



KIRKHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Excellence built on traditional Grammar School values

Headmaster's Letter to Parents Summer 2012





SCHOOL CAPTAINS 2012/2013

Sixth Form students Gemma Coleman and Lewis Holden have been appointed as Captains of School for the coming year. They bring an impressive breadth of success and involvement in the school community to their jobs.

Gemma is a former pupil of Cottam Primary School, Preston and is studying English Language, English Literature, Geography, Latin and French at A-level. She is planning to study Law with a language at university and would like to pursue a career in the United Nations. Gemma is involved in a variety of activities at school including cadets, climbing and school choir, as well as being an active member of the school's Charity Committee.

Lewis attended primary school at Kingswood College, Southport and is studying Philosophy, French, History and Politics at A-level. He is planning to read History at university and would like to pursue a career in the media. Lewis has a vibrant interest in local politics and in his free time regularly plays tennis. Meanwhile in school, Lewis is a key figure in the school's Debating Society and Public Speaking team as well as having led this year's Young Enterprise as Managing Director.



For the school it is a privilege to be sending our rugby teams to South Africa. A tour to this hotbed of Rugby Union represents the pinnacle of a player's experience and we are grateful to all the hosts who have allowed us this opportunity. Our youngsters will benefit greatly from meeting different people and seeing such a variety of different places. I must also thank our own parents and staff who have done so much to make this tour possible in giving so freely of their time for planning and fundraising.

We have every confidence that, win or lose, our students will derive an enormous benefit from their trip and represent their school with pride.

Good luck to all concerned.

Follow the tour's blog:

www.kirkhamgrammar.co.uk/rugby



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HEADMASTER'S INTRODUCTION



This term has felt somewhat strange for the Walker family as the Governors are well underway with the process of appointing my successor but the term is such that there is no time to dwell on anything. A late half term results in a packed period filled with endless examinations but also the usual flurry of House activities and tournaments that have always been the hallmark of this stage of the year. The weather has not really afforded us the opportunity to contemplate hazy days watching cricket or tennis but sometimes that comes as a relief to those who are trying to revise for public examinations.

This term has also seen the Governors' exciting announcement of our new development. We have been planning improvements for our music provision for some time but have worked very hard over recent months in identifying a scheme which brings not only an exciting new Music Centre but also enhanced sporting provision. The refurbishment of current facilities creates greater opportunities and our current Gym will be revamped as a Concert Hall, while other areas around this will be completely transformed to create a music technology room, more practice rooms, new music classrooms and an extension to our Art provision. This effective use of space will result in a self-contained Music Centre which I will hope bring great encouragement to our talented musicians, both current and future.

The displaced PE department will be relocated in the current music facilities and in a newly constructed indoor sports area and brand new changing rooms. This building immediately behind the MPH will provide a much bigger indoor sports area than the current gym and two new large changing areas. It will also provide the school with a permanent weights room and Groundsman's office.

The scheme has been led once again by Mr Fulford-Brown, School Governor, and has required a great deal of time piecing together a cost-effective means of achieving our goals and I would like to register my gratitude to "SFB" for his dynamism and support over recent years. The completion of our ambitions outlined ten years ago would not have been possible without his focus and determination and the support of the Governing Body. We hope it will go yet further in ensuring that KGS has facilities of which we can all be proud.

The year has also been my first as resident within the school. It has certainly enhanced my appreciation of just how busy a place it is and also how many people in fact play a part in the success of the school. Hardly a night goes by without the campus being used for some activity and often parents and support staff are here well into the evenings, either heavily involved or just waiting for their youngsters to return to school. Our organisation relies on the army of support staff who ensure that school runs smoothly and I have never been more aware of this than now. I also have been made

even more aware of just how many parents spend so much time supporting our children, either as spectators, helpers or just on the endless taxi service. These contributions are too often taken for granted and certainly my life on site has just reinforced my recognition of these enormous contributions.

The end of any year brings departures although this year will see few changes. We do say goodbye once again to Mr Shackleton, who has spent the year with the Physics Department, and I am grateful for his help in supporting Mr Gaddes and his department through the year and we wish him well for his next retirement. Mrs Fyson and Mrs Williams leave us for a time on maternity leave and we look forward to hearing of the new additions to their families. Already two KGS colleagues have celebrated new arrivals; Mrs Bowles gave birth to a son, Jacob in March and Mrs Goodman to a son, Max in June. Mr Peter Ford retires as Reprographics Technician and Fire Marshal after eight years at KGS and no doubt he will now be able to spend more time supporting his beloved Blackpool. Mr Ford has done much to ensure the safety of us all and his experience as an ex-fireman has been vital in developing his role at KGS.

One member of staff has passed a significant landmark this year. Mr Watson completes forty years at KGS, a remarkable achievement. I am sure he has some stories to tell but I will wait until I am retired before I try to tweeze them from him! (Photo below Mr Watson telling Dr Hall a story!!!)

Independent education in the North West is under some pressure currently as news of mergers and closures arrive quite regularly. This certainly does much to focus our work here at school because, although we continue to fill our year groups, we can have no sense of complacency. Therefore the pursuit of the best possible results, the best facilities and the most enthusiastic and committed staff must be central to our purpose, and I know the Governors continue to strive to achieve these goals. I now look forward to my last year at the helm with some pride in the strong position in which KGS stands at this moment in time but also fully aware of how big a part our staff, parents and pupils have played in that success and am fully committed to ensuring that position sustains both next year and beyond.



Runaway success



Six staff and family members ran in the Blackpool 10K Fun Run on Sunday 13 May. The team ran for Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research in memory of Sarah Fulford-Brown who sadly died last year. Everyone enjoyed the event and all crossed the finish line with a real sense of pride. The event raised £874.16.

FUNDRAISING FOR DONNA'S DREAMHOUSE

One of the KGS caretakers, Russell Curtis, asked for the help of pupils and staff when his aunt and uncle's charity, Donna's Dream House, faced a terrible set-back last Christmas after discovering that burglars had broken into the premises and set fire to log cabins causing damage worth £80,000.

The community of KGS rose to the challenge with a combination of straight forward donations together with a collection of unwanted goods that were donated so they could be sold on to raise further funds in their shop located on Chapel Street in Blackpool.

Our Fourth Year students raised further donations through the sale of cakes which they had baked at home and sold in school, proving highly popular and disappearing from stalls at a great rate, adding to the final total sum donated.

In February the charity held their third annual Valentine's Day Ball, and at this year's event, held at The Hilton Hotel in Blackpool, KGS were able to hand over a cheque for £680 assisting this charity in putting good the damage caused in the fire and to support their continued efforts in fulfilling their daughter Donna's wish to provide a holiday home for children with life-threatening or terminal illnesses.



Marathon Runner

School Cook Melanie Koth (photo above), ran the London Marathon this year in a time of 03:13:24, which means she automatically qualifies for next year's marathon. In November she will be running the New York Marathon!

She runs marathons in memory of her Mum and part of her commitment to raising funds for the Rosemere Cancer Foundation as she says, "it's a local charity where people close to me have received and are still receiving treatment".

If anyone wishes to donate, they can donate by going to:

www.justgiving/Melanie-Koth



5Y – Secure their reputation as 'Master Bakers'

After the resounding success of 5Y's first cake sale, where in excess of £100 was raised for the school's charity, we decided, as a form, to do another one to support our form member Elizabeth Jenkinson raise the money she needed to participate in a Venture Scout Expedition to South America during the summer holidays. If Elizabeth is successful in raising the required amount she will be off to help facilitate access to a clean water supply in one of the poorer regions.

In an effort to rival the popular TV programme 'The Great British Bake Off' the boys and girls cooked through the night to produce a mouth-watering selection of cakes and biscuits, this coupled with most impressive sales technique from some of the boys ensured that every last piece was sold. So successful were they that they smashed their previous record and raised £143!

