

# THE IILEX

Spring/Summer 2026 No. 138



# Welcome from our Landor Association President



## Welcome to the Spring edition of the Ilex.

At a recent committee meeting of the Landor Association we digressed from the usual business of organising various events to spend a little time articulating exactly what the Landor Association means to each of us. The committee is made up of representatives of the various constituent groups of our

two wonderful schools, so it is attended by both the Head Teachers of Warwick Preparatory School and King’s High, the Chairs of WPSA and KHAPS, members of the Old Girls’ Association (OGA), present and former members of staff and retired governors, and it is facilitated by the Foundation Alumni and Development team. I think between us the connections with the schools run from the 1950s to the present day, which is an astonishing range. The Landor Association gives us an opportunity to keep in touch and to support and celebrate the work of each constituent part.

What we all have in common is an abiding sense of connection with what we see as the Landor Community. We have a huge respect for the history of the schools and the work that has gone on through the generations to provide the building blocks on which the schools of today continue to develop. There is a sense of pride that both the Prep and King’s High are thriving in spite of the difficult climate for independent education; pride in the fact that both have been recognised by ISI as exhibiting significant strengths and of course that the Head of King’s High has recently been awarded Head of the Year in the Tatler awards and that the school has won the title of Independent Senior School of the Year for the second time in 4 years.

From the moment a pupil is accepted into the nursery, or whatever stage they join us, it is our hope that both they and their families feel embraced by a wider community throughout their time within the Foundation. Furthermore, we hope that this sense of belonging – the friendships formed and the connections with staff, friends of the school and governors – will endure long after their daily links with the school have ended.

The Landor Association Carol Service in December was a chance to share that joy with a delightful service in St Mary’s Church, the music was sublime and the readings, organised by staff and pupils, were captivating. It is the perfect way for young and much older members of the Landor Community to get together to celebrate Christmas and all it means. We were fortunate to host the 2026 Landor Lecture, delivered by Sir John Saunders, a retired High Court Judge, and parent and grandparent of present and former Foundation pupils. Sir John is a former Deputy Chair of the Parole Board, and he also chaired the Manchester Bombing Enquiry, and presided over the cases involving MPs’ expenses and the News of the World phone hacking. He provided fascinating and thought-provoking insights into the current state of the criminal justice system.

As members of the Landor Community – alumni, former and current parents and staff, as well as governors and friends of the schools – we look forward to welcoming you to future Association events as we continue to enjoy our joint association with two wonderful schools.

**Jane Marshall**  
 President of the Landor Association  
 Former Parent and Chair of Governors of King’s High

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## Welcome from the Head of King's High School



Since the last edition of *The Ilex*, there has been so much to celebrate at King's High.

We are a busy, dynamic and thriving community, and it is always a great pleasure to pause and reflect with pride on the extraordinary breadth of endeavour and achievement across our school.

We were all delighted to see this recognised on a national stage at the Independent Schools Association Awards 2025. To be named Senior School of the Year for the second time in four years speaks volumes about the strength of our community and celebrates the dedication and partnership of our students, staff, parents and governors.

The richness of school life has been evident in every sphere. In the arts, we have enjoyed drama showcases, a superb Senior Production of *Henry V*, and wonderful Winter and Spring Concerts, alongside a vibrant programme including our Dance Show, Literary Showcase and the outstanding Middle School production of *Skellig*. These moments reflect the creativity, confidence and commitment that continue to define the arts at King's High.

Alongside this, we have marked a number of important occasions including British Science Week, International Women's Day, Chinese New Year, Neurodiversity Week and World Book Day, the

latter, as ever, bringing a dazzling array of literary costumes from both students and staff. Such events are a powerful reminder of the inclusive, thoughtful and outward-looking culture we value so deeply.

Our students have also embraced a remarkable range of opportunities beyond the classroom. From international experiences in Japan, Kenya and Geneva, to trips closer to home including Cambridge, the Black Country Museum and Compton Verney, as well as cultural visits to see *Six* and *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind*, these experiences broaden horizons and foster independence, curiosity and global awareness.

It has been particularly special to bring our wider community together over the past months. Our annual Landor Lecture, delivered by Sir John Saunders, offered a fascinating and thought-provoking perspective on the criminal justice system, while our first KHAPS Community Coffee Morning and our recent OGA Lunch provided wonderful opportunities to reconnect with former students, staff and friends of the school. We are deeply grateful to all who continue to support and enrich our community in these ways.

As you read on, I hope you will share in the strong sense of pride that runs through all that we do. King's High remains a place of energy, ambition and warmth, and it is a privilege to be part of such a special community.

**Dr Stephen Burley**  
Head Master

## Welcome from the Head of Warwick Preparatory School



It is always a pleasure to warmly welcome returning students and staff, and this year has provided so many opportunities for me to learn more about the personal experiences of Warwick Prep from those who have gone before us.

In this edition you will find coverage of our staff lunch and 80th birthday

celebrations, which were also joyful opportunities for our own pupils to learn about how Warwick Prep has changed through the years, what a rich history they are a part of and to share their own experiences of school life today. Our wider Landor events have also helped to reconnect with students such as Mary Lee who kindly donated several items to our archives at the Landor Association Coffee Morning (see pages 7 and 20).

I am immensely proud that Warwick Preparatory School has once again been confirmed as one of the country's leading prep schools after an outstanding report from the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI). We were also awarded with the rare and coveted 'significant strength' label for Early Years Provision. When considering that less than ten per cent of schools are given this distinction, this only further illuminates our achievement.

Our school continues to offer opportunities for achievement, introducing creative ways in which learning is brought to life for our children and they have enjoyed taking their learning further afield through trips and visitors.

Our co-curricular programme continues to flourish, providing a breadth of experiences that both challenge and inspire, ensuring that learning extends well beyond the school day with a particular highlight being our Engineering Challenge days. Our pupils have excelled in sport, representing the school with determination and enthusiasm in a wide range of fixtures and events.

Most recently, we were very proud of our U11 Hockey team who were crowned Midlands champions.

Music continues to be a cornerstone of school life. The Year 2 and Year 3 Instrumental Showcases were an absolute joy and demonstrated the breadth of our musical offering. The Spring Concert was quite incredible, a sentiment echoed by so many who were there, and the performance given by our Junior Foundation Symphony Orchestra was simply outstanding. In addition to the Foundation Concert, our children across the Foundation have worked together in the Jazz, Rock and Pop Concert, Link Days, workshops, sports events and the Dance Show.

Meanwhile, a wide variety of initiatives – from wellbeing projects to pupil leadership opportunities – have ensured that our children feel valued, supported and empowered.

Beyond these achievements, it is the sense of community that continues to stand out. Whether through charitable endeavours, collaborative projects or shared celebrations, members of our school and wider community consistently demonstrate kindness, empathy and a genuine commitment to one another. My sincere thanks go to you all.

**Mrs Hellen Dodsworth**  
Headmistress

13 June 2026

# Forthcoming Anniversary Reunions



*All the Fives in 2025!*

## 2026 King's High School 'All the Sixes' reunions – Saturday 13 June

After the success of 'All the Fives' last summer, we are delighted to now warmly invite leavers from 1956, 1966, 1971, 1976, 1986, 1996, 2006 and 2016, and staff who taught them, to King's High School for our Anniversary Reunions on Saturday 13 June 2026. These reunions are for those who left at the end of the U6 in those years, plus classmates who may have left earlier.

**Time:** 14:00-17:30  
**Venue:** King's High School  
**Dress:** Casual

Meet at school for complimentary refreshments, a welcome from the Head Master and tours of the school. There will also be a card bar.

To register visit <https://www.landorassociation.co.uk/2026annreunions> or call the Alumni office on 01926 735408.



*Opportunities to relax and catch up*



*Tours of the school*



*Drinks on arrival*



*Spotting old friends*



*Afternoon tea*

# Adventures and opportunities

## Share your adventures – where has life taken you?

Penny Howard (KHS 1965-1971) shared her unexpected career journey after leaving King’s High School. She initially studied at art college before moving into a role selling health insurance. Early in her career, she identified a gap in the market – insurance coverage for clients staying in second homes abroad – and successfully helped develop a new product to meet that need.

