



KING'S HIGH NEWS

SUMMER 2021

**MEET OUR
CHANGEMAKERS**

CREATIVE KING'S

**KING'S HIGH IS
RANKED 13TH IN UK
FOR GIRLS' SPORT**

**DRAMA, MUSIC
AND MORE**

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A WORD FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It is a cliché to talk about a 'new normal' but here on site, this term has been more 'normal' than at any time in the last fifteen months. Whilst the delay to further Covid restrictions being lifted meant that our schools moved to 'Plan B' arrangements, it has been a joy to see and hear pupils of all ages bring the campus back to life with their musical and theatrical performances and their sporting activities. Seeing the first live performances in Warwick Hall and the Bridge House Theatre since the start of the pandemic was an emotional experience for all, as was great hosting of the first sports matches.

A deep frustration for us all has been the fact that we have not been able to see you, our parents and families, as much as we would have liked. We are therefore planning a Foundation weekend, 24-26 September, to welcome everyone back to the campus, celebrating our schools and what makes our Foundation community so special. Please make a note of those dates in your diaries – further details will follow.

The pandemic has meant that our schools have worked more closely together than ever before, whilst respecting their own unique traditions and heritage. Developing the 'Best of Both Worlds' for our pupils on this site – creating opportunities for them to work and grow together – has been at the forefront of our minds. There are a number of initiatives which will be brought to fruition in the new academic year, both for our younger pupils and those in the senior schools.

The end of the academic year is always a time of farewells. I know we will all wish our Upper Sixth leavers the very best for the future; we look forward to staying in touch with them, not least through the mentoring programme which many parents have generously supported.

There are also significant changes in our Governing Body. David Stevens, currently the Foundation Chair of Governors, along with Tony Cocker, vice-chair, Andrew Firth, formerly vice-chair and subsequently Chair of the Warwick School Board, all retire after many years of service, as do Clare Sawdon DL and Moira-Anne Grainger. Nick Button and Jason Strain, formerly on the Kingsley Board, also retire this year. Sally Austin, a former pupil at King's High, and David Loudon become Chair and vice-chair respectively. I would like to thank all our retiring governors for all they have given to the Foundation, and those newly appointed for all that is to come.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support over the last year. It has been a very complex time for everyone, but we have emerged as a strong Foundation community, with a vibrant and exciting future.

Richard Nicholson
Foundation Principal



HEAD MASTER'S INTRODUCTION

It is fair to say that 2021 is a year that has been full of surprises. It was a huge privilege for me to take on the Headship of King's High in January and I have been incredibly proud of the remarkable endeavours and achievements of our students and staff alike. The day before the Spring Term began, the Prime Minister announced a further national lockdown, which lasted until March.

In the face of such exceptional change, our staff team immediately switched again to remote education, providing outstanding teaching and learning, as well as a remarkable breadth of co-curricular activities, for our students at home. Likewise, our students rose to the challenge and adapted with characteristic resilience and determination to make the most of their new circumstances and embraced our new remote school.

Since our return to school in March, there have been some superb achievements to celebrate. For example, our Young Enterprise team made it to the national finals of this year's competition, our school was ranked 13th nationally among girls' independent schools for sport, and we were delighted to achieve the EcoSchools Green Flag Award for our students' environmental work. As part of this, we also welcomed to school four new beehives within our new apiary and we look forward to our first King's High jar of honey in August!

As I write now, we are in the midst of a week of the creative arts, with productions of *Macbeth*, *The Tempest* and *Fantastic Mr Fox*, alongside concerts to mark the culmination of our Year 7 instrumental programme and our Upper Sixth A Level composition work. Next week we will look forward to Sports Day and our *Play in a Day* performances.

It has been a huge pleasure to have our students return to school and, gradually, to see the return of sports fixtures, school trips, and Duke of Edinburgh expeditions. The energy and talent of our students continues to flourish and the mood and atmosphere in school is hopeful, positive and optimistic, as we look ahead to the summer holidays and our new academic year.

I hope that you enjoy reading about the range of activities we have enjoyed in recent months.

Dr Stephen Burley

Head Master



CREATING CHANGEMAKERS

Dr Burley, Head Master of King's High, introduces our Big Changemaker Conversation

'Changemakers are innovators and creative thinkers, inquisitive and open-minded, keen to test out new ideas and explore new ways of doing things. Changemakers have a positive impact on others and their community through inspirational leadership and creative ideas, by demonstrating kindness, compassion, emotional intelligence and empathy. Their commitment to leadership is driven by a sense of others rather than self, by a deep-rooted conviction about the importance of social responsibility and making a positive contribution to community.'

As part of King's High's new Changemaker programme, pupils will get to submit a proposal, whether it is to start up a social enterprise, a new charity or an environmental project. Pupils have been studying Changemakers in the public eye. The work Marcus Rashford has done for food poverty and holiday hunger has influenced the work our Social Justice Group is doing and I'm really proud of that. Stage one of the project is to nominate inspirational figures for our new Changemaker Gallery.

Pupils have thrown themselves into the Big Changemaker Conversation, discussing prominent figures like Kamala Harris, Greta Thunberg and Malala Yousafzai.

They have also looked at lesser known, but culturally influential Changemakers, like Canadian teenager, Ann Makosinski, who won the Google Science Fair with a flashlight that runs on heat from a human hand. She was inspired by a friend in the Philippines, who was struggling at school because her family could not afford electricity to light a room for her to study in.

