



Headteacher's Message

WELCOME

to all our new students; mainly Year 7 but we have had a large number of new students joining all the other year groups too... and welcome to our new staff: Mrs Wright our new SENCO in charge of Special Educational Needs; Miss Elliott, dance teacher and HLTA; Mrs Epps, specialist English HLTA; Miss Gear-Evans, Work-Related Learning Manager; Mrs Lampert and Ms Gundry, Learning Support Assistants. It's always an anxious time starting a new school but all seem to be settling in well and I'm greeted by a mass of smiling faces every day.

We start the new year with celebrations as this summer saw our exam results improve again. Uniforms look really good and I thank you for your support, particularly with eradicating the "short stretchy skirts"; only 3 items of jewellery and black shoes being worn by everyone. Lessons have started in earnest and the new outdoor shelters have proved to be very popular!



I look forward to seeing you all on Open Evenings, Parents Evenings or at one of the many performances or social events held throughout the year.

Emma Wilkes, Headteacher

CHANGE TO INSET DAY

Due to the availability of important staff training it has been necessary to change the INSET day planned for 31st October to Wednesday 19th October.

Apologies for any inconvenience caused.

**Thank you to
our Sponsor**



Best Ever GCSE Results!

King Arthur's achieved its best GCSE results ever with over 68% of Year 11s achieving 5 or more A*-C grades and 51% achieving 5 A*-C grades including English and Mathematics. These results



have increased by 9% on last year and are evidence of the school's commitment to raising standards and improving the education provision for 11-16 year olds in the Wincanton area. Mrs Wilkes described the results as "excellent" and paid tribute to the hard work and dedication of the staff and students.

Outstanding academic achievements include **John O'Rourke** (8 A* and 4 A grades) and **Dan Lockey** (7 A* and 7 A grades) who achieved all A* and A grades. *(continued on page 2)*

School Attendance

Attendance is once again one of our main targets in our School Improvement Plan. Attendance is compulsory for all students of school age. The Government has set us a target of 95% attendance this year and we ask for your support in attaining this.

Students should only be taken out of school in exceptional circumstances eg. funerals or illness. We ask you that holidays in term time are not taken as an "unauthorisation" will be recorded on your child's report.

As we have said before, research shows that attendance is clearly linked to progress and attainment. Good attendance means good examination results and a successful transition at Post 16. Persistently absent students will be referred to our Education & Welfare Officer.

In anticipation of your support.

Many thanks

Dave Dwyer, Deputy Headteacher



Students Artwork on Display at Hospital & Health Centre



After completing a work, the goal of most artists is to have their art featured in an exhibition.

It is a most rewarding and encouraging experience for young artists at KA to be able to exhibit in a public space such as Wincanton Hospital, where it can be admired by staff, patients and visitors. This exhibition follows a successful exhibition of student's artwork last year for the Centenary of Wincanton Hospital. Following a proposal from Clare Andrews, Matron at the Hospital, that art space could be made a permanent place for students' display, the Friends of Wincanton Hospital kindly agreed to purchase picture frames.

by Lauren Collins

Ellie Farrell and **Amy Bowkett**, who have their artwork on display and who also helped with putting the exhibition up, were thrilled by the many positive comments from staff and visitors about the high standard of artwork at King Arthur's.

The artwork will be regularly changed, so look out for a variety of different artwork created



by students at the school. Alongside this exhibition at the hospital there will be new artwork on display at Wincanton Health Centre.

The exhibition at Wincanton

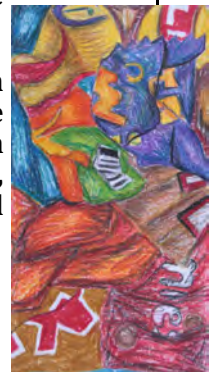
Hospital contains artwork by the following students: **Sian Lovell, Amy Chick, Lauren Collins, Adrian Wrzesinski, Evelyn Adams, Jess Stocks, Lizzie Evans, Ellie Farrell, Amy Bowkett, Rhiannon Copland, Matthew Bond, Stephanie Mant and Alistair James.**

The exhibition in Wincanton Health

Centre features the artwork of: **Leanna Salter, Kasia Clark, Hannah Tegg and Megan Hodder.**

by Adrian Wrzesinski

by Lizzie Evans



Best Ever GCSE Results!

