

The Warwickian



Michaelmas 2017

Les Misérables

Audiences were mesmerised
by the outstanding
performances of the talented
cast and musicians.

Letter from the Head Master



Dear Parents/Guardians

It has been a term of contrasts. Whilst the programme of activities has been as busy as ever, we have also tried to find time for reflection and to, just, be quiet.

A key strategic priority for us at school is to ensure that all the boys have a healthy and happy life, both with us and beyond. We live in an increasingly complex world and want to ensure that our students are equipped to deal with this.

Mindfulness became further embedded in school life with staff and parents attending evening courses, whilst our Middle Fifth students continue to study mindfulness as part of their PSHCE programme. Our Sir Ben Kingsley Lecture, 'Beyond Happiness' by Sir Anthony Seldon also gave us all a taste of the benefits of meditation, and tips on how to be happier.

We then enjoyed the 'Power of Quiet' week, starting each lesson with two minutes of silence, and a digital detox day. Reading week followed, with boys encouraged to make time to read. The Boys' Reading Commission has found that a male role model can make a significant difference in promoting a positive attitude to reading for life, so we were delighted to see many of our male staff sharing their choice of reading.

Last, but definitely not least, we welcomed a new member to our well-being team, Rosa, our therapy dog. I have no idea whether these initiatives will all work, but I can say that Warwick School is firmly championing new ideas to support our boys.

In complete contrast, life has also been frenetic. The work to build Project One Campus continues and the steel frame for the Sixth Form Centre is both complete and rather awe-inspiring. The final product will be exceptional.

Ninety choristers performed at the Royal Albert Hall as part of the Music for Youth Proms. They sounded stunning. Once again, Warwick School made a huge impact at the National Concert Band Festival, picking up six medals at the regional finals. Our musicians and actors gave stunning performances in Les Misérables, part of a huge team effort with King's High. We all found it hard to believe that we were watching a school performance, such was the talent of the performers and the quality of the staging. A triumph.

Our sporting success spans many areas with our swimmers reaching the ESSA Finals and finishing in the top 10 teams in the country. Our tennis players also compete in the National Finals imminently and our indoor hockey players are County Champions. In the Rugby Schools Cup our U15 and U18 teams are both through to the next rounds. Participation is also a key measure of our sports' success and in hockey and rugby alone we now boast 29 and 43 teams respectively.

Interviews and exams have featured heavily this term, with the highest number of Year 7 applicants sitting the entrance exam for many years, and a highly qualified field of candidates going through the gruelling interview process for the role of Head at Warwick School. I am absolutely delighted the Governors have appointed Dr Deneal Smith. I have no doubt that he will prove to be an exceptional Head Master.

Wishing you all a Peaceful and Happy Christmas.

A R LOCK



WARWICK
SCHOOL

Welcome to the Warwickian

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Mr Hogg and Mr Callan during reading week.

Academic news

Chemistry Challenge

This summer, 22 hardy chemists took on the toughest Lower Sixth Chemistry Challenge run by Cambridge University. 7000 of Britain's brightest students participated and our boys are to be congratulated for a record-breaking haul, with over 75% of all Warwick boys winning medals in the competition - an outstanding achievement.

Receiving Bronze Medals, coming in the top 60% of all entrants: Will Buckley, Jimmy Cheung, Ed Commander, Sam Coy, James Keay, Dan Kingman, Marson Kwok, Sam Lawton, Clement Ng, Gautham Rao and Jeffrey Wen.

Achieving the school's record-breaking four silver medals and coming in the top 23%: Ed Macro, Ken Man, Louis Moss-Lawton and Bryden Yip.

Equalling our highest ever gold medal haul and in the top 8%: Anurag Choksey, Theo McAuliffe and Andrew Tinkler.

In this competition there is an elite category, reserved for the 'best of the best'. Huge congratulations to Douglas Boyle who won a



Roentgenium award, finishing in the top 0.8% of all entrants. Douglas was invited to attend a high-performance chemistry workshop at Goldsmiths' Hall, London where he gave a presentation on the element Technetium.



