

KING'S HIGH NEWS

AUTUMN 18



FEATURING:

OLD GIRL – GEMMA
WHELAN: FROM KING'S
TO GAME OF THRONES

**THE SUNDAY TIMES
AWARD**

REMEMBERING
WORLD WAR ONE

FESTIVAL OF IDEAS

SPORT, DRAMA, MUSIC

AND MUCH MORE...



YOUR
JOURNEY
STARTS
HERE

HEAD MASTER'S INTRODUCTION

Even by the standards of King's High, it has been a remarkable term.

A particular focus has been our enrichment programme, with both 'Inspire' events and our annual 'Festival of Ideas' complementing the girls' learning in the classroom. We encourage all the girls to seize these opportunities - they can be transformative.

This has also been the term when the reality of 'Project One Campus' has been much in evidence. We have held events in the new shared Sixth Form Centre, the main school building and the sports and technology 'wrap-around' are rising majestically, and our 140th Birthday Committee and team 'Project Aura' have been busy planning our farewell to Smith Street. All of this is exciting, but it also gives us pause for thought, to reflect on what makes King's so special, and to commit to nurturing our special values in our new home: the environment we are in will change, but the spirit of King's - lived out day by day by the girls and my colleagues - will never change.

It is always a great pleasure when our work as a school community is recognised by others. The past few weeks



have seen King's nominated for two prestigious accolades: Girls' School of the Year by Independent School Parent magazine, and Senior School of the Year by The Times Educational Supplement Independent School Awards. These were capped by the award of West Midlands Independent Senior School of the Year by The Sunday Times. However, it is the individual achievements of the girls which give greatest cause for celebration: be it work in the classroom, competing for the school in one of our myriad sports teams, or performing in a

music ensemble or production. These are the experiences which bring great joy, and help make our school so special.

I hope you enjoy reading about many of the highlights of this term, that you will share our pride in all of the girls' endeavours, and look forward with excitement to 2019.

You can read Mr Nicholson's Blogs on our website at www.kingshighwarwick.co.uk. Go to *Our School* and click on *Head Master's Welcome*.

Key Dates – Spring/Summer Term 2019



Staff Inset Day	Monday 7 January	Staff Inset Day	Tuesday 23 April
Term Begins	Tuesday 8 January	Term Begins	Wednesday 24 April
Half Term	Monday 18 – Friday 22 February inclusive	Half Term	Monday 27 - Friday 31 May
Term Ends	Wednesday 3 April (4.00pm)	End of Term	Wednesday 10 July (12.15pm)



THE SUNDAY TIMES

SCHOOLS GUIDE 2019

WEST MIDLANDS
INDEPENDENT
SECONDARY
SCHOOL
OF THE YEAR

THE SUNDAY TIMES WEST MIDLANDS INDEPENDENT SECONDARY SCHOOL OF THE YEAR

2019 begins with King's High as The Sunday Times West Midlands Independent Secondary School of the Year. The announcement capped a garlanded few months for King's High, with King's being shortlisted as Senior School of the Year in the Tes (formerly the *Times Educational Supplement*) Independent Schools Awards (2019), and Girls' School of the Year in *Independent School Parent* magazine (2019).

Mr Nicholson commented:

'I am absolutely delighted for our girls, staff and parents. This is a tremendous accolade. *Parent Power: The Sunday Times Schools Guide 2019* identifies the highest-achieving schools in the UK. These are determined independently, by reviewing girls' achievements, and the all-round experience we offer.' In the words of our Head Girl, Emma-Jane Taylor-Watts: 'Girls at King's take it as a given they can achieve anything'.



GIRLS LEAD ON WELL-BEING



Girls continue to take a lead in the school's well-being programme, exploring practical ways they can support each other. The school's first cohort of well-being ambassadors received training from the Diana Award charity, to become King's High Cyber Mentors. They give talks to girls and parents about how to use social media sensibly. Girls organised a whole range of events for National Anti-Bullying Week. They designed and photographed a series of daily anti-bullying placards. These were posted digitally, used in form time, uploaded on school screens, and printed for display around school.

Girls supported National Anti-Bullying Week's Odd Socks campaign, and there was an anti-bullying creative competition; dance; debating; PowerPoint presentations,

and an anti-bullying 'wall' of inspirational messages, constructed in the school hall. Taking a proactive lead are: Rosie Swift, Ellie Wiseman, Emma Monksfield, Rose Agnew, Oliva Bussley, Abbie Stanton, Ali Knoedler, Georgie Wilkinson, Anusha Goodman, Abigail Hunt, Saskia Morel, Tara Welch, Thea Miles Hunt, Ellie Blinkhorn, Sapphire Mee-Harris, Martha Sandford, Natasha Bailey, Cecilia Morel, Kate Goodbourn, Leah Townsend, Annabel Wehby, Sacha Taylor, and Grace Pyatt.



