



the KIRKHAMIAN

DECEMBER 2015

KIRKHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER





WELCOME



Acting Head
Mrs Deborah Parkinson



Headmistress
Junior, Infants & Pre-School
Mrs Annette Roberts

Welcome to the new look Kirkhamian.

Inside you will find stories and features included from across the Foundation. Our idea, quite simple really:

One school, One publication!

From pre-school to life after school, we hope you enjoy this brief insight into the Autumn Term at KGS.



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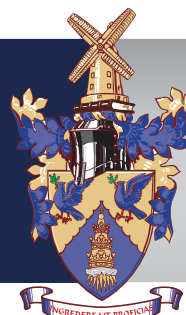
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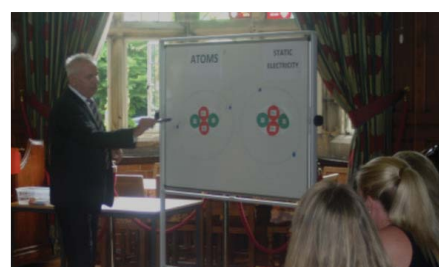
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25th Anniversary Celebrations



K.G.J.S.
25TH
ANNIVERSARY



Saturday 4 July marked KGJS' 25th Anniversary celebrations and the day began with a 'Back to School' event at the Senior School. One of KGJS' first teachers, Mr Milner, kindly returned to school to teach a fun and imaginative Science lesson to ten of the very first KGJS pupils, whilst past and present Heads, staff and Governors watched on! The session was an excellent way for former pupils and staff to be reunited. Following this lesson, a sumptuous lunch was served for all in the Recital Room.

In the afternoon, the celebrations continued over at the Junior School with a Garden Party for all past and present pupils and staff. Guests were entertained by The Mike Taylor Jazz Band and a saxophone player and the children were kept busy with a carousel and Punch and Judy Show. Tea and scones were served, with ice-cream for the children. Guests were able to have a tour around school and look at old school photographs on display in the school hall. The bar was provided by Guy's Thatched Hamlet and we would like to thank Mr Sean Wilkinson for arranging this and the ice cream.

Thank you to everyone who came along to help us celebrate this wonderful occasion! Here's to the next 25 years!!!

Highlights from the Acting Head's Annual Review.

KGS Prizegiving 2014 - 2015



Madam Chairman, your worships, honoured guests, ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls. It is a pleasure to add my welcome to our Annual Prize Giving where we celebrate another very busy year at KGS.

I am delighted that Ms Vicky Wickremaratne (photo below) has been able to join us on this special occasion.



The Friends have excelled this last year in not only organising excellent events (I particularly enjoyed the address to the Haggis at the Ceilidh by Mr Cairney) but also providing a steady stream of funds. The Friends are currently looking to purchase a much needed new mini-bus for the school and I would like to use this opportunity to say thank you for this and all that the Friends do to provide the extras that make such a positive difference to our school.



In this part of the proceedings we are going to reflect on our achievements over the last year. Before I do so, I think it worth emphasising that these achievements were only made possible by the hard work and care of all the staff in every area. To provide the all-important breadth of activity rewarded here tonight requires an extremely committed team and I am proud to be part of that team.

This year's A Level results arrived in August amidst speculation regarding grade deflation strategies. Indeed, it was reported that the proportion of A*/A grades dropped to 25.9%. This compared with 27% in 2011, the year in which more than a decade of rising top grades came to an end. Of course, upon reading this I had to check our own vital statistics and was reassured to find that our A*/A grades have actually increased by 8% in that time!

As you would expect from an Independent School with a strong work ethic and high aspirations for its pupils, our GCSE results were also notable for some outstanding successes. I have already mentioned some of these in my most recent letter to parents but could also have mentioned a staggering 50 A*/A grades amassed by Sian Atkinson, Cameron Hartley, Cara Townsend, Sammy-Jo Hollings and Jonathan Ryan!

Academic success is expected, as it is in any educational establishment, but here at KGS we believe that it is the rich co-curricular life of Sport,

Music, Drama, Combined Cadet Force, Duke of Edinburgh and much more, alongside the delivery of academic subjects, that fosters self-confidence and self-esteem in our pupils. We are mindful of the pressures that young people face today and our family ethos encapsulates how we support pupils and how they, in turn, support each other.

The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme is open to pupils from the Fourth Year upwards and continues to flourish at KGS under the leadership of Mrs Sutcliffe, allowing our pupils to fulfil their potential beyond the classroom and develop important skills for life and work. 81 awards were achieved last year, 40 at Bronze level, 26 at Silver and 15 at Gold. With over 70 pupils completing their expeditions in July, 21 at Gold level, we look forward to even more awards being achieved in the coming months.



The History department, as part of a commemoration project involving a committee of staff and pupils from across the school, started the year with a very successful WW1 themed cross-curricular day. Mr Duncan then organised a series of lectures to be delivered by world-renowned experts in their field. The first lecture in this series, which took place last term, was given by Professor Jay Winter from Yale University and was a sell out success. The next lecture, on Thursday 1 October is by historian and BBC producer, Richard Van Emde and promises to be another unmissable event!

The Art department took third year pupils to the Imperial War Museum and Lowry Theatre for the Warhorse production, which inspired further artwork on a WW1 theme. As always the exhibition of GCSE and A Level Fine Art and Photography in June was outstanding. To those of you considering Art in the future – make sure you go along to event next year, you will find it to be inspirational! This theme was also continued in the Music Department for their Spring Concert, with tunes from WW1 intermingled with West End musicals, renaissance and classical choir music and laid back jazz! The orchestra, string group, concert band, choir and individual pieces thrilled the audience with some very accomplished performances. As always the annual House Music Festival was very popular, attracting over 400 entries! And I should tell you - Kezia Taylor gave Elliott Gaston-Ross a run for his money, in a sensational final!



A real highlight for the Languages Department (all those lovely trips abroad aside!) was their Language in Life Conference attended by an old boy, Mr Tom Russell. Having studied and taught French and German both in the Army and civilian life he was well placed to talk to our pupils about language skills and world travel. The Latin department happened upon old boy, Paul Frodsham when visiting Hadrian's Wall in June.

Paul is a renowned archaeologist who has written books about the Wall and the Emperor Hadrian. Mrs Long tells me that our most recent OKAs Jess Riley and Elsie Linley have enjoyed their first year of Classics at Edinburgh and Oxford and that Lucy Fielding graduated from Oxford this summer with her degree in Classics.



On another occasion, we were delighted to welcome old boy, Dr Leon Rathbone into school to talk to Chemistry students about his time working with renowned biochemist Sir Hans Krebs. It certainly seemed to inspire Charlotte Muir, Siva Dwarampudi, Mihir Parmar and Charlotte Cross who successfully gained places at university to study medicine and veterinary science this year.

The Physics Olympics Cup (hosted by Bolton School) was won by a team from KGS and the Biology Department enjoyed success in the International Biology Olympiad, a competition attracting over 6000 entries. Our U6 students gained 2 silver medals, 4 bronze and 5 certificates of commendation. Not to be left out, the Maths department also sought to stretch it's students through competition... and so it was that a sixth form team consisting of Amber Reid, Andrew Anderson, Samantha Loo and Michael Lewthwaite was entered into the Senior Maths Challenge. They made it all the way to the finals held in London with their research on 'the mathematics of the Solar system' highly praised by the judges. This event offered the opportunity to mix with the top mathematicians from across the country. Politics student Ed Lavelle spent time in London also – although he was there spending a week with his local MP and I've been reliably informed by Mr Melling that another politics student, Will King, played his part in helping to get Seema Kennedy elected as the new MP for South Ribble!

The school has a crucial role in preparing youngsters for the next stage of their education or training which is why our programme of careers education is coupled with the emphasis on extra-curricular activities and developing team working and leadership skills. Mrs Hargreaves worked tirelessly to arrange our inaugural Careers Fair in April. Opened by Mark Menzies MP (photo right), the fair presented a superb opportunity for students and parents to engage with some of the country's leading employers across a wide range of sectors including commerce, engineering, construction, law, wealth management, media, medicine, dentistry, health care professionals, the Armed Forces and many others.

Not to be out done, the PE Department enjoyed many successes last year including:

U12,U13,U15 and U18 Lancashire Hockey Champions. U13,U14,U15 Girls were Fylde Coast Champions with the junior and inter girls making it to the National Athletics finals in Bedford and the inter boys team made it to the finals of the English Schools Track and Field Cup. In tennis, the second year boys team won the Lancashire A league. In rugby our U15s and U14s were crowned Lancashire Champions with the U14 side going on to win the Sedburgh 7s. Our U12s were unbeaten all season winning the Manchester GS Tens and the Audenshaw 7s. Following a season in which our 1st XV were unbeaten with memorable wins against Tonbridge School and Sedburgh, they were nominated as one of the top six schools for Team of the Year at the National Rugby Awards; attended by Mr Lyon and last year's Captain Connor Wilkinson at Twickenham in September.

All this following the team's return from their tour of Canada! The future of KGS rugby certainly looks bright and it is pleasing to see so many OKAs playing at the highest level since leaving us. Most notably, Kieran Brookes and Richard Wigglesworth - who played together in the recent England Six Nations squad, and are in the squad for the Rugby World Cup which starts tomorrow!

The Combined Cadet Force continues to be strong at KGS. 324 cadets, three field days in the year, 2 overnight camps and a 20 mile fundraising yomp thrown in! Unbelievably, the winners (although I didn't realise it was a race!) Max Watson, Nathan Wood and Will Kollard ran the route, achieving a time of just under three hours. The pinnacle of the CCF training programme is the 8 day annual summer camp (photo left), which was held at Warcop this year. Rachel Horsfield and Charlotte Muir became top shots in the Brigade shooting competition and Joe Teasdale was recommended by the Brigadier for being one of the most outstanding cadets on camp.

Camping, believe it or not, was an event last term for members of the Scribblers Club, who somehow managed to pitch their tents in the Lawrence Pavilion for a library sleepover event. I did not envy Mrs Latham sleeping on the hard wood floor all night! This followed another sleepover event held earlier in the year – in the Library. As I understand it, they have yet to discover the library ghost! Participation in the BBC School News Report, Live News Day, also proved to be a most successful and enjoyable event.



We finish our review with the exploits of the Drama department. I must say, I have always been amazed by the quality of the school productions here at KGS and so it was most pleasing to learn that this year's Edwardian production of *The Tempest* (enjoyed by over a thousand people) had been nominated for a National Operatic and Dramatic Award (NODA). As every year, over a hundred of our pupils took part either acting, dancing or performing as part of the live band. Congratulations to Mason Forrest, whose role as scheming Sebastian won him the Best Supporting Actor award, to Ms Barrie for winning Best Director and to all concerned for winning Best Youth production and Best Overall Production – beating all of the adult groups in the area! KGS was then entered in the North West finals; a vast region stretching up to the borders of Scotland, down to Wales and across to Yorkshire covering some 700 productions. Again, Mason Forrest was awarded Best Supporting Actor and Elyssia Cockshott gained recognition as Best Lead Actor (photo right).

Inevitably personnel change, and while the school marches on it is sad to say goodbye to some of our colleagues:



Mrs Hodgkinson (below), who introduced in-house catering to KGS in 1991, retired after 17 years of loyal service to the school. Although this roughly equates to a staggering 3 million mid-day meals, it is the Kirkham Shortbread that proved a real winner!



Mr Callister (above) retired this year. He'd joined KGS in 1995 and was a teacher of Physics and Electronics. His name was probably more synonymous with exploits outside the classroom, attaining the rank of Squadron Leader and O/C CCF in 2012. The Duke of Edinburgh Award is very popular here at KGS – I hope that the healthy participation and award figures were of some comfort to Mr Callister who was instrumental in its introduction at KGS and is here in the audience tonight.

Mr Hawkes (below) is currently enjoying the French Alpine Idyll. He was Head of English before retirement having been with us for 16 years although for me, is best remembered for his full biker outfit sported on own clothes days!



Mr Wheatland (below middle) left us for pastures new. I am sure that he will relish the challenge offered by his new position as Head of Physics at Marlborough College.

Mrs James (below right), best known for her keen eye with respect to Open Events preparation and her support for the Friends, left KGS in September after 16 years of loyal service to the school.



Senior Prefects

2015-2016



SCHOOL CAPTAINS 2015/2016

Elizabeth Brocklehurst

I came to KGS from Carter's Charity Primary School and although I knew no one, I soon settled in and made friends. Since I joined the school with a music scholarship I have become a member of the music society and play in almost every ensemble in the school either on my trombone or violin. I annually participate in House Competitions such as the House Writing and the House Quiz and have been a part of Kirkham's House Choir. I have also taken part in three school plays, as both an actor and a musician, and took the lead in *The Tempest* for the Shakespeare Schools Festival. Since 4th year I have loved the CCF and this past summer I was made a Flight Sergeant in the RAF section. I have also completed my Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh Awards and am well on the way to finishing my Gold award. I intend to study English Literature with French at university and have four offers.

Grady Rawlinson

My school career started in Kirkham Grammar Junior School and I am currently studying Mathematics, Physics and Geography at A level. I am planning to study Geography at university and would like to pursue a career in the study of the natural world. I have a keen interest in musical theatre and have performed in shows such as *Miss Saigon*, *Les Miserable* and *Phantom of the Opera*. While in school, I have been involved with a variety of activities including the Combined Cadet Force, 2ndXV Rugby and the School Choir.





"Have fun, work hard and enjoy your time here. Take advantage of all the wonderful opportunities that come your way because you are a Kirkham Grammar School pupil".

SPEECHNight SEPTEMBER 2015

Kirkham Grammar School's annual Prize giving and Speech Day was held, as usual, in Preston Guild Hall on the evening of Thursday September 17th and was as always a chance to look back and celebrate the events and achievements of the past year. An audience, consisting of the whole school, plus parents, grandparents, guests and invited civic dignitaries, heard the traditional reports from the Chair of Governors, Mrs Rosemary Cartwright and Acting Head Mrs Deborah Parkinson, detailing the many and varied achievements of pupils over the previous year. The audience was then entertained by the School's splendid Concert Band, whose superb rendition of a medley from Jersey Boys had the feet of even the most sedate of guests surreptitiously tapping along. Prizes and trophies for the academic year 2014-2015 were then presented to a host of proud pupils of all ages, including a large group of those who had just left the Upper Sixth and are about to embark on university courses. This year's chief guest and presenter was Ms Vicky Wickremaratne, who left KGS in 1990 and has gone on to a successful career as a lawyer: she is a partner in the London firm Simmons and Simmons, specialising as an employment lawyer. In her address to pupils and guests, she recalled her days as a Boarder at KGS, and referred to the many ways in which her experiences at school, both academic and extra-curricular, have helped her in her career.

