

THE KIRKHAMIAN

KIRKHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



KIRKHAM
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

JULY 2018





KIRKHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL

It has been another wonderful year of successes and triumphs in a world which brings many anxieties as to what the future holds. Over the last academic year, Kirkham Grammar School has proved itself to be an extremely vibrant and dynamic place to study and work. I hope that this edition of The Kirkhamian will fully portray the variety of academic, artistic and sporting achievements throughout the school. It is this collective order that makes Kirkham Grammar School stand out against any competitors.

We have seen a continued rise in pupil numbers, further success in sport, music, drama, CCF and other co-curricular opportunities, all of which has embedded our reputation as an 'Excellent' educational establishment. As we review each part of the many areas of such a busy school, we can also look forward to an exciting time of growth and new developments. Included in this edition is an overview of the plans for development entitled 'Exciting Times Ahead.' May I take this opportunity to thank our parents, friends, pupils and Governing Body for their generous support which is instrumental in achieving our vision for the future.

I look forward to another successful year ahead and wish you all a happy and safe summer break.

D H Berry



EXCITING TIMES AHEAD

Development at KGS


"The expectation for any potential family joining Kirkham Grammar School is to join us for the journey from 3 – 18 years. Therefore, all the facilities we provide and develop are of equal importance. The family ethos of the school is fundamental and should be a key factor in driving our future plans for growth and expansion".


During the next few months we are starting work on Phase One of our planned four phase Development Programme.


Our longer term vision includes a programme of developments over the next seven years and I would also like to share with you some of the future projects:




Phase One:


 The refurbishment of The Summerlee Hall to include redecoration, new flooring, new seating and carpets, new doors and new signage.

 A new Psychology classroom.


 The refurbishment of the Old Hall to include an upgraded lighting system, restoration of the floors and new decoration.


 A new Conference room.

 An upgrade of the rugby pitches and sports facilities at the Senior School.

 A new and expanded (photos) Pre-School which will be open from September 2018.

Phase Two:

 Cricket facilities and by-pass pitches are ready to be transformed during 2019/20. This will include new drainage, synthetic surfaces, cricket nets, parking and facilities.

 The Junior School playground and parking facilities are also to be renewed, together with investment in our outdoor play areas and artificial pitches.

We are also planning to upgrade all Senior School classroom spaces across all phases.


We are offering various opportunities for parents and friends to support the Development Programme. Please contact Joanne Hunt, Headmaster's PA, for further details on 01772 684264 or email j.hunt@kirkhamgrammar.co.uk

Finally, may I take this opportunity to thank all of those who have contributed so much over the years. We are hoping to achieve most of the above through our own income streams. However, any support that parents, groups or businesses would be able to offer would be very much appreciated. I hope this has given you a view of our vision for the next phase of our development.

Phase Three:

 A Performing Arts Centre is to be built at the Junior School.

Phase Four:

 A new Boarding House facility to be in place by 2025.



10yearsago

Extracts from the Headmaster's Newsletter Summer 2008



The "Waite" is over!

KGS celebrated the opening of its new classroom development (before photo top right & after above) on Wednesday 30 April 2008. The unveiling was carried out by Professor Amanda Chetwynd, Pro-Vice Chancellor of Lancaster University amid an audience of parents, teachers and governors. The new development is to be called the Waite Building to mark current Governor John Waite's longstanding contribution to the school, having been both a pupil and a Governor at the school.

The new teaching facilities are equipped with state of the art ICT teaching aids and Wasim Riley, Head Boy commented "I have English classes in the new rooms and it is great to learn in such a modern environment. We have new interactive whiteboards and they are used for all sorts of different activities".

The building project was a complex one with the demolition of the old building last May (photo top right). The contractors worked hard to ensure that six of the twelve classrooms were ready for September, while the £1.5 million development was completed in November. The new rooms will be used for the teaching of English, Mathematics, History and Politics while there are also new washrooms, locker facilities and offices.

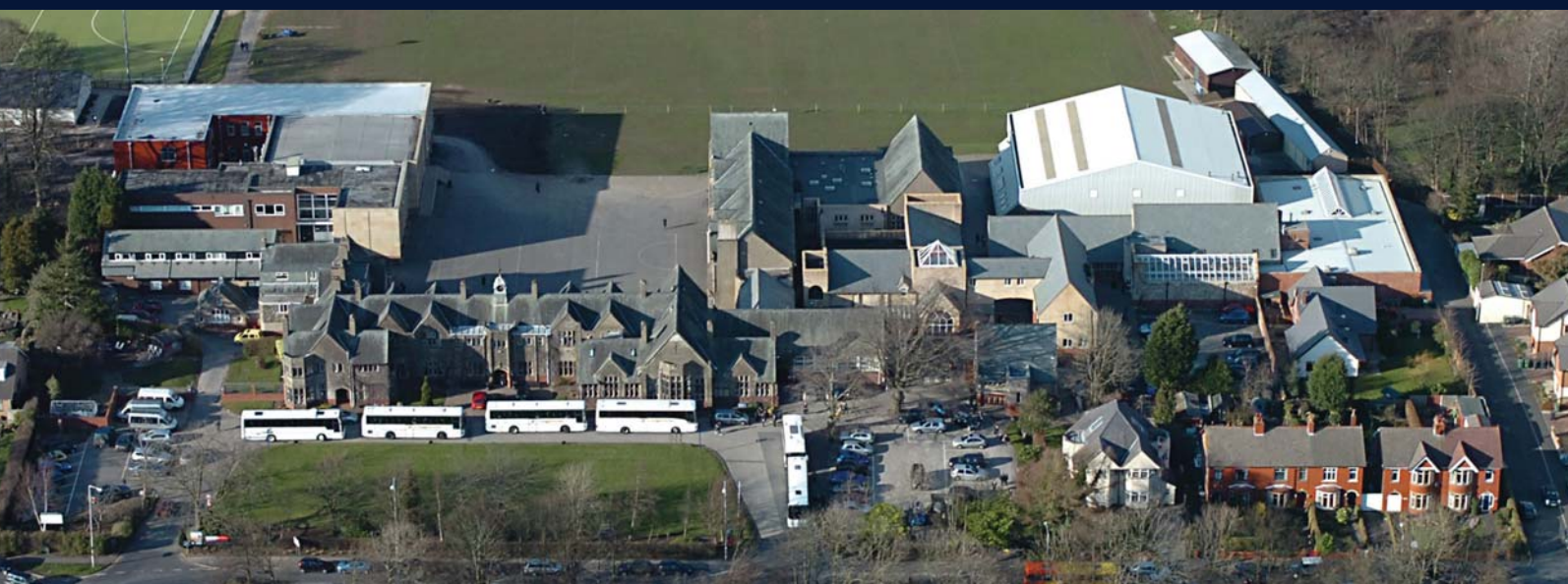
Chairman of Governors, Simon Fulford-Brown said "The work of the Governors has allowed the school to enjoy a period of unprecedented development over recent years. Their commitment has ensured that not only are the facilities unrivalled in the area but that we can face the future with confidence. We are proud to be leading the school at this exciting stage and believe it to be no coincidence that the school remains full and oversubscribed in this challenging time".

The Governors have overseen an unprecedented three year period of development which has seen the construction of a new Science Centre, All Weather Playing Surface, Pavilion, Drama Studio, Fitness Centre and refurbished boarding facilities. This was reflected in the Headmaster Douglas Walker's address, "This is a really exciting time for the school. We are dedicated to making sure we give our students the best and most exciting learning environment we can offer and to constantly improving our school".

In the ten years since the opening of The Waite Building it has become the academic hub of the school. The Science classrooms have been particularly popular on our Open Afternoons.



Front cover: Headmaster's Newsletter Summer 2008





Fylde National 7s Champions

KGS 1ST VII team won the Fylde National 7s for the second time in the last seven years. Led by inspirational Captain Richard de Carpentier, KGS dominated their group on the first day with wins over Leicester Grammar School (33-14), Llanwit Major (48-0), St Bees (45-5), Woodhouse Grove (36-0) and Rishworth (38-7). Unfortunately they lost star centre Alex Spratt with a shoulder injury.

KGS then had to play an extra knock-out fixture against Sandbach School, and, although struggling, they won 24-17, with Daniel Bibby showing his talent. The quarter-final against St Ambrose was an excellent game with both teams showing class touches. KGS dominated the play with de Carpentier, Bibby and Tom Bowden excelling, which led to a 36-17 victory.

The semi-final against a large Silcoates side was a very tense affair, with Sam Kindred able to dominate the action, KGS ran out 33-15 winners.



Ten years on in 2018 Richard de Carpentier and Daniel Bibby are in the England Sevens squad and both won a Bronze Medal in the Commonwealth games. The Rugby Department and the School is very proud of their achievements.

5 years ago



KGS celebrated the completion of the next stage of its development programme on Friday 21 June 2013 when Brian Ashton MBE performed the unveiling ceremony at the opening of the school's new sports centre. Mr Ashton spoke briefly about his connections with many members of the school's community and praised the outstanding achievements of the school's sportsmen and women over many years. Nearly 100 guests enjoyed a video presentation outlining the development of sport at KGS over the last two decades as well as a tour of the new facility.

The Sports Centre represents the completion of a phase of development at the school which has included the recently opened Music Centre. These facilities now constitute an exciting base enabling pupils to enjoy both their curricular and extra-curricular activities in dedicated new areas. The Governors have committed themselves to ensuring that pupils at the school benefit from the continual evolution of the school's buildings in order to ensure the best possible educational environment.

A new Sports Hall, Fitness Centre and Changing Rooms enhance the school's present provision. The all-weather surface and artificial cricket wicket are fully utilised by schools and community groups while the school's playing fields are constantly used by the large number of school teams.

Chairman of Governors, Russell Dawson, outlined that the school is keen to retain the momentum and that as Governors they are determined to continue this commitment to development. These future ambitions will turn to the Junior School where Governors are already in the planning phases for new facilities designed to enhance various aspects of this area of the campus.



Retiring Headmaster, Douglas Walker, said "The support and vision of the Governors has been central in maintaining the position of KGS in the educational world locally. They and the staff remain committed to ensuring the school retains an outstanding reputation over the next phase of its development. This opening represents the completion of one area of development but also the opening of a new era, one over which my successor will oversee and progress with some relish. I look forward to hearing from afar of the school's continued success".





HIGH FLYERS

On Monday 14 May, six RAF cadets travelled to RAF Cosford for their Air Experience Flights. Two cadets, Harry Livsey and Jack Ansell, who had never flown before and were understandably filled with mixed emotions of nerves and excitement, were accompanied by Fred Hackett, Freya Parkinson, Emily Clifford and Hannah Lewthwaite.

After a safety briefing from the Flight Lieutenant and an introduction to the trainee fighter pilots that would be their guides for the day, the cadets were kitted out with flight suits, helmets and obligatory 'Top Gun' sunglasses.

It was a perfect day for flying and all the cadets were able to take control of the GroB Tutor aircraft and practise level flight and turning before being encouraged to try some aerobatics. The cadets came back into the ready room smiling and recounting stories of their 360 loops, barrel rolls and zero gravity drops.

The day was topped off by a quick visit to the Royal Airforce Museum Cosford, where the cadets saw and, in some cases, climbed into almost every British plane ever built.



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The Villa, situated in the quaint village of Wrea Green, is an award-winning hotel and wedding venue with a recently awarded 2 AA Rosetted Restaurant. Established in the 19th century as a gentlemen's residence, The Villa has undergone a number of developments yet has still managed to retain the building's character and elegance which befits its marvellous history.

The Villa's 2 AA Rosetted Restaurant is open daily with many different culinary delights to try! See below what we can offer you. Whether it is just for a lunch stop, a romantic meal for two or a dinner for all the family, we can accommodate.

The Villa Dining

Table D'Hote Menu

Monday-Saturday 12pm-2pm & 6pm-7pm
2 courses £15.95 or 3 courses £19.95

Lounge Menu

Monday-Saturday 12pm - 9.30pm
Sunday 12pm - 8pm



A La Carte Menu

Monday-Saturday 6pm - 9.30pm



Grill Menu

Monday - Saturday 12pm - 9.30pm



Fish Friday Special

Beer battered fish with hand-cut chips, mushy peas & tartare sauce
Small - £6.50 Large - £8.95



Sunday Menu

Traditional Family Sunday Roast Lunch
2 Courses £17.95, 3 Courses £21.95
Served in the Restaurant 12pm - 8pm



Outside Catering

You can experience The Villa at a time and place that suits you. Our dedicated and experienced events team are on hand to provide a professional service with a personal touch. From the initial planning of the event to the delivery of our catering and management services on the day, you can relax in knowing our dedicated team will ensure everything runs smoothly.

Our portfolio includes private home dining, weddings, product launches, corporate and social events and charity festivals. With the capability of catering for as little as six guests or as many as 600, we work hard to guarantee your expectations of The Villa are met, if not exceeded.

If you are planning a special event and require a caterer, get in touch today by calling 01772 80 40 40.



Spring into Summer Afternoon Tea

The Villa Cream Tea

£6.50pp



The Villa Afternoon Tea

£14.95pp



The Villa Luxury Afternoon Tea

£17.95pp



His & Hers Afternoon Tea

£31.95 per couple



All of our scones, breads and cakes are made in our own Villa bakery using the finest and freshest local produce. They are presented on tiered stands together with your choice of beverage. Served daily from 12pm until 5pm.

Forthcoming Events

Our special events are always very popular and what we have coming up this year are not to be missed! Be sure to make a note in your diary, we promise they'll be nights that you will want to do over and over again!

Gin Dinner - Saturday 22nd September 2018
7pm for 7.30pm



Wine Dinner - Friday 16th November 2018
7pm for 7.30pm



GIN DINNER MENU

IN ASSOCIATION WITH MANCHESTER GIN

Saturday 22nd September 2018 | 7pm for 7.30pm

- Canapés
- Manchester "Gin Cocktail"
- Charred Watermelon, Mozzarella, Rapeseed Dressing
Manchester - Wild Spirit
- Crab, Courgette, Cucumber, Pine Nuts, Pink Grapefruit
Manchester - Signature
- Crusted Duck Breast, Gingerbread, Carrot & Passion
Fruit Puree, Broccoli & Almonds
Manchester - Overboard
- Raspberry, Frangipane, Sicilian Lemon, Crème Fraiche
Sorbet
Manchester - Raspberry Infusion

Call 01772 80 40 40 to book

All items are subject to availability. Some dishes may include nuts.

*All events £10 per person non-refundable deposit

A Fond FAREWELL

Mr James Walker

The departure of Mr James Walker to a well deserved promotion marks the end of a 16 year involvement with the School in multiple roles, leaving a gap which will take some filling.

He joined KGS as a third year pupil in 2002 and immediately became one of the leading figures in a lively, capable and sociable year group that is still recalled with much affection by those who had the pleasure of teaching them. Like any good teacher, his manifest love of school life was the driving force behind his wish to work as a teacher and in KGS he found the perfect outlet for his people-centred skills.

