

THE KIRKHAMIAN

KIRKHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



KIRKHAM
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

JULY 2019





KIRKHAM

GRAMMAR SCHOOL



Once again, it gives me great pleasure to introduce the Kirkhamian. When you have had the opportunity to flick through the pages of this high quality document and reflect on all the school has achieved during the past year, it does remind me of what is so important about independent education.

Sport and co-curricular activities have long been the bed rock of independent education. This aspect of school life is possibly one area of independent education that continues to thrive and produce such well-rounded individuals. Independent schools have a long history of sporting excellence and promoting a wide range of co-curricular activities because they value them and invest time in them. This we have done incredibly well, hosting fixtures and tournaments and offering free coaching. There are currently more than twenty partnerships each year between KGS and state sector schools, as well as many co-curricular activities enabling children and young people from all walks of life to broaden their experiences outside the classroom. Sport is clearly a significantly different experience in an independent school compared to state. Having experienced Headship in both state and independent schools, with the exception of catering services being of a significantly higher standard (Jamie Oliver heaven), the area of additional opportunities is one that clearly stands out. It has always been an important focus for independent schools and has been supported with larger than average Olympians coming from private schools, large numbers completing awards in music and Duke of Edinburgh awards.

The impact we have on the British education system and our pupils' economic success is significant; making high quality schooling a choice for many alongside schools that support the needs of a community and ultimately a child. Furthermore 275,700 jobs are provided by independent schools as local employers, alongside places for 600,000 children, who present no additional cost to the state. Therefore, I can confidently state that the independent sector continues to support more pupils from a wider variety of backgrounds, transforms communities and life experiences. We continue to offer a diverse education across Britain to ensure failure is no longer entrenched in today's society. Many independent schools are at the heart of local communities, cultural life and, as a result, give back, in unquantifiable terms, so much more. As we enter a brave new era of British independence we should look more towards what unites us in education than what divides us.

A Fond FAREWELL



Annette Roberts

We have all been tainted with a sense of sadness since we found out that Mrs Annette Roberts was going to retire after 14 years at KGS. We are all so thankful of all she has achieved and the foundations she has laid for even more success.

Mrs Roberts started teaching in 1982 at Malvern Girls College with additional duties in the Boarding House. She soon moved closer to her roots as she accepted the post of Head of Girls PE at Rossall School with further promotions to Houseparent, Marketing Manager and a member of the Senior Management Team. It was during this period that Annette clearly demonstrated the abilities and talent to lead a school. The move to

KGJS was warmly received by all as she undertook her post as Headmistress in the Summer Term, 2007.

Mrs Roberts demonstrated her significant strengths and intuitions in leading KGJS into a new era of clearly defined independent education. Her innate charm and personality to lead from the front witnessed a rise in pupil numbers and even more success for this growing school. Mrs Roberts has been witness to all of the many successes of the pupils at KGJS and her enthusiasm and passion for all they undertake is clearly evident. Her retirement will not be a sedate and peaceful one as I know she intends to catch up with the many opportunities and

experiences that being a Headmistress makes you place on hold. Mrs Roberts was perfectly summed up in one of her early references:

“they are unlikely to find anyone who will excel on such a broad front and who will exhibit loyalty and professionalism in everything that she undertakes”.

Mrs Roberts will be a hard act to follow and will be missed by all who have worked with her and all the children who have had the opportunity to be guided, supported and educated by her.



A Fond FAREWELL



Mr Allan Eagle

Allan Eagle joined KGS in September 2013 as a Design Technology (DT) Technician. During his time, Allan has played a major part in the DT team and has helped to increase the popularity of the subject. Allan has a wealth of knowledge gained from BAE that he has used to help students and influence some of their decision making. Allan can be seen around school lending his helping hand to most departments, such as, drama, art and science as well as various jobs in the canteen. Allan is popular at the Junior School where he has helped with a large variety of projects. Allan gets involved in the Young Engineers and has helped out on various trips such as Jaguar Land Rover and the Rotary Technology Competition. Allan has now decided to retire on the 6 September 2019 and is going to be sadly missed by all the DT staff, the whole school foundation and a large number of students who have really appreciated Allan's kind influence and help with their projects. We wish Allan, Gill and all his family the best for the future and hope he will still pop in to see us.



Mrs Alice Fyson

After 14 years, the English Department is sorry to be losing Alice. Her professionalism is absolute and she will be hard to replace. In recent years, she has been instrumental in re writing lower school schemes of work to bring them in to line with revised public examination specifications so that key skills are established well before the pupils encounter the GCSE material, an approach that typifies her absolute commitment to the pupils of Kirkham Grammar School and her vision for future development. No one that has been taught by her or worked with her can fail to have been influenced by her high expectations, both of herself and her pupils.

When the Department made the decision to introduce English Language at A level, Alice took full responsibility for the course, ensuring that the Department was prepared and fully resourced. She oversaw this course for a number of years, with impressive results secured by the students in her care.

Alice's contribution to the school beyond the classroom has seen her take ownership of the Scribblers' Club, encouraging and enabling pupils from across the school to write for the sheer pleasure of doing so. She is known for her incredible wall displays, her creativity and her outstanding marking! To those of us who know her well she will be missed for her anecdotes from her eclectic hobbies, and her wit and humour in tales from home. We will also miss her annual damson gin! We wish her every happiness.



Mr Ted Moore

Here today, up and off to somewhere else tomorrow! Travel, change, interest, excitement! The whole world before you, and a horizon that's always changing!" This line from Kenneth Grahame's 'Wind in the Willows' seems sadly apt as we bid farewell to Ted Moore after his all-too-brief tenure as our Director of drama. Ted joined us from Bedford Modern School in January 2017 and immediately made his mark rationalising and re-vamping the drama curriculum within the school. This change in emphasis generated a newfound enthusiasm for drama amongst his, pupils and lead to him directing an outstanding Senior School production of 'Wind in the Willows' in the Summerlee Hall last year. The performance was nominated for seven NODA awards and went on to win two of them for best actor and also best supporting actor. Outside the classroom Ted's pupils also benefited from the wide array of theatre trips and visits he organised across the country. This included a memorable performance of 'Mother Courage' by Brecht in a disused warehouse in the middle of Leeds! We wish Ted and his family all the very best as he heads overseas for the next chapter of his career.

Dr. Valerie Roberts

Having been with us since October 2018, covering the maternity leave of Mrs Smith, who returned to KGS this term, Dr Roberts has been an enormous help to the Physics Department offering great experience and knowledge to our A-level classes. She will be sorely missed by everyone at KGS and we wish her all the best.



Miss Linda Robinson

Miss Robinson has been at KGS since 2017 and has not only worked tirelessly as a Fourth and Fifth Year tutor but also taught both physics and maths up to GCSE level. Miss Robinson leaves KGS to take up a new science post closer to home. Her energy and enthusiasm will be missed by all in the Science Department.



Miss Sophia Dunand-Clarke

Sophia Dunand-Clarke will be leaving KGS after 2 years working as House Parent (Pastoral) in the Boarding House. Miss Dunand-Clarke joined us from Moorlands School Clitheroe and after a highly successful stint in the House she will be travelling to Vietnam in early 2020 to take up a role as a Teacher of English. During her time at KGS she has worked hard to support the boarders in all aspects of life especially with domestic and medical areas and has made a very positive impact on their lives. We wish her all the best for the future.



Miss Rebecca Holden

Rebecca joined KGS as a PE graduate and Boarding House Assistant in 2015 before going off to study for her PGCE in Leeds. She re-joined in September 2017 as a full-time member of the PE Department. Since then Rebecca has embraced all sports at Kirkham, developing excellent relationships with the pupils and staff alike. She has been an absolute pleasure to work with and we wish her well as she relocates and takes up her new post in South Manchester in September.



Mr Christos Gaitatzis

Mr Gaitatzis will be sadly leaving the school at the end of term. He has been deservedly appointed as Headmaster of Omagh High School, Northern Ireland. He has been a regular presence in the Physics Department and has undertaken excellent work as Head of the Fifth Year. We wish him all the best and will miss his spurious claims that the Greeks gave modern society more than any other classical civilisation.





Pre-School to Upper Sixth



*Upper Sixth
Last Day of School*



Junior School to Upper Sixth

SIXTH FORM LEAVERS' BALL





FIFTH YEAR END OF EXAMS PARTY







Friends of KGS



KIRKHAM
GRAMMAR SCHOOL



SUMMERTIME BALL

SATURDAY 22 JUNE, 2019



There is no greater motivator to a school fundraiser than the words, “we would really like a new minibus please”. Obviously, it is a large and visual donation which will be accessed by all children, across the whole foundation. To my knowledge, FKGS have already donated two such minibuses over the last 15 years and there is a sense of pride which fills me when I see them out on a daily basis with, “Donated by FKGS” printed on the side.

It is not only the large gifts which are special however. Recently FKGS were invited into the Design Technology department to see first-hand how the various donations made over the last few years impact upon the children’s teaching and learning on a daily basis.

We are a diverse school community and I like to think that our fundraising methods are as diverse, to try and accommodate every family’s tastes and their availability for support.

You can: shop and raise money for us at easyfundraising.org.uk/FOKGS; rid your wardrobes of school uniform which no longer fits and send it in to school anytime to be stored for the pre-loved uniform sale in the spring term; buy our raffle tickets; donate to/volunteer at/come and join us at our fairs; send in your old clothes for our bags2school collections; drink with us at various events; join us for lunch and a catch up with friends; buy a number in our 100 Club draw; bring your children to the Junior School discos; come and share your ideas and a little of your time.

Our main fundraising event is our Summer Ball, and this year was no exception.

A beautiful marquee was erected in the Summerlee Hall, filled with vibrant summer colours. Delicious food was catered by Twelve, and after some initial lively entertainment through the drink reception, dancing was provided to the early hours by the DBs. Everyone seemed to have a wonderful evening, sharing pictures through our live twitter feed, whilst raising money through a Funky Floral raffle and auction of unique gifts and experiences.

What makes our Summer Ball even more special is that the marquee is also used the previous evening for the Sixth Form Leavers’ Ball, where FKGS donate to cover the decoration of the marquee. As a parent of children who have been through school, I know how important this final social occasion is, to say goodbye to what has been their extended family for, in my daughter’s case, 15 years. It is therefore a privilege to be able to contribute to making their night as memorable as possible in their school home.

FKGS committee is what makes this fundraising possible and I thank them all for their hard work over this school year.

This is my last term as FKGS Chair and committee member as our children have moved on to university – well hopefully for my daughter as I write this!

I have had such great times and have made many friends of children in different school years to my own that I would otherwise have never met. I have also been able to spend a little time in the environment that has been so important to our children and I would urge anyone thinking about getting involved, even if only in a small way, to just do it!



As I said earlier, we are a diverse school community and we need to keep our fundraising fresh and appealing to our new families. To this end we are always looking for new ideas. Please don’t think you have to be on the committee to share suggestions. Just pass them on to any member of the committee or through school reception.

I am pleased to announce that the FKGS will be holding a Sports Ball in November 2019, raising money specifically for sports equipment to be used across the whole foundation. Keep an eye out for a ‘save the date’ message shortly.

Already finalised, as you have to book Santa in early, is the Christmas Fair which will be held in the Summerlee Hall on Friday 6 December 2019. Do let us know if you have any ideas or would like to be involved in either of these two events.

May I wish you all a restful summer and a super fundraising 2019/20.

Michelle O’Neill
Chair, FKGS.

EMPOWERING STUDENTS AT KIRKHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL



CAREERS FAIR & WORKSHOPS



Our Careers Fair in March was our biggest yet and provided an opportunity to bring together students, local and national employers, universities and career advisors. We could not have achieved that without the support from NW Young Chamber of Commerce, our exhibitors and external workshop speakers.

The aim was to provide a platform to advise and inspire the next generation at an important stage in the academic calendar. Providing quality CEIAG resources and linking education with the world of employment is key to ensure students get an important insight to the future of work and further learning. Better informed students results in better decision making!



APPRENTICESHIP & UNIVERSITY OFFERS



Charlotte O'Neill



leuan Corcoran

A number of Kirkham Grammar School Upper Sixth Form pupils have received fantastic university and apprenticeship offers during the Summer Term.

Congratulations to Charlotte O'Neill (Politics, Philosophy and Economics) and Ieuan Corcoran (Biochemistry) who have both received prestigious offers from Oxford University. Charlotte, who in the future is interested in a career in either Investment Banking or Politics, studied A-levels in mathematics, further maths, physics and history. Ieuan who chose to study A-levels in mathematics, biology, physics and chemistry, is interested in drug development research.





