

# In Touch with Kirkham Grammar School

Headmaster's Newsletter to parents

## This historic year

**We were privileged to be joined by the Most Rev. and Rt. Hon David Hope, Archbishop of York at our annual Founders' Day Service in St. Michael's Church, Kirkham on Thursday, 29th April.**



**F**ittingly the School returned to its roots again to celebrate one of the most significant events in its 450th Anniversary Year.

A packed congregation was enthralled by the singing of the choirs and the Archbishop's well researched and expertly delivered address.

In this historic year, the work of the School's Founders assumes its true significance. Without their efforts, their concern and their enterprise we might not be celebrating 450 years of Kirkham Grammar School. Appropriately the sun shone on the event and the occasion was as impressive as we all would have wished. The Christian heritage of the School was manifest and the real presence of God in all our work was conveyed admirably through the spirituality of the Archbishop of York, who delighted us all by his wise words, his sureness of touch and his keenness to mix and talk with our pupils. Founders' Day was an enjoyable and moving occasion, an event to be cherished in our memories of this special year.

*B. Stacey*

**Founders' Day Service in St. Michael's Church,  
Kirkham**



## SIXTH FORM BALL

This year's Leavers' Ball was blessed with a perfect Summer evening and a record number of guests - over 180 students, former students, guests and teaching staff enjoyed an evening of music and dancing in the marquee. As ever, our youngsters looked resplendent in evening dress for the occasion. This firmly established tradition is now one of the highlights of every Sixth Form student's time with us, and an event greatly enjoyed by the many staff who attend.

## SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT

The new Languages Centre is on schedule for completion by September of this year. It is being built in sympathy with the Grade II listed building which fronts the school and will be linked into the Technology Centre via an arched bridge. The finished product should look very well indeed and will provide five extra teaching rooms, two of which will be equipped with computer technology.

The next major development, scheduled for the summer of 2000, is the 450th Anniversary Library Project. Plans have been drawn to extend the library along the ground floor of the '38 Block, encompassing rooms 16 and 17. This will almost double the size of the existing library. Stock will be increased and updated, more computers and CD Roms installed and the library system will be computerised. We also intend to develop the Sixth Form Study area into a functional resources area for our sixth formers.

## SENIOR PREFECTS

School Captains and Senior Prefects 1999/2000 are as follows:

**Captain of School:**

Martha Newell

**Vice Captains:**

Ben Hale  
Philip Hendy

**Captains of the Boarding House:**

Kimberley Peake  
Vanessa Walker

**Senior Prefects:**

Samantha Cheadle  
Annabel Fowden  
Joanne Gornall  
Michaela Johnson  
Gareth Rees  
Emily Rhodes  
Thomas Russell  
Suman Sidhu  
Lucy Smith  
Jonathan Whiteside

## Imagine

**'Imagine,' KGS's Young Enterprise Company is in the process of winding down a very successful business year. With most trading completed the term has been dominated by preparation for the Area Finals where the company was judged against 12 other Young Enterprise schools in the Fylde.**



A team of five achievers represented the company on Thursday 22nd April where they delivered a hi-tech presentation and were judged on their stand and final written report. This was enough to win them a place in the Lancashire West Finals at the University of Central Lancs, a great achievement for our sixth formers. Although they were not successful in being the school which went through to the North West finals, 'Imagine' gave another accomplished performance, and fully enjoyed the experience of the evening.

The Financial Director is in the process of returning initial capital plus dividends to all those who supported the enterprise.

As well as tasting success, the achievers have gained a great deal from their new experiences. From a link teachers' point of view it has been a pleasure to work with one of the most successful companies in recent years. Well done all!

**Michaela Johnson, Helen Critchley, Sam Smith and Jonathan Whiteside display 'Imagine's' stand**

## SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Kirkham Grammar School has been awarded its second Arkwright Engineering Scholarship in only the School's second year in the scheme. These prestigious and highly sought after awards are extremely difficult to obtain and fifth year Laura Clarke deserves all our congratulations on receiving her award. To add to her achievements, Laura has also won a Rank Foundation Scholarship, the first time in the history of the school that one student has held two such important external scholarships. Congratulations also to Anthony Rawlins on his award of a Rank Foundation Scholarship.

## STUDENT TEACHERS

Two students from St Martin's College, Lancaster, spent five weeks with us this term on their final School Experience. Ms R. Westwell and Ms A. Brunt both attained Qualified Teacher Status with flying colours. We were fortunate to have such willing and able students who brought new insights and methods to the Geography and History Departments. We wish them every success in their future careers.

# STAFF CHANGES

I appointed Mr Neal Clark to the key post of Head of English some six years ago. His academic credentials and enthusiasm for the subject were first rate and he has proved to be an inspiring teacher of English, who has served KGS very well indeed. Examination results have been excellent and Mr Clark has worked hard to raise cultural awareness amongst our pupils. He has introduced GCSE General Studies successfully, promoted Oxbridge entrance and acted as the School's representative on the B.Ae. Schools' Network Able Child Project. Beyond the curriculum he has shared his passion for ornithology with many enthusiastic young bird watchers and organised regular expeditions throughout the British Isles and abroad. We shall miss his distinctive and broad ranging contribution to the work and life of our school enormously, but we must congratulate him, however reluctantly, on his appointment as Deputy Headmaster of Stewart Melville's College, Edinburgh, the largest HMC school in the country. Mr Clark has achieved an enviable promotion, which we trust will prove to be a stepping stone to a future Headship, and we wish him every success in his demanding new post.