He started coaching KGS junior teams in 2008 after a call from Aled Trenhaile and hasn't left since, even if his precise role has changed many times. He has been a full time staff member since 2011, starting as a boarding assistant and sports coach while completing his university degree, then a PGCE student before joining the teaching staff full time.

For six years he has been a well loved and respected leader in boarding, latterly as Assistant Houseparent Academic. He has been integral to the success of an increasingly diverse boarding community, with students joining for a variety of different reasons, from all over the UK and well beyond. He recently helped organise and run a successful recruitment trip to the Isle of Man.

In the day school his coaching responsibilities have been extensive, covering U12, U13, U14, U15 and U16 teams, as well as creating and coaching the new 'Headmaster's 1st XV'. He has also coached cricket, basketball, athletics, handball, badminton, rugby - even a bit of football!

Alongside his coaching responsibilities, he has taught junior PE, as well academic PE to GCSE and A-Level. His relaxed yet authoritative manner bears all the hallmarks of a born teacher.

But of course like all great teachers, it is as much outside the classroom as inside it that he has made his biggest mark: he started the 'Sports Ball' which he has now run for four years, raising funds for boys' and girls' sports; he devised the Junior Rugby Presentation Evening and other social fundraising events which ensure regular support for sports tours and equipment; he has organised three junior Ireland tours, as well as Canada 2015 and now his "farewell tour" to Hong Kong, Australia and New Zealand 2018. He has also been on four ski trips.

As a sports administrator, fundraiser and publicist his impact has been enormous: he set up the first Residential 7s camp in the Boarding House; has organised all rugby sponsorship for the past five years, generating record levels and supporting the purchase of the new kit; he helped set up the new Cardio Room; and has worked tirelessly to take both the Rugby Department and the Boarding House into the modern world of social media.

The school certainly has been a major part of his life and he a major part of its life and he will be missed in many ways. The school will not feel the same without his good-humoured and empathetic presence around the campus and his ability to connect with all will be greatly missed.

James joins Bloxham School as Head of PE September 2018 and our loss is most certainly their gain. We wish him every success and happiness.

Mr A R Long

Mrs Blanco-Bayo



Mrs Blanco-Bayo joined KGJS as the Pre-School Manager at the beginning of the academic year 2012/13. She had previously worked in a number of institutions worldwide, including Spain and the United Arab Emirates, and brought with her a wealth of experience working in Early Years.

Mrs Blanco-Bayo will be remembered for her fun and enthusiastic approach that she brought to the Pre-School. She adored the children and had a real interest in developing the social and emotional needs of the children. Upon her arrival, a number of new initiatives were introduced and I always took a deep breath when she used to say, 'I've had an idea and I just want to run it by you!' Sweet shops, cake sales and grandparents' afternoons are just a few examples of some of the wonderful events organised by her.

While Mrs Blanco-Bayo has been with us, she has forged a strong relationship with our Reception class team, planning the curriculum across the Foundation and meeting with the EYFS team on a regular basis. Many children have benefitted from her humour and dedication. She has a commitment to ensuring that all children feel valued and she generated high levels of engagement and a commitment to learning.

Over the last couple of years, Mrs Blanco-Bayo has taken her interest in the EYFS into wider circles, being a regular speaker at international education conferences. Here she has spoken passionately about children's development at an early age and she has also written for educational journals on a variety of early educational issues. This is now where her future lies and we wish Mrs Blanco-Bayo and her family every success in the future.

Mrs A S Roberts



Mr Richard Browning

Stalwart, servant, institution, legend. None of the clichés commonly attributed to long-serving teachers comes remotely near to describing the status of Richard Browning at Kirkham Grammar School as he finally steps down after an unbelievable 45 year career here.

Those 45 years take us through the most fundamental of changes in both the school and in the world of education, yet Richard has been there with the same mix of unflappable good nature and stern authority in almost every role imaginable. Nobody is irreplaceable, as he is the first to acknowledge, but it is very hard indeed to imagine KGS without RJB.

To put things in some sort of perspective, when Richard joined KGS in 1973, the present Headmaster was just one year old. Kirkham Grammar School was a boys' state grammar much like the ones Richard had attended as a boy – Hutton Grammar in Preston and King Edward VI Grammar in Stafford. Boys' grammar schools in those days were rough and ready institutions, where many teachers' authority was maintained by the very real threat of a well-aimed piece of chalk or a board rubber. KGS was then, as now, renowned for its sporting excellence, yet behind the macho façade there was already a school in which tolerance, diversity and individuality were encouraged and nurtured, and Richard has been the perfect fit for KGS not only in the obvious ways, but in many far more subtle ones as well.

He joined us as a teacher of Maths, Chemistry and Technical Drawing, the latter subject truly a throwback to a different age, taught in a hut and using pencils, T-squares and the proverbial drawing board. It is a measure of Richard's adaptability and pragmatism that he ends his teaching career teaching ICT, in many ways the successor subject of Tech Drawing. He brought the first computer to the school, and oversaw the growth and development of computing both as a subject and as a support to all else in school life.

Richard's classroom style has always been characterised by relaxed control, the sort of authority that comes with presence and a clear sense that he was always one jump ahead of even the most mischievous pupil. He seldom, if ever shouts. His care and concern for individuals has always shone through: as a Form Tutor, he has used his empathy and encyclopaedic memory to great effect, showing tactful empathy where appropriate and uncompromising rigour where necessary. Affection and respect were the invariable response from generations of boys and girls. Attention to detail has always been his hallmark, a quality he deployed for many years as school timetabler, in the days when a clunky BBC computer was his only assistance.

Of course, as with all truly great teachers, the classroom was only the start of it. Richard's contribution to the school have extended into extra-curricular life across a whole range of activities. To many, he has been synonymous with sport, notably rugby and cricket. His knowledge and love of sport is deep and genuine, and he embodies the broader values rightly associated with both those team games. He first became involved with rugby soon after joining the staff, taking over coaching first years from the late Fred Sayer, and subsequently coaching second or third year teams until stepping up to seniors in 1986-87. He has helped lead tours to France



(several), Spain, Portugal, Holland (twice), and South Africa (twice) but his highlight was an ambitious and highly successful World Tour in 1987, taking in Singapore, Australia, Fiji and the USA. All such tours involved hours of planning, fundraising events and daunting responsibilities which were always undertaken with minimum fuss and maximum commitment. Richard has first hand knowledge of A&E departments in nearly all these countries and across the UK! He also coached and organised cricket for both pupil and staff teams over more than twenty years, dealing with the logistics of fixtures, travel, teas and kit which are so much part of the summer game.

Yet these sports that he loved so much were but a small part of Richard's extra-curricular involvement. He took part in numerous ski trips led by Ian Scott, adventure holidays led by Jane Taylor, again wearing his responsibilities lightly yet with meticulous care. Never one to hog the limelight, he was often in the background at drama productions, undertaking unglamorous yet essential backstage supervision, particularly in the Jane Barrie years with those mass-participation Shakespeare productions.

Richard's thoughtful and reflective side was often displayed in leading house assemblies, using materials and ideas which brought variety and originality to the those gatherings.

In recent years, having scaled back his classroom teaching, Richard has deployed all his qualities and skills as Assistant Exams Officer. No area of school life has changed more than since 1973, yet he has embraced and tolerated this most complex and important of roles with a perfect mix of attention to detail, unflappable good humour and seriousness of tone.

My personal favourite story of RJB is a poignant one, probably forgotten by many, yet sums him up perfectly: as already mentioned, he pioneered computing in the school, seeing through the changes from the first BBC machine to the fully networked set-up that now covers all areas of school life and work. In those early days of computing, it was a godsend to a pupil who had joined us aged 11 already living with the early stages of a terminal degenerative disease, Friedrich's Ataxia. The late Jason Awbery Taylor, whose shortened life is commemorated in a KGS Speech Day prize donated by his family, had lost the ability to handwrite and to walk by the end of his first year with us. Computers were his salvation, yet at the time, the only ones were upstairs in the Norwood Block, a building long predating accessibility regulations. So for every computer lesson, Richard would pick Jason out of his wheelchair and carry him upstairs. One day, a BBC film crew came to film a feature about Jason and his battle with the illness. For the cameras, the then Headmaster carried Jason up those stairs. Richard waited quietly in his classroom, gracefully letting the limelight shine elsewhere. Jason was both furious and amused, and reminisced about that moment even when his loss of the power of speech left him speaking through a keyboard controlled synthesizer.

What better way to sum up Richard Browning? Caring, committed to a pupils' welfare, pragmatic, modest, good-humoured. A teacher whose values have for forty five remarkable years matched those of the school he has served. Never was retirement so deserved, and we wish him many years of happiness.

Mr A R Long



OLD KIRKHAMIAN ASSOCIATION



the evening. Young OKs were delighted to be able to talk about what they have been doing since leaving school and more often than not they were overheard expressing how much they miss school!

It is always a great pleasure to welcome former pupils back to their old school. Old Kirkhamians are always calling in, sometimes

first year undergraduates popping in to catch up with their former teachers, sometimes young professionals updating us on their lives and careers, sometimes proud parents showing their offspring where mum or dad went to school, and occasionally hesitant visitors from abroad on a pilgrimage back to their home town, always thrilled to see that familiar and much-loved façade still unchanged in decades, or the wood

The Old Kirkhamians' Association has enjoyed an active year with social events for our alumni.

Beginning with the AGM and Annual Dinner, a good number of our alumni filled the Old Hall and enjoyed spending time with each other reminiscing about life at KGS. With food and wine in abundance, the evening was indeed filled with laughter and fond memories and it was wonderful to see members from across the decades as well as current staff present all of whom were keen to learn of how things have changed. The Headmaster and the President, Mr **Angus Leeson**, both offered a short address before the presidency was passed over to Mrs **Isobel Cross** who spoke briefly of her wishes for the next twelve months. There is no doubt that the Annual Dinner is a popular event in the annual calendar and we look forward to seeing many Old Kirkhamians from all year groups at the 2019 Annual Dinner on Saturday 13 October 2019.

The following day saw the bi-annual rugby fixture between the OKA and the Anti-Assassins (photos right). In memory of **Bruce Craven** (KGS 1983-1990), both teams fought their best to lift the trophy and we were delighted that the OKA achieved victory. So many Old Kirkhamians remember sports fixtures from their time at KGS and the number who attended to support from the side lines illustrated the team spirit still alive amongst our alumni. Donations on the day of the fixture were forwarded to the Myfanwy Townsend Melanoma Research Fund and it was pleasing to be able to forward a worthy sum of money in memory of Bruce.

It is always a great privilege to be able to bring together the Young OKAs for a Christmas Reunion at The Grapes in Wrea Green. Leavers from the last five years are personally invited to attend the event, although those from other year groups are more than welcome to come along and enjoy the occasion. This year we had a large number of OKs attend the reunion and there is no doubt that we took over a large portion of the public house for the duration of





panelling and honours boards in the Old Hall just as they remember it.

One such person is 92 year old **Lawrence Abram** (photo above with Adrian Long), one of our oldest Old Kirkhamians, who recently spent part of a day in the school which he attended between 1937 and 1942. Born and raised on a farm which is now the site of Kirkham Open Prison, Lawrence was a pupil here in the heyday of legendary Headmaster Rev'd Creswell Strange, and his vivid memories of school life before and during the Second World War are compelling.

Lawrence toured the school with Headmaster Daniel Berry and Adrian Long, who taught his grandchildren Rosemary and Jack Ward, and he regaled us with tales of people, places and events which truly bring the history of the school to life.

Looking at the photograph of the opening of the 1938 Block, who else can say "I was there"? Lawrence had a story to tell about each and every one of the stern-looking dignitaries on that photo, whilst for him the Old Hall still echoes to the sound of Creswell Strange's intimidating yet caring voice.

Much about the modern school is unrecognisable compared to the 1930s: electronic whiteboards, self-service lunches with a range of choices, 3-D printing in the Technology Centre and a Music Recital Hall in what was the Gymnasium. Lawrence was introduced to current pupils and staff and made light of his status as a senior Old Kirkhamian. "I'm not a celebrity – just a curiosity", he said. Yet talking to Lawrence, what is surely most striking about what he says is what has remained the same, and as we



often observe, it is the intangible, unchanging and unquantifiable aspects of a school which matter most. Standing in the Green Room next to the Old Hall, Lawrence recalled being in that classroom in his first week at KGS in 1937, and being introduced to the House System by legendary schoolmaster Bernard Stevenson. The House System helps takes the "I" out of you was what those boys were told back in 1937. The present Headmaster proudly confirmed that the House system continues to flourish to this day, with the exact same purpose. And Lawrence Abram was delighted to see that a school that has meant so much to him and his family continues to cultivate values as well as results.

In April 2018, a former pupil, **Kate Denham**, kindly arranged a reunion drinks event in London. This was a wonderful opportunity for those who now reside in the capital, and the surrounding area, to get together and discuss all things KGS. The weather was kind and the whole evening was spent outside in conversation. Both former pupils and former staff (photo above) were able to attend the event and this gave the opportunity to learn about KGS through the decades. All of those who attended enjoyed the evening and expressed a desire to attend similar events more frequently. We hope to organise a further event in 2019 and perhaps others in alternative cities.

The OKA Committee (photo top right, previous page) has remained busy throughout the year and is committed to making the presence of the OKA known. At long last an OKA flag (photo top left, previous page) has been produced and now flies at many school occasions. We are currently well underway with the planning of our OKA Weekend where we hope OKs will enjoy the opportunity to spend time together around school catching up with old friends and teachers. Looking to the future, we are looking forward to our 2018 Annual Dinner and celebrations in 2019 to remember forty years since independence and the arrival of female pupils – exciting times!

Please continue to visit our social media pages for regular updates, including Throwback Thursday. You are always welcome to attend events and we are delighted when OKs get in touch to update us on their journey since leaving KGS. For any queries regarding the OKA, please contact the Committee Secretary, Mr Sam Walmsley, either via:

telephone:
01772 684264
email:
s.walmsley@kirkhamgrammar.co.uk

We look forward to seeing you soon.

Latest NEWS



Congratulations to **Andrew Gregson** (KGS 1996 -2003), stage name Andrew Lancaster on his appearance on Britain's Got Talent. Andrew made a big 'Impression' in the auditions to make the Semi-Final. We recently spoke him and he commented, "KGS really left an impression on me! But quite seriously, I had a verry happy time there and always think back on my time at Kirkham." He went on to talk about his BGT first audience, "What an absolute blast! That was absolutely marvellous and I'm very, very happy. I've just watched my routine online from earlier and I really enjoyed it. Not a bad feeling. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has supported me, voted for me, sent me messages of support or even just cheered me on. It's meant a great deal and I really, really appreciate it."