Alex Harwood has been offered an Advanced Apprenticeship in Engineering with Jaguar Land Rover. This role offers Alex a unique opportunity to develop strong practical skills and real experience 'on the job' training to deliver their world class future design products!



Nathan Wood, has been offered a Quantity Surveying sponsorship with Lendlease Construction and will commence work experience with the company this summer and also work for them during his placement year at university. Well done, Nathan!



Emily Clifford has been offered an unconditional place at Virginia Tech in the USA to study Industrial Design and will begin her course in September 2019. Emily hopes to pursue a career in the design industry.



BAE WORK EXPERIENCE

During the February half term holiday, KGS' Sixth Form pupils, Alex and Holly, spent the week on work experience at British Aerospace. Alex, who has been offered an Advanced Apprenticeship in Engineering with Jaguar Land Rover, spent the week experiencing the engineering aspect of the business, while Holly enjoyed a week of business work experience.



BBC MediaCity & BBC Young Reporters

At the end of February, a group of Third Year pupils attended a number of workshops at BBC MediaCityUK, Salford. The workshops included learning about fake news, the latest technology and possibilities for the future, filming and editing a short film and using cameras/different shots effectively. The pupils also had the opportunity to listen to a BBC broadcast journalist and learn about the many different digital jobs available at the BBC. A great experience for the pupils!

The following week, BBC Young Reporter News Day took place with the library a hive of activity. The pupils enthusiastically recorded weather reports, carried out a Skype interview and also interviewed Mrs Taylor to find out her views on electronic devices.



International Women's Day



To celebrate International Women's Day at the beginning of March, Mrs Hargreaves, Head of Business Studies and Economics/Head of Careers at Kirkham Grammar School, arranged for four inspirational speakers to deliver their personal journeys to our Fourth and Fifth Year girls. Thank you to Helen Broughton (Danbro), Liv Hindmoor (3D Aesthetics Ltd), Gemma Cheyne (And Saunter) and Alexis Jayne Pendleton (CDUK) for delivering an important message to our pupils, with the aim of inspiring them to work hard to achieve their goals!





LIBRARY NEWS

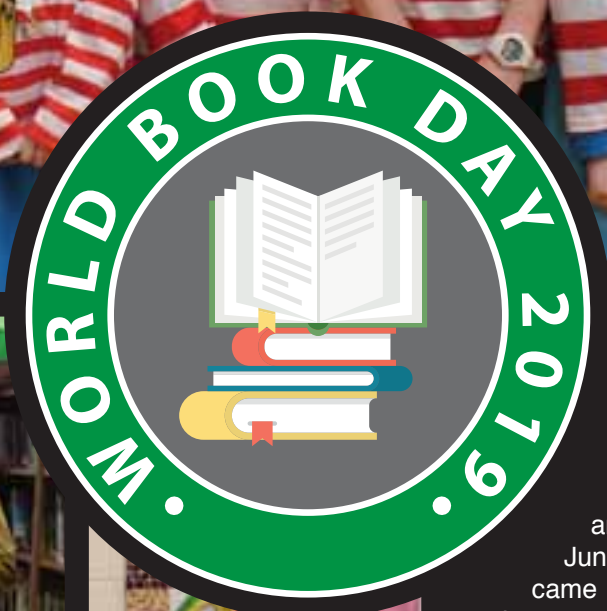
At the beginning of the Spring Term, KGS enjoyed a virtual author visit from 'The Graces' author Laure Eve, followed shortly after with a visit from former CBeebies presenter turned author Cerrie Burnell. Cerrie shared her top storytelling tips with our First years, Junior school and local primary schools and inspired her audience to create their own writing adventures by sharing her writing process for her new book 'The Girl with the Shark's Teeth'.

In February, KGS Library held their annual and extremely popular Harry Potter Day celebrating J K Rowling's amazing writing. The day was packed with magical games and spell binding activities against the backdrop of a scene from Hogwarts which included Dumbledore's office, complete with Pensive, and Platform 9 and $\frac{3}{4}$. A 'Sorting Hat' ceremony and treasure hunt took place at morning break followed by

a Harry Potter quiz at lunchtime, both were well attended by pupils and staff alike. Pupils purchased chocolate frogs for their friends and teachers and these were delivered by Owl Mail throughout the day.

During the Summer Term a group of Third Year pupils read the shortlist for the Lancashire Book of the Year Award. 11 Young Adult books have been shortlisted and were read prior to Monday 24 June when our school submitted their vote along with other schools in the county. The winner will be announced at an awards ceremony on Friday 5 July at the University of Central Lancashire.





World Book Day took place across the whole foundation during March. Senior School pupils joined in a collective early morning reading session and enjoyed hot chocolate and pastries, while over at the Junior, Infant and Pre-School, pupils came dressed as their favourite book character. Everyone looked amazing! During the first 10 minutes of each period, our First, Second and Third Year pupils read a short story, 'Button Button' by Richard Matheson. The story had been split into five parts so that by the end of period five they would have read the whole story. A 'decorated door' and 'book character' competition also took place with pupils asked to track down different book characters (staff members) from around school and a prize awarded to the pupil who identified them all. The judging of our 'decorated doors' competition took place just before lunch and the standard was exceptionally high, making it a tough decision for Headmaster, Mr Berry.



DERMOT O'LEARY *VISIT*

Kirkham Grammar School were delighted to be chosen to host a very special event with one of the UK's best loved broadcasters, X Factor and Radio 2 presenter, Dermot O'Leary at the end of March.

The event welcomed 500 children from local primary schools and saw Dermot talk about the two books he has written books for children about Toto the Ninja Cat, a funny animal escapade series. Dermot also spoke about the real-life Toto, rescued by himself and his wife, Dee as a kitten along with her brother, Silver. During the afternoon Dermot read extracts from this books and a 'How to Draw Toto' draw along from illustrator Nick East took place via video link.

All the pupils and staff had a wonderful afternoon and were very excited to be given the opportunity to have a group photograph with Dermot! Thank you Dermot for visiting Kirkham Grammar School and giving the children the opportunity to make memories that we are sure will last a lifetime!

Thanks must also go to Caroline Whitmore from ITV Granada for covering the event, Elaine Silverwood at Silverwood Events and Fritha Lindqvist (Publicist).





CLARE BALDING VISIT



Kirkham Grammar School were delighted to be chosen to host a very special event with BBC Sport, Channel 4 and BT Sport presenter turned author, Clare Balding on Monday 17 June.

The event welcomed 500 children from local primary schools who saw Clare talk about her books, 'The Racehorse Who Learned to Dance', 'The Racehorse Who Wouldn't Gallop' and 'The Racehorse Who Disappeared', share tips for budding writers and answer questions from the audience. Many children had already read Clare's books which made this a fantastic opportunity and experience to hear from her in person.

All the pupils and staff had a wonderful morning and were very excited to be given the opportunity to purchase Clare's books and have it personally signed by her! A truly brilliant, interesting and inspiring event!

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Kirkham Grammar School Old Hall was the perfect venue for February's Wine Tasting event in aid of the Rosemere Cancer Foundation. Organised by Kirkham Grammar School Sixth Form pupil, Emily Clifford, friends and family along with staff and the wider school community gathered together to raise money for this amazing charity. A wonderful evening!

A few weeks later, KGS welcomed Rebecca from Rosemere who spoke to the whole school about their current projects and the difference fundraising makes. Emily Gifford presented Rebecca with a cheque for £2082.61, raised from the Wine Tasting event.

Well done, Emily!



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Actress



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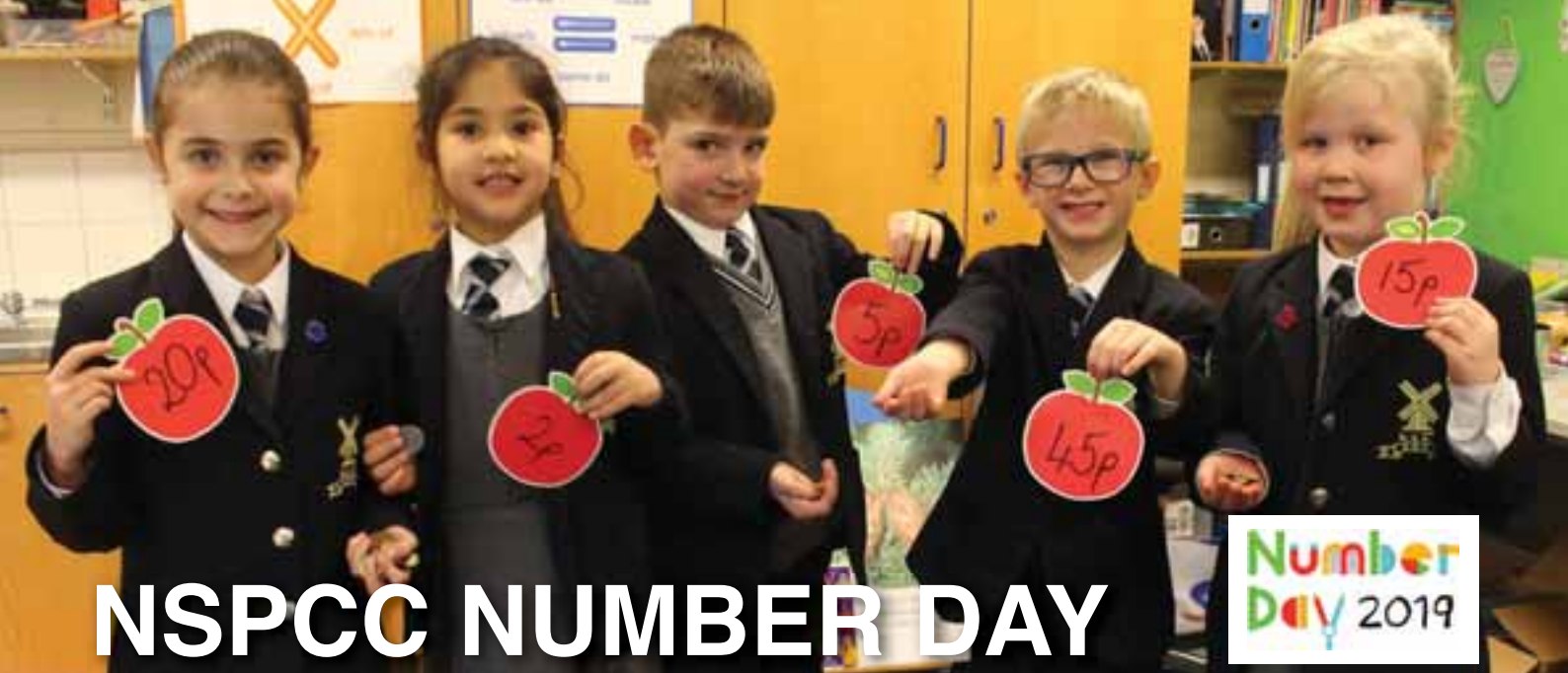
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NSPCC NUMBER DAY



There was a wonderful buzz at the Junior School on the Friday 1 February for their NSPCC Number Day. The pupils had a brilliant day learning about numbers. Roman numerals, number games, a shoe shop, circuit training with timers and counting, a treasure hunt, number biscuits and a cake sale were just some of the activities that took place.

A few weeks later, Jo Bowker from the NSPCC came into the Junior School to talk to the children about the difference the money raised will make. It will go towards 'Childline', who receive over 2000 calls from children every day! A fantastic £1218.98 was raised from the themed day as well as other fundraising initiatives organised by KGJS pupils outside of school.

A huge thank you to everyone who donated to this very worthwhile cause.



At the end of April, the Junior School held their annual Charity Triathlon at Kirkham YMCA Swimming pool and Preston Sports Arena athletics track and cycling circuit.

Storm Hannah caused the cancellation of many events, however, over 30 Junior School pupils and staff took part in the event in very difficult conditions. In total £857 for Brian House Children's Hospice. The day started early with an 8am meet to complete the swim section which was 10 lengths of the pool. Next it was over to Preston Sports Arena for a 3 mile cycle and a 1 mile run. All participants wore a special t-shirt for the event which was very bright indeed but created a fantastic sight during the event. After the event everyone received a medal for their efforts which was a fantastic achievement from our ten and eleven year olds.



