



# King's Hall School

TAUNTON

## PREP WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

14th June 2019

### *Headlines ...*

It's that time of year when we see a lot of new faces coming to spend time at King's Hall in preparation for joining us in September. They arrive in the Pemberton Room eager to explore, yet naturally a little anxious. However, when I come across them later on they are invariably mucking in with their peers whether it be discussing a topic in class, conducting experiments in the labs, committing to games sessions or enjoying each other's time and activities in the breaks. Experience, then, indicates that we are a welcoming community and I know additions such as these are taken as grist to the mill rather than an imposition on existing regimes.

For Year 8 in particular, this is also a time of reflection and wishing to capture images, memories, happenings and emotions of their time at King's Hall knowing that time and

time wait for no one: their world is going to be different after this term.

Enough of thinking about the future! There is an enormous heap of happy happenings all around us at present and I imagine your children are reaching the end of each day more than ready for their heads to hit the pillow overnight. Next week is Arts Week so the pace doesn't slacken by day as their ingenious, creative and imaginative minds will be piqued by various visitors, workshops and events. There is also artistic input tomorrow morning, in fact, as the boarders have a drama workshop delivered by two College students to look forward to.

Whatever dramas come your way this weekend I hope they are happy ones, too.

*Justin Chippendale*  
Headmaster

# Coming up ...

17th - 23rd June 2019

Monday

**Arts Week (all week)**

Year 4 play – general rehearsal

Tuesday

Year 8 Induction Day  
at King's College

3G trip to  
Monkton Elm Garden Centre

Year 4 play – dress rehearsal

Years 5 & 6 swimming gala

Year 6 Reading Ambassador trips to  
Taunton Library and Waterstones

Wednesday

Year 8 trip to London  
to visit galleries and see Matilda

3H trip to  
Monkton Elm Garden Centre

Boys' Cricket v Wellington

Girls' Cricket v Wellington

Rounders v Stockland

Outdoor Pursuits

Thursday

Vanguard Speech and Drama  
examinations

Year 4 play – production for  
the school

Friday

Visit from author, Robin Stevens

Parents' Coffee Morning

Vanguard Speech and Drama  
examinations

Pupil Council Meeting

Year 4 play – production for parents

All children leave for long weekend

Please refer to the  
school diary or website  
for timings and more  
information.

Parents' Coffee Morning  
– all welcome

Friday 21st June 8.00 -10.00am

AstroCafé



Don't forget that  
next Friday is the start of  
**LONG WEEKEND**

School finishes at 4.30pm  
or earlier, as per normal routines  
for some in Pre-Prep.

There will be no TT Club or  
after-school supervision after this time.

# ARTS WEEK



Next week we will be hosting our annual Arts Week celebration. This is always a popular event in the school calendar and one which sees all year groups (and staff members) take part in wonderful and wacky events. Here are just some of the things we have to look forward to over the coming days:

## Monday

9.00-10.00am

Dance Workshop (Year 3)

10.00-11.00am

Dance Workshop (Year 4)

11.30am-12.30pm

Dance Workshop (Year 5)

1.30-4.15pm

Play Rehearsal (Year 4)

## Tuesday

All day

Art/DT Workshop (7H and 7K)

1.30-4.15pm

Dress Rehearsal (Year 4)

## Wednesday

All day

Trip to visit galleries and see Matilda in London (Year 8)

Morning

Art/DT Workshop (7S)

## Thursday

9.00-10.00am

Dance Workshop (Year 6)

10.00-11.00am

Dance Workshop (Year 7)

11.30am-12.30pm

Dance Practise for Play (Year 4)

1.30pm

Year 4 Play: *Bombs and Blackberries* (for school)

3.00pm

Possible music concert for school

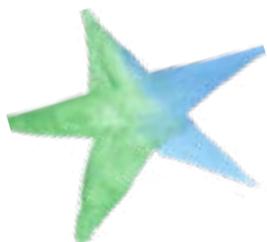
## Friday

All day

Author Visit: Robin Stevens (plus Year 6 writing workshop)

2.30pm

Year 4 Play: *Bombs and Blackberries* (for parents)





# A view from the Rose Garden

3H have been having a ‘Janus June’ – looking back on the things they have enjoyed in Year 3 and looking forward to the exciting things in Year 4.

Their favourite memories from this year include the Year 3 camp; making fires in Outdoor Learning; the trips to New Barn, North Curry, Dunkery Beacon and Taunton Museum; making Christmas robins; spinning with the drop spindle; and toasting marshmallows.

There is now lots to look forward to in Year 4 including going to New Barn and sleeping over, finding out who everyone’s new class teacher will be and writing stories.



## A few words from ... Jonty Heard!

It’s such a relief to have finished our Common Entrance papers and the highlight at the end of exam week was to go on the Year 8 trip to Okehampton.

The weather wasn’t the best, but this didn’t stop us having fun!