Our vision is to become a community of Changemakers, or a Changemaker school. As rapid and often unpredictable change becomes the new normal for us all, I am eager to look ahead with hope and optimism at how we can build to create something very special: an inspired and inspirational community of Changemakers.'



Extraordinary Times

We are very grateful to our outgoing team, Olivia Rochford (Head Girl), Grace Bennett (Deputy Head Girl) and Grace Harvey (Senior Prefect), and their Upper Sixth colleagues who have led the school through an extraordinary time. Head Girl, Olivia gave a brief insight:

'There has been nothing normal about this year! It has been a very different job for us – much more admin, much less 'real' time with people. Restrictions meant we could not talk with people as we would have done. I think all three of us found that hardest – not being able to drop into form rooms, chat to Year 7, meet pupils, parents, take visitors round, help organise events. But we have still loved doing the job, and working together. We created a series of virtual events to help bring everyone together – sharing everyday acts of kindness, tips on exams – and have introduced sessions on equality, inclusiveness and changemaking. Ultimately, what everyone has missed most this year is other people – and that's good, because people are what matter most!'

THE INTERVIEW: KING'S CHANGEMAKERS

How will our new Head Girl team guide King's High into a new, post-Covid world? We caught up with Pirasha Ramesh (Head Girl), Jemma Zimmermann (Deputy Head Girl), and Jenny Nwosu (Senior Prefect)

It has been an extraordinary time for everyone – what has the past year shown you?

Pirasha: It has given me a whole new gratitude for 'normal' – coming into school!

Jemma: School provided good, strong structure in lockdown. Wellbeing really did come first – so for instance, we had bigger breaks between screen time. We are aware how massively privileged we were at King's to have had access to online teaching and resources, something that hasn't been possible for all schools.

What made you apply for the leadership team?

Pirasha: I have wanted to be Head Girl since I was 10! (*Jemma and Jenny, both laughing: 'We know!'*). I really can date it to coming to visit King's. It wasn't the facilities or the subjects that hit me, it was more the community vibes. Everyone just seemed happy. Older girls were looking out for younger girls, and the teachers were helping people. I thought I wanted to be part of that sisterhood, and be a role model like that some day.

Jenny: When you're younger, the Head Girl team seem almost divine, unreachable. You think, 'I'm not a perfect person, no way could I do that.' Then over time, you realise how approachable they are. I remember being so excited when Josh (Simango) was made Head

Boy of Warwick – I thought, 'Well, maybe I could be the first black girl on King's High's team?'. I had a lot of support from my friends, who said 'Definitely, you should go for it', and I thought, 'Let's do this!'

What do you hope to achieve?

Pirasha: I really want us to be relatable to everyone, and build relationships between year groups. I'm looking forward to getting around school and talking to everyone.

Jemma: We're thinking lots of competitions! House competitions are a good way to make friends.

Pirasha: Social justice is important to our year group. We want to continue developing that across school.

Jemma: We want to give people the confidence to think 'I can do that', and 'I can change that.'

Jenny: We have been doing a lot of work on the Changemakers programme, getting ideas for the new Changemakers Gallery, that will feature people we have all voted for. We like the idea of having a mirror in the middle of it – so you see yourself. We know how lucky we are at King's, but we also know we are in a massive bubble. We're going to pop the bubble and show the world: take the change we are trying to make!



**'We're going to show the world:
take the change we are trying to make!'**

CREATING ENTREPRENEURS: YOUNG ENTERPRISE UK FINAL



Team Utopia won through to the Young Enterprise UK Finals – the first time King’s High has been represented in National Finals. We are very proud of all our Young Enterprise teams, who won awards across Warwickshire and Worcestershire in the regional rounds for their business acumen, and skills in Branding, Presentation and Sustainability.

Driven by their mission to promote sustainability to future generations, Utopia created an educational board game, Wildlife Wanderers. The game presents four different habitats – Arctic, Desert, Rainforest and Sea. It is beautifully made, featuring hand-drawn illustrations, and 100% sustainable, right down to the spray paint used. It is a really fun, interactive family game. Players act out physical traits of endangered animals (‘sea turtles cluck and whine’), while other players guess which animal and learn about their behaviour and plight. A classic game in the making? We think so. You can order Wildlife Wanderers (£15) from Utopia’s website, utopiaenterprise.co.uk.

All our students have worked like true entrepreneurs, showing resilience, determination, initiative, and a willingness to take risks. The girls had to overcome many challenges; Covid -19 initially prevented them from manufacturing their products and taking the next steps. However, the girls displayed fantastic spirit, rose to the challenge, and excelled!

CREATING A BUZZ: BEEKEEPING SOCIETY



We celebrated World Bee Day with the launch of King's High's Beekeeping Society. Led by our student-run Environment Action Today club, Wildlife Conservation and Sustainability Society, and Geography group, pupils have been – well, busy as bees – sowing wildlife corridors, constructing hives in Design Technology, and preparing the apiary site.