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PYJAMA DAY

FOR THE 'HEADWAY' CHARITY



Kirkham Grammar Junior School pupils dressed up in their pyjamas at the end of May to raise money and awareness for the 'Headway' charity. The charity, celebrating its 40th birthday, supported Jessica Thompson's mummy after she sustained significant and life changing injuries in 2006. Despite this, she defied all the odds and completed her degree at Manchester University. The 12 children supported the charity by getting together and having an 12 tea party with cakes provided by the parents, and were joined by Samantha Ashcroft from the charity. The children, dressed in their pyjamas and wearing a hat, sang 'Try Everything' by Shakira to their parents; a song about diversity and keeping going even when times are tough. Our values award was presented to Miss Thompson for being 12's 'person of inspiration' and 'never giving up'.





I1 EASTER BONNET PARADE & CRAFT MORNING

At the beginning of April, our Pre-School and I1 parents and grandparents joined the children for a craft afternoon and Easter bonnet parade. The children enjoyed decorating their bonnets and showing off their creations. Following the parade, the children entertained their audience with an Easter sing-song. A wonderful afternoon was had by all!





MOTHERS' DAY AFTERNOON TEA

During the Pre-School and I1 Mothers' Day Afternoon Tea at the end of March, the children presented their mummies with a rose and performed a special song. After the children had returned to class, the mummies, grandparents and daddies) were able to enjoy a delicious afternoon tea. A wonderful afternoon was had by all!



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EGYPTIAN DAY



Our J2 pupils, dressed in costume, enjoyed a visit from 'Professor Tuesday' at the beginning of March as part of their Egyptian themed day. He spoke to the children about the Pharaohs and the children were shown the mummification process. The Egyptians used 'mummification' so that the skin and flesh of a corpse could be preserved. In the afternoon, the pupils made bread and were given the opportunity to have a go at mummifying a tomato! Well done, J2...you all looked amazing!



INFANT NATIVITY

At the end of the Autumn Term, the Infant and Pre-School Production, 'Hey Ewe', was brilliantly performed by all the Pre-School and Infant children with beautiful singing and super acting and dancing from all. The children looked absolutely amazing in their costumes and thoroughly enjoyed retelling the traditional Christmas tale in this very unique way! We are delighted to report that, thankfully, no sheep went missing during the production! The performance really was truly spectacular and enjoyed by all. Well done to all!





CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT

The Junior School presented a truly sensational Carol Concert at the end of the Autumn Term. The audience enjoyed the traditional carols and readings by Trishala Akundi, Harriet Brooks, Morgan Cuthbert, Alexander Davies, Poppy Dodds, Rowan Edwards, Leoma Gill, Brooke Medhurst and Freddie Stott. It was wonderful to welcome Reverend Brian McConkey, Vicar of Ribchester who shared his thoughts for Christmas, and Mrs Roberts, along with some of our Junior pupils explained how other countries around the world celebrate Christmas. The performances by the Orchestra, Handbell Ensemble, Vocal Ensemble, Junior Choir and Staff/Parent Choir wowed the audience and the soloists sang beautifully. Afterwards, guests enjoyed mince pies and mulled wine; a wonderful way to finish off a very enjoyable evening and an excellent start to the festive season!

← TRAVELLING BY TUBA →



In June, the Junior School welcomed back, 'Travelling by Tuba' for a Workshop Day. It was an outstanding day, delivered with expertise that commenced with a fabulous concert creating a buzz of excitement throughout the school. We were delighted to welcome some of the pupils and staff from Pear Tree School to join us. It was incredible to watch how the children responded to this performance with rip-roaring laughter, full concentration and at times their mouths open wide in amazement! Following the concert, all our pupils and staff had a fun-filled time of fantastic music making in mini workshops. The workshops gave every child the opportunity to play an instrument and rehearse a piece of music, culminating in an informal performance, along with professional musicians. This was a superb learning experience for everyone. Thank you very much to all involved in creating a wonderful, music-filled fun day!





MARY POPPINS JR. CAST VISIT RADIO LANCASHIRE



The Junior School 'Mary Poppins Jr.', cast visited Radio Lancashire at the beginning of March to be interviewed by Sally Naden, live on air. This was a fantastic experience for the children who were given the opportunity to talk about the parts they play. The pupils listening from Studio 2 showed off some of their dance moves when the rehearsal soundtracks were played on air. Thank you to everyone at Radio Lancashire for allowing the children to visit and for giving them an insight into radio broadcast. They all thoroughly enjoyed the morning!





Disney and CAMERON MACKINTOSH's

MARY POPPINS JR.



It all started last year during the 2018 summer term, when we were informed that our next production was going to be 'Mary Poppins Jr.' Everyone was very excited and the school was buzzing. The auditions took place in our school hall where we had to sing, dance and act a monologue. It was a very tense time!

At the end of the year, we were each presented with a script and a letter to say which part we had been given. The students that had landed principal roles had to start learning their lines and songs straight away, which was a challenge that everyone accomplished. In September, we started rehearsals and it was amazing to see the first scene coming together.

During the months leading up to the show, lots of break times and after school

sessions, as well as our Arts Afternoons, were taken up with rehearsals.

With only a few weeks to opening night, we started having weekend rehearsals which lasted between four and six hours. We also had the opportunity to meet lots of new people such as the Radio Lancashire team and Dermot O'Leary, who we performed to.

The set came a week before the show and we were all so amazed at how incredible it was, it was like a set from a West End show! All our shows took place in the Summerlee Hall at the Senior School. We performed two evening and two afternoon performances.

The crowds were huge and all we could hear from backstage was the excited murmur of the audience. Before every show

we ran around saying 'break a leg' to all members of the cast. We had a prop area where we had to collect our props such as the sweep brush, carpet bag and the parrot head umbrella.

We had lots of help from our school's Fifth Year pupils and Sixth Formers, all our amazing teachers and, of course, our Producer and Director, Mrs Shuttleworth, and our Assistant Director and Choreographer, Shelley Stott.

It was great fun working with all our friends on the production of 'Mary Poppins Jr.' and it is definitely an experience we shall never forget!

Brooke Medhurst & Morgan Cuthbert
'Mary Poppins' and 'Bert'





Music Review 2018-19

All year groups have taken part in coffee concerts and evening recitals during the course of the year. Early April delivered the annual Founders Day service, in St Michael's Church, where the Senior Choir again led events, with emotional and rousing performances of numbers from Mendelssohn's *Elijah*. The blessing 'Lift Thine Eyes' was beautifully sung by the Soprano Group. Another highlight of the year has to be the Spring Concert which took place in early May. The orchestra, string group, concert band, swing band, flute group, soprano group, choir and individuals thrilled the audience with some very accomplished performances. West End musicals, contemporary and classical choir music and sultry jazz transported the appreciative audience to other worlds, and the tremendous applause was most gratefully received by all performers. It was wonderful to see how mature and well-prepared all our musicians were.



This year saw the addition of a new concert evening. It featured many of the fine singers we have in school, all of whom are taught by Nicola Howard. They delighted a large audience with a varied repertoire that sent the crowd home with much to savour. This looks like becoming a permanent fixture on our calendar.





The spring term saw the return of the annual Music House Festival. Miss Crook and Mr Dalton again had the enjoyable experience of listening to a bumper crop of over four hundred students. As individuals and in groups they sought to secure points for their house, or maybe even progress to the final. Every year so many of the student body choose to give of their time and participate in this annual music making festival. Once the initial auditions were over, it all came down to a Friday in early March in what was to be a thrilling final. The finals began with the House Choir Final and the entire school took part, Kirkham being crowned the winners singing 'Sweet Caroline'. Miss Helen Harrison was the adjudicator for the day and she had the daunting task of selecting a winner. After a compelling and exciting day, Alexandra Clarke was declared the instrumental winner and Florence Bunday the vocal winner. They were pushed all the way by Brioni Crowe in the instrumental section and Esme Ikram in the vocal section who were runners up in a sensational final.



The Gala Concert in late March gave an invited audience the opportunity to hear the winners and items from the final. It was a truly wonderful evening with outstanding contributions from all performers in the rather more relaxed environment of a concert. With talent like this, KGS music is clearly producing some of the highest standards of music making in the northwest and it continues to be a beacon of excellence in traditional instrumental and vocal performance.



Saturday 30 March saw a first for the Kirkham Grammar School Choir, a performance of the mighty oratorio 'Elijah' by Mendelssohn alongside Lytham St. Annes Choral Society and the Helios Orchestra, directed by Miss Helen Harrison. What a thrilling concert it was with Florence Bunday impressing with 'Lift Thine Eyes', alongside soloists Nicola Howard and Joyce Tyndsley. The choir should be so very proud of the immense amount of effort and work they put into this performance, a real evening to remember!



The Rotary Club of Great Britain held its annual Young Musician competition again this year. The local round was held in November at Kirkham Grammar and youngsters from numerous local schools participated. However, by far the largest number of entrants came from KGS. Of the four placings, Kirkham secured three of them with Florence Bunday securing the vocal prize and Alexandra Clarke, the instrumental. They progressed to the next round in Penrith where they again triumphed. On to the semi-finals in Sandbach where Florence's campaign regrettably came to an end, but Alex progressed to the National Final in Essex, in May. Despite a very creditable display, Alex returned to Kirkham empty handed, but with much to be proud of, her reputation considerably enhanced. The Music Department is extremely proud of the achievements of both girls.

Brioni Crowe was invited to play for Her Majesty the Queen at Buckingham Palace in May, one of a small select group that included winners of the BBC Young Musician Competition.

It is clear to see that music at Kirkham Grammar continues to go from strength to strength as our musicians continue to impress both at home, and nationally!



ROTARY RESPECT AWARDS

In March, Kirkham Grammar School pupils Emily Scott, Emily Clifford & Lisa McManamon, along with Junior School pupil, Henry Dawson-Gerrard, received Rotary Respect Awards. Congratulations to you all...very well deserved!



RAF WING TRAINING DAY

At the end of April, Kirkham Grammar School hosted the RAF Wing Training Day for the North of England Air Cadets. Over 600 cadets competed for various trophies from Flag Ceremonial Drill, First Aid, Navigation, Aircraft Recognition and various other military skills.

RETIRED STAFF LUNCH

During March, we welcomed a number of retired staff back to Kirkham Grammar School to enjoy lunch in the surroundings of the Old Hall. This also gave them the opportunity to look at some of the old archive memorabilia and the new OKA displays in the Conference room. We hope this will be the first of its kind!



CCF Transition Day

At the end of April, we welcomed our September 2019 First Year pupils to Kirkham Grammar School for a CCF Transition Day. The pupils took part in a number of sessions including paintball, rations, camouflage and concealment, weapons and leadership.





CADET REPORT





FIELD DAY

On Thursday 21 March, we went to Fulwood Army Barracks to take part in our spring CCF field day. I am a 4th year student and the experience of field day was amazing. The day was filled with so many activities and opportunities such as shooting and teambuilding tasks.

It all began as soon as we went through the gates and entered Fulwood Barracks. We were immediately split into our forms to start the day of activities. My form started on weapons handling to prepare us for our next activity on the range. Our instructor Mr Moffatt went through NSP'S (a safety procedure) and the drills that we were required to know so we were competent and safe. I was very nervous and so were my friends, but we were assured that it was going to be fine and soon it came to shooting. At first, I was surprised at how strong the recoil was, but I soon managed to get the hang of it. We fired ten rounds at a target 25 metres away and when it was finished, I managed to get a grouping of 7cm, which was joint best in our form. It was such an incredible experience and it was very entertaining watching Mr Moffatt making an eyepatch out of paper for my friend, as she struggles to close her left eye. Shooting was the best activity throughout the day for me as we had been practising our weapons handling for weeks for this moment and once it was over it was so exciting to find out how we had done.

The next activity we moved onto was First Aid with Mrs Marsh and Miss Gilmour. At this station we learnt how to do our ABCs and we were initially given a task to find three injured people and then to protect and treat them. Tom and I took on the task of being the NCOs and we split the group evenly to treat each casualty equally. Maddie, Hattie and I set up an all-round defence to protect us and the rest were split into three groups to treat the people. This was quite entertaining because our form wasn't very organised, but we did successfully treat and camouflage each casualty. The final activity of the morning was the assault course. We were split into two teams and we made our way round the course a couple times, with the help of the instructors, unharmed but what we all been waiting to do was race. My team was winning all the way until the last person where unfortunately we were overtaken by the other team. This was a fun teambuilding task and it was good to encourage our team and help them get over the wall and rope swing, but it was very hot and sweaty especially when we were in our CCF kit.