1W Charity Cake Sale

On Thursday 22 March 2012, 1W hosted a Charity Cake Sale on behalf of the British Red Cross. Students, mentors and staff brought in cakes, biscuits, slices, doughnuts and muffins to be sold during our morning break-time in the French Café. As you can see from the photograph, we had a very busy morning and worked hard to serve all of the students and staff who came along. We even sold cakes which featured the KGS crest! In total we managed to raise £140.00 for the Red Cross. We would like to say a big thank you to everyone who supported us, including family and friends at home who helped to bake so many cakes!



Marks of Distinction

This year has seen a record number of Lamda speech and drama pupils taking the high grade medal examinations. To date twenty two pupils have passed Bronze, Silver and Gold medals achieving impressive results, either a Merit or Distinction grade, with the majority being Distinctions. The medal exams also carry UCAS points and this year's Lamda pupils gained an enviable collective total of 1,020 points. The remaining pupils undertook examinations ranging from solo, duologue and group acting and devised drama to public speaking and verse and prose speaking. All of which were gained with the best set of results yet. Lamda pupils are working hard to develop valuable communication skills for the future and doing so in style!



theOPEN 2012

CLARET JUG VISITS KGS

One of the world's most famous and iconic sporting trophies – The Open Championship's Claret Jug – visited KGS last month. The schools tour was part of an effort to promote golf to new fans, or players from across the North West in the run up to The Open which is taking place at Royal Lytham and St Annes between 19 and 22 July.



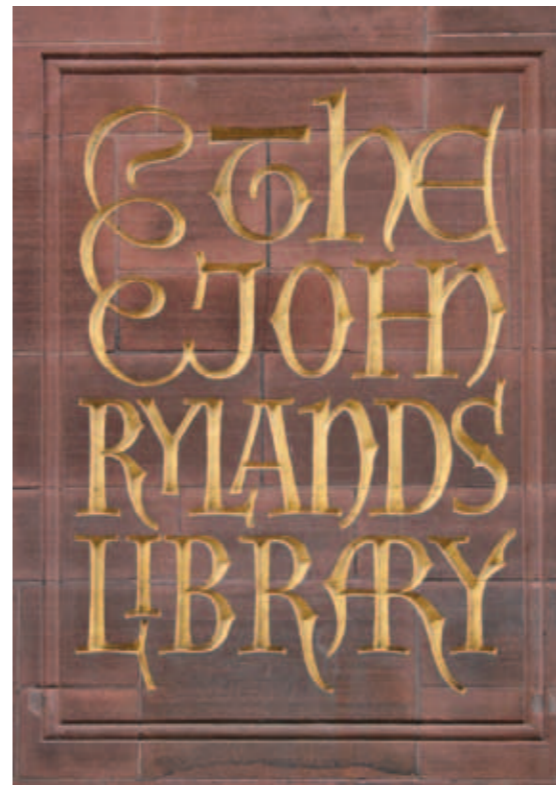


Fifth Form end of year party



Sixth Form Leavers Ball 2012





Visit to John Rylands Library, Manchester

Dragons, gothic arches, secret staircases..... the John Rylands Library in Manchester has it all! Upper Sixth English Language students were astonished at the building and that was before we were allowed to handle early editions of Johnson's dictionary and Chaucer.

The trip was aimed at bringing our topic of English Language Change to Life and the access to beautiful manuscripts and examples of early publishing certainly did that. We spent the day touring the building and looking at specific exhibitions before looking at archived material that was particularly relevant to the A-level syllabus.

For anyone who hasn't visited this wonderful place there are family events advertised all year round and it is truly worth a stop the next time you're in Manchester. For staff and Sixth Formers it was an atmospheric trip that showed us the way in which our language has developed and reminded us how precious books really are..... and...in case you're wondering... yes we did have a backward glance for Harry and Hermione!



business matters



BUSINESS STUDIES STUDENTS VISIT MILANO PRO-SPORT

Mr Paul Pendergest, CEO of Milano Pro-Sport, Britain's largest designers and manufacturers of gymnastics clothing, kindly invited our Upper Sixth Business Studies students to visit their premises in the heart of Preston. Milano launched its business in 1991 bringing together the skills of design and the proven business skills of the two original owners to make it the highly successful firm that has been the official supplier of competition wear to the British National team for over 15 years, including kit for three Olympic Games and numerous World, European and other Championships. Milano sell to over 45 countries world-wide and during the last 16 years they have kitted out another sixteen International gymnastic teams, including the Russian team at the Beijing Olympics.

This visit provided all students with a highly informative and enjoyable experience where a programme was devised that ensured all aspect of the business were explored and demonstrated and the operational strategy explained by the experts employed in each department. This included design, sales, cutting, manufacturing, followed by an open discussion with the CEO and MD about future objectives for the business.

All on-site visits provide such a valuable first-hand wealth of experience and information that assist our students enormously during their examinations, and Milano provided a great deal of material that related specifically to the topic areas within the specification, which will prove highly useful in the lead up to summer exams.

We would like to thank Mr Pendergest, Mr Fox the MD and all staff who gave their time on the day in providing a first-class insight into this highly successful business.

On the 13 May, many Fourth Year students, teachers, parents and dogs embarked on a six mile walk across Morecambe Bay. A very enjoyable day was had by all, although there were some challenging weather conditions to contend with. We first had to listen to the safety precautions from our guide, as the walk may have been risky and we were all incredibly surprised to hear that we would be wading in water up to our knees within the first 15 minutes! We were not put off by this however and everyone enjoyed the experience. Our walk took four hours to complete and we were faced with three large expanses of water to wade across along with sand flats in between. The last stretch of water was the most difficult with strong currents which threatened to knock us over at any moment. As our legs began to get tired, we were able to hitch a ride on the back of a quad bike driven by one of the guides. This made for a very enjoyable ride as we raced along the sand! We were also able to see the haul of fresh shrimps, crabs and plaice that the fishermen brought in which was fascinating. Although a great day was had, we were glad to reach the end with aching legs and the thought of a cup of tea was very inviting! A great day was had by everyone and £386.43 was raised for the Cystic Fibrosis Trust which is what we aimed to do.



FINAL VICKY PETERS MEMORIAL MATCH



On Saturday 31 March KGS hosted the tenth and final Vicky Peters Memorial Match. After consultation with Mr Peters it was decided that this should be the final remembrance game. The weather was lovely, the girls turned out in force to play in this game and as always there was great support on the side-line. The start of the match with the minute's applause was a real mix of emotions, and then on the whistle both teams played an excellent standard of hockey. The old girls were strong, physical and many were skilled club players. The first X1 demonstrated why they were North Champions and indeed National finalists this year. The result was irrelevant really, the manner in which the game was played was all important with both teams totally committed and highly skilled.

The buffet in the dining hall after the game provided an opportunity for everyone to catch up, old girls, husbands, children, old boys and parents who have stood on the side-lines for hours supporting their daughters over the years.

In the evening Mr and Mrs Peters organised a fabulous event at their home, a meal, speeches, a live band and a disco which provided those people who were close to Vicky a wonderful opportunity to reminisce. The evening was thoroughly enjoyed by all and was certainly a fitting tribute to Vicky, a person who epitomised everything that KGS sport is still about today!



Biology/Geography Fieldwork

Third year Biology/Geography field work at Waddecar – 25/25 May

All the third year classes were able to experience GCSE field work sampling techniques in the River Brock at Waddecar. Brilliant sunshine was a welcome bonus to spending the day outdoors. Wellingtons were still needed as the river study activities meant that everyone had to get into the water. Kick sampling to catch and examine freshwater invertebrates also involved maintaining balance on one leg, which proved challenging in the more uneven river sections. The invertebrate species captured indicated that the water quality was very good and unpolluted.

Comparisons were also made between the woodland and grassland plant species next to the river. Equipment provided by Hothersall Lodge allowed many abiotic factors to be measured. The distribution of earthworms was also investigated using mustard water to bring the worms to the surface. Not everyone was willing to pick up the worms to count them! The woodland area was expected to have more earthworms due to the large amount of dead leaves available as a food source.

Sixth Form Biologists

Belt transect at Ainsdale sand dunes.

