

KING'S HIGH NEWS

SUMMER 19



FEATURING:

140 YEARS OF KING'S HIGH

CLASSIC FM'S CATHERINE BOTT
ON HER DAYS AT KING'S

2019 SHOWCASE SCHOOL

SPORT, DRAMA, MUSIC

AND MUCH MORE...

KING’S HIGH: 140TH BIRTHDAY

The newsletter went to press before the Birthday Weekend Celebration events, but here is a reminder of some of the ways King’s has been celebrating throughout the year.

FOUNDERS AND BENEFACTORS’ SERVICE

The King’s High and Warwick Prep school community gave thanks for 140 years of education, in a splendid Founders and Benefactors’ Service at St Mary’s, Warwick. The Bishop of Warwick, Right Reverend John Strogan, gave the Address, and the service was attended by the Lord-Lieutenant of Warwickshire, Timothy Cox; High Sheriff, Simon Miesegaes, and the Mayor of Warwick. Pupils recounted King’s High’s history, from the first days, when 22-year-old Miss Fisher opened her school for 22 girls on Smith Street, to the forthcoming move to the new King’s High this September. Time capsules, prepared by the girls, received a special blessing. A particular highlight for many was Warwick Prep Senior Choir’s lovely performance of *Amazing Grace* (in a different arrangement from usual), accompanied by King’s High’s musicians.



140TH BIRTHDAY CAKE COMPETITION

Lucy Wallace (Year 8) won the 140th Birthday Cake Competition. Girls were invited to devise a recipe, and make a decorated cup cake. The winner’s cakes would be served on the school’s official birthday (29 April). Girls rose to the challenge, producing delicious cakes – and a lot of blue icing. Some girls even experimented with using mulberries (in homage to King’s High’s mulberry tree), before deciding they tasted too bitter. Lucy produced a crowd-pleaser: a vanilla

chocolate chip cupcake, beautifully iced, and topped with a delicate King’s High crown. This became a real labour of love, when Lucy cut out – by hand – over 700 little crowns to decorate her winning cakes. On being asked how long it took her, she replied diplomatically: ‘A while.... But I really, really love baking!’. King’s High Chef, Christophe Charpentier and his catering team helped Lucy prepare and serve her cakes on the school’s birthday.



VICTORIAN DAY

King’s High opened its door to girls in 1879, the year that saw the battle of Rorke’s Drift, *Pirates of Penzance*, and the first women undergraduates make their way through Oxford University. To mark the school’s official birthday, King’s held a Victorian Day, to celebrate 140 years of educating girls, and honour the pioneers of girls’ education. Pupils and staff held a day of Lessons, Drills and Deportment, such as girls might have experienced back in 1879. Other activities included cross-stitching and rag curling. Dr Grist, in billowing robes, led activities on Victorian pharmacy and medicine with Year 8.

In Assembly, girls and staff time-travelled back to Victorian times. They prayed for Queen Victoria, Prime Minister Disraeli, and British troops fighting in Afghanistan, and learned about the Queen’s interest in the latest technology – the telephone – and London’s new invention, the mobile home. Miss Gilbert transformed into a formidable Drill teacher, leading the girls in exercises. Head of History, Mrs Wellman, re-enacted the role of Miss Fisher, King’s High’s first Headmistress.

HEAD MASTER’S INTRODUCTION

In writing this Introduction, I am mindful not only of all that has been achieved this term (of which this publication can but scratch the surface) but of all there is to come as term ends, when we will bid the fondest of farewells to Smith Street, our home for the last 140 years, and prepare for our extraordinary new adventure on the Foundation site.

In highlighting the academic, cultural, and sporting successes of the past three months, we should not forget the tremendous work of our Year 11s and Upper Sixth in preparing for their public examinations; their victories will be rightly celebrated in August, but it is right to mark their dedication and perseverance here and now.

In so many ways, this term’s news captures the essence of King’s: a community striving to be the best we can in all that we do, and supportive of each other’s gifts and talents. However, we know that central to all that we achieve is our wellbeing and happiness. It is therefore particularly humbling that we have been selected as a Showcase School by the Diana Award, a programme which has at its heart peer-led training and support.

As we prepare for our Birthday Weekend, the final days of term will be filled with ‘lasts’. The last lunch, the last assembly, the last time we walk through the Blue Door. But it will end with a ‘first’: our first assembly in the new Quad. That final act of the academic year heralds the start of our new, transformative journey. I know that we will seize all the opportunities which lie ahead as we join our Foundation sisters and brothers, releasing our tremendous energy and spirit in our new home. Spiritus Reget.



Key Dates – Autumn Term 2019 and Spring Term 2020			
Staff Inset day	Monday 2 September	Staff Inset day	Monday 6 January
Staff Inset day	Tuesday 3 September – with attendance for Year 7 and Lower Sixth girls	Term Begins	Tuesday 7 January
Term Begins	Wednesday 4 September	Half Term	Monday 17 February – Friday 21 February
Half Term	Monday 21 October – Friday 1 November	End of Term	Thursday 2 April (4.00pm)
End of Term	Thursday 19 December (12.15pm)		

KING'S HIGH 2019 SHOWCASE SCHOOL: DIANA AWARD YOUTH CHARITY



King's High has been designated a 2019 Showcase School for the Diana Award charity – one of four schools selected nationally. The Diana Award was set up in memory of Diana, Princess of Wales, and is supported by her son, HRH The Duke of Cambridge. The charity promotes young people, through its mentoring, anti-bullying, and online safety programmes. King's High pupils elected to train with the Diana Award, then set up their own Cyber Mentors and Wellbeing Ambassadors in school. Students from every year group are involved, and Gigi Thomas serves on the Diana Award's national youth board.

A Diana Award film crew visited school, to capture some of the work students have organised: from arranging Speed Friending, New Pupil Breakfasts, and setting up a Wellbeing Club, to organising creative and digital campaigns, giving online safety talks to pupils and parents, and delivering the Diana Award's *Be Strong Online* project across the school. Pupils will receive the award, and present the film at Facebook HQ in London, before a distinguished audience.

THIS GIRL CAN: OXBRIDGE APPLICATIONS



Record numbers of girls have been preparing applications for Oxford and Cambridge. Dr Seal, Head of Academic Enrichment, reports: 'Lower Sixth have impressed this year with their serious, hard-working approach to Oxford and Cambridge applications. Our weekly after-school sessions focusing on the process of applying have included seminars led by current Oxbridge graduate students. The girls have also been meeting weekly with subject mentors from King's staff, focusing on wider reading and high level thinking skills. It's hugely exciting to see how high aspiration leads to motivation, progress, and

a culture of unabashed intellectual excitement. All in all, Lower Sixth are leading the way and shaping the academic culture at King's.