With her characteristic mix of seriousness and ebullient good humour, Vicky spoke of the value of teamwork, independence and a willingness to take calculated risks, then left pupils with some clear and down-to-earth advice: "Make the most of these wonderful teachers. Be a good egg: get involved and be kind to each other. And then, when it's time for you leave, say thank you to your parents and your teachers for giving you this wonderful education and go out into the world and give it some welly."





Headmistress' Report

It would be wrong of me not to begin my report for this new look Kirkhamian without mentioning our 25th Birthday celebrations this year. Saturday 4 July marked the Silver Anniversary of Kirkham Grammar Junior School. To celebrate this very special occasion, all pupils and staff, both past and present, were invited to join us for a Garden Party at the Junior School, as well as meeting up with friends from days gone by. The school opened its doors in September 1990 and, I hope that you will agree, has been thriving ever since. The Garden Party was for all the family and there were lots of events to keep the children entertained. I was delighted to see so many Kirkhamians attending, both young and old, making it a very memorable day!



As always, it has been wonderful to welcome new staff to KGJS. At Easter, we were delighted when Mrs Gill Simpson joined our team as our specialist Modern Foreign Languages teacher. It has been lovely to witness the impact that she has already had on the speaking of French around school. I am delighted that Miss Nicole Kitt has returned after giving birth to Teddy, while Miss Hannah Fountain joins us permanently after covering her maternity leave. Mrs Alison Taylor joined the office team in January and it feels like she has always been a part of our school family. Added to this, I am delighted that Mrs Helen Shuttleworth has taken up her role as Deputy Head and Mrs Kate Aldeen as Infant Co-ordinator from September. We also welcomed Mr Stuart Lewis as Assistant Head and we wish them all well in their new roles.

One of the great characters of KGJS retired at Easter. Mr Barrie Edgar has given remarkable service to the school and he will be fondly remembered and sorely missed. He was our longest serving member of staff; starting as the school was formed in 1990. He was a passionate supporter of all that goes on in school, combining a deep love of sport with a passion for Art. We thank him for 25 years of inspirational commitment to the pupils of KGJS. Barrie's wife, Pauline, who has also been part of our family for many years, retired at October half-term to spend more time with Barrie. Pauline has been an outstanding teacher and Head of Infants and will again be missed. We wish them both a very happy and healthy retirement. Mrs Ann Giddings, who has been working in the school office for 18 years, also decided that it was time to put her feet up and retired at October half-term. We wish her a very happy retirement, too.



The world around our children is changing more rapidly than it ever has before. Our Early Years children are competent with equipment and technology that did not even exist just five years ago, conceived and developed almost alongside the children themselves. By the time our Year 6 leavers graduate from university in just 10 years' time the cycle of change will have gained further momentum. By the time our Reception children reach the age of 21, who knows what experiences the world will be offering. Good or bad, our children need to be equipped for these experiences and having a positive view of themselves will be paramount to them succeeding in this rapidly changing world.

With this challenging thought in mind, we have spent the past few years developing a school ethos and curriculum which takes the best of new innovations to enrich each child's learning journey, adding layers to the traditions and skills that lead to excellent teaching. We are doing our very best to ensure that all our children hold a positive view of themselves and are ready to approach the future with self-confidence.

Academically, it is a joy for me to see so many children showing me their work and genuinely being proud of their achievements. While visiting classrooms, the boys and girls are eager to tell me what they have been doing and the purpose behind their learning. I have no doubt that we have succeeded in offering our children the skills and opportunities to have a positive view of themselves. We encourage all our pupils to aim for success and be determined to achieve their best at all times.

However, education is not just about academic success. Confidence to share their views with others is hugely important in a world where we should be encouraging children to be positive about themselves. By making the Performing Arts a valuable part of what we offer at KGJS, our children are given the opportunity to step into a role or pick up an instrument and perform.

Every child from Early Years to J4 has taken part in numerous performances this year from outstanding class assemblies to Christmas productions, with the Infant Nativity displaying great talent at such a young age. Drama Club and lessons are as popular as ever with many children entering into the LAMDA examinations and achieving outstanding results. Musical recitals have taken place in assemblies and our increasingly popular Inter House Music and Drama competition took place at the end of last term with nearly a hundred children taking part. Our main production of Beauty and The Beast in March cannot go without a mention. The children all excelled, loving their performances, learning how to step into a role, building on their positive view of themselves and, of course, making all of us very proud of them, too. I was delighted to hear that we have recently been nominated for six NODA awards with the ceremony taking place on Saturday 16 January.



The school ski trip to Switzerland at Easter for thirty five boys and girls was a wonderful adventure for them all. Each and every child gained self-confidence because parents put their nervousness to one side to allow their child to explore the world independently.

At this point, I think it is only fitting that I talk briefly about our charity work. Raising money for those not so well off as ourselves is an important Junior School focus, none more so than this year. Our links with Nepal and the visit of Dawa Sherpa and two Nepalese teachers to KGJS was truly special. A huge thank you to all the parents for supporting 'Classrooms in the Clouds', a charity which is very dear to my heart and became more so following the tragedy in Nepal earlier this year. How special it was to have the whole Junior School community come together to record a CD and to Skype our good friend Dawa in Kathmandu at the same time.

Children throughout the year have come up with some wonderful ways to raise money, both individually and in groups. Pupils as young as five and six have emptied their piggy banks and brought me their savings or organised small games like 'Guess the name of the Teddy', basketball games and word searches. A little closer to home, we have been able to help Macmillan Cancer Support, Brian House and, of course, Pear Tree Special School. Our pupils never cease to amaze me with their wonderful consideration for others who may be in need!

How much self-confidence this all creates was easy to see on our Open Afternoon. The J4 children showed our visitors around the school admirably and charmed everyone with their honesty, eloquence and enthusiasm. This term I would like to make special mention of all our School Officials, but in particular to our Head Boy and Head Girl, Thomas Shuttleworth and Poppy Kearsley.

Having a positive view of themselves is also encouraged by the wide variety of sporting opportunities offered. House competitions in all areas of Sport means that every child has the opportunity to represent their house and feel part of



a successful team. The Swimming Gala, Cross Country and Sports Day are three of the highlights of our House Sporting calendar. Boys and girls have represented the school this term in Hockey, Rugby, Netball, Cross Country, Indoor Athletics and Swimming. We have competed at U8, U9, U10 and U11 level in a variety of these sports and every J3 and J4 boy and girl has had the opportunity to represent their school. Special mention must go to the Hockey teams, when earlier this year both boys and girls were crowned Lancashire and North West Champions as well as North of England runners-up. Our younger teams have also had some great victories in both Rugby and Hockey. Our Cross Country results seem to get better every year. In October, we were once again crowned AJIS Champions in both the U10 Boys and U11 Girls sections with over 125 children in each race! News that our girls also won the St Mary's Hall and the Sedbergh Cross Country Championships this term was a real highlight of the term. The team of Hattie and Bo Madden, Dani and Amy Merrick, Talia Armstead, Tillie Martin, Olivia Aberra and Alexa Anderson deserve special congratulations for this success. The U11 Boys also achieved success in the St Mary's Hall Championships, winning first place after originally being awarded second. Our Sports Days, which were held at the end of the Summer Term, were an excellent example of team work, good sportsmanship and also recognised the children's natural talents which were enhanced by hard work. Teaching our children to value each other's talents is as important for us as developing individual talents. In the real world, it is clear we cannot all be Mo Farrah or Jessica Ennis but we can all be inspired by them.

So academically, creatively and in sport we are offering every child the opportunity for personal success. We feel that with our fast changing world our children need to be even more aware of the world around them and to be equipped with the skills to deal with change.

I am sure you will agree, the Junior School has been a hive of activity and I am so proud of all the children's achievements and efforts. We now look forward to 2016 and, no doubt, another busy and successful year. Such is the diversity of life at the Junior School, sometimes it is difficult to keep up with everything that goes on. However, this certainly leads to an exciting and fulfilling life!

Mrs Annette Roberts
Headmistress Kirkham Grammar Junior School

KGJS Prizegiving 2015

On Friday 3 July, our annual Prizegiving was held over at the Senior School in the MPH. The whole school, staff, parents and friends, gathered together for one of the highlights of the academic year.

The afternoon began with a few words from the Senior School Headmaster, followed by performances from the KGJS Instrumental Ensemble. Mrs Roberts gave her speech, which included a presentation looking back through our busy school year. During Mrs Roberts' speech, the 13 children beautifully sang the well-known track by Bruno Mars, 'Count on Me'. Part way through the afternoon, a selection of J4 children recalled their memories from their time at KGJS, followed by the presentation of the prizes and trophies by Mrs Karin Kelly, the first KGJS Headmistress.

Head Boy Gregor Anderson and Head Girl Agatha Barker-Mill gave a vote of thanks and the penultimate performances were from the School Choir and Boys' Choir, performing 'Friends to the End' and 'Beauty and the Beast'. The whole school then finished the afternoon by performing 'The Prayer'.

Afterwards, a delicious buffet was served for all the J4 children, their parents and invited guests in the Senior School dining room. This occasion was a fitting conclusion to the J4 children's time at KGJS who moved on to new adventures in September!





N E P A L



In June, the whole of KGJS learnt the song, 'The Prayer' to raise money for the Nepal Earthquake Fund, a charity very close to our hearts!

Along with Mr Ian Hooper and James Edgar, the whole school community came together to record this inspirational track.

Before the recording we skyped our friend, Dawa in Nepal and four children were given the opportunity to ask him questions about life after the earthquake. This also gave Dawa a chance to listen live to the pre-performance rehearsal.

The final recording was a magnificent success and the whole school was able to listen to it at the end.

We would like to thank Mr Hooper, James Edgar and the recording team for giving up their time to help put this together.



Charity Triathlon

On Saturday 20 June, thirty pupils and eight members of staff took part in a Triathlon to raise money for Brian House. This was open to all J3 and J4 children and involved swimming 10 lengths of Kirkham Baths, running one mile on the track and cycling three miles around the Preston Sports Arena track. The weather wasn't particularly kind to us but the children did not let this stop them, with all giving 100% effort in each discipline. Afterwards, all the participants received a medal.

Two weeks after the triathlon, Mrs Wright from Brian House came into KGJS to present the school with an award for raising money for Brian House at the Reindeer Run last year. During the presentation we presented her with a cheque for £1,717.50 which had been raised by our KGJS Triathlon team. Well done to all who took part and contributed in raising this outstanding amount of money for such a worthwhile cause.



Harvest for Streetlife

On Friday 9 October, Reverend Bunday came into school to deliver a wonderful Harvest Assembly to the whole school.

The children and parents donated an overwhelming amount of gifts, which were again this year given to Streetlife.

Streetlife offers information, advice, support and counselling for young people who are homeless, at risk of homelessness or who have recently been homeless. They also provide advice and support for young people who have drug, alcohol or mental health issues and they have an eight bed emergency nightshelter for young people aged 16-25.

Thank you to all the children, parents and grandparents who generously donated gifts for this worthwhile cause.



Macmillan Coffee Morning

September's Macmillan Coffee Morning was a huge success!

The cupcakes were both stunning and delicious and everyone enjoyed looking round the beauty, jewellery and card stalls, as well as having a catch up with friends over a cup of tea or coffee! The children all enjoyed a cake and a drink throughout the morning, too.

Thank you to parents and friends for supporting this very worthwhile cause. An amazing £474.83 was raised!



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SOUTH WEST USA

GEOGRAPHY TOUR 2015



CALIFORNIA REPUBLIC



Our first day in San Francisco provided the tourists with their first opportunity to see San Francisco in the daytime, and they were not disappointed. The first item on our programme was a visit to San Francisco Bay and the island of Alcatraz. The short ferry ride provided impressive views of the city, with the striking images of the Bay Bridge, the city skyline and views of the iconic Golden Gate Bridge. The afternoon gave everybody the chance to visit Pier 39, one of the main tourist areas in the city.

The second day began with a guided bus tour of the city, starting downtown and eventually heading up to the Twin Peaks at the highest point of the city. In the afternoon we headed to one of America's most famous landmarks; the Golden Gate Bridge. Considered to be one of the seven wonders of the modern world, the bridge opened in 1937 and spans 1.7 miles across the straits below. The Kirkhamians were given the opportunity to walk across and the experience proved to be one they would never forget. The vibrant San Francisco

community was clearly visible from the bridge, with plenty of different types of boats and planes passing us by as we were completing our walk. The spectacular views which the experience provided highlighted why the city of San Francisco is such a popular place to live. Looking upwards at the 746ft high towers, it was understandable when we discovered that 80,000 miles of wire are stretched over the construction. A truly unique experience.

After the urban landscape of San Fran, it was great for the tourists to get a break from the hustle and bustle of the city, by visiting Yosemite National Park. The horizon changed from bridges and buildings to trees and hills, and although most of our tourists had studied Yosemite, no amount of words could capture the scale of the park as we got off the coach to view El Capitan and the Half Dome. After lunch at the foot of El Capitan, the group were treated to another of Mr Harrison's lectures; this time we discussed the theories studied in class and how they applied to the physical examples standing before us.





Skywalk

The third day we left behind the greens of Yosemite and found ourselves in the middle of Mojave Desert. This vast, seemingly unchanging landscape provided lots of evidence of water action such as incisions on the hillsides and evidence of water erosion. There were also pools of water from recent floods too. The arid landscape was so closely incised by stream channels in places that classic Badlands Topography could be seen by our tourists. The venue hosted the inaugural Death Valley 'Rugby 7's' Tournament. Captains Hannah Fingleton and Olivia Gornall marshalled their teams well, but they missed out marginally on 'Player of

the Tournament', with Lauren Bailey receiving the award! As far as we are aware, this is the only Rugby 7's tournament to take place below sea level!

The following morning we found ourselves in Las Vegas from wherehopped and headed to the Hoover Dam, which is located on the state border between Nevada and Arizona. The hydroelectric construction was completed in 1936 during the Great Depression and is over 700ft tall! The group visited two viewpoints of the dam and were able to see how the Colorado River is managed

to help control natural flooding that once occurred in the area.

After lunch, the tour continued into Arizona towards the Grand Canyon. Shaped by the Colorado, the valley's steep sides and distinguished features provided a breath taking view for our students. The pupils were able to step along the glass walkway which overlooks Eagle Point (so called because of the shaping of the rock along the ridge). Our pupils showed their nerve as they walked over the canyon, which at the deepest point is around 2600ft. It is fair to say some of us did not hang around too long on the walkway!