Well done to **Sophie Warden** (KGS 200 -2014) (photo below) who won Gold in the Senior Women's 400m Hurdles and 400m race at the Lancashire T&F Championships!



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In May, and only days before the Royal Wedding, Kirkham Grammar School were delighted to host a display of one of only two sets of replica Crown Jewels, kindly brought into school by Mr Peter Jackson of Peter Jackson The Jeweller. Pupils and staff from both the Junior and Senior Schools were given the opportunity to have a look at the amazing selection on display which included The Imperial State Crown, St Edward's Crown, Queen Mary's Crown, George IV Diadem, Queen Victoria's Crown, Cambridge Lovers Knot Tiara and The Spencer Tiara.

The children were able to hold some of the priceless pieces, with some even being given the opportunity to try on Lady Diana's 'Spencer Tiara', which still belongs to the Spencer family and has not been publicly worn since her death in 1997. The pupils were mesmerised by The Imperial State Crown, which has a 317 carat Cullinan Diamond, the centerpiece of the crown, and is the second largest diamond cut from the largest rough diamond ever found, discovered in Cullinan, South Africa in 1905. The





crown was adjusted for Queen Elizabeth II's Coronation (photo below) in 1953, with the head size reduced to give a more feminine appearance. Some of the pupils were able to sit on the KGS 'Throne' and hold the replica St Edward's Crown, the original being a centerpiece of the British Crown Jewels, which is only on public display in the Jewel House at the Tower of London.

Pupils were captivated by The Cambridge Lovers Knot Tiara, which was loaned to Princess Diana to wear on her wedding day, however she chose instead to wear the Spencer Tiara, but still wore this beautiful piece many times. When Diana and Charles divorced, it was returned to the Queen and kept in a safe at Buckingham Palace, where it was not seen again until 2015 when it was worn by the Duchess of Cambridge at a diplomatic reception at Buckingham Palace. Kate has worn it several times since.

Thank you to Peter Jackson for giving KGS this wonderful opportunity, at what was a very exciting time for the Royals and the country.





LOCKERBIE 2018

On Monday 4 June, J4, along with Mr Lewis, Mr Oddie, Mrs Farquharson, Mrs Tickle and Mr Brookes set off for an action-packed week at Manor Adventure in Lockerbie. The group stopped off at Penrith Leisure Centre to break up the journey and enjoyed an hour of badminton, table tennis and football. After lunch, they continued on their way and arrived at Lockerbie at 3pm where they were given a tour of the hotel.

Each day, after a hearty breakfast which included Scottish pancakes, the children enjoyed a selection of activities including; zip wire, low ropes, mountain biking, rifles, 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 Wednesday evening, the children enjoyed an outdoor disco! Everybody had a fantastic time but the children were really tired afterwards, so were all asleep in no time!

The weather throughout the week was truly fantastic and the children (and teachers!) had lots of fun and the most incredible time! This was a wonderful trip that has hopefully created lots of memories for the children that will last a lifetime!



manor *adventure*



KIRKHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL

CAREERS



NATIONAL CAREERS WEEK 2018

YOUR PASSION; YOUR POTENTIAL, YOUR OPPORTUNITY

One thing is for sure – we are all different. Different wants and desires, different interests, different abilities. Even different aspirations. Yet, in the main we are the same. We all want to succeed and be happy with our lives.

At KGS, we embrace these differences throughout our education system and Careers education is no exception to this. Finding that interest that steers students towards a pathway to help them get off to the best possible start is what drives us. By providing all our students with the appropriate tools and information, plus years of experience in career guidance, KGS helps them make informed decisions about their future and in a subject area where they believe they can thrive.

We are committed to National Careers Week as it supports our aims and provides an opportunity to focus on careers guidance activities. The Careers Fair this year was a little different as it was designed to cater for students across our entire Senior School. Our biggest Fair to date, there were over 50 varied organisations and 25 stimulating workshops which brought to life the amazing options available to our students. The feedback from both organisations and students was superb.

Of course, our Careers Fair would not happen if it were not for all the volunteers from commerce, education and the public sector, who turned up on the day to inspire, engage and inform our students about the endless and

wide-ranging career opportunities they can pursue. We are grateful for all the organisations and participants who made this year's Fair what it was – a beacon of best practice Careers support, with the student at the heart.



NSPCC

Number Day 2018

What a fantastic day the children had for their NSPCC Number Day in February. The children learned so much about working with numbers through all the exciting activities that went on in the classrooms. There was a truly wonderful atmosphere around school.

Number Day was an opportunity for the Pre-School children to use numbers all day long. They built high towers as they counted and grouped wooden blocks by colour, pretended to be fairies in a castle, whilst guessing the number of people in the land of magic and counted prints and then attempted to write the number. The Pre-School children also had a visit from some of the J4 children who brought their very own robot to play with. They had lots of fun throwing the ball as far as they could so it would land on a number from 1 to 10.

J1 took part in baking biscuits. They concentrated on weighing out the correct ingredients and following the recipe. The children enjoyed mixing all the ingredients together and cutting out the biscuits so they looked like magical wands. During the afternoon, J4 came down with a Numberjacks robot for the children to measure how far they could catapult a ball. Felix came first, followed by Jenson and third place went to Archie.

The I2s had a fantastic time learning all about Mathematics while raising money for the NSPCC, selling lots of delicious cakes at their cake sale. The children had been learning all about money so they used their knowledge of coins to count the money into the pot. A lot of the activities were linked to Harry Potter and what a fun time they had in the classroom as well, making Gringott's currency, spider lollies to count in 8s, playing games and making Harry Potter wands to use for some Magical Maths! The following day the I2s took their pennies to the Candie Bar in Kirkham to buy some sweet treats!

The I3 children had a busy Number Day that consisted of Harry Potter Code Breaking, where they had to carefully work out a number of calculations in order to discover the missing letters, a Maths Magic board game, that involved addition, subtraction and multiplication, complete with invisible ink to reveal the answers and Maths Tricks and Number Magic, using their magic wands to help them. Later in the morning, the I3s also made a potion using spiders, lizards and bats' legs...and practised counting in 4s and 8s. After lunch, they did circuit-training in the hall. This tied-in with their Science topic, 'Healthy Me!' They all completed eight exercises which included skipping, squats, star-jumps, leg-lifts and press-ups.

J1 took part in a potion-making master class! The children designed their own magical potion by choosing from a range of magical ingredients such as mermaid hair, dragon's blood and crushed unicorn horns. The children used their knowledge of units by deciding on how many grams, millilitres or centimetres they would need for their particular ingredients. Next, they priced up

their ingredients, calculating the total cost of their potion and the cost of more than one. In the afternoon, the children used their ingredients to create their potion, following their careful potion plans. To finish off the day, they crafted a witch's hat and decorated it with dusty cobwebs.

J2 learned how to do Sudoku puzzles and also tried to complete dingbat puzzles. They all competed in teams at Fraction Frenzy, having to solve the fractions problems as quickly as possible and then had a game of Mathionaire (similar to 'Who Wants to be a Millionaire', using Maths questions). They spent the afternoon working out how much it would cost to send Harry Potter to Hogwarts for a term. The children had to work out what expenses he would have, for example, boarding fees and buying a broomstick, and then had to solve the Maths problems to work out the costs of each item. Finally, they were given a budget and had to see if Harry could afford to go to Hogwarts or not.

The J3s began the day by working with the J4s and their measuring robot and the skills associated with this. They then enjoyed a Harry Potter themed activity where the children worked in groups to find word or number problems to solve within their group. This not only promoted thinking skills but also their ability to work and communicate as a team. To help them solve the problems, they were given the opportunity to buy clues using Golden Galleons. Once they had solved the problems this earned them a picture part which they assembled into their group's grid to reveal a Harry Potter poster.

After spending three weeks working extremely hard in preparation for the KGS Entrance Exam, the J4 children extended Number Day to Number 'Week!' Having been split into seven teams, one team to represent each year group from Pre-School through to J3, the J4 children were set the task of creating a robot. This robot had to include a catapult mechanism to fire a polystyrene ball. Each team also had to prepare a brief lesson plan on how to teach 'measuring' to the particular age group that they were working with. Armed with their robots and measuring equipment, the J4 children visited their 'pupils' and delivered the lesson, with every child having the opportunity to fire a ball from the robot and measure the distance it travelled. Some teams added extra activities for the children, including worksheets and mini games with prizes. Each team awarded one winner to their group for the furthest throw before the final showdown between the seven robots. 'George' was crowned 'Ultimate Robot' with a throw of nearly four metres! Congratulations to the winning team of Dotty Hackett, Teddy Bowker, Bella Wiggins, Evie Mellon, Raphael Ikram and Oliver Ganley. Well done to all the J4 children for some excellent teamwork and fantastic teaching skills!

A fantastic £340 was raised for the NSPCC. Thank you for all your support.





Fifty two keen, genial, spirited students enjoyed the challenges that they were faced with during this year's PGL weekend activity holiday. The usual camaraderie was present from the moment the pupils boarded the bus to depart to Lincolnshire. Over the last few years one of the most enjoyable aspects of the trip is seeing how well the mixed year groups interact and this year was no exception.

The glorious weather made the trip very pleasant indeed, with much of the "down" time being spent by the pupils arranging their own rugby, football or other games where no one was left out. The team spirit, which PGL likes to foster, is already apparent in Kirkham pupils. One of the instructors on the sensory trail said that the Kirkham group was the best she had ever taken because of the superb communication skills and ability to support one another, whilst stepping blindfolded through obstacles and being squirted with water!

Inevitably in every party there are some pupils who find the high ropes courses quite daunting. There were certainly many activities this year where a head for heights was required. However, whilst everyone encouraged those who found the rather wobbly telegraph poles a little too unsteady, there was always an acknowledgement of what had been achieved. Those fixed on the ground steadying the ropes, were also praised for their concentration and the KGS pupils quickly became incredibly proficient at belaying!

The PGL Group Leaders, Kieran and Marijke were great fun in the evenings, arranging a very competitive game of Capture the Flag on one evening and a much needed, but very controlled water-balloon fight on another. Not to be outdone the KGS Staff also showed their skills, with Miss Chiekrie, Mr Brookes and Mr McLaughlin scurrying up the All Aboard Pole in record time! Mrs Sutcliffe, not to be outdone reached the top of the even higher Vertical Challenge station.

Thanks need to be given to Mrs Sutcliffe for organising the now annual trip again; it is testament to her enthusiasm and energy that the first question from the pupils on return is: "When can we go again?"



PGL

ACTIVITY TRIP

2018





Williamson Park

At the beginning of June, on a gorgeous sunny day, the I2s travelled to Williamson Park in Lancaster. Their recent topic in Science had included learning about minibeasts so all the children were looking forward to seeing a variety of butterflies in the indoor area. Their first stop, however, was meeting Siobhan who guided the children into an education room. There they met a box of cockroaches, a giant African snail and a bearded dragon. Most children had a touch or even a hold, but everyone had a good look at the animals' characteristics and asked some super questions! They then headed over to the Butterfly House where they could see lots of caterpillars, chrysalises and beautifully coloured butterflies. The I2s had to check that none of them had sneaked onto their uniform before they left the building! After enjoying a picnic lunch on the lawns of Williamson Park, the children were itching to have a play on the amazing play area. The I2s found a giant swing where they sat with their friends and recited the 'Duck Song'! Before heading back to school, the children were given the opportunity to buy a souvenir in the gift shop. Everyone had a wonderful day and all made some very special memories!



Brockholes

I3 had a wonderful time at Brockholes Nature Reserve in June. They found out all about plants from Paul, our guide, and then became 'Wild Flower Detectives,' searching for various species in the beautiful meadow. Next, they played 'Seed Tig,' and a game with water and pine cones called, 'Pollination.' It was fun to run around on the grassy hillside in the warm sunshine. After their picnic lunch, they explored Viking Woods. The children enjoyed the environmental art session and also made a 'tree spirit' with clay. Paul kindly gave them all their own special seed to plant in a pot that the I3s made themselves. Fortunately, they still had time left for the play-park, too. It was a fun-filled day that they won't forget!



Tatton Park

The J1s travelled to Tatton Park to experience what life was like for a Viking. They took on the role of a tribe of Vikings and were able to experience some of the daily activities which took place in 866AD. The young Vikings learnt how to turn wheat into flour using stones, producing an early form of bread. They practised shield formations such as 'the turtle', 'the shield wall' and 'the boar's head', to enable them to hold back an enemy line. They also learnt all about how money was created, how trading affected the villages and how to survive using natural resources. The children thoroughly enjoyed their experience and came away with a new appreciation for what times were like in early Britain.



Liverpool World Museum



J2 visited the Liverpool World Museum to explore the Ancient Egypt exhibition and take part in a 'Discover Egypt' workshop. The museum was a fantastic old building and the children were very impressed by what they saw! However, they couldn't believe the amount of steps that they had to climb to visit all areas of the museum across five floors. It certainly kept them fit and they deserved their lunch!

In the Ancient Egypt exhibition, the children enjoyed spotting the Egyptian artefacts which were on their discovery worksheets. There were lots of amazingly decorated sarcophagi. Some were made of wood and others were made of stone. The children were allowed to touch the stone sarcophagus, it was huge and felt very cold! Their favourite part of the exhibition was the mummies. The children saw real mummies which had been excavated from Egyptian tombs and brought to the UK. The most amazing thing about them was how well their teeth had kept after all these years! They must have had good dentists!

During the children's 'Discover Egypt' workshop, they became archaeologists and were allowed to touch lots of different artefacts, but they could only do this by wearing white protective gloves. The children learnt that one of the materials that the Egyptians used for making sculptures was lapin. Another fascinating part was learning about how different body organs were put into a canopic jar with a particular animal's head on top. For example, the lungs were put into a jar with a baboon's head on and the children enjoyed watching Alice having to pretend to be a baboon! It was very funny! They also found out that the Egyptians mummified animals and saw a real mummified cat.

The children learnt about the different forms of Egyptian writing and discovered that hieroglyphics can be written backwards, forwards, up and down. You had to be quite a genius to work out some of their writing!

After learning about the Egyptians, the children were allowed to visit other areas of the museum and enjoyed spotting the different fish in the Aquarium. No trip is complete without a visit to the gift shop and J2 certainly kept the museum shop in business on that day!

Everyone had a super day and came back to school as Ancient Egyptian experts, ready to mummify a tomato in their History lesson!



Bay of Naples Trip



I am in my 3rd year at Kirkham, and I truly enjoyed the 2018 Geography trip to the Bay of Naples. It was a spectacular experience and there was so much to do. Every day was something different and we did not just learn about the geography of Naples but also some of its history and culture. There were 44 2nd and 3rd year students, together with Mrs John, Mr Taylor, Mrs Atkinson and Mrs Pendergest.