The latest step in the girls' journey was a mock exam in the style of admissions tests that Oxford and Cambridge set to applicants. 'Hard' doesn't quite cover it when it comes to these tests. They require quick thinking, sustained focus, and the ability to think clearly under pressure. It's wonderful that so many of our Lower Sixth are up for this mind-widening challenge, and we wish them well as they continue working towards their goals.'

THE INTERVIEW: CATHERINE BOTT

The world-renowned Soprano, Classic FM and BBC Radio 3 Presenter, and King's High Old Girl, talks to Sophie Quinn, Charlotte Isbell and Annabel Ledgard about schooldays, singing and success.

Did you sing at school, and if so, did starting young help you?

I joined Junior Choir as soon as I got to King's High, and made the wonderful discovery that although I was no good at sightreading to play the piano (I had more or less given up piano by then, as I was too lazy and didn't practise), I found I could sightread single vocal lines with words. I sang in Senior Choir, and a Madrigal group that met after school, where we sang special arrangements. Those were the ensembles I really enjoyed singing in, and it was one of the ways I discovered I had a good voice. I think the younger you start at anything the better, because you get into the habit, and it becomes an essential part of your life. I used to do singing lessons down the road from King's. I still remember the experience of walking to my lessons in what felt like seven league boots, because I loved it. It didn't feel like work, but I was prepared to work at it.

Did you do other things at school as well as Music?

Sport was not my forte. It was compulsory up to what is now Year 11. I was one of only two left-handed girls in my class, and defeated my tennis teacher's efforts. I was rotten at rounders and – worst of all – hockey. My goodness, I hated hockey. The games teacher never knew my name, she just addressed me as 'Stupid Right Inner!' Walking is my sport now. I'm a very good long distance walker.



Did you have a favourite subject at school?

English. Always English. My original plan was to read English Literature at university, and become expert in some arcane aspect of the 19th Century Novel. (It sounds very pretentious!) I discovered George Eliot at just the right age, and thought she was the most magnificent writer. I really loved English. I worked hard at it, and did very well.

Do you play any instruments?

I was a very bad pianist. I took up clarinet briefly, but the only instrument I ever really wanted to play was bassoon. The bassoon often gets really good lines to play, and it's a very warm, friendly-sounding instrument. King's High is a really great school for music now, but it wasn't really in my day, and my parents weren't inclined to take it further. As I listened to far more pop than classical music, they quite sensibly declined to buy a bassoon, although I was miffed at the time.

Were you interested in radio presenting as well as Music?

I was brought up listening to radio. We didn't have a telly until I was 11, and there were lots of childrens' radio programmes back then. I used to think it would be really nice to work in radio one day, but didn't give it much thought, then got involved in my singing career. Radio came along later by chance – I was very lucky.

Where has been your favourite place to perform?

I have sung in wonderful concert halls in Vienna, South America, Japan. But for excitement, it has to be the Royal Albert Hall. You go out on stage and it's huge, and red, and full of faces, and that never loses its drama. I haven't sung there for a long time, but I often compered concerts for the BBC and just going out on stage is still pretty exciting. It's not great for acoustics, but it's a great performance experience. Tied equally with the chapel of King's College, Cambridge. I've been lucky enough to sing there, and you feel your sound going up to heaven, you really do. It feels quite a blessed experience to sing there.

What would you do on a typical day at home (if you ever have one)?

I would lie about and read. All day.

Who is your favourite composer, and why?

I'm on record as saying I wanted to be a professional singer to sing Bach, who was – and remains – my all-time *Desert Island* composer. It didn't quite work out. Bach forgot singers are wind instruments and he writes very complicated music and gives you nowhere to breathe! Purcell is one of the greatest songwriters ever. And Benjamin Britten. I couldn't really live without Schubert, but I enjoy exploring all sorts of things. I recently bought an album by Philip Glass and find it absolutely addictive. So keep your ears open!



What have you learned on your journey to becoming a famous singer?

Moderately famous singer! I think I would say trial and error. Being a big fish in a small pond, then going to London and being a small fish in a big pond, was a bit of a shock. For me, the hardest thing was going to study music at Guildhall, and finding out how good I was! I began singing in quite a niche area – baroque and early music, which led to other things. But I think there's always an element of trial and error – you work things out for yourself.

What would you tell your schoolgirl self?

Be braver. You are stronger than you know, and my advice to schoolgirls everywhere is don't be afraid to stand up for yourself – ever.

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NASA CALLS ON ELEANOR

Kathy Laurini, NASA's Head of Manned Space Flight and Explorations, and Senior Advisor to the International Space Station, telephoned Eleanor Griffin (Upper Sixth), to invite her to present a draft treaty to the International Astronautical Congress in Washington DC. Eleanor drew up a draft international treaty for a system of governance to colonise Mars for her A Level Extended Project Qualification.

Eleanor says: 'Our grandparents were the generation that put man on the moon. Our parents were the generation that assembled the International Space Station. As the next generation, it seems only logical we are the people to make humanity an interplanetary species. I'm passionate about conservation. This is all about making sure the land and resources of Mars are conserved. I studied some fifty international treaties, but couldn't find anything out there with reference to Mars. So I thought I would write my own.' She has been invited to present her proposed treaty to NASA in October.

Last year, Eleanor led the first ever student-led application for a live radio link-up with the International Space Station. The link-up was streamed worldwide from King's High's Hall, and girls from King's High and Warwick Prep talked to US astronaut, Ricky Arnold as he sped over Europe, aboard the International Space Station. Eleanor spoke about her experience on BBC Earth's podcast, *Looking Up*.



GOLD AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE

The Duke of Wessex, and five-times Paralympian, Marc Woods congratulated Katie Rankin, Libby Feller, and Ellie Birks on their Duke of Edinburgh Gold awards at Buckingham Palace. Katie reports: 'Being invited to Buckingham Palace was certainly a memorable way to celebrate our achievement. Team GB swimmer, Marc Woods spoke about becoming a Paralympic champion, and presented us with our certificates, and we were all introduced to the Duke of Wessex. The whole experience was unforgettable, and thoroughly enjoyable. Much like Bronze and Silver D of E, you have to complete the volunteering, physical, and skills sections, as well as a five day, four night expedition. For the five day residential, I chose a cookery course, to develop my skills for university.' Bronze, Silver and Gold Duke of Edinburgh pupils have all been out on practice expeditions this term, with the Silver teams braving a particularly cold trip in the Peak District.