South West USA

GEOGRAPHY TOUR 2015



● PLACES VISITED



0 100 200 Miles





The next day the group packed together their things and moved towards Los Angeles. Our destination was 6 hours away, but with a half time break on Route 66, the time soon passed. Upon arrival in the City of Angels we met our guide and were given a tour of LA. Our first stop was at a naturally occurring tar pit which exists in one of the public parks. After a brief explanation from Mr Harrison about the significance of tectonic movement in the area, the group continued through to the affluent areas of Rodeo Drive and Beverly Hills. Our guide then gave us time to visit the walk of fame and walk in the shoes of some of the stars of Hollywood.

As our journey drew to an end, the penultimate day was spent at Universal Studios in Hollywood this gave all of the tourists the chance to wind down after an intense schedule earlier in the week. This occupied the group for the majority of the day, and was a great way to finish off what had been an amazing trip. The final day was a brief visit to Santa Monica Boulevard, which is the end of the world famous Route 66. After a quick bite to eat and a short walk it was time to head to the airport and start our long journey from the coast of California back to Kirkham.

Finally, on behalf of all of the students and staff I would like to pass on our thanks and appreciation to Mrs John for all her efforts in organising and running such a successful and memorable trip.

G. S. Partington





CHILDREN of the World

Within the Infants and Pre-School, the children have been looking at themselves as being 'unique' but also understanding their place in the world as 'many'. Together, they looked at a map of the world and made comparisons between their lives and other countries.

Each class from Pre-School to I3, carried out some exciting activities linked with their own curriculum to explore multiculturalism.

In Pre-School, the children talked about England and the kind of things we do in our own country. They had scones with strawberries and cream and a cup of tea. They travelled to India and dressed up as belly dancers, danced to Indian music and had a taste of Indian food. They looked at photographs of life in Spain, had a taste of home-made Spanish food, dressed up in Spanish costumes and danced to Flamenco songs. They also worked very hard to prepare the posters and menus for their Indian Sweet Shop.

The I1 classes explored fruits from around the world, linked with our own harvest traditions in the UK. They explored some unusual fruits and enjoyed tasting them.

In I2, Africa has been explored through Art and Music. The children

looked at the story of 'Handa's Surprise' and explored the fruits and animals from the book. They created some wonderful landscape pictures, as well as producing 'African lady' pastel portraits and brightly painted pottery. They danced to the African beat and choreographed their own dances. They also learned various African themed songs.

I3 thoroughly enjoyed learning all about India for Multicultural week. They looked at different Indian Festivals as well as traditional Indian celebrations. They had a fantastic time creating their own Henna designs on Purple Mash and even tried some out on Miss Fountain!

This half term theme culminated with a wonderful multicultural retirement meal at Guys Thatched Hamlet. We had an amazing 'Italian' experience and we were treated to an exceptional meal beginning with cocktails, breadsticks, a main course of our choice and Italian ice-cream with sprinkles! The children were impeccably behaved and were a credit to the school. Thank you to all the staff at Guy's for making our visit so memorable.



I1 Trip to Park View



I3 Trip to Towneley Hall



THE GREAT WAR 100



BATTLEFIELDS TOUR 2015



They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:

Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.

At the going down of the sun and in the morning

We will remember them.”



From: For the Fallen by Robert Laurence Binyon

The above words will resonate across the country this weekend. They will be uttered at cenotaphs, churches, school assemblies and by those serving in the Armed Forces. These words allow generations to pay respect to those who fell in many conflicts, but to remember especially the centenary of World War 1.

As we move into the second year of the centenary commemorations of the Great War more and more families are becoming aware of relatives who went to fight and never returned. Many dead, the fate of many unknown. The ages that men enlisted to fight were very young, often boys who today would still be at school pre-GCSEs.

This poignancy was made apparent to pupils of Kirkham Grammar School who spent part of their half-term holiday retracing the steps of many soldiers around Ypres and the Somme. Indeed, they followed in the footsteps of many Old Kirkhamians, several of whom did not return.

On a misty October morning in the Somme, 41 pupils walked silently up the ridge at Thiepval, over-whelmed by the incredible structure, which at 45m, looms over the tops at trees and dominates the surrounding landscape. The monument is inscribed with 72,194 names of officers and men from United Kingdom and South African

forces who died. More than 90 percent of those commemorated died in the 1916 Battles of the Somme between July and November 1916 and have no known grave. As the mist began to lift the pupils were able to focus on the scale of the loss. They were drawn to two out the thousands of names: H Wane and J Murray. These were Old Kirkhamians, pupils at the same school in the same location as the visiting historians. They will have studied in some of the same classrooms, walked the same corridors, but how their lives differed. This discovery made the past almost tangible for the pupils – the row upon row of white head stones now became more





clearly representative of people: pupils, brothers, cousins, sons, friends. Men from the same town, village – even street as our pupils were here. Hayward Wane lived in Ansdell on Commonsides, John Murray was from Kirkham – ‘Annandale’ on Station Road.

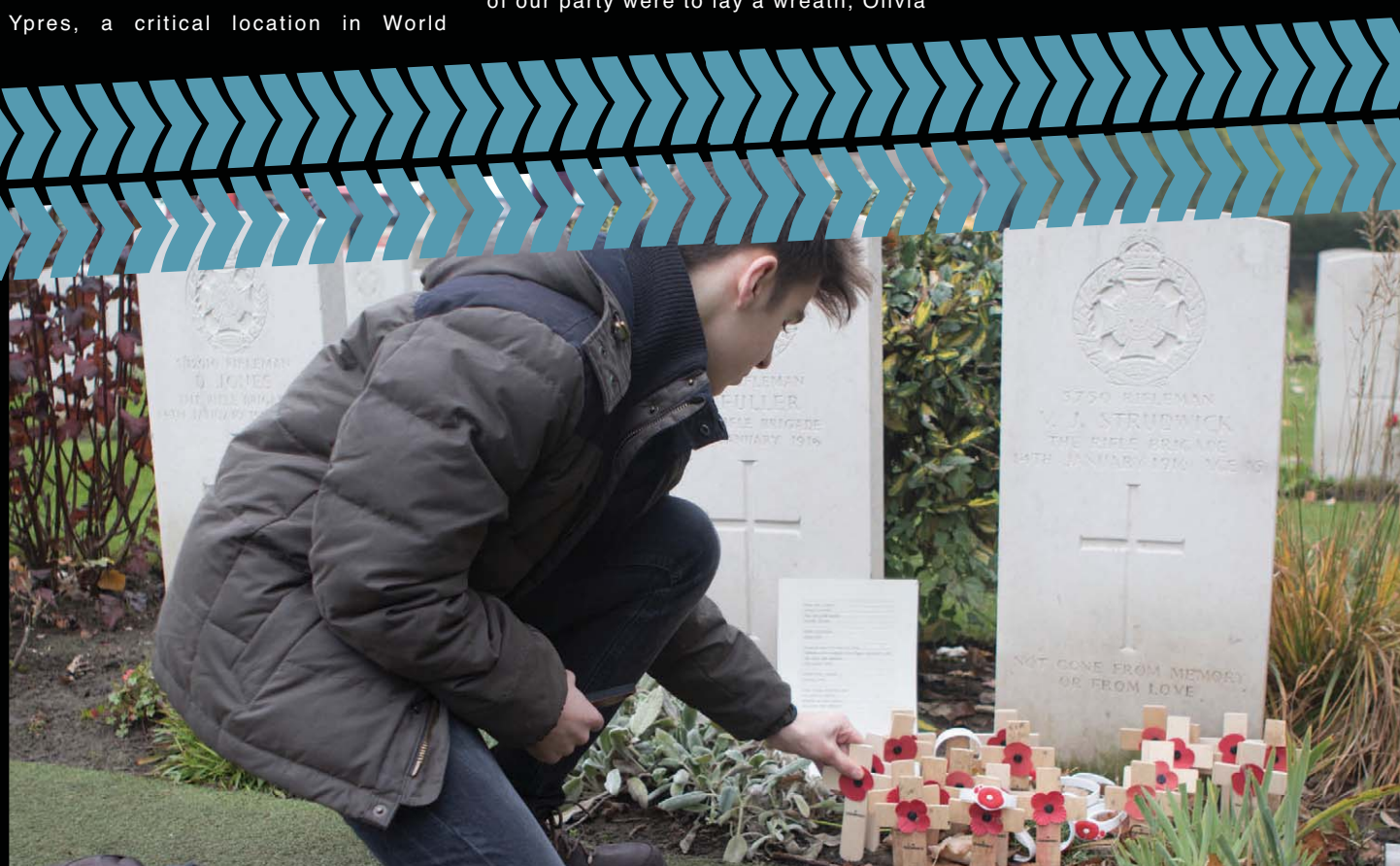
At another cemetery, Essex Farm, the pupils were moved to find the youngest soldier killed in the war – he was just 15 years old. This was younger than the majority of the party, and many paid their respects at his headstone.

Ypres, a critical location in World

War I is now disarmingly pretty. The architecture restored to the pre-war plan. It is a typical Belgian town, with café bars and chocolate shops a-plenty. Yet, perhaps the most prominent architectural feature is the Menin Gate. Here there are 54,389 more names of the United Kingdom and Commonwealth departed etched into the stone. Every night of the year the town of Ypres remembers the fallen. The last post is sounded and wreaths are laid. In the twilight we assembled at the Gate, humbled in midst of such a setting. Four of our party were to lay a wreath, Olivia

Billington, Charles Bradbury, Guy Haythornthwaite and Eleanor Moss, an honour for the school. The road was closed and the town was silent until strains of The Last Post cut through the air and a haunting melodic setting of Binyon’s poem gave the crowd chance to reflect on what had been a century ago.

In travelling around the Ypres and Sommes regions it was clear just how devastating the war had been. Belgium’s fertile fields were interspersed with



THE GREAT WAR 100

BATTLEFIELDS TOUR 2015



cemeteries of white head stones and carefully placed poppies. Whilst the scale of the cemetery at Tyne Cot is large, it is perhaps the smaller cemeteries that show just how widespread the battles were. At Sheffield Memorial Park, the commemoration is to the Pals Battalions, and especially poignant to our visit were the Accrington Pals and the Chorley Pals. Mr Tim Miller, Head of History at KGS, gave each pupil a colour coded name representing a soldier from the war, which put into context how streets and towns were affected by the loss of men.

The damp condition of our visit was probably similar to the weather of one hundred years ago. At the Passchendaele Museum, Sanctuary Wood (Hill 62 Museum) and The Ulster Tower, there were trenches that could be explored. Kitted out in wellington boots and with modern waterproofs a fifteen minute visit was quite manageable, but the prospect of having to stay there for days on end gave another perspective on the conditions of being at war. This was seen in contrast with our final destination, Talbot House. A sanctuary for men away from the front-line, although ironically still within earshot of the gunfire. Talbot House provided a bit of respite for the soldiers, they could read and watch entertainment – but eerily the town of Poperinghe had the first one-way system: one for the soldiers coming in to town and one for those going back to fight. Poperinghe was also where British men, condemned for execution, were shot at dawn.

Memories of the visit will remain particular to each individual. There were many who found family amongst the many names listed and reflected on what the war had cost them. Yet for all there, bound through the connection of KGS the particular lives of Hayward Wane and John Murray will be remembered on 11th November this year.





Thiepval Memorial - Old Kirkhamian 2nd Lt Hayward Wane 1st Battalion of The Grenadier Guards KIA 18 October 1916



THE GREAT WAR 100

BATTLEFIELDS TOUR 2015



We are the Dead.

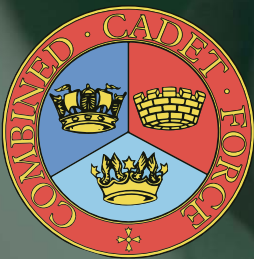
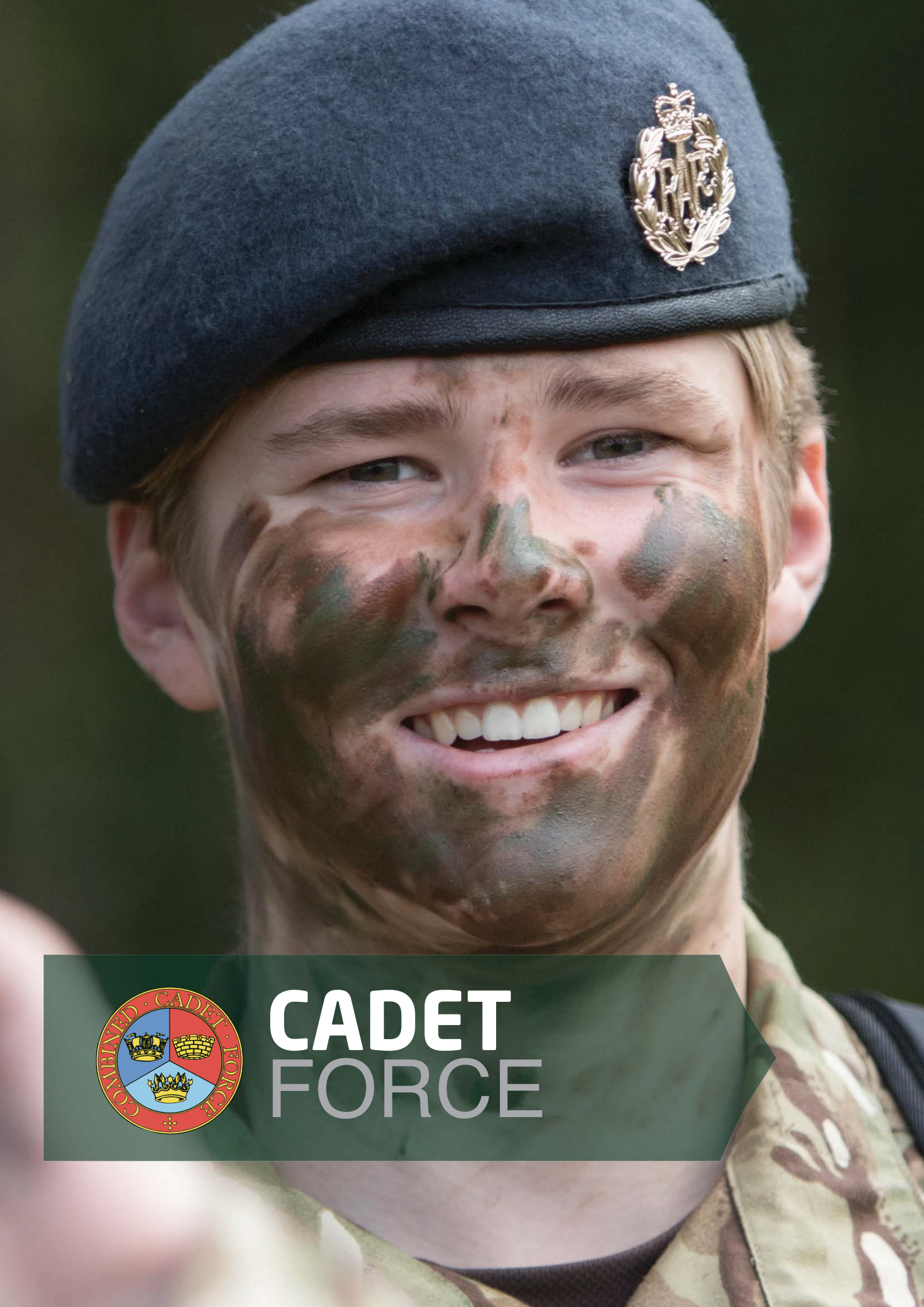
The lines from Canadian doctor John McCrae's poem In Flanders Fields, who worked in the dressing station at Essex Farm, are a fitting finale for those who gave their lives:

Short days ago We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,

Loved and were loved,

and now we lie In Flanders fields





CADET
FORCE

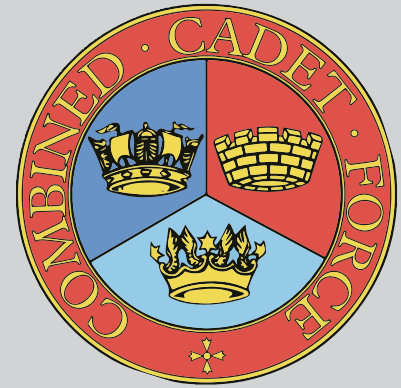
The Combined Cadet Force is a thriving co-curricular organisation for boys and girls at Kirkham Grammar School. The CCF provides a framework through which our cadets can develop qualities of endurance, resourcefulness, self-reliance, responsibility and leadership. It also aims to engender a sense of public service. The contingent at Kirkham Grammar School has a 'section' from the Army and RAF.

Membership of the CCF is voluntary with boys and girls joining from the fourth year (Year 10). Pupils choose the section that most appeals to them and then take part in activities appropriate to that service. We have a weekly parade, when we cover the training syllabus, for all.

In addition to the weekly training at the the school, we take the cadets away on camps. During term time we organise one Field Day away while longer camps are organised during the holidays. As well as the UK based camps and visits, there are many opportunities for cadets to travel abroad. In the past we have visited Germany, Canada and Cyprus. Senior cadetss are also offered the chance to go on specialist courses during which they can experience the very best CCF military and adventurous training.

The contingent is directed and managed by a dedicated team consisting of teaching staff who have been commissioned into the forces with officer status and trained specifically to serve the cadet force. We also have our own full-time School Staff Instructor, a former Duke of Lancaster's Regiment Warrant Officer. In addition to our own CCF officers we are routinely visited by regular forces personnel.

Several of our senior cadets have been awarded Sixth Form Scholarships, University Scholarships and Bursaries from the Services. As members of the CCF boys and girls will be presented with opportunities, training and experiences that go beyond the norm.



ARMY



Find us on:  **twitter**
<https://twitter.com/KGSCCF>





ANNUAL CAMP

Warcop Army Training Camp

Day One began with a 0630h march to breakfast and short bus ride to the first activity, FIBUA (Fighting in Built Up Areas). This involved a full scale assault on a three storey, occupied, building and then clearing the building itself. It was a physically demanding first day but once training was over and everyone got "bombed up" with blank ammunition everyone got a new burst of energy and ran and dived into the wet grass with a smile on their faces. Then it was back to base for dinner and some down time in the NAAFI.

Day two was Cadet COD, watermanship and foreign weapons. Cadet COD is the army equivalent to laser quest, with replica weapons that are laser based. After a few basic attacks using our ambush drills we then split into two teams and played a few rounds of capture the flag and then on to the main event, every man for himself. For this all friendships went out of the window in a hellish fight for survival which saw every tactic in the book being used from simply hiding behind the port-a-loos, to running through the woods like Rambo. Sgt Jess Bevington said "The Cadet COD was really fun but it wasn't too serious so there was no pressure" – which was easy for her to say as she got the highest score! After a questionable packed lunch it was on to watermanship. In the freezing and rainy conditions going anywhere near a lake was not the most appealing idea but

everyone got stuck in. We were taken out onto the lake in basic assault speedboats and were each given to opportunity to drive them which was all well and good till the officers came round in their speedboat and drenched us! Now wet and cold we got back on dry land and were instructed on how to build a raft from 4 barrels and some planks of wood. We were then engaged in a race. Split into two teams we had to assemble our raft, carry it down the bank into the lake, climb on and paddle half way across the lake, swim to the other side, run up a hill, grab a life ring to take back to the team who would then paddle back to shore and take apart the raft. Well once the race began we forgot how cold and wet we were and dived in to the challenge and suddenly everyone became very competitive. Needless to say we finished that task soaked to the skin, but grinning. We dried off and grabbed a cup of tea (or in some cases 12 cups) and moved on to foreign weapons where we were shown weapons such as the "strong as bull" variants of the AK-47, AR15 assault rifle and the Dragunov sniper rifle which Lydia Bourne seemed to take a particular shine to.

Day Three introduced us to Jungle Mick, Ghurkha Bob and Pete, the officers running the CQB (Close Quarter Battle Training). CQB is the battle drills used when the enemy is in close range and you are in a small section. Pete encouraged us to be loud and even got us singing! He also gave us a section name - The Kirkham Killers. After teaching us the basics we got our "cam cream" on and got bombed up for a close quarter assault. What he failed to tell us though is that this would involve us wading through a knee-deep river and crawling through a tunnel. But everyone came back buzzing, even despite RSM Caroline

Paley twisting her ankle. "Getting to be a close quarter ninja was definitely the best bit of the week" according to CtrSgt Megan Crowther. Another dodgy packed lunch and then on to first aid, and after recapping the basics we had learnt at school including, CPR, bandaging, the recovery position and choking, each group was faced with an accident scene, featuring the incredible dramatic skills of RSM Caroline Paley, CSM Danny Davies and CSM Charlotte Muir. Hearing Danny come running down a hill with white face paint screaming was funny at first but then we all focused on what needed to be done. Caroline was covered in fake blood and screaming whilst Charlotte was sitting in a car unconscious. It took quick thinking and a lot of skill but everyone passed the test and all received our first aid certificates.

Day Four was Adventure Training and everyone got to select which activity they wanted to do from Canoeing, Cliff Jumping, Gill Scrambling, Gorge Walking, Mountain Biking and Climbing. The Adventure Training staff were amazing and when asking people for the highlight of the week lots said the adventure training day as it allowed them to do something they'd never done before. I was in the canoeing group and we certainly had a great time canoeing on Ullswater, singing, having water fights and meeting the locals including a very aggressive goose we named Reginald. Many fought their fears of heights or water and jumped in, literally, like Ctr Sgt Mihir Parmar with the Cliff Jumping. Everyone came back from their activities exhausted but buzzing about their day.

Day Five was the biggest day, the infamous Warcop Wanderer. Warcop Wanderer was a full scale patrol and assault with all Kirkham Cadets working

as one platoon. Charlotte Muir was Platoon Commander and led everyone excellently with her Platoon Sergeant Danny. We were divided into three sections led by Elizabeth, Cameron and me. After going over our training in the morning we then grabbed some lunch, got bombed up, cam cream and bush hats on and the ICs and 2ICs of each section given PRR radios so that we could communicate more easily. Charlotte and the section commanders were briefed on the mission and then we led our sections out on patrol to find and destroy the enemy base. With a total of 3 attacks each involving lots of commands being given, running into position, crawling and firing a lot of blank rounds not to mention the extremely hilly terrain, every trace of energy we had was sapped, but suddenly all the section battle drills and training we had done made sense and became so much easier and very real.

Our final day was live firing, orienteering and the assault course. There were some excellent shots from the Kirkham cadets, with the best score going to Rachel. The orienteering had a twist in that not only did we have to find the points but we also had a hunter, Mr Wheatland. If caught we had a 1 minute time penalty. We had an hour to collect all the points in. Then it was on to the assault course with its high ropes, rope swing, barbed wire and 6 foot wall. For some cadets this was especially difficult due to fear of heights or a lack of height. Because it was the last night we all gathered in the cinema after dinner for speeches, gifts, paper plate awards and promotions to be given. As this was Mr Callister's last camp it was very emotional looking back on the many amazing years he's spent here at Kirkham. It was also time to say goodbye to Mr Wheatland who finally got his RAF commission, and to the Upper Sixth NCOs.

When I asked the cadets for their favourite things about camp there were a few bizarre answers such as Andrew's opera singing, Cpl Elizabeth dancing in the room, Matthew having a bath in the bootwash area, Cpl Sgt Ben Mason running around with a chair on his head as "manoeuvrable cover" and even the camp catchphrase "Straight in my basket". But the most overwhelming response was the social aspect of camp. Cdt Phillipa summed it up perfectly: "The thing that makes army camp so good is just the fact that you get to talk to people you never normally would get the chance to talk to, and I've made some incredible friends that I otherwise wouldn't have met". But by far the best response was from Cdt Joe Teasdale, who when asked what his favourite moment was said "Can I just say all of it?"

Thank you to all the staff who made this camp possible and to all the NCOs and Cadets for making it so amazing. For the Kirkham Killers that week was definitely "Happy Days"

RSM Sophie Warden



North West Cadet Skill At Arms Meeting Altcar

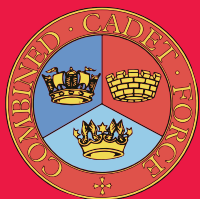
On Friday 25th September 14 cadets from years 4th to Upper 6th travelled down to Altcar Shooting Ranges for the annual Cadet Skill At Arms Meeting (CSAAM). An event where more than forty teams from ACF and CCF groups from around the region compete against each other in twelve different matches. Kirkham CCF entered three teams, A, B and C.

After a late night, we woke up early on Saturday for 6am parade and breakfast. The matches started off nicely, entering the Pool Bull with Matthew Lewthwaite and Ben Mason both achieving impressive results of 5mm. Next, all three teams lined up ready for a 100m race to the firing point for the Advance to Contact Match; which includes snap shooting at 100, 200 and 300 metres. Saturday's shooting finished with the Defence Match which is a mix of deliberate and rapid fire.

With another pre-dawn Reveille, Sunday began with the Advance and Reorganisation Match which saw the Kirkham B team, consisting of Toby Gilmore, Amelia Hodgson, Rachel Horsfield and Marco Wong, coming third. After this we made our way back to C Range for Rifle Pairs, where two cadets must work together running across 200m in total, firing at distances of 300m and 200m. The weekend finished with the biggest competition, Falling Plates. This sees four teams picked at random go head to head to progress through the rounds. Each individual is issued ten rounds and starts in the prone position, ready for the whistle, to then run 100m, load and engage the target 200m away. The targets are ten, twelve inch, white squares which fall when hit, the first two teams to knock all the plates down are through to the next round. Impressively the C and B teams, which were made up mostly of first-time competitive firers, made it to the second round.

Although everyone was absolutely exhausted, we all had a fantastic weekend, and one I will always remember and hope to return next year and have even more success.





» IN THE FIELD «

CCF Field Day - developing teamwork, initiative, discipline and leadership skills.

The first Field Day of the new school year at Kirkham Grammar School saw us visiting Fulwood Barracks, Preston the Regimental Headquarters of The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment with 200+ Cadets and 8 members of staff.

The Army Outreach Team very kindly sponsored the event testing our Cadets with some imaginative but demanding command tasks. Cadets also took advantage of the local Museum where Mr Miller was in his element reminding Cadets of the area's military heroes and Major Marc Steventon, from the Army Careers Office in Preston, delivered a thorough and interesting brief on the Army scholarship programme and Officer Entry.

As this was our Biannual Inspection, Colonel Mike Glover, Royal Regiment of Fusiliers and current Manchester Army Cadet Force Commandant inspected our Guard of Honour which was presented by the Contingent's RSM, Sophie Warden. The Guard of Honour were Ed Swindley, Lauren Bailey, Heather Hooper, James Procter, Elizabeth Brocklehurst, Cameron Roach & Benedict Mason. All of our Cadets presented themselves excellently and were a credit to the Contingent as a whole.

Colonel Glover was very impressed by the Contingents' motivation and enthusiasm as they raced between various stands – an excellent Close Quarter battle shoot using our newly acquired BB “Airstream” weapons which was run by Mrs Marsh with some assistance from the RAF Test SNCO. The army Team tested both the “mental strength” of our Cadets with some challenging command tasks and their physical ability over a very demanding Assault Course, they scaled a mobile climbing wall and enjoyed firing the Cadet A2 rifle over 25 metres where Marco Wong needs a special mention for his natural ability to get 10 rounds of ammunition into a 28mm group.