We all had a brilliant time surfing, kayaking, gorge scrambling and town time in Bude (it has great sweet

shops!) and we had lots of fun and laughter together.

Now we’re back at school and looking forward to the last few weeks of term with lots more happy times with friends before we break up for the holidays.





# Great Boarders Bake Off



With National Boarding Week fast approaching, we joined the British Boarding Schools' Association (BSA) in their celebration of boarding schools and communities across the world.

As part of the celebrations, and in true British style – with the rain pouring and a cup of tea in hand – we hosted our very own Bake Off competition.

Equipped with all kinds of utensils, our boarding bakers tackled a firm favourite: fairy cakes.

Following the traditional Bake Off format, the children were judged on their skills and competed against one another in a bid to win the ultimate baking battle. Skittles, sprinkles and chocolate stars were just some of the ingredients used to embellish their creations.

Jackie, one of our chefs, kindly undertook the role of Prue, judging the children on their baking and design skills. There was some tough competition, but it was Constanza who was crowned Star Baker, with Anna and Herbert coming 2nd and 3rd respectively.

Mrs Masters was hugely impressed by all of the cakes, and of the time, effort and sticky fingers that went into creating them!



It's been an exciting week of auditions for the next senior play and our current Year 7s are heading towards an action packed schedule of rehearsals for *The Wiz* which is based on the well-loved family favourite *The Wizard of Oz*.

Now for the news that I've been dying to share with you all ... I have also auditioned for a main part in the production. Yes, me, the school's own scruffy pup. I'm assuming that I have a fairly good chance of being cast in the role of Toto, unless you have any characterful thespian mutts at home that are planning on presenting themselves as potential rivals!



The other thing that I am looking forward to is this weekend's 'King's Hall Dog Show'. I know I'm no

pedigree but I hope your much loved four-footed family favourites realise what tough competition they are up against. I can eat sausages so quickly that Mrs Masters says that it looks like I inhale them (a perfected party trick!).

Seriously though, I can't wait for Sunday. Although I love my 400+ hundred human friends at King's Hall, I rarely get to socialise with my own species. On that note please forgive me if I get a little carried away when I meet yours at the show. Thank you so much for organising such a fun event, Mr Rice. Please come along and watch, even if you haven't got an entry. You can always cheer me on; your very own King's Hall Snoops!

Snoops x

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## Let's party with pizza!

To celebrate the end of exams and to thank the children for all of their hard work and extra revision, the Year 8 boarders had an impromptu pizza and ice cream party.

This went down a real treat with the children – and Snoops, of course – although we didn't get a repeat of last week's mishap (fingers crossed he's learnt his lesson).

It is now time for the children to relax – just a little – and enjoy their final few weeks here at King's Hall. We have no doubt they have bright futures ahead of them, and we can't wait to see them succeed.





## Staff members tackle the Jurassic Coast

Over two weekends in June, King's Hall staff members Antonia Cheeseman and Siobhan Keeling have taken in / will take in the breath-taking sights of the Jurassic Coast for two separate walking challenges.

Head of Learning Strategies, Antonia, has already completed her challenge. Together with her two sisters, she navigated the 42km Jurassic Coast Challenge in aid of the British Heart Foundation, a charity that is close to the family. The group have raised a fantastic £1,005, smashing their initial target of £750 and if you would like to find out more about the charity or sponsor them please visit their justgiving page: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/3KirbyKrawlers>

School Nurse, Siobhan, and friend and former King's Hall parent, Marianne Parr, are undertaking Macmillan's Mighty Hike this weekend. To increase her levels of fitness, Siobhan has been taking part in some of our own King's Loop runs and we wish them both the best of luck in their trek. If you would like to find out more about the charity or sponsor them please visit their justgiving page: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/siobhanandmarianne>



## Magnus awarded instructor status

Year 8 pupil Magnus Larsen is 'sail-ebrating' after becoming an Assistant Instructor at Wimbleball Sailing Club.

The 13 year-old, who will take up the post this summer, recently completed his initial instructor training, which required him to demonstrate the different aspects of coaching.

Magnus is already qualified in levels 1-4 of the Royal Yachting Association's (RYA) Dinghy Sailing and Seamanship course, and level 2 of the Catamaran, and aims to complete his racing qualifications later this year.

We wish him the best of luck in his sailing adventures!

# Another busy term in DT

Year 3's sunglasses cases are nearly ready for some sunshine!

Year 4's jitterbugs are looking colourful and ready for the annual 'Jitterbug Race'!

Year 5 are trying out some new tools to perfect their household organisers.

The wooden boxes made by Year 6 are so professional – they've enjoyed learning how to fit hinges and clasps.

The Year 7s have been briefed to make a mood lamp out of recycled materials.

Year 8 have been undertaking an engineering challenge to build a bridge using only spaghetti and a glue gun – the aim is to build the lightest but strongest bridge and testing to destruction point will take place next week!