Sixty-four students, from Years 7-12, have joined the new society, which also includes 21 members of staff and parents, who have kindly offered support. All society members undertook training with the Warwick and Leamington Beekeepers Association. The new apiary, situated in our Forest School, was named the Paul Kerr Apiary, in memory of Paul Kerr, who worked closely with our Senior Deputy Head, Caroline Renton, to set up the Beekeeping Society, and whose family kindly gifted King's High with some of Paul's bees. Partnerships are being forged with local schools and organisations, and the plan, in time, is for pupils to extract and make their own King's High honey.



LEADING ON CREATIVE THINKING



King's High is doing ground-breaking work, teaching Creative Thinking. The Arts Council featured King's High as a centre for Creative Thinking on their *Creativity Exchange* programme. Creative Thinking is listed as one of the top skills for the future, and Dr Burley and Dr Seal have written about teaching this vital skill for a range of publications, including *TES* magazine.

Dr Seal explains: 'The debate about whether it's possible to teach creativity has increasingly become an empty topic. The answer is simple: yes. Instead, we should be asking: how do we go about it and what are the most effective methods for inspiring and refining creative instincts? King's High School staff have spent the past three years designing and rolling out

a Creative Thinking Certificate, which is completed by all of Year 10. Our Creative Thinking Certificate is a 20-hour course that involves students choosing a real world problem, conducting research into it, and then using creative thinking techniques to propose an innovative solution.

By focusing on how to generate ideas and formulate proposals, the course gives students a clear sense of how to move away from the memorise-for-the-exam model, and towards an extended process of applying knowledge in a self-directed project. We have had a wide range of projects since the Certificate began, including a stop motion animation to raise awareness about urbanisation, and the use of biological research to design a humanoid creature that would be likely to live for 200 years.' To find out more, and follow our Creativity Blogs, visit kingshighwarwick.co.uk/creativethinking.

KING'S CREATIVITY HELPS NHS



Health charity, Kissing it Better told local Press: 'King's High has been like an emergency rapid response team during the Pandemic'. Throughout Covid-19, our pupils brightened the wards of Leamington Hospital with artwork, providing cheer for patients and NHS staff.

Caty Oates, Project Director of Kissing It Better, said: 'Pupils have been so willing and quick to help us over the last year, using amazing creative talents to cheer up those in isolation. Their work has made such a difference in cheering up patients and also NHS staff – they love the pictures, which cheer everyone up. It was wonderful to distribute hundreds of homemade gifts and cards, including book marks, hanging birds, hearts, knitted animals, lavender bags, as well as fabulous themed activity packs and reminiscence materials. The girls have also taken part in intergenerational Zoom calls with local care homes, sharing poetry and meeting the residents. It's been wonderful to see so many smiley faces, with older people feeling valuable and younger people feeling valued.'

The Art Department was busy, as pupils came up with the idea of a series of motivational quotes to decorate the wards. Larger, contemplative pieces went on display in the quiet reflection/prayer room, used by staff taking much-needed breaks. Staff in the Physiotherapy Department loved Rosie's colourful birds on ribbons, which have been used to decorate walking frames for stroke patients.





CREATING DISCUSSION ON WELLBEING

Mental Health Awareness Week saw discussion on mental health issues for pupils and parents, led by our Wellbeing Ambassadors. In form time, pupils talked through the process of where to go if they want to talk to someone. The school's pastoral team shared advice with parents from the charity, The Diana Award.

Digital parenting magazine, *Muddy Stiletto's* invited our Wellbeing Ambassadors to contribute to a feature on 'How to help your child in 2021', focusing on lockdown and Mental Health Week. This was Izzy Burnett's contribution:

'You should know that this isn't a troubleshooting guide to teenagers. We don't have an on/off button. I'm not going to tell you how to get your child to study, but I'm going to tell you how to support your child, whether they're a keen studier or not. Be the respite from your child's studying. Show them that they are enough. Take cues from your children. Some kids will want to talk, some won't. Please support either. Please, be a parent, not a teacher.'



CREATIVE WRITING

Poetry is flourishing at King's. The King's High Junior Creative Writing Club's *Spring Anthology* and *Summer Anthology* are a joy for all seasons. For *A Growing World*, pupils worked with poet, Gregory Leadbetter, who completed a year as Poet in Residence. Their resulting work is luminous, adventurous, funny and surprising. Our team of creative writers keep the flame going with their online creative writing magazine, *Prism*.

Hope

Hope is not a feeling.
 Hope is a force.
 Hope is appealing.
 Hope is Light in the Dark.
 The Light is the place where you feel the Hope.
 The Dark is the place you should preserve it.
 Even with knowledge of the danger ahead,
 Hope is always there in King's High.

Anon (King's High student)

Roman fragment

the building
 width [] river,
 tile kiln,
 similarity []
 [] same
 day,
 different [] way.

Molly Horton, 8F

INSPIRE: CREATING GROWTH

Our Inspire Enrichment programme continues to inform, inspire, entertain – and grow. More students than ever before have watched our Inspire Shakespeare Showings on screen and taken part in our popular, interactive ‘Watch and Chat’. A record number of 74 pupils signed up to enter the Inspire Essay Competition.



KING'S HIGH: ECO-SCHOOL

King's High has been awarded a prestigious Eco-School Green Flag. This international accreditation is testament to a school's commitment to environmental education. The Seven Eco-Schools Steps required are designed to make environmental actions pupil-led, and the award is thanks to the hard work of our Environment Committee.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH: BACK OUTSIDE



It was good to get back outside for Duke of Edinburgh expeditions and practice. Working within local guidelines, eighty Year 10 pupils undertook Bronze training, while forty-four pupils worked for Silver and Gold.