In his place, I have appointed an experienced Head of Department with an excellent track record. Mr Christopher Hawkes joins K.G.S. in September from King Edward's School, Lytham where he has led the English Department for the past six years with excellent results. A senior English examiner, Mr Hawkes took a good honours degree in English at Leeds University, where he also completed his PGCE, and followed this with an MA in Educational Studies from Loughborough University. He is experienced in the use of ICT, having been the webmaster and author of King Edward's web site, and hugely experienced in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, as Awards Officer for the Lytham Schools. We look forward to the all-round contribution he is about to make at KGS.

We are sorry to lose the enthusiasm, creativity and expertise of our Director of Drama, Mrs Pearl Holdsworth, who leaves us this summer to follow her dream of life in the Orkney Isles. In just two years at K.G.S. Mrs Holdsworth has accomplished a great deal. She has popularised the subject, staged a wide variety of major productions which have included drama, music and dance and created the school's first drama studio in premises which used to house the school shop. We are grateful to Mrs Holdsworth for taking her subject forward and we wish her every happiness in her new life.

In her place, I have appointed Mrs Lynda Poole, who is presently teacher in charge of drama at Lancaster Girls' Grammar School. Having been Head Girl of Arnold School, she took a good honours degree in English at London University, followed by a PGCE at Manchester Met. She is a qualified TEFL teacher and spent six years in the Army, 1987-93, leaving with the rank of Captain. Mrs Poole brings with her, above all, an enviable reputation for high quality drama and we look forward to the exciting contribution she will surely make to the work and life of K.G.S.

Sadly, we have also to bid farewell to Rev. Tom Taylor, who replaced Mr Ashmore as a temporary part-time teacher of music. In the short time he has been with us, Rev. Taylor has been a marvellous colleague to work with and we could not have done without his contribution to the music department. He has accompanied superbly on piano and organ, led the girls' choir, conducted the orchestra, taken assemblies, taught music, religious studies and general studies and always been willing to give generously of his time to school. He will be sorely missed and we wish him well in his future career.

I have appointed Mrs Barbara Cassidy as second in the Music Department. Mrs Cassidy is an experienced Head of Department in her own right, and presently Head of Music at Tulketh High School. She is academically very well qualified with a good honours degree in Music from Sheffield University, where she also completed her PGCE and later obtained an M.Ed. in Educational Studies. Her main instrument is the organ; she has played for Evensong at York Minster and Blackburn Cathedral. She is also an orchestral French horn player, an accomplished accompanist and singer (alto and soloist). Outside her main specialism, her interests lie in sport and outdoor pursuits. Clearly, Mrs Cassidy has much to bring to K.G.S. and we look forward to her joining our staff.

I have appointed Mrs Caroline Copland as our new Librarian and Archivist. Mrs Copland has been in charge of the library at Wallasey School for the past five years. She is a qualified Librarian, with a wealth of experience, and looking forward to planning and implementing the schools' ambitious library extension. We are immensely grateful to Mr Richard Watson for all the work he has done in building and running the library at K.G.S. over many years. As Head of Middle School he has other responsibilities, but I am pleased to report that he will be using his experience to assist Mrs Copland.

It is with great regret that I have to report that Ms Carole Defriez, our Development and Publicity Secretary, will be leaving us at the end of August when she remarries. Formerly Headmaster's Secretary at Lawrence House School, Ms Defriez joined us six years ago and has given K.G.S. outstanding service. She has been instrumental in rebuilding a now flourishing Old Kirkhamians' Association, giving secretarial support, organising memorabilia and O.K.A. Newsletters. She published the first 'Who's Who' of KGS and also leant her formidable energy and enthusiasm to the work of the Friends' Committee. She has been responsible for the publication of my letters to parents, for all school publicity and advertising and the organisation of Open Events. We shall find it very difficult to replace her sheer devotion to school life and the selfless way she has given countless hours of her own time and effort. We owe Carole a huge debt of appreciation and wish her every happiness in her married life and success in the business she is keen to start.



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The summer term has been very busy for the club members with the arrival of several new animals. We successfully incubated six hen eggs as well as an abandoned duck egg. The duckling became a firm favourite as it was imprinted on humans and followed the pupils around the Biology laboratory. At half term it was released on to Sarah Critchley's farm and soon became acquainted with the other ducks on the pond.

The warm weather has promoted the rapid reproduction of our stick insects. They have laid over 300 eggs in one month! Jo Hedley is looking after the eggs until September when they are due to hatch. Anyone who is interested in setting up their own colony of stick insects is welcome to have some of the newly hatched nymphs next term.

In May, our new Syrian hamster, Marianne, had a litter of five pups which have all survived and have grown very well. We were very pleased with their progress; a hamster's first litter is not always healthy. All the pups have been found new homes but we couldn't part with them all and chose the female albino one (called 'Magic') to keep at school.

The other addition to our animal collection has been four pet rats. These were a fantastic surprise as Animal Club members had made a collection and raised money to buy them together with a lovely new cage.

