I love the fact that King’s is a boarding school. There is something about the 24/7 schooling experience that causes a boy to be welded to his friends, his house, his School.

Small wonder that it is often the boarders who form the ‘Pretorian Guard’ of a School, who are the keepers of its character, customs and constitution.

I remember my own years as a boarder with the greatest of fondness. By day, I learnt Latin, Maths and English. By night, I learnt how to live in a community, how to take responsibility and how to eat a meal in 90 seconds. During the day, I was prepared for university. During the night, I was prepared for life.

I also love the fact that King’s is a day school. The diurnal movement of Kingsmen in and out of school give it that vital connection with its local area. Without this connection, a school would become an island unto itself with civilisation being thought to be extinguished at the front gate. Quite apart from this, we get many outstanding day boys whose skills, interests and abilities enrich the School beyond measure.

The King’s School honours its day boys, in many ways, not least by providing them with a house in which they might commute in comfort. At a time when most schools banish their day boys (and their lockers) to windy corridors and sterile playgrounds, King’s provides a home – replete with couches, ping pong tables and good company. All right, all right – it might not be the most salubrious of houses, but it is a house none-the-less, and something that should never be taken for granted.

I find it encouraging that a builders’ fence now encircles the new Broughton Forrest house – the ‘Pretorian Guard’ of a School, who are the keepers of its character, customs and constitution.

What is being planned will revolutionise the pastoral environment at King’s. Boarding is vital for King’s, and King’s is vital for boarding. The latter is a bold claim, but it is true. Over the last decade, King’s has provided the Australian boarding industry with its major training course for boarding staff. The School is currently involved in writing National Boarding Standards for Australian boarding schools, and Mr Brad Papworth, Housemaster of Hake House, is currently completing his PhD in the effects of boarding on academic achievement and values formation. This is the most significant bit of boarding research being undertaken anywhere in the world at the moment, which is why the Federal Government – even a cash-strapped Federal Government – has sponsored the research to the tune of several hundred thousand dollars.

Boarding is important at King’s, but so is our day population. Nestled, in the demographic centre of Australia’s largest city makes us accessible to many day boys. King’s reaches out to its day boys through a network of buses. These collect Kingsmen, and bring them to the sylvan glades of Gowan Brae, to 300 acres wherein a city boy can learn in a country setting.

Quite simply – we are blessed. We are fortunate in our geography and in our grounds. We are fortunate in our reputation and in our buildings and in our staff. We are also fortunate in our students – both day and boarding. The latter is a bold claim, but it is true. Over the last decade, King’s has provided the Australian boarding industry with its major training course for boarding staff. The School is currently involved in writing National Boarding Standards for Australian boarding schools, and Mr Brad Papworth, Housemaster of Hake House, is currently completing his PhD in the effects of boarding on academic achievement and values formation. This is the most significant bit of boarding research being undertaken anywhere in the world at the moment, which is why the Federal Government – even a cash-strapped Federal Government – has sponsored the research to the tune of several hundred thousand dollars.

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Quite simply – we are blessed. We are fortunate in our geography and in our grounds. We are fortunate in our reputation and in our buildings and in our staff. We are also fortunate in our students – both day and boarding – because they give the School its energy and purpose.

DR TIM HAWKES
Headmaster
The African Smile

In the July holidays, the Headmaster and Mrs Hawkes were part of a team of 18 parents and staff from The King’s School who went to Rwanda to assist with the expansion of the Rwandan education program.

The African smile is generous. When combined with big, laughing eyes you are overwhelmed with a lightness of heart that causes you to remember the joy there is in simple things. The smile I remembered most belonged to a four-year-old boy who had been tortured by his neighbour before being hacked to death.

A story went with the boy’s picture. It was recounted in the Kigali genocide stories of those who lost their lives in the 1994 Rwanda Genocide. The Genocide was a gift to Rwanda from the civilised powers of Europe. Originally a German colony, Rwanda was given to the Belgians as part of war reparations. The European colonisers were alarmed at the lack of a native ruling class in Rwanda, so they created one. It was decided that if you had ten or more cows, you were a Tutsi. It also helped if you were tall and had the right shaped nose (European shaped of course).

The Tutsi were the ones ordained for leadership. The rest were not. They were Hutu and were condemned as unworthy of social or political favour.

Stir into this manufactured inequality an exploitative mindset, some transparent racism and inept administration and you have the ingredients for a genocide. And they got one. On 6 April 1994, President Habyarimana of Rwanda was assassinated and the killing started.

The Hutu, empowered by French paratroopers, rose up to quash the predominantly Tutsi Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF) on its boarders and such Tutsi they could find within their borders. Fuelled by Hitleresque hate, neighbour slaughtered neighbour. It was often not enough to kill. It sometimes required that the Tutsi ‘cockroaches’ be tortured and killed. For women, this usually meant a rape.

Kofi Annan ordered United Nations’ troops not to interfere until the situation became clearer. It didn’t take long before it became very clear. There were mass killings across the land. The UN forces found themselves overwhelmed and under-resourced. Pleas for outside help were dismissed as hysterical. The killing went on. Most ex-patriots were alarmed at the lack of a native ruling leadership. The rest were not. They were Hutu.