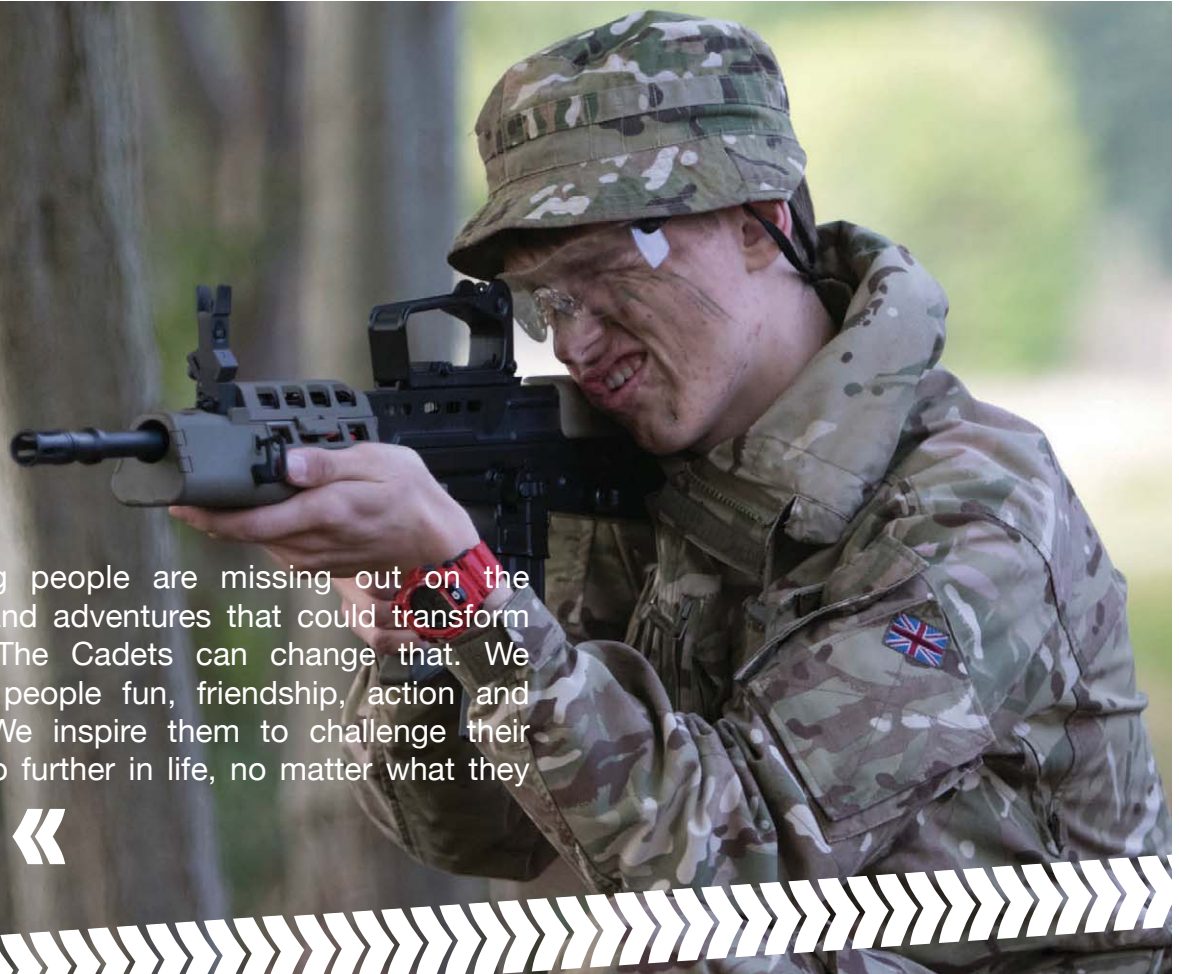
The Cadets also enjoyed an excellent Archery range which was run by Mr Possamai. I must thank the Lancashire Infantry Museum for allowing us to take over their premises for the day and we were even visited by a Kirkham Old Boy, Mr Hodgson, who is a volunteer with the Museum and inspired us with some moving stories from the Second World War.

The day was blessed with fine weather and our Cadets, to an individual must be congratulated for their positive approach, respect, and excellent behaviour and were a credit to the School.

R.D.Taylor, Contingent Commander







» Many young people are missing out on the challenges and adventures that could transform their lives. The Cadets can change that. We give young people fun, friendship, action and adventure. We inspire them to challenge their limits and go further in life, no matter what they aim to do.





Remembrance Day services were held around the UK to commemorate those who served the country in two world wars and in more recent conflicts. KGS NCO CCF cadets had the honour of representing the school in Kirkham's Remembrance Day service (photo far right). The NCOs were supported by staff, parents and Old Kirkhamians. On the 11 November the whole school held their own Remembrance Day Service (photo right and below) which was led by our Senior NCOs.





KGJS Commemorate WW1

In the middle of June, KGJS commemorated the 100th Anniversary of WW1. The Junior children remembered all who had died with a special theme day in school. The day began with the whole of KGJS descending on the front of school to plant clay poppies that each child had made during the previous week. Mrs Roberts spoke poignantly about the reason for this special commemoration before planting a poppy in memory of the first fallen KGS soldier, George Tomlinson. The school then sang 'Seek Ye First' followed by a prayer of remembrance.

Throughout the day, each Junior class carried out a variety of WW1 themed activities including a WW1 timeline created by J3, propaganda posters in J2, rationing for soldiers which involved tasting jam and cheese sandwiches in J1 and later in the day, J4 joined the Senior School for a special WW1 Assembly, where they each wore a felt poppy they had made earlier in the day.







Book Week

In September, the children enjoyed a range of activities as part of Book Week.

The J4 classes buddied up with the Infants for a shared reading session as well as looking at the book, 'Eye of the Wolf' from which they completed comprehension activities.

J3 looked at Aesop's Fables and had a go at writing their own fables!

J2 read Jacqueline Wilson's, 'The Suitcase Kid', and completed project and display work.

J1 designed dragons and also wrote newspaper articles about a dragon battle, based on the novel, 'How to Train Your Dragon'.

I3 read 'Sharing a Shell' by Julia Donaldson and used pastels to create their very own sea worlds!

I2's topic was traditional African Tales, in particular 'Handa's Surprise'.

They learned an African Folk Dance and listened to the instruments. Later in the week they painted some African art.

The I1 children read the story 'My Cat Likes to Hide in Boxes' and made their own cats using paper plates, as well as creating the different boxes from the story!

At the end of the week, the staff and children came to school dressed as book characters. There was a wonderful array of outfits including Harry Potter, Minions, princesses and witches. The Book Fair was once again in school with each class given the opportunity to peruse the huge variety of books on sale.

The J3 and J4 children were also able to go over to the Senior School for an author visit, where they listened to Curtis Jobling talk about his career as a children's writer.



Pre-School Production

In the Summer Term, the Pre-School children travelled to Africa and learnt many things about this wonderful country! Mrs Watson visited with all her traditional dresses and artefacts and then as a result Pre-School decided to base their Summer Production on an African theme. They chose the story of 'Handa's Surprise' and adapted it so that they could tell their very own Pre-School version. Handa showed all her friends how important it was to remember everything they had learnt throughout the year and they got all the African animals and villagers to dance the Waka Waka at the end. The children and staff had a lot of fun preparing for this show and both the dress rehearsal in front of the whole school and the final production in front of the parents were amazing!



I HAMLET



A KIRKHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL PRODUCTION





"The play's the thing", says Hamlet as he contemplates his revenge for his father's untimely death. Indeed, the play certainly was "the thing" at this year's KGS production. NODA award winning actor, Mason Forrest who played Hamlet, was outstanding in the lead role, but he had backing from an incredibly talented team of actors and an inspirational director, Ms Jane Barrie. For a school production to reduce an audience to tears and a spontaneous standing ovation is testament to the incredible achievement of the entire company.

Mason Forrest's Hamlet was at times brooding, menacing, jocular and vulnerable. He allowed the audience to share in his emotion with a talent that surpasses his years. The scheming Claudius, played by Anthony Hudson, was in contrast detached, self-obsessed and manipulative; providing a perfect foil for Hamlet. An ingenious use of staging saw the gradual addition of colour through the scattering of rose petals throughout the performance. Most visually striking was the scene of Ophelia's death, where dancers added to the black, white and red petals with blue petals, giving a clear impression of Ophelia's drowning. NODA winning actor Elyssia Cockshott's portrayal of Ophelia, as dutiful daughter, loyal sister and ardent admirer of Hamlet was played with real compassion and fragility. Her descent into madness was depicted with innovative use of costume, as she visibly unravelled in front of the audience.

For a play that is often criticised in performance for being too introspective, this production had energy and passion from the inclusion of live contemporary music and modern dance routines. The choreography, by pupils Zac Crowe and Sophie Warden added a heightened level of intensity to the play. In particular Robbie Ellis' version of "Walk

through the Fire", was a fitting accompaniment to Zac and Sophie's dance, depicting the latent connection between Hamlet and Ophelia. The haunting lyrics of "Danny Boy", sung by Joanna Bako, resonated perfectly over the final tableau of Hamlet and Gertrude lying centre stage. Indeed, Sophie Coplestone's portrayal of Gertrude was poignant. She portrayed the dichotomy she faced as Hamlet's mother and the loyalty she had to show to the Court as the wife of the new king Claudius with sensitivity. The roles of Polonius and Laertes, played respectively by Sam Draper and Will Corbett, also depicted strong family bonds that were tested at the Court. Polonius' distrust of Hamlet was clear to see and the wrench that Laertes felt following the death of his father and then sister was extremely moving.

The role of the more rational Horatio, as confidante to Hamlet, was played by Ellie Moss. Her lucid and balanced judgement of Hamlet's situation provided a contrast with the other characters, yet she was still able to convey her empathy for Hamlet. Her near-breakdown at the end of the play showed just how much the "rotten" state of Denmark had shaken her. Yet, as Osric held her in front of the final tableau, there was a sense that Hamlet's tragic story would be remembered in a fair and fitting manner.

This was a performance that had gravitas, dignity and poise. Each scene was carefully crafted, from the emotionless expressions of the omnipresent soldiers of the court, to the paradoxically amusing gravediggers. However, it was, without doubt the performance of Mason Forrest as Hamlet that will be remembered as one of the most heartrending portrayals of Shakespeare's most famous tragic hero. For Hamlet, it is sadly "good night, sweet prince", but for Mason, it is likely only to be his awakening.





HAMLET



Find us on:  **twitter**
<https://twitter.com/KGSdrama>

KGS
Drama



JUNIOR SCHOOL PRODUCTION

Disney's
**BEAUTY
AND THE
BEAST**

© Disney

JRC





'Spectacular', 'Hard to believe it's a Junior School Production' and 'Huge talent from such young actors and actresses' were just a few of the quotes from guests at the production of 'Beauty and the Beast' in March.

The audience were amazed from the moment the curtain lifted to reveal a 'West End' stage set, matched by equally stunning costumes which brought the characters to life, wonderful singing and dancing and a little humour thrown in, too! The show was absolutely magical, enhanced by special effect lighting, which lit up the magnificent backdrop for this fairytale story! Every child performed superbly to make a truly spectacular show.

Huge congratulations to all involved in making this a tremendous success - a real team effort!

"Huge talent from such young actors and actresses!"









BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

The magic of music and creative arts skills from pupils at KGS regularly extends beyond the classroom via many, but this summer the Crowe family were particularly busy. Both Brioni, 2Z, and Zac, 3Z, were invited back to their primary school by the Headmaster to share their expertise in music and performance. Brioni spent a week teaching the younger pupils music, whilst Zac taught dance and movement. Following their teaching experience the siblings then embarked upon very different and busy summer schedules. Brioni, an accomplished flautist, started with a tour of the Spanish Costa Brava region with the BMS Concert Band. This was a particularly privilege for Brioni as she led the woodwind section of the band. Immediately after returning to the UK Brioni was straight to work with the National Wind Sinfonia of Great Britain, in London. Brioni was fortunate to be able to work with some inspiring musicians and played at various venues around London, including the final concert at the Cadogan Hall, which was outstanding.

After London Brioni then continued to pursue her musical interests with the National Children's Orchestra, based at Port Regis boarding school in Dorset. There were many intense days of rehearsals before the final concert in Cheltenham. The concert was a showcase of electrical classical pieces with a fantastic repertoire comprising works by Mussorgsky and Bizet amongst others. Brioni was able to learn from some eminent musicians, and one of the highlights of her summer was meeting Pam Wedgewood, Roger Clarkson and the world renowned Julian Clayton. Brioni thoroughly enjoyed being an ambassador for her country over the summer and I am sure we will all be entertained by her "magic flute"

playing in school over the coming years, indeed in the works of Jimi Hendrix: music is magic; magic is life.

Not to be outdone, Brioni's brother Zac stepped out from his choreographer role to being back on stage. His summer began in a cooler climate than his sister's, on the stage at the Lowry Theatre in Salford. Zac starred in a modern dance production for talented young dancers, *Sequent – Undeceive Indecision*, which was influenced by *Random Dance*. As expected the show was a success and preparations are already underway for next year's show.

Zac also used his performance talents in a touring WWI tribute across Lancashire. This was a dance called *Journey of a Soldier* to commemorate the untold personal stories of the heroes of the First World War as part of the centenary reflections.

Moving further afield Zac then headed off for "The Big Smoke". He spent time at the London Guildhall School of Music and Drama and then working with West End stars at Her Majesty's Theatre. He thoroughly enjoyed his time on stage in *Memphis*, the new hit musical.

The experiences Zac had over the summer increased his passion for his art and he used his new skills in the choreography for the school's production of *Hamlet* (photo right) in October. He has also working on a performance for the Youth Dance Competition. Zac is, without doubt, a talented performer and watching him truly encapsulates the musings of dancer Pearl Primus (1919 – 1994) The dance is strong magic. The body can fly without wings. It can sing without voice. The dance is strong magic. The dance is life.



Music







MUSIC

Musicians at Kirkham Grammar are fully involved not only in the musical life of the school but are making waves in the professional world of music.

Alexandra Clarke is currently practicing hard for her upcoming audition for the RPS Duet Prize for Young Instrumentalists. This is awarded by the Royal Philharmonic Society and Duet Group every two years to an outstanding young instrumentalist. It is very competitive and Alexandra has done incredibly well gaining a place in this prestigious competition. I would like to take this opportunity to wish her all the best for the auditions in the New Year.

Elliott Gaston-Ross has been very busy since the Young Musician finals and I am delighted to report on his continuing successes. Elliott was a Semi-Finalist in the International Marimba Competition in Linz, Austria. He was up against talented musicians from all over the world. He won the 'Wave Quartet Award' – this involves featuring in a recording of all the Bach Harpsichord Concertos arranged for marimbas and orchestra by marimba soloist Bogdan Bacanu. The recording will be with the internationally renowned marimba quartet 'The Wave Quartet', and will be recorded on a German record label with a Baroque period orchestra. Elliott will also perform several concertos in Austria and Romania with the ensemble.

Elliott has been offered a place at the Anton Bruckner Privatuniversität in Austria and will spend next year as an 'extraordinary' or visiting student. He will give a full recital and perform a concerto at the university in 2016.