On the first day, we had a tour around Herculaneum and discovered the Roman way of living. This was before it was destroyed by Mount Vesuvius in 79AD! We saw the remains of homes and shops but the most startling must be the pile of ancient skeletons in the beach huts. After our tour we drove to our hotel which was in the busy city centre of Sorrento. We soon worked out that Italians don't know what a zebra crossing is!! One of my favourite moments was when we walked into old Sorrento with the old short narrow streets bustling with life. Every shop contains something to do with lemons, a local specialty, but they are so delicious.

On the second day we had a coach tour around the Amalfi coast which had breath-taking views. We stopped at many places as the views were just incredible. At around lunch time we stopped off at Amalfi which has the most beautiful cathedral honouring St Andrew. We also had an optional boat tour in Amalfi which was well worth the time. After Amalfi we drove back and stopped at Ravello which has hosted many famous conductors in the beautiful gardens.

On the 3rd day, we visited the active volcano Vesuvius. It was such a trek and you could see the black channels that had been burnt by lava from the big 1944 eruption. It was so interesting to see how Vesuvius had changed the landscape. After Vesuvius we visited the famous excavated remains of Pompeii. It was weird to think that 2000 years ago it was a busy town with hundreds of people living there. It was totally buried by burning ash at the same time as Herculaneum.





You cannot fault Italy on the food; the gelato, pizza and lemon granitas are a force to be reckoned with! We even learnt to make gelato at one of our evening activities. Mrs Atkinson somehow even managed to find a Nutella tap at one gelato shop!

On my favourite and final day, we went to the island of Capri. The views from the boat tour and chairlift were incredible. The landscape was so stunning with sea arches and caves, we even sailed through one arch (Faraglioni).

On the final night we had a big disco where Bob showed off his dance moves!! We won't ever, ever forget them! Sadly, we then had to pack our bags for the flight in the morning. We made many friends in our hotel, like the American and Belgian students who were also staying there.

I enjoyed Sorrento so much that I am returning with my family in the summer. Overall it was an amazing experience, with incredible memories and I won't be forgetting this trip in a hurry.





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MOTHERS' Day Afternoon Tea



During the KGJS Pre-School and I1 Mothers' Day Afternoon Tea, the children presented their mummies with a 'bag of love' 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 time was had by all!



ART & DESIGN DEPARTMENT

KIRKHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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A-LEVEL



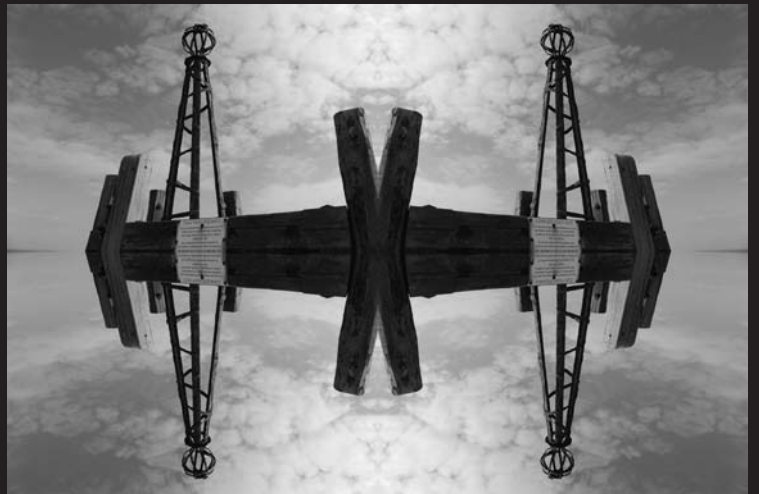
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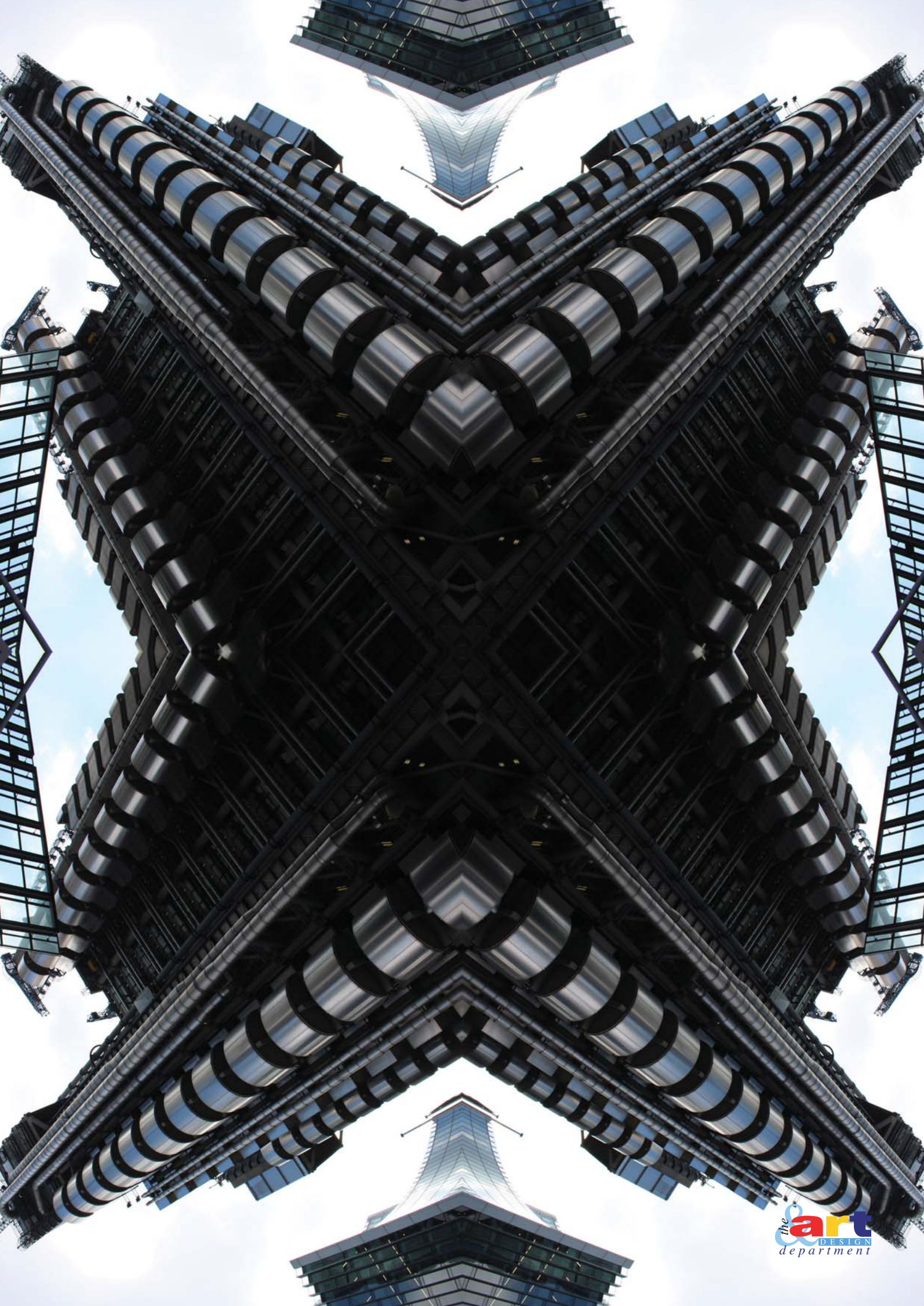


A LEVEL PHOTOGRAPHY



GCSE PHOTOGRAPHY





CHRISTMAS WITH THE ALIENS



The KGJS Infant and Pre-School Production, 'Christmas with the Aliens', was brilliantly performed by all the Pre-School and Infant children with beautiful singing, professional acting and super dancing from all. The children looked absolutely amazing in their costumes and thoroughly enjoyed retelling the traditional Christmas tale in this very unique way! The performance was truly spectacular and enjoyed by all! Well done to everyone who took part!



Disney ACTIVITY MORNING

At the end of February, KGJS welcomed over two hundred visitors to our Disney Activity Morning. There was a wonderful atmosphere around school as the children (and mums and dads!) took part in a range of Disney themed activities such as making Mickey Mouse biscuits, 'Design Your Own Truck' in the 'Disney Cars' room and Singing with Elsa and Anna in the 'Frozen' room to name just a few! Charlotte O'Neill entertained guests in the hall while they sampled the culinary delights of our catering staff, enjoying a cup of tea or coffee! It was fantastic to see so many children dressed up in their favourite Disney character costumes.

Thank you to everyone who joined us, it really was a wonderful morning!





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Harry Potter Day



Our J4 children joined the other KGS September 2018 first years in March for a Harry Potter Themed Day at the Senior School. The day included making magic potions (Science), creating magic spells (English), re-enacting scenes from Harry Potter (Drama) and the History and Reality of Witchcraft! They all enjoyed a Hogwarts lunch and, in the afternoon, played a game of Quidditch on the lawn, before being presented with a certificate by Mr Berry as a momento of their day.





CADET REPORT

FIELD DAY

WEETON BARRACKS

On the 22nd March 2018 my fellow 4th years and I were given the opportunity to take part in the CCF Field Day at Weeton Barracks. The day was not only thoroughly enjoyable for everyone but incredibly informative of the skills, discipline and stamina needed in the Army.

Before the activities had even begun I was filled with a sense of anticipation and excitement for the day ahead. As we arrived it was reasonably warm and sunny weather for a day in March, hopefully this would not be replaced by harsh winds and rain to spoil the day. After a smooth transition from us to first activity me and my jolly group of ten settled down for a look at Ration Pack Cooking with Mrs Marsh. We learnt about the ration packs, their use, contents and how to cook or not cook the food inside them. Once we had finished talking about this we learnt how to set up the cooking stove and use it. While we waited for our hot dogs (not in the ration pack, this was an added bonus) and chicken curry to cook we were allowed to share out the remaining contents of the ration box. This included items such as a rather peculiar tasting mince pie, some sweets, powered drinks and even a cup of tea with a biscuit! After we completely demolished the ration pack in 5 minutes flat our cooked food was ready for the taking. Hot dogs and chicken curry I must say make a surprisingly tasty combination for a breakfast, it was a great start to an intense but entertaining day.

Next up was the Fieldcraft stand with Mrs Atkinson and Mr Yates. During this stand we learnt the basic principles and drills of how to set up a base camp safely and quickly. We also learnt the different roles of people during this process, it's not like pitching up at a campsite and just finding a space! We all enjoyed learning these techniques and now feel more confident to carry them out correctly, something that will aid anyone who is going on Summer Camp.



As the day progressed we took part in various other activities such as First Aid with Mrs Sutcliffe, Observation with Miss John and Mr Possamai and Camouflage with Mr Taylor. First Aid I have to say was particularly fun and exciting as our group split into two and went head to head in the stretcher races. This I feel was very enjoyable and competitive while still being informative and a great experience of hands on First Aid.

During Observation we learnt all about how to enhance our technique for searching for objects. Different items were placed out in the field and we had to locate them using the naked eye and binoculars. Some of the items had been well hidden and we felt an enormous sense of achievement at finding them all.

Our final activity was Camouflage with Mr Taylor. This I feel was one of the highlights of the day for everyone. Not only did it teach us about how to properly conceal ourselves out in a forest but it was also great fun to participate in. everybody got really stuck in and we all painted our faces with cam cream (camouflage face paint) and then separated into pairs to go and hide amongst the trees.

I feel that the day was an absolute success and that everyone who participated in it really enjoyed themselves. We all came home better educated but also exhilarated and a fair bit tired. I would like to thank all the members of staff involved in organising what was truly a great day.

Cadet Olivia Bickerstaff



For me Field Day is one of the most hotly anticipated events in the school calendar, it also provides a good break from all the school work and stress of looming exams. It is a day where you get to put the skills and drills that you have learnt on a Thursday afternoon to use and also a great opportunity to learn more complex ones that cannot be taught during the regular CCF period.

This Field Day was held at Weeton Barracks Training Area. As soon as we got off the bus we were divided down into our year groups, the 4th years went off to their area to complete a round robin of stands and the 5th year and 6th form were split into two even groups. My group went straight to our first stand which was FIBUA (Fighting In Built Up Areas), this is essentially how to storm buildings that are occupied by an enemy. On arrival at the stand we were met and briefed by the instructors, WO2 Trev Barrow and Sgt 'Robbo' Robinson, they taught us the theory behind fighting in urban areas and more specifically in houses. As luck would have it Weeton Training Area has a 'skills house' specifically designed for this sort of training (a bit of a coincidence I think?). Once we were thoroughly briefed on the

theory side it was time for the practical, we were shown the correct ways of entering this specific house. This involved 'stacking' (lining up) against the wall next to the window, throwing a grenade (a suitably sized rock) through the window and then all scrambling through the window as soon as the explosion (Trevor Barrow shouting BANG at the top of his voice) was heard. Getting through the window was no mean feat, it involved climbing through a waist high 1 metre tall window with all your kit on and carrying a rifle that weighed nearly 4kgs and was about as awkward as you can imagine, although the more vertically challenged amongst the group did find it a little easier. Once we had mastered the skill of entering the house we moved onto clearing the house room by room, this involves a lot of communication between the team and soon, as we gained confidence, our drills started to become slicker. The culmination for this stand was to do an attack from start to finish on the whole house. One thing that sticks in my mind from this stand was that fighting from the top of the building down to the bottom is easier than from the bottom up. The reason for this is that grenades can be utilised more effectively as they



can be dropped down instead of thrown up, without the worry of them coming back down at you! Somehow though I think it's a bit of a stretch to ask for helicopters to let us abseil onto the roof in order to achieve this, but you never know!

Our next activity was a CTR (Close Target Recce), where we were given the task to observe and gather information on the movement and activities of a man wearing a light blue beret (who looked suspiciously like Mr Moffatt, the SSI) and a group of 'enemy soldiers' conducting FIBUA (fighting in built up areas) training (sounded familiar, or is it just me!). RSM Charlie Bradbury took charge of this one and he split the group into three, giving each a particular task. Mine was to observe the group doing the FIBUA training. This meant I had to stealthily get as close as possible without being seen, this is where the lessons from a Thursday afternoon came in handy. We used the cover of the trees to flank round to the side of the house until we reached the edge of the treeline, then we got onto our belt buckles (laid down) and crawled for 20 metres up to a tree with some long grass at the bottom which offered perfect cover to observe from. This was a timed task and we had to be back at the start point in order to brief the Intelligence Officer who had set us the task (who also looked suspiciously like Mr Moffatt), so we had to crawl painstakingly back to the treeline where we then used the treeline to move quickly back to the start point. Upon arrival we found Cpl Corcoran (from one of the other CTR groups) had ended up nearly waist deep in a bog leaving his trousers soaked and caked in mud and not best pleased with the other nameless member of that group that had led him through it, needless to say they didn't gather a great deal of information. We were debriefed on the task and answered some questions on the movements of the target, most of which we got right.

