



HEAD'S NEWSLETTER

**SUMMER TERM
2011**



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Don't forget— you can enjoy the photos and articles in our full colour version of this newsletter which is on our website now!

Dear Parents and Carers

It seems astonishing to me that I'm coming to the end of my fourth academic year as headteacher of King James's School. This half term alone has seen the now familiar pattern of prizegiving ceremonies, final assemblies and the Year 11 and Year 13 Balls. The Year 13 who have just left were just beginning their GCSE's when I came back to King James in January 2008, indeed they were only Year 7's when I left in 2005.

The longer you teach, and I've been doing this for twenty two years now, the more the year groups blur together. It gets harder to remember who left the school when. However, you never forget faces (and some names!), and although you cannot keep in touch with all of your former students it is amazing how many will keep coming back to see us.

This is what makes teaching special. In 1989, in the very first class I taught, there was a bright young eleven year old, now thirty three, who went on to Cambridge and then to become a Tornado pilot in the RAF. My wife and I spent an evening with him, and his wife and baby, last month just before he was deployed to Afghanistan. The point I'm making is that teaching, and school days, develops strong bonds which can often last a lifetime.

The final assemblies and the leaver's balls are always good occasions. They are a barometer of the good relations that exist between teachers and students at King James's School. Even some of the students that may have given us a hard time tend to leave with a bit of nostalgia and a final appreciation that we had their best interests at heart!

In the last two weeks of term, and in another testimonial to the community spirit at King James, a group of students from 1949 came back to visit as part of their reunion. Not only that, they brought one of their former teachers with them! He is 90. As I showed them round a much changed school, the overwhelming feeling was that they talked about King James in almost exactly the same way that the Year 13 and Year 11 did on leaving; with fondness, laughter and sense of friendship.

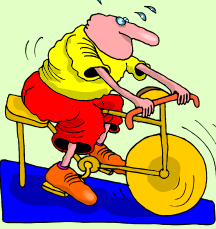
We had record exam results at GCSE in 2010, and we remained in the top 20% of schools for A Level too. The early indications are that the Year 11 and Year 13 of 2011 should do equally as well. I wish them well for the future and we will be there on the results days to assist and support as always.

Can I thank all parents and carers for their tremendous support this year and wish you all a good summer break.

Carl Sugden, Headteacher



PE Refurbishment:



We have begun work on a much needed refurbishment of the PE changing facilities and building of a new fitness suite. The Governors have long since identified this as a priority for the school and, despite difficult financial times, we have managed to secure the funding from our own revenue. The total cost of the project is around £400,000. We are very grateful to the Friends of King James's School who, largely through the Fun Run, have been able to support furnishing the new fitness suite with equipment to the tune of £25,000.

Parent Survey

Back in the Spring we undertook a parent survey. 700 questionnaires were sent out and 278 came back, a 40% return rate. The results from the independent survey company only arrived a few days ago, so I have not had chance to fully digest the detail. There was a space on the survey for comments to be written and I would like to assure parents who returned the survey that I have read every one of their comments.

The results are overwhelmingly very positive, with one or two areas for us to improve upon still further. If I were to pick out a few headlines they would be as follows:

In terms of overall satisfaction with the school 88% of parents rate the school in the top two categories ("good or very good"). 1% (three parents in this survey) rate the school as poor, with 11% in the middle category. In terms of satisfaction with the performance of various subjects, from an already high score, fourteen subjects have improved their rating since the last survey.

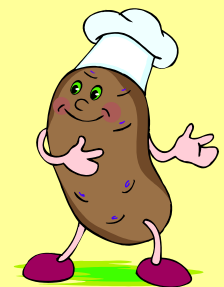
The whole point of doing these surveys is to find out what parents think and areas where we can improve. One thing that comes through loud and clear from the survey, and to be honest we knew this already from contacts with parents, is that the policy of early entry in Year 9 for maths was unpopular. We had already made the decision to change this policy before we got the survey back. To be fair to the maths department they did get the best maths results the school ever had in 2010 (80% A* to C) and so we shall still continue to work towards GCSE maths skills in Year 9, without the unwanted pressure of an early exam.

Where it gets difficult as a school leader is to decide what to do about some areas where there are completely diverse parent views, or where there are parental misconceptions about life in school. Two examples of split views are homework and learning cycles. On homework there are 11 written comments about the insufficiency or inconsistency of homework. However, out of the 278 parents returning the survey 45% felt

homework was about right, 7% said homework was too much, with 23% saying it was too little and 25% saying it was too variable. I'm sure you can appreciate the problem! Our response has to be to work on consistency.