I'd like to thank all those who contributed to the fund raising, especially the organisers, Sarah Critchley and Katie Hold. Also, many thanks to the Sixth Formers Katherine Emma and



## CHESS

## CLUB

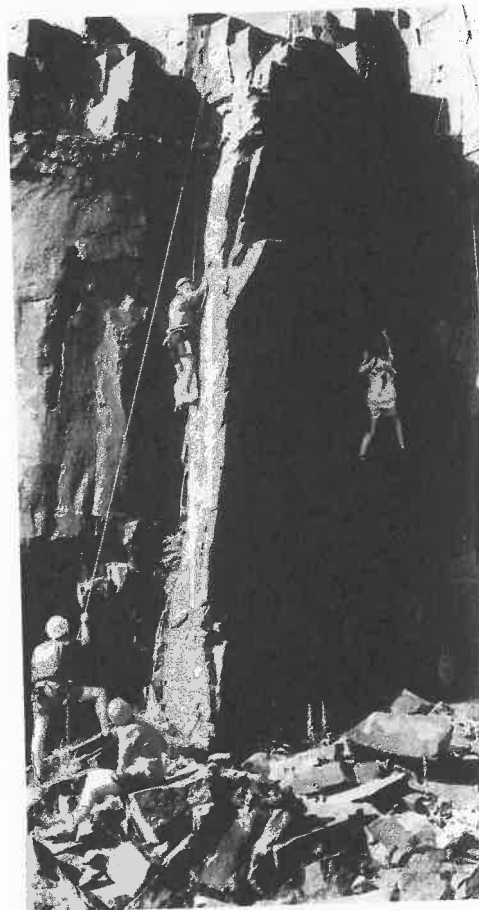
The winner of the Chess Club's Annual Competition was R. Bhuiya (Upper 6). In Junior Section the winner was Lee Ryan who went on to represent the School in the Regional Final of the UK Chess Challenge; an annual, nationwide competition for young players. Lee missed qualifying for the National Final by the narrowest of margins half a point. He is hoping to improve on this next year.

## CLIMBING CLUB

The climbing club is always at its most active during the summer term, the better weather and lighter evenings allowing visits after school to the gritstone quarries which ring the southern side of Blackburn. There were also visits further afield, to climb on Yorkshire limestone and to experience the excitement of climbing on the huge quarry walls in the Silverdale area. The publication of the new Lancashire Climbing Guidebook enabled exploratory trips to new venues to be made, though it must be said that none of the new crags can match Troy Quarry in providing high quality routes across the whole range of grades.

James Fletcher has emerged as the most talented of the younger climbers. He is now regularly successful when seconding 5a climbs and he is still improving. Adam Devine and Sam Blackburn

have used this term to convert their impressive indoor skills, so that they can perform at the same standard outdoors on real rock. Each of them can second 5c routes; they have both gained a good understanding of basic ropework, as well as contributing much towards making this an enjoyable and successful experience for the climbing club.



## K.G.S. ORNITHOLOGISTS

The last summer of field trips could go down as the best. For the sixth year running the May visit to the Lake District was blessed with sunshine and eagles (sadly without a put on their best ever display. This was followed by a visit to the Seahouses (where lurked a glaucous gull just over the harbour) and a visit to the Farne Islands. A five hour cruise found the party amidst a crowded puffin colony and later besieged by Arctic terns whilst trying to spot their very rare roseate spoonbill at Leighton Moss. However, the highlight was the seabird spectacular to the Farne Islands. A five hour cruise found the party amidst a crowded puffin colony and later besieged by Arctic terns whilst trying to spot their very rare roseate spoonbill at Leighton Moss. Most spectacular was the cruise around the world famous Bass Rock in the Firth of Forth where live over 55,000 gannets. To visit such a remote and extraordinary place, it took a day and a half and fourteen thousand miles.

# GEOGRAPHY FIELD WORK

**The Summer Term is always a very busy time for the Geography Department. The first week, as usual, saw the annual trek over the Pennines to Yorkshire for the Lower Sixth's field course week, which is now an examinable module at Advanced Level.**

The week in Scarborough started off very wet and windy and the soft Lancastrians realised what harsh weather really was as they were buffeted by the stiff North Sea breeze! As the week progressed, the weather improved and much work was covered and enjoyed. Studies took place in various villages and in the town itself, to support the settlement studies module. A day was also spent in York, studying the Heritage Industry and a great time was had by the 17 year-olds in the Viking village at Murton Park which was designed for primary school children but an over-enthusiastic Norseman made it so realistic and alive!

The physical studies consisted of a day along the River Derwent from the North Yorkshire Moors to Forge Valley. It was fortunate for the students that it was several weeks earlier when the river had caused so much disaster from flooding in Malton and Norton, but evidence of the devastation was still there. Another day saw fair weather, this time, along the coast from the ill-fated Holbeck Hall Hotel, as far south as Flamborough Head. This topic was examined in the option modules in June.

Later in the term, K.G.S. geographers were out and about again. This time it was for half a day in Kirkham and a full day studying the River Wyre in the Trough of Bowland. It was the fourth year GCSE pupils who were put to the test of the elements and in true North West style, it rained quite heavily for two days, so both groups got a dousing. However, there was consolation for one group when they got a brief view of the PruTour around Britain Cycle Race as it sped past us on its way to Blackpool and I believe some of our girls were heard singing on Radio Lancashire!

The hard work now begins as our pupils have to write up the report over the summer holidays, which constitutes 25% of the final GCSE grade. This goes to show that fieldwork is not all fun, but Geography certainly goes places!

## PHILATELIC SOCIETY

K.G.S.'s newest society continues to flourish. As well as weekly meetings, where members wheel and deal to improve their collections, the Society has also paid a visit to the Preston Stamp Centre. Next term the Society is hoping to have 'guest collectors' from the Lytham St. Annes Philatelic Society to pass on advice and information



**4th Year Field Work**



# COMBINED CADET FORCE

On the Family Fun Afternoon the CCF put on a display of military tactical skills. The cadets had worked hard and technically this was an excellent effort but from a spectator view point might have proved a little less interesting than a display from the Red Arrows or the Royal Horse Artillery! Constraints on the use of ammunition and pyrotechnics in a public place rather reduce the overall visual impact of such display, even if the Colonel did burn a hole in the cardigan of an innocent bystander!