Languages Lunch

This year we held the 'Languages Lunch' in the MFL Department with pastries, gingerbread, coffee and tea, which disappeared all too quickly.

The Lower to Upper Fifth boys with a passion for languages came to see what A Level French, German and Spanish was all about. Our current Lower and Upper Sixth boys along with conversation teachers, were on hand to advise and run through what we cover and how we cover it. All in all, a very successful *Kaffee und Kuchen* was enjoyed by all!

Physics Twilight Lecture | Will Feasey L6Cf

During November, a large group of students, teachers and parents sat with eager anticipation as Professor David Evans of Birmingham University began a journey into the realm of particle physics.

Despite its daunting nature, our lecturer explained each concept with simplicity and humour. The talk included a large amount of audience participation, with some brave students assisting in demonstrations involving liquid nitrogen and levitation.

Astrophysics in Thailand | Josh Brown U6Go

I recently took part, along with 218 international students, in the IOAA (International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics) 2017 in Phuket, Thailand, as one of the five representatives from the UK.

This year the exams were exceptionally tough, with only the top 30% of contestants achieving medals. Whilst simultaneously trying to enjoy the Thai culture as best I could, I sat ten hours of exams in Data Analysis, Theory and Observational skills.



Despite struggling in Data Analysis and the Observational exam, a very strong performance in Theory, meant that I won a bronze medal, contributing to the one silver medal and three bronze medal haul that the UK achieved - the most medals the team has ever won.

Also notable was my team's performance in the Team Competition. The 219 students were randomly sorted into 31 teams, and each team dropped off on a 'desert island' in a planetarium. We were given '2 days', with each hour passing every 12 seconds, to deduce our longitude and latitude to the nearest degree, and the month, so we could call for a rescue mission, else be mauled by the monsters of the island. Thanks to some effective teamwork and some prior revision on my part, we were the only team in the competition to survive, and won the 'Best Team' prize.

Junior School news

Blackwell Court

The Lower Twos had an action-packed trip to Blackwell Court. On arrival they began a busy two-day programme of activities which included archery, high ropes and firing water rockets!

Accommodation was 'glamping' style camping, however the weather was not kind, with more rain and colder temperatures than would have been hoped for in September!

Despite everything, the boys thoroughly enjoyed all the activities and the camping. It was a great way for our boys to bond together at the start of the year and to work as teams.



Blists Hill | Ned Wilson, 3M

On the day after the Senior School entrance exam, the Third Years set out on an interesting trip to Blists Hill, which is an old Victorian town/museum.

Firstly, we spent the morning pretending to be Victorian school children and being part of the museum exhibit for other visitors. It was very strict, we weren't allowed to talk! After lunch, we set out exploring the village, visiting all of the shops. The sweet shop was my favourite but the printers' posters were very amusing. For example one poster said 'All people bring joy when they walk through the door, some when they enter, others when they leave!'. Too soon it was time to leave, but altogether it was a fantastic, educational, fun visit and I thoroughly enjoyed it.



Tuck Shop opening

This term saw the Grand Opening of the Junior School Tuck Shop and Mrs Turner was given the honour of cutting the ribbon before trading began.

The Tuck Shop is being run on a House system, with each House taking it in turns on a daily basis. The boys are all doing a fantastic job of serving their happy customers.

Remembrance Service

The Upper Two boys led our Remembrance Service with a series of readings and singing. The service is always a poignant reminder of the impact of war. The Rev. Gough highlighted the extraordinary sacrifice that former pupils of Warwick School made during various conflicts in recent history. It was also a time to reflect and thank our former pupils who continue to serve in our armed forces.



Congratulations to this year's Prefects and House Captains

Adi, James, Harrison, Ryan, Jake, Daniel, Alex, Roan, Conor, Charles, Tommy, Isaac, William, Aiden, Harry and William.



Jersey Tour

The Jersey Tour was packed full of sport and visits, with never a moment to pause.