Learning cycles also present a leadership dilemma. There were seven parental comments saying that the Learning Cycles were hard to understand with four parents wanting a return to written reports. However, 75% of parents surveyed scored Learning Cycles in the top two categories and said that Learning Cycles were helpful in reporting on progress. In the Autumn Term we will get a parent focus group together to help us to understand better how we can improve our system of reporting progress.

Another area of difficulty is around school meals. Ten parents make a specific comment about meals; usually about queues or about there being no food left at the end. I eat in the dining room every day and I usually wait right until the end of lunchtime to eat. The queues can be quite long but we do get everyone through in about 20 minutes (there is rarely a queue by 1 p.m. when there is still 20 minutes of lunchtime remaining). Of the three main meals there is usually plenty left towards the end and I've only once known the kitchen to run out of jacket potatoes and rarely to run out of sandwiches. I have invited, and had, governors in for lunch and I'll offer the same invitation to any parents who are concerned about the provision at lunchtime. And they say there's no such thing as a free lunch!



The survey company that we use can benchmark us against about 1,900 other schools; and we do compare very favourably. We will now go through the survey in even more detail but I'd like to thank all those parents who took the time to complete it and for the very many positive comments that you made.



ON THE SPORTING FRONT...



Multi Skills Club

It has been a very busy year for the multi skills club. This year has seen them play their first ever inter-school fixture against St. Aidan's. Since then they have had further fixtures against other schools including 'playground to podium competitions' in which they have been extremely successful.

Football Highlights

Congratulations to the U16's Football Team who became the area champions, beating Rossett 2-0 in the final at Knaresborough Town FC.

Tennis Highlights

Francesca Bates became the North Yorks Area U14 singles champion. Well done Francesca!

Basketball Highlights

The Yr 9 Basketball team reached the grand final of the U14's Basketball League Knockout at York University. After beating Rossett, St Aidan's, Harrogate High and Easingwold they eventually came 2nd in Yorkshire just missing out to Archbishop Holgate's School.

Congratulations to Callum Milburn and Jake Leworthy who were scouted by the Yorkshire Area Performance Coach.

Athletics Highlights

- All four Athletic teams qualified for the Regional Finals.
- The Year 7/8 girls and Year 9/10 boys qualified for the B' finals at Hull. They girls competed to the best of their ability on the day but lost out on first place by just 1 point!
- The Year 7/8 Boys and Year 9/10 Girls qualified for the 'A' finals at Gateshead International stadium.
- Charlotte Robson- Year 7 Area Champion for Discus
- Sydney King—Year 7 Area Champion for Hurdles
- Dina Hudson -Year 7 Area Champion for 200m
- Sydney King, Emily Creaser, Dina Hudson and Charlotte Robson - Year 7 Area Relay champions.
- Ellie Ferguson - Year 8 Area Champion for 200m
- Emily Binks - Year 8 Area Champion for Shot Putt
- Millie Howard- Year 8 Area Champion for 800m
- Kayleigh Templeton - Year 8 Area Champion for Discus.
- Katie McGinn, Georgie Ryan, Mollie Webster, Josie Parry, Ellie Sweet and Ashleigh Davies all represented Area.

Extra Curricular

We have been pleased to offer an extensive programme of extra curricular sport, through recreational clubs and the House System as well as providing opportunities for our many gifted and talented sports performers to maximise their potential.

The Summer Term PE Extra Curricular Newsletter is full of achievements, both individual and team sports and is available on the school website.

Next year's programme will be published early in September—watch this space!

Many thanks to all the parents who have been to support and encourage our teams throughout the year.



SILVER MEDAL WINNER—twice!

We are pleased to report that Joshua Brown had the honour of representing the Yorkshire U12 Badminton team five times over the past season and has won two silver medals in competition. Well done!

CONGRATULATIONS JOSHUA!!



A big "thank you" for collecting your Active Kids Vouchers. This year we managed to collect over 13,500 (an extra 3,500 more than last year)

Sainsbury's

which will help the PE department to purchase extra sports equipment for next year.

We are **Active Kids 2011**



English Schools Track and Field

Two of our most talented athletes qualified for the prestigious English Schools Track and Field Event held in Gateshead recently.

Josie Parry and George Davies competed at this major national competition and did themselves and the school proud. Josie made the Semi Final in the 75m Hurdles; she prepared herself for each race in a professional manner and achieved her personal target of making the Semi Finals before being forced to retire through injury. George, who throws the javelin, came an amazing 16th in the Junior Boys UK final throwing an excellent 37.30m. Well done both!!

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MUSIC NEWS



Riverside Jazz

Riverside Jazz has had the opportunity to give some great performances this year including a charity fundraising event at Tockwith Village Hall, the Knaresborough Market, the King James's Fun Run and the Knaresborough Bed Race.