CREATING OPPORTUNITIES: CAREERS



King's High's Careers Event brought a wealth of opportunities. Pupils discussed employability and transferable skills, heard about the ups and downs of running a business, and honed their networking skills over Networking Bingo!

Talks included Architecture, Degree Apprenticeships, careers in Humanities, Social Science, STEM, Dentistry, Veterinary, and workshops on Unifrog, studying overseas, and the importance of maintaining a good digital footprint, for future employment. Year 9 undertook the National Enterprise Challenge, the UK's largest school's enterprise education competition, championed by Theo Paphitis. Medical Mavericks brought their hospital-in-a-school, which allowed pupils to try out a range of procedures and equipment, sparking all kinds of ideas about the host of different careers 'Medicine' includes.

BUSINESS STUDENTS TAKE ON COLIN THE CATERPILLAR

The supermarket Caterpillar Wars gave A Level Business students food for thought. Year 12 compared *all* the supermarket caterpillars. They analysed pricing, packaging, and conducted a taste-test. Who won? We couldn't possibly say...



YOUNGEST PUPILS BECOME AMBASSADORS



Wellbeing Week at King's



We are very proud of our Year 7 pupils – over twenty of them have completed the Anti-Bullying Ambassador Programme with national charity, The Diana Award. They join our 150 students who have trained with the Diana Award.

Supported by HRH The Duke of Cambridge, The Diana Award Anti-Bullying Campaign engages young people, parents and teachers to change attitudes, and build skills and confidence to address different situations, both online and offline. Our pupils took part in discussions and group activities, on issues such as cyberbullying and campaigning.

This is all part of our award-winning Wellbeing programme. We take pride in awards – King's High is a Diana Award UK National Showcase School, and recently won an All Together Gold School Award 2021 'for improving the wellbeing of pupils' – but there is equal pride in everyday acts of kindness, from pupils' hand-written notes of encouragement posted around school, to organising telephone rotas to call former Old Girls who were isolated in lockdown.

FOUNDATION EQUALITY WORKING PARTY

Our Foundation Equality Working Party led a whole-school assembly to commemorate the death of George Floyd. A silent reflection was held in the Quad, lasting for 9 minutes and 29 seconds to mark the length of time police officer, Derek Chauvin knelt on George Floyd's neck.



ARTIST TALKS

THE ART DEPARTMENT PRESENTS

PHILIP MOULD OBE



King's High's Art Society – run by Emily Wilson and Laura Willey – launched a popular new series of Artist Talks, as part of our Art Inspire Lecture programme. Pupils signed up in record numbers, to hear leading contemporary artists talk about their work and life.

Philip Mould, art historian, and star of the BBC's *Fake or Fortune?* with Fiona Bruce, gave a fascinating talk on restoration, discovering lost artwork, and broadcasting in the arts.

CREATING A CURRICULUM FOR THE FUTURE

It is early but exciting days for our Curriculum of the Future student voice group at King's High. They met for the first time to discuss questions such as what will be different about the world into which they will graduate, character attributes, and promoting efficiency through technology.



British Science Week was packed with so many activities, it actually ran for longer than a week at King's High. Highlights included speakers from The Wellcome Sanger Institute and the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory. In other Science news:

- We celebrated the highest ever number of certificates awarded in the national Chemistry Olympiad. This includes a record number of Bronze awards won by Lower Sixth students – in a competition aimed at Upper Sixth.
- Chemistry in Action day was filled with talks, workshops and demonstrations from inspirational chemists.
- Café Scientifique, our student-run club, contributed hugely to British Science Week and hosted King's High alumna, Dr Julia Wates speaking from Chicago on industrial chemistry. Their in-depth newsletters investigate what is going on in the world of science.
- Students have been flocking to the lunchtime Moventis Scientiam club, which crosses the curricular boundary, combining Biology and Chemistry. Pupils get to explore real-world issues and participate in experiments.
- Environmental Action Today Group's weekly interactive quiz, based on the BBC's *Seven Worlds One Planet*, has kept the environment on everyone's minds and the group has initiated the sowing of wildflower corridors around the school site.
- Our Wildlife, Conservation & Sustainability Society's engaging newsletters, competitions, and talks – one streamed live from Belize, for UN Wildlife Day.



BRAIN DAY AT KING'S

Brain Day at King's High offers a remarkable experience, blending neuroscience, behavioural science, and hands-on dissection. Lower Sixth Psychology students spent the day with Dr Guy Sutton, Honorary (Consultant) Assistant Professor in the Division of Psychiatry at the University of Nottingham. Dr Sutton has conducted research projects and data analysis for organisations such as the Department of Health and the Medical Research Council. During the day, our pupils learned about neuroplasticity and neurobionics, the neuroscience behind criminal behaviour, the role of free will, and the reliability of memory.



RUSSIA WITH LOVE

Edith Alun-Jones' passion for Russia won her a prestigious award. The Mary Dormer Harris Memorial Bursary is open to Sixth Form students across Warwickshire, who have an interest in history, politics and current affairs. David Howe, a trustee of the Mary Dormer Harris Bursary, presented the prize. Edith plans to study Russian at university. She says: 'I have always been fascinated by history, and Russian history in particular. This amazing award will go a long way towards helping me realise my dream of returning to Russia so I can learn more about the culture, the people, the language and its history.'