This experience inspired her to pursue a more independent and creative path. She later bought an apartment in Florence and established her own small business as a tour guide, offering experiences across Italy. She describes this venture as deeply rewarding, particularly enjoying the opportunity to share Italy with fellow Old Girls (OGs) over the years.

Please do share your adventures, whatever they may be, by emailing [KHS-Landor@warwickschools.co.uk](mailto:KHS-Landor@warwickschools.co.uk) or calling us on 01926 735408.

## Emerging Talent Awards – supporting OGs with their own adventures

Adventures can take any form – academic, altruistic, or personal interests may emerge at any time or age, whether in the early steps of a career, or in enriching retirement.

As well as being keen to hear from all our Landor Community about their recent adventures, we invite OGs of any age to apply for an Emerging Talent Award to support a project or initiative of their choosing, for the advancement of others or for their own academic or practical projects.

The award is a generous legacy of former OGA Secretary Josie Watts (née Hewlett, KHS 1950-1955). A recent recipient was Annaliese Smith (KHS 2011-2018) who was awarded funding for a project investigating the lives of guides in Kilimanjaro, Tanzania as part of supporting her journalist career. Her feature appeared in The Guardian as well as other publications.

Please email [KHS-Landor@warwickschools.co.uk](mailto:KHS-Landor@warwickschools.co.uk) for an application form or call 01926 735408 for more information.



Penny Howard checking out the marble in Italy



Sarah Holliday is one of many OGs who have had an Italian adventure thanks to Penny



Annaliese with a member of the College of African Wildlife Management at the 2024 Sustainable Guiding Summit in Tanzania



Our very own alumni officer Julia Donoghue takes an adventurous climb of Sydney Harbour Bridge with her daughter, Rose

## Calling all runners

The 2026 Thames Hare & Hounds Alumni Race over Wimbledon Common is on Saturday 12 September. We would love to field a Foundation team. Please contact [KHS-Landor@warwickschools.co.uk](mailto:KHS-Landor@warwickschools.co.uk) if you are interested.



OW Tony McGovern with daughter Molly, and Mika their canine supporter

## Recent events

# Former staff lunches at Warwick Prep and King’s High School

Memories were shared at recent former staff lunches held at King’s High School in October and Warwick Prep in February. Guests were warmly welcomed back to reconnect with colleagues and enjoy tours of the schools.

At King’s High School, visitors sat in on Maths and Language lessons and spent time in the staff room discussing with current teachers how the subjects have evolved over the years.

Veronica Garrett, who taught Physics and Maths at the school between 1974 and '77, was also a former pupil (WPS 1957-62; KHS 1962-69). She was delighted to spot herself in a whole-school photograph and fondly recalled tennis lessons with Miss Bates – a sport she still plays weekly. A strong advocate for women in STEM, Veronica particularly enjoyed speaking with current staff about how they inspire students to pursue Physics at a higher level.

*“I really enjoyed my recent visit and tour of the new site, which gave me the opportunity to reflect on many happy memories of my time as both a pupil and subsequent member of staff. I started my association with the Foundation at the age of seven when I became a “Squirrel” at the Butts site, progressing to King’s High with Miss Hare very much in charge. I studied double Maths and Physics at A level and went on to read a degree in Physics – a step which, to me, didn’t seem unusual until I arrived at University to find out what a rarity female physicists were in a male dominated subject. I returned*

*to King’s High to teach mostly Mathematics in the 1970s in the time when Miss Leahy was Head. Later on in my career I lectured Physics at Warwickshire College. As far as sporting memories are concerned I first picked up a tennis racquet under the guidance of Miss Bates, and am still playing regularly today. So, in many ways, King’s High has had a far-reaching influence on my life,” she said.*



Veronica Garrett spots herself as a pupil in a whole-year photo

In February, former staff at Warwick Prep were treated to a dance performance featuring pupils from the Prep and students from King’s High School, followed by a delicious buffet lunch and a guided tour led by Mrs Dodsworth. This annual gathering remains a highlight for many.

Elaine Nomura said: *“I had such a lovely time visiting Warwick Prep. It was wonderful to catch up with old friends and hear their news, as well as enjoy the dance performances. I was especially struck by the guided tour – seeing so many happy, smiling faces around the school was a real joy. Who knows, perhaps we’ll see some of these girls in the future Winter Olympics!”*



Head Master, Dr Stephen Burley, and Deputy Head Teacher of Co-curricular and Operations, Mrs Kirsty White, hosted the Former-Staff Lunch at King’s High School



2026 Prep former staff lunch with Head Mistress Mrs Hellen Dodsworth

## 2026 Landor Lecture – King’s High Hall

A retired High Court Judge and former King’s High School parent was guest speaker at the Landor Lecture in February. Sir John Saunders delivered a compelling and thought-provoking talk, sharing insights into prison reform and sentencing, as well as his experiences chairing the Manchester Arena bombing inquiry and presiding over complex and high profile trials.

The audience included alumni, staff, parents and several Sixth Form students, many of whom were particularly interested in learning more about careers within the judiciary.

Former student Kerry-Anne Browne reflected on the evening, saying: *“It was a truly wonderful event – Sir John was exceptional: personable, inspirational and highly engaging.”*



Landor Association President Jane Marshall, Sir John Saunders, Head Master Dr Stephen Burley and Head Mistress Mrs Hellen Dodsworth

## Landor Association Coffee Morning

There was a real sense of excitement in the Alumni Office as preparations began for the Landor Coffee Morning in November, with the team selecting items from the King's High School and Warwick Prep archives for display. This remarkable collection offers a rich glimpse into the schools' history and, thanks to the support of the caretaking team, ten boxes of carefully preserved materials were brought over for the occasion.

Among the items were school and team photographs, scrapbooks, historic print plates once used to produce *The Ilex*, and keepsakes crafted from the fallen Ilex tree. One highlight of the display was a selection of student uniforms from across the decades, which sparked plenty of interest and nostalgia among visitors.

The event welcomed members from across the Landor Association community, including former parents, staff and pupils. One such visitor was Mary Lee (née Holt) (WPS 1964-1970; KHS 1970-1977), who not only came to explore the archives but also brought along her own treasured collection from her Prep School days.

Her items offered a charming and personal insight into school life at the time, including her school pen, a Second Form spelling book, and a range of handmade pieces such as an apron for school lunches, a needle case, a pump bag, a decorated waste bin and a sewing bag. The collection also featured nature-inspired ceramics and artwork created during Transition classes with Mrs Leading. Mary generously donated these items to the school, and they – along with other recent contributions – will be displayed at future events. See page 20.

Also in attendance was Sally Carrick (née Bellerby) (KHS 1955-1961), whose mother, Maisie Sutton, was similarly a pupil at King's. Sally

greatly enjoyed revisiting the archives and reflecting on the school's history.

Alison Petley, a former member of staff at Warwick Prep, attended with her husband Derek. Both were delighted to explore the display and reminisce over coffee, particularly given their strong family connection to the Foundation, where all four of their children were educated.



Mary Lee with her donations to the archives



Sally Carrick



Derek and Alison Petley

## Recent Leavers Drinks

We were delighted to welcome former students from 2023-2025 who returned to catch up with old friends over drinks in Warwick Hall.



## OGs in Hong Kong

OGs and former students from Warwick School and Kingsley enjoyed a fun evening connecting and reconnecting at Mr Wolf's restaurant in Hong Kong in September.



Bob Chapman, James Barker (Warwick School Head Master), Tayma Page Allies, Katie Potter, Rachael Desgouttes, Gail Southward and Ben Wiggins.

# Memories, friendship and connections

## OGA Annual Lunch and AGM

It was a day of celebration as 65 guests gathered for the Annual OGA Lunch and AGM on 21 March, bringing together former students from across the decades, spanning the 1940s to the 2010s. Guests enjoyed a delicious two-course lunch prepared by resident Head Chef Christophe Charpentier, while sharing memories and reconnecting with old friends.