They have also made a CD this year to show the quality of music that the band are making. There are a few left but not many - if you still want one, they are on sale for £5 - please hand the money in an envelope with your name, details and the name of the student to reception and we will get one to you. All proceeds go back to the Jazz band, helping to buy new music and equipment for our concerts.

On a final note, the Jazz Band are available next year for concerts and functions so if you have an occasion in mind and would like to hire them, please ring school and ask to speak to Mr. Barker in the music department.



* Summer Music Concert *

* The Summer Concert on 16th May was a great success with all ensembles playing. It was great for the younger players to see the ability and dedication from the older players. The Jazz band played some swing classics, finishing off with Glenn Miller's 'In the Mood'. There was real diversity in the performances and some high quality music making. It was a great opportunity to showcase the talent of the year 13 students who will be leaving us this time and they performed some excellent solo pieces for the audience. We will be sad to lose our Year 13 students who have been playing with us for many years. * September brings more opportunity for younger players to move up to the Senior ensembles. *



Prizegiving ceremonies

A big thank you and well done to all the performers who played in this year's Prizegiving ceremonies.

The performances were of a really high quality:

Year 7 (8) Matthew Firth, Daisy Ella, Abigail Sayers, Joshua Ellison, George Hodgson, William Jackson, Jacob Brown

Year 8 (9) Tom Butler, Calum Claughton, Millie Howard, Hattie Thornton, Beaumont Hill-Smith, Nathanael Martin

Year 9 (10) Chloe Horner, Natalie Keogh, Becky Bowe, Josh Dykes, Johnny Vaux

Year 10 (11) Joe Beighton, Sian Whitby, Joe Martin, Samantha Spruce, Alice Harmer, Ellen Carnazza, Millie Gaston.

Joe Beighton

A big thank you also must go to Joe who has helped us out in numerous events in and out of school playing the piano. Not only did he accompany all of the year 10 performers for the Prizegiving and sing and play himself, but he has helped with the leavers assemblies and played for the Senior Citizen's party to name a few. What a star - watch this space, he will go far!

Lions Rotary Young Musician of the Year

The winner of the cup this year was Joe Martin - Year 10. His dedication to the school ensembles and to his work in groups outside of school is exemplary. He is a very promising young player with a lot of talent. Congratulations—well done Joe!!



♪ Date for your diary

♪ Our Christmas concert this year is booked for Monday 19th December in the Chaloner Hall. Come and support our excellent musicians.



6 KJS CHARITABLE DONATIONS

6 During the last academic year the school has raised over **£8,000** for charity.

6 **Thanks** to the generosity of students, parents and staff many charities have benefited from our fund-raising activities, including £1600 to Lepira, over £1,500 to the British Heart Foundation, £1,100 to Children in Need and £900 to Beat Bullying, to name but a few.



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ART NEWS



YEAR 10 ARTS RESIDENTIAL TRIP TO LONDON

45 Arts students went to London on a residential weekend. We went on a mini tour of the London sights on our way to Tate Modern Art gallery where we looked at the permanent collection and the splendid views across to St. Paul's cathedral and the 'wobbly' bridge. Then we walked along the Embankment to the National Theatre, past Shakespeare's Globe Theatre and on to Trafalgar Square where there was a huge open air festival of West End musicals with performances in the square which was great fun. Then the skies opened and it poured with rain so Mr. Crawford took us into the National gallery to shelter - a great way of getting us to look at more art!



Then shopping in Oxford Street! After a couple of hours of retail therapy we met the coach again loaded down with bags and went to Covent Garden where we had tea and watched the street entertainers before going to the New London Theatre. The production of 'Warhorse' we saw was fantastic - the way the puppeteers manipulated the horses was incredible. It was also a very moving story - not a dry eye in the house.

Next day we went firstly to the British Museum, then for a flight on the London Eye. After a quick lunch we went on to the Victoria and Albert Museum and the Natural History Museum, before returning home to Knaresborough. A great weekend - exhausting but great fun.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

The art Department has been lucky to have had Eoghan Bridge as Artist in residence for ten days this summer term. Eoghan has been to King James's before and has been helping students build on their sculptural techniques. He has been working with students on figurative works inspired by Rodin's monumental piece 'The Gates of Hell' and Degas' figurines. Students have also been working on life size self portraits in clay using Paolozzi as an influence. This has been a very productive relationship and we hope this will continue in the future. It allows both students and teaching staff to develop a wider range of skills and each year we have increased our sculptural knowledge - it is also really important that students have access to art practitioners.