After lunch we moved onto leadership with Mrs Sutcliffe. It was a very funny activity as we attempted to move a gold ball using tubes, (However, we were slightly distracted by the medical scenario currently taking place behind us). I thoroughly enjoyed this activity as it was fun watching my classmates trying to make a knot in a rope without letting go. After we had finished this, we moved onto the museum of Fulwood

Barracks, this was quite fascinating as we learnt about its history. I found it quite useful as some of the information that was covered linked in well with what we were currently studying in history.

Before we finished for the day we moved onto our last activity where we learnt about the armed forces and got to look at some of the heavy weapons used in combat. I learnt a lot from this talk, and I was quite surprised at how big and heavy the weapons are. It was an amazing day and with thanks to the teachers, instructor and NCOs we learnt a lot from the experience.

Abigail Johnson



FROM A FIFTH YEAR'S PERSPECTIVE

For Fifth Year NCOs this field day was all about improving our leadership skills and developing how we can work effectively as a team. In two years' time we will be the senior cadets, in charge of running parts of CCF and ensuring that everyone has access to the amazing opportunities our unique scheme offers, so we've started to get the practice in now! We travelled to Fulwood Barracks and for the first time, we were all together in one big group, needless to say it was certainly an experience.

For us the day started with a bang... literally because we were on the range first under the watchful eyes of Major Taylor and WO2 Barrow! As fifth years we have all had the opportunity to shoot before but now we've started to become serious. Despite it being great fun to shoot with rifles, we've mostly got over this novelty, although I must admit I'm fairly sure I was grinning the whole time. Being the competitive lot that we are, we realized that a tournament was to be found in this activity and applying the lessons on marksmanship we have been taught, we all tried to out shoot each other. I am glad that our safety staff from school were there, because shooting and competitiveness are not a great mix! After saving our ears from the BANGS on the range, we progressed to the First Aid stand, run by Fit Lt Marsh and Miss Gilmore. In all honesty we were not looking forward to this stand as much as others, we thought that we would simply be doing the same old First Aid that we do in the classroom on a Thursday. We could not have been more wrong! This stand was the first time for me that we properly mixed together First Aid and the military. We were given a briefing that we had to patrol into a potentially hostile area, find our three casualties, set up all round defence,

treat our casualties and then push on and destroy the enemy. The roles of our casualties were played by a resuscitation dummy and two SNCOs who had clearly had a lot of fun with the fake blood and make up! Questions would be asked if they turned up to school like that. Not only did this stand show us that skills in normal life are applicable in CCF and CCF skills can be applied to normal life, we learnt that the simplest idea is sometimes often the best. As part of this task we had to camouflage our unmovable casualties, we opted to hide them underneath our camouflaged jackets. The fourth years had not been quite so delicate about it all and on several occasions lost NCOs by burying them underneath massive logs, branches and what I think was a small felled tree! Needless to say, we were definitely the sixth former's favorites then.

After the excitement of First Aid, we moved onto an assault course run by the Army's PT instructors. Despite being thoroughly shattered by the end after doing everything double time, we all enjoyed this challenge. Some of the dark horses in our year surprised us with a Tarzan yell whilst clinging onto rope to swing over a gap! It was then time for the most important part of the day, lunch. After which we moved onto command tasks, being teenagers we were not easy on Captain Sutcliffe! We were determined to find loop holes in the rules to the tasks we were set and we certainly discovered them. I still do not know how Captain Sutcliffe had enough patience to deal with us! We moved buckets instead of pipes; we placed rolls mats next to the target we were meant to be shooting at and at one point tried trebucheting a golf ball. Despite frustrating her, no one can deny that we used our initiative.

Our penultimate stand was the museum of the Duke of Lancashire's Regiment. We are immensely proud of our cap badge and proud to be part of a Regiment whose Colonel is Her Majesty the Queen. Although some people can think of museums as boring, stuffy places, this one was as far from that as you can get! The cabinets were stocked with medals, weapons, loot and uniforms that the British Army has used since Waterloo... we even saw Napoleon's bed pan! We had a fantastic guide for our visit, who I think died a little inside when we all flocked to have a go on the (sadly decommissioned) Bren Gun, instead of being fascinated by the drawers of campaign medals and silverware that our Regiment has ****borrowed**** from the French! The final stand of the day for us was led by the Duke of Lancs recruitment team. These serving soldiers showed us various different weapon systems and we got a chance to look at and have a play with them. My personal favourite was the bolt action sniper rifle, just looking through its optic made me feel as though I was starring in a thriller. Perhaps the most eye-opening object they had there was an example of their body armour. When we placed this on, slid into a bergen and held a rifle, we quickly understood why soldiers have muscles on their muscles, these things were heavy! This field day was an immense success for the Fifth Year and has got us thinking about the future. It was great fun for all of us, as we were part of a much smaller group of people who all wanted to be there, all wanted to lead and all wanted to have a laugh. My desire to join the army when I am older has definitely been increased after having this opportunity and also the chance to talk to currently serving soldiers. We now understand that we play a very important role in the school and in a couple of years, we will be the ones giving out commands on parade. I cannot wait!

By Reuben Bond



THE DUKE
OF EDINBURGH'S
AWARD



As this newsletter goes to press our Third Year students will be venturing out on their end of year activity trip and starting their DofE experience. In addition, our Lower Sixth students, after a fantastic practice expedition at Easter and numerous long hours of planning routes, equipment and meals for their 4 Day Gold expedition, will be taking on the North Lakes for their final four day adventure.

The expedition is just one of the sections of the award and we are delighted to report that the standards of the DofE Award at Kirkham Grammar School go from strength to strength with some truly amazing efforts with the skill, physical and volunteering section. For the volunteering section we have students working with their local cub and brownie groups, marshalling at parkrun, helping at our Junior School and Pre-School, coaching at sports clubs, giving up their time to help in their local charity shops, working with the elderly in care homes and a popular volunteering activity this year, litter picking! This is naming just a few of the tremendous things our students do to achieve their DofE Award. Reading the reports from those who assess our students for each activity is a real privilege and our students should be extremely proud of their efforts.





GOLD

Holly	Briggs
Emily	Clifford
Ieuan	Corcoran
Emily	Gaynor-Smith
Oliver	Kitchen
Georgina	Lawson
Hannah	Lewthwaite
Samuel	Minten
Charlotte	O'Neill
Freya	Parkinson
Charles	Partington
Emma	Winn

SILVER

Ewan	Armer
Ben	Armstead
Oliver	Barnett
Lucy	Barrow
Will	Bloomfield
Lucy	Case
Patrick	Castelli
Archie	Cooper
Brioni	Crowe
John	Ellis
Thomas	Hewitt
Isaac	Hill
Alex	Hill
Ruby	Jackson
Jonny	Latham
Ewan	Macaulay
Libby	Metherell
Oliver	Mills
Emily	Scott
Joseph	Shield
Katie	Webster

BRONZE

Tobias	Adjetei-Hilton
Jack	Ansell
Agatha	Barker-Mill
Oscar	Bennett
Leo	Biviano
Harry	Booth
Mia	Brennand
Harry	Burrow
Robert	Burrow
Emily	Cooper
Amelia	Curbishley
Eve	Ellis
Charlotte	Fuller
Tom	Gut
Jacob	Halsall
Isabella	Harkins
Molly	Hodge
Charlie	Hodgson
Joseph	Ingham
Abigail	Johnson
Isabel	Kane
Sanjeev	Karri
Jasper	Kemp
Ethan	Lee
Harry	Lee
Tilly	Lee
Harry	Livsey
Sol	Mattatia
Ben	Maude
Fen	McLean
Charles	McNamee
Joseph	Medcalf
Jake	Merrick
Sammy	Myres
Heather	O'Brien
Thomas	Peet
Emma	Scott
Ria	Sharma
Henry	Smith
Laura	Stacey
William	Sutcliffe
Aaron	Thomas
Harry	Thomas
Scarlett	Turnock
Anna	Wilkinson



Nathan Wood, Emily Clifford, James Nash, Sam Minten, Emma Winn

To achieve the Gold DofE Award takes dedication, commitment and resilience and a trip to the Royal Palace is a very fitting way to acknowledge the efforts of those that do. This academic year we have had large numbers of Upper Sixth pupils achieve their Gold Award. Their volunteering alone adds up to over 1500 hours and we are very proud of what they have achieved in the local community with their charity work and help at volunteer run organisations.

On Wednesday 22 May, five KGS Gold Award achievers attended an award's ceremony in the grounds of Buckingham Palace, we had similar numbers at the Gold Award presentation at St. James's Palace in October and four students went to Holyrood Palace, Edinburgh in June to accept their Awards.

We were delighted that Mr Possamai was also invited to the Awards ceremony to be able to celebrate the achievements of our students. Congratulations to you all.

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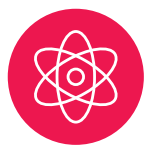
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Physics of Fusion



At the beginning of March, Kirkham Grammar School physics A-level students visited the only Fusion reaction in the UK at Culham Science Centre. In the report below, Upper Sixth Form pupil, Liam Gerrity tell us more about the visit.

On the 7 March we visited the JET nuclear reactor. Although the trip consisted of an 8 hour round trip the experience was well worth the journey. The trip explored key topics of the syllabus such as nuclear reactions and magnetic fields and helped show us real life applications of theories we have previously learned about.

It was really useful to see how the things we learn about in class can be used in real life situations. The seminar time there and the discussions with the physicists and engineers in charge furthered our understanding of specific topics such as nuclear fusion and how magnetic fields can be used.

The Culham Centre for Fusion Energy (CCFE) is the UK's national laboratory for fusion research. It is located at the Culham Science

Centre, near Culham, Oxfordshire, and is the site of the Joint European Torus (JET), Mega Ampere Spherical Tokamak (MAST) and the now closed Small Tight Aspect Ratio Tokamak (START).

Formerly known as UKAEA Culham, the laboratory was renamed in October 2009 as part of organisational changes at its parent body, the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority (UKAEA).

Since 2016, the director has been Professor Ian Chapman, and the centre has been engaged in work towards the final detailed design of ITER as well as preparatory work in support of DEMO.

In 2014 it was announced the centre would house the new RACE (Remote Applications in Challenging Environments)

A big thank you to Mr Gaitatzis for organising the trip and also driving us there on a very long trip.

by Liam Gerrity (Upper Sixth Form)



Biology Olympiad

Congratulations to Upper Sixth pupils, Ieuan Corcoran (gold) and Hannah Lewthwaite (bronze) who were awarded their Biology RSB Olympiad awards at the beginning of May.



Chemistry Olympiad

Congratulations to Upper Sixth pupils, Will Kollard, Seb Roche and Josh Baxter who were awarded the Chemistry RSC Olympiad Silver award at the beginning of April. This is only awarded to the top 30% of pupils in the country, a fantastic achievement.



GEOGRAPHY FIELDWORK

Fieldwork remains a key part of the GCSE and A-level geography specifications, and so all geographers have to have experience of collecting data in the field. However, these fieldwork days are so much more than just collecting data, and this year has recently seen the Lower Sixth and the Fourth Year geographers spending time in some fantastic local places trying to make sense of the processes and landforms around them.

The Lower Sixth geographers conducted a line transect study moving through an urban area, as well as numerous studies of place and space. The Fourth Years spent some time along the Fylde Coast, looking at longshore drift and the need to manage and protect our dynamic coastal landscape and settlements.

All pupils thoroughly enjoyed their days 'in the field' and tested to what extent real-life places matched the textbook theories that they were studying.





Five Glaciers I Have Known

by Mr Sam Whittle

On a cold Saturday morning in mid-January, prior to the morning's sports fixtures, Kirkham Grammar School's Head of Geography, Mr Sam Whittle, delivered a short lecture, 'Five Glaciers I Have Known'. Glaciation remains a key part of the modern geography specifications, and in addition to this there are signs of glacial processes and landforms all around the North West of England, the key is just knowing what to look out for!

Having been lucky, enough to have visited a number of glaciers in different parts of the world Mr Whittle explained some of the key things that they can show us, and how they have shaped the earth over time.

The feedback from the event was extremely positive and as a result we hope this lecture will be the first of many!