Fourteen pupils from Years 7-9 entered BBC Radio 2's *500 Words* story competition, as one of their 'Inspire' projects. *500 Words*, launched by

Chris Evans, is the UK's most successful short story-writing competition for children, and the BBC received 134,790 entries last year. Zoe Ball announced the winners on her *Breakfast Show*, live from Windsor Castle with HRH The Duchess of Cornwall.

The girls wrote some brilliant stories – original, funny, sad, thought-provoking – and edited and produced their own anthology, which they distributed to friends and family, and displayed in the library. As the hard-working Editorial team, Jashany, Charlotte, Neha, Megan, and Sophie, say: 'There were lots of wonderful stories, all very entertaining. From lost cats to evil gates, we really did have it all!' King's Old Girl, Flo Hatton (currently heard broadcasting on the Arts on Soho Radio), is an Assistant Producer on Radio 2's *500 Words*.

BBC RADIO 2



FUTURE BUSINESS LEADERS: YOUNG ENTERPRISE SUCCESS

King's High and Warwick School's Young Enterprise teams have enjoyed some of their best results in recent years. Team Imperium progressed through to the West Midlands Regional Finals. They won Runner Up Company, together with the Best Marketing award. Judges were impressed by their innovative product, an interactive exam revision pack, *Stress Less* and the team's vision for developing their product in the future. Mr Nicholson commented: 'This was the result of a huge amount of work from the business leaders of the future.'

This followed a successful campaign by all the Young Enterprise teams. At the Coventry & Warwickshire Finals, Teams Ambient and Fresco won awards for their imaginative, sustainable campaigns: making products from clothing destined for landfill, and making jewellery, out of recycled bottles from Ghana.



WARWICKSHIRE POLICE WINNER

Evelyn Grey won first prize in Warwickshire Police's Creative Writing Competition (Over 12 category), for Safer Internet Day. Evie reports: 'My poem *Isolated* was inspired by the story of 12-year-old Rachel Steven. I am very grateful to be a part of a community that recognises how important it is to stamp out bullying. Part of my prize was for myself and my 7G classmates to spend the day with Warwickshire Police at their Headquarters. We had a fantastic time, the highlights being meeting the police dogs, learning about forensic science, and releasing Mrs Watson from the back of a police van!'



GUIDE DOGS VISIT WELLBEING CLUB

The 'Ahhhs' went off the scale when Wellbeing Club organised a visit from Guide Dogs, Jeffers and Tigger. Girls have been fundraising to support Guide Dogs UK. Sapphire from Lower Sixth also designed a beautiful card to present with the donation.



LANDOR ASSOCIATION: MEDICAL CAREERS

The Landor Association held a Medical Careers Networking Evening for girls, parents, Governors, staff, and friends of King's High and Warwick Prep. The speakers reflected the breadth and depth of this community. They were: Doctor, Harriet McGrath (King's High Old Girl); Surgeon, Professor Damian Griffin (King's High Parent and Governor); Gillian Burn, Nurse, Midwife, Health Visitor and Master Practitioner in Neuro-linguistic programming (and King's High Old Girl); Dentist, Dr Naomi Shearing (King's High Old Girl); Dr Dhushyanthan Surendra Kumar, Flight Doctor with Thames Valley Air Ambulance, and Director of Clinical Audit for the Trauma Audit and Research Network (and King's High Parent); Physiotherapist, Susannah Solt (King's High Parent), and Ward Manager, Marcia Brown (Friend of King's High).

Charlotte Quinn, (Lower Sixth, and a UK School Ambassador for Medic Mentor) reports: 'It was a truly fascinating evening – incredibly diverse – and we were introduced to the realities of Medicine. The speakers' experiences ranged from volunteering as a dentist in Botswana; designing the medical centre for the Abu Dhabi Grand Prix; delivering a baby at 3,000 feet; leading a research team in new innovative orthopaedic surgical procedures. We all made the most of the networking opportunities.'

WORLD CHEERLEADING CHAMPIONSHIPS



Sam Townsend and Phoebe Doncaster competed in the Cheerleading World Championships – 'Cheerleading Worlds' – in Florida. The Championships attract over 9,000 'Cheer Athletes' from around the world. Phoebe and Team England Juniors won Gold, beating Japan and Austria. Phoebe was one of the 'basers' – catchers – in Team England's four-girl team. Their winning routine comprised two main 'stunts', as they are called, along with standing and running tumblers, dance routines, 'baskets' (where the 'flyer' is thrown up, twisting in the air), and a spectacular 'pyramid'. Phoebe has her sights set on the Los Angeles Olympics, where cheerleading will be a recognised sport.

MATHEMATICS PRESENTATION EVENING

King's High, Warwick Prep, and Warwick School pupils delivered a brilliant Mathematics Presentation Evening at King's. Topics ranged from Twin Primes to Infinity. From the youngest pairings from Warwick Prep – Jess and Lixu on Pi, Charlotte and Tamira on Infinity, Veda and Ottelia on 0 – to Joana Simango, Caitlin Hughes, Elisia Sellar, Emily Clarke, Krithi Amarnath presenting 'Cheryl's birthday', and Sofia Perez, Charlotte Syson and Caitlin Hughes explaining 'Secret Santa', it was a fascinating, mind-stretching occasion.



WOMAN WHO ACHIEVES: 'RISING STAR'

Martha Sandford (Lower Sixth) was named Winner in the *Woman Who Achieves 'Rising Star'* awards, supported by Coventry University. The awards are run by *The Woman Who* network, which recognises and supports the achievements of women in business. The '*Rising Star*' category is open to anyone studying at school, college or university, or starting careers on a recognised Training Programme or Apprenticeship. Martha, aged 16, was up against candidates from JLR, Rolls Royce, and Derby University. Martha was recognised for her Marketing skills, and her work as Managing Director of the award-winning Young Enterprise team, Imperium.

HOUSE DRAMA

The whole school enjoys the House Drama competition, with plays and sketches written, devised and produced by the girls. There were some great performances, and Dench and Rowling shared the honours. This year, King's welcomed back Old Girls, Connie Powell, Fenella Twohig-Howell and Amber Hourigan, as judges.