Eoghan with one of our students

GCSE AND BTEC ART TRIP TO THE YORKSHIRE SCULPTURE PARK 23RD JUNE

The forecast wasn't too clever, but we set off for the Yorkshire Sculpture Park early as part of our Art research to start the new academic year off and kick start the first project. There is a permanent exhibition of work there by sculptors such as Sophie Ryder (huge hare/human figures) and Henry Moore, as well as Barbara Hepworth. These we drew and took photos of from all different angles and made notes about the artists. In the classroom we will be making a large scale mixed media piece to include part of the sculpture and the landscape and we will also have to make a 'scrapbook' about our day.

The main exhibition was by a Spanish sculptor called Jaume Plensa - odd distorted large alabaster heads and huge translucent heads suspended from the walls and glowing with lights inside. The best sculptures by him were the giant heads made out of wire which must have been 5 metres high and set up on a grass bank with the landscape as a magnificent backdrop. An enjoyable day and interesting to see such a variety of sculptural forms. We look forward to translating our research into artwork.



ART EXHIBITION JULY 7TH 2011

A good crowd of people turned up to look at exceptional Artwork at our annual Art Exhibition. The range of Art on display was astonishing - oil paintings, mixed media work, sculpted heads, plaster sculptures and photography. The art department run a number of different courses and have expanded into teaching digital photography at GCSE level this year and A/S photography starting next September in year12. The quality and variety of photography showed what a talented and imaginative group of students there are in the Art Department. Alongside the GCSE photography was an exhibition of work by the BTEC students - a more vocational course where students work to more specific design style briefs. Again - a wealth of work on display. The GCSE Art looked terrific too, but the work that the A level artists displayed was jaw dropping in it's quality. There were a lot of figurative paintings and experimental work alongside the more traditional oil paintings. Added to this were a range of sculptures produced under the auspices of Eoghan Bridge, our Artist in residence. There was also a small exhibition of Eoghan's sculpture of horses with riders. For a taste of what was on offer, see overleaf.

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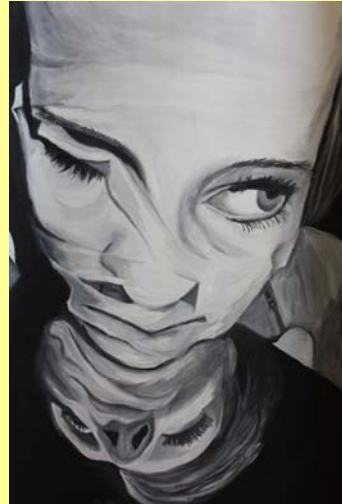




ART NEWS... continued



ART EXHIBITION IN PICTURES



Sixth Form artists with their work



Andrew Jones MP being shown round the exhibition by Head of Art, Simon Crawford

Child of our Times

One cloudy Saturday morning in May, King James's Latest Sculpture was installed into the Year 7 quad. The sculpture is the direct result of collaboration between Mr Sloan's Gifted and talented Year 9 Art club and the Sculptor Eoghan Bridge.



The project came about after an innovation bid raised funding for an Artist in residence scheme called the King James's Sculpture Award. The concept was to hire an artist in residence to work with some Gifted and Talented Art students to produce a permanent sculpture for the grounds of King James's School.

It was decided that the theme of childhood should be the inspiration and the work started by putting a call out to the then Year 7 students for any old toys that they didn't want.

The whole project spanned over eleven months and once the toys had been collected they were used to create the surface of the sculpture by casting their impressions into moulds based on the shape children's building blocks designed by the sculptor Eoghan Bridge.

Eoghan then took plaster casts from the student's moulds and took them away to recast them in a fibreglass resin. The piece, once assembled, was then treated with an iron powder which will allow it to weather in the coming years.

Mr Sloan said "We are really pleased with the end result. The sculpture looks fantastic and has a real permanence about it both with its finish which makes it look like it's made from steel and with the surface impressions which will remain a living memory of the children of our time."

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MORE NEWS FROM AROUND THE SCHOOL ...

Crag Rat Blade

We raced our electric powered car Crag Rat Blade at Croft Circuit in the northern heat of the Greenpower Challenge. Despite monsoon conditions and a couple of breakdowns which cost us 20 minutes in the pits, the car finished in a creditable 8th place (out of 30 starters) and covered a distance of 69 miles. It is unlikely that this will be enough to qualify for the final so the plan is to race again at Aintree in September.