Department of Physics

CYBER SECURITY

With the media reporting a predicted national shortfall in computing, coding and digital skills, it is encouraging to celebrate Charlotte Bett's achievement in the GCHQ National Cyber Security Centre's CyberFirst Girls Competition. Charlotte, in Year 8, competed in the regional semi-finals of the competition, and was placed second overall.



Stereotypes affect us all, and King's High has joined Oxford University's Department of Physics for their new Project Spotlight, examining stereotyping. Our pupils will be mentored by an Oxford researcher. Five teams from Years 9 and 10 are busy choosing a research question, and will collect and analyse data, with a view to presenting their findings in a report, and at a schools' conference.



UPPER SIXTH RAG WEEK

The return of Rag Week for Upper Sixth brought a welcome blast of 'Normal'. As one student said: 'It was just lovely, being able to dress up and have fun after all everyone has had this past year.' Costumes were as inventive and fun as ever.



KHAPS AWARDS: FROM SCUBA TO SOURDOUGH

Thanks to the generosity of KHAPS, the King's High Association of Parents and Staff, students were given KHAPS awards to pursue their interests beyond school in a wide range of courses and projects, including: Future Lawyer Internship, Padi Scuba Diving, Photography, Marine Biology, London College of Fashion course, National Youth Music Theatre, Modern Art, English Symphony Orchestra, Orchards Cookery School, French two week Homestay, German language, Polish language, Danish language, and Phlebotomy. Projects also include a Young Dentist Programme, Medic Mentor Summer School, Mentoring time with Cornerstone Literary Consultants and a Sourdough Bread Workshop.



KING'S HIGH 142ND BIRTHDAY

We celebrated our 142nd birthday with style – and ingenuity. A complex plan enabled Year Groups to perform a mass distanced outdoor rendition of *Jerusalem*, which was captured by a drone overhead. Pupils made birthday cards and decorations, and our catering team produced 900 birthday cupcakes for everyone to enjoy.



HIGH SHERIFF'S 'UNsung HERO'

Our pupils and staff nominated lunchtime supervisor, Sonia Brown for a High Sheriff 'Unsung Hero' award. After months of virtual presentations, High Sheriff of Warwickshire, Joe Greenwell presented Sonia with her award in a live ceremony at King's, attended by Sonia's mother, Dr Burley, and Mr Nicholson, Principal of the Warwick Independent Schools Foundation. Receiving the award, Sonia told the *Warwick Courier*: 'I was so surprised. I'm just a normal person who tries to help people in any way I can. I love working at King's, and I love working with the girls. They are all amazing and it's a true honour to work alongside them.'



FOUNDATION FAMILY: MENTORING SUCCESS

With so much uncertainty in the world it has never been more important to show support to our former pupils as they remain a lifelong part of our communities. A mentoring scheme has been running over the past few months to connect recent leavers with experienced alumni and parents of our Foundation community. For more information, and to offer your support, please visit warwickfoundationconnect.com.

One of our success stories matched Amber Parr (KHS 2016-2020) with former Warwick School pupil Duncan Gunn (WS 1978-85).

Amber says "The mentoring programme has been an incredibly valuable and inspiring opportunity, a private space where I can ask questions and advice from an expert in the field. As an architecture student, it has been great to get another perspective and recommendations for how to develop my skills, through regular one-to-one discussions."

Duncan says "I am passionate about sharing knowledge, especially with young people. Currently, I am mentoring two former King's High students, at different points in their architectural education, both of whom are engaging, enthusiastic and focused. We connect on a monthly basis and discuss their work, challenges and how to best move forwards. In the future we will be discussing the challenges in professional practice. I hope they find my input useful."





LANDOR LECTURE



We welcomed King’s High alumna, Dr Anne Whitehouse, as our speaker. Dr Whitehouse embarked on a successful career in science when – to her astonishment – she began to suffer with stress, anxiety and burnout, which ultimately caused her to leave her career. She began what became a 20 year quest to understand why, and explore confidence in women, which resulted in her book, *Pull Back Your Power*.

WARWICK FOUNDATION CONNECT

A new networking platform, Warwick Foundation Connect, has been launched to bring together the communities of our schools online. The aim is to connect parents of current and former pupils, alumni, staff and friends across our family of schools, and provide opportunities to network and support one another. You can discover more, as well as the services the platform offers, at warwickfoundationconnect.com.



Phillip Rothwell, Foundation Director of Development, reports: ‘The King’s High school library was officially named in honour of generous benefactors Win and Christie Cozad Neuger. Old Girl, Christie attended King’s High from 1964 -65, which had a profound impact on her life and future career. Since Christie and Win live in the United States and were unable to visit the school due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we recorded the library opening ceremony. The opening featured speeches by Head Master Dr Burley and Foundation Principal Mr Nicholson, as well as a reading and performances by King’s High pupils. We are grateful to Christie and Win for their transformational support and look forward to welcoming them to the Cozad Neuger Library later in the year.’