FESTIVAL OF IDEAS: BREAKING BOUNDARIES

The theme for this year's Festival of Ideas was 'Breaking Boundaries'. Topics ranged from the Arctic to the Automotive Industry, and from Shakespeare to Sexism. Girls enjoyed a week-long programme of events, workshops, and talks from distinguished speakers, including *The Guardian's* Laura Bates, founder of the Everyday Sexism Project, and Sir Jonathan Bate, Professor of English Literature at Oxford University.

There was a great buzz around each event. The week got off to a flying start with JLR's Orla Murphy, one of *The Telegraph's* 'Top 50 Women in Engineering', who showed how Engineering can combine Science and Arts - in her case, Electronic Engineering and Music. BBC journalist and travel writer Simon Parker talked about Slow Journalism, and gave a graphic account of his adventures in the Pacific Ocean ('a truly hideous place'), while sharing his personal mantra: 'Yes.You.Can.' Polar explorer, Alex Hibbert combined gripping accounts of record-breaking Arctic journeys with some unusual practical advice: when sledging in the pitch

black of an Arctic winter, send a dog out in front, because polar bears are afraid of dogs.

Laura Bates told how her Everyday Sexism Project became a global phenomenon. Her project started life as a blog, cataloguing instances of sexism experienced on a day to day basis, 'from the outrageous to the niggling'. Laura inspired the girls to challenge, and change, behaviour. Linda Jackson, CEO of Citroën Global, and one of only two women in the world leading a car company, delivered her message by video, having been called to China that morning. Named 'the most influential woman in the motor industry' by *Autocar*, Linda inspired girls with her journey, which began with a teenage holiday job, stapling invoices for Rover.

Professor Sir Jonathan Bate gave girls and parents a masterclass on Shakespeare, and revealed his favourite TV programme is Ben Elton's *Upstart Crow* - which stars King's Old Girl Gemma Whelan, who plays loveable Kate to David Mitchell's William Shakespeare.



THE INTERVIEW: GEMMA WHELAN

King's High Old Girl, Actress Gemma Whelan (Game of Thrones, Upstart Crow, The Moorside) talks to Poppy Whittaker and Sharanya Arun.

Gemma, your starring roles at King's High. You played Daisy in Daisy Pulls It Off?

I did! I always loved the drama at King's. I really felt something fit. Let's just say I wasn't hugely academic. After I did the entrance exam, I was put on a waiting list. I had to do an interview, and the Headmistress, Mrs Anderson, said 'I was too shy and retiring!' Happily I did get in, because King's was where I always wanted to go. I pursued anything musical, and craft – I really enjoyed DT – and drama. It sounds a cliché, but drama lit something in me. I felt at home, and thought 'This is what I want to do.'

Who inspired you at King's?

Miss Clark was absolutely pivotal to me, in English and Drama. We had so much fun. It was such a rich, brilliant experience. King's was so good in kickstarting what I absolutely wanted to do. It always felt like everything was possible there. Not in a pretentious way, just that sense of we're going to put in the time and work, and we can do it. Miss Clark gave us such dedication and clarity, and we were so lucky to be part of it.

What do you love about acting? Anything that scares you?

What scares me is not doing a good job. Failing, I suppose - which is very common. The juicier, the more characterful, the stranger the role, the more I'm excited by it. I am a character actor. I'm never going to be a leading lady, which I'm very pleased about, because then hopefully I can have a nice long career. I'm not bargaining on my looks!

What advice would you give about acting as a profession?

I'm very grateful I started a bit later, after university. Sometimes there's an emotional maturity that comes later on, that helps you find your voice as an actor. You can still do things – I started doing stand-up comedy at uni, which really led on to everything else.

How did you come to Game of Thrones?

I started slowly, slowly - going to comedy castings and learning how the business worked. I was casting for a very small comedy show, and the director said 'I think you might be perfect for something I'm casting for HBO', and it was Yara Greyjoy in Game of Thrones. Game of Thrones was brilliant for casting unknowns. I auditioned the following week and was very surprised how many swear words I had to say! I believe they saw 70 girls, and I was just lucky. I had a recall, then had to wait ages. In that television world, every man and his dog has to sign it off, all the way up to the head of HBO. But it opened more doors, and so far I am now a jobbing actor - but I don't ever take it for granted. And of course, Sophie Turner from Game of Thrones is a King's girl. We were on set together once, doing that 'where did you go to school?' thing, and went: 'King's? Oh-my-god-oh-my-god!'

Do you see anything of your character Kate from Ben Elton's Shakespeare comedy, Upstart Crow in you?

The excitable part of Kate's nature is very me! There are definitely aspects of me in all the characters I play, even Karen Matthews in The Moorside, whose life experience was very different to mine. I think that's important, because then you can empathise, and let yourself be vulnerable, and vulnerability is where people are allowed in. Then it's accessible, and truthful. Often I'll watch TV and say to my husband: 'I don't believe her - she's not in.' He'll go 'What on earth do you mean?' and I say: 'She's not in. She's not in her body. I don't believe her.' Then you see a performance you believe in and it's all about vulnerability and truth and empathy, and a complete opening and surrendering of being in that moment. And it's hard. But suddenly something releases, and it's quite magical when you find it.