BBC Look North filmed the event for their news programme and Tom and David appeared on that evening's bulletin along with some nice shots of the car in the pits and running during the race. A video produced by the students was also shown during the event to help promote Greenpower to new schools. We are still looking for help both financially and in kind to modify our current car to meet the new rules for the 2012 season and to potentially build a new car. If you can help please contact Mr. Hutchinson on kjsgreencar@gmail.com

Mr. Hutchinson would like to say a big thank you to Matt Collinson for all the hard work he has given the Greenpower project and wish him well in his future studies! Also goodbye to club member Jack Metcalfe who is leaving for sunnier climes!



Tom and David being interviewed

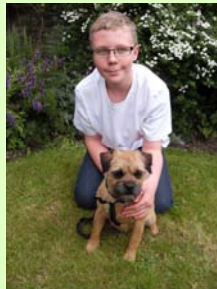
All you can do with a Tenner !

Every March an Organisation called "Make your Mark" and Peter Jones (star of Dragons Den) get together to loan young people £10 for one month and challenge them to make as much profit and social impact as they can!

This year, the year nine students took to the challenge very well with students making varying amounts of profit. Ideas ranged from charity cake sales, washing cars to teaching people to play the guitar.

Everyone who took part had a brilliant time making a difference and, developing their enterprise skills.

One individual who took part had an extra special experience. Daniel Szeplaki was put forward to Make Your Mark by Mrs Kerridge, as the School's 'Best Business Plan'. Dan beat 10,000 other entries, to win 'Best Community Spirit Award'.



Daniel and Sandie

Daniel started a pet-care business

whereby he provided reasonably priced care for local people's small pets as well as a dog-walking service. He used leaflets and business cards to advertise his services and built up lots of customers within the local community.

The services he offered were particularly useful to elderly people in the community who found it more difficult to go out and walk their dogs. A percentage of his profits have gone to the charity Age UK and the business is carrying on by popular demand.



Daniel explaining his project at the London Business Department for Innovation and Skills.

To collect his award, Daniel went to London in June where he met Peter Jones from 'Dragon's Den', Claire Young from the 2009 Apprentice and local MP Andrew Jones.

Dan said: 'Overall the day was great and despite the weather, the early start and the late night I had a great time!'.

The O2 Bus

The O2 bus has been to school this term! The multi-coloured bus came to King James's to work with both teachers and students. A film crew filmed short clips of our teachers in action to show on the o2learn website.

King James's students took part in a discussion on their ideas for community projects and subsequently 2 projects have received support from O2: the highly successful Greenpower car club and a new project in which some of our students will perform music with pensioners.

Congratulations to the teachers whose lessons are being shown on the national website and to the students who successfully bid for financial support for their projects.



Students queuing for the colourful O2 bus

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MORE NEWS FROM AROUND THE SCHOOL ...

THE LIBRARY

Library Ambassadors

To help spread 'the word' around school about how fab KJS Library is, we appointed 12 (one for each form) new Library Ambassadors. They have been a fantastic help relaying Library news back to their forms, handing out information and generally helping out in the Library (this really means doing the jobs that the Librarians don't like doing!). In September, we shall be appointing twelve more from the new Year 7's. To thank them for their hard work and dedication we are taking them on the Knaresborough Audio Trail in the last week of term.



What ? Food in the Library !



Whatever next? All in the interests of education you understand.

The first ever Thai banquet was held in the Library one afternoon in April when Mrs Eastaugh and her year 7 Humanities class brought in a selection of exotic food to prepare and sample. There was a lovely aroma left lingering for the following few days and a great time was had by all.

Speaking of food...we also hosted an 'Afternoon Tea' for our KJS Veterans during the last week of term. Most of the ex-pupils had started at KJS in the autumn term of 1949? and were delighted to have the chance for a reunion where they were joined by one of their teachers! We had a display of items from the archive and lot's of photos for them to look at, even an old black and white film from the 1950's. Tea, cakes and chat were the order of the afternoon.

Primary visits

Mrs Hussey and Mrs Kennerley can never wait to meet all the new students in September so they go along to as many schools as they can in order to say 'Hello', introduce ourselves and rave about how good our Library is here at KJS. This has been the fourth year of visits and they love it when pupils tell them that they remember them visiting them in their primary school.

And finally...

Don't forget, if you need some reliable suggestions for holiday reading, we have lots of Reading Lists in the Library or in the Library room on Fronter. Your local library is also a great place to go and their Summer Reading Challenge is great for years 6 and 7.



Friends of King James School Update

Well - what a Fun Run! With yet another display of athleticism and humour in equal measure the 2011 Fun Run was a great success - thanks to everyone who helped make it such a good day.

With so many runners, such a busy field of stalls and events and entertainment provided throughout the day including dance, martial arts and circus skills along with music from Riverside Jazz everyone had a great time. And this year the weather was on our side! (If a little breezy).