SHINE MEDIA AWARDS: PULSE MAGAZINE

King's High's student magazine *Pulse* explored the theme of Time. Elukchana Vivekananthan reports: 'I am so proud to have been the leader of *Pulse* magazine this year. It has been an absolutely amazing experience seeing the publication from the initial stages of planning and templating, to designing, producing, and selling the final product. *Pulse* magazine's Art, Writing and Design teams have been phenomenal and *Pulse* would not have been possible without each and everyone's input. Special thanks to Nina, Amber and Elukchiha. We were very excited to be shortlisted for the Shine Media Awards – it is a huge honour and we are so pleased to have all our hard work recognised.' Proceeds from the magazine's sale went to Age UK.



KING'S LINKS: UNIVERSITY TRIPS

Who knows student life better than a student? The King's Links/Inspire university programme offers pupils the chance to visit universities with former King's High girls who are studying there. Following a trip to Cardiff, girls visited Oxford and Cambridge this term. Polly Beidas reports on the Oxford trip: 'Senior King's High girls experienced student life in the 'City of Dreaming Spires'. The day began with a walking tour of Oxford, sampling the delights of Balliol College, Blackwell's bookshop (also celebrating its 140th anniversary this year) and Christ Church Gardens, before a splendid lunch at St Hilda's College. Girls were able to quiz Old Girls already studying at Oxford, with representatives from Lincoln, St John's, St Hugh's and University Colleges advising them on which colleges to choose, interview technique, and quirky college traditions. The afternoon was spent in Old Girl-led tours of University College and St John's College.'



Lower Sixth Biologists have recently returned from a five day Field Trip to Slapton Ley, Devon. The girls put classroom theory into practice: sampling terrestrial and freshwater invertebrates in various woodland micro-habitats; analysing how tides affect the distribution of marine organisms on a rocky shore; and investigating succession on a shingle ridge. Much cake was eaten; many snails were hunted; and after the newly learnt scientific word-of-the-week was spelt out on the beach in human form, the girls returned to Warwick!

SUMMER HOLIDAY: EXPLORE THE WORLD IN LANGUAGES

The British Council's *Languages for the Future Report* states: 'An in-depth study, drawing on the views of more than 600 employers, found that UK nationals without language skills lose out. Our ability to succeed in a competitive global environment will be even more dependent on having a workforce which is fit for purpose.'

King's High has long flown the flag for Languages. (Back in the 1930s, King's High was one of the first schools to teach Russian). This extends beyond the classroom, with a wide range of Languages-based trips, that combine 'immersion' (exchanges, homestays), with culture and sight-seeing. (On a homestay – unlike an exchange – girls stay in pairs with families, rather than on their own). The 20-plus trips King's High offer each year combine many different aspects of the curriculum, including History, Politics, Geography, Sport, Science. Here, we focus on recent trips organised by the Modern Foreign Languages department.

This year saw the most ambitious, and farthest, trip to date, when pupils honed their Spanish in Costa Rica. Kate Gibson, Head of Modern Foreign Languages, says: 'These trips can make such a difference. I really notice, when we do listening tests after the girls return, how they have improved. It's not just about the girls speaking the language, but listening, and taking it in. And it's general transactional vocabulary the girls are using, not just school learning, as girls learn to function in different situations. We also have a huge amount of fun!'

COSTA RICA HIGHLIGHTS



The girls visited a coffee plantation, learned about the importance of coffee to Costa Rica's economy, and sampled the freshest coffee they had ever tasted. On a trip to Costa Rica's important ecotourism destination, the Tilarán Mountain Range, they zip-wired through the cloud forest, home to orchids, coaties, quetzals, the three-wattled bellbird, and some 500 bird and 3000 plant species. Other highlights included: volcanoes, white-water rafting, thermal springs, night-time wildlife drives, a crocodile safari, painting, swimming, learning Costa Rican dances, spotting toucans, tarantulas, and Costa Rica's famous frogs, and buying souvenirs at the biggest shopping centre in Central America.



DEUTSCH-ENGLISCHER AUSTAUSCH MIT DER KING'S HIGH, WARWICK

Girls made new friends and experienced German life and culture first hand, on this year's German exchange with our partner school, Antoniuskolleg in Neunkirchen-Seelscheid, a small town near Bonn, in North Rhine-Westphalia. Girls attended lessons with their German schoolmates, visited Cologne Cathedral, toured Bonn, and – a very important bonding experience on any such trip – went trampolining, at Bonn's equivalent of *Jump In*. Girls were looking forward to hosting their new friends back at King's High.

'I REALLY ENJOYED THE TRIP TO GERMANY, AS I AM MORE CONFIDENT NOW, WHEN COMMUNICATING TO GERMAN SPEAKERS. MY RANGE OF VOCABULARY AND PHRASES HAS IMPROVED GREATLY.'

Maud Beidas, Year 10

NICE HOMESTAY



'I HAD AN AMAZING TIME AND A GREAT EXPERIENCE STAYING IN A GERMAN FAMILY. THE TRIP REALLY HELPED WITH MY GERMAN, AND I COULDN'T WAIT UNTIL THE GIRLS CAME TO ENGLAND SO I COULD SEE THEM AGAIN!'

Hannah Mason, Year 9

PARIS HIGHLIGHTS

Girls enjoyed a boat trip down the Seine; visiting the Eiffel Tower at night; Montparnasse; eating in old-style bistros; shopping in local markets; visits to Notre Dame (before the fire); the Becasuc sweet factory in Boulogne, and the Parc Asterix theme park.



Years 9-11 girls stayed with host families, and had French lessons each day with a local teacher. Other activities included a cooking workshop, making tarte au citron and ganses (a local doughnut speciality); eating tarte au citron in a Michelin starred restaurant; pétanque lessons in the square in St Paul de Vence, and a guided tour of Nice.



'HANNAH GOT A HUGE AMOUNT OF VALUE FROM THE EXCHANGE. SHE WAS LUCKY – SHE HAD A WONDERFUL HOST FAMILY (WHO EVEN SPOKE GERMAN TO HER) AND IT WAS LIKE SHE HAD BEEN FRIENDS WITH HER EXCHANGE PARTNER FOR YEARS. SHE LOVED THE EXPERIENCE OF GOING TO A GERMAN SCHOOL AND CAME BACK MORE MOTIVATED THAN EVER TO LEARN THE LANGUAGE, SAYING SHE WOULD LIKE TO LIVE IN GERMANY WHEN SHE IS OLDER.'

Renate Mason, (Hannah's mother)



BUSHCRAFT: UNDER THE STARS



Year 9's Bushcraft trip at Cornbury Woods is a highlight of their year. Girls enjoyed cooking over a campfire they made themselves, survival first aid, and building shelters from tarpaulins and foraged wood, with many girls opting to sleep out in their shelters.