The Hutu were the ones ordained for leadership. The rest were not. They were Hutu and were condemned as unworthy of social or political favour.

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Dear Headmaster

I recognise you are travelling but I feel it appropriate to express my dismay at my son not being chosen for an exchange position in Europe. He is devastated and ...

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It’s a painful making friends because they are people of Rwanda and we are people on the move. Yes – we’ve repaired some windows here and introduced a training program there – but we’re travelling. We won’t be here tomorrow. Hug and go.

We travelled back to Australia with softened hearts. It wasn’t because of the gorillas in the mist. It wasn’t because of being able to help. It was because of that smile – the African smile.

Dear Headmaster

I must advise you that the capacity of your electrical ring-main will not be sufficient to accommodate the new building ...

It is a smile that puts a lot of things into perspective.

Dr Tim Hawkes
Headmaster
Rowing

Winning back the GPS senior point score along with the trophies for the 2nd, 3rd and 4th IVs, King’s has excelled in rowing again this year. To accompany these impressive awards, The King’s School won the NSW Schoolboy Shield for the most successful Schoolboy Club in 2012. This is an outstanding honour, as it rewards all crews in the shed for their efforts throughout the season, by tallying up the most podium finishes at every regatta.

Following on from these crew achievements, James Davies and Bas Hollard (Year 12), two of our 1st VIII rowers, were selected for the National Junior Development Tour. The boys were selected from schools and clubs nationwide to form a ten-man squad to travel to Lake Karapiro, New Zealand. They competed on 22 - 24 June 2012 against other national junior teams. This is an outstanding accomplishment, backing up from Peter Koster’s (‘11) successful selection last year on the same tour.

James Tyree
Master in Charge

Church@Kings

Sunday 20 May 2012 marked the 1st Anniversary of Church@theChapel. It was thought that young people from Church@Kings needed a Service of their own in which they could serve and invite their friends. A contemporary service was launched, aimed at older teens and young adults, but of course some oldies also like to join in.

Our new youth ministers, David Jansen and Michael Dalleywater, have played a leading role in establishing this service, held on Sundays during term time at 6:00pm, and have continued earlier work done, with enthusiasm and energy. It is pleasing to see our Chapel coming alive with Boarders and Dayboys, students from Tara Anglican School for Girls, young Old Boys, teachers and parents early on Sunday evenings. God has richly blessed us throughout the year and we look forward to the future.

Rev Stephen Edwards
Chaplain

Little Shop of Horrors

The latest King’s and Tara production, Little Shop of Horrors catapulted the annual musical into a fresh, energetic new direction. With cast and crew totalling over 70 students, packed houses were treated to a visual extravaganza. For the first time, The King’s Theatre was home to a professional production rig consisting of over one hundred moving lights, four lasers and state-of-the-art sound.
Marching Band

School pride, determination, teamwork and hard work have driven the members of The King’s School Marching Band to new heights this year as they paraded for a number of important events.

Most notably was the ANZAC Day March in the city where the band was cheered and applauded along the route filled with the patriotic public. Old Boys applauded from various vantage points when they caught a glimpse of their alma mater.

In preparing for the ANZAC Day March, the boys who make up the Marching Band attended a special two day camp at School, directed by Mr Dan Williams (Head of Bands), the current Drum Major, Avinesh Chelliah and past Drum Major, Jacob Hacker (’11). Leadership skills for the senior boys were impressive as they passed on their knowledge of marching and ceremonial protocols.

“Marching promotes a sense of responsibility, camaraderie and working together for the good of the group, not just for individual glory,” said Mr Williams.

The boys also participated fully in the Cadet Corps camp at Singleton, and in the midst of the Singleton camp, the boys quickly returned to Sydney in order to perform for an International Polo Match (between Australia and South Africa) hosted by the Windsor Polo Club. This was an equally splendid event, showcasing the School in a great light.

The Marching Band is led by a most impressive Drum Line, a group of fine young musicians, who have developed their skills enormously by working together. Executing with ease such techniques as double stroke rolls, five stroke rolls, flams and paradiddles, has ensured an exciting display which keeps the public entertained before the band launches into its music for parade.

Barry Walmsey
Most of us have been to the beach and enjoyed a walk across a rock platform, stopping to look into the rock pools and keeping one eye on the pounding waves crashing on the rocks.

Having said that, few of us have studied this unique and harsh environment and given thought to how plants and animals could possibly survive in an environment which experiences severe conditions such as high salinity, wave action and sun exposure. This semester Year 11 Biology students have had the opportunity to immerse themselves (literally!) in Long Reef Aquatic Reserve, a unique reserve due to its exposure to all four points of the compass. The diversity and abundance of marine invertebrates here is rarely seen anywhere and provided an excellent site for our students to put into practise all that they had learned in class.

Biology is a subject that allows students to conduct first-hand investigations in the real world.