(continued from front page)



Achievements also by **Alistair James** (8 A* and 2 A grades), **Jess Crow** (7 A* and 3 A grades), **Michael Brook** (6 A* and 3 A grades), **Samantha Sutton** (4 A* and 5 A grades), **Shannon Knight** (4 A* and 3 A grades), **Sean James** (3 A* and 6 A grades), **Lorna Blackmore** (3 A* and 6 A grades), **Callum Aptakre-Davis** (3 A* and 4 A grades), **Michael Vitiello** (3 A* and 4 A grades) and **Linda Jackman** (2 A* and 6 A grades). Head of Upper School, Sarah Finnegan, was delighted with the results and congratulated students on their hard work and determination to make the most of their final year at King Arthur's. Many students achieved or exceeded their targets.

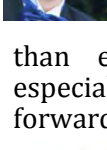
Biology, Chemistry and Physics students all achieved 100% A* to C grades and Year 10 students taking GCSE Statistics also achieved 100% A* to C grades.

Some comments from the students:

☞ **John O'Rourke** "I am really pleased. All the hard work paid off! I couldn't have done it without the school's input and encouragement."



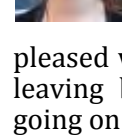
☞ **Dan Lockey** "I am delighted with the results and would like to thank the staff for their hard work over the last 5 years".



☞ **Michael Brook:** "I did better than expected in some subjects - especially English and I am looking forward to going on to college."



☞ **Jess Crow** "I am very happy and would like to thank all the staff at King Arthur's."



☞ **Sammy Sutton** "I am so pleased with my grades. It is sad to be leaving but I am looking forward to going on to 6th form."



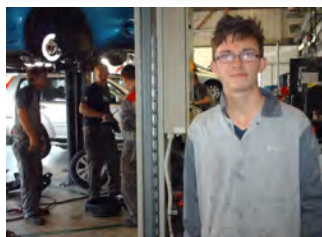
Many students have gone on to study for A levels at Strode College, Gillingham School, The Gryphon and Sexey's. Others have gone on to study vocational courses at the colleges or started an apprenticeship. We wish them all every success and look forward to bringing you news of their successes in future editions of Excalibur.