After lunch we moved onto our final stand of the day which was Section Attacks using blank ammunition, which is always a lot of fun especially as we don't have any opportunities to do this during normal CCF time. After a brief recap of how to conduct a section attack by Sgt O'Fee and Sgt Day, my section went first, so the pressure was on to show everyone how it was done. We patrolled through a field in extended line (side by side with a good space between everyone) and then all of a sudden we came under fire from 'the enemy' hiding behind a bank to our front. As we have been taught we returned fire and took cover, which in an open field was just lying down in the long grass! As the section put down suppressing fire to keep the enemies heads down I formulated my plan to do a right flanking attack. An

army section is made up of two fire teams called Charlie and Delta, my plan consisted of Charlie fire team to move to our right whilst Delta gave covering fire. To communicate this over the sound of gunfire and confusion is quite a task and my vocal chords were straining by the end, but I managed to get the message out and so that attack began. Charlie fire team moved right flanking until they were about level at



right angles to the enemy position, they then broke down into pairs and started to fire and manoeuvre toward the enemy until they were right on them and had neutralised the threat. Once this had been done we called the Re-group, this isn't simply make your way toward the other fire team, you have to follow the proven route that they took to the enemy position. Once we had re-grouped the staff halted us and we walked back to the start point for our debrief, speed and controlled aggression were the main points that came from the staff as this is essential in the real situation.

Overall I think that this Field Day was the best I have been on in my time with the CCF, this is due to a combination of excellent activities planned and run by Mr Moffatt, Mr Taylor and the Cadet Training Team (CTT) and also the fact that being a senior cadet I had the skills, knowledge and drills to enhance the enjoyment of the activities we took part in. I would encourage other pupils at Kirkham to take full advantage of what the CCF can offer.

WO2 Sam Minten

» Regimental Dinner «

On Saturday the 21st of April, Kirkham Grammar School hosted the traditional CCF Regimental Dinner – a black tie event celebrating the success of the cadet force over the years. The evening provided an opportunity for interaction between Old Kirkhamians and present pupils regarding their experiences within this cadet force. The dining room had been set up the day previously and both staff and cadets

had worked very hard to ensure the setting for the dinner looked the part. Walls had been painted, flags hung correctly, silver polished and all of the place settings looking exactly the same. When you walked into the dining room on the evening it did actually feel like a different venue to the hustle and bustle of the lunch time service. The evening was ran like a military event and we soon got to find out that the SSI, Mr Moffatt, was very fond of the gavel!! It started with Mr Yates, who was Mr Vice for the evening, lighting a candle for Absent Friends. This was made more poignant to the CCF dinner with the presence of Mr Tim Miller's two children, who attended the dinner in memory of their father. Mr Miller (or Maj Miller) will always be remembered for his optimism and kindness within the school and CCF

We were treated to a fantastic meal, as usual, and conversation flowed across the tables and the atmosphere was added to by the military music playing in the background. After dessert there was a quick comfort break and it was back in for the toasts and then the speeches. The speeches commenced with the Headmaster who thanked all in the CCF for being so welcoming to him in his first year of being a part of the family. He commended the dedication and initiative of the NCOs and staff alike. Since his arrival into the organisation, the Headmaster has immersed himself in cadet activities and has played an active role in the paintball range and the development in discipline among fourth year cadets, he has embraced the CCF as part of the school curriculum and given it his full support. Despite his frequent claims of being, to quote, "basically a Battalion Commander", it has really and truly been a pleasure to welcome Mr Berry into the CCF and we hope he will stay with us for many more years. Mr Berry's enthusiasm for the CCF truly shone at the Regimental Dinner and we look forward to seeing what else he will bring to the Combined Cadet Force in the future.

The second speech of the evening was the highly anticipated address by the Contingent Commander, Major Taylor, who sent the room into fits of laughter with his recollection of stories from annual camp, the most familiar and memorable of which being the tale of the extents of which Trevor Barrow will go for a hot breakfast! Mr Taylor truly captured the humour which brings the organisation together, and how there is so much more to CCF than what you see on the Parade Square. Mr Taylor gave special mentions to members of staff who have strived tirelessly over the years to ensure the CCF remains as successful as it is today, namely Mrs Atkinson, Mr Yates and Mrs Cannell. His witty remarks and ever present ardour have played a large part in shaping the Combined Cadet Force over the years.



Then came RSM Charlie Bradbury's speech. The RSM expressed his gratitude for the guidance of our SSI, Mr Moffatt, and to our Contingent Commander, Mr Taylor, over the past year and spoke of his optimism for the future of the organisation. RSM Bradbury praised the NCOs for their personal development in teaching and for their organisation every week, which is what makes the training programme work. He also thanked the staff and I think the staff got off lightly with Charlie not recounting some of their funnier moments over the last few years.

Finally came the highlight of the evening, Trevor Barrow's speech. Mr Barrow, who is more fondly known as Uncle Trev, told stories of his time with the Duke of Lancaster's Regiment. Mr Barrow's recounting of his endeavours in Northern Ireland and elsewhere truly added to the formality and theme of the evening. He told of the vast variety of bumps in the road that come with a career in the army, the most amusing of which involved waking up in a busy airport with little clothing on! Mr Barrow was truly an example of a 'soldier's soldier' and we hope he will continue to help with the CCF. His pithy sense of humour and variety of experience has been, and always will be, an asset to the CCF.

Overall the evening was a great success – thoroughly enjoyed by pupils past and present, by staff both in the CCF and those from outside of it, by guests, speakers and cadets alike. The refreshing formality of the event accompanied by the delicious 5 course meal provided by the catering staff truly made for a memorable night. We would like to thank all of the guests and speakers for attending, a special mention must go to Mrs Cannell who organised the event and without whose hard work and organisation this dinner would not have been possible. The Regimental Dinner has proven that even after 76 years (when the contingent was first formed) the Kirkham Grammar School CCF Contingent continues to bring people together from all generations and we hope it will remain so.

Cpl Lily O'Brien



We have had a great year with the cadets and unfortunately at the end of the year we have to say goodbye to our Upper 6th, who have been the Senior NCOs for this year. Firstly, I would like to say thank you for all your efforts with the CCF, the weekly training could not run as well as it does without a good cohort of NCOs. From the RSM, Charlie and his enthusiasm, knowledge and unique skillset, through the CSMs Aaron, Kieran, Sam and Ran who have helped to guide the less senior cadets. Not forgetting the C/Sgts Theo and Marco and Sgts Alex and Phillipa who have given up their own free time to help with activities and organisation and also helped set the standard.

Secondly I would like to wish the Upper 6th all the very best of luck in their exams and in their futures. I am very privileged to have met some absolutely outstanding individuals and I think the bar has been raised to a very high standard for next years NCOs (Lower 6th, take note!).

Finally, I would like to say thank you to all the staff that help with CCF, without them it would not happen.

WO1 S Moffatt
School Staff Instructor



KGS CCF HONOURED

Major Richard Taylor & Corporal Emily Gaynor Smith received prestigious awards from Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of Lancashire, Charles Kay-Shuttleworth, 5th Baron Shuttleworth, for services to the Cadet & Reserve Forces, at a formal ceremony at Lancaster Castle.

The annual Lord-Lieutenants' and Lieutenant Governor's Awards for Reservists, Cadet Force Adult Volunteers (CFAVs), cadets and employees of the Reserve Forces and Cadet Organisations of the Armed Forces are recognised as laudatory honours throughout the Ministry of Defence.

Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenants are the representatives of the Crown for each county in the United Kingdom. Men or women of all backgrounds, they are appointed directly by Her Majesty the Queen, on the advice of the Prime Minister. The Lieutenant Governor of the Isle of Man is Her Majesty The Queen's Personal Representative, and is appointed by Warrant of Her Majesty The Queen.

BRONZE

Lucy	Barrow
Harvey	Berry
Will	Bloomfield
Reuben	Bond
Zara	Burfitt
Alex	Carson
Lucy	Case
Patrick	Castelli
Joe	Clarke
Stuart	Collins
Archie	Cooper
George	Coulthard
Olivia	Cruikshanks
Isabella	Damp
Sam	Davies
Hannah	Dunnington
Gemma	Eastham
Olivia	Gebbie
Olivia	Hodge
Ella	Kearsley
Jonny	Latham
Jack	McKenzie
Oliver	Mills
Emma	Nuttall
Seun	Oladapo
Sanit	Parmar
Daniella	Parziale
Tom	Pickervance
Molly	Pickup
Emily	Scott
Alisha	Sebastian
Yania	Shahid
Matthew	Sutcliffe
Lauren	Thomas
George	Thompson
Eleanor	Turner
Angus	Wheeler
Jannis	Wong
Lydia	Woodburn

SILVER

Kieran	Butler
Matthew	Jones
Jessica	Maggs
Oliver	Marsden
Lisa	McManamon
James	Morris
Lexi	Oddie
Charles	Partington
Daniella	Parziale
Claudia	Peacock
Hannah	Sayers
Styliana	Stavrou

GOLD

Philippa	Armstrong
Charles	Bradbury
Alex	Clayton
Toby	Gilmore
Julia	Glynn
Charles	Hargreaves
Georgina	Lawson
Theo	Randall
Tom	Walter

It is always a delight to announce completed awards, especially when you know how much time, effort and commitment has been put into achieving them. We congratulate all our award achievers and wish them well as they continue along their DofE journey or, in the case of our Gold Award achievers, the great journey of life! In March, we had six recent KGS leavers attend a Gold Award Presentation event at St. James's Palace and in May, Mr Hancock was invited, in recognition for his many years of service to DofE, to a Gold Award Presentation at Buckingham Palace, where 11 KGS students/alumni received their Gold Award certificates (photo right).





Since the last Kirkhamian, over 80 of our 3rd year have signed up to start their Bronze DofE Award and are currently working hard on their volunteering, physical and skills sections. We are delighted to hear that many have found volunteering opportunities that they are not only learning new skills from, but that they are thoroughly enjoying and finding very rewarding. Everybody seems to be looking forward to the practice expedition/adventure trip to the Lake District in June and then the assessed expeditions in October.

The Gold and Silver practice expeditions over Easter in the North Yorkshire Moors were undeniably great training experiences for all involved. With days of very strong sunshine followed by gusty gales and torrential rain, all aspects of kit were tested and resilience was certainly required, ready for the assessed expedition in late June.

76 of our 4th year have now undertaken their Bronze expeditions, with 40 doing so in April. The participants on the recent assessed expedition really impressed with their teamwork, navigation skills and excellent behaviour at the campsite.

This recent expedition also gave the opportunity for one of our U6th students to be signed off as a DofE expedition assessor. Charlie Bradbury has completed the DofE expedition supervisors

and assessors course and is working hard towards completing his Lowland Leader Award. Charlie is hopeful to achieve his Mountain Leader Award whilst at university – we wish him well and look forward to him helping on future DofE expeditions.

The expedition is only one of the sections of the award and we encourage all our students to complete the other sections of the award with as much effort and involvement as they do for the expedition. Help and advice for what to do for each section is available at the DofE information sessions on Monday, Thursday and Friday lunchtimes.

None of the above expeditions would be possible without the time and commitment of a wonderful team of KGS staff, who also sleep in tents and endure, at times, unpredictable weather; often returning to school a little wind swept and weathered, but always very proud of our students' efforts. Mr Gardner, Mr Possamai, Mrs Latham, Miss Chiekrie, Miss Leeming, Mr Walmsley, Mr McLaughlin, Mr Brookes and Miss Towler have really made the recent expeditions run smoothly and made them very positive experiences for all – thank you.



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HOUSE CHALLENGE DAY



For the second year running, KGJS held their House Challenge Day with all pupils arriving at school in their sports kit!

The infants experienced a range of challenges including; an immersive guided story using headphones, learning to drive Bluebots across a map, solving a range of challenges along the way and also used Pic Collage to create a Frankenstein monster of their classmates. For the juniors, activities included; exploring music and sounds using laptops and iPads and learning how to program 'Edbot the Robot' to make her move and respond to the environment. Well done to all, and a special mention to School House who were the overall winners!

It really was a fantastic day!



Reflections

on

L'Enfant et les Sortilèges

Who says opera has to last for six hours at a time?

Opera North at the Lowry certainly don't agree. Which is why they staged a special season celebrating short but fully-formed works from a range of composers.

A small group of KGS French and Music students attended the performance L'enfant et les sortilèges / Osud. This opera is an emotional rollercoaster pairing Ravel's magical childhood fantasy with Janáček's rarely performed gem.

Synopsis

A naughty child assaults everything in his room after he is told off by his mother for not doing his homework. Gradually, the objects around him – furniture, clocks, crockery – come to life. Out in the garden, events take an even more disturbing turn when all the trees and animals rebuke him for the injuries he has done them in the past. Can the child redeem himself?

The following items are three reviews of the opera in french.

Jeudi 16 novembre, je suis allé au Lowry Théâtre où nous avons regardé un opéra qui s'appelle L'Enfant et les Sortilèges. Ils parlaient et chantaient en français. C'était fantastique et très créatif ! Je pense que la musique est audacieuse. Mon personnage préféré était l'écureuil, parce que il était très mignon, mais je me souviendrai toujours de la théière. Il était très amusant. Il s'entendait bien avec la tasse à thé. C'était un opéra très intéressant !