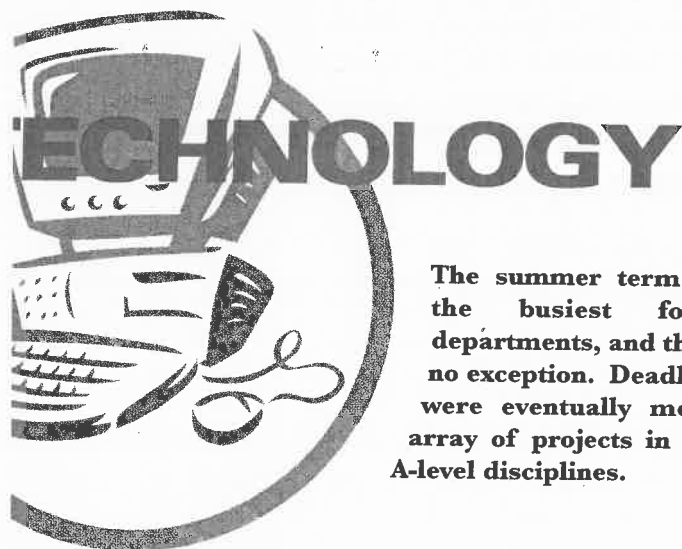
Field Day will take place at Holcombe and Weeton and Summer Camp will involve some sixty-six cadets and ten staff and Old Kirkhamians at Warcop during the first week of the summer vacation.

The CCF small bore shooting team will take on an OKA team in a match on the Open Weekend when it is to be hoped the OKA's will not have forgotten their weapon safety drills.

A busy period for the RAF section began with the annual RAF Easter Camp held at RAF Leuchars near Dundee. Some 12 cadets along with Flight Lieutenant Callister and Flying Officer Hayton spent a week at this busy operational base learning about the RAF at the sharp end. During this busy week the senior cadets also had the opportunity to make the ascent of Ben Lawers and Bienn Ghlas in the Cairngorms. At over 4000 ft., and covered in snow and ice, this was no easy task. Sgt. Sam Smith became quite an expert with the ice-axe and Cpl. Gordon McBurnie must have lost 2 stones because he carried more spare equipment than a pack horse!

Enjoyable field days were also held at RAF Woodvale and Weeton Barracks. At Woodvale, the fourth year RAF cadets had the opportunity to fly with the RAF for the first time, while at Weeton the fifth year cadets completed the assault course and the full bore range.

Finally, congratulations are in order for Cpl. Helen Jacomb who has been selected to attend the forthcoming RAF Leadership course to be held at RAF Stafford over the summer. This is a very demanding and sought after course, designed to enhance confidence and leadership skills in RAF cadets.



**The summer term is traditionally the busiest for Technology departments, and this year has been no exception. Deadlines for projects were eventually met, with a vast array of projects in both GCSE and A-level disciplines.**

all pleased in the department to hear of Laura Clarke's successful bid to gain a British Aerospace Scholarship. These awards are very difficult to achieve and will give Laura the opportunity to spend time working for any practical work she does over the next couple of years.

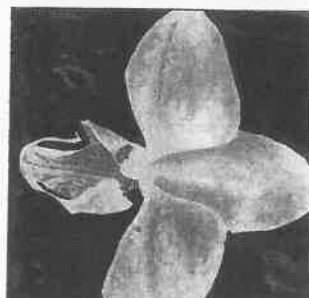
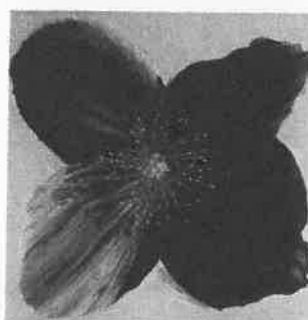
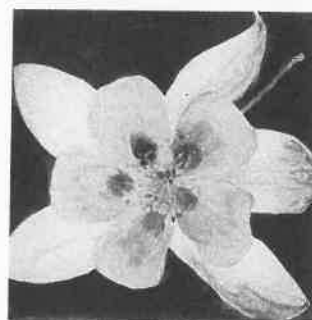
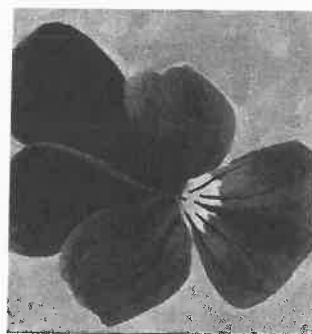
Michael Strickland of the L6th has been entered for a British Aerospace Scholarship. Michael will be involved with a team of students over the summer holiday period. Michael will be involved with a team of students in a scheme which promotes the systems approach to design.

The department has been hectic for the EuroCollaborator design team. These are the group of pupils who have been designing and modelling a next generation aircraft. A presentation took place at Warton on the 5th of July. We now look forward to next year when we begin the collaboration with other schools in the region to build a scale model. The second year of the project will be launched at Bramhall Grammar School on September 11th 1999.