How is your Shakespeare?

Do you know, that's a huge hole in my experience so far. The only Shakespeare I've done is an Edinburgh show called Shakespeare For Breakfast – a very odd calamity comedy. And Upstart Crow, obviously. Ben Elton is just a genius. Depending on the depth of Shakespeare knowledge you have, that show works on so many levels. I'd definitely be interested in doing more Shakespeare.

What's next for you?

I'm about to do a Pinter play as part of the Pinter season in the West End. I'm very excited and nervous, because it's a two hander and I'm going to be on stage by myself for a lot of it. But it will be nice to tell a story in story order. In television they shoot everything out of order, and it's difficult to pitch your performance. On Game of Thrones, I did my last scene on my very first day. My stage directions began: 'Yara is gnawing on chicken bones.' I'm quite a dedicated vegetarian but I was too nervous to tell them that, so I just threw all my principles out the window and ate chicken all day, trying to pass it off to myself as 'I'm just very Method!'

What advice would you pass on for your daughter?

It sounds a cliché, and I'm not really a luvvie, but it would be follow your heart, follow your instincts. If you really believe you're burning to do something and nothing else will do, go for it. My mum and dad were brilliant, because they were very clear education was paramount, but they didn't squash my dreams. So I'd like to be as supportive as I can to Frances, and educate and guide her. And go with that little nugget deep down that never lies. Often I've gone against my instincts on small things, and invariably thought 'I knew that wasn't right', but I was trying to please someone, or ran out of time. We all do it, and it's part of life, but for the big things, and the things that really matter to you, don't compromise. Be true to yourself. It has not failed me. Thus far!



“King's was so good in kickstarting what I absolutely wanted to do. It always felt like everything was possible there.”

INSPIRE: DREAMING SPIRES

Dr Phil Seal, Head of Academic Enrichment and Research, writes: 'It has been another exciting term for the Inspire Programme. A group of Year 7, 8 and 9s visited Christ Church and Balliol Colleges in Oxford, which was followed up by a visit to the New College of Humanities in London for Years 10 and above. We have been lucky to welcome Professor Sir Jonathan Bate for an Inspire Lecture, and cultural historian, Dr Janina Ramirez (as seen on TV) for an Inspire Dinner. Key Stage 3 have impressed with their first batch of Inspire Homework projects: students produced videos, letters, and essays to explore the past, present and future of the School ahead of our move to the new Myton Road campus, and all Key Stage 3 girls have signed up to enter a range of internal and external competitions that encourage originality and creative thinking.



The Inspire Higher Education Programme has seen twenty girls putting in Oxbridge applications, and our Tuesday Inspire Scholarship Sessions are encouraging some of our younger students to research and produce their own scholarship on a topic of their choice. Next term's Inspire Programme will be full of more trips, talks, events and activities, all with the aim of nurturing creativity, independence and curiosity throughout the school.'

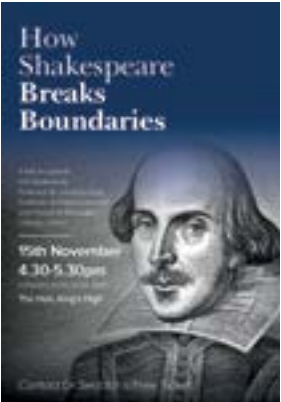
KING'S GIVING



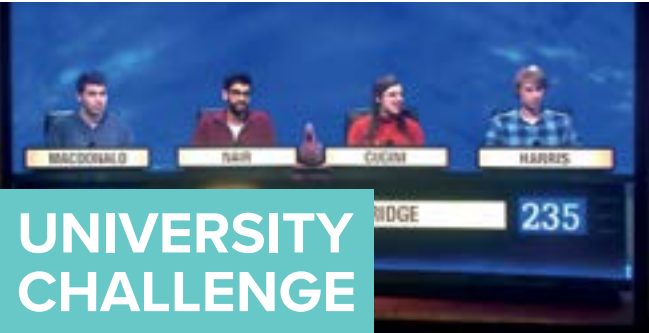
Girls across the year groups have taken the lead devising, publicising and hosting a range of fundraising initiatives. These ranged from Key Stage 4's popular charity netball tournament with Warwick School, staff/pupil benchball, food sales (our girls know their market), and 'Splash At A Teacher.' The Christmas shoebox appeal saw girls deliver 254 shoeboxes to the charity, Teams4U. Thousands have been raised this term for, among others: Nottingham Children's Hospital Charity, Girls Not Brides, Clic Sargent, Cardiac Risk in the Young, and All the Other Lucys. Out in the community, girls and boys from Warwick School continue to volunteer with Kissing it Better at Warwick Hospital, and help on a range of schemes.