Thomas Hewitt

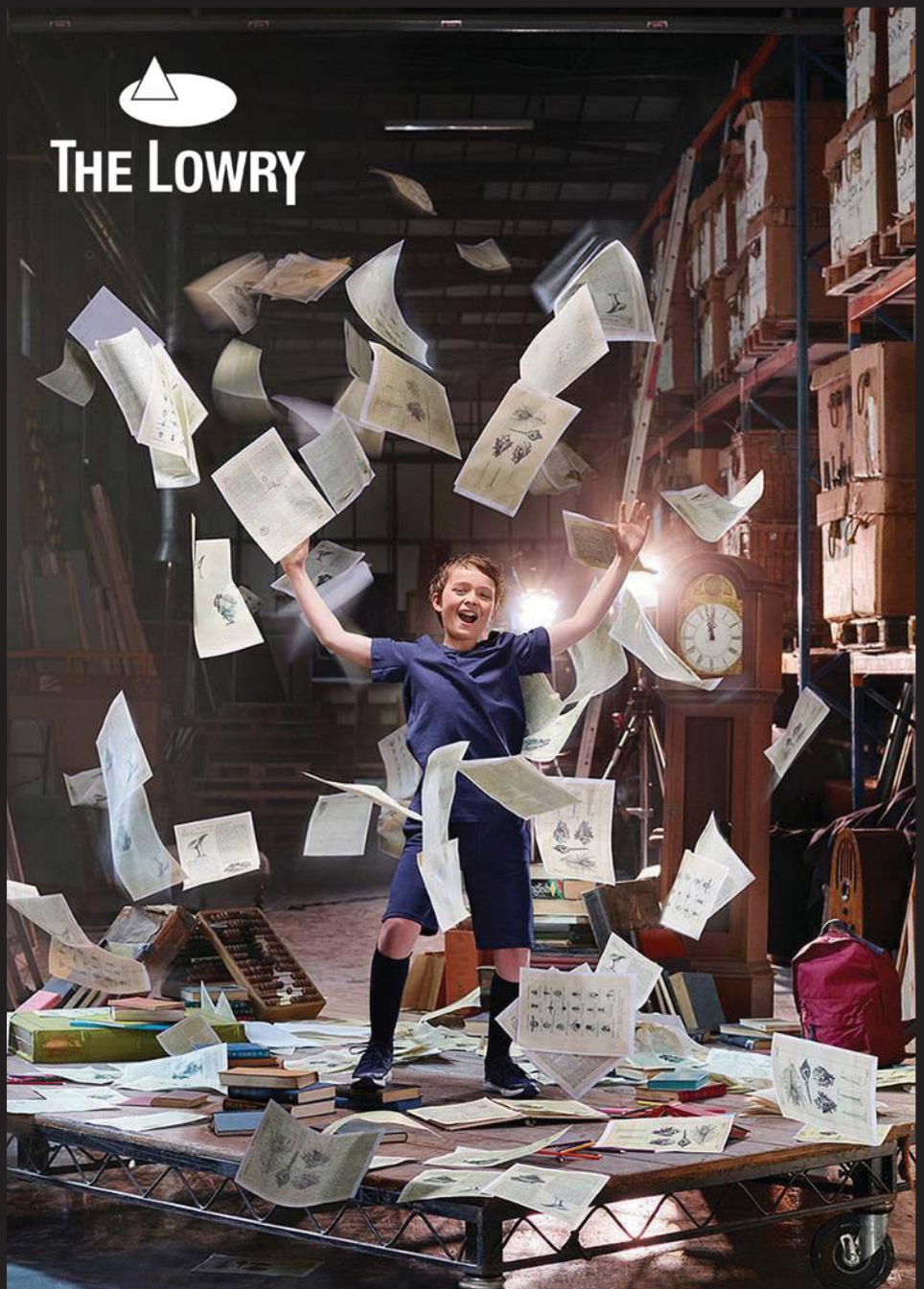
Jeudi 16 novembre, nous avons regardé l'opéra du Ravel qui s'appelle 'L'enfant et les sortilèges,' et qui ne dure que quarante-cinq minute – c'est très bizarre! L'opéra était au théâtre Lowry, où ils ont des chaises assez confortables, parce que le Lowry est bâtiment moderne. Mon personnage préféré s'appelle 'la théière.' La théière était drôle et a provoqué beaucoup de rires. L'opéra était bien pour un premier opéra, je le recommanderais, même si vous n'aimez pas l'opéra.

Reuben Bond

J'ai trouvé l'opéra très bizarre mais aussi assez amusant. L'opéra décrivait les péripéties d'un petit garçon qui voulait pas faire ses devoirs et les objets qui décident de le hanter à cause de son mauvais comportement. Alisha Sebastian

Jeudi seize novembre nous sommes allés à l'opéra au théâtre Lowry à Salford. D'abord nous sommes allés au centre commercial puis nous avons vu l'opéra, qui s'appelle L'Enfant et les Sortilèges. C'était très bien mais aussi très drôle, spécialement la théière. Après, nous avons mangé à Nando's, parce que le théâtre est très près du restaurant. Finalement nous sommes montés dans le bus et rentrés à la maison.

Margaret Hodgson



PERFORMING ARTS EVENING

We were delighted to display a huge array of talent to an audience of over three hundred and fifty parents and friends at our Junior School Performing Arts Evening in March. The evening began with a wonderful Art Exhibition of our pupils' masterpieces, accompanied by a wine and canapé reception. This was followed by a thoroughly enjoyable evening of music, dance and drama with every child from J1 through to J4 having the opportunity to take part. We witnessed beautiful guitar, vocal and piano solos.

Each year group offered a variety of performances, including performance poetry, singing, ukulele choir and a medley from 'Oliver.' We had some excellent group performances from our percussion, guitar and violin ensembles. It was wonderful to hear our rock guitarists play their own composition and the orchestra playing four superb pieces. The cheerleading solo and dance duet were both outstanding and received huge applause from the audience.

The AJIS Choir Champions entertained us with two expressive performances and the whole school sang together, along with a very enthusiastic audience who willingly joined in with the dance moves. The evening ended with a 'bang' as the confetti cannons provided an explosive finale!

Thank you to all the pupils and staff for putting together such a memorable evening.





'Famous and Forgotten'

It's rare that you hit on something in a school that can cover all aspects of the wider curriculum and, at the same time, be a lot of fun. However, Gill Latham's production of Andrew Colley and Fiona Ross' play "Famous and Forgotten" which tells the story of the "Dick Kerr's Ladies' F.C.©." achieved that in spades!

The fascinating story covered local industrial and sporting history. Dick, Kerr's Ladies F.C. was one of the earliest known women's association football teams in England. The team remained in existence for over 48 years, from 1917 to 1965, playing 828 games, winning 758, drawing 46, and losing 24. During its early years, matches attracted anywhere from 4,000 to over 50,000 spectators per match. In 1920, Dick, Kerr's Ladies defeated a French side 2-0 in front of 25,000 people that went down in history as the first international women's association football game. The team faced strong opposition by the Football Association (FA), who banned the women from using fields and stadiums controlled by FA-affiliated clubs for 50 years (the rule was finally repealed in 1971).

We had a reminder of the heartbreak of the First World War and the changing roles of women. Central to the production was the potential and power of women struggling against prejudice and the faith and support of others in their fight. However, what made this production special was that these messages were delivered through surprising characters, energetic scenes, funny dialogue, inventive gymnastics and charming music and song.

Highlights included Kyle O'Keefe as the central cog in the Dick Kerr machine, playing the role of Mr Kerr; the girls, of course who made you want to be a part of their team and confident deliveries from Reuben Bond, Joseph Ingham and Maddie Chaya.

It was a fluid, imaginative, natural piece of theatre which because of its honesty - from the striking black and white football strips to the northern accents; from the scraped knees to the oily factory floor - conveyed its message in a believable and poignant fashion.





AJIS MUSIC FESTIVAL



The Kirkham Grammar Junior School Vocal Ensemble, made up of thirty J3 and J4 pupils, represented the school at the AJIS Music Festival at the beginning of March. Competing against nine other junior independent schools, KGJS were awarded first prize. The adjudicator, John Powell, a renowned conductor, singer and adjudicator, congratulated our Vocal Ensemble on their 'committed and musical' performance. Well done to all the children who represented the school at this exciting event and congratulations on being awarded first place.

TRAVELLING BY TUBA



At the beginning of February, KGJS welcomed Chris Cranham and Stewart Death from 'Travelling by Tuba' into school. The day was a chance for the children to experience music-making using a variety of instruments that Chris and Stewart have collected on their travels around the world. Every child was given the opportunity to play an instrument and see how a piece of music is rehearsed and put together. Each session culminated in a performance! The workshops were a fantastic hands-on musical experience and the children (and staff!) thoroughly enjoyed the day! Thank you to Chris and Stewart for visiting KGJS. A wonderful day was had by all!



CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT

Once again the Junior School presented a truly sensational Carol Concert at the end of the Autumn Term. An enthusiastic audience enjoyed the traditional carols alongside readings by Oliver Kollard, Grace Livesey, James Shuttleworth, Ben Firth, Alexa Anderson, Evie Mellon and April Wright. It was wonderful to welcome our School Chaplain, Reverend Bunday, who shared his thoughts for Christmas with us and Mrs Roberts, along with some of our J4 children, reminded us of the importance of the Christmas message. The performances by the Orchestra, Handbell Ensemble, Vocal Ensemble, Junior Choir and Staff/Parent Choir wowed the audience, and the soloists sang beautifully. J1's adaptation of the Christmas Story, using Shadow Theatre, was simply breathtaking! Afterwards, our guests enjoyed Christmas cake, mince pies and mulled wine; a wonderful way to finish off a very enjoyable evening and an excellent start to the festive season!



MUSIC

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 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 Thursday in early March and what was to be a thrilling final. Mr Peter Lockett was the adjudicator for the day and he had the unenviable task of selecting a winner of the House Music and winner of House Choirs. After a compelling and exciting day, James Nash was declared the winner of the instrumental category. He was pushed all the way by Alexandra Clarke who was runner up in a sensational final. In the vocal category, Lydia Lythgoe was the winner, closely followed by Abigail Johnson who was runner up. The House choirs were equally thrilling and it was wonderful to see the enthusiasm and participation from all students and staff. The winners of the Ensemble final were the Soprano Quintet (Charlotte Cross, Brioni Crowe, Abigail Johnson, Esme Ikram and Aleisha Mansfield) who sang a beautiful arrangement of The Rose. 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 continuing to produce some of the highest standard music making in the northwest and is a beacon of excellence and high standards in all genres of music.

The choir impressed in their performance at the Founder's Day service this time in the Summerlee Hall. They sang music from Orff, Tchaikovsky and Sullivan, their voices ringing clear and true from the balcony. A great example and so polished.

There are many students who are performing at the highest level outside the school; members of the National Youth Orchestra, National Children's Orchestra, Lancashire Schools Symphony and Concert Bands, Halle Youth Orchestra, Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Orchestra, together with numerous prize winners from the annual Lytham Festival, where again this year Kirkham Grammar won in most categories. We also have students who attend the Royal Northern College of Music Junior Department and students who are going on to study music at some of the most prestigious music conservatoires.

There have also been many achievements in the ABRSM exams where many students received Merits and Distinctions.







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The Music Department at Kirkham Grammar School has always been fortunate in having numerous students that been awarded seats in orchestras and bands at both regional and national levels. We currently have a number of individuals whose proficiency in their chosen instrument, has taken them to these heights. Members of the Lancashire Youth Concert Band, Lancashire Schools Symphony Orchestra, Halle Youth Orchestra, Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Orchestra, National Children's Orchestra, National Youth Chamber Orchestra and the National Youth Orchestra are all to be found in the school's student population. James Nash, currently studying Music, Maths and Chemistry in the Upper Sixth, is one such student. James joined the Sixth Form some eighteen months ago, a Grade 8 (ABRSM) pianist and drummer, and a Diploma level trumpet player. James is a member of the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain and is currently its principal trumpet player, rather like playing for England's U18 Rugby team and being one of its brightest stars! He regularly plays with them at some of the top concert venues in London and beyond, including the Royal Festival Hall and the Royal Albert Hall. Television appearances at the BBC Proms series are not uncommon! He is also a reserve in the trumpet section of the European Youth Orchestra. If this doesn't keep him busy enough, he is also the Soprano Cornet player of the Leyland Band, one of the top Brass Bands in the UK, and regularly features as one of their outstanding soloists in their nationwide concert schedule. Busy as his studies keep him, he has still found time to compete in national competitions. In 2017 he made the final of the BBC Radio 2 Young Brass Player in a final that was broadcast live on Radio 2. This year, he made the semi-final of the same competition,



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AIMING HIGH

and also the semi-final of the brass category of the BBC Young Musician, the top competition for aspiring young performers in the classical world.

Within Kirkham Grammar School, James is a member of the Orchestra, Concert Band, Swing Band and Choir. He regularly features as a soloist in school concerts where his undoubted talents can be seen at their very best. His contribution to the musical life of the school has been immense. Perhaps though, one of the nicest attributes of James, is the time he has for the younger musicians in the school, who have enjoyed many 'free lessons' from James, guiding them when they are struggling, and encouraging them at every turn. The school is rightly proud of James and his many achievements, and we continue to watch with interest, to see where his prodigious talent will take him, in what is certain to be a glittering future!





SKI TRIP

The KGJS 2018 Ski Trip to Zell Am See over the Easter holiday was extremely successful. From drop off to pick up, it was a superb trip, full of amazing memories. From the beginners to the high advanced, everyone tried their best and showed a great example of determination. Every evening there was an enjoyable activity to do like swimming at the Tauren Spa, a disco, eating out, ice hockey and lots more. Most days we skied on the mountain by the resort but for two days we travelled to the glacier where there was an ice bar, fluffy snow and stunning views, which was a highlight of the week. What made the trip even better was the excellent behaviour and attitude from all the children. The early morning get-ups were a struggle for some but everyone still powered through the day and had loads of fun skiing. Thank you to all the parents for letting us go on this trip and to the staff for taking it the extra mile for us. Finally, we would like to thank TGM for arranging this trip and for making it a once in a lifetime experience.

by Grace Livesey & Alexa Anderson



TRIP TO CHILL FACTORE

At the beginning of March, the KGJS Ski Trip 2018 beginners group, along with Mrs Roberts, Mr Smith, Miss Knowles, Mrs Tickle and Frank from TGM, had a very enjoyable and worthwhile trip to the Chill Factor in Manchester. The children coped brilliantly on the slopes and all improved throughout the session!





In a break with tradition, this year saw the ski party leave during term time (having dutifully collected work to be completed during half term first!); after the usual, protracted loading of cases on to the coach, Tetrus style, the party left for Liverpool airport on Saturday 3 February.

The journey was made in good time and Les Deux Alpes did not disappoint. Arriving at 8.30pm, we were greeted with a deep blanket of snow adorning the chalet style buildings swathed in twinkling lights – Christmas personified! First light and our first view from the hotel windows was equally breath taking with a beautiful mountain view on all sides.

After an early breakfast and a short walk, the KGS party descended on the ski shop, and the very definition of organised chaos ensued! There were bodies everywhere: trying on boots, juggling skis and poles, trying to squeeze past each other towards an exit point and a chance to cool down outside. One new set of gloves purchased and we set off for the slopes. The first day is always assessment day, where the ski groups are formed and re-formed as the skiers' abilities are identified/checked against the information used for initial groupings. Unfortunately, the ski school meeting point by the beginner slopes was a fair trek and presented quite a challenge to those not used to wearing ski

boots and carrying skis. Happily, most were soon promoted to higher ground which meant that our initial meeting point became the Diable chair which was much closer to our hotel.

Hot lunches at the hotel provided much needed calories and a chance to recuperate a little before taking to the slopes again in the afternoon. The snow conditions were perfect for skiing and the resort was quiet, so all enjoyed quality time when out on the slopes - no huge queues to negotiate every time you need a chair lift or gondola! Needless to say, this, coupled with five hours of tuition a day, saw our party progress their skills at an impressive rate, with many compliments from the ESF instructors at the end of the week.

Having worked hard on the slopes during the day, our group tackled the Après Ski activities with just as much vigour! All were kept busy in the evenings and it was nice to be able to walk to all of the venues from our hotel. I was particularly impressed with the warm, friendly (and very efficient) service at the local pizzeria. Being descended upon by a party of fifty cannot be easy, which we fully appreciated all the more during a visit to a crêperie later in the week. Such relief on the faces of the two lovely ladies serving us when the last crêpe and hot chocolate was served!