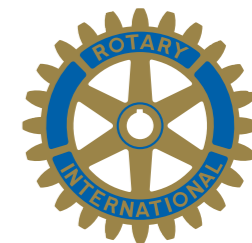
The extensive sand dune habitat at Ainsdale is an impressive sight – especially on a sunny day. The Sixth Form Biologists were lucky in the choice of day for our field work – bright and sunny but not too hot. It was also fortunate that we didn't get too thirsty as much of our water supply was used up – for the benefit of science! We poured water over patches of dune moss in order to see the instantaneous transformation from dry, twisted strands into lush, green moss.

During the data collection along our transect we stumbled across a few specimens of the rare Bee Orchid, growing in a narrow



gully. This, along with Pyramidal Orchids and Marsh Helliborine, shows how important it is to preserve this as a Nature Reserve. In the low-lying dune hollow, we also found a pool containing Natterjack toad tadpoles which are an endangered species.

Following our hard work, which will be collated to give an excellent example of succession, the weather conditions were perfect for beach football, and ice creams.



ROTARY/BAE TECHNOLOGY TOURNAMENT



Teams from over twenty local schools took part in the Technology Tournament at Preston Grasshoppers. The task was to make a "coin sorter" and the task was split into three divisions:

KS4

Our Fourth Years came first in this division.

Team: Scott Collins
Adam Kantharia
Joseph Parker
Scott Reilly

2nd place team: Ashley Chang
Alex Kearsley
Richardo North
Jamie Whittingham

3rd place team: Hannah Davies
Liam Marrows
Nick Wharton
Chris Williamson

KS3

Our First Years did really well and got a creditable third when competing against Third Years from other schools.

Team: Nathan Brown
Aaron Bradshaw
Oscar Cornah-Burrows
Joshua Renwick

KS5

Two Lower Sixth teams entered this division and they came second and third.

house Technology

There was a thrilling finale to the 2012 House Technology Competition when Fylde House beat the tournament favourites Kirkham in the third and final testing round of the competition. This year's task saw the teams having to design and build a remotely-triggered catapult capable of firing a projectile the furthest distance possible after clearing a half-metre high wall; all within a one-hour time limit.

In the first round of testing none of the four teams managed to clear the wall with their projectile. In the second round of testing only Kirkham House managed to clear the wall, with their projectile flying an amazing 6.38m. However with the tension mounting in the third and final round, the Fylde House team fired a projectile that not only cleared the wall but flew an incredible 6.56m beyond it, leaving Kirkham House everything to do to regain their first place. Unfortunately their final shot of 5.78m fell short of Fylde's attempt leaving them in second place, with Fylde House as worthy champions of the 2012 competition. A fire-off for third and fourth place saw Preston House gain the advantage with a distance of 3.25 metres over School House's 1.90 metres.



Paris Trip 2012



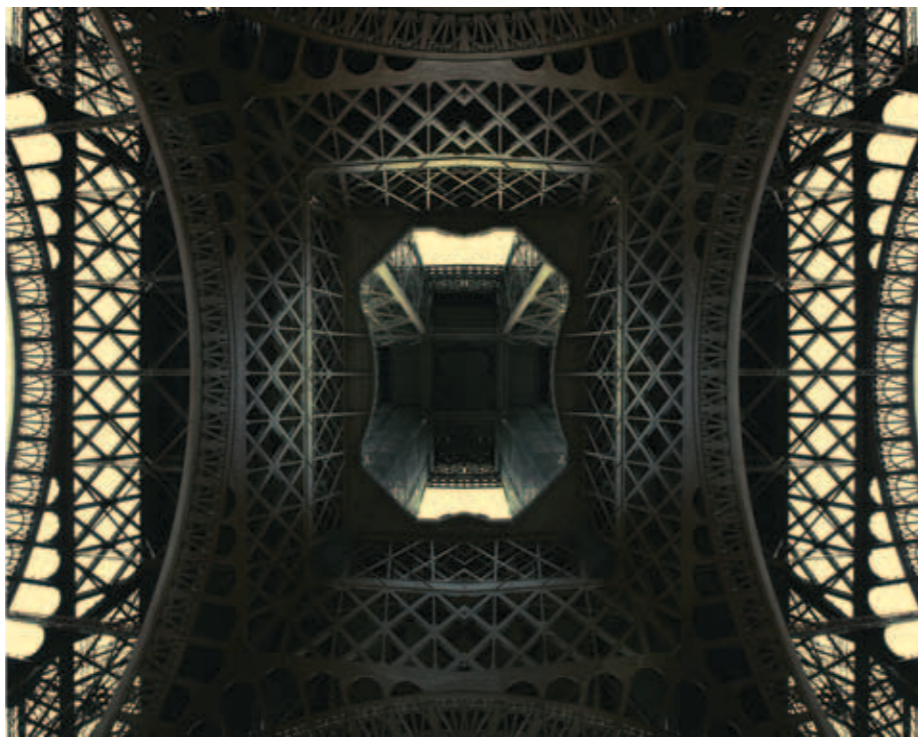
In the Old Hall the air was buzzing with excitement, it was just before midnight and this was the meeting place for the Third Year pupils who were going to Paris. Ahead of us was a very long (14 hours to be exact) coach journey, a journey where very little sleep was had!

On arrival in Paris we had a whistle stop tour of the Arc de Triomphe, which was commissioned by Napoleon to commemorate the victories during the war. Next on our list was a stroll down the Champs-Élysées, with a chance for some shopping, or window shopping for most of us! Before heading to our hotel we enjoyed a boat ride on the River Seine, we were all grateful for the chance to sit down and admire the view! At the hotel we sampled our first French food before bed as the next day was another early start.

Day two was a whirl of sightseeing, the Notre Dame with its beautiful stained glass windows then onto the Pompidou Centre for more shopping! The Eiffel Tower, after lunch, gave us a great view of the city even if we had to climb 1,710 steps to reach the top! We ended our day with a visit to the Sacré Coeur, even more steps to climb.

Day three was spent at Disneyland Paris where we seemed to spend a lot of time queuing for rides. After watching the parades, our stay in Paris drew to a close. Another coach trip lay between us and home but this one flew, as we all chatted about our amazing time in Paris.

Olivia de Klerk 3V



The KGS Ski trip this year has got to be one of the best.

Saturday 31 March – At 8:00 am a group of students, who were all very excited but also tired, travelled to Leeds Airport. Once there we went through security and bought some snacks before boarding the plane. The plane journey seemed to go quite quickly and before we knew it we had arrived at Geneva Airport in Switzerland. After collecting our luggage we all looked forward (not) to the four hour bus drive to the hotel. The drive seemed to last forever and the view of snowy mountains soon came into view. Arriving at the hotel the question on everyone's mind was "where is the snow?" But looking at the top of the mountains which surrounded the town of Serre Chevalier, you could see it. When we arrived we took our luggage to our rooms and then came back downstairs to have our tea. It was delicious, a much needed meal. After tea, we had our ski boots fitted and were given our skis, poles and helmets. Finally we went upstairs to unpack followed by a good night's sleep.

Sunday 1 April – April Fools' Day! An early start and a lovely breakfast set the mood for the first day of skiing. All dressed up in our salopettes, ski coats, boots and helmets we made our way to the slopes. Two hours of skiing seemed to go very quickly and before we knew it we were back at the hotel for lunch. The weather was lovely and warm and sitting on our balcony we managed to catch a sun tan. Lunch was over quickly and then we were back out onto the slopes. The snow was great and we all had a fab two hours. Saying bye to our instructors finished our day of skiing, next returning to the hotel for a sit down. Tea was later and after it we had a town trail. In our groups, which were our rooms, we walked around town looking for certain places to answer questions. Of course it had to be our team that got disqualified for returning too late! After that we all went back to our rooms and went to bed.