In 2012 a typical day is heavily reliant on scientific technology – from hot showers, mobile phones, computers, cars, air conditioning, microwaves and all number of electric gadgets aimed at assisting us to get through the day.

Medical science has changed our lives from vaccinations to the developments of X-rays, CAT scans, CT scans, MRIs to artificial joints, organ transplants, laser surgery and key-hole surgery. Even at the shops we are surrounded by science – from the escalator to the foot technology at Athletes Foot, to scanning our goods and swiping our credit cards we are immersed in the world of science.

Science is certainly a dynamic and changing subject. It is exciting because it has no limits. It is creative and requires an imagination to dream things that today may seem impossible and then sets about making it possible. The Science faculty at The King’s School is the largest faculty and this signals the importance that students place in incorporating science into their senior curriculum. Many of our senior students study multiple science subjects that may include Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Agriculture, Senior Science or Earth and Environment Studies – a science subject for everybody.

This semester the Science Department welcomed Year 7 students into its faculty and began immersing the boys into the joys of studying science. We have had a busy period learning the basic skills of science, from data collection, measurement and using apparatus (and lighting the bunsen burner!). The boys have conducted numerous experiments aimed at improving their skills of observation, confidence in using the equipment and ability to work as part of a team. From these young minds will come the future generation of scientists and young men who will go on to shape our future world. We look forward to nurturing their enquiring minds and maintaining their enthusiasm for discovery.

Linda Perkovic
Teacher
Science Department
On Thursday 29 March 2012, The King’s School Cadet Corps deployed to Singleton on its Annual Camp.

The intention of Annual Camp is to test the year’s training and more particularly provide opportunities for the members of the Cadet Corps to be tested and to paraphrase Kurt Hahn, to discover that they have more within them than they knew.

During the course of Annual Camp, the boys operated as platoons being effectively led by the Corps’ Cadet Under Officers. The effectiveness of their leadership was such that the notorious ‘Golden Compass Award’ for most significant navigational blunder was not awarded this year.

The performance of all platoons was assessed during these activities and contributed toward Platoon and Company Competitions. Whilst the performance of all platoons and cadets was admirable, particular congratulations must go to:

**Champion First Year Platoon:**
Sixteen Platoon
Platoon Commander
CUO Hugo Benness

**Champion Second Year Platoon:**
Eight Platoon
Platoon Commander
CUO Hugh Salter

**Champion Specialist Platoon:**
Quartermaster’s Platoon
Platoon Commander
CUO David Burdis

**Champion Company:**
C Company
Company Commander
CUO Scott Bennett

The King’s School Cadet Corps is a unit that allows boys to exercise considerable leadership and provides them a real opportunity to shape the Cadet Corps and the boys within it. The leadership demonstrated by the Cadet Corps’ Adjutant (Cadet Under Officer John McMahon) and Regimental Sergeant Major (Warrant Officer Class One Patrick Magee) was of the highest order and the success of this year’s camp was a testament to their effective leadership.

**Andrew Mansfield**
Major (AAC)
Commanding Officer,
The King’s School Cadet Corps

The boys participated in a range of activities including:

- Abseiling
- Compass March
- Confidence Course
- High Ropes Course
- Initiative Tests
- Orienteering
- Night Exercises
- Reconnaissance Exercise
- Quick Decision March
- Survival Exercise
- Trekking in the Broken Back Ranges
On the parade ground usually reserved for School assemblies and handball, 170 Year 8 boys gathered on the black, cold morning of 29 March. After ticking them off one-by-one, we flicked them onto the waiting buses and headed south down the Princes Highway to the State Forest near Berrima.

This year marked a new episode of Year 8 camp where we wanted to ensure the boys packed more into a shorter time. The result was, to put it simply, wonderful. The boys launched themselves into activities with great fervour and excitement in a new points-based system that took into account everything they had to do. Waking up on time, cooking, cleaning, trekking, leadership, respect, benevolence and all the other “typical” activities of a Year 8 Camp.

The aim of the camp is to teach the students more about the outdoors and ensure that they are sufficiently prepared for Corps Camp, which they will all be a part of with Major Andrew Mansfield in 2013 and beyond. Activities such as canoeing, mountain-biking, night flying-foxes, abseiling and, under careful supervision, log-splitting, ranked among the boys’ favourites.

Both myself and Mr Ben Chadwick, Year 8 Coordinator, found several things stood out this year. Without naming names, there were boys who had never ridden a bike before who refused to sit by idly, jumping on, falling off, jumping back on again and falling off for two hours. They did this with smiles and determination, two character traits that will suit them well in their years ahead. Indeed, we saw – both close-up and from a distance - boys who were tested in the wilderness outside their comfort zone and all of them came up trumps. It certainly is a difficult thing to grab a hold of a piece of rope and launch yourself off a cliff, yet dozens of boys did this for the first time and loved it.

I would like to congratulate every Year 8 boy who went on camp and encourage them to embrace their school work with the tenacity they showed on camp.

I’d also like to thank all the teachers who gave up their time to assist the boys in the forest. All I could offer was the odd pie, a luke-warm coffee and some banter by the fire! Your assistance in this camp is paramount and I look forward to seeing you all again next year.