The Warwick Junior School party received a particularly warm welcome from Jersey Rugby club, as their teams often have to travel to the mainland, or to France to find opposition.

Whilst most of the rugby teams enjoyed success, the boys were given a lesson in how to play football by Jersey College, the reigning IAPS football champions.

Alongside the sport, one of the highlights of the trip proved to be a visit to the war tunnels. Dug during the Second World War, the network of tunnels served as a munitions store and hospital. Today the tunnels provide an insight into life during the German occupation.

Lindypop



Once again our Third Years were joined by Lindypop for a day of workshops and a performance in the evening.

Congratulations to:

Moosa performing in *Nativity! The Musical*
Moosa Moustafa has been cast in *Nativity* at the Birmingham Rep. Moosa has been busy this term, dividing his time between school, rehearsals and the show itself.

Hector at the RSC

Hector McGraw successfully auditioned for the Royal Shakespeare Company (RSC) for the role of Young Martius in the recent production *Coriolanus* and performed both in Stratford and at The Barbican.



Rugby Festival

Warwick entertained four other schools, Stamford, King's Hawford, RGS The Grange and Lincroft. Each school provided four teams and played a round robin in their corresponding groups.

There was some excellent rugby played and although Warwick didn't feature as the strongest team, our boys tried hard. The game has become faster and decision-making, along with team organisation, have become the key components for which a successful team must strive.



Harvest Donations

Following our Harvest Chapel service when boys generously donated a wide variety of produce, a number of our Lower Two boys helped a local charity to load the donations onto their van.

All the produce was donated to Helping Hands, a charity which provides support to low income and vulnerable people in the Warwick and Leamington area.



Trips & activities



Everest Base Camp

A team of 17 boys and 2 staff travelled to the Himalayas, challenged with completing the Everest Base Camp trail.

The first couple of days saw the team walking up the lush Dudh Khola valley, passing through villages adorned with Buddhist prayer flags, Mani (prayer) wheels and long walls of Mani stones. They crossed the Dudh Koshi river a number of times on a variety of impressive suspension bridges, the highest of which, the Hillary Bridge, marked the start of the steep climb to the town of Namche Bazaar. The first 'rest' day to aid acclimatisation to the high altitude included a 300m ascent to a memorial honouring Tenzing Norgay.

Then followed the party's first glimpse of Everest, a beautiful white pyramid in the middle of a panorama of snow-capped peaks, followed by a steep walk to reach Tengboche Monastery, the largest and most important Tibetan Buddhist monastery in the region.

In the thinning air at over 5000m, came the final two day push to Base Camp. Climbing up through rocky moraines, over Thokla pass where dozens of memorials have been built in memory of those who have lost their lives on Everest, the party walked alongside the mighty Khumbu glacier and eventually reached their goal – Everest Base Camp!

Overnight it had snowed, making the three ascent of Kala Patthar all the more challenging. At such high altitude, several of the team were starting to feel the effects and the going was slow, but eventually the whole group was at the 5545m viewpoint.



After nine days of climbing, it took just three to retrace their steps and walk back to Lukla, visiting Pangboche monastery and Khumjung Secondary School (built by Sir Edmund Hillary) on the way. Some spectacular temples and architecture were also visited in contrast to the sad sight of the 2015 earthquake damage.

With a total distance of 130km and an incredible overall ascent (and descent) of 8200m, this trek was a massive achievement and a great testament to the strength of all the boys involved.

Duke of Edinburgh's Award



D of E Bronze Expedition | The Cotswolds

Gold: 38 boys travelled to the Lake District for their Gold qualifying expedition. Each team walked a distance of around 45 miles on their four day expedition and also completed a project on an aspect of the National Park.

Wild-camping proved to be one of the highlights for some, but for those who camped out on the first night, they found themselves trapped in their tents for over 12 hours engulfed in cloud and battered by strong wind and rain.