A highlight of the event was the return of former Headmistress Mrs Jackie Anderson (1987-2001), who was welcomed back as Guest Speaker. She delighted the audience with warm and humorous recollections of her time at King's, joined by former Deputy Head Mrs Caroline Russell and several returning members of staff. Among them was Robin Wythe, the school's first male teacher, appointed during Mrs Anderson's leadership.

Guests were treated to behind-the-scenes insights and fond memories, including stories of speech days with Baroness Denton, assemblies focused on risk-taking, and the challenges of maintaining the historic former school site, parts of which dated back to medieval times. Mrs Anderson also spoke of the joy she found in receiving airmail letters from pupils travelling the world, including Nikki Tucker, who was voted in as the new OGA Chair during the AGM.

Current prefects offered guided tours of the school, providing many former students with their first opportunity to explore the impressive new site. Head Girl Paige delivered a heartfelt vote of thanks to Mrs Anderson and shared her own reflections on her time at the Prep and King's High.

*“Thank you for an amazing day. I still can’t believe it happened but I certainly enjoyed seeing the wonderful new facilities again and, of course, so many people. It created some happy new memories.”*

Mrs Jackie Anderson, KHS Headmistress 1987-2001

In hosting the event, Dr Burley highlighted the school's continued success, including its many recent achievements and awards. He also brought a light-hearted touch, sharing news of the school's new pet geckos – the female of which is thriving in her own environment – a nod to the benefits of single-sex education.

The afternoon concluded with a moving rendition of the school song, *Jerusalem*, led by former student Rowan Baker. It was a poignant moment, with one attendee commenting: *“This is my first visit back since school days. I wasn't sure how I would feel coming to the new site, but reconnecting with fellow OGs and students gave me such an immense sense of belonging – when we joined in song it was truly emotional.”*



Kemlin Furley, Jane Smith, Rowena Hill, Eileen Laing and Sheena Cooper



Heads together – Dr Stephen Burley (2021 to present), Mrs Jackie Anderson (1987-2001) and Mr Richard Nicholson (2015-2020) now Principal of the Foundation



Kerry-Anne Browne, Kelly Hamblett and Jenny Morrison were thrilled to chat with their former Headmistress



Mrs Caroline Russell, former Deputy Head, with teachers Elaine McDermott, Alex MacDonald and Daphne Clifford



Robin Wythe and Edward MacFetridge



Sally Bradley (centre) was delighted to chat to Jennifer Foort, who had been her buddy when she started school. Pictured with Sara Chambers and Sarah Phillips



## 2026 OGA AGM

The 2026 OGA AGM was held before the OGA Annual Lunch in King's High Dining Hall on Saturday 21 March. After the OGA President and KHS Head Master Dr Stephen Burley gave an update on a flourishing school, an OG events and activities overview was given by Development and Alumni Officer Sarah Whitehouse, who thanked OGs for their tremendous support and enthusiasm for the OGA and the school.

A refreshed and updated OGA Constitution was proposed, seconded and approved.

The President thanked the OGA Committee for their ongoing support. He was delighted to share that the committee had nominated Nikki Tucker as OGA Chair and that Felicity Bunker, Valerie Hurst, Camilla Hatherly, Sarah Phillips, Pippa White, Jenny Scott, Zoe Pearman and Clare Beeston were pleased to stand on the committee for a further year.

Their nominations were proposed, seconded and adopted.



## An extract from the Head Girl's speech



Head Girl Paige with Mrs Jackie Anderson

"I started here in the first year 7 at the new school site, having come across from Warwick Prep on the other side of the campus. Growing up, King's always felt like my destination, my mum is an old girl and always spoke about how her education truly shaped who she is today; being the foundation of her career, morals

and personality. As I've grown and developed here at King's, I have only recently realised just how much my education has influenced my character. I still have the same smile on my face everyday here as when I walked into this school for the first time, and I think that sums up King's to a T. Happiness is not only seen, but felt in this school, and that's down to the community of ambitious students and passionate teachers, I'm sure you can agree.

The new campus is probably the most significant change you will have noticed today, and although my mum would have loved me to experience the history of the blue door and the Landor building, the new site offers us endless opportunities. Being closer to our sporting facilities means that we can spend more time on the pitch learning the game rather than travelling down by coach or on foot. Being on site with both Prep and Warwick School has facilitated our foundation objectives, allowing us to share our Sixth Form Centre and also collaborate with them on our houses, charities and drama productions. Although the only minor downfall is that the close proximity of Warwick Boys School may pose a slight distraction for our year 7s at lunchtimes.

Some of you may follow Dr Burley on Instagram, and if you don't then I'd highly recommend you do, as he has gone rather viral... it's a great way to keep in touch with all of the weekly updates at King's, from chickens, to KHAPS bobble hats, to outstanding sports results, Dr Burley covers it all!

As I'm now coming to the end of my King's journey, I look forward to returning to a school that has shaped the person I am today, and I find comfort in the fact that King's will always unite us, whether that be as an old girl or a current student. From the friends I've made, to the lessons I've learnt and memories I've created – King's will always hold a very special place in my heart, as I'm sure it does to you."

# Warwick Prep memories

## Warwick Prep turns 80 in tea-riffic style

There was much celebration in Warwick Prep as the school celebrated 80 years of education with a special afternoon tea.

Although younger children had been educated at King's High School before, The 1944 Education Act brought in legislation for separate primary and secondary schools. Miss Gwenyth Smalley had been teaching younger children at King's High since 1934, and due to the change in legislation, opened her own independent school in 1945. 80 children transferred across (including Don Hanson who joined the anniversary celebrations) and this was the beginning of Warwick Preparatory School.

The tea was one of several events to celebrate the anniversary, with pupils also hosting their own celebrations and assemblies learning about the school through the generations.



Former Head of Pre-Prep Jill Lillyman with Don Hanson who was one of the first pupils in 1945. Sadly, Don recently passed away (page 17)

The anniversary sparked memories across our alumni community with many former students and staff writing in to share their experiences.

### Clare Beeston (WPS 1960-67, KHS 1967-72)

"I attended Warwick Preparatory School just four months short of my fifth birthday. In those days the kindergarten was mixed, with the boys leaving, usually to go on to Warwick School juniors, at seven years old. The girls' uniform was a grey pleated skirt with a blue jumper and a grey coat in the winter, and a striped summer dress (various colours available) with blue cardigan and grey blazer with squirrel badge in the summer. We also had grey hats.

Miss Smalley was the headmistress during my time at the school and my other teachers were Miss Allibon, (Kindergarten) Mrs Leading (Transition), Mrs Farnfield (Lower 1st), Mrs Hunt (1st form) Mrs Buckler (2nd form) and Miss Davison (3rd form).

The youngest classes were taught in a separate small building. The main school building was much larger and spread over two stories with a large stone staircase leading to two upper classrooms and the main school hall. The dining room was downstairs and school dinners were so different from those served now, with cheese pie and reconstituted dried fruit and semolina pudding regularly being served. There was no menu choice and our plates were checked when we had finished to make sure we had not left any food. At morning break we had small bottles of milk with straws and these were delivered daily by the local milkman and left in the playground for us. We always went outside at playtime unless the weather was really bad, in which case we were all sent to the gym which was a very dull and uninteresting room.

We always had a Christmas Party in the school hall just before we broke up for the holidays, and that was the one day we were allowed to go into school out of uniform. Games were organised, along with a party tea with sandwiches, cakes, jelly and fizzy pop. Swifts used to nest in the eaves of the main school building and returned year after year. I made some lifelong friends at Warwick Prep (the Squirrel School) and am still in touch with two of them now."

### Oliver Bates (WPS 1983-84)



Warwick Prep Summer 1983 Form L1H

"I have this picture from when I was at Warwick Prep Summer '83. Mrs Henderson's class L1H! I joined mid-year, so Summer Term 1983 Year 1, I guess it would be. Then I did year 2 with Mrs Reilly 83/84 before going to Warwick Junior School Michaelmas 1984."