May I also pay special tribute to The Outdoor Education Group’s Matt Tranter, as always, provided a level of sophisticated fun for the boys and ensured all enjoyed their 2012 Year 8 Camp.

MAY SYMONS
Camp Coordinator
Our Captain, Nicholas Hough, a World Champion, became the first student to be a member of four consecutive GPS Premierships in the same sport.

After intensive training at School, the trip to Melbourne coinciding with the Australian Tennis Open, allowed the boys the opportunity to watch their heroes in action, whilst utilising their honed skills in matches against worthy opponents at Scotch College and St Kevin’s College. The games at St Kevin’s were played on clay, providing yet another new experience for most.

The boys experienced a variety of activities and locations in Melbourne, making the most of the varied cultures by dining on Vietnamese in Richmond, Italian in Carlton and cycling down to St. Kilda Beach for fish and chips.

The boys had worked very hard throughout the week in both training and match play, and had certainly earned their dinners! The squad had the opportunity to tour the MCG, the MCC library (the biggest sports library in the world) and the National Sports Museum.

Our final evening culminated in an invitation to play at the prestigious Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club, once the home of the Australian Open. After the boys had the experience of playing on the real lawn courts, the week wrapped up with dinner in the Kooyong Clubhouse overlooking the magnificent 52 court complex.

Tennis was the real winner of the tour, but equally as successful, was the boys’ development. The manner in which they gelled as a group, supported each other, challenged each others’ games and took in the opportunities that were presented, was simply wonderful.

Peter Phillips
Director of Sport

A senior training squad travelled to Melbourne prior to the recent season, for the School’s fourth consecutive Melbourne Tennis Tour.

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Staff put a great deal of effort into the organisation of travel schedules and itineraries in order to best utilise the time available and to give the boys the best opportunities to experience the culture of the local environment.

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Karl Sebire
1st Tennis Coach

From time-to-time, boys are fortunate enough to be selected to attend either a sporting camp or a tour.

The Camps are usually held locally and frequently involve boys mostly representing the “elite” teams in particular sports. Tours can be interstate or even overseas and may involve teams from a variety of age groups.

In all cases, camps and tours are designed so that the boys are able to experience a variation in coaching routine and perhaps conditions, that will enhance their performance.

The added advantage of having a group together for a period of time is that relationships and camaraderie develop outside of the immediate team structure that assists in generating positive team spirit with the view to improved performance.

Many of our boys have been privileged to participate in some of the major tours that the School undertakes. The opportunity to experience some of the culture of overseas destinations whilst being billeted by members of the local community has been well received by the vast majority of tourists and in some cases has led to on-going communication well after the tour is complete.

Staff put a great deal of effort into the organization of travel schedules and itineraries in order to best utilise the time available and to give the boys the best opportunities to experience the culture of the local environment.

The vast majority of those who have attended any of the sporting camps or tours offered by the School come away with both an improved sporting performance as a result of an intense period of specific training and also a better appreciation of their team mates, coaches and their own capabilities as young men in an unfamiliar environment.

Peter Phillips
Director of Sport

The Boys had worked very hard throughout the week in both training and match play, and had certainly earned their dinners!
ATHLETICS

Early May this year saw the shifting of the athletics season from its position in September. This, coupled with the introduction of the new Intermediate division, posed new challenges for all involved in our program.

After the success of the previous years and revived Athletics programs among other schools, we found ourselves facing strong competition heading into the 117th AAGPS Championships.

Strong performances in the lead up Invitational Carnivals allowed us to be confident in our preparation, but also aware that we were going to need to be consistent and committed in every single event. The Junior Team secured our fourth consecutive trophy by a mere four points through great application at training and relentless pressure in every event. Jordan Idiare produced one of many great performances and was rewarded for months of training with a GPS Record in the U14 100m Hurdles. The U13 4 x 100m relay of Tom Goode, Marshall Strong, Will Freyer and John Gikas moved the baton around perfectly and claimed a victory that augers well for our future athletics prospects.

Our Intermediate athletes were outstanding throughout the entire day and in victory ensured that The King’s School name is now the first one to be engraved on all three AAGPS Athletics trophies. Magnificent performances in this new division, saw Nick Andrews victorious in the U15 100m Hurdles against boys far bigger than him and he was able to be inch perfect when it mattered most. Our Intermediate 4 x 400m also provided a magic moment coming from behind to snatch a fantastic win. Strong legs from Braxton Jones, Hugh Taylor and Callum Anderson placed Rowan Bray in fourth place on the final leg. Rowan lifted on the back straight, snatching the lead on the final bend and was never headed to hold on for a memorable first place.

The Seniors had been performing well in the final weeks and entered early May this year saw the shifting of the athletics season from its position in September. This, coupled with the introduction of the new Intermediate division, posed new challenges for all involved in our program.