July 2011: Year 10 Work Experience



Lucy Carnell
Capelli & Partners



Luke Wagland
F J Chalke



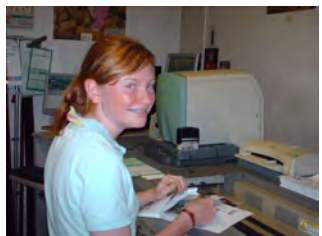
Rebecca Norton
Boots plc



Tommy Hamblin
Wincanton Sports Centre



Tilia Colman
Bright Stars Nursery



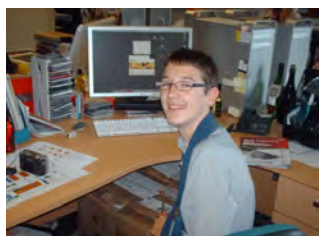
Mily Troke
Camelot Photographic



Jonti Allinson-Epps
Actiontrack



George Parry
Armsion Holdings



Will Wingrove
Waverley TBS



Callum Spencer
Old Inn Restaurant



Matt Lingard
The National Trust



Jake Wilkie
KA Enrichment Week



Stacey Fowler
Our Lady's Primary



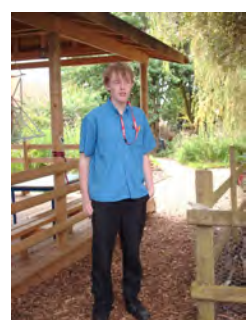
Adrian Wrzenski
Adams Foods Ltd



Hayley Rolfe
Reed & Russell



Megan Thorne
Wincanton Primary



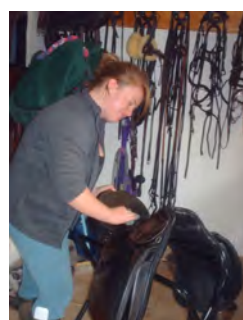
Jay Coles
St Nicholas Primary



Rosie Chant
Milborne Port Primary



Jack Lane
Gilcombe Farm



Bobbie Caines
F Jonason Eventing



Peter McCarthy
Bruton Town Council



Vicky Gilbert
Upton Noble Primary

This year was a very successful Work Experience for last year's Year 10 students, doing one or two weeks in their placements. Students learnt new and valuable workplace skills. A few have moved to working for the company in their own time. They are now focused and psyched up for the challenge of Year 11.

Mrs Creed, Head of Upper School

Lauren Feast
Bruton Primary



Capelli & Partners

CAS Week - CAS Week - CAS Week - CAS Week

Pineapple Dance

2 day trip to London: Pineapple Dance Studio, Legally Blonde, sightseeing

It was a great experience and I would love to do it again! The hotel was lush the beds were really comfy! Dancing at Pineapple Studios was flawless, our teacher Lucy was an amazing dancer. Now my new hobby is dancing! The



theatre was really good, everybody dressed up really nice and posh. Hopefully I could do this all over again. I would like to say thank you to the teachers that took us—Miss Woodrow, Miss Pattemore and Miss Brown—you're the best!

Sarah Stocker-Harding

All 34 students were amazing and the trip was extremely enjoyable and a wonderful end to the term and my 3 years at KA.

Miss Woodrow



Super Sleuth

We tried something new this year: three days of puzzles; science; treasure hunts; escape and evasion. The first day had an Egyptian theme, requiring a series of clues to be solved to unmask a murderer. The imagination runs wild when you are told the answer is in a flask containing the innards of a Mummy! Much screaming and lots of wet wipes later and the culprit was revealed.



Day two and there was some intense investigating being done in the science labs. Which car was responsible for a hit-and-run? Who owned the pen which wrote the ransom note after the kidnap? Fingerprints and fibres left at the scene soon led to a murderer. It was C.S.I.



King Arthur's style.

On the last day each person had to solve puzzles to earn clues which would send them to numbers scattered around the school. They were very good at both the puzzle solving and the speed they found their numbers. They finished with a smuggling game, where they had to outwit the 'police' to sell travel passes to 'dealers'. This game was so popular that some other students asked to be allowed to join in!



Mrs Chant

Paintball

Perhaps the highlight of a varied three days for students was getting the opportunity to shoot some members of staff.

Eighty students who spent three days doing a variety of activities including team-building activities and nature walks seemed to particularly enjoy the paintballing activity at Hamburger Hill near Bristol.

At the site, students, along with supervising staff, were split into two teams for a range of games in woods with various props: one game, 'Capture the Flag', was set in an area that contained the body of an aeroplane.

The participants, including staff, had a fantastic day despite some sporting some impressive bruises from the paintballs.



Build a Shelter



I was part of the team that made the new shelter outside the library. I really enjoyed this activity because it was working with my hands. I learnt lots of new things like measuring and cutting angles, concreting, drilling and painting.

It was really fun working as a team and getting to know more people and the frequent tea breaks were great – thank you Ms Pearson for the 'hot chocolate-marshmallow-squirty cream' drinks, biscuits and the chips on the last day!

I think the finished shelter looks really nice and you can see it as you come up the drive on the bus.

Christian Forrester
Yr8



CAS Week - CAS Week - CAS Week - CAS Week

Golf

16 Students took part in golf for CAS week at Wincanton Golf Club for the first year ever despite the dodging of showers on the first day, which did not stop play!! Students were taught the basics from the grip, backswing, playing with irons to playing with woods and in 3 days all students enjoyed a thoroughly active and well planned out programme. **Charlie Garrett** was even given the nickname of 'Dave Duval' for his golfing attire of a cap and sunglasses by the club professional!



Model Making

Students made boats, planes, dragons, cars and war hammer models and made a visit to the Fleet Air Arm Museum.