However, everyone rose to the challenges presented by both the landscape and the weather. The assessors were highly complimentary throughout, with all teams passing the expedition with flying colours. Several boys are now very close to completing their Gold Award.

Bronze: 29 boys undertook their Bronze qualifying expedition in the Cotswolds. A hot sunny day seemed to result in a few teams remaining in holiday mode and there were a number of navigational errors and timing issues. At the end of the first day a couple of the teams were at risk of not passing.

Better teamwork and efficiency in packing up camp the following morning, led to a more positive start and there was a greater sense of purpose despite some very heavy downpours of rain with which to contend. After successfully walking over 20 miles, a strong finish by all five teams meant that the assessors were impressed and everyone passed.

Football in Spain

Despite the collapse of Monarch airline, 49 students and 5 staff made it to Valencia, for a football development tour; training at the Valencia CF's Ciudad Deportiva de Paterna complex. The touring party enjoyed (largely) fantastic weather and the considerable expertise of Valencia CF's staff, during five 90 minute coaching sessions, which improved their overall game and helped them to compete against some talented local clubs.

Eight games were played in total, with three won, three lost and two drawn. Everyone played to their full potential, putting into practice, skills and moves developed earlier on the training ground.

Other highlights of the trip included a tour of Valencia CF's Mestalla Stadium and an evening at the Camp Nou, for Barcelona's Champions League game against Olympiakos.

The trip ended with a guided tour, in torrential rain. After a short stop to take in the city views from the enchanting Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya, a quick traipse around the imposing Sagrada Família left the entire party, soaked



and having to change into dry clothes before departure!

The trip proved to be a great success, despite some re-arranged logistics!



Drama



Warwick and King's High pupils performed in the eagerly anticipated production of *Les Misérables*, which took place in Warwick Hall.

Les Misérables, School Edition is a shorter version, but none of the 'critical' songs or scenes are cut, and it has become the most popular schools musical in the world. Over 100 students from Warwick and King's High performed, under the direction – a first for both schools - of their first student musical director, Sam Young.

Cat Price, Director of Drama at King's High and Mike Perry, Director of Drama at Warwick School, said: '*Les Misérables* is one of the world's best-loved and most iconic musicals, so it was an obvious choice for the first musical to be performed in Warwick Hall.'

With an imposing interpretation of the barricades, Warwick Hall was transformed into 19th Century Paris. The performances were all outstanding and the portrayals of the main characters were performed with emotion and passion,

especially by Emily Boorman (Fantine), Josh Twemlow (Javert), Josh Simango (Jean Valjean), Lily Jones (Eponine), Poppy Whittaker (Cosette) and Harry Homer (Marius) to name but a few.

Fenella Twohig-Howell (Madame Thénardier) and Christian Leath (Thénardier), partners in crime, added a wicked sense of humour to this sombre yet life-affirming story.

There were many other incredible performances in this unforgettable production and audiences struggled to remember that these were all students at school.

The four nights were sold-out for weeks in advance and the audiences were mesmerised by the outstanding performances of the talented cast and the musicians behind the scenes.



Les Misérables

School Edition



Drama



Music for Youth | Schools' Prom

After a brilliant performance at the National Finals in Birmingham, Warwick School won a place at the National Festival of Music for Youth Prom at the Royal Albert Hall.

Initially there were 6000 entrants and Warwick School was one of just 30 selected to perform at the Royal Albert Hall in front of an audience of thousands. On the final night of the Proms, the Warwick School choir sang *Lux Noxque*, a piece composed by Sam Young. The choir was accompanied by Sam on the organ, George Wilkes and Archie Whitby on cellos and Dan Buxton on saxophone and gave a simply stunning performance. Huge congratulations to all involved on a tremendous achievement.



Music

Warwick School Young Musician of the Year

This term over 100 boys auditioned for a place in the Warwick School Young Musician of the Year Grand Final, at which twelve Warwick School musicians competed for this hard won title. Each boy was the winner of a heat for: Keyboard, String, Woodwind, Vocal and Brass.