The competition with a great deal of expectation. Throughout the day we had some excellent results but it was clear that Newington were determine to challenge us. Jack Stapleton ran magnificently winning the U17 800m Championship and also the Open 1500m to break a record that has stood since 1975. Our Senior 4 x 400m comprising Lachlan Camp, Harrison Andrews, Harry Randell and Johnny Duggan completed another relay victory and Josh Clarke continued a stellar year to claim the Open 100m in 10.89 and ran with great courage nursing a painful injury that impeded him from being at his very best. With two relays to run we were a mere seven points ahead of Newington and their victory in the U17 relay ensured we were level pegging heading into the final relay. Disqualification on the final change of the 4 x 100m saw the dream of five consecutive Senior triumphs disappear, however, it is never just one thing that makes the difference to a result, and Newington were deserved winners after being the most consistent team in many events, and that, in this competition, ensures success.

It was a day where sport imitated life and, if we are serious about educating our young men then the results of the day ensured we got a complete experience. We experienced the highest of highs and the lowest of lows and I have stressed the importance to all of our boys that true happiness in life lies somewhere between the two extremes. Our response to such disappointment, and our success, is where we also showed that no amount of winning is worth anything if your reputation is tarnished and ours was significantly enhanced by our response to both. Our squad on mass, went over to Newington, gave a rousing three cheers and then shook the hands of all the opposition. It was a moment that transcended sport. Sometimes in life you can lose and win all at once.

Ben Gavan
Master in Charge
The Preparatory School heads to China

Prep

A milestone in the history of The King’s School was celebrated on Friday 1 June 2012, recognising the fact that the inaugural Kindergarten class of 2000 had reached Year 12. We celebrated with a formal breakfast at Old Government House, Parramatta, hearkening back to this very special event when the boys were only five and six years old. We enjoyed hearing from each of the boys as they shared some highlights of their King’s old. We enjoyed hearing from each of the boys as they shared some highlights of their King’s old. It was a poignant and emotional journey K-12, and how this has shaped them as young men. It was a poignant and emotional journey K-12, and how this has shaped them as they shared some highlights of their King’s old. We enjoyed hearing from each of the boys as they shared some highlights of their King’s old.

Prep Teacher

Belinda Baxter
Director of Infants

The wonderful thing about travel is the possibility of possibilities. It is only when you are prepared to be taken out of your comfort zone, that the rewards, some of which surprise you, are given.

So, it was with great excitement that 43 travellers met at Sydney Airport very early on an April morning to begin the inaugural TKS Prep Tour to China.

This new experience for the majority of our party saw places and landmarks we had read about in books come to life. In Beijing we visited the Forbidden City, the Temple of Heaven and the Summer Palace, these sites leaving us in no doubt that each was built to leave a lasting impression on all who entered their walls. What was striking about all these places is that every minute detail is significant. Colour, symmetry, script, number, statuary, elevation and aspect are all carefully and deliberately utilised on a vast scale. Similarly, each building in Tiananmen Square is steeped in significance. The Monument to the People’s Heroes, the Mausoleum of Mao Zedong, the National Museum of China, the Great Hall of the People and the Tiananmen Gate Tower with Chairman Mao’s image displayed prominently at its centre, all reflect China’s revolutionary history.

A beautiful Spring morning greeted us for Easter Sunday and our visit to The Great Wall. The group climbed a restored section and marvelled at the engineering feat that is The Great Wall. The views from the top were well worth the huffing and puffing it took to get there and enabled us to work off the 12 course meals we had been eating at lunch and dinner!

We took the overnight train from Beijing to arrive in Xian - a city of contrasts - and spent the first day visiting the Big Wild Goose Pagoda, riding bikes around the city wall, walking through the Mosque in the Muslim Quarter and getting a long awaited shopping fix at the nearby markets. The boys put their Mandarin into practice and were proving quite adept at getting the best price.

The highlight in Xian was our visit to the Terracotta Warriors, where the manpower required to create the detail and scale of this project took our breath away. The story of the farmer who, when digging a well, first stumbled upon this astounding archaeological site depicting the army of China’s first emperor, Qin Shi Huang resonated. As laborious work continues, each square metre of earth is painstakingly swept, broken pieces are cleaned, labelled and assembled to reveal one man’s monument to himself. Knowing that the Hill covering the site of Qin Shi Huang’s grave is man-made and that there is more to unveil, defies belief.

Shanghai, the “Venice of the East”, a city built around the Huangpu River and the hub of China’s booming economy, was our last stop. Modern skyscrapers combine here, with the colonial past and grandeur of its architecture just as it was. The highlight in Shanghai was the Yu gardens, with their beautiful fountains, traditional pagodas and extensive gardens. The highlight in Shanghai was the Yu gardens, with their beautiful fountains, traditional pagodas and extensive gardens.

For the boys who participated, China will be an experience that will be remembered for years to come.

MRS TINA RUDDOCK
Prep Teacher

The overall impression of China is that of a land of paradoxes. It is difficult to ignore its rapid progress into the future with ambitious building projects going ahead 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Yet, there is a palpable sense of its history, spanning millennia. While China is entering a period of great change, there is much that remains unchanged. For the boys who participated, China will be an experience that will be remembered for years to come – not the least, the opportunity to share it with their parent.