Mrs Adams made a very impressive Endeavour 1768 ship but it took a lot longer to make than she expected!



PARIS

45 students and 5 members of staff left for Paris, most of them so excited to go to Disneyland! The coach and boat journey were very smooth, no sick children.....until we arrived at the hotel—too many sweets consumed and very tired children! The hotel was basic, clean but somehow very humid!!!

Disneyland was the main highlight and all students definitely enjoyed themselves, apart from poor **Caitlin** who hurt her neck on the first ride and spent a lot of her time in the French first aid room and with the teachers! Poor Caitlin!

Second day was Paris!! We went to all the most famous landmarks in Paris, the Eiffel tower, l'arc de triomphe.....then followed by a boat trip on the Seine, beautiful! Finally, Le Louvre! Well, shall we say le Jardin des tuiles et la Pyramide du Louvre? Sadly we didn't get to see "Mona Lisa" too many hungry children!! The students were great and had a lot of fun and very little sleep! One student who really stood out was **Sam Short**, keen to try to speak French and very keen to try different food!

Miss Cadieu

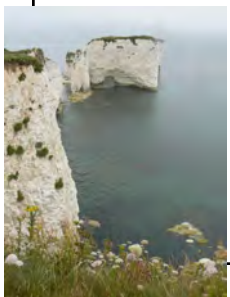


Outdoor Adventures

On Day 1 students visited Swanage and walked to Old Harry Rocks on the Purbeck coastline, the views were amazing despite the drizzle!

On the second day Butlins was the destination—where students could have fun in the Splash Waterworld and try some rides on the funfair.

Day 3 was the annual wet walk from King Alfred's Tower to KA!



Inspirational Landscapes

The small, but select group, who opted for this course, spent a day in the beautiful surroundings of Stourhead Gardens learning photography, drawing and watercolour techniques.

This was followed by two days based back at school learning felt landscape making, jewellery and folk art painting. Each came away with sketches, a flat and a 3D felt piece which cleverly doubled up as a tee light holder, earrings and a painted mirror in a frame. The weather was sunny against all expectations and we all had a great time.

Mrs Dyke



Mr Hayes' Sports News



Saturday Morning Breakfast Club

We have a Saturday morning breakfast club, which runs from 9am-10am at Wincanton Sports Centre for parents and their children who enjoy playing badminton. It costs £1.60 per person and is purely aimed as a fun and sociable session to play against other parents and children of King Arthur's school.



Fitness Suite Students can now access the fitness suite at the sports centre after school and during lunch time. The fitness suite is available Mon-Fri after school from 3.20-5pm and Mon, Weds and Fri lunch time. The cost of a lunch time session is £1.50 and £3.10 after school. Students who wish to use the gym must make sure that they have collected a parent consent form from the PE Dept and then had their gym induction during the lunch hour. Once inducted, students can use the gym at any time at the weekend or evenings as long as they are accompanied by an adult who has also been inducted. A monthly pass can also be purchased for £18 which includes unlimited swimming, unlimited junior gym and some exercise classes.



Football Focus School This summer KA became a Football Focus School in partnership with Somerset FA and Wincanton and South Cheriton Football Club. This means that the school will have a focus of promoting more opportunities for boys and girls to get into football as well as forming better links with its two local football clubs. The school will also look to build upon increasing the numbers of girls who play football at school and club level as well as offering a number of refereeing courses from a full certificate to mini whistlers, which should target all age groups to gain a referee's badge.

Athletics Success Jonny Hill now in Year 9 has had another tremendous year of athletics. On Saturday 17th September he will be competing in the pentathlon, whilst representing Somerset at the English Schools AA Combined Events and Race Walking Championships at Exeter Arena. Well Done Jonny!!!



