and perhaps even some sunshine to go with it!

## In Summary

This term has marked the culmination of an extraordinary range of competitions across multiple sports and age groups, and it is no exaggeration to say that it has been the most successful season in King's High's 147-year history.

Across the term, our pupils have qualified for and competed in an exceptional 11 National Finals, securing four National titles and two bronze medals, with a further four finals still to come. At regional level, our teams have represented Warwickshire in five Regional Finals, while at county level the school has achieved a remarkable clean sweep — winning every county tournament entered in hockey, netball and indoor athletics.

Such sustained success across so many sports is truly unprecedented and reflects not only the talent of our pupils, but also their commitment, resilience and ambition. Above all, it is a testament to the spirit with which they represent the school.

We are incredibly proud of each and every student who has worn the King's High colours this term, and we look forward with great excitement to what lies ahead.

# Foundation

## Foundation Concerts

The Foundation Chamber Music Concert and Spring Concert were both a great success. A huge thank you to all the staff who supported the events and rehearsals, and to our amazing students for their breathtaking performances.



## Launch of Summer Orchestra Course



This term, we introduced our new Summer Orchestra Course which takes place in July.

Designed for girls and boys who want to take their music-making to the next level, this exciting summer opportunity offers two tailored streams for beginners and intermediate instrumentalists.

During the course, young musicians will:

- Develop a host of new skills
- Learn from a range of expert staff
- Gain new techniques to further their playing
- Grow in confidence as they perform in a pupil-led concert at the end of the course.

All this takes place in a friendly, supportive environment where pupils will make like-minded new friends and can enjoy making music in the Foundation's first-class facilities.



Book here

## Hedgerow Heroes Plant for the Future



Warwick Schools Foundation was proud to partner with Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) and the Warwick Schools Foundation Multi-Academy Trust to plant more than 120 metres of new hedgerow.

The project forms part of CPRE's nationwide initiative, Hedgerow Heroes, launched in 2021 to support the national campaign to increase the number of hedgerows by 40% by 2050. Hedgerows play a vital role in supporting biodiversity, capturing carbon, and improving our natural landscapes, making them an important focus for environmental action.

## Sharing Eco Stories

Members of the Eco Council at Warwick Prep School visited King's High School to meet Year 8 students in the library and hear their eco stories.

The students shared their ideas on sustainability, recycling, and ways to protect the environment, and the Councillors really enjoyed catching up with some familiar faces!



## Orchestra of the Swan



Warwick Hall welcomed a full house for a memorable evening in March with the Warwick Schools Foundation's resident ensemble, Orchestra of the Swan. The concert marked the final performance in their 2025/26 series, Four Notes and the Truth, featuring special guest and internationally acclaimed cellist Sterling Elliot.

The audience was completely absorbed from start to finish, you could have heard a pin drop, with resounding applause to follow for Sterling Elliot and the Orchestra of the Swan musicians.

We look forward to welcoming Orchestra of the Swan back to Warwick Hall in June as they celebrate a significant milestone: the orchestra's 30th anniversary, honouring an extraordinary musical journey.

Stay tuned for further announcements about the new season, there will truly be something for everyone to enjoy.

Tickets for the 30th anniversary concert are now available at [bridgehousetheatre.co.uk](http://bridgehousetheatre.co.uk)

# A word from the Principal



It has been a short but exceptionally vibrant term. As I write this, the sounds of the Foundation Concert are still ringing in my ears, and the events of the last week of term, which always create a wonderful crescendo on the campus as we head towards the holidays, are yet to take place.

We have now completed our first cycle of the new inspection framework. It is quite something that the schools on this site have all achieved a much coveted and rarely awarded 'significant strength', with The Kingsley School's report yet to be published. From Early Years at Warwick Prep, Changemaking at King's High, and co-curricular and leadership roles at Warwick School, the depth and breadth of the educational expertise and the opportunities for our pupils across our schools which flow from that, is something about which we can all be proud.

Our work together as schools also deepens year on year. The Junior Foundation Symphony Orchestra is now an established part of our musical calendar, as is The King Henry VIII Consort, which links the Foundation, St Mary's and The King Henry VIII Endowed Trust, Warwick. It is the living embodiment of a tripartite relationship which has existed since 1545, when the Trust was established and a new charter for Warwick School was granted.

Sharing the best of our combined expertise across the schools for the benefit of every pupil, is an important and unique part of how we develop our provision. A particularly important joint initiative is the Foundation Digital Wellbeing Morning for all Year 7s at each of our three schools, taking place on the last day of term. This event has been designed to support students in developing safe, informed, and healthy habits in their use of digital technology, including: 'understanding algorithms', 'managing screen time', and 'taking back control'.

It simply remains to wish you all a happy Easter break and to thank you for your continued support, which enables your children and our schools to thrive.

**Richard Nicholson**  
Foundation Principal

Warwick  
Schools  
Foundation



Enabling transformation through the power of education

## OGA Lunch



Head Girl, Paige, gave the vote of thanks to Mrs Jackie Anderson, KHS Head Mistress, 1987-2001, when she returned as Guest Speaker at the OGA Annual Lunch and AGM on Saturday 21 March.

## Igniting Futures – Unlocking the Next Generation

King's High transforms lives through the power of education. We are proud to offer around 130 bursary places across our Foundation family of schools. These bursaries enable children from a wide range of backgrounds to benefit from a Foundation education. We want to be a force for good locally, helping children beyond our school gates to benefit from educational opportunities.

In partnership with other schools and charitable trusts, we run science workshops, maths tuition programmes, drama, music, singing, arts and sports taster classes. We provide swimming lessons for local families who would struggle to cover this cost themselves, and we fund spaces on our holiday activity programmes. As a non-profit charity, and with no government funding, we contribute what we can but rely on philanthropy to fund much of this work.

### Summer Extravaganza

On 18-19 June 2026, we will be holding a fundraising extravaganza at King's High to celebrate the difference we have already been able to make through our bursary programme, thank those who have contributed, and launch our long-term campaign to raise enough money to fund another 100 free places. Look out for more details over the summer term, and thank you to everyone who has already helped to make a difference to our students now and in the future.



# King's High School

King's High School  
Banbury Road  
Warwick CV34 6YE

t: 01926 494485 f: 01926 403089  
e: [khs-enquiries@warwickschools.co.uk](mailto:khs-enquiries@warwickschools.co.uk)

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

 [kingshighwarwick](https://www.facebook.com/kingshighwarwick)

 [kingshigschoolwarwick](https://www.instagram.com/kingshigschoolwarwick)