### Anne Davies (née Richards) (WPS 1969-73, KHS 1973-1980)

"When I was at Warwick Prep it was known as The Squirrels school. I still treasure my squirrel badge from my soft grey felt hat. I joined mid-year and was embarrassed to find that I was very behind on my times-tables, but caught up very quickly. I loved the blue jumpers bought from Woodward's department store in Leamington Spa. I think they were made by John Smedley which are a pricey buy in London these days!

My mother taught at another primary school in the area: in the chatter at her staff room coffee break, she shared the observation that she had seen a Squirrel being wheeled to school in a pushchair along the Myton Road that morning. Some tut-tutting followed, then a gentle enquiry about pushchair harnesses, before the penny dropped. There was a very worried teacher colleague, new to the area, who was very keen to phone the RSPCA!"

### Kate Kent (née Aubury) (WPS 1982-84, KHS 1984-91)



Kate and Nic Aubury

"My brother Nic and I were both at the Squirrels in the early '80s, and the photo is from 1982 I think. I joined M2D (Mrs Dews' class) in January 1982 when my family relocated to Warwick, and was subsequently in U1B with Mrs Baumfield and

U2H with Mrs Huband. I have fond memories of all three teachers, and of my three years at Warwick Prep... especially the final year school play written by the wonderful Mrs Huband and performed by the U2s in 1984. I still remember the lyrics to one of the songs, about calling on a tele-shell via the sea shell line and getting a wrong number!"

### Alison Petley (WPS Staff 1984-90)

"My husband Derek and I were moving into Warwick and went past Warwick Prep School. We saw all those little girls playing so happily in the playground in their striped summer dresses. *"We could just have a look,"* we thought. We were met by the charming Head Teacher Mrs Hogan. After a visit round the school and the facilities we had signed on the dotted line and we did not even have a house!

That September our children Catherine and David started school and we never looked back. Our links with Warwick Schools Foundation strengthened when, under the Headship of Miss Major, I was given the opportunity to run the new Nursery which was opening imminently. It was such a happy time for me and a privilege to join the staff.

Ultimately all four of our children joined the Foundation. They went to the Prep School and then completed their education in the Senior School – two sons at Warwick and two daughters at King's High.

I am in my 80s now, but we have so much to thank the Warwick Foundation for and it will always be in our hearts."

### Sue Reilly (WPS Staff 1968-2004)



"I joined the staff of Squirrels in 1968 to teach Transition in Bridge House as the school was expanding to a two-form entry. I taught alongside Nancy Allibon and Mary Healey (who taught the two Kindergarten forms). The parallel Transition class was at The Butts, taught by Mrs Leeding.

I was given the school brochure by the Headmistress Mrs Hogan, when I joined the staff in September 1968. It is interesting to note that the termly fees had just increased from £36 to £42 for the younger girls. In September 1968 the Kindergarten and Transition year groups were situated in the newly converted Bridge House while the older girls were still in the premises in The Butts. The photograph dates from December 1979 and my class at the time – L2R – proudly showing off their Christmas decorations."

### Sue Moore (née Ashton) (WPS 1954-60, KHS 1960-1967)



June 1960 – Diana Hall, Susan Collier, Susan Ashton (standing) and Valerie Roy



Form III – Chess lesson

and aroused the interest of the press, who brought a professional photographer to the school who took these photos in June 1960 and an article appeared in the local press."

"In our final year we played chess every Maths lesson, which was several times a week. I don't know of another school who came up with this innovative idea, but looking back on it, it served to develop critical and logical thinking skills and taught you to think several moves ahead. A clever idea for nurturing young minds. We all took to it and at the age of 10, I was known at home to occasionally beat my father at chess! It became a talking point for the school

# Building futures – from education to employment



Emily at Number 10

As part of the school’s careers programme, we were delighted to welcome Emily Wood (KHS 2009-2014), who is currently working in the political sphere as a Public Affairs Manager for the British Chambers of Commerce in Westminster.

In her role, Emily works closely with Government Ministers, departments and civil servants, contributing to policy discussions and issues affecting British

businesses both in the UK and internationally. She has been working in politics for the past three years, following a short period training as a Chartered Accountant after completing her university studies. Emily holds an MA in Modern History and English from the University of St Andrews, as well as an MA in Contemporary British History from King’s College London.

Her visit provided a valuable opportunity for pupils to hear first-hand about a career in public affairs, gain insight into the political sector, and better understand the skills and experiences that can support a career in this field.

Reflecting on her visit, Emily said: *“It was wonderful to return to King’s High to speak to Year 11 and Sixth Form pupils about my career in public affairs, as well as reconnecting with some of my former teachers. Sharing my journey from school to where I am now, I found it incredibly rewarding to speak with such engaged and inquisitive young women about working in and around Westminster, and the wide range of opportunities available to them within politics.*

*“The most important lesson I have learned – and wanted to share – is to be ambitious, open-minded and thoughtful in your decision-making, whatever your career aspirations may be. You never know where those choices may lead. Thank you to Caroline Gilbert and King’s High for the opportunity to return and share my journey so far.”*

## From King’s to Cambridge

Rosie Brooker (KHS 2018-2025) recently welcomed current pupils to Cambridge as part of the school’s King’s Links visits programme. These visits give students the opportunity to connect with former pupils now at university and gain valuable first-hand insight into student life.

During the visit, pupils were able to explore the university environment, ask questions, and hear directly from Rosie about her experience of transitioning from school to university.

Signe Kallmeier, Head of Year 11 and Head of Academic Enrichment, highlighted the importance of these trips in supporting students as they consider their next steps. She said: *“There is only so much a prospectus can tell you about university life, so we are incredibly grateful to former students who take time out of their busy schedules to meet with us and share their experiences.”*

Miss Kallmeier added that the school is keen to expand the programme and hear from more alumni currently at university who would be willing to support future visits. Plans are already underway for a trip to Manchester, and the school also hopes to organise visits further afield, including to universities in Scotland.

*“We tend to visit local universities as this is logistically easier,”* she said, *“but we are keen to broaden opportunities for our students – so please do get in touch if you would like to be involved.”*



Visiting Cambridge

## Careers in the Armed Forces

Cdr Jenna Kelway (KHS 1995-2002) kindly returned to school to speak to students from King’s High School and Warwick about varied military careers, experiences and pathways.



Cdr Jenna Kelway pictured with OWs at the talk to students

## A career in Fine Art



Sophie Davies (KHS 2012-2019)

Sophie Davies (KHS 2012-2019), who completed a placement at King’s during her studies at Loughborough University, recently held her first exhibition at the Broadway Contemporary Art Gallery. Now working as a professional artist, Sophie has built on her academic achievements, having completed

both an undergraduate degree in Fine Art and a Master’s in Fine Art, in which she was awarded a distinction.

*“Seeing my work displayed in a professional gallery space was an exciting and rewarding milestone. My practice focuses on architectural oil paintings rich in colour, atmosphere and intricate detail – a fascination which has grown since my GCSE Art studies at King’s. Alongside gallery representation, I continue to sell paintings independently, connecting directly with collectors and clients. Pursuing a career in the arts requires dedication, but it has been incredibly fulfilling to follow something that I’m truly inspired by. I’m excited to continue developing my work in the years ahead.”*

[www.broadwaycontemporary.co.uk](http://www.broadwaycontemporary.co.uk)

# Family Ties with King's High School

King's High has a tradition of welcoming generations of families, and we were fascinated to hear from Rosemary King (née Paget), who shared her experiences of teaching at the school and is one of three generations of pupils.



Rosemary King née Paget

"My mother, Edith Stanley, was born in 1908 in Wootton Wawen, where her father was a farm bailiff on the Guinness estate. When she gained a County Minor Scholarship, she was able to attend King's High School, travelling every day by train from Bearley. This was in the reign of Miss Doorly, who was accompanied by a large dog called 'Vlaa'. Edith played in a hockey team and was a contemporary of Mary Bennett,

a maths wizard who eventually returned (as Mrs Steele) to teach and was my form mistress in 1951, when I joined the school.