Monday 2 April – An early start yet again and a tasty breakfast got us ready for the second day of skiing. Again it was our room down, forgetting our pole and losing our kit. Eventually it was all found and we were then split into our groups based on ability; Beginner, Lower Intermediate, Higher Intermediate and Advanced. All too soon we were



back at the hotel for lunch. The tiredness was beginning to kick in when we were back on the slopes. Chair lifts were the best as it allowed you to have a quick nap while going up the mountain. Back at the hotel we went into town to the local supermarket; Sherpa. Tea then followed and it was fab. The activity that night was Bum Boarding. We were given a Bum Board and were taken up a slope and then the screams of laughter rang out. All you could see were people flying everywhere down the slope. Finally we trudged back to the hotel and had a well-deserved hot chocolate and then a sleep. Tuesday 3 April – Waking up to the sound of Mrs Walker saying 'Let's go skiing' was the highlight of the morning. After a slow breakfast we were back out in the snow. Two hours went by and then back to the hotel it was. Lunch was great yet again. A quick visit to town filled the gap after lunch before skiing. Skiing was fab and we all had a great time. Another visit to town, to look for presents, took up time before tea. Tea was nice and the evening activity was bowling. Bowling was fun, and the reigning champion of the night was Matthew Newby with 149 points. After that we returned back to the hotel and chatted to our friends before bed.

Wednesday 4 April – The days seemed to go so quickly, breakfast went fast and back onto the slopes it was. Skiing was really good today. Everyone had a great time, judging by the smiles on their faces. Before lunch it was another quick visit to Sherpa for some snacks for the evening activity. Lunch was great, as per usual. Back out in the snow we went, this time we went up the mountain and it was great. Coming back to our rooms and putting our feet up was a joy; even though we had a great time our feet did ache. A shower was a pleasant thing and then it was down for tea. The evening activity was a movie night. The film fitted in with the holiday, it was called 'Chalet Girl', and it was about a girl who couldn't snowboard then enters a big snowboarding contest. After, it was up to bed.

Thursday 5 April – Waking up to a chilly morning with empty slopes, the reality that our holiday was near an end set the atmosphere in breakfast - which was quieter than usual. Skiing lightened our mood and today was a clear day so visibility was good. Coming back to the hotel for lunch was welcoming, lunch was yummy and set us up for the afternoon. The afternoon was so much fun as we

went on a snow park, going over the jumps was the best. Then we had the evening activity to enjoy which was a talent show. This night was the best, the talent ranged from a hilarious performance from the Six Amigos to Rob, Theo, and Sam with their restaurant sketch. The winners were the Six Amigos. A well-deserved win. Off to bed it was after a few sessions of karaoke. The memorable performance of Mr Whalley, Mr Hancock, Mrs Walker and Mrs Cheyne was great. We all slept well that night.

Friday 6 April – The last day of skiing. It was the talk at breakfast – were we going to do anything special? The answer was yes, we were doing an 'inside out' day. We all had smiles on our faces as we were looking forward to enjoying the last day of skiing. The morning session went too quickly. Lunch was slow which wasn't bad, enjoying our last lunch. Afternoon skiing was a different plan to usual. All the groups went up the top of the mountain and our instructors built some jumps for us. The screams of excitement summed up our level of enjoyment. After skiing we gave back our poles, boots, skis and helmets. Then it was up to our rooms to pack and get ready for the disco. It was the best tea of the holiday. Then it was the disco, which was fun. The girls got dressed up and the boys looked smart. It was fab. Then it was back to the hotel for a short sleep.

Saturday 7 April – We were woken up early and had to bring our suitcases down to the lobby before they were loaded on to the coach for a long journey to Geneva Airport. Most of us slept on the coach so it was silent. At the airport we checked our cases in and then went through security. Then we were allowed to go and buy some snacks before boarding. Once we boarded, the plane took off and it was bye bye Geneva. We landed at Leeds Airport and collected our luggage before going to the coach. Then we were on our way back to school. Once we were at school the swarm of parents gathered outside the coach. After picking up our suitcases it was soon time to go home. We would like to thank all the teachers for making the trip so much fun and for making it possible to go. Thank you.

Helen Perry, Sophie Midgley and Heather Crook

photography portfolio



"you don't take
a photograph
You make it"

ANSEL ADAMS





THE CITY OF HOPE BERLIN



A-level Art Trip

So why, you might ask, would KGS take its annual Sixth Form Art trip to Berlin? Not Paris; not Florence; not Madrid; but Berlin?

Maybe because the very walls of the city are decorated with art and the last vestiges of the Berlin wall itself are painted with images of hope and freedom.

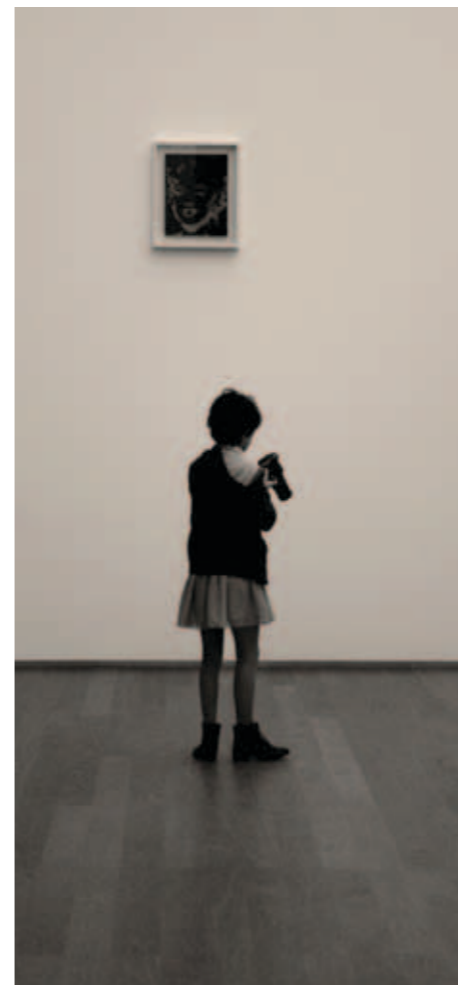
Maybe because of the endless opportunities for the photographers to capture the life of the city, from the bustling underground to the vibrant street life and the cutting-edge architecture.

Maybe because the students could climb to the top of the Reichstag with its emblematic dome and its remarkable views across the city.

Maybe because they could see some of the most interesting modern art from Warhol to Beuys to shapes made out of pure light and steam.

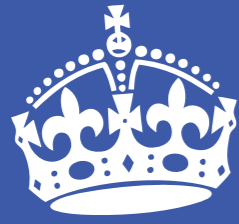
Maybe because, if we believe that those who do not learn from history are doomed to repeat it, the students could visit the Holocaust Memorial and the Jewish Museum and learn for themselves.

Or maybe because Berlin has a life and a beating heart and a soul and the students could come home quoting the words of the T-shirt, 'Ich liebe Berlin.'



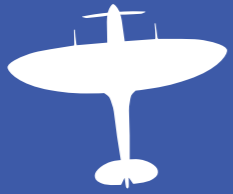


MMXII



YOU HAVE BEEN
WATCHING

BLUE
REMEMBERED
HILLS





Library News

WORLD BOOK DAY

The focus here at KGS is on storytelling, celebrating the rich diversity of literature across continents and time. The pupils enjoy the opportunity of relaxing while enjoying a wide variety of storytelling. The positive feedback from the pupils is proof that the culture of reading is alive and well and growing here at Kirkham.

The staff who gave up their time provided a wonderful range of stories, from the published to the unpublished. Mr Wheatland started the day by reading from Benjamin Zephaniah's book "Teacher's dead", a very good story which told of a teenager trying to understand why a violent crime has occurred at his school.

There were contributions from Mrs Heney, Mr Painter, Mrs Parkinson and Mrs Copland, and the subject matter ranged from Ranulph Fiennes' description of attempts on the north face of the Eiger to thrillers by Suzanne Collins and James Patterson as well as an amusing travel tale.

The most unusual reading was provided by some of Mrs Fearn's L6 English Language students, who gave a wonderful performance, in full costume, of their gothic re-telling of famous 'fairy' stories - we could hear a pin drop! Given Mrs Fearn's talent as a writer it should come as no surprise that her students are similarly gifted. As always the stories prompted a desire to borrow some of the books and a waiting list has developed for "The Hunger Games"; the film is eagerly anticipated!