The EuroCollaborator team, Michael Strickland and Samuel Smith, visited the School at a National Schools CAD/CAM initiative launch at Warwick. Parametric Technology Corporation (PTC) and the Design and Technology Association (DATA) along with the Department for Education and Employment (DFEE) have developed this initiative which will supply Pro/DESKTOP and modeling software to Schools in England. We have been using this software for the last 12 months and displayed our efforts at the event. Michael Strickland specialises in Star Wars models which are so realistic that George Lucas's company, Industrial Light and Sound, wanted too many noughts after the decimal to enable PTC to use the models in their launch presentation. Due to the success at Kirkham with this piece of software, we have now been invited to act as Beta Testers for the latest version. This means we get to try the newest software before general release, and to comment on our likes and dislikes. We are now Beta Testers in the country. The department is also writing a report for PTC to highlight our experiences of the software in an educational context.

To see the capabilities of this revolutionary software, look at: ([www.ptc.com](http://www.ptc.com)). The department is not reliant however, on a single piece of software. We have updated our Technology and ICT software to include Desk Top Publishing and ComputerAided Design via AutoCAD. This will give all our pupils the opportunity of having access to the latest industrial and educational software in the region. The department is also writing a report for PTC to highlight our experiences of the software in an educational context.

In September we look forward to welcoming our neighbours, the modern school. The school will be connected via a bridge, and through ICT technology. This extension to the Technology facility will be fully online by the beginning of the next year.



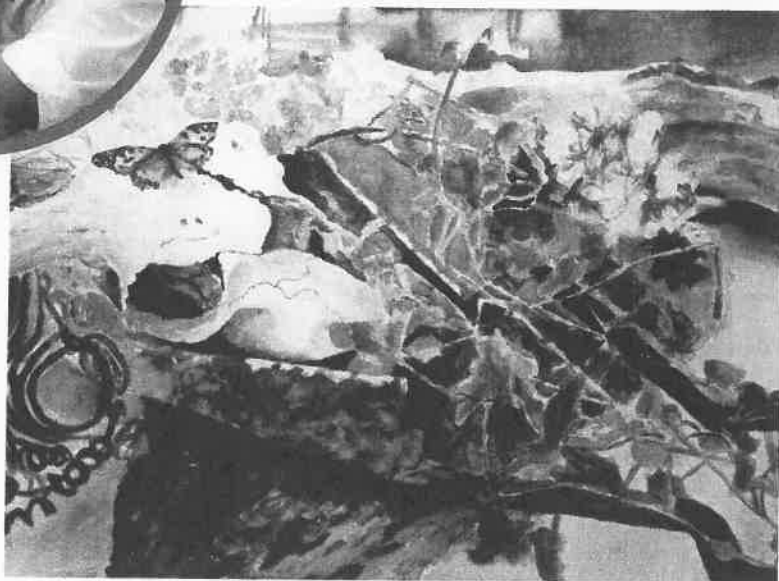
Watercolour artwork by Jennifer Birchall in the 5th year

It has been a busy term for those pupils taking external exams in the 5th year and Upper 6th. With the completion of their examination pieces, they set about preparing for the external moderators' visits and the internal marking of work. The GCSE exhibition took some four to five days to set up with a poster designed and printed and invitations sent out to parents to view the work.



Parents and staff who attended the GCSE exhibition expressed their delight at the range and overall high standard of work by all pupils. This was echoed when the examining board chose Jennifer Birchall's exhibition as a sample for their grade standardisation meeting.

Pupils in years one to four have not been inactive either, with artists creating artwork of the variety and excellence that one expects at K.G.S. Their work can generally be seen in Room 21 and around the school.



Watercolour artwork by Jennifer Birchall in the 5th year

## FRENCHTRIP

The French Department's annual Easter Trip was this year to Paris, on what has become an established three yearly fixture - many pupils choose to join this popular trip twice: once as a lower school pupil and then later as a Sixth Former. This year's group reflected that pattern, with a large group of second and third years joined by a similar number of Sixth Formers, many of whom had been on the last Paris Trip in 1996.

From our pleasant retreat at Dammarie near the Forest of Fontainebleau, we spent three full, exhausting but enjoyable days on the tourist trail round Paris, including a day in glorious Spring sunshine at Disneyland. For many, however, the highlight of this trip is the evening on the Square at Montmartre, when we all experienced for a few hours the Paris of the tourist brochures - accordion music, artists on the pavement and drinks at astronomical prices - and worth every centime!



## MUSIC

The demands upon the musicians during the Summer term have as ever been many, with singers and instrumentalists being required for the Founders Day Service, the Summer Concert and Commemoration Service.

All of this of course in addition to the usual demands made on pupils involved in Association Board Exams - over thirty of them this term!

'JJ' P. Parkinson, A. Kipling, C. Carter, & S. Smith



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s a highlight for the children.

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e money for those suffering from  
eek acted as sponsorship of Chris in a forthcoming sponsored hike.  
hectic term for the Charity Committee and we thank them for all their hard work in raising our awareness of such important

# ING

1 (Autumn and Spring Terms only)

They have all trained and competed regularly for the current Upper Sixth school swimmers.  
nd enthusiasm within the squad is attributable to the dedication of the senior school swimmers. We wish them well for the future and  
n for all their efforts on behalf of K.G.S. The early Friday morning sessions will not be the same without them. At Intermediate level,  
s, E. Walker are providing the foundations for this age group (3rd/4th year) but competition against boys of similar age is now proving  
e 1st/2nd years.  
ed considerable enthusiasm and have worked hard throughout the two terms of swimming: A. Cooper, S. Hatch and K. Edgar earn

performed  
from Geoffrey  
Chaucer's "The  
Canterbury  
Tales". The  
styles of playing  
ranged from  
that of  
mummers,  
through  
melodrama to  
street theatre, and  
provided pupils with  
the opportunity to  
experience the historical  
development of the travelling players. The Old Hall,  
suitably decorated by Mr Painter's Art Club, provided  
an atmospheric venue.