CLASSICS COMPETITION WINNER



At the beginning of February, Fifth Year pupil, Thomas Hewitt, won the annual Lytham St Anne's Classical Association's Competition. Judged by Professor Michael Scott of Warwick University, the competition saw Thomas crowned the People's Choice as well as the overall winner for his presentation, 'Roman Connections Near and Far: My Three Favourite Artefacts from the Ancient World'. Congratulations Thomas, a fantastic achievement!



Roman Connections Near and Far:
My Three Favourite Artefacts from
the Ancient World

"To find your three favourite artefacts from the Ancient World poses a real challenge, with literally thousands of options. My chosen three are taken from across the Roman Empire and I hope will give you sense of our own local significance and how these artefacts have a lasting legacy in the modern world.

Roman Shield Boss

My first artefact is a bronze Roman Shield Boss or in Latin umbo. It dates from the second century AD and was discovered in Kirkham, where a little known Roman settlement was based. A Roman presence was first established at Kirkham in AD 70 in form of a temporary camp with a permanent fort constructed in AD 120. To give those of you that know Kirkham an idea of where the fort was based, it was situated in the Carr Hill area with the Dowbridge Road running through the middle of the fort. The boss itself was discovered in 1792 by a local schoolmaster, named John Willacy (almost certainly from Kirkham Grammar School) in Dow Brook close to the Roman bathhouse. I feel that its close links to my school and its locality gives this object close personal ties to me.

Additionally, it tells us much about Roman warfare in Britain during this period, including the military technology and the influence of religion on people's lives. The metal boss originally would have been fitted to the centre of an auxiliary shield (the common image of associated with the Roman soldier)

[mosaic of cavalymen] using rivets [you can see the remaining holes on the Kirkham shield boss] in order to strengthen it. The purpose of boss's domed shape is to deflect any blows from the enemy and its hollow back enables it to act as recessed hand grip.

Furthermore, the boss's engravings [shown here as an illustration] tell us about the influence of religion on the military showing Mars - the Roman God of War [centre] and Victoria - the Roman Goddess of Victory [winged figure on the right], in addition to battle trophies and eagles. She symbolised victory over death and was thought to determine who would ultimately win a war, and depicted in a hope of bringing the bearer success in battle, while Mars, the guardian of soldiers, is perhaps included in order to protect the bearer. They, alongside Concordia (who was associated with peace) were worshipped in particular by the army, with religious rituals continuing in Britain as if they were stationed in Rome. The shield boss is undoubtedly one of the most significant finds in the Fylde linked to the Ancient World, being one of the finest examples of a Roman shield boss in the country (something I feel we should be proud of) and is now on display in the British Museum.

The Portland Vase

My second artefact from Ancient World is the Portland Vase dating from the 1st century AD, it is one of the most famous examples of Roman cameo glass in the world. What I find interesting about it is how vase's history and depictions (which number over 50) have

puzzled us for centuries. The vase is thought to have been discovered in 1582 in the sarcophagus of the Emperor Alexander Severus. It later passed into the family of the Dukes of Portland, hence earning its iconic name.

Interpretations of the first scene include the mythological marriage of the sea-gods Peleus and Thetis, the dream of Olympias greeting her son Alexander the Great, Mark Antony lured by Cleopatra [accompanied by an asp responsible for her death] or the story of the Emperor Augustus's supposed siring by the God Apollo in the form of a snake. The only agreed figure throughout the entirety of the Portland Vase is that of Cupid flying above in the centre. On the reverse side, scholars have suggested a dream of Hecuba (wife of King Priam) that suggested the Judgement of Paris would lead to the destruction of Troy, Ariadne (daughter of King Minos), or Octavia Minor left by Mark Antony between her brother Augustus and Venus (who the Julio-Claudians claim descent). I think these various interpretations tell us about the great depth of history of the ancient world and the further research and mystery yet to be uncovered.

The manufacture of the Portland Vase also tells us about the advanced skills of craftsmen in the Ancient World. It was created in Rome at a time when the making of cameo glass was still in its infancy and required expert skills and attention to detail. The vase is made up of two layers of glass with dark blue under layer surrounded by a white over layer. This white layer is then carefully cut away and carved to leave the remaining figures in relief.

Furthermore, the Portland Vase also has great personal significance to me personally with it inspiring numerous copies, notably by Josiah Wedgwood in 1790 whose copy was actually used in the restoration of the vase after its breakage in 1845. Generations of my family worked in the potteries industry with many of Wedgwood works inspired by classical scenes popularised by the Portland Vase.

Claudius and Britannia

My final favourite artefact from the Ancient World is a relief showing

the Emperor Claudius and one of the earliest depictions of Britannia. Dating from the first century AD, the relief originates from Aphrodisias, Western Turkey in Asia Minor in the East of the Roman Empire, recently designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It forms part of the Sebasteion, a temple dedicated to the worship of the Julio-Claudian Emperors and contains several reliefs depicting many of the early Roman Emperors and various mythical figures including Aeneas. The relief of Claudius and Britannia celebrates the invasion of Britain in AD 43 - a landmark of Claudius's reign, showing Claudius as a warrior about to deliver a deathblow to the slumped figure of Britannia - a female warrior representing the Britain. This is thought to be one of her first depictions, and in this case is modelled on Amazonian figures.

She has evolved into the image we now recognise of Britannia today which we have associated as a sign of our national identity for centuries, with her even appearing on all banknotes in the form of the Seal of the Bank of England and the 50 pence, in addition to being the namesake of eight generations Royal Naval vessels (including the Queen's yacht Britannia which represented Britain on the world stage until the millennium). What is so remarkable is this close connection between modern Britain and the east of the Ancient World and its lasting role in our national iconography.

In conclusion, these three artefacts made of a variety of materials and from across the ancient world, tell us of the great craftsmanship of the ancient civilisations and all also have fascinating stories to tell about the Ancient World. They have great significance to me personally in particular my favourite the Roman Shield Boss and indeed the Portland Vase with links to my own family heritage. However, they have links to us all whether for their locality, or the personification of our national identity, they show the clear and lasting legacy of the Ancient World on our lives today and I believe are worthy of a place as three of the most significant artefacts on the Ancient World".

Thomas Hewitt, 2019

INTERNATIONAL SLAVERY MUSEUM VISIT

At the end of January, KGS Third Year pupils visited the International Slavery Museum in Liverpool as part of their history studies. After the coach journey the pupils stretched their legs and walked down to the Waterfront and learnt about the history of the city and the geographical setting of this great port. The pupils visited the gallery of the museum where they learnt about the transatlantic slave trade and its legacy on the city. They also attended a handling session with museum staff where they handled artefacts and learnt about the horrors and experiences of the trade. It was certainly a moving visit and all agreed that it is virtually impossible to imagine the sort of memories and visions that may have haunted each and every enslaved African, from the moment they were seized in their homelands to the moment that they were marched in shackles towards the Atlantic coast and a life enslaved in the plantations of America.



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ZOO LAB VISIT

During February, our First Year pupils enjoyed a visit from ZooLab. They learned about classification and how and why we group animals. The hands-on, animal handling workshop brought the pupils face to face with the topic and introduced them to 'ZooLab' animals that included a selection of vertebrates and invertebrates; a Giant African Land Snail, a Madagascar Hissing Cockroach, a Chilean Rose Hair Tarantula, a Corn Snake and an Albino Rat!



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LESSONS FROM AUSCHWITZ

In November 2018, Lower Sixth Form pupils, Koko Taylor and Abby Millward travelled to Krakow for the day to visit Auschwitz-Birkenau. An early start and a late finish, with a whirlwind tour in the middle gave for a full day of discovering the facts of the Holocaust and reflecting on the atrocities that occurred. Prior to the visit of the death camp, the girls had travelled to Manchester to meet with a survivor and talk about their expectations. The visit day was both physically and emotionally exhausting but one the girls felt passionate about. As witnesses to the events and as ambassadors of the Holocaust Educational Trust, the girls were duty bound to disseminate their testimony to others and pass on the lessons from Auschwitz.

At the end of May, the girls visited a Third Year RPE class to do just this. To complement the teaching of the Holocaust, both Koko and Abby took a lesson, where they talked about their experiences, their thoughts about the visit, showed pictures and held a discussion with the class. Finally, they explained to the class that several years ago in 2013, two previous ambassadors of the Holocaust Educational Trust, Rachel Howard and Savannah Des Etages, had created a structure that is currently at the entrance to the Waite Building, where pupils can write their hope for the world on a padlock and lock it onto the structure. Koko and Abby purchased locks for the class and asked the pupils to add to the structure. This lesson was very much appreciated by the Third Year pupils and some interesting thoughts were locked onto the structure.





ספר השמות

בספר הזה חקוקים שמות הרצחנים
לזיכרון עולם.

THE BOOK OF NAMES

The names of the murdered
are inscribed in this book as
an eternal memorial.



HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR VISIT



Kirkham Grammar School were privileged to be visited by Lady Milena Grenfell-Baines MBE, who was one of the 669 predominantly Jewish children evacuated from Prague on one of eight Kindertransport trains. These were organised by Sir Nicholas Winton MBE. She captivated our Sixth Form, Third and Fourth Year pupils with her moving testimony of her pre-war life and how lucky she felt to be alive and eventually reunite with her family. She spoke about the importance of being politically active and ensuring that injustices are fought. Only the day before, she had been protesting in Westminster about the treatment of orphaned refugee children in Greece. Lady Milena has been integral with the development of The Valediction Memorial at Prague's main railway station. The students were shocked to hear that it has recently been vandalised in an anti-Semitic attack. This highlighted to all present the value of Holocaust education and the importance of not just standing by.

"The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing." — Edmund Burke.

"Those who do not learn history are doomed to repeat it." - George Santayana.

Kirkham Grammar School and the RPE Department would like to thank Lady Milena Grenfell-Baines for her time. She was an inspiration and provided the pupils with a personal, human account of the Holocaust.



THE LONDON ACADEMY OF MUSIC AND DRAMATIC ART



The ability to convey ones thoughts clearly and accurately and with confidence is vitally important in today's communication focused world. These life skills developed through Lamda speech and drama lessons were put into practise this spring when a number of Mrs Heney's Senior School pupils took part in the Lytham St Anne's Festival of Performing Arts. A variety of competitive classes were entered including poetry speaking, acting, musical theatre, prose speaking, improvisation and public speaking. KGS pupils gained high marks being placed in the top three in many classes and three performers in particular (Abigail Johnson, Olivia Coupe and Molly Pickup) achieved a coveted mark of 90 in the rarely awarded outstanding category. Well done, everyone – you are all stars!



THE BARRIE EDGAR ART GALLERY

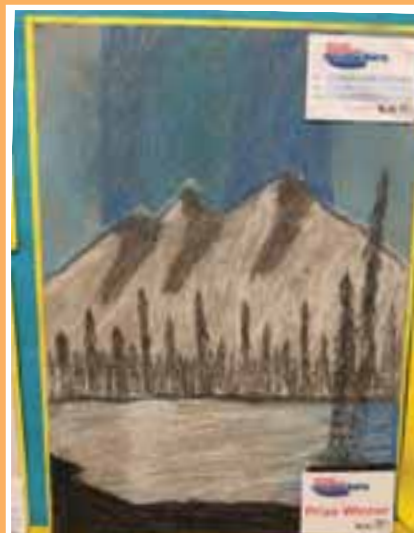


Mid-January saw the opening of 'The Barrie Edgar Art Gallery' at the Junior School and it was wonderful to welcome Mr Edgar back for the grand opening. The children chosen to have their artwork displayed also came along to celebrate this very special occasion.



SEASIDERS ARTS & CRAFTS EXHIBITION

At the beginning of March, eighteen Junior School pupils enjoyed a wonderful visit to the 'Young Seaside Arts & Crafts Exhibition' at Blackpool and The Fylde College. The children were able to see their artwork on display and explore other artwork from schools around Lancashire. Well done to all of the artists who took part and congratulations to our prize winners, Fatimah, Charlie, Amy and Georgia.



APRICA

ITALY - SENIOR SKI TRIP - 2019



A most fabulous trip. The sun shone and the snow was perfect! A full programme of evening activities complemented the skiing, with bowling and skating real favourites as usual.

The quiz night was 'upgraded' this year to include practical challenges where pupils were mummified with toilet roll or made to slide

chocolate down their faces. Yes, really! All rose to the challenge and made for some excellent photo opportunities, captured and tweeted by Mrs Atkinson.

'Fancy Dress Friday' saw more sunshine, with costumes discarded at lunchtime due to the heat! The evening proved equally busy

with instructor presentations, last minute gift shopping and check-out ready for our overnight return to school.