PERIOD POVERTY

Maya Evans and Sam Simkin spearheaded a collection of sanitary items in aid of Period Poverty. Donations are distributed nationally to girls and women who cannot afford or access sanitary products. A Survey by Plan International revealed one in 10 girls and women aged 14 to 21 in the UK were unable to afford sanitary products. Congratulations girls, a great cause!

HOBBS SOCIETY

The Sixth Form led Hobbs Society welcomed back Old Girl, Sally Shorthose – leading Intellectual Property lawyer and Brexit commentator – for a talk on Brexit.



PARENT-PUPIL POWER

Madeleine Burrows and her mother, Jane ran the Two Castles race, to raise funds for the India trip. They raised well above their projected target. Along with King's Lower Sixth pupils, Jane and Maddie have been raising money for the rural school in India, Saraswati Shishy Mandir, in the Himalayan foothills. The village built the school 20 years ago to provide education for their children, and it relies entirely on funding from the local community. King's High students are visiting in July, to assist the 70 pupils, and help with practical projects.



ROMAN DAY: MEETING OUR ANCESTORS

Mr Grier (History) reports: 'With the move to Project One Campus fast approaching, King's High girls spent a day getting to know the people who occupied the site around 1800 years ago. Remains of a significant Roman building were discovered in the area around the site, and building ceased until Warwickshire Archaeology had examined and documented everything. The find is of significant archaeological and local historical interest, and our students were among the first to be able to explore some of the finds from the site and begin to draw some conclusions about the people who lived and worked there during the Roman period.

The students were supported in their endeavours by Caroline Rann, the lead archaeologist on Project One Campus, Paul Booth, the former Senior Project Manager for Oxford Archaeology, who has published widely on Roman Warwickshire, and Professor Alison Cooley of the Classics and Ancient History Department at the University of Warwick, as well as members of the History and Classics Departments at King's High and Warwick School. They were also joined by artist and sculptor Liz Middleton who has been commissioned to produce a commemoration of the Roman presence on the site. She ran a brief workshop with the students to explore their thoughts on the connections between ourselves and our Roman Ancestors. Having explored the finds and worked with the archaeologists, the girls set about writing up their findings in the form of a guide book which we hope will be available to visitors to the new King's High School.'



ROCK GIRL: INDIA PLAYS GUITAR

India Mansfield (Lower Sixth) took to the stage with indie rock band, Snail Mail, following an interview she conducted for *BBC Radio Coventry and Warwickshire*. India, who is planning a career in the music industry, approached Matador Records to ask if she could interview the band, when they played The Hare and Hounds in Birmingham. Snail Mail's Lindsey Jordan ('indie-rock prodigy' – *Rolling Stone*) invited India on stage to play her acoustic guitar with them. India reports: 'I'm hoping to do more interviews, and create a three-part series for BBC Radio. My future career goal is to work as an A&R (Artists and Repertoire) for a record company in London. This was the first interview I had ever done, and also my first ever live performance.' India was in good company. The Hare and Hounds (UB40 played their first ever gig there) has become a renowned music venue in recent years, hosting artists such as Ed Sheeran, George Ezra and Goldie.



INSPIRE: THEATRE, TRIPS, THINKING

Dr Seal reports: 'The Inspire Programme has continued apace during the Summer Term, with an array of trips, competitions, events and other opportunities designed to help the girls to grow as independent, creative thinkers. Year 10 and above experienced the wonders of Oxford, including tours from King's girls now studying as undergraduates, and Years 7, 8 and 9 spent time learning about life in Newnham College Cambridge. Our RSC trips to *The Taming of the Shrew* and *Measure for Measure* have prompted delight and debate. Student-led research has continued to thrive, with some serious competition successes, as well as a collection of extremely impressive research projects from Year 10 in their Create sessions. We now look forward to what Years 7, 8 and 9 produce as part of their essays for the Inspire Essay Competition. Last year's Year 7 winning essay was on the topic of reading for pleasure, a theme that was picked up by Dr Paula Byrne in her fascinating *Inspire Lecture* on the link between slow reading and mental health. It has been a wonderful year so far, and we look forward to seeing the continued growth of academic enrichment at King's as we look towards the move to Myton Road.'



RAG WEEK



Rag week in May was a fun, fundraising event for our Upper Sixth before leaving for study leave. Fancy dress themes included – first letter of your name, Disney, school uniform and pink day.



EPQ: FIRING IMAGINATIONS

Twenty-five Lower Sixth girls planned, researched, produced, and presented 5000-word Extended Projects. The Extended Project Qualification – or 'EPQ', as it is known – is worth half an A Level, and forms an important part of UCAS applications each year. This year's topics included: Tourism and the Bilbao Effect, Feminism in rural Northern India, Music in Soviet Russia, Prison Welfare, Addictive Personalities, Deep Vein Thrombosis, Trojan Horse Therapy, Japanese Language and Gender, the Human Rights Act, the Romanovs, the Gothic Revival, Propaganda, the US housing market crash, Immunotherapy, Sustainable Architecture, and the Rock Music Industry.

COMPETITIONS NEWS

'MOTHER TONGUE, OTHER TONGUE'

Tamil, Italian, German, Spanish and French were the languages girls wrote poems in for the *Mother Tongue, Other Tongue* poetry competition. The former Poet Laureate, Carol Ann Duffy created this multilingual poetry competition, celebrating cultural diversity, and the many languages spoken in schools across the UK. Her project has since been rolled out nationally. Girls entered the *Routes into Languages, West Midlands* competition, as part of their *Inspire* homework. Polly Rumble (7H) and Izzie Gore (9S) were the Key Stage 3 French and Spanish winners in the 'Other Tongue' competition – for 'an original poem written in a language that is not the first language spoken by the writer' – and Hannah Mason won Highly Commended (German).