Edith loved school, then trained to be a primary school teacher, and, on one of her teaching jobs, met my father, Theo Paget, who was a farmer. I enjoyed a rather idyllic childhood on our farm in Bubbenhall, with sheep, cattle, a pony, a sheepdog, and numerous cats to play with.

When I joined King's High School aged 11 (in 1951), I was also a scholarship girl because the County Council was awarding grammar school places to successful eleven-plus candidates. My headmistress was Miss Hare, and although I was a timid little village schoolgirl, much in awe of all the teachers – and even more so of the prefects – I enjoyed school. Unlike my mother, however, I was unsparty and detested hockey. Instead, I loved languages, especially German (with Miss Ward, later Mrs Howes) and Latin with the inimitable Miss Payne and, later, Miss Turley.

I went on to read German and Latin at Girton College, Cambridge, where I met John King, who has been my husband for over 60 years.

We taught in Orpington for seven years, then John was appointed Head of Classics at Rugby School, and we came back to Warwickshire.



Members of Upper Sixth being studious in Cottage classroom about 1958. Left to right Susan Laffin, Ingrid Bedford, Valerie Cutler, Jennifer Tempest, Rosemary Clamp, Rosemary Paget



Rosemary with daughter Anna on her Degree Day



Edith Stanley and friend in 1920s' gymslips



Rosemary Paget 1950s

After bringing up our two children, Tom and Anna, I was invited to return to King's to teach German, with some French, Latin, and Russian, taking over from Mrs Howes, who had taught me 20 years before. This was the late 1970s, and Miss Leahy was the headmistress, ably assisted by Miss Greenwood and Miss Whittlesey.

It was strange at first, returning as a teacher to the classrooms that I remembered so well from my own school days. Especially vivid were memories of the gym and The Dem (a science lecture room with tiered seats), the Cottage Library, and the classrooms over Eastgate, as well as the Coaching Room, where I had had my first German lessons with Miss Ward so many years before.

So, there I was, Frau König, back at King's after 20 years; Miss Turley and Miss Dobney were now colleagues. I have many fond memories of the staff – Miss Wallace (the charismatic Head of Music, who bravely accompanied me to lead a school group to Russia), the kindly matron Mrs Morecombe, Mrs Hall (a talented English teacher), Mrs Horn, Mrs Wells, and Mrs Hardy, as well as the unforgettable Mr MacFetridge. I took exchange visits to Germany most years, and several times to Russia. I stayed teaching at King's for nearly 30 years, eventually having the privilege of my own office in the wonderful staff room across in the new language block (remember exams in the Octagon, anyone? Remember the stewed coffee that stayed all day on the table in the centre, colleagues?)

It was during the time that I was a teacher at King's that my daughter Anna joined me on the daily commute from Rugby. Two of her best friends at King's were Sarah Midgley and Jacqueline Knowles, both of whom wrote very kind letters to us after Anna's death. Like me, Anna was a linguist and went on to join the sixth form at Rugby School, and thence to Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, followed by PGCE and TEFL courses and a successful career as a tutor and Director of Studies at the OISE language school back in Cambridge. Anna had an adventurous life, including teaching for the British Council in Barcelona for three years and a six-week hike in the Himalayas – to mention but two of her many exploits. Anna died last year, aged only 53. It was far too soon, but she had certainly packed an awful lot into her life.

So that's three generations of the Stanley – Paget – King family. John and I have four grandchildren – all boys – and now we have a baby great-granddaughter, Eliza Ann King. Eliza lives with her parents in Rugby, so who knows – she may just eventually become a King's girl like her great-aunt Anna, great-grandmother Rosemary, and great-great-grandmother Edith."

2026

# Warwick Prep School News

## Warwick Prep ISI report



Warwick Preparatory School has once again been confirmed as one of the country's leading prep schools after a stellar report from the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI). The ISI spent three days carrying out a

comprehensive review of all aspects of the school – and their verdict is that Warwick Prep continues to provide the highest standards of education for our pupils.

What's more, Warwick Prep was also awarded with the rare and coveted 'significant strength' label for its Early Years Provision. When considering that less than ten per cent of schools are given this distinction, this only further illuminates our achievement.

As part of the inspection, ISI went into lessons and activities, interviewed many children, met staff, governors and leaders from across the school and Foundation teams, and reviewed a huge range of core evidence, including parent, pupil, and staff surveys. Staff at the school want to thank parents and pupils for their support during the inspection and for the positive feedback shared with ISI.

The inspection result follows further recent national recognition for the school, including being Shortlisted for Independent School of the Year for Performing Arts (Independent School of the Year Awards, 2025), being Highly Commended for Most Creative Learning Through Play (Muddy Stiletto's, 2025), and being named as a Finalist for Independent Prep School of the Year (Independent School of the Year Awards, 2023).

Headmistress Hellen Dodsworth celebrated the result: *"The inspection was tremendously successful, and the members of the inspection team were very impressed with our school. I am delighted with the result and am immensely proud that our approach to education provision has been recognised."*

*"I would like to thank you and your children for your support during the inspection and the positive feedback you shared with ISI."*

## Unveiling of new outdoor classroom

A new Outdoor Classroom in the Forest School garden, was



generously funded by WPSA and PAWS. Pupils from Warwick Prep and Warwick Junior School were joined by Hellen Dodsworth, John Bond, Headmaster of Warwick Junior School, Richard Nicholson,

Foundation Principal, Victoria Espley, Foundation Bursar, members of the school community – past and present, and representatives from WPSA and PAWS to 'cut the ribbon'. This fantastic new resource is available to pupils from both Warwick Prep and Warwick Junior School as an outdoor learning facility where they enjoy lessons and activities in nature. The Outdoor Classroom is self-sufficient, powered by a wind turbine and solar panels. Both parent associations deserve our sincere thanks and appreciation for supporting this project so enthusiastically. We would also like to thank all our parents who have supported the various fundraising activities over recent terms.

## Celebrating Chinese New Year



In Forest School, Reception children learnt about Chinese New Year and the twelve animals that represent the years of the Chinese calendar.

They played Kim's Game, challenging themselves to remember all of the animals, and took part in a garden hunt to find pictures hidden around the area. The children then had great fun making dragon kites and flying them outdoors.

## Sharing Eco Stories at King's High School



Members of the Prep's Eco Council visited King's High to meet Year 8 students in the Library and hear their eco stories.

The students shared their thoughts on sustainability, recycling, and ways to protect the environment. The councillors really enjoyed seeing some familiar faces!

## Empowering Women of the Future

On International Women's Day, Year 5 girls had the amazing opportunity to hear about Dr Helen Maddock's journey in her career as a Senior Researcher and Professor at Coventry University, focusing on empowering women of the future.

Lily, in Year 5, said: *"Dr Maddock makes heart cells beat again and researches into new drugs that are safe for the heart. She also runs a company and works with people in the pharmaceutical industry, doctors and her research team."* Dr Maddock told us, *"Reach for the stars because the world is our oyster and we can do anything we want if we try."*

## Warwickshire Primary Schools Team Championship



Warwick Prep and Warwick Junior School were among the finalists in the Warwickshire Primary Schools Team Chess Championship which took place at Solihull School.

In accordance with the event rules, each team had a mixture of Prep School girls and Junior School boys.

Team morale was high throughout the day, some very good chess was played, and every team member contributed valuable points!

Special thanks go to Mr Lam and Mr Thomas who accompanied the pupils throughout the day.

2026

# King’s High School News

## Good Schools Guide 2026

We’re delighted to share that the Good Schools Guide 2026 report for King’s High is now available. It offers a thoughtful, independent overview of the school, highlighting our academic strengths, pastoral support and the breadth of opportunities available to our pupils.



## King’s High ranked in top 2% of sporting schools in the UK

King’s High has been ranked in the top 2% of sporting schools in the country in the School Sport Magazine national standings for 2026. This recognition reflects the energy, commitment and talent of our pupils.