The worthy finalists in the Junior Class were: Samuel Taverner (violin), Thomas Davies (piano), Samuel Manship (French Horn), Oliver Simcock (vocal) and Oliver Murden (flute).

Finalists in the Senior Class were Jonathan Vining who appeared twice, once as a vocalist and again playing the oboe, Alexandre MacKay (violin), Alan Lau (piano) and Luke Barker (trumpet).

The adjudicators for the evening, were the distinguished conductor John Lubbock and our own Mr Hogg. The Junior Prize was awarded to Thomas Davies, with Oliver Simcock the runner-up. The Senior Prize was awarded to Alan Lau and highly commended to Luke Barker.



Thomas Davies | Junior Prize



Alan Lau | Senior Prize

Congratulations to:

George Wilkes who has won a place in the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain on 'cello. George is the first Warwick School student ever to gain this honour.



National Youth Brass Band Great Britain | Luke Barker, U5T

In October I auditioned for the National Youth Brass Band of Great Britain, and was subsequently offered a place in the cornet section.

I have attended courses at Uppingham School and Repton School. At the beginning of the courses every player has to audition for their seat. I was allocated 8th Solo Cornet out of a total of 27 cornets on the first course and 6th Solo Cornet on the second course. The courses concluded with concerts at various venues including The Barbican.



News & events

Beyond Happiness

Sir Anthony Seldon previously the 13th Master of Wellington College, is a political historian and commentator on British political leadership, as well as on education and contemporary Britain.



Sir Anthony Seldon recalled his previous experiences which had led him to publish a book that stood out from his previous portfolio of political biographies, entitled *Beyond Happiness*. He told about what in his life he found very enriching, and of his love for teaching. Action for Happiness, an organisation which he co-founded, has made progress in helping young people in schools cope with the stresses of modern life, and Sir Anthony told the audience how he pioneered his own happiness lessons during his time as a Headmaster.

Sir Anthony then proceeded to elaborate on his ten tips on achieving a happier lifestyle: Giving, Relationships, Exercise, Appreciation, Trying Out, Direction, Resilience, Empathy, Awareness and Meaning, conveniently spelling out the acronym 'Great Dream'.

Throughout his talk the audience felt involved and encouraged to write down how well they felt they performed against each of the 'Great Dream' categories and what to do to improve.

For 'Awareness' each member of the audience took the tangerine, given on arrival, and under instruction from Sir Anthony, ate it mindfully, considering all the senses separately, as if trying the fruit for the first time. A truly memorable evening!

JLR Design Course

As part of our Careers service at Warwick School we promote external courses and events which we believe will be of interest and value to our students with regard to career choice.



Upper Fifth Ben Izen attended a design course at Jaguar Land Rover over October half-term.

"The JLR introduction to design course is a great opportunity to experience working as a car designer. We had been set the task of designing a future autonomous car and got the chance to discuss our ideas with Jaguar and Land Rover car designers. We also had a look around the design studios and saw cars that have not yet been released. This course really showed me what being a designer for a company is like and has helped me decide between the path of engineering or design." **Ben Izen.**

New Recruit

This year, the start of term saw a particularly special new starter at the school, Rosa, our very own therapy dog.

As part of our continuing innovative approach to well-being, Meg Harper, School Counsellor, has introduced Rosa. Rosa is a Portuguese Water Dog, a hypoallergenic dog breed renowned for their friendly and happy disposition, as a therapy dog.

After engaging in an animal assisted therapy training programme, Meg was convinced that this was the right step forward, believing a dog introduces a calming and welcoming atmosphere. As almost all boys fidget, she knows that stroking Rosa and 'just being' with her will provide students with warmth and unconditional comfort, encouraging them to talk through concerns and difficulties.

Rosa will be gradually integrated into the school community as a working trainee therapy dog!



U4L students are helping to acclimatise Rosa to the new environment.



This year's Boarders' Bonfire Party was captured on camera by Lower Sixth Boarder and talented photographer, Scott Chan.