ELLA FOR HEADSTART

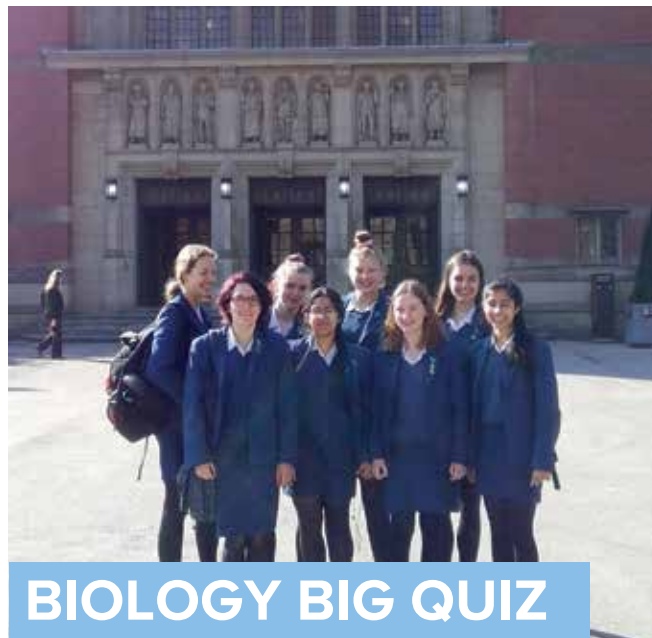
Ella Lawton-Smith has been awarded a place on an Engineering Development Trust 2019 Headstart course at UCL Chemical Engineering. Ella was in competition with over 900 students, so has done incredibly well to be selected.

PUBLISHED POETS



JUNIOR MATHEMATICAL CHALLENGE

Elizabeth Nash and Stana Jude were awarded Gold certificates in the UK Mathematics Trust's *Junior Mathematical Challenge*. They progress to the next level, the 'Kangaroo' competition. The *Challenge* is the UK's most popular mathematics competition, and over 300,000 students take part each year.



BIOLOGY BIG QUIZ

Two teams of Year 10 pupils competed in the Biology Big Quiz at Birmingham University. The girls answered questions on everything biological, from DNA to conservation, competing with other schools from across the Midlands. As part of the day, there was a lecture on the emergence of antibiotic resistance, with some sobering predictions for the future, and special questions on this topic to finish the quiz. The teams performed brilliantly, and were just a couple of marks outside the top three prizes.

Stratford Literary Festival's Young Poets Competition received a huge number of entries this year. Izzie Gore (Year 9) and Erin Byrne (Lower Sixth) entered poems, which were selected to be published in a book, *Young Poets 2019*, on sale at the Festival, and in Waterstones. Both girls braved difficult themes with their poems. Erin, who admires Emily Dickinson 'and all things Gothic', wrote her haunting poem 'after thinking about the limitations of tombstone inscriptions have, in recording people's lives'. Izzie's lyrical poem was inspired by accounts of Holocaust survival.

WARWICK UNIVERSITY SCIENCE

Jade Boardman won the XMaS Scientist Experience competition run by Warwick University. As her prize, she will spend time at the Grenoble science research facilities this summer. She had to write an essay on: *What is the legacy of Dorothy Hodgkin, both in the study of structure on an atomic scale and in championing the cause of women in science?* Jade completed her own research on Hodgkin's discoveries and considered what made her a pioneer.



REGIONAL FINALS: FRENCH SPELLING

Poppy Miners, Natalie Baker and Claudia Evans (Year 7) performed brilliantly in the Foreign Language Spelling Bee Regional Finals. Performing in a Spelling Bee – competing against the clock, under the spotlight – is challenging at the best of times. Competing in another language is even more impressive!

BIOLOGY CHALLENGE

Sixty-five Year 10 girls completed the Royal Society of Biology's Biology Challenge. This prestigious competition takes the format of two multiple choice papers, with questions set on the school curriculum, whilst also rewarding those students whose knowledge of the subject is increased by reading books and magazines, watching natural history programmes, and taking notice of the news for items of biological interest. Almost 50,000 students took part worldwide, and all our pupils were awarded certificates, for scoring highly. Rachel Eslick was awarded the top Gold award.

CHEMISTRY OLYMPIAD

Maya Dhillon, Madeleine Burrows and Eluckchana Vivakananthan were awarded Bronze in the Chemistry Olympiad, run by the Royal Society of Chemistry. The competition is open to anyone over 16, but the (difficult) questions are aimed at students in their final year of school, so our Lower Sixth pupils did exceptionally well.



MUSIC

Girls have been highly successful in local competitions. Anna Leeson (Oboe) and Polly Rumble (Trumpet) were both multiple prize winners at the Leamington Competitive Festival and the King's High recorder consort again took the top prize for instrumental groups.

NEW COLLEGE OF THE HUMANITIES

Renowned philosopher, Professor A C Grayling presented Samantha Simkin (Lower Sixth) with a prize for her winning essay in the New College of the Humanities' Essay Competition.

OXFORD GERMAN OLYMPIAD

Maya Evans (Lower Sixth) was joint-winner in the Oxford German Olympiad. This year's competition theme was *Tiere und Monster*, and Maya's award-winning German essay was about a female monster. Maya attended the prize ceremony at the Bodleian Library. Oxford German Network is supported by, among others, the Goethe Institut, the Austrian Cultural Forum, and the German Embassy.

KING'S ARTS

BUGSY MALONE

The Junior Production, *Bugsy Malone* fizzed with energy and fun, as the whole cast (New York accents spot-on) brought the world of speakeasys, showgirls, and splurge guns to life. Lillian Agnew's Bugsy was a real charmer. Gabrielle Mac was a touching Blowsy, Harriet Kelleher a slinky Tallulah. Charlotte Perry's smooth Dandy Dan – in true Hollywood tradition – was a very English villain. The contrast with Niya Bain's Fat Sam – all comically explosive energy, and oversized suit – made for great comedy, supported by her hapless gang, Freya Dalrymple, Olivia Rickett, Elizabeth Hunt, Lily McElfatrick and Freya Laycock. Dancers, Alodie Rigby, Aimée Gerber, Mia Playdon and Ava McPherson (with fantastic choreography from Maud Beidas) proved a real wow, performing Tap, Contemporary, and a very funny pastiche of *Swan Lake*. The whole cast provided great visual gags, comedy, and real poignancy, including Charlotte Knights' heart-breaking solo as Fizzy. The Junior Production was a combined school affair, with a staff band of musicians, and senior girls, Purdy Blane, Maddie Johnson, Amy Covell, Cecily Thompson and Maud Beidas (all working for Arts Award Gold), Assistant Directing, designing posters, and leading Hair and Makeup, and Choreography.

PUBLIC ART EXHIBITIONS

King's High and Warwick Prep artists held their second public art exhibition at the Old Shire Hall. There was a dazzling array of work, from the very youngest pupils, to A Level Art students. King's High artists also exhibited at St Mary's Warwick.



KING'S MUSIC

SUMMER CONCERT

This has been another busy and successful term in the music department. The Summer Concert featured a large variety of styles, ensembles and choirs. It was a super event in which those leaving us at the end of their school careers were celebrated and thanked. Head Master, Mr Nicholson described the concert as 'Joyous and awesome,'.