Last term marked the culmination of an extraordinary range of competitions across multiple sports and age groups, and it is no exaggeration to say that it has been the most successful season in King’s High’s 147-year history.

Across the term, our pupils have qualified for and competed in an exceptional 11 national finals, securing four national titles and two bronze medals, with a further four finals still to come. At regional level, our teams have represented Warwickshire in five regional finals, while at county level the school has achieved a remarkable clean sweep – winning every county tournament entered in hockey, netball and indoor athletics.

Such sustained success across so many sports is unprecedented and reflects not only the talent of our pupils, but also their commitment, resilience and ambition. Above all, it is a testament to the spirit with which they represent the school.

We are incredibly proud of each and every student who has worn the King’s High colours this last term, and we look forward with great excitement to what lies ahead this summer.

## Inspiring peace and togetherness



**GSA's Woman of the Week:**  
Anna Jewell

Our very own Anna Jewell, Head of Philosophy and Theology and lead for Equality, Diversity, Inclusion, and Global Perspectives, was named a Girls’ School Association’s Woman of the Week and has been at the heart of creating opportunities for students to explore faith, culture, and spirituality at King’s High. An inspiring example of her work is the introduction of a Peace Pod, giving students a

dedicated space for reflection and dialogue.

Anna recently brought everyone together to host The Big Iftar, the traditional breaking of the Ramadan fast and part of a national initiative promoting neighbourliness and shared experiences. More than 120 guests joined the celebration, making it a truly special occasion.

The event highlighted cohesion, belonging and inclusivity, providing a chance to learn from one another, celebrate diversity, and recognise the values we share.

*“It was a wonderful evening which showcased King’s at its finest, learning from each other and embracing our communities to work towards a more peaceful future,”* said Anna.



# Parent Associations

## WPSA Events: Disco, magic and egg hunts



The WPSA (Warwick Preparatory School Association) continues to play a vital role in enriching life at Warwick Prep, bringing together parents and staff to organise events, raise funds

and support opportunities for all our children.

It has been a busy and successful term, with well-attended events enjoyed by pupils and families alike. In February, the Pre-Prep Magic Show delighted Years 1 and 2, raising an impressive £623. Children enjoyed a magical performance while parents relaxed with refreshments.

At the end of January, the Prep Disco brought sparkle and energy with its "Stars, Sequins and Stripes" theme. Pupils in Years 3 to 6 enjoyed dancing, treats and activities, with highlights including sparkle stalls, popcorn, hot dogs and cookies. The dance floor was buzzing – especially during routines led by Mrs Alder – while raffle prizes and hair accessories added to the fun.

March saw the return of the popular Easter Egg Hunt, where children searched for hidden eggs and solved clues, sharing laughter along the way.

The Warwick Prep Tree continues to offer families the chance to sponsor an engraved oak leaf or acorn, while the Uniform Shop promotes sustainability and raises valuable funds.

The outdoor classroom which was part funded by WPSA (see page 14) is being well used by the children, which is a delight.

With more events planned, WPSA looks forward to continuing its work in the months ahead.

## Goodbye from WPSA Chair, Clare Harding



*"Being part of WPSA for the last 10 years has been a rewarding and enriching experience. It has been a privilege to play a small but meaningful part in school life, working alongside others to organise events that bring joy, laughter, and a real sense of*

*community. Seeing the children of Warwick Prep enjoying those moments has been incredibly special, knowing we are helping to create memories they will carry with them for years to come.*

*Being part of WPSA has been great fun and has given me the chance to form genuine friendships with other committee members. The shared experiences, teamwork, and laughter along the way have made it all the more special. I am also proud of what we've been able to achieve together – raising money for charitable causes as well as providing extra equipment and opportunities that enhance the children's experience at school. As I step down as Chair at the end of this academic year, I do so with a real sense of pride and gratitude, and with many happy memories of being part of such a supportive and special community."*

## Building the community by bringing parents, students and school together



*KHAPS Chair Helen Owen, with some of the KHAPS committee*

Affectionately known as KHAPS, the association gives parents the chance to get actively involved in King's High life through social and fundraising events. Its mission is to strengthen the partnership between home and school, with all money raised going directly back to support awards, equipment, student skills and charity projects.

Last term, KHAPS hosted its first-ever community breakfast. Nearly 100 parents, carers and students came together to connect, pause, chat and strengthen our school community. Students attended with their guest, and had the chance to meet others, put names to faces and helped make school life feel a bit more connected. The breakfast took place in the week of International Women's Day, so it gave everyone the opportunity to share experiences, support one another and celebrate the role our community plays in helping the next generation of girls grow in confidence and thrive. Our next community breakfast is planned for June and we will take time to celebrate World Environment Day.

KHAPS donations have had a real impact on school life. Recent contributions include: Personal Achievement Awards of up to £300 supporting students' extracurricular ambitions; musical instruments for the year 7 music scheme, an outdoor relaxation pod, outdoor table tennis tables, maps in all geography classrooms and a weather station. Focus has now turned to raising funds for more outdoor play equipment.

Throughout the year, KHAPS organises a variety of events, from the Head Master's Quiz to community breakfasts, Easter raffles and chocolate tombolas, second-hand uniform sales, and committee meetings. Details are shared in the Head Master's weekly email.

Thanks to KHAPS, the King's High community continues to grow stronger, offering opportunities that are fun, inclusive, and enriching for all of our students.

## Join us!

KHAPS and WPSA thrive thanks to volunteers. Anyone interested in helping with events or joining the committees is warmly invited to get involved. For more information, contact Chair, Helen Owen at [khapscommittee@gmail.com](mailto:khapscommittee@gmail.com) or contact [wpsa@wpsassociation.org](mailto:wpsa@wpsassociation.org).

# Tributes to two treasured members of our community

## Richard Phillips MBE



The Warwick Schools Foundation community was deeply saddened to learn of the death of Richard Phillips MBE, a distinguished Fellow of the Landor Association, who passed away at the age of 85. A Warwickian through and through, Richard leaves behind an extraordinary legacy in music, the arts and education, as well as a

long and valued connection with the Foundation.

Together with his wife Veronica, who was a Foundation Governor and Chair of the Warwick Prep Committee, the couple maintained a close association with the schools over many years. Richard was a Master at Warwick School and their daughters, Katie and Lucy, attended Warwick Prep and King's High. Reflecting on their connection in 2020 they said:

*"We are delighted to be made Fellows of the Landor Association as our daughters benefited greatly from their time at both Warwick Prep and King's High."*

Richard was widely regarded as a leading figure in the cultural life of the Midlands and beyond. A classical music impresario of remarkable vision and energy, his career spanned more than five decades and included the direction of over 100 arts festivals.

He founded both the York Early Music Festival and the Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival before returning to Warwick in 1980, where he would go on to shape the town's reputation as a centre for chamber music.

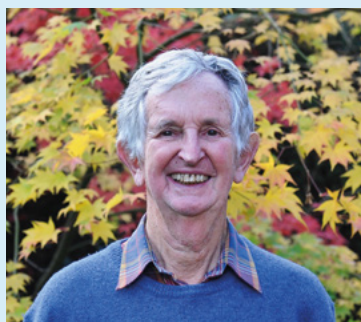
From his family home overlooking St Mary's Church, Richard developed the Warwick Festival, bringing world-class performances to local venues and rural churches across Warwickshire. His influence extended nationally through his work with major festivals including Norfolk & Norwich, King's Lynn and Stratford-upon-Avon, and through concerts held in National Trust properties.

In 2002, he founded the Warwick Words Literary Festival, further broadening the region's cultural offering. Later, alongside Veronica, he established Leamington Music, an organisation that continues to flourish today. A passionate advocate for international collaboration, Richard also fostered strong cultural links with Europe, particularly the Czech Republic, regularly introducing international musicians to UK audiences.

Richard's connection with the Foundation remained strong throughout his life. As Festival Director, he brought concerts to King's High and organised educational workshops for pupils, enriching the musical experiences of many young people.