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We were fed like emperors, entertained by acrobats, kung-fu athletes, skilled musicians and dancers. We travelled on planes, overnight trains, fast trains, buses, ferries and automobiles. We hackey-sacked with the locals, watched tai chi in the park, listened to musical fountains, watched drum performances, laughed, walked, ran and played. Speed shopping became the sport of the group.

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In January of this year there was great rejoicing in the Willathgamuwa household as siblings, Kevin (Gr 4) and Rowan (Gr 6), were crowned U10 and U12 National Chess Champions. We congratulate these boys on their achievement and recognise the hard work and many hours of practice that have contributed to their success.

What is remarkable about both boys’ performance is that they won their championships when they were considerably younger than others against whom they were competing. The boys demonstrated confidence and courage to take risks by being able to play against older competitors. It took a great deal of self-belief and their unbelievable ability to remain focused, despite an intimidating environment.

The popularity of learning chess skills has dramatically increased in the Preparatory School this year. Coaching conducted by The Sydney Academy of Chess has been available to boys in Years 1 to 6. In Term 1, 77 boys were keen to participate in coaching, providing a wonderful opportunity for all boys to learn specific skills and strategies.

Playing chess also recognises that success rewards hard work. Members from the chess coaching classes have learnt many new skills and strategies this term, including en passant, absolute and relative pin, skewer, fork, back rank mate, discovered check, pin and win and others. How many adults are familiar with these terms and strategies when playing chess? It is a very exciting era for the Prep, as we have so many young and keen players developing their skills during coaching.

CATHERINE PEARMAN
Prep School Chess Coordinator

It is worth mentioning the benefits of playing chess, which include improvements in:

- Focus and concentration
- Self-confidence and discipline
- Patience
- Sportsmanship
- Logical and critical thinking skills
- Imagination and creativity
- Memory (especially spatial memory)
- Mental agility and resistance

Students also learn to:

- Strategise and develop problem-solving skills
- Recognise patterns and develop tactics

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ALTUS, the new framework for delivering Gifted and Talented support within the Preparatory School, is working in partnership with Learning Support Services (LSS).

Together they are known as LEARNING360. Learning360 communicates the concept that there are 360 degrees in a circle, with a student figuratively in the centre of that circle, with learning ongoing in every direction! Learning360 provokes students to explore and reflect on the learning cycle, then make informed choices and decisions along the way.

The International Baccalaureate’s Primary Years Program (PYP) seeks to be at the leading edge of educational thinking worldwide. The PYP philosophy is to place increasing focus on meeting the needs of the exceptional student within the regular classroom. This represents a shift in strategy, as previously withdrawal groups or a completely separate class were the favoured approach. Now, the concept-driven PYP, with its responsive student-initiated inquiry stance and planning cycle, is well placed to “be considered as a viable approach for meeting the needs of gifted children” (Johnsen 2002, in Leonard).

The King’s School aims to provide a challenging and engaging curriculum...
At our ANZAC service this year we paused to remember the debt we owe the generations of men and women who preceded us, people who did things so extraordinary that they test our powers to imagine.

We remembered our War dead, those tens of thousands who lie in ‘some corner of a foreign field’ – from the pretty downlands above the Somme, the deserts of Libya, the olive groves on Crete, the heavy clay of Flanders and the jungles of Vietnam.

It was a time to especially remember those Old Boys of The King’s School who paid the ultimate sacrifice to protect the freedom we enjoy today. We particularly remembered Flanders and the jungles of Vietnam.

Above the Somme, the deserts of Libya, foreign fields – from the pretty downlands we remembered our War dead, those tens of thousands of School boys. And sadly 101 of them would lose their lives, never to return home to their families. It was at Lone Pine during the Gallipoli campaign where Captain Stewart Milson (1900-1906).

With the 4th Battalion of the AIF, Stewart Milson embarked on the ship Euripides on 20 October 1914. He landed at Gallipoli on the first day of the campaign, 25 April and was seriously wounded on 27 April. Some months later Milson returned to Gallipoli as a Captain and Company Commander and was mentioned in Despatches. He was killed in action on 6 August 1915 and is buried at Gallipoli in the Lone Pine Cemetery.

At Lone Pine on 6 August Captain Milson went in with his Brigade of over 3000 strong, returning with a vastly depleted squad.

Dr Andrew Parry
Deputy Headmaster
Science has always been a popular subject at The King’s School. In fact, more students study science than any other subject. Why is science so popular? Science is a unique subject in the academic curriculum – it contains a strong practical element and encourages students to look to the future. It teaches us to look at the world differently, ask ‘why?’ and search for answers.

“Science is a communal quest of discovery and excitement. It’s empowering to know why things occur and be able to use this knowledge to predict the outcome of given situations.”

Julian Borrey ’10, Electrical Engineering, Duke University, USA

The role of science in our world will only grow as society advances. Workers with science, research and critical thinking skills will be crucial to Australia’s future economic strength and business community.