News & events

CCF News

CCF Trophy Winners

For the first time ever, Warwick School CCF has won the Brigade Military Skills Competition. This was held at Nesscliffe Training Camp over one weekend with 28 schools from across the West Midlands, taking part.

The team of eight cadets took part in written and practical assessments testing many skills, from Defence, to First Aid. Scores were given for each task and once totalled at the end of the weekend, Warwick School was awarded first place and brought the trophy back, for the first time in the school's history. A tremendous achievement for all involved.



Tough conditions

A hardy bunch of cadets attended the Half-Term Exercise in, what turned out to be, the toughest challenge in recent memory. The theme was the Falklands conflict and the maps were changed to include Port Stanley and Goose Green.

A first visit to Leek Training camp coincided with gale-force winds, poor visibility and boggy conditions. At one point, cadets had to build a makeshift bridge to cross a river (it had previously been a small stream that could be stepped over!). The cadets stood up to the challenge and several examples of excellent leadership and navigation impressed the staff, including those from other schools.



Oyez!

The annual tradition of the visit from the Town Crier continued this term. However, the location of his address to the school changed for what we believe to be the first time since his visits began back in 1912! This year the boys gathered around the Town Crier in the Junior School playground and the cheer was as loud as ever.

£350 was collected for the Mayor's charity, which this year was Molly Olly's Wishes, a local charity which works to support children with terminal or life threatening illnesses, and their families.

Congratulations to:



Tom Bosworth, U4S

Tom took part in the 2nd Warwick Sea Scouts sponsored walk which raised over £5,500 for their fund to build new Headquarters in St Nicholas Park. It was a very significant challenge as he personally walked 57 miles over the three days, including a shift from 3.00am to 9.00am which was very, very tough. Well done Tom!

As a school we are also pleased to be supporting the Sea Scouts' fundraising. They are holding a Business Breakfast on Friday 5 January in Warwick Hall.

Swim School



On Saturday 7 October, children from Warwick Swim School participated in a Charity Gala to raise money for the 'Helping Hands' charity.

All the children that were in 'Swim England's' (formally ASA) stage 4 and above were invited to take part, and they all enjoyed a fun, action-packed morning which included: 25m swim competitions, design a swim hat, giant games corner, wall climbing in the sports hall, a raffle and the much needed tea and cake stall.

The morning was a great success with a grand total of £622 raised.



Priors House residents enjoy tea and jazz!

Students welcomed Priors House residents for afternoon tea and jazz. This visit was thoroughly enjoyed by the residents, which for some was a rare trip out of their residential home. Alan Lau, kindly lent his jacket to one of our visitors who was feeling the cold.

Remembrance Parade

Boys from the CCF joined in the Fusilier Association Parade through Warwick town centre.



Charity

total raised this academic year

£5,508.68



FOWS Winter Fair

Friends of Warwick School held a very successful Winter Fair raising money which will be used to fund projects for the School. Local businesses took stands selling a wide variety of wares and traditional refreshments, and Santa Clause was available to meet with some of his customers!

Big Breakfast

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Macmillan Big Breakfast, combined with a cake sale and chocolate raffle, a staggering £4,060.42 was raised for this very worthy cause, over £1,000 more than last year.



A huge thank you not only to all parents and boys who came along to support Macmillan, but also to those who made donations of cakes, chocolates and money.

Green Team report

The chance to get involved in this half-term's Green Team competition was enthusiastically grasped by all forms in the school. In an attempt to raise awareness about the quality of recycling around school, the Green Team asked forms to take part in a programme to increase the quality of recycling in the green bins in their form rooms.

All forms had both their general waste and recycling bins inspected and scored, with every item in the wrong bin deducting one point from an overall total. There were three forms in particular who stood out for their amazing efforts and for this were awarded doughnuts for the whole class.

First place with 100% recycling quality - M5B. Second place with 98% - L4S. Third place with 97% - L6H.