Speaking of overnight travel, those of you who have signed up to next year's trip to Canada have that to look forward to! It will be a cold one...

SKI

JUNIOR



TRIP



The adventure began when we met at Manchester Airport on Saturday 30 March. Everyone was really excited and ready to go. We all boarded the plane and found our seats. On arrival at Munich, still full of beans, we jumped on our coach for the transfer to our resort. The view of the mountains when we arrived in Zell Am See was amazing. You could see the outline of the skiers shooting down the slopes. Next, we all got separated into our rooms and started to unpack. Later, we met for dinner and then enjoyed a 'welcome night', where we met the ski instructors and found out what time we had to wake up and be down for breakfast. We were all then sent to bed for a good night's sleep in preparation for our full ski holiday adventure to begin.

After a hearty breakfast and a reminder about sun cream, we set off to the ski hire shop where we picked our boots, helmets and skis for the week ahead. The beginners group started on a nursery slope, after we had finally managed to put our boots on, of course! The intermediate group started at the top of the nursery slope with the advanced group. Everyone was skiing really well and we were soon going in the bubble and chairlifts higher up the mountain. We finished the first day with a dinner and quiz night, which was thoroughly enjoyed by the whole group. We were all ready for day two!

The next morning everyone woke up keen to pick up some new skills. We went to breakfast and were soon getting our gear on in the boot room. By late morning everyone was quite hungry so we went to a restaurant for lunch up on the mountain. Then we all set off again down the slopes. Unfortunately, Daisy managed to break her shin but she is getting better now. By the end of the day, the beginners were going down blue runs! Finally, at the end of the day, we all had a shower, got changed and had a delicious dinner before beginning our games night.

By day three we were now in a routine and everyone quickly ate breakfast and set off once again to the boot room. It was to be an early and quick start as today we would be taking the short bus ride to the glacier. Skiing at heights of 3000m above sea level was a lot colder and the snow was much firmer. After another hearty lunch at a mountain-top restaurant, and the now usual post lunch snowball fight and bottom sledging, we headed back out onto the slopes. Rather than enjoying an afternoon stop for hot chocolate in a mountain hut, we took a pit stop at the Ice Bar, where the building and everything in it was made out of ice. Even the glasses for our Ice Age mocktails were made from ice! For our evening entertainment this night, we would be heading to the spectacular Spa with indoor and outdoor pools looking up to the mountains. There were also many whirlpools, bubble pools and slides. A great night of rest, relaxation and obviously a lot of fun! Then we all went to bed to power up for the next day.

By day four, all the groups were zipping around the mountain, learning new techniques and tricks. Everyone covered a lot of piste today in the great spring weather. At the end of a full day of lessons, we went back to the hotel, had a wash and walked into town for a bit of souvenir shopping and pizza. It was Sebastian's birthday so we celebrated with him. 'Pizza Party' for 37 – amazing! The pizzas tasted really good and, with our bellies full, we made the thirty minute walk back up the hill to the hotel. Now exhausted from our skiing and good walk, we were all ready to get to bed!

Day five was another great day of skiing and definitely ended on a high note when we went to the cinema after dinner to watch 'Rio'. Day six, unfortunately, was to be our last day of skiing, but everyone still had huge smiles on their faces. We all got ready and set off up the slopes. By the end of the day, the beginners were going

down hard red runs, while the intermediate and advanced

groups were gracefully carving down black runs. When we returned, we reluctantly handed back our skis, boots and helmets at the hire shop. Later that evening, we had a disco and did some boy v girl challenges in dancing, singing, hula-hooping and fancy dress karaoke! Mrs Roberts and Mr Lewis even did the can-can! Then we set off to bed, all packed and ready to set off for home in the morning.

The journey home was long and we were tired from such a busy week, on and off the slopes, though we were all excited to see our parents and share the great tales of our epic adventures.

What an amazing trip we had, full of memories to last a lifetime, and stories to retell to all our families and friends. Over the week, we all had a lot of falls, bumps and tumbles – but that's all part of the fun of learning to ski.

Thanks must go to all the teachers, instructors and pupils for making the 2019 KGJS Ski Trip such a memorable and enjoyable adventure.

Natalie Smith J4X





LOCKERBIE TRIP



KGJS J4 pupils, along with Mr Lewis, Mrs Case, Mrs Tickle, Mr McLaughlin and Miss Bentley, set off for an action-packed week at Manor Adventure in Lockerbie, Scotland. The group stopped off at Penrith Leisure Centre to break up the journey and enjoyed an hour of badminton, table tennis, football, cricket and rounders. After lunch, they continued on their way and arrived at Lockerbie at 2.30pm, where they were given a tour of the pod village and the activity site. Each day, after a hearty breakfast, which included Scottish pancakes, the children enjoyed a selection of activities including; zip wire, mountain biking, paddle boarding, raft building, kayaking, canoeing, obstacle course, abseiling, climbing, archery, fencing, crate stack and initiative challenges! There were occasions when nerves took hold but everyone was determined to try every activity. On Thursday evening, the children and staff enjoyed a campfire and singsong! Everybody had a fantastic time, although the children were really tired afterwards and all fell asleep in no time! The children (and staff!) had the most incredible time and hopefully created lots of memories that will last a lifetime!





ISLE OF MAN

At the beginning of March, twenty four pupils, accompanied by Mrs Farquharson, Mr Laughlin and Mr Oddie, met at KGJS to embark on their annual sports tour to the beautiful Isle of Man. After a 25 minute flight over the Irish Sea, they reached their destination and travelled to King Williams College which would be their home for the next three days.

On day one, the pupils played netball and rugby against The Buchan School which was a fantastic start to the tour. In the evening, they went ten pin bowling in the north of the Island.

Day two involved football against The Buchan School and hockey against

King William's College in the morning followed by a local quiz in the afternoon. The evening entertainment was a visit to Laser Blast in which all of the pupils and staff took part in a highly competitive competition!

During the morning of day three, a mixed Hockey Tournament between the tour party took place which was followed by rugby and hockey fixtures against the Isle of Man U11 representative teams.

Everyone had a thoroughly enjoyable action-packed time and by the time they boarded their flight home late afternoon after three fantastic days on tour, they were all ready for bed!



YORK



Despite the early hour, the sun was shining on Friday 1 March when 23 J4 children set off on their overnight trip to York. After dropping their bags at the hostel, the group found a large park to let off steam and eat a picnic lunch in the sunshine. The first activity of the day was to Jorvik Dig, a fantastic museum where the children became archaeologists, scraping away the earth to discover buildings and artefacts from different historical eras. Next, they handled old bones and different materials that have been found on real dig sites. Their second visit was to the main Jorvik Centre where a Viking guide talked about life in his time and they went on a journey through a Viking village with some rather strange sights and smells! After looking at a variety of artefacts that had been dug up in York, including the oldest poo ever found, the group walked back to the hostel and settled into their rooms. After dinner, everyone enjoyed a lovely evening stroll... on a GHOST WALK!! Some of the stories were rather terrifying and the guide brought them to life with his booming voice and imaginative story-telling.

After a hearty breakfast on Saturday

morning, the J4s set off for the magnificent York Minster. After collecting quiz sheets, they split into small groups with their friends to discover the different areas of this amazing cathedral and find clues hidden around the building. All the children were incredibly well-behaved and respectful to others while moving around the Minster. Their next activity was rather tasty! A look around 'York's Chocolate Story' museum. Here, everyone learned about the history of the main chocolate brands that originated in and around York and then went on a journey through the manufacturing process, with lots of opportunities to taste the products! They saw how chocolate box chocolates are made and then made their own chocolate lollipops to take home. The final destination of the trip before travelling home was to the Railway Museum, where many carriages that belonged to kings and queens of old were seen and the children were able to look at engines from all ages of rail transport. After a quick trip on the miniature railway, it was time to head home. This was a jam-packed, fun-filled trip with a great group of children.

KGJS U10'S HOCKEY TOURNAMENT



At the end of March, the Junior School hosted the annual U10's Hockey Tournament. After the initial group stages, KGJS U10s progressed to the semi-final of the cup competition to face their opponents, AKS. After full time, the game went to golden goal and unfortunately just a few minutes into the first half Kirkham's opposition scored. Well done to you all for reaching the semi-final of the cup.





JUNIOR HOUSE SWIMMING GALA

On Friday 10 May, the Junior School held their annual Inter House Swimming Gala which saw over 140 pupils take part. The four houses, Birley, Clifton, Colborne and Drapers, have all won the coveted trophy in the past but there was no clear favourite this year. The gala, which first took place in 1990, consisted of fifty two races in total and all of them produced fantastic finishes. The final race of the day was the highlight of the morning with all of our J4 boys and girls representing their house in the Cannon Relay which involved fifty swimmers!

The final age group totals were as follows:

J1 (U8s)

1st Clifton
2nd Drapers
3rd Colborne
4th Birley

J2 (U9s)

1st Birley
2nd Colborne
3rd Clifton
4th Drapers

J3 (U10s)

1st Clifton/ Colborne
3rd Drapers
4th Birley

J4 (U11s)

1st Colborne
2nd Drapers
3rd Birley
4th Clifton

After over two hours of fantastic individual races and team relays the final totals were as follows:

1st Colborne
2nd Clifton
3rd Drapers
4th Birley



AJIS INDOOR ATHLETICS

At the end of January, our Junior School athletes travelled to Wigan to take part in the annual Association of Junior Independent Schools Indoor Athletics Championships. Twenty seven schools from throughout the North West took part with over 650 competitors involved. Kirkham had trained hard leading up to the championships and also took part in two very competitive warm up matches against Lytham Road Running and Athletics Club. The competition is always very tough with so many schools involved. The Championship events included, sprints, throws, jumps, balance activities, sprint relays and obstacle relays. After over four hours of competition KGJS had recorded the following results:



GOLD MEDALS

U11 Boys' balance: Jenson Crompton (Set AJIS Record)
U11 Girls' balance: Nikita Murthy (Set AJIS Record)
U10 Boys' balance: Bertie Jones
U10 Boys' speed bounce: Tom Barton
U11 Boys' obstacle relay: William de Klerk, Alexander Davies, Jenson Crompton & Harry Marsh
U10 Boys' obstacle relay: Oliver Littlechild, Bertie Jones, William Thompson & Freddie Wiltshire

SILVER MEDALS

U11 Boys' triple jump: Max Musson
U11 Boys' vertical jump: Rowan Edwards
U11 Boys' speed bounce: Harry Marsh
U10 Boys' triple jump: Oliver Littlechild

BRONZE MEDALS

U11 Girls' vertical jump: Lola Sidani
U10 Girls' balance: Evelyn So
U10 Girls' obstacle relay: Evelyn So, Issy Gut, Regan Lowe & Zara Gilchrist

As you can see, these are a very pleasing set of results and fully deserved after all their hard work. Well done to all!

AJIS ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS



On Tuesday 19 June, the Junior School athletes travelled to Stretford Athletics Stadium in Manchester to take part in the annual Association of Junior Independent Schools Athletics Championships. The competition is always very strong as some of the best schools in the North West compete. Over twenty five schools entered and they were blessed with glorious weather which was matched by scintillating performances from all the Kirkham athletes. Pride of place must go to our gold medallist Leo Paraskeva who won the U10 Boys' high jump.

Listed below are the medallists however, everyone performed brilliantly with many athletes making finals and just missing out on medals. This was just reward as they have all trained exceptionally hard at lunch and in the evenings and have hosted three successful fixtures which acted as perfect preparation for the championships.

GOLD MEDALS

U10 Boys' high jump: Leo Paraskeva

SILVER MEDALS

U11 Boys' 600 metres: Gordon Ballantyne

U10 Boys' cricket ball throw: Sebastian Clarke

U10 Boys' long jump: Bertie Jones

U10 Girls' long jump: Evelyn So

U10 Girls' 150 metres: Zara Gilchrist

U11 Boys' 4x 100 metres: Gordon Ballantyne, Harry Marsh, William De Klerk and Alex Davies

U10 Girls' 4x 100m relay: Hermione Edwards, Issy Gut, Zara Gilchrist and Evelyn So

BRONZE

U11 Boys' long jump: Harry Marsh



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ENGLISH SCHOOLS' TRACK & FIELD CUP





On Tuesday 14 May, the Junior and Intermediate athletics teams competed in the first round of the English Schools' Track & Field Cup.