Unfortunately, however, the growing popularity of science at The King’s School is being hampered by the inadequacy of our existing secondary school science facilities. The current science building is tired and dated, many of the classrooms are too small and there are too few laboratories.

Our new Science Centre, which began construction in May, will solve these problems and offer our students opportunities they will be unable to get at any other secondary school. The building will represent best practice in science education and facilitate the growth of enquiry-based learning.

Located next to the old science block and beside the Centre for Learning and Leadership, and fronting on to the Rec Field, the core of the building will be classrooms, most of which will incorporate both laboratory space and space for the teaching of scientific theory. The laboratories will be uniquely designed to support ongoing individual student research.

The new Science Centre will build on the Ideas for Life program already in place. By giving us real world experience, we’ll graduate from The King’s School with a degree for life, not just a Higher School Certificate.

Chamath Herath, Year 12
projects, as well as technology-enhanced learning. In addition, there will be break out spaces and facilities for individual experiments. The classrooms will be supported by extensive preparation and storage areas and also facilities for staff. There will also be significant space set aside for displays and scientific exhibitions.

“The new Science Centre will change the paradigm of learning at The King’s School. Instead of learning in a conventional classroom environment, students will have the opportunity to observe a variety of activities and make discoveries that may ignite an interest in science, which is an enormously valuable thing. I’m confident the Science Centre will create opportunities for students to encounter new ideas and processes that will stimulate them and have a lifelong effect.”

Associate Professor Jonathan Stretch (’72), Deputy Director, Melanoma Institute Australia

The new Science Centre will feature a central display space and public meeting area and this spectacular area will bring natural light into the centre of the building in a functional and striking way. Within this space, there will be an opportunity to engage in scientific activities, such as raising small animals and propagating plants.

One of the most exciting features of the proposed Centre is the inclusion of two research laboratories – the first time a research precinct will be embedded within an Australian secondary school. This facility will allow cutting-edge research to be undertaken in partnership with universities and the commercial world. The King’s School has already established links with Macquarie University, where joint projects with King’s boys are underway into rice gene technology and stem cell research.

“There’s nothing that inspires like inspiration and nothing that enthuses like enthusiasm. The process of collaboration was something I learnt during my time at The King’s School, and I believe the Science Centre will harness the energy that surrounds successful collaboration and be truly valuable.”

Dr Kerwin Shannon (’81), Senior Clinician and Surgical Oncologist, Melanoma Institute Australia

The key focus for the new Science Centre will be to not only to learn about science, but to contribute to scientific knowledge. The research facility will be unlike that found in any Australian school and will keep the school at the forefront of scientific thinking. Our students will be immersed in science – they’ll be able to see work being undertaken daily and track the progress of research and experiments.

The new Science Centre will respond to the need highlighted by the Australian Government in its Inspiring Australia report for awareness among young people of the opportunities available in science and research. We’ve found that many students are undecided about their future career path, or believe that science isn’t a viable choice for them, because they don’t fully understand the myriad of jobs that a science education can lead to. The new Science Centre, and the opportunity to work with scientists and researchers, will help students gain a better understanding of the exciting and varied jobs that exist. The Science Centre will also offer opportunities for students who aren’t as passionate about science. We’re currently looking at opportunities for students to curate exhibitions in the central display space, and help organise public forums and road shows.

The total cost of construction will be $20 million. In order to complete this project and give our students new opportunities, we are looking to The King’s School community to help us raise $6 million of this.

Since 1976, The King’s School Foundation has been the heart and soul of our philanthropic activities and is leading the drive for donations for the Science Centre. Already, the Foundation has received generous donations for the project from current and past parents and students. By donating to the Science Centre project, current and future parents will give their children an edge, and help them gain skills that will serve them in the future.

The new Science Centre and our students who use the facilities will contribute to the development of Australia’s future science capabilities. We look forward to completion of the project and the beginning of an exciting new chapter for The King’s School!
The Old Boys’ Union continues to flourish with its usual activities many of which are closely related to those at the School.

The year started with the Old Boys taking on the School in many sporting activities. Though we were a little light on for the tennis the results reflected the camaraderie the Old Boys brought to the School with both sides being the winners. We encourage all Old Boys particularly the younger ones to make themselves available for next year’s Commem Day events. And in the Theatre we have experienced a wonderful display of organised chaos and confusion by a combined King’s/Tara Past Student Production of Noises Off.

The Old Boys’ Careers Night was another rewarding experience. Its success may be the start of more regional Old Boys are encouraged to make themselves available for next year’s Commem Day events. And in the Theatre we have experienced a wonderful display of organised chaos and confusion by a combined King’s/Tara Past Student Production of Noises Off. The Old Boys’ Careers Night was another rewarding experience. Its success may be the start of more regional Old Boys are encouraged to make themselves available for next year’s Commem Day events.

The Old Boys’ Careers Night was another rewarding experience. Its success may be the start of more regional activities. It is one of the most challenging places for an actor to live - not only is it beyond expensive, there are a million and one other actors there trying to do the same thing. In New York, auditions are aplenty. The only problem with so many auditions though, is first, being the right fit for the roles, and second, getting to an audition early enough to get your name on the audition sheet.