INSPIRE LECTURE: SIR JONATHAN BATE

Professor Sir Jonathan Bate gave the Inspire Lecture at the Festival of Ideas. A world-renowned Shakespeare scholar, Jonathan Bate co-edited *The RSC Shakespeare: Complete Works*, and curated the British Museum's major Shakespeare exhibition for the 2012 London Olympics. A former governor of the Royal Shakespeare Company, Jonathan's one-man play for Simon Callow, *Being Shakespeare*, toured the West End and New York.



In his lecture, *How Shakespeare Breaks Boundaries*, he told how Shakespeare broke boundaries constantly - between verse and prose; pleasure and instruction; work and play; the elite and the popular. It was a dazzling talk, that combined the Classics, Acting, Literature, History, Religion, Politics, Philosophy, Psychology, and Theatre. Jess and Amanda Astley presented Sir Jonathan with a donation for his ReLIT charity, the programme he and his wife, the biographer Paula Byrne, created to aid mental health through Bibliotherapy – the ancient art of healing through books.



Daniella Cugini, King's Old Girl, and a Visiting Graduate Seminar Leader for the Inspire Programme at King's High, has been on our TVs recently, captaining Emmanuel College, Cambridge into the final rounds of University Challenge. She even won some drily admiring comments from Jeremy Paxman. Dani recently graduated from Cambridge with a First in English, and is studying for a Master's at St John's College, Oxford. She says: 'I am delighted to be able to return to support students as they prepare their applications for universities.'

TOMORROW'S ENGINEERS

Celebrating **Tomorrow's Engineers Week**, Year 8 pupils delivered the Big Engineering Assembly at Warwick Prep. Girls spent a morning working alongside Warwick Prep pupils to build a model of a Rocket Transporter Crawler.



King's pupils contributed handmade poppies for the **Warwick Poppies project**. They continued the theme in the King's High tree for the Christmas Tree Festival at St Mary's, decorating the tree with poppies and silhouettes of soldiers. Shivanshi Bhatt created a handwritten poem, taken from a Wilfred Owen poem.

Isabella Brading, Mimi Parr and Maddie Phillips were joint winners of the **Christmas Card Competition**, with Eleanor Scott also receiving a Headmaster's Commendation, for their wonderful Christmas cards.

Sixth Form Art Scholar, Libby Feller once again had her artwork, *Mr Kumara*, chosen for the Rugby Open 2018 exhibition at Rugby Museum and Art Gallery. Esme Fergusson and Leah Townsend went to Buckingham Palace, where their work was featured in the final of the national Never Such Innocence Art and History competition.

Lower Sixth Art students attended **Art in Action's Art & Design day at Warwick University**. They spoke to four leading artists about what inspires them, and how they make their living: documentary photographer, Simon Norfolk; textile designer, Anna Glover; artist and printmaker, Chris Orr MBE RA, and artist Luke Jerram, who talked about creating sculptures, installations and live arts projects.

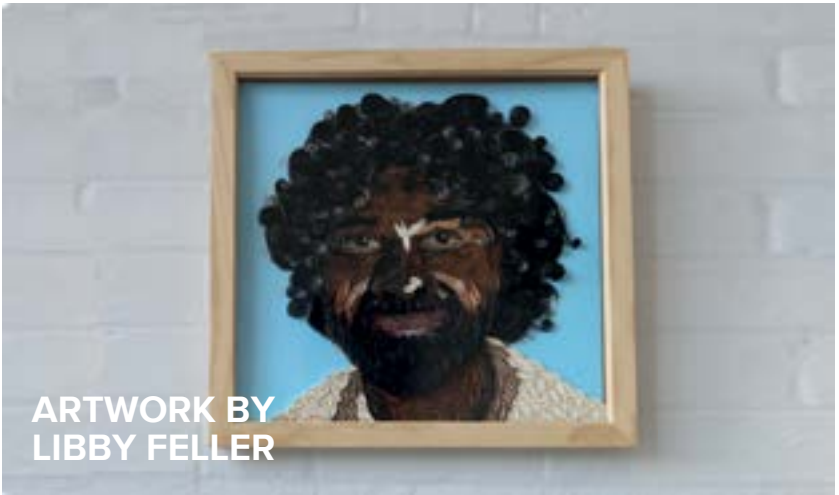


LANDOR DINING SOCIETY

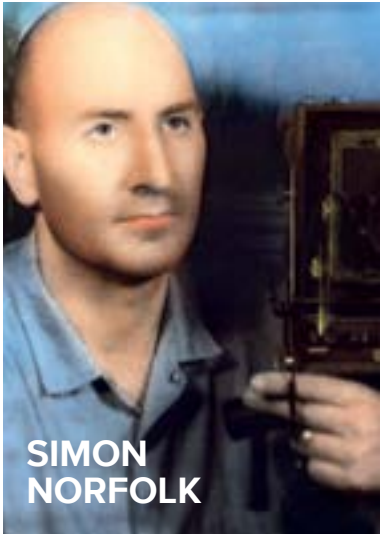
Girls welcomed Yana Vinogradova from Nottingham University as guest of honour to their Landor Dining Society. Yana grew up in socialist Russia and has a PhD in medical data analysis (written in English - her third language). She spoke about her research, using mathematical models and statistical methods to improve understanding of the dynamics and incidence of diseases, and of treatment outcomes.