LANDOR NEWS

Our third Landor careers event, held virtually, saw seven female legal professionals from the Landor community telling the audience about various facets of the law, and answering questions from the floor. The Founders and Benefactors’ Service, recorded in the Warwick School Chapel, was led by former school chaplain and King’s High parent Rev. Burns. Among those honoured were our five new Landor Fellows, Dr Rosemary Cheetham, Rev Sue Fairhurst, Mrs Aileen McLaren, Mr David Stevens and Mr Tim Wilkes. There was also a special thank you to Old Girl Christie Cozad and her husband Win Neuger. The new King’s High Library at Banbury Road has been named in honour of the Cozad Neugers.

There are four reading groups in the Landor Book Club, now moving on to their third monthly book. Fiction with themes as diverse as Classical Greece, Victorian beehive manufacture and the Biafran war has been devoured and debated. If you would like to join the Book Club, please email Landor administrator Polly Beidas at p.beidas@kingshighwarwick.co.uk.



Save the dates for 21/22
Friday 24th – Sunday 26th September
Foundation at home weekend
Thursday 9th December
Landor Association Carol Service



KING'S PERFORMING







TRIPLE BILL

Our youngest students presented not one, but three Junior Productions! It was a bold undertaking, with a triumphant outcome. Year Group bubbles watched performances live at the Bridge House Theatre, and the shows were filmed for parents. Year 7 produced a delightful *Fantastic Mr Fox*, Year 8 conjured up a magical *Tempest*, and Year 9 performed a compelling *Macbeth*.

LAMDA

LAMDA teachers Mrs Mills, Mrs Mackenzie and Mrs Bokota are extremely proud of everyone who completed their LAMDA exams in Acting, Verse and Prose and Speaking in Public. Working around lockdowns, exams were taken online from home (one pupil performed against a backdrop of Removals boxes), or live in our Drama studios. The results are exceptional as ever: 79 Distinctions and 17 Merits.

YEAR 7: HIGHLY SPRUNG

We welcomed back Highly Sprung to work with Year 7 to create their own original performance in a day. This year's theme was Orpheus and the Underworld. Pupils rehearsed all day with practitioners from the company and performed a thrilling take on the classic tale in the Bridge House Theatre. Highly Sprung are renowned for their physical theatre, which combines engineering, movement and imagination. Their new work *CastAway* is a cornerstone of Coventry City of Culture's programme this summer.

BRAINSTORM

The Drama Departments of King's High and Warwick School shared their Middle School production *Brainstorm* online. A half-devised, half-scripted work, the play explores how teenagers' brains work, drawing directly on their personal experiences. It was an extremely honest, informative performance that challenged assumptions about what goes on in teenagers' minds!

DRAMA MASTERCLASSES



What is life really like in the acting and film business? What can you expect from Drama School? What are audition panels looking for? Our new Drama Masterclasses have been a roaring success. Established stage and screen actors share their experience and insights with pupils, and lead workshops. For our first events, we welcomed King's High alumnae, actors Nadia Parkes and Ronay Poole.

In her final year at LAMDA, Nadia signed with Independent Talent Agency and landed her first role in American network show, *The Spanish Princess*, alongside Dame Harriet Walter. She has appeared in *Dr Who*, *Starstruck* and Sky Atlantic's new series, *Domina*. Ronay graduated from Guildford School of Acting in with first class honours. She works as an actor and acting tutor, and appeared in the BBC's *Motherland*. Nadia and Ronay gave brilliant workshops – live and virtual – that gave our Drama students unique insight into the acting process.

KING'S MUSIC



FRIDAY LIVE

It has been a joy to hear live music around school again. *Friday Live* has been a hugely popular initiative. In the equivalent of an Open Mic session, our singers and musicians have performed outside over lunchtime every fortnight. The response from pupils and staff has been tremendous.