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IN THE SADDLE, AND RIDING TO VICTORY

Rob Archibald ('01) captained the Australian 19-goal polo team to victory over South Africa in Windsor earlier this year. Archibald led a team that included his leadership of the 2007 World Cup campaign a highlight. For his service to community health in remote New South Wales, he was awarded an AM. Dr Porges was also the vice chairman of Cancer Care and to make medical services more available in remote New South Wales. He has worked tirelessly along the way. I wouldn’t have missed it – even though there have been ups and downs and I’ve lost some skin loved it – even though there have been ups and downs and I’ve lost some skin

利用of the benefits of cutting-edge research to address complex global problems.” Former Queensland Premier Theo Russell Cooper ('58) was named as a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for service to the Queensland Parliament, to local government and to the Roma and Crows Nest communities. Cooper was premier for 70 days in 1989, before the Labor Party ended 32 years of conservative power in Queensland. In The Australia, Mr Cooper said from his home in the Sunshine Coast hinterland, “It has been wonderful serving the people. I have loved it – even though there have been ups and downs and I’ve lost some skin along the way. I wouldn’t have missed it for quids.”

Stirling Austin Mortlock ('94) has been appointed as vocations director of the permanent diaconate. The Most Reverend Anthony Fisher OP, the Bishop of Parramatta, made the announcement. Rev Bridge is the St Oliver Plattkint's Parish priest in Harris Park.

A PRIESTLY VOCATION

Ravendr Dr Arthur E Bridge AM ('70) has been appointed as vocations director of the permanent diaconate. The Most Reverend Anthony Fisher OP, the Catholic Bishop of Parramatta, made the announcement. Rev Bridge is the St Oliver Plunkett's Parish priest in Harris Park.

**DANIEL MACDONALD**

OBU Editor
Thomas Andreae Kelly was killed in an unprovoked attack in King’s Cross. A stranger ran up behind Thomas and hit him. People describe this sort of hit as a ‘king hit’. They shouldn’t. They should call it for what it is – a craven and cowardly hit – a hit you land on someone when they are not expecting it. Thomas was knocked unconscious. His hand slipped out of that of his girlfriend and he fell to the ground. Thomas was now brain-dead. Two days later, his parents, Ralph and Kathy Kelly, took the horrendous decision to switch off the life-support system. Thomas died on 9 July 2012. The police were now looking for a murderer.

Thomas was one of ours. He was a Kingsman. After graduating from King’s in 2011, Thomas pursued a cadetship in an accounting firm. He also pursued a university degree and a romance. All these dreams were smashed resulting in a father having to give a eulogy for a son.

What do you say to a School grieving the loss of one of their own? What do you say to Thomas’ younger brother who is still with us at King’s? What do you say to the parents of a boy in a coffin? Whenever an individual, organisation or nation loses sight of the sanctity of life, the scene is set for atrocity. When people lose sight of the preciousness of the individual, of the fact that we are all made in the image of God, we invite murder. The imbecilic attack on Thomas was perpetrated by an oafish fool who lost sight of the value of a person. Thomas was not a person, he was a target. When people are seen as targets – we tend to kill them. Hitler’s ‘Final Solution’, Rwanda’s genocide, the Armenian Massacres, Yugoslavia, the removal of the Tasmanian Aboriginal – all done by people who did not recognise the humanness of the other. We are fragile and the head is particularly fragile. I remember being at the bedside of one of our past School Captains, Shanaka Jayasuriya, some years ago. He was in an intensive care unit with his life in the balance after hitting his head on the ground after playing a game of football. Fortunately, Shanaka survived the accident. However, with Thomas it was not an accident … and he didn’t survive.

The trouble with many young men is that they haven’t been to enough funerals. They think themselves bullet-proof. Our sons need to be persuaded of the virtues of a health-promoting lifestyle and develop an aversion to unnecessary risk. They must also develop a proper understanding of the fragility of the human condition. Otherwise, too many of them will end up on a slab in a morgue, or behind bars in a prison.

We have the capacity to learn from this tragedy. There is misery enough without it being compounded by a failure to reform our society. Some young men need to be taken off our streets and removed from society. They have lost the right to live with us. Some parents need to improve in their duties. They must mentor their sons. They must be role models in anger management, impulse control and in making good choices. Some schools need to do more than grind through mandated curriculum. They need to teach in a values-rich environment. The current moral vacuum in schools is yielding bitter fruit. Some common sense needs to be introduced in the management of trouble spots like King’s Cross. Sensible opening hours and a clamp down on the seedy element will be opposed by vested interests. But – there is now an appetite for reform.

The sanctity of the individual, the fragility of the human form and the capacity to learn from tragedy are still an inadequate response to Thomas’ death. But, it might be a start to the healing.
25-26 August, The King’s School Parramatta

KING’S SPRING FESTIVAL

& ART SHOW

For more information & performance times, visit www.kings.edu.au

Art show, craft stalls, carnival rides, food stalls, kids show bags, bananas in pyjamas live show, farmyard nursery, spring markets & more