HOUSE SPELLING BEE

The busy programme of House events included a hotly contested Spelling Bee competition. Pankhurst and Dench Houses emerged the winners. There was great support from the whole school, and our supercalifragilisticexpialidocious spellers kept very cool heads under the spotlight, answering difficult spellings at breakneck speed.



ANNA
GLOVER



SIMON
NORFOLK

MODEL UNITED NATIONS

King's High Model United Nations Club participated in the **Tudor Hall Model United Nations (MUN) Conference**. Students from King's High and Warwick School represented Greece and North Korea across the two day conference along with students from schools from as far afield as Manchester. They participated in a variety of debates tackling issues such as intensive farming, censorship, and medical black markets before joining together to tackle a terrorism scenario as part of the General Assembly on the last day. All of the students are new to Model United Nations and performed very well and will have gained valuable experience. The following students were involved: Ellice Simpson, Nina Mulder-Qureshi, Maud Beidas, Emilie Linfoot, and Arun Kohli and Jonathan Hann, from Warwick School.



FOCUS ON CAREERS

The busy careers programme continues. The new Sixth Form Centre on the Myton Road campus has been the hub for a series of events, including Careers in the Military, and Languages, where both schools' A Level teachers, language assistants and Sixth Form linguists talked to Years 10 and 11 girls and boys about studying languages at A Level. At a Humanities evening, King's and Warwick School pupils heard speakers from the New College of the Humanities, Loughborough and Sheffield Universities, and welcomed back King's High Old Girls and Old Warwickians – Historians, Geographers, Ancient History, and English graduates – who spoke about their own careers in Banking, Management Consultancy, Government and Tech, before workshopping ideas with pupils.



Year 9's Careers Hot-Seating event harnessed combined pupil/parent power. Girls asked parents about their own careers, which included: Artistic Director, Journalist, Choreographer, Surgeon, Engineer, Entrepreneur, Architect, Physiotherapist, Tech Expert, LEVC (originally the iconic black cabs London Taxi Company), Accountant, Medical Tattoo Artist... Some – very recent – King's Old Girls did a hot-seating event with Year 11 GCSE pupils, talking about university life, courses, industrial placements – and life. The girls said they they loved getting so many different viewpoints, from Jemima Allden, currently reading Law at Nottingham; Sophie Hopkins, just graduated from Nottingham and now studying Medicine at Warwick; Georgia Sharp, studying Management Science at Loughborough; Sofia Antona, doing BSc Nutrition and Food Science with Industrial Placement at Reading; Alice Chandler reading English and History at Cardiff, and Lucy Morley and Christina Ratcliffe, doing Veterinary Medicine and Veterinary Science at the Royal Veterinary College, and Liverpool University, Girls also attended a Psychology Day at Warwick University.



BEST BUSINESS FRENCH IN THE UK

For the second consecutive year, the French department is delighted to have been awarded the Pilley Cup for Best Group Entry in the 2018 Certificate in Languages for Business - the highest award in the country for Business French. Congratulations to Kate Goodbourn, Charlotte Bend, Pernille Curtis, Ria Dhillon and Evelyn Day for achieving Distinctions in their assessments, and Mrs Murphy who taught the group. Celebrating European Day of Languages, Key Stage 3 pupils greeted their teachers in a foreign language in every lesson during the day.



LUNCHTIME CAREERS TALKS

REBECCA LEDGARD



Talks this term have included Marketing, Chartered Surveying, the Military, Interior Design and Clinical Psychology. Hugh Dickerson of Google gave a fascinating talk on working for a global company.

Music Industry

Rebecca Ledgard, Director of the celebrated choir Ex Cathedra's Education and Participation programme (and a King's parent), talked about her career in music. Rebecca runs the award-winning Singing Playgrounds and Singing Medicine projects that take music into schools, hospitals, and the wider community. She described how her work takes her all over the world, working with people in the most diverse settings imaginable. Her advice: Having a variety of skills is a must in music, so consider developing skills beyond performing, such as communication and administration.

Gaming Industry

Councillor Richard Eddy, Lord Mayor of Warwick, spoke about his career in the gaming industry. Richard is Communications Director of gaming giant Jagex, famed for the award-winning RuneScape. He highlighted gaming's value to the UK economy. Over £4.5 billion is spent on games and consoles, more than film and music. Of the UK's 37 million gamers, 48% are women. His advice: There are many different lucrative careers within the industry for students with an interest in Science, Computer Science, Arts, Maths or Business.