Many thanks to the number of staff and parents who supported the day  
and managed to raise a total of over £400 towards the 450th Anniversary  
Library Project.

Educational workshops included a wonderful GRIMAS make-up day which  
contributed significantly to the success of those candidates taking the topic  
as an individual skill. Theatre visits have included "The Phantom of the  
Opera" in Liverpool and "My Fair Lady" to see our own Victoria  
Richardson in the role of Eliza.



**Parcels of food and clothes for the Kosovo appeals**

The summer term marks the end of an era for the current Upper Sixth school swimmers.  
David Rees, Andrew Walker, Kate Oades, Michelle Harrison, Arren Perfetti, Lucy Russell  
and Tom Leeming have all made an outstanding contribution to the swimming fraternity  
for the School over the past seven years (Tom Leeming since the 4th year).



# SPORTS DAY



# Inter House Events

Despite the threat of inclement weather throughout the morning, the Centenary Athletics Sports Day, which took place on the afternoon of the 12th May 1999, proved to be an outstanding success.

Witnessed by our Guests of Honour for the day: Peter Hosker (Vice-Chairman of Governors) and International Sprinter, Allyn Condon, pupils from all year groups, representing their Houses, competed skilfully and enthusiastically for the overall House prize and the coveted Victor and Victorix Ludorum individual championships.

Following on from several preliminary events which had taken place in the week preceding Sports Day, many events were hotly contested. Gareth Rees narrowly failed to break the 110m high hurdles record, still held by Peter Hosker, but two other records tumbled: the Junior Girls 75 m hurdles (13.63) by L. Sissons (Fylde) and the Senior Boys' Relay (46.57 s - School).

At all times the spectators were appreciative of the commitment displayed by the competitors in each event. In all events, competitors were extremely well presented and determined to do well for their House.

Many thanks to all staff and helpers for their assistance, both in prelim events and on the day.

## Results:

School 743 points  
Kirkham 683 points  
Preston 595 points  
Fylde 573.5 points

## Victor/Victorix Ludorum Awards

### Junior Boys:

Steven Hatch (1st year!)  
- 41 points

### Inter Boys:

(Joint) Yamanee Zahir -  
38 points and George  
Leeming - 38 points

### Senior Boys:

Richard Wire - 45 points

### Junior Girls:

Lucy Martin - 35 points

### Inter Girls:

Amy Twambley - 32  
points

### Senior Girls:

Rebecca Kay - 38 points

We come to the end of another action packed year of Inter House events. As ever the competition has been as keen as mustard, and that's just between the House Masters! Looking back, the range and number of events our pupils participate in always amazes me and I marvel at how much organisation goes into ensuring that all events have entrants who are in the right place at the right time. We have the team captains to thank for this task. However, things can go wrong and the unexpected can always land in the lap of the unsuspecting HouseMaster to add to the stresses and strains of the normal school day.

All Houses have had their strengths and weaknesses this year, and the other Houses have attempted to capitalise on these. The major strength of School House is that they have a great detail of talent, coupled with strong team spirit. They are well led and determined to win. Kirkham House have put up a great fight this year by identifying the skills within their House and applying grit and determination to overcome. At the time of writing we don't know the final outcome, but the overall winner will come from either School or Kirkham, with Preston and Fylde fighting it out for a place in the playoffs.

The major event of this term was the Centenary Sports Day. We were blessed with excellent weather and excellent sporting competition. The highlight of the day could have been Gareth Rees taking the high hurdles record from our Guest of Honour Mr Peter Hosker, who has held the record since 1958. However, conditions were not perfect for his record attempt. Apparently one of the prerequisites for breaking hurdles records is a flat track. Some people want jam on it too!

Whilst the actual events seemed to run smoothly under the expert organisation of the Games staff, there were some very hairy moments in the wings. Both Kirkham and Preston had very limited numbers of shirts and mini stripteases were taking place at the side of the track as shirts were frantically taken from one competitor to another.

The afternoon was excellent for the School in this very special year, and excellent if you were in School House as they literally ran away with the trophy. Kirkham were second with Preston and Fylde having their own tightly fought competition for third place, which Preston eventually won.

Next year we hope to introduce some new competitions to the overall House Trophy, which should add some extra spice to proceedings and provide even more opportunity for pupils to show their strengths outside the classroom. This is the essence of the whole competition, and it does highlight some excellent and surprising individual performances, too numerous to mention here.



# CRICKET

## 1st/2nd XI

With still seven fixtures to play at the time of writing, including a prestigious match versus the MCC, the 1st XI has had a successful season. In a programme interrupted by weather, a splendid victory against Lancaster Royal Grammar School (the first for many years) and a combined XI victory versus Hutton Grammar School demonstrated the potential of the Senior Squad. A winning draw in a closely contested 1st XI match versus Arnold was reward for a good batting performance and resilience against a determined attack on the Kirkham score.

In all games the 1st team has been underpinned by the strong batting and bowling strengths of Captain Ben Davies and Ben Godfrey, strongly supported by Adam Watts, Paul Ashton - an opening bat/wicket keeper, Tom Russell, John Boyle, Andrew Davies and Andrew Hopkinson all show potential in the Lower Sixth.

The 2nd XI have shown less consistency, but in three defeats against Lancaster, King Edward VII, Lytham and Arnold have shown enthusiasm and promise. Further application and practice, especially in pre-season nets, will prove invaluable.