Swimming Finals

Following qualification at the West Midlands English Schools Swimming Association finals, two Warwick School relay teams travelled to the London Aquatics Centre to swim in the ESSA Team Championships.

170 elite schools entered overall, and only 30 made the championship finals. All boys swam brilliantly, making progress on their qualifying times. The U13s and U15s qualified for both of their relays. Congratulations to Sam Manship, Morgan Evans, Oliver Hunt, and Skip Snelson who came 15th in the freestyle relay.

Congratulations to the Junior team of Ruben Snelson, Harvey Flint, Louis MacAuliffe and George Gloster, two of whom swam up for their age group. They qualified 7th for the final, competing against the very top swimming schools in the country, and were just pipped into 9th place by 3 hundredths of a second.

All boys swam incredibly well against some tough teams and should be very proud of their final qualification.

James Haskell visit

James Haskell visited Warwick School to do some promotional filming, which involved working with our 1st XV boys and a new piece of training equipment.

We also took the opportunity to show off our Oddballs Bobble Hats. The famous bobble hats are popular amongst professional clubs, and are worn by international teams across the globe.



Sales of our personalised Warwick bobble hats have raised money for charity *Youthline NZ* (chosen charity, as part of the 2018 Rugby Tour), as well as to the Oddballs Foundation, raising money and awareness for testicular cancer.

Rugby Tours

U15 Rugby Tour to France

At the end of August, 38 boys and 4 staff headed for Bayonne, France to start the U15 rugby season.

Training on a 3G pitch in front of the 400 year old walls of the town was an incredible setting. For further inspiration the party headed to watch a game at Bayonne. It was really entertaining, with the French fans notable for their passion.

In the first match, against Biarritz Olympique, our Backs proved particularly effective with both Will Mobberley and Tom Patrick shredding the opposition's defence. The win was celebrated with a traditional French sportsman's post-match dinner, at McDonalds!

The next day saw more training followed by a trip to a water park where the slides, flumes and rides were great fun.

At Mouguerre, the team took part in a triangular tournament, with the A and B squads mixed up, forming two teams. Kai Nwangwa and Pete Dobson were notable for their great defensive efforts, and again the attack displayed some real élan.

Throughout the trip, in between matches and training, time was spent at the beach taking part in many activities including games of frisbee, touch rugby, football and surfing.



Edinburgh

The U13 half-term rugby trip to Edinburgh was a fantastic opportunity for the boys to test their rugby ability and to experience a tour environment.

This year the boys had a team mascot; a bear, which represented the Warwick Rugby values, and it became an important member of the touring party.

During the tour there were three very tough games against Glasgow High School, Glasgow Academy and George Heriot's. A great achievement for all of our teams as we came away from Scotland undefeated which has not happened on this particular tour before. Boys gained some very valuable experiences on and off the pitch but also grew in confidence playing against bigger and stronger boys.

The tour however is a whole experience and not just rugby, with the boys visiting some historical sites including Stirling and Edinburgh Castle and the vaults under the city during the ghost tour.

All boys were great ambassadors for Warwick School.



Record Breakers

Warwick School was part of a team that has set a World Record for the most players in a hockey exhibition match.

The successful Guinness World Record attempt was a monumental 'team' effort, both on and off the pitch, led by Warwick Hockey Club. Photographs, video footage, witness statements and scorers' logs all had to be provided to ratify the attempt.

The previous record was 257 players and the Warwick match saw 367 players taking part. Players came from over 35 different organisations, including a very large number from Warwick School and King's High School. Players ranged in age from 4 to 86 and included Anna Toman a current England Women's Team member and our own Mr Wade, a current England Over 40s Vet. The final score was 35-16 in favour of the blue team over the yellow team.



Tennis Finals

Our tennis teams travelled to the Black Country to play in the Regional Tennis Finals. Warwick has been competing in the Schools Cup, reaching the last 16 nationally, of a competition that began all the way back in March.