The girls started in the field totting up numerous points in both the throws and jumps. Millie Homan set the bar high with great points in the hammer event followed by Jessica Cole, Rebecca Fisher and Talia Armstead to name just a few. Both the Junior and Intermediate girls were in a great position at the half way point but had a tough afternoon of track events in the heat. The weather was beautiful but didn't make for the best conditions when running in the 1500M and 800M events. Nevertheless, Martha Millar, Kate Cookson and Amy and Dani Merrick ran great races earning valuable points for the teams. The relays were the last events of the day and both teams needed to get the baton safely round to ensure they concluded what had been a very successful day.

There were a number of key performers for the Intermediate boys' team. Harry Burrow competed in both the pole vault and 80m hurdles and scored an outstanding 53 points on his own. Harry Booth scored an impressive 43 points in the 300m and triple jump, Joe Medcalf scored 41 points in the 200m and shot put and Archie Dowds scored 37 points in the 200m and long jump. Top performers in the juniors were James Stacey and Seb Kelly in the 300m and shot put, scoring 34 and 35 points respectively. Tom Wilkinson and Harry Case also proved to be pivotal in the hurdles and high jump scoring 31 points each.

Everyone recognised that the Junior and Inter teams had given their all and there was much delight when the final results were announced! The Intermediate boys finished top of the pile and qualified for the regional A finals, whilst the Junior boys finished a very respectable second, qualifying for the regional B final. Both girls' teams were victorious to qualify for the regional A finals.

The Junior boys took part in the regional B finals on Wednesday 12 June. The team, consisting of seven U12s and eight U13s, have performed extremely well and should be proud of their achievements in this tough competition. Tom Wilkinson was once again the key man for the junior team scoring 39 points with his performances in the hurdles and high jump. Seb Kelly and James Stacey also scored highly, both competing in the 300m and shot. There were many promising performances from our U12 athletes with Harry Case in the hurdles and high jump, Ben Firth in the javelin and Ewan Huck in the discus. The boys finished in 6th place overall which is a tremendous effort. Next season their goal is to reach the A finals, a target which is certainly achievable following the potential shown in recent weeks.

At the regional A finals on Wednesday 19 June, the weather was kind throughout the event with all three teams making a good start to the competition.

Following their first place in the county round with 414 points, the Inter boys team have been working hard to see if they could increase their points tally and try and improve on last year's group who came 3rd in the regional finals with 439 points. Kirkham were on the track first and scored well with impressive performances from Harry Burrow in the hurdles, Harry Booth in the 300m and Archie Dowds in the 200m, all gaining over 25 points each. The team had suffered some last minute injuries, however a number of boys stepped up and gave their best effort in events that were not their first choice. Ethan Crompton in the 1500m, Aidan Hayward in the 800m and Freddie Tarrant in the 100m all gave their all, however this resulted in a number of dropped points. Nevertheless, in the half way stage Kirkham were in second place with all to play for in the field events. Harry Burrow was outstanding with a new PB in the pole vault, as was Harry Booth with a new PB in the triple jump. Jake Merrick impressed with his efforts with the



hammer and Archie Dowds managed a new PB in the long jump. Joe Medcalf, Harry Thompson, Yande Nkonge and Tobias Parkinson all gained respectable scores when combining their two events, however the injuries to our first choice athletes told in the final totals. The boys finished in a very respectable fifth place with 423 points, a 9 point improvement from round one.

The Inter girls also competed well despite missing part of their team due to other commitments. Siobhan Hardman was excellent in the hurdles, Poppy Kearsley in the 300m and Amy and Dani Merrick in the 800m. In the field the girls scored well in the discus and shot events and Issy Kane jumped just shy of 5 meters in the long jump. Unfortunately, 309 points wasn't enough to take them any further in the competition but a great day was had by all.

In the Junior girls competition, Jess Cole and Keira Tones achieved excellent points in the high jump whilst Millie Homan threw a new PB in the hammer. The points just kept coming which put them in 1st place at the half way point with the track events still to go. On the track the juniors continued to excel with Kate Cookson in the 800m, Jasmine Schofield in the 300m and Rebecca Fisher in the hurdles, to name just a few. It was a real team effort which resulted in the girls clocking up a massive 400 points and a place in the ESAA National Finals in Chelmsford on Saturday 6 July.





CRICKET REPORT

Kirkham Grammar School offers cricket as part of their summer sports programme, where it has a well-established Saturday fixture list supported by some midweek fixtures where we play against some of the local schools. We enter all age groups in the Lancashire Schools Cup competition and have been County Champions at U12 and U13 in recent years. In 2019, we held our first ever 'Cricket Week' which saw the majority of our junior players experience a UK tour. There are plans in place to expand this to an overseas tour in the near future.



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1ST XV



1st VII

An inexperienced 1st VII started the season reaching the quarter-final of the Christ College, Brecon - the open tournament of this year's programme. After a solid weeks training, KGS went down to Bristol to defend the Tom Vandell Trophy at Colston's School. In every group Kirkham managed to come out winners 19-12 against a talented Bristol Grammar School team. More victories in the group followed with comfortable wins over Abingdon School (29-0) and King's Bruton (31-5). This put KGS into the quarter final against King Edward's, Bath. With Captain Daniel Kelly leading by example and Cole Potts and Evan Powell finishing off with some impressive tries, Kirkham marched on with a good win and a semi-final clash with the host school Colston's. Despite the first half being close, Kirkham dominated the second half and ran out 28-5 winners. The final matched KGS with top rugby school Clifton College. The final was a fantastic game of schoolboy rugby with both teams leading the way. KGS opened the scoring with a terrific Hadyn Benge try which was quickly followed by a Clifton response. Despite having a player in the sin bin, KGS responded and once again took the lead when Dan supported well and crashed over the line, but again Clifton responded and the game was level at half time. Once again Kirkham took the lead after a well-worked try finished by Evan. Clifton this time responded with control and scored 2 quick tries which gave them a 22-19 lead with time running out. Time for KGS super-sub Will to take action, with fresh legs and plenty of tired bodies around, he sprinted 60 metres under the posts to allow KGS to retain the title with a 26-22 victory!



Kirkham Grammar School 1st VII played with skill and passion as they won their group games on the opening day of the National 7s at Rosslyn Park. The wins over Bishop Burton (Leeds Carnegie Academy) 14-7 and Newport High School (Gwent Dragons Academy) 38-0, were especially pleasing. Winning the group sent KGS into the quarter final group stage for the fifth consecutive season alongside only eleven other top rugby schools to contest the National Cup. Despite playing with great purpose and scoring some fantastic tries, they were finally beaten by Millfield School and Clifton College. Outstanding for the 2 days were Captain Daniel Kelly and Vice-Captain Will Gargett as well as half backs Cole Potts and Callum Grieve. One of the best tries of the last day was scored by Will Gregory who stepped up as did fellow back Joe Shields.

Despite the defeats KGS 1st VII have played at a very high level all season reaching the quarter finals of three tournaments as well as winning the prestigious Colston's School 7s, ironically against Clifton College.

After a successful Sevens campaign, KGS rugby players turned their attention to the National Tens at Sedbergh School at the end of March. Kirkham were confident from the start and with Captain Daniel Kelly setting a fine example they were always going to be a threat. Playing with skill and physicality, KGS dominated their group games with wins over Stamford School 29-0, Seaford College 21-10, King Edwards', Bath 38-10 and QEGS, Wakefield 31-15 which took them into the second day semi-final group. Scrum-half Cole Potts was in outstanding form as were front rowers Ethan Caine and Corey Bowker. Their form allowed spaces for other players to run in some exciting tries with Will Gregory, Ethan Hall-Lyon, Callum Grieve and Oli Leatherbarrow benefitting with numerous tries. The hard work of Vice-captain, Will Gargett was also very much key to KGS gaining such success on the first day of the tournament.

Kirkham were now placed in a semi-final group with some top rugby playing schools. KGS maintained their confidence and with the same players influencing the games, defeated RGS High Wycombe 26-21, Barnard Castle 31-19 and King's Macclesfield 34-12 to reach the final of the tournament for the first time since 2003. In the final, Kirkham were faced by the host school Sedbergh and despite defending heroically for long periods with outstanding tackles coming from Daniel Kelly, Cole Potts and Will Gargett they were defeated 0-26. Despite the loss, this was a magnificent effort reaching the final of a National Competition and beating some other top rugby schools.

HEADMASTERS 1ST XV



2ND XV



Headmasters 1st XV

The Headmasters 1st XV enjoyed a successful season playing against other school's 1st XV's, winning five out of eight matches with some notable scalps along the way. The opening game at home to Crossley Heath, with both teams clearly in need of a run out, gave Kirkham their first victory. The following week, Wirral Grammar School visited with a full 1st XV on show including an England International. Kirkham matched Wirral for long periods but the pace and power of the away side told in the end. Kirkham were unlucky to concede so many points which was definitely a true reflection of how the game went. The following week another loss followed, this time to St. Ambrose who played with pace, something Kirkham tried to match but in the end the visitors were worthy winners. The next three games really got the Headmaster's 1st XV back on track, Manchester Grammar School were tough opponents with a side containing many players from their previous year's successful Under 16 side. Will Gregory, dominant at No.10, scored all Kirkham's points with one try of pure brilliance, traversing his way over past four defenders, in a 17-10 win. The long trip to Christ College, Brecon, the middle game of the three wins, saw an easy victory (41-10) in a seven try performance. The last game before the Christmas break was arguably the highlight of the term against Merchant Taylor's, Crosby who had no answer to the attacking might of Kirkham who ran the ball skilfully and intelligently, Elliot Simcock, Keir Gordon and Josh Jones producing eye catching performances in a 52-0 win. On returning to school in January the last two games saw a crushing win at home to Calday Grange Grammar School (51-7) which was preceded by a gutsy display against the full 1st XV of Denstone College who had a huge pack. Kirkham coped especially well at scrum time, tackled ferociously and certainly gave their highly rated opponents a big scare and could easily have nicked a deserved win. Denstone left clearly knowing they had been in a game!

2nd XV

The results this season reflect an encouraging campaign which allowed Kirkham to field

some younger players in some games, particularly when the Headmaster's XV were playing at the same time. Two losses at the start of the season did little to deter any of the boys who gradually came to terms with the pace of the games and the physicality required to match future opponents. Local rivals RGS Lancaster were soundly beaten 57-0 and this was followed by a much tougher assignment at home to Manchester Grammar School (19-5), Will Gregory and Captain Josh Jones catching the eye with two outstanding performances. Early October the trip down to St. Joseph's, Ipswich proved to be a fruitful one as the squad rattled up 50 points in a resounding win.

Mid October saw the eagerly anticipated fixture away at Sedbergh who looked a strong outfit once again. However, Kirkham played their best rugby of the season and could quite easily have turned them over. Despite going 12-0 behind Kirkham hit back as Jones and the forward pack pounded the Sedbergh line with some superbly well controlled drives which resulted in a try by Jones, Gregory converting. In a flash, Sedbergh scored two quick tries to pull away before Kirkham closed the gap with a try of their own and looked to push on to close the gap. However with 20 minutes remaining a potentially serious injury to a Kirkham player meant the game was abandoned, but the result stood as 50 minutes had already elapsed.

The squad then had a chance to get their season back on track and did so by beating Denstone College 59-15 and Runshaw College 48-0. The last game before Christmas

saw a much younger squad take on Merchant Taylor's, Crosby and despite a wholehearted performance, the visitors proved a little too strong in a 12-33 defeat.

The Sevens campaign proved valuable in terms of game time and experience as the squad entered the QES Kirkby Lonsdale Tournament for the first time, playing five matches before losing in the semi-final. The second tournament at Austin Friars again allowed the boys six games in gruelling conditions and playing against other 1st VIs school teams, another semi-final loss (after winning the group) was a great effort.

U16s

The U16s had a good season setting themselves up for senior rugby next season. After a tough start they managed to record wins against Lancaster Royal Grammar, Liverpool College, Stonyhurst College and Denstone. This resulted in them playing in the semi-final of the Lancashire Cup where they unfortunately lost to The Manchester Grammar School in a close affair. After Christmas the boys enjoyed a successful sevens season where the highlight was getting to the quarter-finals at the Stonyhurst 7s, having topped their group. They also enjoyed their Rosslyn Park 7s experience. Outstanding performances of the season came from the powerful front row of Thomas Pickervance, Rory McKirdy and Matthew Sutcliffe, and the marshalling of the backs by Captain Ewan Macaulay and Nathan Page.