Recent results: Batley - lost by 49 runs.

Habergham - winning draw. K.G.S. 119 all out. Habergham 75 for 4.

## U.13

The Under 13s have won three matches and lost three. The captaincy has rotated between L. Hanley, S. Ralls and P. Reeh. Each has led in his own style. Overall, the side is strong in all aspects of the game and play each match in a competitive spirit. The biggest disappointment was going out in the second round of the Lancashire Cup to Ripley by a whisker: both teams made the same amount of runs, but Ripley lost one less wicket. Next year we are looking to go further.

## U.12

The team started nervously and took a couple of games to get into their stride; a lack of runs and ability to judge a single proved costly in the earlier matches. After two defeats the side found their form with a magnificent bowling performance against Ripley St Thomas when the opposition were bowled out for twelve. Another four consecutive wins over QEGS (Blackburn), King Edward VII (Lytham), Arnold (Blackpool) and St Bedes (Lytham) all demonstrated a strong bowling side with several members of the side taking wickets regularly. Scoring runs is still a problem as the teams come to terms with batting properly and applying themselves according to each match situation.

# HOCKEY

Gavin Phillips has represented the North West U.16 hockey XI against other regions throughout the season. We congratulate Gavin on being rewarded with a National Trial and wish him well in his quest for a

# ATHLETICS

**Despite unpredictable weather, which has caused many fixtures to be cancelled, and the inevitable disruption to activities as a result of internal and external exams, the summer term has witnessed some outstanding individual and team performances.**

Athletics continues to go from strength to strength at Kirkham. Under the expert tuition and guidance of Syl Sampey, our National Coach, from Senior level to those taking their first steps in Secondary Athletics competition, team performances and individual achievements have been exceptional.

KGS dominated the competitive Fylde Coast Schools' Athletics Championships. Our boys teams won the U.13 and U.15 events, placed second in the U.17s and fifth in the U.14s. Congratulations also to Richard Wire who won the Lancashire Schools' 100 and 200 metres titles and earned selection for the National Schools, as did Gareth Rees, winner of the County 400 metres hurdles event. Daniel Tolley produced a notable 'first' for KGS by winning the Lancashire Schools' hammer competition.

# TENNIS

Although success has been hard to achieve for the Under 15s, the boys have persevered in their matches and achieved some creditable performances, most notably in their victories against Carr Hill and Lytham St Annes.

The Under 13 team received an unexpected setback when they were defeated by a very strong team from Lancaster G.S. Although they won all their other matches in the local league, this defeat meant that did not qualify for the final stages of that competition. However, not all was lost, as the same squad provided the players for the Under 14 County Knockout Competition. After some close matches, with victories over Bolton G.S., the team reached the final which was held at the Lancashire County LTA Headquarters at Wigan. Here the opponents were Formby High School. After an excellent start, which saw K.G.S. take the lead by two matches, our players met some extremely tough opposition in Formby's top two players, and our initial lead was pegged back.

Each player was then required to play a tie-break in a bid to separate the schools and again, after an excellent start, K.G.S. lost their initial lead as Formby's players proved too strong for us. So, with the score standing at two matches all and two tie-breaks all, games had to be counted and, heartbreakingly, K.G.S. lost by one game. Even so, it was an excellent performance and the team of Adam Tuck, Liam Hanley, Jack Ward and Michael Briggs should feel proud of their marvellous achievement. This was the first time that K.G.S. boys have reached the final of this competition and we are immensely proud of their performance.

# RUGBY



**Representative Honours gained since last newsletter:**

**Richard Wire** - Scottish U.19 Development Tour to New Zealand. Richard was also voted by "Rugby World" one of the two outstanding Scottish players in the inaugural Four Home Nations Youth Championship.

**Ben Davis** - England 18 Group 'A' XV v Wales. Ben played very well for England in the above match at Llandovey according to Rugby World, scoring the only England try in an England victory. He was very unlucky not to gain a full cap.

**Jonathan Roddam** and **Richard Hopkinson** - England U.17 Development Squad. Both have been selected for the final squad which is training over the summer in preparation for next year's international season at 18 Group level.

**1st XV Captain 1999-2000:** Jonathan Roddam has been appointed (the Vice-Captain will be appointed at the start of





# HOCKEY

At the end of last term our 1st XI completed an excellent season by winning the Cheadle Hulme Seven-a-Side Hockey Tournament, which brought together sixteen schools from the North West. In a round robin final against Stockport Grammar, Withington High School and Priest Hall Grammar, KGS emerged as clear winners. Congratulations to Captain Jane Kirby and her team.

Congratulations also to Lucy Martin and her unbeaten U.12 hockey team, who also ended their season on a high note by winning the Arnold School Invitation Tournament, beating Brentwood, Essex.

On April 17th our U.13 mini-hockey team represented Lancashire in the Regional Finals of the Le Coq Sportif 7-a-side national hockey competition. Unfortunately, on the day the girls did not perform as well as they were capable of doing and finished in third position. Six of the squad are eligible to play again next year and this certainly is promising for next season.

At the end of a remarkable hockey season, K.G.S. teams had won five out of seven Lancashire county titles. Congratulations to all our players, coaches and supporters.



**Senior girls' hockey team Barbados bound!**

# WAIRARAPA EXCHANGE

This year's exchange students are Cara Backhouse, Emily Rhodes, Guy Bebbington and Phillip Hendy. We hope their eight weeks at Wairarapa College proves to be the trip of a lifetime.