Seeded second on the day, the team comfortably overcame Ellesmere College in the first knockout match. This placed them in a contest against Ratcliffe College, the top seed, for a place in the National Final. Despite being pitted against strong opposition, the strength of our squad paid off with both Ben and Monty putting in gutsy performances in their singles matches to see them through 4-2 on the day.



Warwick School has now qualified for the National Final for the second time only in the school's history. The team will be battling it out amongst the top four schools in the country, facing Reeds School, Millfield Prep and Merchiston Castle.

Great praise should go to all of the squad for this phenomenal achievement. Well done to Shola Ajibade, Ryan Stinton, Ben Holding, Monty Thompson, Alex Rintoul and Jonny Frost.

County Hockey Champions

Our U16 and U18 hockey teams have both won their County Cup indoor finals. The U16s won all of their matches against King Henry VIII, Princethorpe College and Rugby School.

The U18 group was a bit more tense with three schools finishing on six points (Warwick, Rugby and KES Birmingham). Warwick came out as overall winners based on goal difference.

Both teams have now qualified for their respective Midlands Finals.



Sport



Congratulations to Warwick School Swim School

Our Swim School has been awarded runners-up at the National Finals of the Swim England Awards 2017, in the category, Swim School of the year.

The Swim School started seven years ago, teaching 168 children to swim every week, and now our swim teachers teach over 700 children to swim every week.

Congratulations to:

Tom Fawcett who represented England U18s in the Europe Sevens in Germany coming away with a bronze medal.

Alhassan Khalil who is now number 2 squash player in England in his age category, just losing out to the world number 1 in the U15 British Junior Championship. We wish him the best of luck at the forthcoming US and British Opens.

Collaboration



National Concert Band Festival

The National Concert Band Festival (NCBF) Regional Finals were held at Wrekin College, Shropshire, at which Warwick School and King's High School had six bands performing. All the bands excelled themselves and received glowing remarks from the adjudicators.

As a result prizes were awarded to: The Super Tonics (gold), Little Big Band (gold), Foundation Concert Band (silver), Big Band (gold), Foundation Wind Orchestra (platinum) and Jazz Lab (platinum). The platinum winning bands automatically qualify for the National Finals at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester on 7 April, however it is possible that high scoring gold winning bands may also be invited. Save the date!

King James I Festival

Warwick Independent Schools Foundation was delighted to be involved in the Warwick Town celebrations to mark the 400th anniversary of the visit of James I to Warwick.



Musicians and choristers from Warwick School and King's High School attended the banquet held at in the Great Hall of the Lord Leycester Hospital. When James I visited the town in 1617, a grand banquet was held in his honour, comprising a lavish extravaganza of music, dancing and food, recreated 400 years later as part of the three-day Festival. The Festival also included events at the Market Hall Museum, St Mary's Church, Warwick Racecourse and Warwick Castle.

Languages at University

Thomas Bell, Luke Barker (Upper Fifth) and Mrs Goodbourn attended an excellent talk by Professor Simon Kemp of Somerville College, University of Oxford, at King's High School.

Professor Kemp revealed the extent to which French is used throughout the Harry Potter series and what this adds to the enjoyment of the stories.

The boys were in good company with pupils from King's High School and Alcester Grammar School, and learnt much about the possible reasons why JK Rowling chose the names she did for many of her characters. The audience learnt, too, about studying languages at Oxford, Cambridge and other universities, and how a language degree is the degree most likely to lead to employment abroad.



Project One Campus

The project is now really taking shape, with the steel structure of the new shared Sixth Form Centre now fully in place and foundations being laid for the King's High building. At the recent Sixth Form Open Evening our current Upper Fifth boys and also prospective Sixth Formers were shown a fly-through video of the new centre, as they will be the first cohort to use the building.

The Sixth Form Centre will be a shared centre between King's High School and Warwick School providing social and study areas, as well as housing the Careers Department. This we believe will further enhance the opportunity for Sixth Formers to experience a coeducational environment outside of the classroom, whilst teaching will remain single-sex – the best of both worlds!

Merry Christmas



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