As usual, all were adorned in fancy dress for the last day of skiing which is quite a spectacle!

Mr Moffatt, dressed as a Storm Trooper, was particularly popular with skiers asking to have their photo taken with him! The effort made by all was amazing with the two sharks being my personal favourite. Strange I know, but I'd never seen sharks skiing before!

A big thank you to Mrs Atkinson, Mrs Hargreaves and Mr Moffatt for their help and support on this trip. I would like to add how much I enjoyed the company of the 2019 ski party – the pupils were (as always) a credit to the school, good company and most welcome to join us again in the future! It may not have showed, but I definitely felt more relaxed on this trip than usual! To finish, I would like to thank the Headmaster for allowing the trip to take place during term time. Whilst the price drop (almost half the usual cost) is welcome, it is the quiet slopes that made this trip a real winner. Much safer, more ski time and a better experience for all. Italy, here we come.



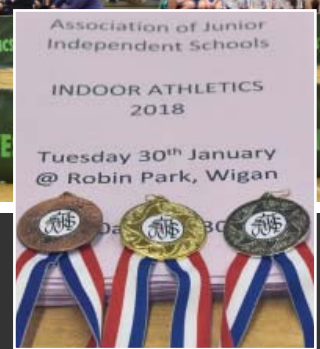
LISA WHITESIDE VISIT



In May, Kirkham Grammar Junior School welcomed Lisa Whiteside, Commonwealth Games Flyweight Champion into school, who defeated Northern Ireland's Carly McNaul in the flyweight final on the Gold Coast in April. She spoke to the children about her 'boxing journey' and brought with her a selection of international medals to show the children, including the most recent Commonwealth Games Gold medal. Lisa explained how much dedication and commitment is required with regards to training for her sport and her message to the children was clear; if you have a desire to do something and work hard to achieve this, anything is possible!

After the whole school assembly, the KGJS J4 children were given the opportunity to attend a 'Questions and Answers' session with Lisa and they certainly kept her very busy with their fantastic array of questions. They were also given the opportunity to look at, and hold, her Commonwealth Gold medal, the first children to be allowed to do this, which was a real honour!





AJIS ATHLETICS

At the end of January, KGJS travelled to Wigan's Robin Park Indoor Arena to take part in the Association of Junior Independent Schools Indoor Athletics Championships. Twenty seven schools from throughout the North West were taking part and this involved over 650 athletes. The U10 and U11 boys and girls teams had trained extremely hard in the build up to this annual event and had very competitive matches against Preston Harriers and Lytham Athletics Club in preparation. However, not in our wildest dreams did we expect to achieve such success and produce our best ever performance at these very prestigious championships. At the end of five hours of competition, we had won 14 gold, 4 silver and 6 bronze medals and set, or equalled, three AJIS records!

Listed to the right are the performances of the medal winning athletes:

GOLD

- | | |
|--|---|
| Evie Mellon | U11 Girls Long Jump (New AJIS record) |
| Georgia Nicholls | U11 Girls Speed Bounce |
| Louisa Seacy | U11 Girls Balance Test (=AJIS record) |
| Evie Mellon, Lilly Jones, Megan Rollinson & Frankie Margerison | U11 Girls Obstacle Relay |
| Mason Wilkins | U11 Boys 3 Lap Race |
| James Shuttleworth | U11 Boys Balance Test |
| Harvey Barber | U11 Boys Javelin |
| Ewan Huck | U11 Boys Chest Push |
| Jensen Stott, Ben Firth, Ewan Huck & Mason Wilkins | U11 Boys Obstacle Relay |
| Leoma Gill | U10 Girls Speed Bounce |
| Lola Sidani | U10 Girls Vertical Jump |
| Nikita Murthy | U10 Girls Balance Test (= AJIS Record) |
| Joel Ashton | U10 Boys Javelin |
| William de Klerk, Tom Bloomfield, Jensen Crompton & Harry Marsh | U10 Boys Obstacle Relay |

SILVER

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Sarah Chatwin | U11 Girls Javelin |
| Mason Wilkins | U11 Boys Triple Jump |
| Ben Firth | U11 Boys Long Jump |
| Rowan Edwards | U10 Boys Vertical Jump |

BRONZE

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Frankie Margerison | U11 Girls Triple Jump |
| Jensen Stott | U11 Boys Vertical Jump |
| Harvey Barber & Harry Case | U11 Boys Paarlauf Relay |
| William de Klerk | U10 Boys One Lap Race |
| Freddie Stott | U10 Boys Triple Jump |
| Jensen Crompton | U10 Boys Balance Test |

As these results show, the athletes performed superbly throughout the day and we are immensely proud of their achievements. Other members of the team were just outside the medals and produced many personal bests. As we were the organising school, our pupils, as well as competing, acted as hurdle stewards, field event officials and helped out with the medal presentations! A truly great team effort!



SPORTS DAY 2018

Inter House Athletics Competition





EDINBURGH



At the beginning of February, eighteen J4 children met Mr Lewis, Mrs Case and our tour rep, Nigel, at Preston Station, ready for our trip. Matthew Weare's mum gave us all an Edinburgh hoodie and we set off.

When we arrived in Edinburgh, we walked for about half an hour to our Youth Hostel, where we had our lunch before walking to Dynamic Earth. On the way we saw Holyrood Palace, the government buildings, Arthur's Seat (an extinct volcano) and the Queen's Art Gallery. Inside Dynamic Earth, we learned about volcanos and different types of rock, before discovering about the history of the universe, looking at the animals of the rainforest and finally learning about astronomers inside a show dome. Our final stop was, of course, the gift shop, where we bought some gifts for ourselves and our families. After a delicious roast chicken dinner back at the hostel, we took the bus to go bowling. We had a fun-filled

hour here, before returning to the hostel to go to bed.

The next morning, we got up and had a lovely breakfast but there was no time to waste as we set off, in the rain, towards the Harry Potter trail, where we learned about the important places and people that inspired J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter books. Next, we headed to Edinburgh Castle, where we looked at the Scottish Crown Jewels and the memorial for the soldiers who died in various wars. We also saw a demonstration of crime and punishment for minor stealing in the 1600s! After a quick visit to a Harry Potter souvenir shop, we reached our final destination; the Edinburgh Dungeons, which we all found really scary! Finally, we headed to the train station for our return journey. Thank you to Mrs Case, Mr Lewis and Nigel from TGM Holidays for a wonderful trip.

by Charlie Wiltshire



ISLE OF MAN



On the same day, twenty five J4 pupils, accompanied by Mrs Farquharson, Mr Brookes and Mr Oddie, met at KGJS to embark on their annual sports tour to the beautiful Isle of Man. After a 24 minute flight over the Irish Sea, they reached their destination. On day one, the J4s played Football and Netball against The Buchan School which was a fantastic start to the tour. In the evening, they went to the swimming pool and experienced flying down the slides and swimming against the rapids.

Day two involved Rugby against Ramsey Rugby Club U11s and Hockey against King William's College U12s. Both matches were very competitive and were played in a fantastic spirit. In the afternoon they visited Castletown and took part in a quiz about the Isle of Man. The evening entertainment was a visit to Laser Blast in which all of the pupils and staff took part! Day three started off with a KGJS J4 World Cup Hockey Tournament where Australia won! The final fixtures of the tour were against the

IoM Rugby and Hockey teams and yet again these matches were played in a fantastic spirit. During the tour, the children were well supported by the largest ever contingent of Kirkham parents who made the journey over the water. This is a good opportunity to thank the following families/companies who sponsored the tour kit, which enabled the group to look extremely smart in matching coats, hoodies, t-shirts, beanies and tour bags: BM Furniture (Margerison), Caffè Dolce (Barber), Napthens Solicitors (Allison), Firth Architects (Firth), Choice Hotels (Kollard), BMW Bowker (Bowker), FAB Home Interiors (Jones), TNT Fireworks (Ribchester), UK Acoustic System (Wilkins) and Whittaker Stott Packaging (Stott). All the pupils and staff really appreciated your generosity.

The full set of results were as follows: Netball v Buchan School lost 16-12, Football v Buchan School A team lost 4-3, B team lost 4-1, Rugby v Ramsey won 45-15, Hockey v KWC U12s

lost 8-5, Rugby v IOM lost 15-10 and Hockey v IOM won 5-2. We are very grateful to Ramsey Rugby Club and the Isle of Man Hockey and Rugby Teams for their involvement.

Finally, we would like to thank everyone at King William's College and The Buchan School for their hospitality and organisation in making this a fantastic tour which our pupils will never forget. Thank you to the parents who kindly presented Mr Oddie, Mrs Farquharson and Mr Brookes with a gift for taking their children to the IoM. It was very much appreciated.





Rugby 1st XV REPORT 2017/2018

Coach: Mr A E Trenhaile
Mr J P Roddam
Captain: Kieran Wilkinson

Season Statistics

Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Points For	Points Against	Points Difference
13	11	0	2	408	159	527

After three terrific seasons the expectation was high for another top season. However, before the season had even begun injuries amongst the 1st team squad were numerous and this was to hinder the progress of this talented side throughout the season. At no stage during this season did KGS 1st XV ever put out a first choice starting team. Despite this handicap they still managed to produce some outstanding wins against top class opposition such as victories over Llandovery College 39-25, Denstone College 23-5, Abingdon School 41-5, Stowe School 58-9 and Seaford College 33-0.

It took two special sides to defeat KGS, St. Michael's Dublin and Sedbergh School both overcame Kirkham in a decisive way. Captained by Kieran Wilkinson and ably assisted by Vice-Captains Sam Dugdale and Connor Doherty KGS tried to play attractive fifteen man rugby. All three of these players went on to represent England U.18's and were also joined by outstanding open-side flanker Teddy Leatherbarrow. These international honours were a reflection of the quality of the 1st XV. As well as these internationals KGS also produced four Northern Counties U.18 players in Alfie Topping, Matthew Ashcroft, Dan Kelly and Andrew Bulman as well as numerous Lancashire County and Sale Sharks players. A number of match reports can be found on the school website.

Sevens Season 2018

With a number of players missing from early tournaments KGS still managed to reach the quarter finals of Christ College Brecon and the Surrey Sevens which was a pleasing effort with young players such as Cole Potts and Will Gargett stepping up to the mark. As the more experienced players returned the 1st VII won the Society of Heads Seven's Tournament at Hill House School where KGS beat Ashville College, Newcastle School for Boys, Welbeck College and a talented Hill House School in the final. After this confidence booster KGS headed for The National Sevens at Rosslyn Park. The 1st VII played some outstanding sevens and were able to overcome Dulwich College, Moulton College and Oaklands College to reach the second day. Faced with an enormous challenge they continued to beat top opposition in Brighton College, Millfield School and St Paul's Catholic College to reach the semi-finals of this top schools tournament. Unfortunately they lost a close game against their nemesis of the season in Sedbergh School. However to reach the semi-final of such a tournament is an outstanding achievement. Captained by Teddy Leatherbarrow who was an inspirational figure who managed to give confidence to his young teammates to go to another level, with Vice-Captain Connor Doherty and fly-half Nathan Pope adding their experience.



1st XV



U15 XV



You've just gotta try...

When you feel like eating and drinking you might like to try one of the establishments at **Guy's Thatched Hamlet**, where the customer is KING!

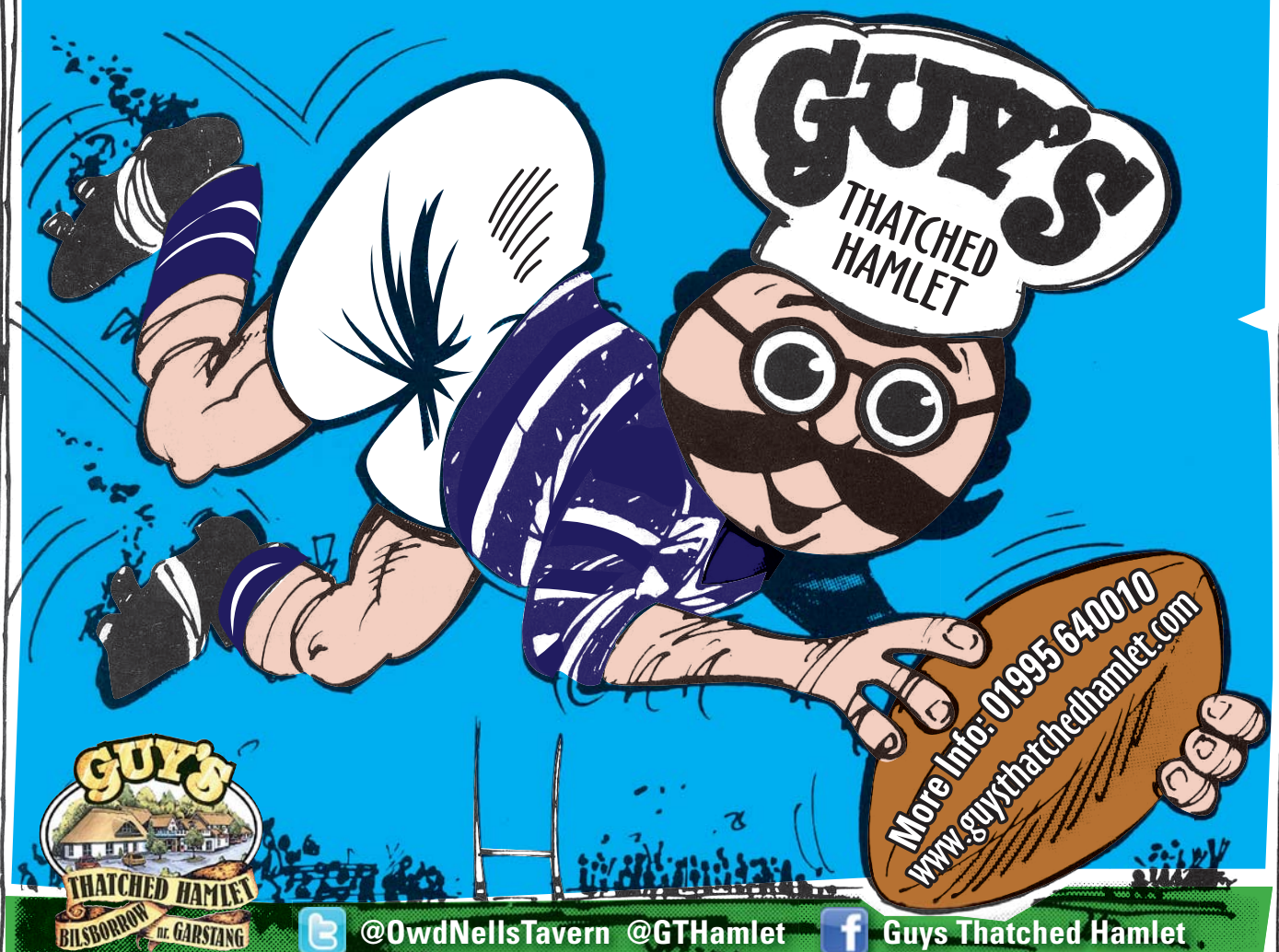
'OWD NELL'S CANALSIDE TAVERN Thatched Canalside Tavern that's open all day and everyday

GUY'S EATING ESTABLISHMENT RESTAURANT & PIZZERIA Our ever popular and informal eating and drinking establishment

GUY'S CANALSIDE LODGE En suite Canalside lodge offering Rooms with spa baths, family rooms etc.