JUNIOR SCHOOL CHOIR







ABRSM

The Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music Results 2014/2015

Autumn 2014

Lucy Case
Alexander Kane
James Shuttleworth
Eva Earnshaw
Tessa Clowes
Lucy Barrow
James Caton
Heidi Aldeen
Tom Hoad
Lucy Tarpey
Sebastian Roche
Freyja Powell
Emily Scott
Francesca Riley
Charlotte O'Neill
Thomas Newton

Piano Grade 1
Flat Cornet Grade 1
Flat Cornet Grade 1
Flute Grade 1
Piano Grade 2
Clarinet Grade 2
Clarinet Grade 2
Violin Grade 2
Flat Cornet Grade 2
Alto Saxophone Grade 4
Trumpet Grade 4
Singing Grade 5
Singing Grade 5
Clarinet Grade 6
Alto Saxophone Grade 6
Bb Cornet Grade 8

Distinction
Merit
Distinction
Pass
Pass
Merit
Pass
Merit
Merit
Pass
Merit
Pass
Distinction
Pass
Merit
Pass

Hannah Lewthwaite
Rose Briggs
Charlotte O'Neill
Elizabeth Brocklehurst
Julian Shield

Flute Grade 6
Singing Grade 6
Piano Grade 7
Trombone Grade 7
Trumpet Grade 8

Pass
Distinction
Distinction
Pass
Distinction

Summer/Autumn 2015

Anya Baxter
Anya Baxter
Alexander Kane
Heidi Aldeen
Jack McKenzie
Danielle Begley
Hannah Fingleton
Kezia Taylor
Rose Briggs
Kezia Taylor

Piano Grade 1
Singing Grade 2
Flat Cornet Grade 2B
Violin Grade 3
Clarinet Grade 3
Violin Grade 4
Tenor Saxophone Grade 5
Piano Grade 5
Piano Grade 6
Flute Grade 8

Merit
Merit
Pass
Merit
Pass
Pass
Distinction
Pass
Pass
Distinction

Spring 2015

Harriet Brookes
Isabel Wiggins
Ellee Mee
Charlie Armstrong
Anya Baxter
Max McGregor
Suzi Howell
Jennifer Jones
Thomas Shuttleworth
Hannah Standley
Daniella Parziale
Anya Kiely
Anya Baxter
Stephanie Knier

Piano P Test
Piano P Test
Piano P Test
Guitar Grade 1
Singing Grade 1
Guitar Grade 1
Clarinet Grade 1
Percussion Grade 1
Percussion Grade 1
Piano Grade 2
Piano Grade 2
Piano Grade 2
Violin Grade 3
Oboe Grade 5

Pass
Pass
Pass
Merit
Distinction
Distinction
Distinction
Pass
Merit
Pass
Pass
Merit
Merit
Merit

Theory

Lucy Case
Natasha Hartley-Smith
Hannah Fingleton

Grade 1
Grade 2
Grade 5

Distinction
Merit
Merit



LONDON ACADEMY OF MUSIC AND DRAMATIC ARTS AWARDS 2015

There have been 20 Distinction passes, 31 Merit passes and 10 Pass grades and a total of 835 UCAS points earned.

ACTING MEDALS

Kristen Alexander	Gold Medal
Amrit Bahra	Bronze Medal
Heather Barnes	Silver Medal
Ruby Barrie	Gold Medal
Olivia Billington	Silver Medal
Elizabeth Brocklehurst	Silver Medal
Clark Brydon	Silver Medal
Sophie Coplestone	Silver Medal
Charlotte Gee	Silver Medal
Nina Langley	Gold Medal
Eleanor Morris	Bronze Medal
Elizabeth Myers	Gold Medal
Jake Teale	Silver Medal
Daniel Turner	Bronze Medal

VERSE AND PROSE SPEAKING MEDALS

Andrew Sanderson	Silver Medal
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PUBLIC SPEAKING MEDAL

Isabel Berriel	Silver Medal
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DISTINCTION GRADE

Kristen Alexander	Duologue Acting Gold Medal
Zoe Andrews	Verse & Prose Grade 4
Joanna Bako	Acting Grade 5
Ruby Barrie	Duologue Acting Gold Medal
Danielle Begley	Acting Grade 5
Olivia Billington	Acting Silver Medal
Elizabeth Brocklehurst	Acting Silver Medal
Sophie Coplestone	Acting Silver Medal
Zacharias Crowe	Acting Grade 4
Jamie Curran	Acting Grade 5
Lauren Fraser	Acting Grade 5
Zara Ikram	Public Speaking Grade 4
Nina Langley	Duologue Acting Gold Medal
Samantha Loo	Verse & Prose Grade 4
Eleanor Moss	Acting Grade 5
Molly Pickup	Acting Grade 4
Andrew Sanderson	Verse & Prose Silver Medal
Chloe Sin	Acting Grade 5
Ella Townsend	Verse & Prose Grade 5
Daniel Turner	Acting Bronze Medal

MERIT GRADE

Clare Anthony	Verse & Prose Grade 4
Philippa Armstrong	Duologue Acting Grade 5
Amrit Bahra	Verse & Prose Grade 5
	Public Speaking Grade 5
	Acting Bronze Medal
Lucy Barrow	Acting Grade 4
Isabel Berriel	Public Speaking Silver Medal
Karen Cheng	Reading for Performance Grade 4
Matthew Cooke	Acting Grade 5
Paul Crompton	Acting Grade 5
James Devereux	Combined Acting Grade 5
Lauren Gharebaghi	Acting Grade 4
Charles Hargreaves	Acting Grade 5
Cameron Hartley	Acting Grade 4
Jack Higham	Combined Acting Grade 5
Caitlin Ireland	Acting Grade 4
Isabel Kavanagh	Reading for Performance Grade 5
Alexander Latham	Reading for Performance Grade 5
Ben Lee	Verse & Prose Grade 4
Mariyam Moosa	Acting Grade 5
Eleanor Morris	Acting Bronze Medal

Zachary Mossop	Verse & Prose Grade 4
Freya Parkinson	Verse & Prose Grade 4
Kate Parkinson	Verse & Prose Grade 4
Hannah Standley	Acting Grade 4
Alana Stewart	Duologue Acting Grade 5

Jake Teale	Verse & Prose Grade 5
Rachel Wilding	Acting Silver Medal
Harry Wilson	Acting Grade 4
	Acting Grade 5

PASS GRADE

Clark Brydon	Acting Silver Medal
Heather Barnes	Acting Silver Medal
Bryony Belshaw	Verse & Prose Grade 4
Charlotte Gee	Acting Silver Medal
Lawrence Jarra	Acting Grade 5
Anna-Louise Johnston	Acting Grade 4
Jonathan Latham	Verse & Prose Grade 4
Elizabeth Myers	Acting Gold Medal
Seun Oladapo	Acting Grade 4
Yania Shahid	Verse & Prose Grade 4

THE LONDON
ACADEMY OF
MUSIC AND
DRAMATIC ART



DofE

THE DUKE
OF EDINBURGH'S
AWARD

BRONZE

Laura Brookfield
Sophie Warden
Amber Metherell
Alex Latham
Henrietta Moseley-Schofield
Maria Varley
Emelia Fearn
Rachel McCrae
Eleanor Morris
Arron O'Neill
Theo Randall
Alana Stewart
Philippa Armstrong
Niamh McFarlane
Ran Parkinson
Danielle Begley
Oliver Fearn
Andrew Whittingham
Edward Barker
Isabel Kavanagh
Charles Hargreaves
Giorgina Britton
Charles Bradbury
Hannah Bullock
Francesca Furnival
Ruth Graham
James Cartmell
Chloe Hyde

SILVER

Aarin Chiekrie
Louis Johnson
Lauren Bailey
Jack Culver
Nick Coleman
Toby Gilmore
Eleanor Arrowsmith
James Smith
Jacob McCarthy
Ariston Uttenreuther

GOLD

Natasha Almond
Hannah Davies
Rebecca Paterson
Sian Almond
Rebecca Jones
Emily Carpenter
Helen McManamon
Andrew Sanderson

The DofE Award Scheme at KGS continues to flourish, allowing our students to fulfil their potential beyond the classroom and develop important skills for life and work. 81 Awards were achieved in the last academic year, 40 at Bronze level, 26 at Silver and 15 at Gold. With over 70 participants completing their expeditions in July, 20 at Gold level, and a further 25 5th yrs undertaking bronze and silver expeditions during the recent October half term, we look forward to even more Awards being achieved in the coming months.

The summer expeditions took place in Lake District.

The Bronze participants travelled from Coniston to the picture perfect Langdale valley and finished their expedition at Ambleside. The Bronze groups showed excellent teamwork and communication skills throughout their time and we are delighted that they all passed this section of their Award.

The Silver participants travelled the whole length of Coniston Waters, then travelled over to the Langdale Valley before completing their expedition at Grasmere. The Silver participants demonstrated faultless navigation and outstanding team morale throughout.

The sixth-form Gold groups completed an epic trek from the south to north lakes and finished at Pooley bridge. The Gold groups in particular had to deal with very high temperatures, swarms of biting midges, lightning storms and very long hot days. It was a delight to read their assessor's reports who praised the groups' navigation skills and resilience with the tough routes and weather they encountered.

Well done to all involved, you were a great credit to yourselves and the School and you should be very proud of your achievements.

During the October half-term holiday 25 5th year students ventured out on their DofE expeditions. The weather was wet from the off, but despite the heavy rain all our Bronze and Silver groups set off in fine spirits. The Bronze participants navigated their way from Bolton-by-Bowland over to Clitheroe, whilst the Silver groups set off from Gisburn heading also for





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<https://twitter.com/KGSCCF>



Clitheroe and a night at Waddow Hall, Girl Guide Campsite. The rain eased off in the afternoon and all the groups arrived at their destinations before final light and managed to pitch their tents and cook an evening meal before heavy rain set in for the night.

Day 2 and all our participants were up early and ready for the next part of their adventure. The Bronze groups were destined for Ribchester via Whalley and the Silver groups were off to Great Harwood for a night camping at Bowley Scout Camp. It is very pleasing to note that both our Bronze groups very successfully navigated day 2 and completed the routes in record time and with great attitude and teamwork.


All 3 silver groups arrived at the beautifully situated Bowley Scout Camp and enjoyed a good night's sleep before completing their expeditions the following day across the local fells. The rain was relentless throughout the expedition, but our students showed great effort, teamwork and resilience and they were determined to complete their expeditions whatever the weather.

Thanks must go to the staff who also got very wet as they manned checkpoints, camped out and of course offered encouragement to our participants when required!

Our students really do put a great deal of time and effort into their skill, volunteering and physical sections of their Award and it is a great honour to read the comments written by the Brownie pack leaders, sports team coaches, nursing home managers etc. praising our students' dedication to the tasks they have undertaken. Discussions with the students regarding new skills they have tried and goals they have achieved in so many areas demonstrate the true worth of this Award.

The DofE Award Scheme at KGS continues to thrive and gives our students even more opportunities to develop new skills and demonstrate their teamwork, dedication, perseverance and self reliance.





J3 Bushcraft

In September, J3 excitedly set off on their Bushcraft trip to Cholmondeley Castle. As soon as they arrived they started their first activity - making shelters. They worked in their tribes to build them using only what they had around them, for example; fern, bracken, sticks and branches. The shelters were so good that the children were allowed to sleep in them!

Before bed everyone enjoyed hot chocolate and marshmallows around the campfire but not before a game of 'Predator'! Children who slept in the shelters were treated to an exciting bedtime story from Joe.

The next morning everyone had a fabulous full English breakfast served by Mark, the camp's chef. The children's highlights of the second day were swimming in the chilly lake and using knives to whittle tent pegs. After a delicious dinner around the fire they played 'Carry the Lantern' in the dark.

On the last morning, after pancakes, the J3s packed up and left no trace that they had even been in the woods! They all loved their time at Bushcraft and learnt so much whilst having great fun!



KGJS Bake Off Final

2015

Tuesday 17 November was a very exciting day at Kirkham Grammar Junior School. The final of this year's KGJS Bake Off Competition took place at the Senior School Boarding House kitchen. We welcomed BBC Great British Bake Off contestant, Dorret Conway as this year's guest judge!

Our Upper Junior finalists were Elysia Eccles, Henry Taylor and Duke Jones and our Lower Junior finalists were Hattie Brooks, Anya Kiely and Rosie Helliwell.

The Lower Junior children made rock buns and the Upper Junior children made Victoria sponge cake. Sally Naden from Radio Lancashire presented live throughout the morning and the children all spoke brilliantly,

each taking turns to be interviewed live on the radio! Dorret was on hand to provide little baking tips, however the children proved they were baking experts and worked independently to create their final showcase! Lots of fun was had by all when a photographer from the Blackpool Gazette came and took some 'funny' baking shots of the children with Dorret!

At the end of the morning, Dorret had the unenviable task of picking one winner for each recipe. Eventually, she decided to crown Anya Kiely the Lower Junior winner for her amazingly constructed rock buns and Henry Taylor the Upper Junior winner for his light and fluffy Victoria sponge cake! They

were both presented with a KGJS Bake Off Winners apron and a 'Hidden Surprise Cakes' cookbook which Dorret kindly signed for both of them. The runners up also received KGJS Bake Off Finalist Runners Up aprons.

Dorret was able to join us for lunch back over at the Junior School to sample our delectable school dinner menu which she said was extremely tasty!!

Thank you very much to Dorret Conway, Sally Naden from Radio Lancashire as well as the photographer from the Blackpool Gazette for making this year's KGJS Bake Off Final such a memorable experience for all involved.



J4's Adventures in Wales

At the beginning of June, J4 set off to Wales for a week long residential holiday at Abernant Lake Hotel.

After four hours of travelling, the group were looking forward to their first activities which were rifle shooting and abseiling. A fantastic tea was followed by further activities in the evening, which included fencing, a new experience for many.

The next four days saw all the children involved in water-based activities such as canoeing, kayaking, stand up paddle boards and raft building. They also experienced climbing, zip wire, high ropes, orienteering and an obstacle course, as well as a nine mile cycle ride in the glorious Welsh countryside. The crate stacking proved particularly popular with the whole group!

Outside of these activities the children all enjoyed a disco, barbecue and an overnight camp which involved team games and singing around the campfire!

The J4s were all excellent ambassadors for KGJS, with many positive comments being received from the instructors and catering staff.