Year 11 Sports Leader Level One

The following year 11 students have gained the Sports Leader Level One Award: **Jonti Allinson-Epps, Tom Baker, Macca Biddle, Alfie Bonehill, Matt Britton, Ella Brunton, James Byrne, Lucy Carnell, Rosie Chant, Harry Coates, Jay Coles, Tilia Colman, Tom Crossley, Tom Cuff, Lauren Feast, Stacey Fowler, Zoe Furzey, Vicky Gilbert, Tommy Hamblin, Lester James, Matt Lingard, Finlay Orr, Max Padfield, George Parry, Chloe Penny, Connor Rance, Poppy Skipper, Callum Spencer, Lewis Summers, Larry Taylor, Holly Thomas, Megan Thorne, Mitch Tucker, Frankie Wadman and Iwan Walters**

The Staff Interview:

Mrs Mesarova

- Describe yourself in 3 words:
Friendly, creative, busy
- What is your favourite food?
Curry
- What is your favourite film?



"How to train your Dragon"

- Do you have a party trick? What is it? *I like parties but I don't have a party trick!*

- If you were stranded on a desert island what one thing would you take with you? *My mobile so I could talk with my husband and children*

- What is your favourite sport to watch or take part in? *I like to watch Ice Hockey, but I like to take part in Badminton and Dance*



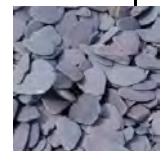
- If you could live anywhere in the world where would it be? *Somewhere warm where I can wear my sombrero, but where there are mountains to ski*

- If you could time travel what era would you chose to live in? *Now!*

- Do you have a hobby? *Turning slate pebbles into necklaces*



10. Food—what is your "signature dish"? *Thick mushroom soup with home made potato bread.*



NEW SCHOOL WEBSITE!
www.kingarthur.org.uk

view Excalibur on screen!

Flying High

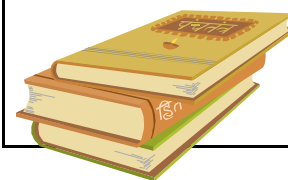
This is Mr Elloway, paragliding 2000feet above Mendoza in Argentina during the summer!



Maths Books Amnesty!

Please return all Maths text books and homework books—Thank you!

Mrs Morris



PreVoc End of Course Trip to Shearwater



The Year 9 pre-vocational group ended their successful course with a trip to Shear Water on Friday 15th July.

Mr Golden was in charge of fishing. "It was hilarious watching the interesting casting techniques (into the trees)."

Blake Whitmarsh said that "the best part of the trip was that the weather was good and it did not rain." **Katie Bill** enjoyed taking photos and having "the freedom". Thanks go to the students for their good behaviour and Mr Golden, Ms Sainsbury and Mrs Legg for accompanying the students. I am really proud of the group and look forward to hearing that many of them will complete their level 1 CoPE course in Year 10 at King Arthurs.

Sue Pearson - PreVoc Teacher

Joint Summer Concert

Back in July the Memorial hall was packed when the towns schools (King Arthur's, Our Lady's and Wincanton Primary) got together to present an evening of musical entertainment.

KA students performed in the Orchestra, Band, Singing Group, Choir, Folk Group and a specially put together Year 7 Ensemble and Wind



Ensemble. The Primaries had both brought choirs and there was a Joint Primary Band, rehearsed by Graeme Wilson, Headteacher at Wincanton Primary. It was also an emotional farewell to two of my most loyal and amazing musicians, Alice Baker and Lorna Blackmore, who are both going on to study Music next year in different places. I wish them every success and thank them for the years of hard work and dedication.

Emma Fletcher, Head of Music

We are collecting!



Morrison's "2011 Let's Grow" vouchers—please send in to School Reception!

**2011
Best Ever Results!**

STRODE
College

*World-class learning
on your doorstep...*

Calling all Year 11 Pupils

This year you will have some exciting choices to make about what you do and where you go when you leave King Arthur's.

Come along to Strode College to discuss your future and find out more about what we have to offer.