BODDINGTONS PAVILION & BOWLING GREEN

THATCHED CRICKET PAVILION & CRICKET GROUND





KIRKHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL



ENGLAND U18 CAPS 2017-2018



Kieran Wilkinson

Sam Dugdale

Connor Doherty

Teddy Leatherbarrow



U14 XVA



U14 XVB



U13 XVA



U13 XVB



U12 XVA



U12 XVB



HOUSE SWIMMING GALA

In April, the annual Junior School House Swimming Gala took place at Kirkham Baths. Every pupil from J1 to J4 was selected to swim and there were fifty races in total. All pupils gave 100% for their houses in the individual and relay races. The atmosphere was fantastic throughout the gala but especially in the relays. In the final race of the day against the Staff team, the Kirkham House pupils' team were victorious! The overall results were as follows:

J1		
1st	Fylde	29½pts
2nd	School	28½pts
3rd	Preston	20pts
4th	Kirkham	19pts

J2		
1st	School	25pts
2nd	Kirkham	21pts
3rd	Preston	20pts
4th	Fylde	14pts

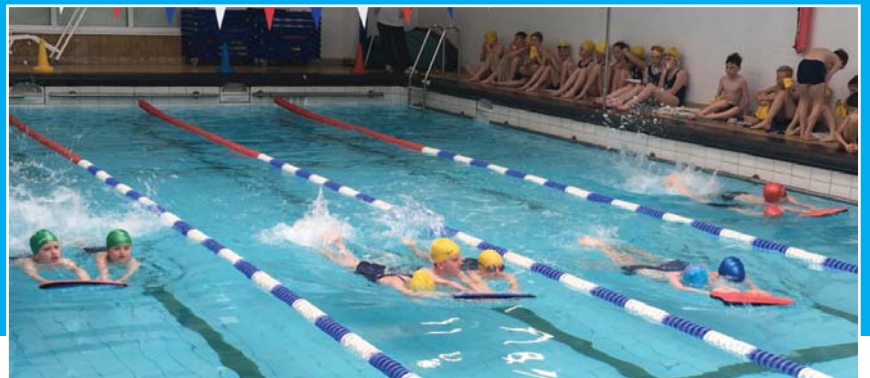
J3		
1st	Fylde	47pts
2nd	Kirkham	42pts
3rd	School	36pts
4th	Preston	25pts

J4		
1st	Kirkham	49pts
2nd	Fylde	41pts
3rd	Preston	36pts
4th	School	35pts

OVERALL TOTALS

1st	Fylde	131½pts
2nd	Kirkham	131pts
3rd	School	124½pts
4th	Preston	103pts

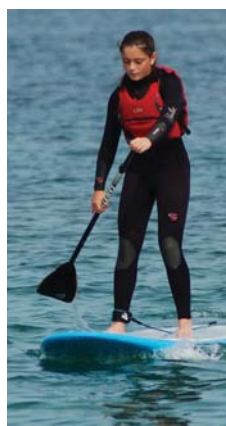
Fylde were crowned champions by the narrowest of margins which proves every point matters! Congratulations to Fylde, but well done to everyone for making it such a great event.



CHARITY TRIATHLON

The Kirkham Grammar Junior School Charity Triathlon took place in mid-April. Over forty pupils and staff took part in this annual event with all money raised going to Brian House Children's Hospice. The Triathlon started at 8am with the swim section at Kirkham Baths. All competitors swam ten lengths before heading off to UCLAN Sports Arena in Preston to complete a three mile cycle and one mile run. All competitors wore a special t-shirt for the event and received a medal after completing the Triathlon. Everyone performed superbly in all three disciplines and should be very proud of their achievements.








KIRKHAM
 GRAMMAR SCHOOL

 AIMING HIGH



HOCKEY SUCCESS

AT KGJS

There has been a lot of Hockey success for our U11s during the Spring Term. The U11 boys were crowned AJIS Hockey Champions, Lancashire Champions and finished third in the North of England. The U11 girls finished runners up in Lancashire, were fifth in the North of England and won the St Mary's Hall Hockey Tournament.

A number of J4 children have been attending Lancashire Junior Hockey Squad U13 training sessions over the winter months. Harvey Barber, Teddy Bowker, Harry Case, Bruno Bowker, James Shuttleworth, Georgia Nicholls, Lilly Jones, Claudia Allison and Evie Mellon were selected to represent Lancashire against other regional development squads such as Cumbria, East Cheshire, West Cheshire and Greater Manchester during the Spring term. Well done to you all!



GIRLS SENIOR SPORTS 2017/2018

KGS has enjoyed an extremely successful Hockey season being crowned Lancashire Champions in various age groups, Regional qualification at all three age groups (U14, U16 and U18) within the England Hockey National Competitions, North finals and North champions at U14 level resulting in qualification into the U14 National Hockey Finals at the Olympic Park in London. As weather condition, once again, stopped play the event had to be rescheduled to the beginning of May meaning an extended Hockey season for the U14 squad. The atmosphere at the Olympic Park was amazing and the brand new pitch was pretty good too! The girls were calm in their approach and well prepared to take on Cranleigh School, Sevenoaks School, Repton School, Hill House School, St George's College, Dean Close School and Framlington College.

In the U13 National Mini Hockey, KGS were unlucky not to qualify for National Finals for the second time in the season, losing out 0-1 to a strong Stockport Grammar School in the final and therefore finishing as runners up. Record numbers from KGS have been selected for the Lancashire age group teams with Beth Dowbiggin and Libby Baxter being selected for the England Hockey U15 performance centre. 1st XI Goal Keeper Hannah Lewthwaite has been identified by England Hockey as having high potential and is now enrolled on the Advanced Award for Sporting Excellence within the sports performance programme and 1st XI outfield player Charlotte McDonald has enjoyed success with Flyde HC's 1st XI playing in the Investec National League. The girls have worked hard throughout the season demonstrating real commitment to their training from U12 level right through to 1st XI Hockey. They take part in a tough and competitive fixture list, which takes them far and wide to the likes of Hymers College, Royal Grammar School Newcastle and even an annual trip to Millfield School, Somerset. The senior girls recently enjoyed a tour to Barbados playing against the Bajan National Squad and plans are in place for the Junior squads to Tour Holland next February.

The U12 Netball A and B teams enjoyed matches against local opposition. They experienced success against QEGS Blackburn and St Marys Hall whilst our U13 and U14 squads competed in an 'in house' competition developing their skills and understanding of competition play.

In the pool, KGS competed against Hulme Grammar School, Westholme, QEGS Blackburn, St Edwards College, Hutton Grammar and Bradford Grammar to name just a few. The mixed swim team also competed in the Stanley Cook Trophy at QEGS Blackburn against some of the top schools in the North. Martha Millar, Lily Yau, Kirsty Williams and Imogen Moss represented Lancashire. Kirsty Williams achieved Scottish National Qualification times and Imogen Moss gained qualification into the England swim team for an International meet in Luxemburg.

Cross Country has certainly been tough this season with the Fylde Coast event being cancelled due to terrible weather conditions. The girls battled on though and came a very creditable 2nd in the Stonyhurst Invitational race with Martha Millar and Talia Armstead leading the field home. A number of our runners were selected to represent the county at Witton Park, Blackburn in the County Championships in, once again, very tough conditions.

During the summer term, the Junior and Inter girls took part in the ESAA Track and Field Cup Regional finals at Robin Park, Wigan, after both teams were crowned Lancashire Champions at Stanley Park Arena a few weeks before. The Junior girls finished in first place which takes them through to the National Finals in Gateshead on Saturday 7 July 2018. The Inter girls did very well, finishing third overall in a very tough competition.

The Aegon U13 and U15 National Tennis competition continues, with both teams having won their respective leagues and being crowned Lancashire Champions. The U13s now progress to the Regional Finals, whilst the U15s join the Regional League.

With friendly fixtures in Rounders going on throughout the term, the KGS girls have been very busy throughout the summer months and are hoping for great success in all that they do.





U14XIhockey
National Hockey Finalists
Lancashire & North Champions





BARBADOS TRIP 2018

Woooo we're going to Barbados! All nineteen Senior Hockey players boarded the Virgin Atlantic flight at Manchester Airport to head off to Barbados for a weeks' tour of the island.

On arrival we headed to The Coral Mist Hotel where the girls dropped their bags and headed straight for the beach to the hotel BBQ.

The tour consisted of seven days on the sunny island with six fixtures and three excursions. It was the perfect chance for the younger players to bond with the older girls and get a taste of what Senior Hockey has to offer at KGS.

The girls played six Hockey matches in total and were victorious in five out of the six. Unfortunately the sixth game was cut short due to torrential rain which led to the pitch flooding. All of the girls coped well in very hot conditions and worked hard to ensure they came out with the right results. Amy Barrow lead the squad with confidence and was very proud of their performance against the Bajan Junior National side.

A day at the 'Boatyard' saw the girls have lots of fun on the inflatables in the sea, turtle watching and relaxing on the beautiful white sandy beach. Another excursion was the Tiami Catamaran Cruise. The catamaran sailed a few miles before anchoring down to allow the girls to swim with turtles and feed the fish! After lunch we continued to sail to Sandy Lane Beach where the rich and famous own exclusive properties. The captain pointed out properties belonging to the late Cilla

Black, Simon Cowell and the apartment block where Rhianna resides when on the island. A lot of the girls swam to shore to have a closer look and do a little celeb spotting whilst other snorkelled at the shipwreck.

The girls experienced a traditional Bajan night with dancing and limbo at Harbour Lights whilst 'in house' entertainment was provided at the hotel with bingo, quiz nights and other fun games.

A wonderful tour building friendships and enjoying time together as a team. The future is certainly positive for Hockey at KGS.







Picture the scene: a warm summer evening, children wearing balloon hats laughing, dancing and playing games whilst their parents and friends sip Pimms (photo below middle) and enjoy an artisan BBQ prepared by Mr Vevers and his catering team (photo below) and the backdrop of a jazz sextet. I am thrilled to be describing the idyllic evening that was our inaugural summer BBQ fundraising event, which took place at our Junior School in May.



This followed another first, a trip to the local Black Powder Gin distillery (photo right), where we enjoyed a relaxed evening of information, live music, gorgeous food and, of course, many gins. This event proved so popular that we have been asked to repeat the evening and plans are under way for a second trip to the distillery on the 30 November, so please watch your emails for further details.

Along with new, we are keen to uphold our traditions, with the most notable of these being our Summer Ball. We hosted our Gala Ball in the beautiful indoor marquee, adorned with amazing floral displays. Ticket prices were increased slightly this year to include a raffle

ticket, ensuring that every table had at least one winning member and that attendees were able to enjoy the usual games and fundraising activities without being asked for additional money throughout the night. Campbell Rowley provided a gourmet food experience and we danced the night away with the Deadbeats. Truly memorable!

However exotic the dancing from the dads, it cannot match the enthusiasm shown by the children at the KGJS disco held in February. One of my favourite events of the year and certainly one of the loudest!

Friend's lunches (formerly known as Ladies' lunches) have also been popular, with the summer term lunch being held at the White Tower Restaurant. The ticket included the offer of a white-knuckle ride on the new Icon roller coaster – before lunch obviously!

28th September 2018 will see an afternoon tea event at the Clifton Arms Hotel, Lytham, where a hat fashion show will entertain our guests. A lovely way to spend the afternoon.

Bags2school collections have been made in both the autumn and summer terms. We are arranging the next collection for a Monday and will be available to take in bags on the previous Saturday morning at school to tie in with children arriving for sports fixtures. Please be aware that any bag can be used to hold the donations and that the list of what can be sent is not restricted to clothing. A full inventory of acceptable items is available on the bags2school website.

Without doubt, one of our most requested events is the pre-owned uniform sale. Whilst we are keen to run a sale in the spring term, our stock levels are now very low. When you review your children's uniform during the summer holidays, please would you keep any



no longer suitable, and donate it to the Friends, through either school reception or the school shop.

How else can you help us?

Subscribe to our 100 club draw - £15.00 per number – drawn monthly. Details are on the Friends' page of the school website.

Register with easyfundraising.org.uk/FOKGS for your online shopping. This incurs no cost to you and raises money for us from all major retailers.

Join us at our events. Why?

Friends of Kirkham Grammar School are proud of the donations we make to school, which average £20,000 per year. Currently we are raising money for improvements to the Summerlee Hall, a facility accessed by all children, 3-18. Large donations are also supplemented by smaller sums around school; 6th form ball decorations, Santa's presents at the junior school parties, KGS Cookery School, Technology Dept display cabinet, accelerated reader scheme and author visits.

I cannot thank enough every member of the FKGS committee who work with such enthusiasm to make the fundraising events so successful. In addition, we have a group of helpers (often pupils & staff members) who support our events and assist with; auction/raffle prizes, muscle, arty preparation and extra pairs of hands and to whom we are so very grateful.

We are always looking for extra help – it's a great way to meet other parents. Whether it's a regular commitment, ad hoc time or a particular skill or donation, please just let us know and you will be made most welcome. Finally, thank you all for your support. We can't do it without you. Looking forward to seeing you next year!

Save the dates:

Monday 24 September 2018,
7.30pm FKGS AGM Old Hall.

Friday 28 September 2018,
12.00pm Friends Afternoon Tea,
Clifton Arms Hotel, Lytham.

Monday 19 November 2018,
8.15am Bag2School collection,
KGS & KGJS.

Friday 30 November 2018,
7.00pm Black Powder Gin Night.

Friday 7 December 2018,
4.00pm FKGS Christmas Fair,
Summerlee Hall.

Diary Dates



A-Level Results Day
Thursday 16 August 2018

GCSE Results Day
Thursday 23 August 2018

First Year Induction Day
Tuesday 4 September 2018

New School Year begins
Wednesday 5 September 2018

Senior School Speech Day
Thursday 13 September 2018

Open Afternoon
Sunday 23 September 2018

Old Kirkhamians' Association AGM &
Northern Reunion Dinner
Saturday 13 October 2018

Friends' Christmas Fair
Friday 7 December 2018

Young OKA Reunion at The Grapes, Wrea Green
Monday 17 December 2018

Senior School Entrance Examination
Saturday 2 February 2019



KIRKHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL

AIMING HIGH

SPORTING EXCELLENCE @ KGS



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