RECITAL SHOWCASE

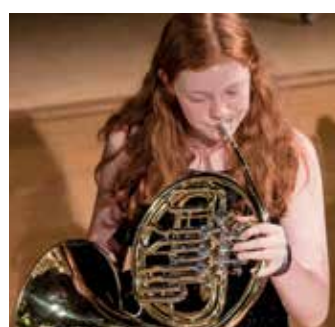
Matilda Harvey performed monumental works by Mozart and Beethoven in the latest of our Recital Showcases at St Mary's Church. The recital was professional and highly impressive.



Rising young Opera star, Juliet Wallace (King's High Old Girl) gave Year 10 singers their own private lesson in singing Opera. Juliet, who trains and performs across Europe, was accompanied by her mother, Mrs Wallace, on piano. Alex Laing, Artistic Director (Music) comments: 'It was wonderful to have Juliet train with our musicians. Her inspiration is clear and infectious.'



KEY STAGE 3 CONCERT



The annual Key Stage 3 concert focussed on our talented younger musicians, with soloists, ensembles and choirs showing us all that the future of King's High music is in very safe hands.



FOUNDATION WOODWIND AND BRASS

Woodwind playing across the Foundation was celebrated in a concert at Warwick Hall, bringing together musicians from across the Foundation with high quality chamber music, solo performances and a spectacular finale, featuring everyone who had performed all at once. Warwick Hall rocked.

MUSICAL HORIZONS

Pianists took centre stage in the latest of our Musical Horizons series. Pieces ranged from Haydn and Bach to more contemporary works and girls performing their own compositions.

YEAR 7 MUSIC WITH INSTRUMENTS

This summer marks the end of the first year where we have been teaching Year 7 music with orchestral instruments. There was a lovely workshop highlighting what the Year group has achieved for their families and supporters.

SUMMER SPECTACULAR

The Foundation Symphony Orchestra has had another successful year under the baton of Mr Laing. The year culminated with their performances at the Summer Spectacular at Warwick Hall and a performance at Symphony Hall in Birmingham, having won this invitation through the Music for Youth Competition. The orchestra hugely enjoyed this prestigious opportunity to perform in one of the best halls in the world.



KING'S SPORT

SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS

Water Polo National Finals

U13s finish 4th in the UK

Midlands School Girls Tennis Tournament

Runners Up and Plate Winners

Midlands Finals

Runners Up, Junior Athletics Team

District Athletic Championships

Champions, Year 9 Athletics Team

County Combined Events (Athletics)

Individual County Champion, Lucia Cassidy

County Combined Events (Athletics)

Runners Up, Junior Athletics Team

County Athletics

County Champion (Triple Jump), Maddie Bromwich

Track and Field Cup

Midlands Finalists, Inter and Junior Athletics Teams

Mason Trophy (Regional Championships)

Selected, Freya Dalrymple and Emma Dobson

British Schools National Claypigeon Championships

Runners Up

World Cheerleading Championships

Team GB Junior Gold, Phoebe Doncaster

England U16 Rounders

Gold, Sophie Foster



KING'S HIGH'S COUNTY CHAMPIONS AND RUNNERS UP



TENNIS: MIDLANDS, NATIONAL, INTERNATIONAL WINS



In the historic, open age-group, Midlands School Girls Tournament at Edgbaston, Lucia Cassidy and Eva Healy were runners up in their competition, and Holly Jaques (Year 7) and Bella Tomlinson (Year 10) won the Plate Competition in their division. Over the Easter holidays, Lucia won the LTA's U12 Grade 2 Nationals at Nottingham, and was runner up in the Doubles. Partnering a girl from Germany, Lucia won the Doubles at the Tennis Europe Vilamoura International U14, in Portugal.



KING'S HIGH CRICKET

King's High Cricket has launched – in a year of World Cup Cricket. Cricket is proving extremely popular, and teams have played fixtures against King Henry VIII and Bablake. While the first King's High Cricket Festival was postponed due to weather, King's High and Warwick Prep pupils played together in a Fun Festival. King's High has three cricketers playing and in training for Warwickshire and Oxfordshire: Molly McCusker, Aimée Gerber and Gaby Waite.



CLAYPIGEON: NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

After winning the William Powell Schools competition, the Claypigeon teams defended their Four Times Crown (2015, 2016, 2017, 2018) at the National British Schools Championships. They came second and third (just five targets behind the winners). All performed really well on a very challenging course in some very changeable weather. The teams are focussing now on regaining 'their' Championship next season! Congratulations to Chloe Goulbourn, Cassie Goulbourn, Nina Mulder-Qureshi, Freja Östlund, Sophie Davies, Elizabeth Organ and Jecca Tetley.



EQUESTRIAN: ROYAL WINDSOR AND NSEA

King's High's new Equine Sports and Skiing Co-ordinator, Samantha Hadley, reports: 'It's been an exciting summer with the horses. The Equestrian Club has been well attended every Wednesday, and it has been a real pleasure, getting to know the girls and their four-legged friends. Many girls have competed for school, their riding clubs and Pony Clubs, both locally and nationally, with great success. The girls have been competing in the qualifiers for the NSEA (National Schools Equestrian Association) Championships at Addington and the SEG (School Equestrian Games) One Day Event Championships at Broadway, both in October. Alice Homer, former Royal Windsor and Horse of the Year Show Champion, had a great Royal Windsor Horse Show. A Masterpiece was placed first in the Maxi Cob class and Miserden Savannah was first in the Working Show Horse. Comperton Coda was reserve champion in the Working Hunter Pony, and Church Rock Cashel came 4th in the Intermediate Show Hunter class.



ATHLETICS: OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCES

There have been outstanding individual performances from Maddie Bromwich and Lucia Cassidy. Maddie was crowned Senior Girls County Champion in Triple Jump, completing a phenomenal year, which also saw her win Henley Netball Club's Outstanding Achievement award. Lucia won Individual Champion at the County Combined Events. Also representing Warwickshire were Catherine Reynolds (200m), Gigi Thomas (1500m), Eloise Dunning (800m), Emma Dobson (1500m), Freya Dalrymple (High Jump, Javelin), Annabelle Wolverson (Long Jump), Maddie Johnson (Discus). At Midlands Finals, the Junior team amassed the highest point total King's High Juniors have ever achieved and are set to finish in the top 30 schools in the country.