PUPIL LIBRARIAN EVENT

Three pupils from KGS participated in a Pupil Librarian Conference on Wednesday 20 June which was organised by the Lancashire branch of the School Library Association. This annual event is held as a 'thank you' to the many pupils who contribute so much to their school libraries in Lancashire. Olivia Billington, Elizabeth Brocklehurst and Emily Parkinson-Swift were able to take part because of their participation in the Carnegie Award. Mrs Anne Woodworth and Mrs Liz Lawson, librarians at Baines School in Poulton, kindly hosted the event which attracted forty pupils from schools across Lancashire.

On our arrival all the pupils were welcomed and offered refreshments, giving everyone an opportunity to meet other people. Mrs Jo Harwood, Librarian at Broughton Business and Enterprise College, kept a blog of the day, which everyone could follow on the large screen. The first event involved an amusing quiz, also organised by Mrs Harwood, and Elizabeth was on the winning team! This was followed by a 'Speed Dating' event with a difference - it involved books, not people! Each pupil brought along their favourite book and had 30 seconds to sell it to their 'opposite partner', who then reciprocated. They then changed partners. The pupils awarded points to their 'date' and these were totalled up at the end. A few pupils earned the maximum possible number of points, among them Elizabeth (again!) and Emily. They were awarded prizes.

Lunch followed, after which Mrs Valerie Laycock, Librarian at Central Lancaster High School, introduced us all to the Fishing Game. This game has been played in her family for many years and she has adapted it for use in the Library. It involves a dice, plastic cotton reels, a bucket and a fishing rope; each cotton reel has a cup hook fixed into the side. The idea was for each team member to roll the dice and then fish for a cotton reel every time a six was thrown - the staff had to scrutinise carefully to ensure that there was no cheating. Each cotton reel contained a piece of paper - giving either the name of an author or the title of a book. When the whistle was finally blown the children had to remove the slips of paper and then match up authors and titles - easier said than done!

The afternoon ended with everyone being given a 'goody bag' containing books, stationery and other items; a personalised Certificate of Attendance is presented to each participant. The event was voted a success, with the only complaint being that we arrived back in school in time for the last two lessons of the afternoon!



AUTHOR EVENT WITH DARREN SHAN

When, out of the blue, the Library phone rang and I was asked if I would take a call from someone at Harper Collins Children's Books, little did I know that I would be asked if we would like a visit from an author; not just any author but one whose books are on sale in every continent, in 39 countries, in 31 languages, have been bestsellers in America, Britain, Ireland, the Netherlands, Norway, Hungary, Japan and Taiwan and who has sold more than 20 million copies worldwide!

It was impossible to keep the smile off my face and the excitement out of my voice as plans were made for the visit of Darren Shan, bestselling author of books about vampires, demons and zombies and other such attractive creatures!

Darren visited KGS on 3 May, as part of the extensive tour he is undertaking following the publication of his new book "Brothers to the Death". This book is the final part of "The Saga of Larten Crepsley", the character originally introduced in Darren's first children's book "Cirque du Freak".

The first part of the visit took place in the Library, where Darren was able to chat to the pupils and staff who are fans of his writing. Waterstones were on hand to provide the books to the many pupils who wished to purchase their own copy; Darren signed these books, personalising each one.

He then spoke to all the pupils in the First Year, reading out extensive extracts from two of his books and talking about his writing and the characters he has created. The response from his audience was excellent and he took time to answer the many questions which were asked.

This was an excellent opportunity for our pupils to enjoy a visit from a world-famous author and we would like to thank HarperCollins for organising the visit.



SCRIBBLERS' CLUB

Our Summer Recital, on 25 May, was a bittersweet event. It marked the last time that Chad Bentley and Emily Bourne would entertain an appreciative audience with their stories and poems. They both leave school this summer, after seven years and fourteen performances! Their work as Club Secretaries has ensured that this group has grown year on year and they have left a solid foundation for Gabi Smith and our performers. Mr Sampey and I would like to say "Thank you, Chad and Emily"



This year EIGHT books were on this year's shortlist and our judging took place on 11th June, since the official result was scheduled for Thursday 14 June - when the whole school was doing exams! The judging meeting consisted of pupils from all year groups, including some who have officially 'left' the school - a sure sign of the popularity of this annual event. Kathryn and Tanya Minn were busy on the Sunday baking lots of cup-cakes - and these were very popular.

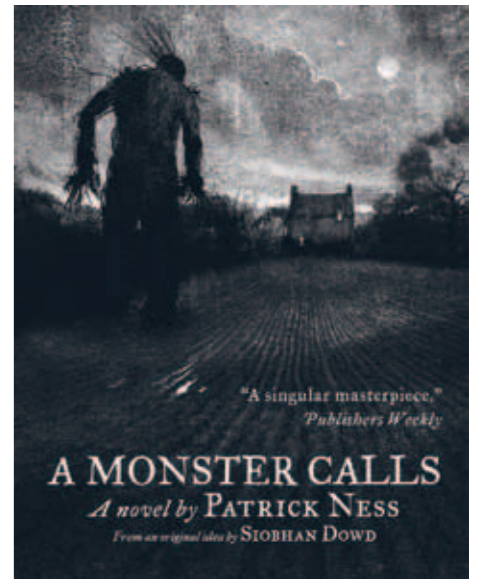
The need to maintain silence in the Library for the students who were revising meant that we took over the French Café, with the kind permission of Mrs Hodgkinson. We all agreed that the standard of writing was excellent and the shortlist had been the best ever - our judging results proved very interesting. On a show of hands for everyone's favourite book we had a tie between Patrick Ness' "A monster calls" and Ruth Sepetys "Between shades of gray". The judging scores, however, gave 1st place to Ruth Sepetys: her book tells the harrowing story of the forced removal, by Josef Stalin, of countless Lithuanians to Soviet labour camps. All the readers were agreed that it was a very close call this year.

Our team of readers continues to grow in number and Kathryn Minn, who has taken part for seven years, was amazed at the number of First Year pupils who had taken part and contributed so much to our shadowing. I feel very proud of all our readers and thank them, most sincerely, for their commitment and enthusiasm.

The official result was posted at midday and our readers were not surprised to find that this year's Carnegie Medal had been awarded to Patrick Ness. Even more extraordinary was the news that the same book had won the Kate Greenaway Award for Jim Kay's amazing illustrations. This dual win for the same book has never happened in the 75 years of the Award. Congratulations to Patrick Ness who has become the first author in well over 20 years to win the CILIP Carnegie Medal two years in a row. This is only the second time in the Medal's 75 year history that this has happened. He has now been on the shortlist for four consecutive years - an indication of how brilliant is this young writer. Founded in 1937, the CILIP Carnegie Medal is the UK's oldest and most prestigious prize for children's and young people's writing. Over the last seven decades it has come to be regarded as the arbiter of quality in writing for children and young people. Its list of distinguished past winners includes Neil Gaiman, Philip Pullman, Anne Fine, Terry Pratchett, Noel Streatfeild, Arthur Ransome and CS Lewis.

The CILIP Carnegie website put the following: Carnegie Medal Winner 2012 Patrick Ness, A Monster Calls, Walker Books

The CILIP Carnegie & Kate Greenaway Children's Book Awards



Rachel Levy, the Chair of Judges explains: "A Monster Calls' is an exquisite piece of writing. It is a beautifully economical, structurally brilliant and lyrically descriptive account of a challenging episode in one child's life. One of our judges - bereaved at a young age - said she wished that she'd had 'A Monster Calls' to read then, because while it describes the nature of grief with an extraordinary clarity it also fills the reader with a spirit of hopefulness and a love for life that is profound and lasting."