## Too cool for school

Last weekend, Year 6 pupils Patrick and Edward Carew-Jones cranked up the cruise control for a thrilling driving course at Exeter Racecourse, which they had been given for their 11th birthdays.

Driving a Vauxhall Corsa with dual pedal controls, they completed the first of six levels.

Commenting on the experience, Edward said: "It was challenging and I reached a top speed of 5mph although Patrick managed 10mph! Our instructor, Carmel, said we did well and we can't wait to book and complete our next level very soon!"

Well done, boys!

# The end of an era ...

As one part of their final weeks at King's Hall, Year 8 spent an action-packed long weekend at Bracken Tor Youth Hostel on Dartmoor where they took part in gorge scrambling, canoeing, kayaking and raft building. They also went to Bude where they explored the town, body boarded, swam in the sea pool and even found time for a game of beach football!

On the Monday we were invited by Captain and Mrs Woodard to visit Britannia Royal Naval College at Dartmouth where the children

commanded a frigate using the bridge simulator, took a trip on the River Dart in picket boats, visited the station's beagle pack and took part in team games.

A fantastic weekend was had by all and Mr Hands would like to thank all of the children for working together and entering into the spirit of the whole venture, the dedicated school staff who worked 24/7 and to all those at BRNC Dartmouth for giving up their time to make it such a special day for the children.



Year 8 have now started to look forward to what the future might hold at their senior schools and spent some time reflecting on their best moments at King's Hall.

They all have so many favourite memories with the highlights including the Year 7 trip to Switzerland, surfing in the sea at Bude, taking part in the national hockey finals, the Year 8 production of Honk!, the scholars' cultural trip to London, being part of the hockey tour to The Netherlands and the first residential trip to Kilve.



# THIS WEEK IN SPORT



## ESAA Track & Field Schools' Cup

Having beaten over 90 schools across 10 south west counties to get there, twelve Year 8 girls took part in the Regional A final at Millfield on Wednesday.

With points being awarded for performance, rather than finishing position, every extra cm jumped or thrown and every tenth

knocked off a track time could lead to extra points.

The girls qualified with 319 points and the challenge was to beat this! Many PBs were achieved and we pushed our total up to 338 – the best ever achieved by a King's Hall girls' team!

Well done, girls – you were fantastic!

## Rain certainly didn't stop play for the matches v All Hallows

In the 1st XI cricket match, the boys paced their batting superbly and once the scoring rate had risen above what was required, they sensibly nudged the ball into gaps running singles.

Bowling was a little harder coming up the hill and the All Hallows batsmen put us under pressure, hitting their fair share of big shots, despite some economical bowling. Several catches were missed but we did well to hang onto other chances that came our way.

Well played, boys!

The U10 girls had a very even-sided game with both teams scoring four rounders in the first innings.

In the second innings both teams decided to let the girls swap positions so that those girls who had never bowled, played backstop or experienced the stress of playing at second post, had the opportunity to do so.

A great afternoon of rounders – well done, girls.



## U11 cricket success

Having qualified on Tuesday, the U11 boys made it through to the Somerset County Cup final against Millfield yesterday.

We batted first and scored 261 which was followed up with some outstanding bowling and fielding. The pressure was on from the first ball right up until the last! Man of the match was Thomas Rew for his batting and keeping.

Having won comfortably by 49 runs, the team is now through to Monday's South West regional finals at King's College.

Good luck, boys!

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# Getting to know you ...

This week we caught up with our Director of Development, Julian Mack.

Together with the development team, Mack is known for being the powerhouse behind our fundraising efforts for things like the new adventure playground, the Astro Café, the 1880 Club and, of course, the new initiative [www.beyond-kings.com](http://www.beyond-kings.com)

Here's what he had to say ...



**If you didn't have to sleep, what would you do with the extra time?**

Learn Spanish

**What was the last film you watched?**

*The Man with the Iron Heart* – a brilliant film based on Laurent Binet's ground-breaking novel *HHhH* (the story of one of Himmler's heinous henchman Heydrich – that is not what *HHhH* stands for btw).

**What's your favourite holiday and why?**

Last year we went to Chile – what a place – go go go!

**What makes you laugh the most?**

Monty Python's *Life of Brian* – the cure to fundamentalism is learning to laugh at oneself.

**If you could meet anyone, dead or alive, who would you like to meet?**

They say it is dangerous to meet your heroes but go on then Paul Greengrass – Director of the *Bourne* Series and other classics.

**If you won the lottery, what is the first thing you would do?**

Travel endlessly and learn Spanish – experiences are worth so much more than material things.

**What was your favourite subject in school?**

English literature

**What is one of your favourite smells?**

Wild garlic

**What is something you learned in the last week?**

Getting better at things means putting in hard work – I am learning this every week with my tennis serve!