So - **Congratulations everyone!** - with one of the best financial results in years we have met our target for this summers PE Department refurbishment. That means £25 000 can now be donated to kit out the new fitness suite in time for the autumn term.



And... never keen to rest on our laurels we are now drawing up a new list of priorities and the first event towards our next project is the annual autumn quiz evening.

So mark off the evening of Friday 11th November in your diaries - we'll be after teams of parents, staff and supporters to come along and face this year's set of testing questions. More information to follow in the autumn term.



SENIOR CITIZENS' PARTY

The ever popular senior citizen's party was held last week with nearly 150 guests—the largest number we have ever catered for. This summer event is prepared and run by the entire Sixth Form with the refreshments provided by our Year 10 Hospitality and Catering Students.

Our guests enjoyed quizzes, songs from the musicals and other entertainment provided by students. We are enormously proud of the efforts of the students and would also like to thank the thirty-plus Knaresborough businesses that donated to the event and the **Knaresborough Lions** who kindly helped with transport.

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MORE NEWS FROM AROUND THE SCHOOL

Knarborough Audio Tour Project Update

Knarborough's innovative internet based audio tour has won an award in the prestigious Action for Market Towns (AMT) Award. It won in the category for the best Environmental and Cultural project in the North of England against projects from Yorkshire and Humber, the North East and the North West.

The Knarborough Audio Tour is a guide to many of the sights, people and events of Knarborough. It was developed and delivered by a group of students at King James's School as part of an enterprise project in their own time. They had support from their teacher, Mrs Kerridge and local guide Brian Forshaw. The Audio Tour can be downloaded from the internet at www.knarboroughaudiotours.info or hired on an MP3 player from the Tourist Information Centre in the Castle Yard Arcade, off the Market Place.



Joe and Lucy, collecting their award from the Chairman of Young Chamber and Guest presenter Zoe Salmon.

The project also made the final of the 2011 Skills Factor at the Indigo2 in London on 6 July. This is an award programme created by Young Chamber for 12-19 year olds which gives recognition to young people who can prove they have the skills to enter the world of work. It is open to anyone involved in full-time education, vocational education programmes, running youth projects, organising an event or fundraising. King James's School was one of six finalists to have qualified. Against tough competition; in the final, the project achieved a respectful third place.

Enterprise Co-Ordinator, Gemma Kerridge said, "Two of our pupils gave a presentation on the work the team had done. It was great news to hear that they had made the national final never mind, achieve third place! When you work on a project you just try to do the best you can. It is fantastic to know that the work is recognised as being of such a high standard."

GIFTED AND TALENTED 2011

'Challenge for ALL in EVERY classroom' continues to be the focus across all our subjects at KJS. However, all of the different subject areas within the school have also contributed to the G&T programme throughout 2011 through their extra-curricular provision. For example; our Year 9 G&T Art students and Mr Sloan worked with an 'artist-in-residence' over a number of months to produce a new permanent sculpture for our school grounds. The 11 month project culminated with the installation of the stunning sculpture being positioned in the Year 7 Quad.

The STEM club goes from strength to strength with Year 8 G&T pupils attending weekly workshops run by Science and Technology exposing the pupils to new and exciting projects. The group have attended Engineering Inspirations and The Big Bang which saw them compete with their GCSE, AS and A2 coursework along with their final practical outcomes. Charlie Vaux and Hannah Carass won best AS Product Design and Best GCSE Graphic product respectively.

As well as the STEM club the D&T department continues to offer excellent opportunities - the pupils' involvement in Primary project work continues, as does their input with the Greenpower Car. There are a wide range of competitions that see heavy participation and an ongoing variety of fulfilling trips.



Hannah with her award winning Graphics Project

Geography ran an Action Group in 2011 where topical issues were addressed; History offered a discussion group and Languages put on a Video Club - all of these extra curricular activities aim to expose, stretch and challenge pupils who want to broaden their understanding and knowledge of their subjects.

There have been many opportunities for subject specific G&T pupils - our 'triple scientists' attended a Chemistry at Work trip plus the Philosophy students attended a day at Manchester University where various dilemmas and issues were covered in lectures and debates.

Our Music, Drama and PE departments continue to offer endless opportunities for all students. The huge variety of extra curricular activities cater for pupils who want to pursue their interests and are prepared to invest the effort and commitment required to excel. These subjects have outstanding provision for G&T pupils that really allows students to develop in so many ways.

The Times Regional Spelling Championship was attended by students from KJS at Cineworld in Bradford and this year a Latin Club has been included in the opportunities available from the English Department.