CHAMPION SKIER

GB Ski Team prospect, Alina Kozersky-Gillham competes successfully for local regions in the Alps, and qualified for the finals of The Coq d'Or (French national championships) in Alpe d'Huez last season. At the British championships in Tignes, Alina was third in the giant slalom and fourth in the ski cross. She is comfortably in the top five UK U12 skiers (including those who live in France all year). She is aiming to represent GB U14s in 2020/21.

King's High Skiing Club resumes in the Autumn term. At the end of last season, twelve girls took part in the Midland Ski Club Schools' Ski Race, in Birmingham. Scarlet Littell achieved sixth place in the U14 age group. The following received certificates: Sally Oldham, Eva Plevin, Niamh Gillard-Browne, Yasmin Bradley-Farrar, Hannah Perry, Scarlet Littell, Amelia Wiggin, Gabrielle Shearer, Emma Monksfield, Jecca Tetley, India Plevin and Eloise Dunning.



GOLF

In her first tournament after getting her handicap, Taya Ashley-Timms (Year 7) won the Warwickshire (Gold Club) Junior Summer Cup Stableford 18 Hole, beating all the Junior boys and girls.

FENCING

Anne Mynors represented the West Midlands in the Under 14 girls Epee at the British Youth Championships' National Age Group Finals at the England Institute of Sport in Sheffield. She had a good first round, winning three of her six fights, then met one of the top seeds, but fought very well to finish 23rd overall. Sofia Perez qualified for the British Youth Championships in Foil. Some of our youngest fencers, Hope Brotherhood, Krithi Amarnath and Ellen Smith finished fourth in the U12 Foil at the RGS Worcester gala event.

SPORTS AWARDS

GB Cycling Team racer, and Women's World 4X Mountain Bike Series Champion, Hannah Escott presented prizes and colours at the Sports Awards evening. Team of the Year was awarded to the U18 Midlands Finals Netball Squad. Key Stage Awards went to Danni Johnstone, Olivia Kelly and Catrin Treharne.

140 REASONS TO CELEBRATE KING'S HIGH

To mark King's High's 140 years, we have been running a social media campaign – #140reasons – to celebrate King's High girls – past, present and future. Here is a small selection...

- 123** King's High held the first student-led link up with an astronaut aboard the International Space Station in 2018. Pupils spoke with US astronaut Ricky Arnold as he sped over Europe.
- 136** A model of the new King's High school's Music Auditorium was featured in the 2018 Royal Academy Summer Exhibition, curated by Grayson Perry.
- 7** Headmistress Miss Eleanor Doorly (1922 – 1944) spoke seven languages, including Norwegian and Albanian. Her fluent Norwegian led to her working with the Special Operations Executive (SOE) in the Second World War.
- 133** In 2018 King's High was one of the UK schools to feature in the official History of Parliament Trust's Vote100 commemorative album, to mark the centenary of Parliament's The Representation of The People Act, which first gave some women the vote.
- 47** King's High pupil, Abbey-Rose's great-great uncle was awarded the Victoria Cross in World War One. He jumped on a captured German horse, and rode out into No Man's Land to rescue ten wounded men.
- 137** King's High has its own Amateur Radio call sign – GB4KHS – which pupils used to relay messages to the International Space Station.
- 129** King's High is a Guinness World Records Holder for the Most Hockey Players in an Exhibition Match, following a seven hour game organised alongside Warwick Hockey Club and Warwick School.
- 67** Mathematics teacher, Miss Dorothy Dobney, who was King's High's longest serving teacher (1946 – 1987), worked at Bletchley Park during the Second World War.
- 38** The King's High School Old Girls' Association was founded in 1902 to keep former pupils in touch with their friends and with the school. It is the original form of social media! Today, every girl who leaves King's High is automatically a member of the OGA.

- 99** King's High girls witnessed the moment the mantle-clock in the Winter Palace in St Petersburg – stopped at the moment the Russian Revolution began in 1917 – was restarted, to mark the Centenary of the Revolution.
- 132** Five girls from King's High competed in the Finals of Horse of the Year Show, 2017 – thought to be the highest number from any school.
- 119** In 2015, while a pupil at King's High, British Youth Sailing Team's Emma Loveridge was both the World and European 29er Sailing Champion.
- 84** School dances were banned in the 1970s so the girls held 'elimination dances' under the guise of charity fundraising competitions.
- 43** The Countess of Warwick (Frances 'Daisy' Greville), a great favourite of Edward VII, was a friend of Headmistress, Miss Lea and sent her daughters to King's High. The girls would know when she was visiting by the smell of her exotic French perfume.
- 127** King's High pupils swam the English Channel in 2012. They faced giant jellyfish, seaweed and tankers, in the first Channel attempt by schoolgirls in 46 years.
- 19** Pupils in the nineteenth century used to bring their lunches in baskets and pails to be heated up at the Porridge Pot (now Pizza Express) in Warwick.
- 139** King's High held their first Festival of Wellbeing in March 2019. Leading choir, Ex Cathedra led a day of Singing Wellbeing.
- 140** King's High girls – past, present, and future.





Over the coming weeks, we are delighted that the new King's High main school building and Sports Centre, Art and Technology building will be handed over to us by Speller Metcalfe. The buildings will receive their 'finishing touches' over the summer holidays along with the shared Sixth Form Centre which will receive its final fit-out ready for the start of the Autumn Term.

Work continues on the new high-tech Music School which is due for completion during Easter 2020. This will be a shared resource for King's High and Warwick Prep, and will house a fully fitted, acoustically designed auditorium seating 144 as well as a recital/practice room, dedicated classrooms and a music technology suite.

Project One Campus will do more than simply provide new buildings, grounds and sport facilities. It will enable our schools to work together more effectively for the sake of our pupils and truly provide the 'best of both worlds'.

To follow Project One Campus in more detail, follow **@POC_WISF** on Twitter or visit **www.projectonecampus.co.uk**



Putting in the "Plus"

One Campus Plus is our campaign to raise £4 million to enable us to add the "Plus" factor to the largest investment the Foundation has ever made in new facilities. This will help us to fully maximise the potential of our campus and ensure that the project delivers our highest aspirations for a truly exceptional environment for all of those who study, work and play here. We have recently surpassed **£500,000** in donations towards the Campaign and we want to keep this momentum up.

Our target of £4 million will go towards upgrades to the new music building and prep play space as well as new sporting facilities. To find out more about the campaign please visit **www.onecampusplus.co.uk** or if you have any questions about this project please contact **Laura Bainbridge**, Development and Landor Association Manager **l.bainbridge@kingshighwarwick.co.uk**.



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