MASTERCLASS

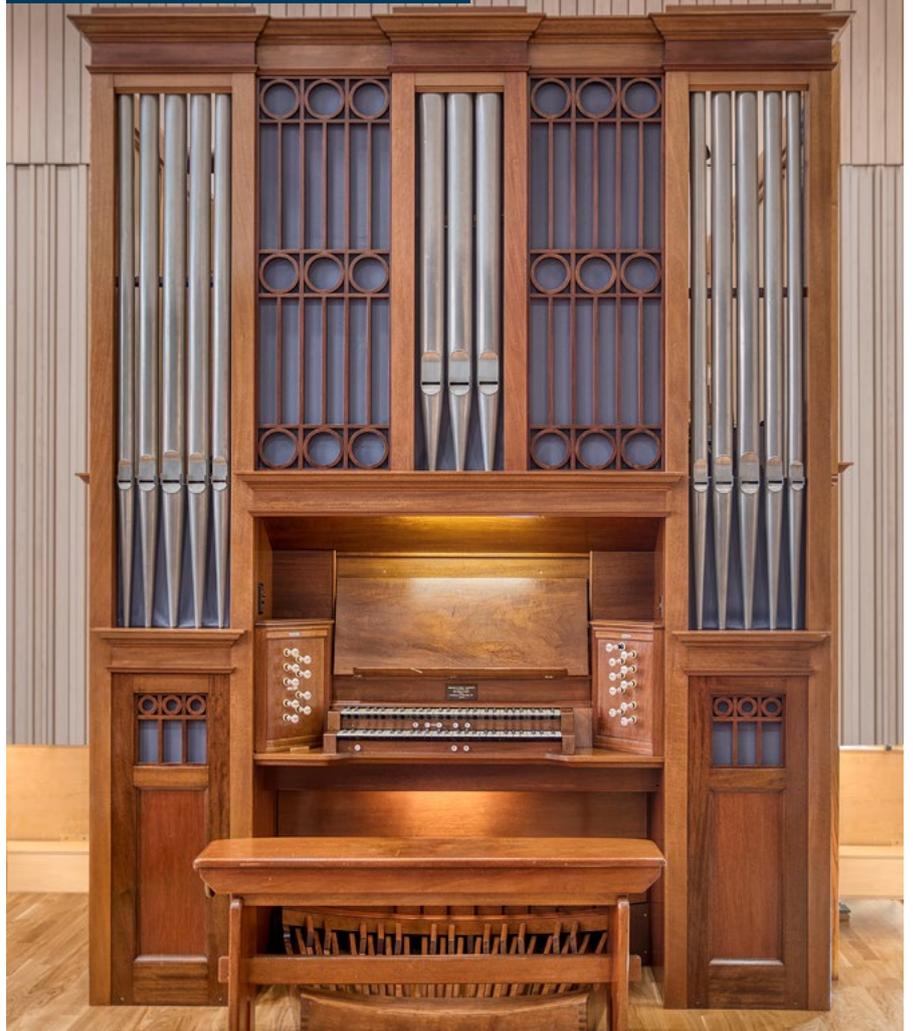
Two distinguished musicians, Stephen Bell of the Halle Pops, and Darren Bloom, whose commissions include the London Symphony Orchestra, gave composition masterclasses. Our own Flo Lloyd gave a composition masterclass for pupils and parents.



MUSICAL STARS

More pupils than ever before – over 130 – have sat music exams, and results have been excellent. Top Distinctions in the new Grade 8 Performance exams include Izzy Jones, and Florence Lloyd, who won a scholarship to the Royal Academy of Music. Grace Harvey gained Distinction in a Diploma of the ABRSM on the flute. This qualification is incredibly highly thought of – and hard to gain. Oboist Anna Turner was selected for the Orchestra for National Youth Music Theatre.

NORTHGATE ORGAN SCHOLARSHIP



In 2020, King's High became the proud owner of the Lady Susi Jeans organ, when it moved home from Royal Birmingham Conservatoire to our Music School. The organ saw leading musicians, craftsmen, donors and local businesses come together in a shared mission to create a cultural legacy. King's has established the Northgate Organ Scholarship, funded by two benefactors. It is open to King's High students in Year 11 and external candidates in their final year of their GCSE course who have registered to join the Sixth Form at King's. For more information, please visit [kingshighwarwick.co.uk/Admissions/Fees, Scholarships and Bursaries](http://kingshighwarwick.co.uk/Admissions/Fees,ScholarshipsandBursaries).

MUSICAL HORIZONS

A wealth of concert and performance videos have been shared with pupils and their families: from the Musical Horizons concert films, to the Leavers' Concert, Key Stage 3 concert, and Summer Concert.



KING'S SPORT

13TH BEST UK INDEPENDENT GIRLS' SPORTING SCHOOL

King's High was ranked 13th nationally for sport by *School Sport* magazine, who rank all schools each year according to performance. It is a testament to all our sportswomen and the staff of King's High and Warwick Prep Sports Department.

It has been wonderful to get going with Sport and fixtures once more. In Athletics, many competed in our 'friendly' fixtures against Princethorpe and Warwick School. There were some impressive individual performances and a lot of promising athletes for the future.





CRICKET

Numbers have been strong at clubs and all age groups enjoyed fixtures against Princethorpe, RGS Worcester and Leicester Grammar. It is exciting to see this sport growing at King's and we congratulate the following: Molly McCusker was selected for U18 Warwickshire County Squad. Alannah Swift, Laura Scott-Brown and Sabrina Burrows have all been selected for Warwickshire U14 County squad with a special mention to Sabrina, as the youngest member on the Warwickshire Emerging Players Pathway.

EQUESTRIAN

With horse competitions postponed and cancelled, and having to carry forward last year's qualifying riders and horses to this year's Championships, it has proved challenging as many of the girls have now changed horses due to growth spurts over lockdown!

We have a wide selection of riders at King's and Warwick Prep, from those who enjoy learning new skills at their local riding school, to pupils who compete on the international stage and all those in between! We compete in the National Schools Equestrian Association (NSEA) and the Schools Equestrian Games (SEG) in addition to playing Polo at Onley Polo Ground.

The following pupils have represented King's:

Arabella Henderson, Siena Crowther, Amelia Morgan,

Annabelle Wolverson, Tillie Orton, Eloise Starr, Bella

Brown, Olivia Pitt, Georgia Snape-Jones, Bella Snape-Jones, Alina

Kozersky-Gillham and Gemma Guest. We have had great teams and individual success in qualifying for national championships. Isabella Beecroft-Luckett and Olivia Pitt represented Team GB. Isabella won her class for Team GB in the Netherlands (Children on Horses), and will compete in Monaco and Paris.



TENNIS

Isabella Tomlinson, Holly Jaques, Maddie Pellow and Ottelia Tetley performed superbly well to knock out Leicester Grammar School in the 2nd round of the U18 National Cup. They faced Bromsgrove in the 3rd round who proved too strong on this occasion, but with three of our team still being only in Years 8 and 9 it bodes well for the future.