RICHARD EDDY

KING'S REMEMBERS WORLD WAR ONE

WARWICK POPPIES: WE WILL REMEMBER

The extraordinary and remarkable events commemorating the centenary of Armistice Day culminated with King's High's Senior Chamber Choir and instrumentalists joining forces with professional orchestral musicians and Da Capo St Mary's Church Choir for We Will Remember at the Collegiate Church of St Mary's, Warwick. This was the musical highlight of Warwick Poppies 2018. This spectacular, year-long community project filled St Mary's with over 62,000 handmade poppies - the largest display in the country – donated from around the world. With St Mary's columns turned scarlet, beneath the faded colours of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment (the 'Warwicks' lost 11,610 men in World War One), Alex Laing, Artistic Director (Music) across King's High and Warwick Prep, conducted an intensely moving performance of Duruflé's Requiem. Actor, Michael Maloney read poetry from the First World War. King's High's Choral Director (and St Mary's Director of Music), Oliver Hancock played the organ, making this a real family – as well as community - event for all our Warwick Independent School Foundation pupils.



KING'S WORLD WAR ONE STORIES ON BBC RADIO COVENTRY & WARWICKSHIRE



Following King's and Warwick Prep's Digital Collection Day for the Commonwealth War Graves Commission and Oxford University's nationwide Lest We Forget project, Abbey-Rose Smith (King's) and Bee Askin (Warwick Prep) were invited to talk about their relatives' wartime experiences on BBC Radio Coventry & Warwickshire. Abbey's great-great uncle won the Victoria Cross for jumping onto a captured German horse, and galloping out into No Man's Land to rescue ten men. At our Digital Collection Day, Bee's family discovered that Bee's great-great-grandfather – a gas fitter by trade – had not died defusing a bomb, as they previously thought.

Together with Camilla Wellman, Head of History, the girls gave a captivating talk to BBC presenter, Vic Minett. Vic added the girls' relatives'

names to the World War One Memorial 100 tree she presented at the centenary service in Coventry War Memorial Park on behalf of the BBC. King's and Warwick Prep pupils attended the Lord Lieutenant's Remembrance Service for Warwickshire schoolchildren. At King's, Mr Nicholson led a moving Remembrance Assembly. Led by King's CCF girls, (many of them new recruits, doing their first parade), with Megan Barker playing The Last Post, the girls held their own two-minute silence for all those who lost their lives.

BLOOD RED LANDS AND SEAS OF RED

Gail Miller, Head of Health & Safety for the Warwick Independent Schools Foundation, wrote the Risk Assessment for Tom Piper's celebrated installation, Blood Red Lands and Seas of Red at the Tower of London. The project was co-ordinated by the Royal Shakespeare Company, where Gail worked, before she joined us at King's. (Thanks largely to Gail's expertise, the famous children-on-swings sequence in Matilda was passed for performance). Gail says: 'My main role was to look at the safety side of the installation by the 17,500 volunteers who constructed the poppy elements, placed, and installed them. One of my most endearing memories was seeing Tom riding his bicycle around the moat, as the site was so vast it was very tiring to walk around. I certainly walked many miles. It was a privilege to be a part of the team that brought this artistic endeavour to fruition. It has remained in the consciousness of so many people in this country and around the world. Public art at its most powerful, and a fit and respectful way to honour those who fell during the First World War.'



KING'S MUSIC

OPEN MUSIC FORTNIGHT

Parents joined their daughters' music lessons - French Horn, Violin, Piano, Clarinet and Singing - for Open Music Fortnight. Joining her daughter Annabelle's violin lesson, Nicky Wolverson said: 'It was lovely to see what goes on in lessons, and hear the progress being made.' Some 250 pupils have music lessons at King's each week, and Alex Laing is adding to his talented team of music teachers, who play with orchestras including the CBSO, BBC Concert Orchestra and BBC National Orchestra of Wales.

YEAR 7 CONCERT

The first major concert of the school year featured our youngest musicians and newest members of the school. The concert was a joyous event of solos and newly formed ensembles. Highlights included performances from two string quartets, a jazz band and a guitar ensemble. There were many superb solo performances, including trumpeter Polly Rumble, cellist Rosa Simkin and singers Pippa Cowdry and Marlie Morison. The whole year group sang together - as is traditional - and, for the first time at a Year 7 concert, there was a demonstration of the new music curriculum of Learning With Instruments – noisy, and huge fun.

ST MARY'S RECITAL



In a new initiative, King's High musicians are performing in a series of public lunchtime concerts at St Mary's, Warwick. Florence Lloyd (Year 11) launched this in tremendous style, with a stunning clarinet recital. Flo played pieces from Schumann, Reade and Arnold, accompanied by Lynn Arnold on piano.