It will be interesting to see what appears on the shortlist next year - but one thing is certain. KGS pupils will 'shadow' with enthusiasm and will continue to prove that books are not dead! The quality and quantity of children's literature grows each year and it is so rewarding to see our pupils enjoying the richness of modern literature.



climbing



ANNUAL AIR TRAINING CORPS TRAINING DAY

Over 700 staff and Air Cadets from all over the North West converged on Kirkham Grammar School to join cadets from the school's Combined Cadet Force and take part in the annual Air Training Corps Wing Training Day meeting involving keenly contested competitions in Drill, First-aid, Indoor Shooting, Aircraft Recognition and many other activities. Many of the cadets had travelled from as far as Carlisle and Whitehaven and many were amazed to be greeted by a full size replica of a World War II Mark IX Spitfire parked on the Headmaster's lawn in front of school! The spitfire, provided by the Lytham and St Annes Spitfire Memorial Group, was a fitting backdrop to an excellent event and the effort and standard achieved from all the cadets was most pleasing to see.



As this newsletter goes to print the DofE groups will be packing their rucksacks, preparing their routes and heading to the South Lake District for the summer expeditions. Over sixty KGS students will be undertaking the challenge of completing either their Bronze, Silver or Gold expeditions during July. We hope for good walking weather and successful adventures for all taking part.

This was the case during the Easter holidays when twenty one students and five staff headed for the Ullswater and Keswick area of the Lake District. Although we had some very cold and wet nights the weather in the day made for a very enjoyable expedition. The three Bronze groups benefited greatly from a practice day walking around the Ullswater area, before starting their expedition leaving Pooley Bridge and heading towards Keswick via St John's in the Vale where they set up camp and prepared to complete their route the following day. The Silver groups walked into Pooley Bridge from Patterdale on the first day and then after a well deserved sleep also headed towards Keswick. All participants had

a great time and were a credit to themselves, the DofE and the school.

Hopefully with the large number of students taking part in the Summer Expedition we will have many DofE Awards to present during the next academic year.

Since the last newsletter we are pleased to announce the following awards:

Bronze Award:

Ellie Higham
Nicole Wainwright
Savannah Des-Etages
Jessica Riley
Ben Everson
Rachel Howard
Matthew Beaty
Catherine Beesley
Charles Redshaw
Oliver Carpenter
Oliver Rigby
Alex King
Rachel Ellis



Silver Award:

Joseph Wareing
Andrew Best

We are delighted to announce five Gold Duke of Edinburgh Awards:

Jonathan Davies
Vincent Grumme
Sam Donaldson
Johnathan Pickbourn
Joe Wareing

All the above have completed the whole of their Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme in true Kirkham Grammar School fashion. They have set themselves challenges at every level and strived to achieve their best throughout.

Four of the above students used their CCF experience for their Volunteering section of the Gold Award and have all shown excellent leadership and organisation skills during their time in the Sixth Form as NCOs; the CCF staff are indebted for their service. The skills

goldenboyz

section demonstrates the wealth of talent our KGS students possess, or are determined to gain. By setting themselves achievable goals all participants can develop a skill whether it be musical, creative, technological or a life skill.

The physical section of the DofE Award is completed by taking part in a physical activity on a regular basis. At every level of their Award, the above students have again set themselves targets and have worked hard to meet them. It is pleasing to report the number of different sports undertaken by our students, many of which they are trying for the first time. From this small cohort of participants we have sailing, climbing, gym work, rugby and cycling.

To achieve the Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award, participants must also complete their

Gold expedition, which is a very demanding experience of 4 days/3 nights of back packing, where one night is spent wild camping. They must also undertake a 5 day/4 night residential experience. The residential section gives the participants an experience where they learn how to work with people from different backgrounds and builds their confidence living in new environments. Vincent Grumme worked very hard on a volunteer project helping to restore a canal system including the locks. Sam Donaldson undertook a university-based learning course. Joe Wareing and Johnathan Pickbourn survived Cadet Leadership courses at Frimley Park. Jonathan Davies completed a cadet ski instructor's course also through the CCF, in spite of dislocating his shoulder during the course.





news

CFE
CADET



Since the last report the CCF has continued to undertake a full diary of activities beginning with a Field Day for the Fourth Year cadets. This took place at Halton Training Camp near Lancaster just before Easter. The cadets were introduced to the delights of an Army obstacle course, weapon handling, and many ingenious initiative and leadership tasks and all found the experience very enjoyable. This was then quickly followed at the start of the summer term by Adventure Training held at the Capel Curig Training Camp in Snowdonia. Unlike previous years the weather was very challenging at times, with heavy snow and strong winds making the Camp a full-on mountain experience which greatly increased cadets' confidence.

We then had our annual Air Cadet Wing Training Day at school early in May. This event attracts hundreds of air cadets from around Lancashire and Cumbria for an intensive day of competition and we were even graced by a full sized replica of a Spitfire which was parked for the day on the school's front lawn!

As I write this report we are close to our next Field Day for our Cadets which will be held at Altcar Training Camp near Liverpool, and are busy preparing for the CCF Summer Camp which will involve nearly sixty cadets and will be held at Warcop during the week immediately after the end of summer term. CCF activities will however continue over the summer break with one of our cadets, Sergeant Josh Hoyles, travelling to Canada to take part in the very demanding Canadian Army Wilderness Challenge and another, Liam Marrows, spending most of August in Lesotho, South Africa, as part of a large-scale Army Cadet challenge.

We however finish the report on a sad note as we have learnt of Lt Col Ian Scott's decision to finally retire after over thirty years dedicated service to the School Combined Cadet Force. 'Spot', as he was affectionately known, had steered the contingent for the last nine years through all trials and the tribulations of defense cuts and the ever increasingly risk-averse world to maintain the "cadet experience" and all the staff and cadets who have known him over the years will miss him greatly.

Sqd Ldr J. W. Callister
CCF Commanding Officer



Music

The Spring Term and first half of the Summer Term are very busy periods in the lives of KGS musicians. The Music Competition dominates the second half of the Spring Term, being won this year by Elliott Gaston-Ross (marimba) (photo right) with Hannah Culver (piano) (photo right) and Madeline Robinson (flute) in second and third places respectively. Commendations went to Gemma Broomhead (voice), Sarah Quarmby (cello), Chloe Walker (singing), Patrick Callery (tuba) and Elliott Gaston-Ross on his second instrument, the piano. Chloe Walker was also part of the winning Ensemble, along with Gus Graham and Oliver Carpenter, whilst Helen Kelsall won the Composition class. Following the now-traditional massed choirs Fylde House emerged as the winners of the House Choir competition, being also the overall winners of the House Music Competition.

A number of KGS musicians regularly represent the county in instrumental ensembles, rehearsing throughout the year and taking part in public concerts in venues such as Preston Guild Hall. Sophie Midgley plays the clarinet in the Lancashire Youth Concert Band, she also plays the clarinet in the Lancashire Youth Symphony Orchestra, along with Hannah Culver and Gemma Broomhead (violins) and Aimee Bilsborrow (oboe). Sam and Matt Donaldson (E flat horn and cornet) play with the Lancashire Youth Brass Band whilst Elizabeth Brocklehurst (trombone) and Patrick Callery (tuba) play in the Yorkshire Youth Brass Band.

Two students play with national ensembles, Elizabeth Brocklehurst (trombone) in the National Children's Brass Band and Elliott Gaston-Ross (percussion)(photo right) in the National Children's Orchestra. Elliott had the unforgettable experience of playing before the Queen at the lunch held in Westminster Hall as part of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations on Tuesday 5 June, when the Queen and royal family hosted a lunch for over 700 guests. Coverage of the lunch, and of the orchestra's performance, was shown worldwide on television. Elliott also attends the Junior School of Royal Northern College of Music and was selected to represent the RNCM in a percussion ensemble at the Royal Opera House in May.

A number of pupils took part in the Young Musicians of the Guild competition, held as part of the celebrations surrounding Preston Guild 2012. Aimee Bilsborrow (oboe) and Sophie Midgley (clarinet) won through the early rounds but special congratulations must go to Hannah Culver (piano), who reached the Semi-finals, which were held in Preston Minster on Sunday 25 March. The competition was open not only to musicians from ordinary schools, but also to those up to the age of 21 from both specialist music schools and universities and music conservatoires so reaching this stage in the competition represented a major achievement for Hannah.