As a school we were delighted to be able to host the 109th Midlands Girls' Schools Tennis League Tournament. This is a prestigious school tournament in the area and the standard of tennis was excellent. Three pairs consisting of Isabella Tomlinson and Holly Jaques, Ottelia Tetley and Maddie Pellow and Marina Webb and Martina Fuedda all competed in this U18 event with Isabella and Holly finishing as runners up in the first pairs competition and Ottelia and Maddie going one better to win the second pairs tournament.

The Road to Wimbledon tournament was again a great success this year and we congratulate Maddie Pellow who was crowned our tournament winner. Congratulations to Ottelia Tetley who was part of the Oxfordshire U14 County Cup team, winning the competition against the Warwickshire U14 team, which comprised Holly Jaques and Maddie Pellow, two other King's High girls. Holly has been enrolled on the Wimbledon Junior Tennis Initiative and we look forward to watching her tennis continue to develop. Lucia Cassidy has continued to impress on the National stage with tennis and recently finished as the runner up in doubles at the Junior ITF Tournament in Wrexham.



CHALLENGE THE SPORTS DEPARTMENT

To raise money for MIND, King's High and Warwick Prep PE staff completed a week of challenges, nominated by the girls. We were impressed by Mrs Parkinson-Mills' run to and from work – a total of 30 miles – and Mr Bryce completing his one-minute handstand. Girls joined in to help Miss Clark complete 3,500 burpees for the week.



King's High School
CHALLENGE THE SPORTS DEPARTMENT
LOCKDOWN 3.0

Why not challenge the Sports staff and help support Mind with their mental health charity work? All you have to do is click the Challenge PE Link [here](#) and pay £2 to select a challenge from the list below and state which member of PE staff you want to complete it [here](#) at some point during the week commencing the 8th March.

- Score 50 netball shots
- Score 50 Hockey shots
- Complete 200 tennis keep ups
- Complete 200 cricket keep ups
- Hold a handstand for 1 minute
- Complete 50 football keep ups
- Kick a rugby ball against the cross bar
- 250 body weight squats
- 500 body weight squats
- Row 2000m as fast as you can
- Run 2000m as fast as you can
- Cycle 2000m as fast as you can
- Row 5000m as fast as you can
- Run 5000m as fast as you can
- Cycle 5000m as fast as you can
- "Truthout" – 2km row, 2km bike, 2km run consecutively
- Hold a wall sit for as long as you can
- Hold a plank for as long as you can
- Complete 30 press ups
- Complete 50 alternating lunge jumps
- Complete 50 squat jumps

NEW PRE-SEASON TRAINING

We look forward to holding our first ever pre-season training camps on Tuesday 31 August and Wednesday 1 September. These fun packed days will involve workshops in the morning on areas such as nutrition, strength and conditioning, and video analysis, which girls from all sports are welcome to attend. The afternoon will then be dedicated to hockey and netball training.



SPORTS AWARDS

We celebrated both the 2019-2020 and the 2020-2021 sporting seasons in a wonderful Sports' Awards dinner – the first event in school since lockdown, over a year ago. For parents and girls in other year groups we were able to celebrate as a community via an online link. Guest speaker was international cricketer, Sarah Glenn. It was a pleasure to hear from the girls reading their memories of the year and to congratulate those girls who received coach's awards and Key Stage awards.



WIMBLEDON, WASPS AND ENGLAND

Holly Jaques was selected for the Wimbledon Junior Tennis initiative. Alannah Stanley and Maddie Bromwich have been selected for the WASPS U19 Netball squad, and Mollie Hegarty was selected for the WASPS U17 squad. Ailie McDonald, Hannah Constance and Isabella Balzaretta have been part of the U17 and U15 WASPS Academy hubs; Olivia Key part of the U15 Loughborough Lightning Hub, and Danielle Johnstone part of the Severn Stars U17 Academy Hub. In Hockey, Elizabeth Pocknell has continued to play and train with the England U18 squad, Jecca Tetley has been selected into the U17 South Midlands Performance Centre and Freya Richardson has been selected to be part of the U15 South Midlands Performance Centre. Isabella Balzaretta has been selected for the England National Waterpolo Residential week this summer. We wish her every success as she endeavours to be selected into the U17 Competitions Squad for next season. Evie Jeavons has also enjoyed success in Waterpolo, competing with the South West England Region U17 team. Imogen Hill successfully coxed the Stratford upon Avon Boat Club crew to victory in the WJ15 4x+ B Final of The National Junior Sculling Regatta at Dorney Lake, competing against the top 29 crews in the country.



SKIING

King's High has joined the English Schools' Ski Association, with a view to building a squad to enter teams in qualifying races for the English Schools Championship in September. Pupils from Years 7 and 8 enjoyed two training days, and there will be regular training at Swadlincote, organised by the Midland Ski Club. If your daughter is interested in attending regular training sessions and races, please email Jan.smith@kingshighwarwick.co.uk

SWIMMING

Following on from the virtual swimming gala held on 8 May, the U14 girls and U16 girls' teams were placed 1st and the Senior girls were placed 2nd. Competing in their last race in the King's High and Warwick School pool, Upper Sixth swim stars Ella, Evie and Connie smashed it!



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