In addition, 2011 has seen a new project come to fruition in conjunction with our seven cluster Primary Schools. Nominated G&T KS2 pupils attended after-school sessions run by Maths and Performing Arts over a seven week period that provided both stretch and challenge for all. Our G&T pupils were also involved in the programme developing themselves as communicators, leaders and organisers. All of these opportunities (and more) will resume in September 2012.

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Thurs 25th Aug: Yr 11 GCSE from 9 am; All other GCSE/modules from 11.00 am



MORE NEWS FROM AROUND THE SCHOOL

Year 8 Humanities Trips

What a way to end the academic year. Nearly 300 year 8 students, over 30 members of staff, 18 buses and Mr Blane's dog!

The Humanities Department organised a 3 day fieldtrip to allow students the opportunity to visit some local attractions that would help them to experience, first hand, some of the things they have been learning about in lessons.

The Geography Department travelled to the 'honeypot' village of Clapham. The students had a chance to see how a small village caters for the needs of its residents and the large number of tourists who visit each year. They then enjoyed a walk along a nature trail to Clapham Beck where they could study some of the features of a river channel. This is their first experience of physical geographical fieldwork and they didn't even have to get wet or muddy! (We save that for GCSE and A Level!). Ingleborough Showcave was the last part of the day. This fascinating journey into the side of a mountain took us back 365 million years, to a time when Yorkshire was at the equator, under a tropical ocean. Quite a lot to do on 1 day!



The RS Department took the students to the world famous, stunning location of Fountains Abbey. The students dressed up as Cistercian Monks and discussed how hard their daily life would have been. The students retraced a 4 mile stretch of the pilgrims walk from Fountains Abbey to Ripon Cathedral, in the beautiful grounds of Studley Royal. Some students even spotted 'Santa's Reindeer' who we all know take their summer holidays in Yorkshire!

The History Department took all the students to either the Royal Armouries in Leeds or The Maritime Museum in Hartlepool. The pupils who visited Leeds were allowed hours to explore the fascinating National collection of Arms in the imposing 'fortress like' building on the banks of the Aire-Calder Canal. The students wrote and re-enacted the battles of Marsden Moor, Rorke's Drift, Agincourt and the Somme.

The students who visited Hartlepool were taken back in time and aboard the Tall Ships that once ruled the oceans of the world in the early 1800s. They explored life on deck HMS Trincomalee one of the oldest tall ships in the world and life on a gun deck during the Battle of Trafalgar.

The week was a brilliant way to end a superb year 8 in Humanities. The students and staff all came home on Friday very tired but really happy. The students' behaviour out of school was exemplary and we were very proud to take them out.



Thank you to all the staff (and dog) from all the other departments in school for accompanying us.

A Year 7's Perspective

Alleiya Shazad, who has just moved up to year 8, shares with us her Year 7 Prizegiving Speech:

"I remember my first day of primary school. I was excited with my new Barbie lunchbox, and with the ambition of being a princess. My parents were there with their camera, snapping pictures and wishing me the best. In some ways not much has changed over the years.

Here I am today at 'big school'. OK, so I didn't bring my Barbie lunch box and I don't think I want to be a princess any more, but I had no idea about the implications of the journey I was about to begin. I had no idea that after year 1 there would be year 2 and year 3 and so on. I was just excited to be in year 1!

Today I know I am standing on the brink of a future as a "consultant paediatrician" for the rest of my life. "The greatest way to predict the future is to invent it"

Some of us at Prizegiving today are wondering how our lives will turn out. It's OK to wonder but I also think it is important to realise that our future is not something that just happens to us. It's up to us to create it.

My first year at King James's has given me the confidence to believe in my dreams and start the long journey to achieve my ambitions.

Leave behind what isn't helpful, I'm leaving my Barbie lunchbox behind, and we will bring forward with us the lessons that will be the working parts of our greatest invention ever ... OUR FUTURE"

Exam results available - Thurs 18th Aug: A2 from 9 am; AS from 12.30 pm

Thurs 25th Aug: Yr 11 GCSE from 9 am; All other GCSE/modules from 11.00 am



IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

End of Summer Term: Friday 22nd July:	Pupils leave at 12.35 p.m.
Start of Autumn Term: Thursday 1st September:	Staff Training day
Friday 2nd September:	Year 12 induction and Year 7 pupils start
Monday 5th September:	Rest of school starts

STAFF TRAINING DAYS

Thursday 1st September 2011
 Wednesday 5th October 2011
 Friday 6th January 2012
 Friday 27th April 2012
 Tuesday 12th June 2012

TERM DATES 2011/2012

Autumn Term 2011	1st Half	Friday 2 September - Friday 21 October
	<i>Half Term</i>	22 - 30 October
	2nd Half	Monday 31 October - Tuesday 20 December (students leave at 12.35pm)
Spring Term 2012	1st Half	Monday 9 January - Friday 10 February
	<i>Half Term</i>	11 February - 19 February
	2nd Half	Monday 20 February - Friday 30 March (students leave at 3.25pm)
Summer Term 2012	1st Half	Monday 16 April - Friday 1 June (school closed on Mon 7 May for May Day Bank Holiday)
	<i>Half Term</i>	2 June - 10 June
	2nd Half	Monday 11 June - Friday 20 July (students leave at 12.35pm)

A full calendar for the academic year 2011/2012 is available on the school website.