CADBURY'S, LAND ROVER VISIT



The Fourth and Fifth Year Business Studies students spent a day visiting two large UK based companies in the Midlands – Cadbury's and Land Rover with the objective of improving their understanding and awareness of business activity first hand.

The trip to Cadbury's provided some insight into their marketing strategy and how the company is developing their products to increase market share within international markets. Their objectives for growth, strategies for brand maintenance and awareness were all issues that were address on the day.

Land Rover provided a very structured and well organised visit for our students. They were taken onto the factory floor to witness, for themselves, mass production and the use of computer aided technology in the car manufacturing. Plenty of information was provided about how quality was maintained, the use of just-in-time production and stock management, linked in with how their operations management all contributed to an efficient and effective company with improved cash flow and profits.

In particular, the production visit offered many benefits and has been used by staff to support material delivered within the classroom, and students regularly highlight aspects of their visit to reinforce their points on different topic material. In this respect it was a very successful trip.

interHouseevents

Report of the House Events
Spring/Summer Term 2012

It has been another busy term for all the Houses with fourteen competitions in ten weeks. The weather at the start of the term was kind to us and we managed to get all the cross country events completed on time. It is a credit to the school that competitors treat all the House events with enthusiasm and always give their best. The Juniors have again enjoyed the First and Second Year Maths Tournaments, both being well attend and very competitive.

The House Music Festival again culminated with a 'sing off' for all four House Choirs in front of a large audience in the MPH and it was the highlight of the term to see so many singers, from the First Year to the Sixth Form, joining in together. Congratulations to Fylde who won it for the fourth year in a row and Elliott Gaston-Ross of Kirkham House who won the Individual first prize for the outstanding musician of the festival. Fylde House were the overall winners of the House Music Festival.

It was fantastic to see Sports Day a whole school event again with all the year groups competing in both track and field events whilst the rest of the school eagerly watched on. It is also pleasing to see School House under the leadership of Mr Wu winning sports day and pushing the other Houses in the overall Whitby Cup standings.

Awards for Victor and Victrix Ludorum

Junior Boys- Kieran Wilkinson
Junior Girls- Rachel Greenwood
Inter Boys- Oscar Graham
Inter Girls- Beth Everson
Senior Boys- Ben Everson
Senior Girls- Rachel Williamson

The winners were:

Senior Girls Cross Country
Senior Boys Cross Country
Intermediate Boys Cross Country
Intermediate Girls Cross Country
Junior Boys Cross Country
Junior Girls Cross Country

School
Fylde
Preston
Preston
Preston
Kirkham

Fylde
Preston
School
Fylde
Kirkham
Fylde

Music
Shooting
House Debate
First Year Maths
Second Year Maths
Senior Volleyball
Sports Day
Senior Tennis
Senior Cricket

Fylde
School
Preston
Fylde
School
Fylde
School
Fylde
School

The standings in the overall Whitby Cup are:

4th position with 63 points
3rd position with 71 points
2nd position with 72 points
1st position with 78 points

Kirkham
Preston
School
Fylde

It is very close going into the second half of the Summer Term with seven more events to come and yet again Fylde House are forging ahead with School and Preston battling for second place.

FRIENDS



Dear Parents,

I hope that by the time you are reading this, our long awaited summer has finally arrived and we are enjoying some sunshine in the school summer holidays. However, miserable weather does not deter the Friends of KGS and we have been very busy over the summer term. We held our annual Fun Day/Garden Party in May and although the sun was not shining, it was a great improvement on the gales and monsoon of the previous year. Attendance and support was slightly down on last year but it was still a lovely, family afternoon with lots for the children to do. The Army brought their Zip Wire and Assault Course and we also had various inflatables, donkey rides, stalls and activities on the field. Thank you to Mrs Annie Ward and her team for organising this once again.

Flaming June did not live up to its name for the weekend of our Ball. The Sixth Formers had a very wet evening on the Friday for their Leavers Ball but the marquee was warm and dry and still standing for the Friends to meet on the Saturday morning. Our theme this year was "Diamond and Dazzle" in conjunction with the Queen's Jubilee and my word, dazzle we did!! Thanks to a tremendous amount of hard work, the marquee was transformed for our guests to enjoy a delicious four course dinner, join in our fund raising events and dance the night away to The Hooper Band. Many thanks to everyone who was involved with the evening and made it the great success it was, especially Mrs Michelle O'Neil who was our ball co-ordinator. I have received many wonderful comments regarding the Ball and it really makes all the planning and organising worthwhile.

The Friends of Kirkham Grammar School work extremely hard throughout the year, giving hours upon hours of their time, that goes unseen, to fundraise for our children. It has been a privilege to work with the Committee for twelve years and have the honour of being the Chairman for the last six years. But time moves on and there is always need for change. I am retiring from the Friends of this term, as my son Joe leaves the school, but I know they will go from strength to strength and I wish them all the very best for the future.

Finally, I would like to thank all the staff, parents, grandparents and friends who have supported us over the years and attended all our events - we couldn't do it without you. Every penny we raise goes into school to enrich the education of our children and it has been an absolute pleasure to have been involved.

Lorraine Wareing
Chair of The Friends of Kirkham Grammar School



Diary Dates



A-level Results
Thursday 16 August 2012

GCSE Results
Thursday 23 August 2012

1st Year Induction Day
8.50 am, Tuesday 4 September 2012

New School Year begins
8.50 am, Wednesday 5 September 2012

Senior School Annual Prizegiving & Speech Day
7.15 for 7.30 pm, Thursday 20 September 2012

Friends of KGS AGM
Monday 1 October 2012

Open Afternoon
Sunday 7 October 2012

New Parents' Welcome Evening
Wednesday 10 October 2012

Old Kirkhamians' Association AGM
& Northern Reunion Dinner
Saturday 20 October 2012

Open Evening
Monday 12 November 2012

Friends of KGS Winter Ball
at The Villa, Wrea Green
Saturday 17 November 2012

Friends of KGS Christmas Fair
Friday 23 November 2012

"Young" OKA Reunion
at the Grapes, Wrea Green
Monday 17 December 2012

Senior School Entrance Exam
Saturday 19 January 2013

Sixth Form Open Evening
Thursday 7 February 2013



SUMMER ACTIVITY CAMPS

David Shaw Tennis Camp 16-20 & 23-27 July 2012
David Shaw 07770618148
e-mail: d.shaw223@btinternet.com

Andrew Flintoff Cricket Academy 30 July - 3 August 2012
www.andrewflintoffcricketacademy.co.uk

Kings Camp 6-10 & 13-17 August 2012
www.kingcamps.org

Boarding House 2011 - 2012





KGS sport



As another sporting year comes to an end it is easy to reflect on some outstanding achievements by our pupils. The end of the Spring Term is always a busy time packed with the culmination of competitions which have stretched over a long period. Then we embark on the summer – given the recent weather it is difficult to identify – and a host of equally memorable performances.

On the hockey field our girls had one of the most outstanding seasons for many years. The 1st XI reached the National finals as National Champions and while they did not come home with the trophy, they performed to the highest standards. Immediately upon their return they met with equal success in our own tournament where they registered victories over Sedbergh, Wilmslow and the mighty Millfield to finish as runners up in the tournament to British Colleges, an international team. Such success owes so much to the dedicated group of players led by Ashley Bradshaw, who have worked so hard with Mrs Glover over the last three years to achieve their goal. Beyond the Sevens however, the younger teams also met with great success with the U14's gaining recognition as North West Champions while the U12's became County Champions and won the Chester 7-a-side competition. A vintage year indeed.