U16s



U15s



U15s

The U15's rugby team enjoyed an impressive cup run in the prestigious National Schools Cup. Round one saw them comfortably past Stonyhurst 36-12, however they faced a stiffer challenge in round two winning away at Lancaster Royal Grammar School 19-7. Kirkham then drew Sedbergh away in the third round, probably the biggest fixture in the North of England at U15 level this year. Kirkham produced an outstanding team performance, winning 32-15. In the fourth round Kirkham dispatched a talented St Mary's College side 39-0, leaving the last two sides in the region to battle it out in round five, The Manchester Grammar School and Kirkham. In a very physical encounter, Kirkham hung on to secure a place in the national quarter-finals, beating Manchester 18-13.

The highly anticipated quarter-final cup draw was streamed live on YouTube and the famous Rugby School would be Kirkham's next challenge. On Tuesday 29 January, Kirkham played Rugby School in front of a lively home crowd. The previous night's snowfall was removed from the pitch in the morning, leaving a heavier surface than usual. The Rugby School played the conditions perfectly, kicking for territory and defending with quick line speed. Kirkham continued to use the game plan that had proved successful for them all season, a ball movement game. Kirkham had long, multi-phase attack sequences, demonstrating an excellent level of skill and composure. However, the heavy ground nullified Kirkham's ability to generate any momentum, and as a result, they never created the line breaks to pressure The Rugby School's defensive system. In the second half, Kirkham finally opted for the ariel route. Fly half Archie Dowds found in space behind The Rugby School's defence with a well weighted kick. Outside centre Tobias Parkinson chased the ball down, caught in on the half volley and ran in Kirkham's only try of the game from fifty meters. Captain and vice-captain, Yande Nkonge and Aaron Pope led by example. Pope in particular has been outstanding all season and was awarded Player of the Year.

The Kirkham U15 side have provided eight county players and five Sale Sharks Academy

players. Tom Hoad, Bailey Whitehead, Yande Nkonge, Tobias Parkinson and Aaron Pope all represented Lancashire, whilst Rhys Fray, Josh Lynch and Harry Thompson represented Cheshire. Yande Nkonge, Aaron Pope, Tobias Parkinson, Josh Lynch and Harry Thompson were also selected for the Sale Sharks Academy side.

The Kirkham U15s 2018/19 squad are the first side in the school's history to reach the U15 National Cup Quarter Final. They have enjoyed a successful campaign winning nineteen of their twenty fixtures, including runners up of the Warwick School National 7s Cup. This season the U15s have gained valuable experience from both playing and turning over some of the top schools in the country. We are looking forward to the next few seasons as they move into the senior ranks of KGS rugby and strive for a 1st XV shirt.

U14s

In March, KGS U14s travelled to the Rosslyn Park National School Rugby Sevens competition, which is the biggest rugby sevens competition in the world. Day one saw them face a tough group with Prior Park College and rugby powerhouses Bedford and Tonbridge School. In the first game, after some early nerves, the boys got into their stride with the creative Charlie Read using some slick handling skills to put speedster Aiden Hayward in for a

couple of tries. Archie Dowds and Thomas Shuttleworth also got into the action with a good finish each as KGS took the game 26-12. The U14s met Bedford School in the second game and here KGS could show their squad depth with strong performances from Freddie Tarrant, Theo Timmins and James Sutcliffe being the bedrock of a comfortable 40-7. The last group game was a winner takes all affair versus one of the competition's favourites, Tonbridge School. After conceding early on, the blues and whites hit back through a tremendous solo effort by Thomas Shuttleworth. Archie Dowds slotted an excellent conversion from out wide. The remainder of the first half proved to be one where Kirkham did not have much ball, but the defence from Theo Timmins, Aiden Hayward and Seb Kelly was sensational. A Kelly turnover saw the ball was moved quickly to the far touchline to Hayward making it 14-7 to Kirkham at half time. Shortly into the second half Archie Dowds scored two tries converting both to give Kirkham a 26-12 lead, however Tonbridge didn't give up scoring with two minutes to go. Kirkham held on to the win and progressed to the cup elimination round. Here they met Denstone College. Archie Dowds' consistent attacking skills resulted in four tries to take a relatively comfortable 26-12 win.

Day 2 of the competition saw us in a tough group of Berkhamsted School and Rodillian Academy. In the first game the boys held their nerve to take an important 35-28 with the last play of the game, again largely thanks to Dowds' elusive running. However, with some bumps and bruises and a reshuffled side v Rodillian the boys were 17-0 down with five minutes to play. They did show some excellent resilience to make it 15-17 with a minute to play, but unfortunately it would be Rodillian that would score last and take the game and progress into the quarter-finals as KGS went down 24-15. The U14s have had a successful season winning the Lancashire Cup and the Richard Wilson Memorial Sevens. The experiences they have had this year will stand them in good stead for the future and we all look forward to seeing how they develop through the school's rugby programme.

U14s



U13s



U13s Second



U13s

After a slow start, the Under 13s had an encouraging year with significant success against schools such as Manchester Grammar, Queen Ethelburga's, The Grange and Birkenhead. The Second Year were unfortunate not to come away with a trophy this year but were runners up in the Lancashire Cup, losing narrowly to Lancaster by one score and in the Vlls they were runners up in the AKS Nora Lipscombe Vlls despite a late resurgence against a strong Wirral Grammar side. The side ended the season well with a third place finish at the St. Mary's Hall VII's.

U12s

It has been a terrifically enjoyable season for the U12s who were full of energy and keen to progress. From the start Mr Lyon and Mr Robinson decided to pick two sides of equal ability, hence the names Wizards and Jedi's, as they were keen to not go with

the tested formula of an 'A' and a 'B' team. There were several boys with limited rugby experience and some who had played club/school rugby previously, so by mixing the abilities this would hopefully accelerate the progress of the less experienced boys. By the end of the season this proved to be the correct decision as all the players made significant strides forward.

Over the twenty three matches that were played across both teams they achieved twelve victories, four draws and seven losses, with notable wins for the Wizards at St. Peter's, Gloucester (20-10), Hutton Grammar School, Stonyhurst and Manchester Grammar School. The Jedi's had their share of highlights with wins against Calday Grange (35-5), Loughborough Grammar School (35-12) and two excellent draws at Manchester Grammar School (20-20) and a 12-12 draw at home to Carr Hill High School, which saw Harry Tomlinson's solo effort eke out the draw in the last play of the game.

Out of the three scheduled Sevens Tournaments, only the tournament at Manchester Grammar School went ahead as the seemingly mild weather of February suddenly turned into a wet March putting paid to the Wirral and Audenshaw events. The Manchester Grammar School Sevens allowed all competing schools to take two teams, both of whom played five matches, against the likes of St. Ambrose, Bolton and Lancaster. Kirkham won six and drew one over the course of the day with both sides competing feverishly and learning about the shorter form of the game, in particular how to defend. Stand out performances during the day came from Ben Firth, Harry Smith, Ewan Huck and Luke Schmidt who tackled himself to a standstill.

Thank you to all of the boys who have played during the season and also to the parents for their enthusiastic support week after week. We know your cajoling was very much appreciated by the players. Good luck next season to all, keep listening and above all else, enjoy your rugby!

U12s



U12s Second



GIRLS SPORT



1ST XI HOCKEY



2ND XI HOCKEY



U14 HOCKEY



U13 HOCKEY



U15 HOCKEY



U12 HOCKEY





HOCKEY

It has been another very successful year of hockey for our teams at KGS. The U12 squads have gone from strength to strength developing their knowledge and understanding of the game as well as their individual skill. They have enjoyed success against some top opposition, Cheadle Hulme, RGS Newcastle, Rossall School and St Marys Hall to name just a few. The end of the season brought the Lancashire tournament which resulted in both the A and B teams being rewarded with silver medals.

The U13 and U14 squads not only had an amazing season in terms of performance but also enjoyed a fabulous hockey tour to Holland and Disneyland, Paris. The U13 squad were ranked third in Lancashire within the England Hockey National Competition whilst the U14 squad were crowned Lancashire Champions going on to represent the county at Regional level.

The U15 squad also had an excellent season defeating most teams across the north of England. Many players were invited into the U16 squad whilst some trained with the 1st XI in preparation for next season. The pinnacle of their season was winning the Lancashire trophy, defeating all teams in the area for the third season running.

The U16 XI certainly didn't disappoint defeating Sedbergh School, Hymers College and Altrincham GGS in the National Schools Championships, most of the squad enjoyed a very competitive fixture at Millfield School, Somerset.

The 1st and 2nd XI squads certainly led by example. Whilst at times it was difficult to secure top 2nd XI fixtures, when on the pitch their performance was excellent. The 1st XI got down to the last twelve in the England Hockey Competition and were crowned

U12 NETBALL



Lancashire Champions beating AKS and Stonyhurst College on the day.

A number of players have represented Lancashire over the season with some being invited to JRPC and PC within the England Hockey Player Pathway system.

The seniors squads now look forward to a tour to Barbados in February 2020 where they will come up against the Bajan Ladies National side.

Congratulations to our new captains for the 2019-20 season, Hollie James and Lucy Barrow (Vice).

NETBALL

The U13 squad played in the SMH Invitational tournament meeting various great netball teams. They defeated various schools in the group games before qualifying for the final. Unfortunately, KGS lost to a very strong SMH team in the final resulting in them taking away the silver medal.

SWIMMING

The KGS swimming squad have also had a successful season swimming against QEGS, Hulme Grammar, St Edwards College, Hutton Grammar and Bradford Grammar. They faced tough competition in the QEGS Quadrangular gala finishing in 4th place overall.

CROSS COUNTRY

The girl's cross country squads have had an exceptional season clearing up the medals at Stonyhurst in both the U12 and U13 age group. Unfortunately, this year's Fylde Coast cross country Championships were cancelled due to extreme weather conditions.





HOLLAND & PARIS HOCKEY TOUR





The Junior Hockey Tour set sail from Hull to Rotterdam for their tour of Valkenberg. The crossing was smooth and the girls were ready for the trip of a lifetime. The girls played their first fixture against Heerlan Hockey Club, the U13 and U14 squads worked hard all over the pitch and secured some excellent results. The first night's entertainment was a 'Stars in Your Eyes' competition and let's just say, they certainly didn't hold back! The second day brought our second lot of fixtures against Valken Hockey Club. Once again various players dominated all over the pitch and real teamwork was evident throughout the matches. That evening was a pyjama party with fun and games. Throughout the tour the girls enjoyed a trip to the toboggan run and a World Cup Hockey Competition. On the last evening before leaving for Disneyland Paris, they had a Disney fancy dress night with quizzes and fun with prizes to be won! A long coach journey with plenty of Disney movies passed the time until we arrived in Disney. The girls enjoyed two fabulous days in the Magic Kingdom and Universal Studios sampling the food at Planet Hollywood and King Ludwig's before watching the firework displays in the park. A Calais to Dover crossing and long drive back to KGS finished off a terrific week away with the most amazing girls we could hope for. Here's to the next tour with our up and coming junior players.



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Diary Dates



A-level Results Day
Thursday 15 August 2019

GCSE Results Day
Thursday 22 August 2019

First Year Induction Day
Tuesday 3 September 2019

New school year begins
Wednesday 4 September 2019

Upper School Speech Day
Thursday 12 September 2019

Open Afternoon
Sunday 22 September 2019

Old Kirkhamians' Association AGM & Dinner
Saturday 12 October 2019

Friends of Kirkham Grammar School Sports Ball
Saturday 8 November 2019

Sixth Form Open Evening
Thursday 14 November 2019

Friends of Kirkham Grammar School Christmas Fair
Friday 6 December 2019

Young OKA Reunion at The Grapes, Wrea Green
Monday 16 December 2019

11+ Music, Drama and Sport Scholarship Assessment Days
Wednesday 29 January 2020
Thursday 30 January 2020
Friday 31 January 2020

Senior School Entrance Examination
Saturday 1 February 2020

SPORTING EXCELLENCE @ KGS



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718 Boxster S official fuel consumption (WLTP): 9.7-9.2 (29.1-30.7 mpg). CO₂ emissions (NEDC equivalent): 210-193 g/km

Figures are intended for comparability purposes. The fuel consumption you achieve under real life driving conditions and CO₂ produced will depend upon a number of factors including the accessories fitted after registration, variations in driving styles, weather conditions and vehicle load.



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