MEDICAL REQUEST—SPARE EPIPENS/INHALERS

Parents of students who use either epipens or inhalers are requested to leave spare prescribed inhalers and/or epipens (in their original dispenser box) with the school nurses, so that they can be used as a back up in case the originals are forgotten or lost.

SCHOOL UNIFORM


A reminder of that a copy of the school's uniform requirements and guidelines for the next academic year can be found in the student planners and on the school website—www.king-james.co.uk

There are currently two suppliers of King James's School uniform:

Rawcliffes
 East Parade Corner
 Harrogate
 HG3 5BG
 Tel: 01423 504130

and

Broadbank & Empson
 3 Chapel Street
 Knaresborough
 HG5 8AN
 Tel: 01423 860447

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COMMUNITY NOTICES



Bolton Castle

Summer Event Listing

Saturday 23rd—Sunday 24th July (11-5pm)* No Booking Required

14th Century Medieval Life— The Armourial Knights

Be transported back in time with the Armourial Knights. Meet the Lords, Ladies and knights living life in the magnificent Bolton Castle. Experience the sights, sounds and smells of 14th Century medieval life. Witness the knights at Tournee, the ladies, dancing and the children at play. An outstanding experience not to be missed.

Saturday 30th—Sunday 31st July (11-5pm)* No Booking Required

Saville Household

Join Sir John Savile's Household as Bolton Castle is brought to life with the sights and sounds of the fifteenth century. Visit the kitchens where authentic medieval recipes will be prepared and meet the men-at-arms and archers of the castle garrison and learn how to drill as a medieval soldier. A great day out for all of the family, with much to see and do for both young and old!



Monday 25th- Friday 29th July and Monday 1st – Friday 5th August (11 – 5pm)* No Booking Required

Birds, Boar and Bees

Witness amazing falconry displays, the fun of wild boar feeding time and the activity of our bee hives then have a go at our self-led bird, boar and bee kite and mask making activities and trails.



Monday 8th – Friday 12th and Monday 15th – Friday 19th August (11-5pm)* No Booking Required

Knights and Dragons

Only the bravest of Knights have dared to attempt The Dragon Quest. Will you be up to the challenge? Have a go at dragon themed activities including kite, mask and puppet making.

Saturday 20th – Sunday 21st August (11-5pm)* No Booking Required

Spanish Armada Weekend

As the Armada approached the Kent coast beacons were lit up and down the land warning of the impending invasion. Throughout the country militias', such as those of Sir Henry, 9th Lord Scrope, prepared to defend the land. Meet characters from the castles household and garrison as they get ready for battle! Put on your armour to take part in a Spear drill or learn how to fire the cannon!

Monday 22nd – Friday 26th August and Monday 29th August – Friday 2nd September(11-5pm)* No Booking Required

Teddy Bears' Picnic

Bring your favourite teddy and join us for a fun packed day of teddy hunts, party games, picnicking and much more. Children with their Teddies get in free.

Monday 22nd August (5.30-7.30pm, gates open 5pm) Booking Recommended

Wind in the Willows

Cambridge Touring Theatre take a merry romp through the world of the river bank with their wonderful adaptation of 'Wind in the Willows'. Toad is boastful and proud and obsessed with motorcars. It is the job of Ratty, Moley and Badger to keep him under control. Poop, poop! Along the way, they learn important lessons about what it is to have friends and to be a friend.

Ticket Office: 0843 208 0500 Book Online: www.cambridgetouringtheatre.co.uk

Tickets: Ad. £12.00, Conc. £9.00, *Fam. £38.00, Wkshp. £3.00 *2 Ad. And 2 Ch.



Monday 29th August (6pm – 8pm, Gates open 5.15pm) Booking Recommended

A Midsummer Night's Dream

The UK's most acclaimed open-air touring theatre company, The Lord Chamberlain's Men, will present William Shakespeare's most popular and hilarious comedy, the magical feast *A Midsummer Night's Dream!* !

Booking no: 01969 623981 or call into the Castle. Tickets: Adult £14, Children £12.50.

Bring own seating