EXPANDING HORIZONS

The Expanding Horizons programme saw an exciting musical collaboration, as choirs from the Tara Anglican School in Sydney joined with King's High for a choral spectacular.

CHAMBER CONCERT

Musicians from Warwick Prep joined forces with King's High girls for a vibrant concert, full of variety. There were joint brass and harp ensembles and an excellent performance of Tchaikovsky ballet music from the Warwick Prep's Camerata. Other highlights included the King's percussion ensemble lifting the roof, classy Mozart from the clarinets and the Landor quartet and two new jazz ensembles.

SENIOR CHAMBER CHOIR

Senior Chamber Choir gave the traditional start to Christmas with an atmospheric, candle-lit concert, Senior Chamber Choir & Friends in St Nicholas, Warwick, with a programme of Willcocks, Rutter and Adrian Lucas. Eleanor Turner played the harp.





LANDOR ASSOCIATION CAROL SERVICE

King's High and Warwick Prep's Landor Association Carol Service was a sumptuous occasion, and a celebration of Christmas for the whole community that makes up the King's High family. There were rousing carols, poetry and readings, with music from the Foundation Chamber Choir, Senior Chamber Choir, Warwick Preparatory School Senior Choir, King's High School String Ensemble, and Warwick Prep Hand Bells. Celia Duffy, Year 6 at Warwick Prep, performed the solo for Once in Royal David's City, and Florence Lloyd sang the solo for Adeste Fideles. The Readers were Isabella Saunders, Hannah Perry, Bryony Lettington, Amy Covell, Milly Truman, Amber Ahark, and Warwick Prep's Veda Gowda and Paige Clark. A collection was taken for St Mary's Church and the Mayor of Warwick's Christmas Fund.



KING'S ARTS

AREA STREET DANCE

King's had a large crew for the **Area Street Dance Championships**. The following girls gave a wonderfully vibrant performance: Aimee Gerber, Ava McPherson, JJ England, Chloe Holdsworth, Hannah Constance, Arabella Snape-Jones, Claudia Evans, Natalie Baker, Charlotte Ash, Krisha Baden, Lilly Morris, Millie McQuede, Olivia Leeming, Alodie Rigby, Sophia Cunningham, Jess Irvine, Evie Jeavons, Riya Sagoo, Gabby Mac, Danielle Johnstone, Kira Purewal. Jess Irvine, Sophia Cunningham, Riya Sagoo and Evie Jeavons performed at the Whitnash Christmas Lights switch-on.

KING'S DRAMA: A LAUGHING MATTER

King's High and Warwick School's joint production explored the rip-roaring world of David Garrick's 18th Century Drury Lane theatre, with a performance of April De Angelis' *A Laughing Matter*. The plot revolved around Mr Garrick (Lawrie Gartshore) and his wife Eva (Avani Bhutta) planning Garrick's final season before retirement, trying to choose between two plays: Oliver Goldsmith's (Edward Robinson) *She Stoops to Conquer*, or a forgettable, yet morally upright play. There were fine comic turns from Poppy Whittaker and Maya Evans, playing leading actresses of the time, Peg Woffington and Mrs Cibber, and Liz Willey, playing an incensed Lady Kingston. There were theatrical in-jokes, farce, a musical *King Lear*, and flying vegetables. The ensemble handled the complexities of a contemporary farce about a little known theatrical age with great skill and comic timing, supported by fabulous costumes and staging. The Bridge House Theatre became a Georgian theatre for the run, right down to the on-stage boxes, candlelit lighting, and interval interludes to entertain the audiences.

A MILLION DREAMS

Charlotte Knights joined West End and Broadway star Kerry Ellis, and 1,000 West End Stage students, for a special charity fundraising recording of **A Million Dreams** from *The Greatest Showman*, in aid of NSPCC Childline. Charlotte says: 'We had great fun, especially learning to sing along to the song for the music video.'



KING'S SPORT

ESSA SWIMMING FINALS

Our Intermediate team swimmers finished 14th in the country in the medley relay, and our Juniors finished 12th in the country in the freestyle, and 27th in the medley, at the National ESSA Swimming Finals in the London Aquatic Centre's Olympic Pool. At the Warwick 100s event, swim captain, Jessica Bell stormed down the last leg of the U18 50m medley relay to clinch victory from Bedford Girls, and won the individual U18 100m freestyle with ease. Connie Hodge won the U16 200m individual medley. Ione Morrison won the U14 100m freestyle and the team were 2nd in the U16 medley relay. Ellen Barrett captained a squad of 17 girls for the Girls' Schools Association gala at Stamford.



Our swimmers finished in the country's top 20 in events at the National ESSA Swim Finals. Pictured: Team Captain Jessica Bell

HOCKEY: COUNTY CHAMPIONS



The U18 Hockey team won the County Indoor Championship. The team, captained by Katie Rankin and Victoria Warlow, went on to represent Warwickshire in the Midlands Finals performing exceptionally well and recording a notable 5-0 victory over Newcastle-under-Lyme. The U16 team were narrowly defeated in the new England Hockey Tier 1 competition and now look forward to embarking on a successful run in the Tier 2 competition.