His contribution to the arts was widely recognised. He was awarded an Honorary Fellowship from the Birmingham Conservatoire in 2001, appointed MBE in 2016 for services to music and the arts, and received a medal in 2018 in recognition of his contribution to Anglo-Czech cultural relations.

## Don Hanson



**Don Hanson, a passionate and committed OW, has died at his home in Warwick aged 88.**

Don started in Warwick Preparatory in Form I on 18 September 1945 and he went on to Warwick Junior and then Senior School, leaving in the summer of 1954.

His father Ted was called up in the Second World War and was an RAF navigator, flying in Mosquitos. Sadly, in March 1943, Ted and his co-pilot Mac crashed and died when Don was 6 years old.

After school, Don studied for a Telecommunications qualification at the EMI Institute in London, before doing National Service, and then went on to work for his stepfather Eddie Sims, repairing television sets that Eddie rented out in Warwick.

Don went on to start his own business, first a record shop in Swan Street in Warwick, before moving into leather, sheepskin clothing and country wear. At one time he ran six shops in the area.

He served as OWA President in 1996 – holding his OWA Dinner in the Garden Room at Hampton Court Palace. He served as a Foundation Governor for WS and KHS 2001-12 and was 'nominated cross member' for Warwick Prep. He also served on the Marketing and Development Committee in 2011.

Don and his late wife Mags were keen gardeners and regularly opened their garden in Holywell near Claverdon to the public, with the proceeds of cream teas going to Myton Hospice. Don was also Chairman of the Charity of Thomas Oken and Nicholas Eyffler and served on the Warwick Provident Dispensary.

Don had many interests, he was a regular theatre-goer, a life long tennis player, keen skier and he travelled widely with trips to America, South Africa and Australia among other places.

He is survived by his three children, Helen, a Professor of film at the University of Exeter. Liz, a Primary School teacher and Ed who was at Warwick 1979-90 and is a BBC journalist. Don also had two grandchildren, who live in Warwick.

# A legacy of compassion and community

A fundraising page created in memory of a popular former King's High student has raised £17,500 including £7,500 of match funding from Sport England's movement fund.



Yikki Lee, who was described by Head Master Dr Burley as “a bright, intelligent student with a big smile and warm heart that shone and brightened everyone’s day” was a pupil of the school’s Sixth Form between 2022 and 2024 before joining the University of Nottingham to read Chemistry.

As well as studying A Levels in Maths, Chemistry and Economics, Yikki was fully involved in school and house activities, and she loved her volunteer work with Evergreen School. Every Friday she supported pupils with Special Educational Needs in a variety of ways – joining in with play, reading activities, outdoor learning and helping to build confidence through communication and social interaction.

Following her death in November, Yikki’s family set up a fundraising page to raise money for accessible outdoor fitness equipment and a rainbow canopy, to meet the needs of pupils as well as local community users.

Evergreen School’s Assistant Head Teacher, Sue Clark, said she was deeply touched that Yikki’s family has chosen to raise funds for the school and that their generosity reflected the spirit of compassion and community that Yikki herself embodied.

At a memorial attended by many of Yikki’s friends and former teachers, Dr Burley spoke of “a very special young woman; who brought life, laughter, joy and friendship to our school community and we are all hugely proud of her. Yikki was a bright, intelligent student with a big smile and warm heart that shone and brightened everyone’s day.

“She settled into Sixth Form life amazingly well. She quickly established herself as a very good student with a gentle, easy manner and a lovely, positive outlook. She was a joy to teach; popular and funny and always able to make friends easily.”

Yikki’s form tutor, Mrs Scott, added: “Yikki was such a unique and memorable member of our form. Quiet on the surface, but with a wry sense of humour that would make the whole form laugh when we least expected it; I still picture her sitting on the front bench during form time. She had a brilliant mind and so

“Yikki Lee joined us regularly over a significant period of time as part of the close partnership between Evergreen School and King’s High School and quickly became a valued and much-loved part of our Friday afternoons. She brought enthusiasm, kindness, and a genuine desire to support our young people and work alongside our staff. Her presence made a real difference, and she is fondly remembered by all who had the pleasure of spending time with her.

“While Evergreen is fortunate to have a number of wonderful outdoor spaces, Yikki would have seen – as our pupils and staff see daily – that there is still more work to be done. Many of our outdoor areas had been thoughtfully developed for our more complex learners, but we needed to extend this to create a dedicated nurturing space for our own Sixth Formers. They, too, deserve an environment where they can enjoy fresh air, social time with friends, and meaningful sensory experiences tailored to their needs.

“The funds raised in Yikki’s memory have already helped us create exactly that and the project was implemented over the Easter break, with the students loving using the gym equipment! We have invested in carefully chosen outdoor equipment pieces designed specifically for our SEND learners. These resources are supporting communication development, promoting positive social interactions, and offering the sensory input that is so essential to many of our young people.

“Yikki’s legacy has helped us build a space filled with joy, interaction, and opportunity – a space that reflects the kindness she brought to Evergreen every week.”



much potential; it was a privilege to see that in her and work with her daily. She left a lasting impression on me.”



A tree was planted in Yikki’s honour in the school’s Reflection Garden

# Community news

## Warwick Schools Foundation Multi Academy Trust

Following the launch of the Warwick Schools Foundation Multi Academy Trust on 1 September, Clapham Terrace Community Primary School and Nursery, Evergreen School, and Westgate Primary School each held celebratory ceremonies during the first week of term. Each of the ceremonies marked an exciting new chapter for the schools and their pupils, setting in stone a commitment to improve the educational experience of all pupils in the years to come. To symbolise the occasion, each school unveiled a commemorative plaque that recognised their founding role in the Trust.



*Dr Stephen Burley, Mr Richard Nicholson, Warwick Mayor Jackie D'Arcy, Mr Matthew Watson, Mr Richard Williams and students at Westgate Primary School*

## Smyth Family Donation

We are thrilled that our community contribute to our school in so many different ways. Current parent Mark Smyth generously shared his knowledge and expertise with students through lunchtime Engineering workshops, which encourage open discussions and learning through exploration and curiosity.

Additionally, Mark is involved with the CCF programme, supervising off-site trips and Friday afternoon activities on campus. We are incredibly grateful for all the time, wisdom and dedication that Mark gives to King's High School, and our students. Mark and his wife Abigail have also previously donated a jet engine to the school, which has provided fantastic learning opportunities.



## The King's Singers Charity Gala Concert, Warwick Hall

Friday 18 September, 19:30



World-renowned a cappella group The King's Singers will be performing a Charity Gala Concert in Warwick Hall on Friday 18 September at 19:30. The singers will perform a varied programme featuring ancient music

all the way through to folk, jazz and pop. There's something for everyone! The concert will be followed by a drinks reception, which is included in the ticket price.

For the group's countertenor, Edward Button who was at Warwick School from 1997 to 2008, this is a very special occasion, performing back at school and raising money for local charity, The Rufus Trust, of which he is a trustee. The Rufus Trust (formerly Rufus' Friends' Fund) provides grants to low-income families in Warwickshire who have a member with learning disabilities, allowing them to benefit from a much-needed break, holiday or trip, and giving families and carers some respite.

In 2026 The Rufus Trust is starting a partnership with Warwick Schools Foundation to provide funding for the holiday respite programme at Evergreen School, for children and young people with Special Educational Needs. Evergreen is now a member of the Foundation's Multi Academy Trust.

Book your concert tickets from the Bridge House Theatre on <https://www.bridgehousetheatre.co.uk/show/the-kings-singers-charity-gala-concert/>

If you cannot attend the concert but would like to support the work of The Rufus Trust, you can make a donation at <https://cafonline.org/30000#!/DonationDetails>

## Hedgerow Heroes



Pupils from Warwick Prep and King's High joined other 'Hedgerow Heroes' from the Foundation's Eco-clubs and Westgate Primary School to plant 120 metres of native British hedgerows as part of a partnership with Campaign to Protect Rural England. Around 130 took part in the initiative to increase the number of hedgerows by 40% by 2050 and to raise awareness of the important role hedgerows play in sustaining the environment and supporting wildlife.