AJIS Cross Country 2015

On Wednesday 30 October, KGJS travelled to Rossall School to take part in the annual AJIS Cross Country Championships which involved over 25 private schools from throughout the North West of England. Teams travelled from as far as Staffordshire to compete and the competition, as always, was very high with over 120 runners in each race. There were four races in total (U10 Boys, U10 Girls, U11 Boys & U11 Girls) with seven runners from each school in every race. All our pupils had trained hard during the lunchtime training sessions and were eagerly waiting for the competition to begin! The first race of the afternoon was the U10 Boys and everyone performed to the best of their ability. They were rewarded with an overall 4th place in the team event with their Captain Alex Maude gaining a 2nd place finish and Harry Case coming 17th. The whole squad performed well and should be very proud of their efforts. Next to race were the U10 Girls and they did not disappoint, achieving a remarkable 2nd place overall with Alexa Anderson coming 11th and Frankie Margerison just outside the top 20, in 22nd place. The U11 Boys at this stage of the afternoon were desperate to perform and perform they did! Excellent runs from Ben Wiggins in 3rd place and Archie Dowds in 4th place and solid runs by all members of the team enabled the boys to finish 3rd overall. Kirkham saved their best until last with the U11 Girls producing the performance of the day! Bo Madden finished 5th, Talia Armstead 6th, Hattie Madden 11th, Amy Merrick 12th, Tillie Martin 14th, Dani Merrick 16th and Olivia Abera 51st which guaranteed them 1st team place. Throughout the afternoon there were excellent performances from every member of the squad and all runners should be very proud of their achievements.

AJIS CHAMPIONS 2015!!!

• U11 Girls •

U10 Boys (Team Position - 4th)

Alex Maude	2nd
Harry Case	17th
Harvey Barber	25th
Alexander Kane	29th
Oliver Kollard	36th
Owain Heathcote-Jones	41st
Austin Clutterbuck	52nd

U10 Girls (Team Position - 2nd)

Alexa Anderson	11th
Frankie Margerison	22nd
Hennie Thompson	26th
Rachel Watson	29th
Anya Kiely	31st
Lilly Jones	50th
Emily Marsh	53rd

U11 Boys (Team Position - 3rd)

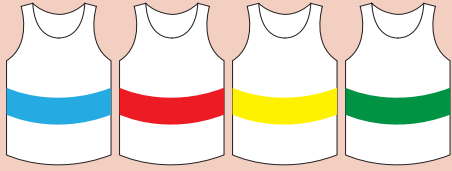
Ben Wiggins	3rd
Archie Dowds	4th
Adam Gregan	24th
Freddie Tarrant	25th
Thomas Shuttleworth	31st
Sam Abram	56th
Charlie Read	64th

U11 Girls (Team Position - 1st)

Bo Madden	5th
Talia Armstead	6th
Hattie Madden	11th
Amy Merrick	12th
Tillie Martin	14th
Dani Merrick	16th
Olivia Abera	51st



Junior House Cross Country





Infant & Junior Sports Days 2015

This year's Infant and Junior Sports Days were a huge success! Despite it raining on the morning of the Infant Sports Day putting the event in doubt, the rain stopped and the sun came out and shone all afternoon! The children all thoroughly enjoyed themselves whilst the Juniors watched on, showing their support for the younger members of our school. We were again very lucky with the weather for the Junior Sports Day which meant the Pre-School and Infant children were able to come out and watch! The Junior children all competed in true team spirit. Thank you to Sir Bradley Wiggins and Paul Gallagher for presenting the Junior prizes.





Infant and Pre-School Fun Run



JUNIOR SPORTS



U11 A, B & C Rugby v Preston Grasshoppers



U11 Rugby B Team



U11 Rugby A Team



U8 Tag Rugby Festival



U10 Rugby



U10 Rugby



U10 Rugby



U10 Rugby

U11 Girls Cross Country Season

What a term it has been for KGJS' U11 Girls Cross Country team. They have taken part in three major events; the Association of Junior Independent Schools Championships, Sedbergh Invitational Championship and St Mary's Hall Invitational Event. In total they have competed against 35 different schools and in each event came home with the winning team trophy! There have been some fantastic performances from all the girls with everyone making important contributions to the team success. Although no Kirkham athlete came in a top three individual position in any of the races it was the team's ethic that was truly inspirational which rewarded KGJS with three team trophies. Very well done to the U11 Girls Cross Country team; Bo Madden, Hattie Madden, Talia Armstead, Dani Merrick, Amy Merrick, Tillie Martin, Poppy Kearsley and Olivia Abera.



U11 Girls Cross Country Success



U11 Boys AJIS Hockey Tournament



U11 Boys AJIS Hockey Tournament



U9, U10 & U11 Netball v St Mary's Hall



U11 A, B & C Netball v Carr Hill High School



U11 Girls St Pius Netball Tournament



Sedbergh Cross Country Championship



Life in Pre-School







U14XIhockey

U14 XI Semi-Finalist North Hockey
Ranked 3rd overall

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1STXVrugby

1st XV Vs Sedbergh win 27-0

2nd XV Vs Sedbergh win 13-0

Find us on:  **twitter**
<https://twitter.com/KGSrugby>

KGS
Rugby

After two years of preparation the Canada tour party finally set off on their transatlantic adventure on 7th July. After Mr Gardiner had taken the customary tour photo, the group departed for Manchester airport, with two weeks of travel and excitement to look forward to.

Manchester Airport was more problematic than it should have been due to Joe Wilson's passport incident. Unfortunately this meant Joe was delayed, happily this was only for twenty four hours. The remainder of the tour party successfully navigated check in and immigration without incident, boarding a large Air Transat plane bound for Pearson Airport, Toronto. Many of the boys occupied themselves by providing Ben Gregory with a great deal of 'sympathy' and 'support' for his deep fear of flying! Once this 'entertainment' had been exhausted, the majority of the party watched films and slept for the seven-hour flight.

After landing the boys transferred to Seneca College, Kings City campus on the outskirts of Toronto. This location provided space and training areas, which suited the boys given that their first tour fixture was only days away. Day two brought the Niagara Falls excursion where the group boarded the 'Maid of the mist' to tour one of the wonders of the world, a superb experience, which was enjoyed by everybody. Day three of the tour brought a visit to downtown Toronto, a lively cosmopolitan city with a plethora of

shops and places to eat, which kept the boys very happy! The tour bus then transferred to Oshawa Vikings Rugby Club where the first tour fixture was due to take place. The development team started proceedings with a promising performance against a large Oshawa team. This was followed by a powerful performance from the 1st XV which meant that both games ended in comfortable victories for KGS. From a rugby perspective this was an ideal start to the tour, allowing the boys to familiarise themselves with playing rugby after a lengthy break. Oshawa provided fantastic post match hospitality, with the unique friendliness of the Canadian hosts being apparent from the start.

Day four of the tour brought the longest journey of the tour, with an eight-hour journey from Toronto to Quebec City. Driver Maggie did her best to navigate the congestion around Montreal, however the journey took longer than expected. The boys stayed in good spirits and were buoyed by 'DJ Roddam's' selection of 1980's hits. The hotel in Quebec was fantastic, which re-energised the boys

for an evening exploring the magnificent sites of Quebec City before an early morning visit to a native Huron site and an afternoon walking tour of Quebec City on day five. Day six brought another journey, to Quebecoise 'cottage country' in Sherbrooke. While the match reports can be found elsewhere it is fair to say that both games were slightly one sided with KGS dominating the fixtures throughout. The post match hospitality was, however, excellent again, with the Sherbrooke club providing the boys with a supply of dominoes pizza and energy drinks. After a long journey back the boys enjoyed an evening of entertainment in Quebec City.

Day seven brought a move from Quebec City to Montreal, a

CANADATOUR 2015

swift three-hour drive down the highway. The coach party enjoyed several classic films, particularly 'Top Gun', Mr Lyon enjoyed singing along to several of the theme tunes, unfortunately his singing talent does not match his sporting talent. Montreal was another fantastic location, not as scenic as Quebec City but just as interesting and entertaining. Canada really was proving to be a stunning place to tour, the people are exceptionally friendly and the place spectacular in every way. The hotel in Montreal was located close to the centre, giving the boys easy and safe access to many of the best sites in Montreal. The third fixture of the tour was held on day eight in a small town

called St Anne de Bellevue on the outskirts of Montreal. This is the strongest area for rugby in Quebec province, with the two strongest teams (St Anne de Bellevue and Beaconsfield) combining to take on the KGS teams. KGS still managed to dominate both fixtures with the 1st XV winning heavily while the development team won a more closely fought game. The last day in Montreal involved a tour of the 1976 Montreal Olympic Park as well as some final shopping in the huge Eton Centre.

From Montreal the group travelled to Ottawa, Canada's capital city, another fantastic place to visit. The fourth fixture of the tour was played en route, with both teams facing the Eastern Ontario provincial side. While the Ontario sides were large and powerful they came up against two KGS teams who were beginning to hit their stride. In truth the Canadian sides could not cope with the combination of power, speed and skill and both games were won by large margins. The KGS boys enjoyed playing at Twin Elm Park, which regularly hosts the Canadian national side, many of the spectators in the stadium demonstrated their respect and

approval for the quality of rugby that the KGS team were playing.

The morning after the East Ontario

fixture provided the boys with an opportunity to experience a great north American tradition, the breakfast diner, specifically Cora's diner. The boys were treated to a mixture of pancakes, bacon, scrambled eggs, fried eggs and many other culinary delights! Adam Joyner celebrated his 18th birthday with a large stack of blueberry pancakes. The Cora's experience was immediately followed by a guided tour of Ottawa, which provided the boys with some knowledge of Canada's capital city. This was due to be followed by a chance to explore the Byward markets, however a torrential rainstorm made this a less than tempting option. Luckily Mr and Mrs Wilkinson had located an excellent sports bar, where the tour party ate a fantastic dinner. A large group of boys then departed for a Canadian football game, supporting Ottawa Red Blacks in the CFL league. This was a highlight of the tour for many of the boys who went, including Mr Roddam and Mr Trenhaile!



The weekend was taken up by the National Youth Rugby Festival at Twin Elm Park, while match reports can be found online it is fair to say that the quality of KGS's play made an impression on the Canadian teams. As the tournament progressed, the crowds at KGS games became larger, with both teams gaining friends and admirers.

Following the completion of rugby on tour, the whole tour party made a 5 am departure from Ottawa, with the bus bound for the small town of Orillia. Orillia has two lakes, Lake Simcoe and Lake Couchiching and plenty of spectacular scenery. The boys were lucky enough to view this idyllic place from kayaks and paddle boards, while frequently capsizing each other and generally having fun. Jamie Ross managed to do a headstand on a paddle board while a bewildered paddle board instructor tried to demonstrate simple paddling technique, it was certainly an impressive feat given that he had only been on the board for five minutes! In short, the activities in Orillia were fantastic, the place was stunning and it provided a fantastic last day on tour. This was followed with a superb Best Western Plus hotel, with massive rooms and beds, which gave the boys a chance to relax before the end of tour presentations.

I am conscious that this tour review is already substantial, however it is important to finish it in the correct fashion. An international sports tour provides students with a once in a lifetime experience, it is clear that the Canada 2015 tour delivered this in every respect. It is something that the boys and staff will remember for many years. It is therefore essential that we record our thanks to our parents and sponsors for fantastic support. A tour and all the fundraising that goes with it can't happen without caretakers, cleaners, catering staff and bursarial staff, at KGS we are blessed with fantastic people in all these areas and they deserve a huge thanks for their massive contribution to this tour. Lastly to the boys who behaved brilliantly and created a fantastic 'tour spirit' throughout the two weeks, thank you gentlemen!







OLD KIRKHAMIAN'S ASSOCIATION



Old Kirkhamians of all ages are to be found all over the world in a remarkable variety of walks of life. Common to all of them is that they have not simply followed the school motto (*ingredere ut proficias*) by making the most of the opportunities given to them by the school, but more significantly that they have profited society by making the most of their talents. Successful Kirkhamians are to be found in all the traditional professions such as Law, Medicine, Engineering and Business, but are also to be found in areas as diverse as the media, journalism, catering, professional sport, the theatre, the clergy, the armed forces and archaeology. They are particularly well represented in teaching, with hundreds of Old Kirkhamians in every sector of primary, secondary and higher education, both in the UK and around the world. This is no coincidence: those who enjoy school are likely to enjoy teaching others, and Kirkhamians of all ages profess great enjoyment of their school days. The Old Kirkhamians' Association was founded in 1921 by the legendary Headmaster Rev'd Cresswell Strange, and has existed ever since as a way of bringing together those whose formative years have been guided by the school. All former pupils of the school are automatically admitted as members of the Association, which not only organises social events and reunions, but also raises and spends funds on projects which enhance and preserve the heritage of the school and provides bursary funds for current pupils.

The Association is governed by a Committee of former pupils, who appoint a President as well as an Honorary Treasurer, but the day-to-day administration of the Association is carried out by Mr Adrian Long, who has recently taken on that role after 34 years as a teacher at the school, during which time he has served for 25 years on the Old Kirkhamians' Committee. Mr Long is also the School's Archivist.

OKA Northern Dinner

A smaller than usual number gathered for the Northern Dinner on September 26th, with an unfortunate clash with England's crunch World Cup game with Wales proving too big a temptation.

Those attending nevertheless enjoyed a wonderful evening with a superb dinner served in the Old Hall prepared by our new Head of Catering Ian VEVERS.

We were then entertained by outgoing President and true Kirkhamian stalwart David Stirzaker who regaled the audience with an account of the twists and turns of his school and professional career, all of it underpinned by the values of his second family, KGS. David then passed the Chain of Office to his successor Mrs Sophie Miller (née Cairns)



OKA City of London Drinks

The second of our informal City Drinks events was held on the evening of Thursday November 26th at the city wine bar the Vintry, courtesy of Old Kirkhamian John Gladwell, who works as a manager for Fullers Brewery.

An eclectic gathering of young and not-so-young exiled Kirkhamians enjoyed a chance to catch up or indeed meet for the first time, hosted by Secretary Adrian Long and President Sophie Miller. A quick look at those represented reveals the astonishing variety of what Kirkhamians do with their lives: among those present were several accountants, a surveyor, several lawyers, a Church of England Priest, an insurance broker, a Radio DJ (host of Capital Radio's Drivetime Show), a police officer, an army officer, a doctor, a dentist, an advertising executive, a cricket statistician (co-inventor of the Duckworth-Lewis method), an actor and many more. Proof indeed that the School's motto - *ingredere ut proficias* - which encourages all who enter to make the most of their talents and to serve, is lived out every day by our proud former pupils of all ages.



World Cup Call Up

Two Old Kirkhamians were prominent successes in this autumn's World Cup Campaign for England Rugby Union. It represents a remarkable achievement for the School to have two players in the full England team at the same time: Richard Wigglesworth (1994 - 2001) and Kieran Brookes (2006-2009) both played their part in England's unsuccessful campaign, and were widely regarded to have been among the successes in an otherwise disappointing campaign. Both players were members of successful First Fifteen sides during their time at KGS and went on to successful careers in the professional game. Prop Kieran plays for Northampton Saints, having previously been with Newcastle Falcons and Leicester Tigers, whilst Fly Half Richard plays for Saracens after starting his career with Sale Sharks. Kieran and Richard readily acknowledge the crucial value of their rugby education at KGS under the coaching of Mr Aled Trenhaile, who is again this year nurturing another crop of gifted and committed players who have taken the First Fifteen to the very top of the schoolboy game.