Equally impressive were the boys in their Sevens season. Again success was spread through the age groups. At 1st

VII level the team came home with the trophy from Felsted and were runners up at the National Schools Sevens at Fylde. Such achievements were all the more impressive in that they were achieved without Phil Cringle, vice-captain, who was away gaining a Scottish International Cap. Beyond the Sevens, the trophy haul was unprecedented at KGS, with victories by the U15 VII at Arnold, the U14 VII at our own tournament while the U13's were victorious at Packwood Haugh and Bromsgrove Tournaments. Finally the U12's won both the Manchester Tens and the Wirral Sevens. The Headmaster's study is now crammed full of trophies! Congratulations to all concerned.

The winter sports also include swimming but the final stages of these competitions involve the summer term and we were delighted to see our youngsters amass a series of trophies at the Fylde and Wyre Tournament, a sure sign that swimming is rising strongly as a successful school activity. Individually we are delighted to learn that Samantha Hollings achieved the British Swimming National Qualifying Time in the individual 400m freestyle event at the North West Regional Championships Finals in June. She will now attend the British Gas ASA National Age Group Championships in July at Ponds Forge, Sheffield.

In the current term the weather has played havoc with the cricket season but



nonetheless our players have battled through the floods to gain considerable success. At senior level the 1st XI won the local round of the National 20:20 Competition defeating KEQMS and Arnold in poignant fixtures. The U14's have gone even further, reaching the final of the Lancashire Cup and defeating Lancaster RGS, Merchant Taylors', KEQMS and Arnold on the way. It is pleasing to see our cricketers establishing themselves in the cricketing world and there is no doubt that the school now boasts some very good players, competing at all levels on a very tough circuit. Centurions Kieran Wilkinson and George Brookes have much to celebrate while U14 player James Seward has had an excellent season in the 1st XI, culminating in their victory over the LX Club.

Our girls traditionally excel on the athletics track and this season has been no exception. Once again the Inter Girls have progressed to the National Finals of the Sainsbury Cup while the Juniors came close in their regional round. Not satisfied with this, the U12, U13 and U14 teams won their age groups at the Fylde and Wyre Championships. The boys have also gained success with trophies at U13 and U14 level in the same competition, amassing a remarkable haul of trophies for our athletics squads. It is lovely to see so many pupils participating in such a varied sport.

Individually our athletes have also gained success at County level with a number going forward to the National Finals next weekend. Rachel Williamson once again represents her County in the Senior Triple Jump while Nicola Wainwright has gained entry to the same event at Inter Level. Alex Hastie won the High Jump as County Champion and also goes forward to English Schools. Bradley Yates has gained entry in the Junior 800m/500m while Ben Everson represents his County at Inter 1500m. Bradley gained the title of County Clubs Champion in this prime event. Jess O'Neill in Junior 200m, Daniel Jones in the Inter Javelin and Kate Lawler in the Inter 300m all won the County title but narrowly failed to reach the National qualifying standard. An outstanding display from one school!

I cannot recall any season which has equalled this one in terms of our haul of trophies and I can only express my congratulations and gratitude to all the who have coached and individuals and who have given so supporting our pupils in

staff
our teams
all the parents
much of their time
all their pursuits.



A fantastic day, high quality hockey, tremendous support and an exceptionally friendly and vibrant atmosphere. Kirkham played host to top hockey teams at their annual national invitation tournament: British Colleges, Millfield, Somerset, Sedbergh, Wilmslow. Unfortunately George Watson's College had to withdraw due to the Scottish National Finals.

The day was superb with a high quality of hockey played. Kirkham performed extremely well throughout the day. In their first match against Sedbergh after testing the goalkeeper in the first minute the girls sat back a little and allowed Sedbergh to settle and play. However, as the first half progressed the Kirkham girls started to pass the ball round comfortably and got the controlling edge. The final score was 3-0 to Kirkham with goals from Sophia Crawshay, Ally Glover and Katie Penrose.

The second match was against the mighty British Colleges, a side with real strength and physical presence. In the first half Kirkham sat back and gave them far too much space and were punished when they conceded a weak goal from sloppy defending. However, in the second half Kirkham were a totally different team. They were first to every ball, passed the ball round superbly and created wave after wave of attacks. They hit the post twice, the ball was cleared off the line three times and their goalkeeper made some fine saves. Kirkham dominated the second half completely; they did absolutely everything except score. Disappointed the girls' had to settle with a 1-0 defeat.

The third game was against Wilmslow, a strong side who were strong contenders at the North Finals last November. The Kirkham girls stepped up a gear, defending with real discipline, passing the ball superbly, driving with real pace from midfield and attacking with real skill. A great team performance and a well-deserved 3-0 victory with goals from Sophia Crawshay (2) and Bronte Edgar.

The final game was against Millfield and the Kirkham girls were eager to set the record straight after losing to them 1-0 at the national finals. Millfield as always were disciplined, highly skilled and dynamic in attack. Kirkham had to defend with real discipline and grit and as the game went on the Kirkham girls gained their composure and grew in confidence and started to put the pressure on the opposition. An absolutely superb individual goal from Sophia Crawshay (definitely the goal of the tournament) put Kirkham 1-0 up and Captain Ashley Bradshaw made it 2-0 shortly after. What a way to end the tournament, a 2-0 victory over Millfield - the girls were ecstatic!

Once again the tournament was a closely-fought battle; British Colleges were crowned champions just one point ahead of Kirkham. Kirkham had to settle with the runners-up position and individually Chloe Walker was awarded the Goalkeeper of the tournament.

Congratulations to Captain Ashley Bradshaw, Vice Captain Ally Glover, Chloe Walker, Emily Crowther, Jenny Malings, Katie Penrose, Kirsten Martin, Lindsay O'Brien, Anna Rigby, Bronte Edger, Sophia Crawshay, Courtney Spector, Beth Kenny, Kiran Bahra, Grace Reddy, Lucy Gardiner, Megan Hall.



U19 Invitation Hockey



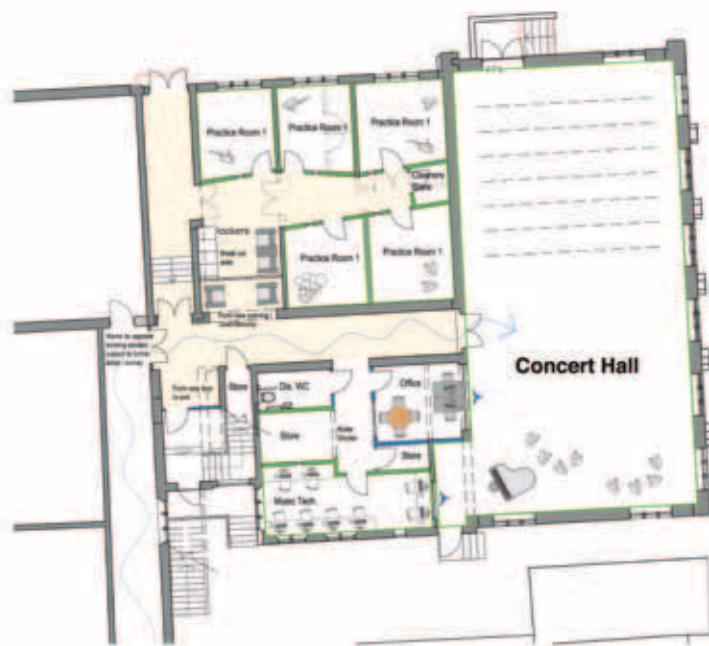
SPORTS day



DEVELOPMENT



This term has seen the Governors' exciting announcement of our new development. We have been planning improvements for our music provision for some time but have worked very hard over recent months in identifying a scheme which brings not only an exciting new Music Centre but also enhanced sporting provision. The refurbishment of current facilities creates greater opportunities and our current Gym will be revamped as a Concert Hall, while other areas around this will be completely transformed to create a music technology room, more practice rooms, new music classrooms and an extension to our Art provision. This effective use of space will result in a self-contained Music Centre which I will hope bring great encouragement to our talented musicians, both current and future.



The displaced PE department will be relocated in the current music facilities and in a newly constructed indoor sports area and brand new changing rooms. This building immediately behind the MPH will provide a much bigger indoor sports area than

the current gym and two new large changing areas. It will also provide the school with a permanent weights room and Groundsman's office.