The U14 team have continued to develop their understanding of the XI a side game with recent strong victories against Bablake and Tudor Hall. The U14B team represented Warwickshire in the Midlands Zone Finals and performed extremely well in a competition with many other schools' A teams. The U13 and U12 teams have enjoyed considerable successes as well this season with the U13s enjoying convincing victories against Northampton High and King Edward's Edgbaston. The U12s show huge potential, narrowly finishing runners up at the Loughborough Hockey festival.

CROSS COUNTRY: RUNNING FOR WARWICKSHIRE

Maddie Linfoot, Emma Dobson, Molly Bullock, Gigi Thomas and Be-Thea Sheehan represented Warwickshire in December's Inter-County event. At the Inter-Area Cross Country, Maddie Linfoot won the Minor Girls event.

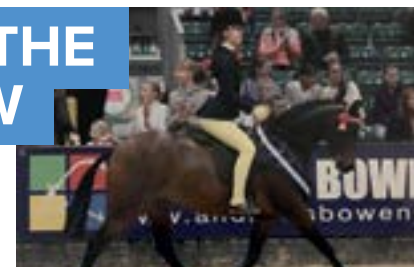


CLAY PIGEON TEAMS

At Marlborough College, Chloe Goulbourne and Sophie Davies were First and Second in the individual competition, and King's finished equal 7th. The girls competed against schools from all around the country, and faced some very challenging targets. The teams went on to a clean sweep, winning both the Ladies Team and Flush competitions at Millfield. Cassie Goulbourne was Second in the individual event. The girls won the William Powell Schools competition (beating last year's winners), and Chloe Goulbourne was second in the individual event.

HORSE OF THE YEAR SHOW

At **Horse of the Year**, 2018 sisters, Alina and Gabriella Kozersky-Gillham celebrated success - and sibling solidarity! Gabriella took the ride on Alina's pony, Tuscany Sweet Serenade, after Gabriella's pony had to be withdrawn, and won joint Third in the 128cm Show Pony Final. Alina celebrated her last ride on Greendown Mandolin (known to his friends as 'Tom'), by finishing Sixth in the 122cm Show Hunter Pony Final.



NETBALL: MIDLANDS FINALS



The U19 Netball team qualified for Midlands Finals, and were runners up (on goal difference) in the Three Counties Triangular tournament. The U16 Netball team came third in the Triangular. This was a fantastic team performance, with four wins and one loss, and the girls only missed qualifying for the finals by the narrowest of margins.

LACROSSE

Maddie Johnson was selected for 2018/2019 England Lacrosse Regional Academy Team. Playing in the recent Supercounties tournament for the South of England, Maddie was nominated one of the Top Ten players, and her team qualified for the national finals in March.



Laura Bawden, Gabriella Wait and Molly McCusker have all been selected for County Cricket.

Emma-Jane Taylor-Watts, Maddie Bromwich, Alana Stanley and Zoe Phillis should be congratulated for being selected to train with Wasps netball at U19/U17 and U15 age groups respectively.



PROJECT ONE CAMPUS

The spectacular new King's High School Hall is taking shape. This will have capacity for the whole school, and retractable bleacher seating for 300. (No more girls sitting on the floor). With a sprung timber floor, a full lighting rig, sound system, and blackout capability, the hall will be acoustically tuned, primarily for the spoken word, making it an excellent venue for drama productions.

A ground breaking ceremony at Warwick School marked the start of the state-of-the-art 3G rugby pitch. With the ground now excavated, and drainage installed, the pitch is due for completion before Christmas. A suite of new netball and tennis courts follows, for pupils across the Foundation to use.

PROJECT AURA

Girls are busy working on their own projects - Project Aura, the Birthday Project – to preserve, in all kinds of imaginative ways, memories of the historic King's site, to bring to the new King's High, when the exciting first phase of Project One Campus comes to fruition for September 2019.

As part of Inspire, girls completed a project – Capturing King's - to celebrate King's High in any chosen medium. Dr Phil Seal says: 'It's been wonderful to see the girls' creativity. We have had poems, music, films, paintings, essays, models and even cross-stitch. Their work will be used as part of Project Aura, which will preserve memories of King's for the future.'

King's Old Girl, Amber Hourigan is making a short film for Project Aura. Currently doing a gap year, before studying Film Production at Ravensbourne University, Amber worked on the BBC's Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall. She says: 'I'm aiming to capture the essence of King's High.'





Independent Day School for Girls 11 – 18 years

King's High School, Warwick CV34 4HJ

t: 01926 494485 f: 01926 403089

e: enquiries@kingshighwarwick.co.uk

www.kingshighwarwick.co.uk

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

 [@KHSWarwick](https://twitter.com/KHSWarwick)

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