Where are they now?

A glance at the achievements of former KGS pupils speaks volumes about how the values and lessons learned at the school are carried out into the world beyond school.

We asked two recent leavers to update us on how they are doing at university a year on from leaving KGS:-

Ben Everson



School Captain 2013 - 2014

"I am currently studying in my 2nd year towards a degree in Mathematics at the University of Bath. In the 3rd year of my degree I will have the opportunity to complete a 12 month placement. I hope to gain a placement in the Finance Industry, working in the heart of London's Financial District. Since leaving KGS I have continued with my passion of athletics, where I have represented the University at the National finals. Outside of University I have had the pleasure of joining two modelling agencies, NEXT Model Management in London and CORE Artist Management in Germany as a model. It has given me the opportunity to meet with some of the biggest fashion labels, as well as people from all over the world."

Hannah Culver



School Captain 2013 - 2014

"I am now in my second year studying Music at Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford. While the demanding academic timetable certainly keeps me busy I also find time to play in the Oxford University Orchestra and last week we played Mahler 7 to a packed audience at the Sheldonian Theatre. I am also a member of the Chapel Choir, singing both services and evensongs each week. During the summer we went on tour to Rome where we had the fantastic experience of singing in St Peter's Basilica! I have recently been voted on to the Junior Common Room Committee as Music, Arts and Drama Officer and am head of the Simpkin's Lee Theatre Committee within our college. I also occasionally pursue activities unrelated to music and am the Zumba and Pilates President for my college"

We also asked some previous generations of Kirkhamians for a comment on how the School has influenced their successful careers:



Joanne Box (KGS 1999-2006)

Profession: Barrister

"Excellent opportunities in a supportive, family environment"



Chris Calvert (KGS 1999-2006)

Profession: Accountant

"KGS gave me the confidence in dealing with people and situations that has greatly helped me in my higher education and working life"



Joe Douglass (KGS 2001-2008)

Profession: Merchant Navy Officer

"A thoroughly enjoyable part of my life: I was moulded as an individual, both academically and personally, and made life-long friends. It readied me for life's challenges"



Caitlin McMillan (KGS 2002-2009)

Profession: Actor

"KGS allowed me to find my passions and equipped me with the tools to follow them"



Simon Stokes (KGS 1975-1982)

Profession: Copyright Lawyer

"KGS meant an education for life: I left wanting to be a scientist but ended up a lawyer. The skills I learnt at KGS have been the foundation of my career"



Ranvir Singh (KGS 1988-1995)

Profession: TV Journalist and Presenter

"KGS meant encouraging your ambition in whatever field you were drawn to, and keeping you going until you succeed"



Vicky Wickremeratne (KGS 1985-1990)

Profession: Employment Lawyer

"The values of the school run through me like a stick of Blackpool rock and these values have stood me in good stead as I grew up, became a lawyer, and a Mum"

Find us on:  **twitter**
<https://twitter.com/KGSOKA>



KIRKHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL

CAREERS

FAIR2016



26 April 2016

7:00 – 9:00 pm

At KGS we recognise the need for schools not to just look at the successful outcomes as simply results grades and potential for Higher Education, but to ensure that we prepare our young men and women for the world of work.

KGS places a huge amount of emphasis on extra-curricular activities and the building of skills and confidence that employers recognise as so vital and so increasingly our Careers education & guidance programme aims to provide increasing contact with the world outside and to this end our students have benefited from workshops, competitions and lectures from a wide range of businesses including ICAEW, Accenture plc, BAE and Rathbones to name just a few.

Without a doubt, one of the highlights of school this year was our inaugural Careers Fair held in April, 2015, opened by Mark Menzies, MP (Photo right).

The fair presented a superb opportunity for both students and parents to engage with some of the country's leading employers across a wide range of sectors including commerce, engineering, construction, law, wealth management, media, medicine, dentistry, health care professionals, the Armed Forces and others.

The fair was very well attended and importantly presented an unrivalled networking opportunity, but importantly students were able to make more informed decisions about their futures.

Our next careers fair, which is open to Years 11, 12 and 13 will take place on 26 April, 2016 – from 7.00 – 9.00 pm when we hope to have even more exhibitors on hand to talk to both students and parents about pupil's future career prospects. There will also be a number of universities present which will give students an opportunity to discuss the range of courses on offer.

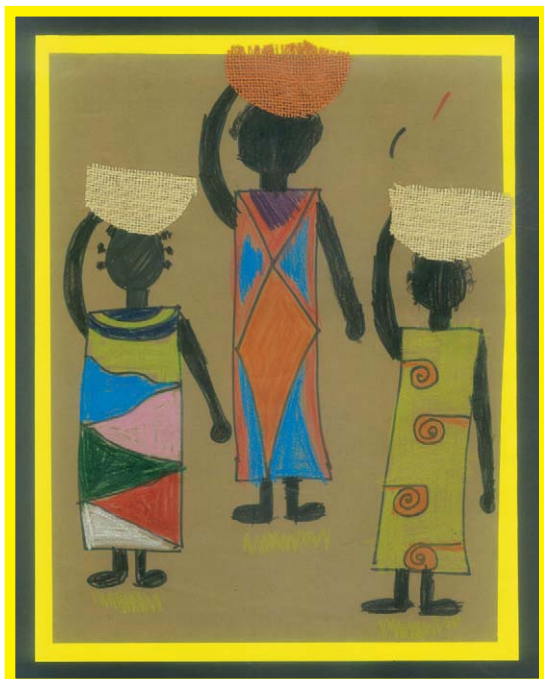
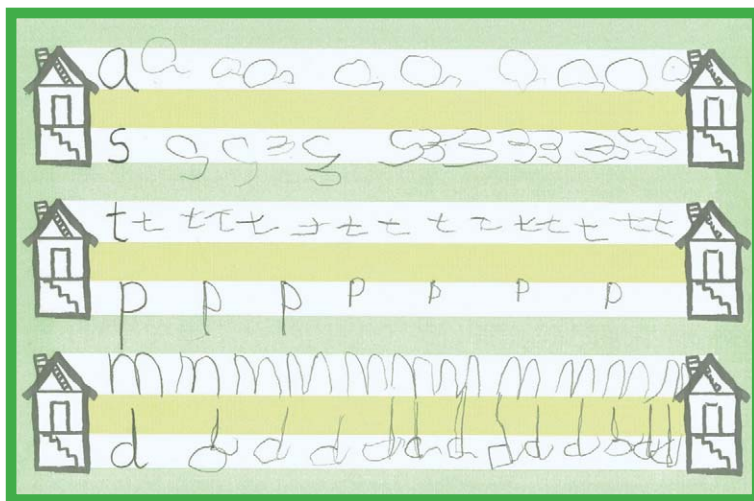
Furthermore, we intend to run a series of workshops specifically designed to help students with the skills needed to develop effective engagement with both universities and future employers.

If any parent is interested in exhibiting at our careers fair then please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Hargreaves, Head of Careers at l.hargreaves@kirkhamgrammar.co.uk to see how we can work together!

One last note, if any parents are interested in attending any of our careers events in the New Year then please do get in touch – all future events are on our website/school calendar.



Junior, Infant & Pre-School Work



Who am I?

To my Dad I am someone to mess around with, ride our bikes with and watch James Bond. I also go to our favourite cage with him - the cage's called 'The Chalking Cage'.

To my Mum I am someone to walk our dog Bertie with and watch her favourite shows with and beg her to do stuff with me - she always does!

To my older brother I am someone for him to tickle and play with our cat Jinx with string and watch rock movies with him and Dad.

To my older sister I am someone to go riding with, she shows me her jumps. I am someone to watch evening shows with and to walk the dogs Bertie and James with me and Mum.

To my dog Bertie I am his loving owner who walks him, feeds him, plays ball with him and hugs him.

To my friends I am a crazy, animal loving person who they find funny and who will stand by their side and who loves just talking.

To my Grandma I am her fourth grandchild (she has 5) who goes to see her on our gun dog walks and watches X-factor with her and loves her yummy food / watch her drink and hold her on the computer.

To my grandfather I am someone he makes the Christmas cake with and reads with - I love helping him in the garden.

To my cousins Jess and Thomas (who live in London) I am someone for Jess to shop with and Thomas to watch Doctor Who with - we also have gun on their swing.

To my teacher I am someone who loves English and Science and enjoys being in class and drawing - I am an animal lover.



I SAW A JOLLY MOUSE

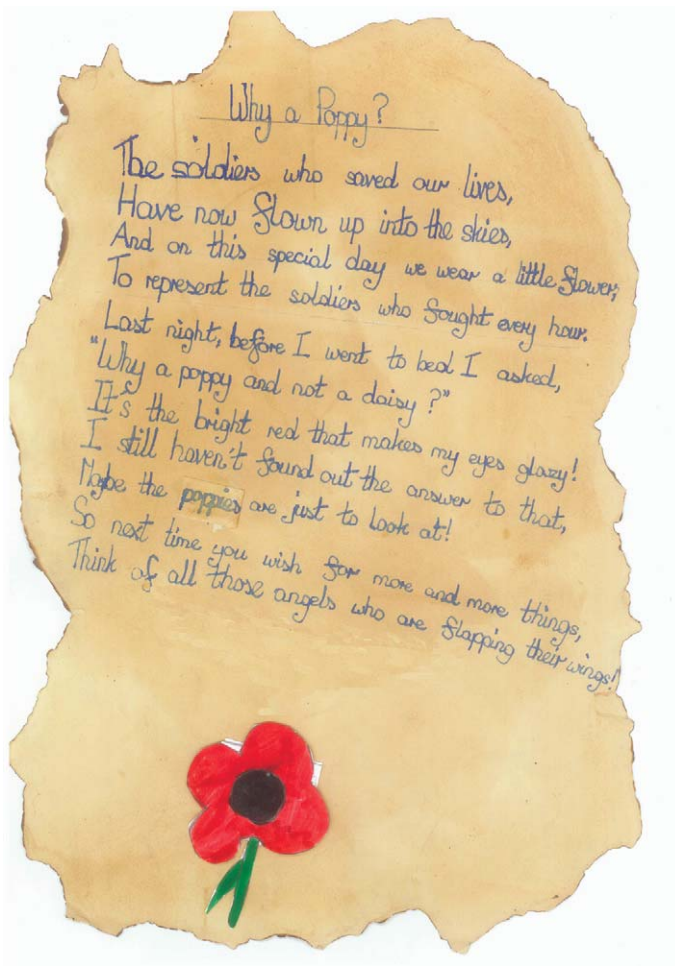
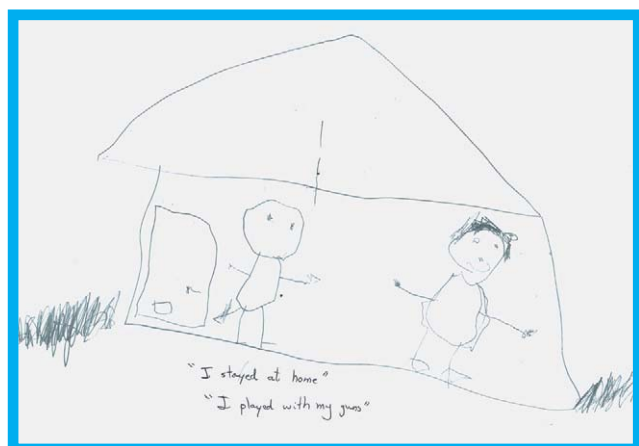
I saw a jolly mouse
With some jolly food
Ran off to his jolly hole
In a jolly mood.

When the jolly mouse
Was running to his hole
Wasn't jolly looking
Bumped into some coal.

I helped the jolly mouse
To his jolly hole
He thanked me by offering
Some jolly swiss roll.



I am good at horse
ridingsolo. I like
singing my own songs.





What Am I?

I whistle clearly,
You can hear me for miles.
I like the warm weather,
I collect sticks in piles.
I live in wooden houses.
I have tiny chicks,
We all eat worms.
Are houses are in trees,
We don't like terrifying cats.



The Frog and the Caterpillar



One sunny day, a frog was hopping around his pond when a caterpillar crawled by and said, "Hello". Frog said, "Can you bounce as high as me?"

"Keep your boasting to yourself!" said Caterpillar.

Frog said, "Tomorrow let's have a bouncing contest."

"I accept your challenge," said Caterpillar, "See you tomorrow."

The caterpillar went to sleep.

Overnight he turned into a chrysalis. In the morning a miracle happened! The caterpillar had turned into a butterfly.

In the morning he flew to the pond. "Hello," said Frog, "Who are you?"

"I am Caterpillar. Let's play the contest," he said.

"Yes, OK," said Frog. Frog jumped first. He jumped high but

Butterfly said, "You may jump high but I can fly higher!" and with that he flew off above the tree tops.



Moral: Boasting doesn't get you anywhere.



CHRISTMAS



FAIR



We wish
you a
Merry
Christmas



Diary Dates



21 December

Young Kirkhamians' Christmas Gathering,
The Grapes, Wrea Green, 19:30

Mon 11 January

2nd Year Parents' Evening

Tues 12- Thurs 14 January

11+ Music Scholarship Auditions

Tues 12 January

11+ Sports Scholarship Assessment

Fri 15 January

Young Business Brain Grand Final (students only)
Location: Glyndwr University, Wrexham

Sat 16 January

11+ Entrance Examination

Wed 13 – Fri 22 January

5th Year Mock Examinations

Mon 25 January - Tues 2 February

Sixth Form Mock Examinations

Wed 27 January

Sixth Form Taster Day for current 5th Form

Fri 29 January

Coffee Concert - Recital Hall
Everyone Welcome

Sun 31 January

Junior School LAMDA exams

Tues 2 February

AJIS Indoor Athletics

Thurs 4 February

2nd Year Concert, Recital Hall

Wed 24 February

IEA Sixth Form College Conference, Old Hall

Wed 2 March

Young Voices Concert at Manchester Arena

Thurs 17 March

Junior School Cheese & Wine Arts Evening
in the Senior School MPH

Gala Concert, Recital Hall

Everyone Welcome

KGJS Hockey Tournament

Fri 18 March

CCF Field Day

Coffee Concert, Recital Hall

Everyone Welcome

Wed 23 March

Founders' Day Service, St Michael's Church,
Kirkham

SPORTING EXCELLENCE