# Archives special

It is always a joy to receive donations to the archives and recently we have taken in school uniform and badges from Rosemary King (née Paget) and a hat ribbon from Rosemarie Knight (née Schreiber) (KHS 1946-1952) for which we are very grateful.

As you will have read, at The Landor Association Coffee Morning (page 7) Mary Lee donated an array of Warwick Prep memorabilia items which are reflected in archive photos of craft work in the early years.



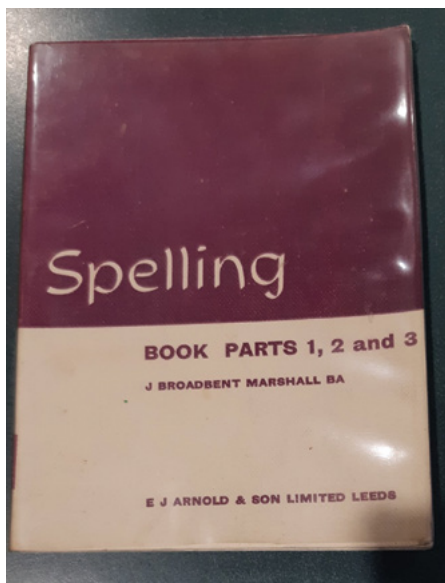
Extract from 'Acorns, Oaks & Squirrels' an illustrated history of Warwick Prep School to mark 25 years at the Bridge Field site 1996



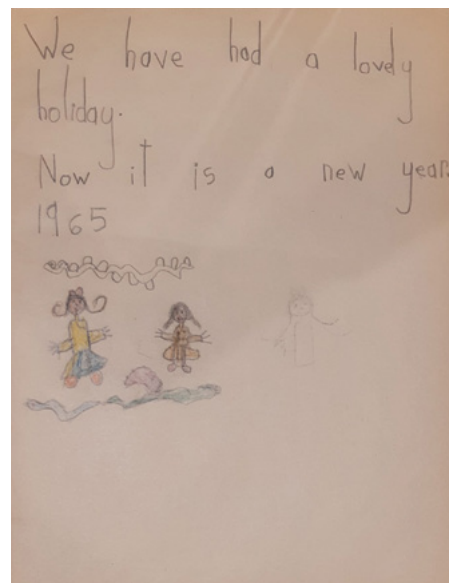
Mary Lee



"As far as I remember, everyone designed their own cover for a waste bin, using templates available... hence the large sheep compared to the tree! I presume the tins were from our school lunches... fruit salad or beans perhaps."



"We all had spellings to learn in 2nd form."



"Writing books... a page every day! Done in Transition, and often nature based!"



Mary Lee, who kindly donated items from her school days chatted to Jenny Edwards, Landor Fellow, at the Coffee Morning in November.

We are very grateful to Jenny who has worked tirelessly on the school archives for many years. Jenny and Polly Beidas co-wrote the book *Of Mulberries, Ilex and Acorns*, which is available to purchase at our alumni events or by contacting the school office. The book draws together and tells the inspiring history of King's High and Warwick Preparatory School, beginning with the foundation in 1879, and charting the course from humble beginnings, to the dynamic, thriving and successful school we know today.



Jeanne Shillington (née Forrester) (KHS 1947-1952), joined us for the OGA Annual Lunch and AGM, bringing with her a card made from a sketch her friend had drawn of she and her friends (including Jeanne) studying in the Sixth Form Centre – which Jeanne sent out as Christmas cards in 1951.



Jeanne Shillington enjoys looking back at photos at the recent OGA Annual Lunch and AGM



Please do get in touch with your own stories and offers of archive material – we would love to hear from you.  
E: [sa.whitehouse@warwickschools.co.uk](mailto:sa.whitehouse@warwickschools.co.uk)

# Igniting Futures

## Unlocking the next generation

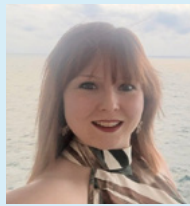
Warwick Preparatory School and King’s High School transform lives through the power of education. We are proud to offer around 130 bursary places at our Foundation family schools. These bursaries enable children from a wide range of backgrounds to benefit from a Foundation education.

We want to be a force for good locally, helping children beyond our school gates to benefit from educational opportunities.

In partnership with other local schools and charitable trusts, we run science workshops, maths tuition programmes, drama, music, arts and sports taster classes. We provide free swimming lessons for local families who would struggle to cover this cost themselves, and we fund spaces on our holiday activity programme.

As a non-profit charity, and with no government funding, we contribute what we can, but rely on philanthropy to fund much of this work.

### Jade’s story



*“By receiving a bursary to attend King’s High School I was able to thrive with an enhanced education and outstanding learning opportunities, providing me with a firm platform to build an amazing future. Being in a single sex educational environment, where it was evident that each student wanted to learn and benefit from being at the school, allowed me to succeed in my education.*

*Without the financial support of donors, the opportunity for gifted and talented individuals to attend such a wonderful school, would not be possible, which personally, I feel has been life changing.”*

Jade Bagley – King’s High School 2010-17



**Igniting Futures**



**Changemakers**



## Character and Confidence

## Creativity and Curiosity



## Community and Social Responsibility

## Wellbeing and Happiness



In order to help more children benefit from a King's High or Warwick Prep education in future, we are inviting our whole community to join together to ignite the futures of the next generation.

## How you can help

On Thursday 18 and Friday 19 June 2026, we will be holding a fundraising extravaganza at King's High School and Warwick Prep to celebrate the difference we have already been able to make through our bursary programme, to thank those who have contributed, and launch our long-term campaign to raise enough money to fund another 100 free places.

Here's how you can get involved:

- 1) On 18 or 19 June, check out our 'Igniting Futures' website (we will share the link with you nearer the time) and online social media posts on LinkedIn, Facebook and Instagram; 'like' and share with your network
- 2) Make your own gift and post a message on our online donor wall (live from late May)
- 3) Tell others about how they can join in to give future generations from any background the chance of a King's High or Warwick Preparatory School education.

# Thank you

## Thank you to every member of our community who has given back to King's High or Warwick Prep in whatever ways they are able.

Earlier this year, we shared our 2024-25 Impact Report, highlighting the many ways our students' lives have been changed by the generosity of King's High and Warwick Prep Alumni and friends. From widening access to education through bursaries, to being a force for good in the local community, to the ongoing impact of inspirational study spaces and creative facilities, the support of our donors continues to shape present experiences and future possibilities.

Our students stand on the shoulders of those who came before, and we are proud to celebrate what we continue to achieve together because of the generosity of our alumni community.

To learn more about how giving back makes a difference to our students, see our Donor Impact Report.

If you'd like to discuss how you can give back, please contact Emily Gladman:

[e.gladman@warwickschools.co.uk](mailto:e.gladman@warwickschools.co.uk)  
01926 776403

or scan here to make a donation.



### Impact at a Glance



From our latest audited accounts in 2023-24, the total spent on bursaries across the Foundation was **£1,291,620**

**1 in 15** of our WSF senior school students receives a means-tested bursary place



In the last financial year, **145** donors across the community supported the bursary programme



Warwick Schools Foundation

**Donor Impact Report**  
2024-25

### Staying in touch

All former students, parents of students and staff from King's High and Warwick Prep are part of our Landor community. We welcome contact with you all and invite you to get and stay in touch. Perhaps you have a memory you'd like to share, an old photograph to add to our archives, classmates with whom you'd like to reconnect, reunion plans, or maybe you're happy to inspire our current students by sharing your career journey or offering mentoring support.

Sarah Whitehouse, Alumni Relations, King's High School  
[sa.whitehouse@warwickschools.co.uk](mailto:sa.whitehouse@warwickschools.co.uk)  
Tel: 01926 735408

#### Update your details

If you wish to update your details, please go to [www.landorassociation.co.uk/update](http://www.landorassociation.co.uk/update)

Warwick Schools Foundation



Enabling transformation through the power of education

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