## ATHLETICS

Unfortunately, the wet weather in the first few weeks of term forced fixtures to be cancelled. However, the girls trained hard in all conditions from the beginning of term and were eager to compete. So far we have had matches against Arnold, Lytham, Queen Mary and Lancaster Girls Grammar School.

At Arnold, we won two and lost two matches (U.12 and U.15 won U.13 and U.14 lost narrowly). Against Queen Mary, Lytham and Lancaster we had a clean sweep, winning overall in all matches. All the girls have been a great credit to the school. Many girls have broken their personal bests and this season ten K.G.S. girls have represented South Fylde in the Lancashire Schools Athletics Championships.

Congratulations must go to Vicky Peters for winning the U.17 Lancashire Schools' Long Jump event.

## TENNIS

This has been our most successful tennis season to date. We remain unbeaten in all but one age group! The Lancashire School's tennis tournaments have been held here at K.G.S.

In the U.19 Tournament, Emma Johnson won the plate competition. In the U.15 Tournament Jane Meloy and Ellie Cairns won the Lancashire Doubles Tournament. Rachel Sissons and Rosemary Ward were runners up in the Lancashire Plate final.

In the U.13 Tournament, Lorna Sissons reached the semi-final. Jane Greenwood was runner-up in the Lancashire final.

In the Lancashire Schools tennis leagues the U.13 narrowly lost the Fylde section of the competition by two games. The U.15 team won the Fylde section of the competition and played against Brownedge St. Mary's, Bamber Bridge in the semi-finals. The team, consisting of Jane Meloy, Ellie Cairns, Rosemary Ward, Rachel Sissons, won the match convincingly 5-1. The girls played against Clitheroe G.S. in the final on Thursday 24th June. After a nail-biting match, they were very unlucky to lose by just one game.

All the girls have been superb this season.



# ENDS OF KGS



ear in the history of Kirkham Grammar School as it marks our 450th  
Committee has been very busy during this term, organising and supporting many  
celebration of this exceptional milestone. Our project for this anniversary year is to  
the library fund that will initiate a Junior School Library and up-grade the Senior

this academic year, I  
sincere thanks to all  
nd Committee  
me, help, support and  
which have gone  
both a social and  
successful because you  
very grateful.

y Fun Day was a  
st year, helping to  
was a little kinder  
really lively, happy  
ldren, adults and  
volved in its  
Many thanks to all who  
Day that we now hope  
nt.

Grammar School  
mer Ball, held in a  
ool's front lawn on  
over 320 guests who  
ption in the Old Hall  
a jazz band. The  
marquee for a  
true Kirkham style,  
e hearts of would-be  
ening's entertainment.

ng dates in your



**Carol Defriez (Secretary),  
Ros Ince (Chairman),  
Jennifer Collinge (Treasurer)**

999 at 7.30 pm in the Old Hall, followed by an ordinary meeting of the Executive  
ease come along and, if you feel that you would like to join the Committee, you  
ernatively, if you do not want to join the Committee, you may like to leave your  
ling helpers at our major events.

ening: 8th October 1999 in the Old Hall.

Ball: 27th November 1999 at the Paradise Suite, The Pleasure Beach, Blackpool.

ember 1999 in the New Hall from 4.00 to 6.00 pm

ew your membership of the "100 Club".

ents will follow in my September newsletter; until then I thank you all once again  
rmer.



e 1999

est results in the history of the School's participation in these events,  
s (U.13, U.14 and U.15) and gaining third place in the U.17s.  
ur athletes and their coach, Mr Sampey.

**In Touch**  
with  
**Grammar School**

My warmest thanks for all your support and best wishes  
for a happy summer holiday.

*B. Stacey*

**B. Stacey**  
Headmaster

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**BRITISH AEROSPACE**  
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS NETWORK

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

A-Level results  
Thursday 19th August

GCSE Results  
Thursday 26th August

Old Kirkhamians' Association AGM at  
6.30 pm in the Library  
450th Anniversary Annual  
Reunion Dinner

Saturday 11th September 7.30 pm  
in the Old Hall

450th Anniversary Hockey Match  
World Hockey Tour Team v. K.G.S. 1st  
XI

Sunday 12th September at 1.30 pm at  
K.G.S.

Friends of Kirkham Grammar School  
Annual General Meeting  
Monday 20th September at 7.30 pm in  
the Old Hall

450th Anniversary School Photograph  
Thursday 30th September

Friends of Kirkham Grammar School  
New Parents' Welcome Evening  
Friday 8th October at 8.00 pm in the Old  
Hall

450th Anniversary Rugby Match  
Old Kirkhamians' Association  
v. The Anti-Assassins  
Sunday 10th October at 2.30 pm at  
K.G.S.

Open Afternoon for 11+ Entry  
September 2000  
Sunday 17th October 2.00 to 4.00 pm

450th Anniversary Senior School Prize  
Presentation and Speech Day  
Monday 22nd November at 7.30 pm at  
the Guild Hall Preston

Friends of KGS 450th Anniversary  
Winter Ball  
Saturday 27th November  
7.30 pm at the Paradise Rooms,  
Blackpool.

Senior School Drama Production  
Wednesday 1st, Thursday 2nd and Friday  
3rd December  
7.00 pm in the New Hall

450th Anniversary Senior School Carol  
Concert  
Thursday 9th December  
7.30 pm in the New Hall

450th Anniversary Senior School  
Carol Service  
Tuesday 14th December  
2.30 pm at St Michael's Parish Church,  
Kirkham