- Open Evening - Tuesday 1 November 2011 (6-8pm)
- Open Evening - Thursday 24 November 2011 (6-8pm)
- College Experience Day - Thursday 1 December 2011

For more information about Strode College, please visit our website www.strode-college.ac.uk

We look forward to welcoming you to Strode College

Strode College, Church Road
Street, Somerset BA16 0AB
Tel: 01458 844400 quoting ref. KAN



Young People's Art Club at The Balsam Centre

W srode 12 lipca 2011 roku w Balsam Centre odbyła sie wystawa naszych prac. Po szkole przyszliśmy jak najszybciej mogliśmy. Szybko staraliśmy sie powiesic nasze prace i przygotowac wszystko. Przed godzina 5 przyszlo kilku ludzi, których wogóle nie znalazmy. Po chwili przyszli nauczyciele od nas ze szkoly. Bardzo nas chwalili. Byl John, który kamerowal wszystko, musieliśmy opowiadac o swoich pracach, chociaz bardzo sie wstydziliśmy, ale dalismy rade i kazdy opowiedzial o swojej pracy. We wrzesniu chcemy wszyscy razem wrócić do klubu plastycznego.



Mamy nadzieje, ze przyjdzie wiecej ludzi. Bawilismy sie swietnie..

Dziakuje...

Roksa Joachimiak



Year 10 Statistics Success

In Year 10 the top mathematicians are entered for an extra GCSE in Statistics. This involves collecting, displaying, analysing and interpreting data. This year we achieved 100% A* - C with 20 of the 33 entered getting A or A* grades. Many congratulations should go to these students for their hard work.

Mrs Morris



WINCANTON **film** SOCIETY
your local cinema

Films monthly from
September 2011
to June 2012

King Arthur's School
West Hill
Wincanton
BA9 9BX
Tel:01963 32552

Season starts 20th September

"The King's Speech"

Doors open
7pm

Season tickets from £27
Pay at the door from £4 per film
www.facebook.com/wincantonfilm
www.wincantonfilm.co.uk

The Friends of King Arthur's Community School
presents



A Murder Mystery Evening
**"Who killed the
Hotel Manager?"**

Test your powers of deduction as you try to solve this murder mystery. There will be a host of dodgy suspects and plenty of clues along the way. There will also be some murderous quizzes for you to complete with prizes for the correct answers!

THURSDAY 13th OCTOBER

7.30pm

School Hall, King Arthur's Community School
West Hill, Wincanton

Adults - £5, Students £2.50

Tickets available from
school office or on the
door. Tel 01963 32368.



Miss Chant & Maizie



On 26th August Miss Chant gave birth to Maizie Rose, weighing a healthy 6lb 4oz.

Miss Chant is now on Maternity Leave for a year from her role as Work-Related Learning Manager.



New Sports Loyalty Clubcard

You can get them for coffee and petrol, so why not for taking part in Sports?!

The PE Department are promoting more participation in extra-curricular clubs by introducing a taking-part card. From now on, those who attend sports clubs will receive an attendance stamp for each activity. Once you get to 12 stamps you will be invited and get first chance to go on termly sports trips. See PE staff for your card!



Important dates for your diary

September

Weds 21st Year 7 & Year 9 Photos
Thurs 22nd Year 11 Geography Field Trip
Monday 26th Year 8 HPV Vaccination (1)
Thurs 29th **SCHOOL OPEN DAY**

October

Tues 4th Sexey's 6th Form Open Evening
Weds 12th Connect SW Careers Fair, Bridgwater
Thurs 13th Kingston Maurward Open Evening
Thurs 13th FOKAS "Murder Mystery" Evening
Mon 17th Yeovil College Open Evening
Tues 18th Bridgwater College Open Evening
Weds 19th - **INSET DAY (Please note this has changed)**
Thurs 20th Year 7 Parents Evening
Friday 21st Yeovil College INSET day
Monday 24th - Friday 28th October **HALF TERM**

November

1st & 24th Strode College Open Evenings
Thurs 3rd Frome College Open Evening
Tues 8th Connect SW Careers Fair, Westlands
Weds 16th **Parent/Tutor Consultation Day (school closure day)**
Fri 18th Children In Need (mufti day)
Mon 21st Year 8 HPV Vaccination (2)
Tues 22nd Year 7 Music Concert

Keep these dates safe until the next edition!

King Arthur's Community School

Visit www.kingarthurs.org.uk

Telephone 01963 32368

E-mail office@kingarthurs.org.uk