Magic in the School

Magic happened last Friday night in the Recital Room. Two boys – one Year 11 and one Year 9 – performed to an audience of about 75. The violinist, accompanied by Mrs Christine Dean, performed excerpts from four pieces, three of them without the music. He will be sitting for his AMusA this term.

The pianist performed six pieces (mainly extended excerpts) and played the lot without music. He has his AMusA and he is attempting his LMusA and his ATCL later this year.

I’m not a musician, so I may not use the correct musical terminology to describe what they did, but I know it was quite unbelievable. Their lightness of touch, ability to hold sumptuous notes and their feeling for the instrument (even without considering their age) was magnificent. Magical, to be sure. It was a sheer joy to witness it.

As will be the GPS Athletics competition on Saturday 10 May, this Saturday. There will be magic aplenty there – fabulous races, intense competition, School (and school boy) unbridled rivalry, and, as I write, pleasant weather. Do yourself a favour: go!

We have strong teams in the Seniors and Juniors, but win, lose or tie, the day promises to stage races that will live in your mind for a long, long time. Two boys, one from you-know-where, will be doing battle again having raced one another with intense rivalry and close finishes for six years. GPS records will be broken, some smashed. Saturday 10 May at Homebush will be a day to remember.

Binge Drinking

I’m sure everybody’s aware that the Prime Minister and Federal Government are trying to launch a crusade against binge drinking. They have recently increased the excise on ‘pop’ alcohol drinks, increasing some by as much as $1.30 per bottle. Nicola Roxon, the Minister for Health, has indicated that binge drinking isn’t just about regulation and a legal problem, but is a social problem. She plans to introduce graphic warnings on the labels of alcohol containers and guidelines for the service of alcohol and try to have nationally consistent laws covering the penalties for serving alcohol to minors. Over the years, a number of us have had to deal with issues that have involved Police and some of our under-age boys who have been caught on licensed premises and drinking. Ms Roxon indicated that she was hoping that all adults would have a more responsible attitude when it came to buying alcohol for people under the age of 18, and cited an interesting analogy in that a parent wouldn’t offer a cigarette to somebody else’s child, but at times offers alcohol to under-age children. The Sydney Morning Herald of 26 March 2008 quoted Gareth Popple, an executive member of the National Centre of Addiction, who said that alcohol abuse was the major drug issue facing teenagers with data showing one in five 16 and 17 year olds was regularly binge drinking to harmful levels, and indicated that alcohol is a major drug problem in the country.

Alcohol, of course, has long been a problem with motor vehicle accidents. At times you do read about, or are aware of, people who have died as a result of gross intoxication. As I recall, one of the French Rugby Union props died choking on his vomit as a result
of binge drinking on a stopover between Australia and France after playing in Test matches in Australia a decade or so ago. There are other cases that could be cited which demonstrate the severe and deadly short term effects of alcohol bingeing. Alcohol misuse has long term negative outcomes as well. Guidelines about what is reasonable and legal alcohol consumption can be found on many websites including www.druginfo.adf.org.au and www.alcohol.gov.au (look under links & alcohol).

What do we do here at School? We try to educate our students, mainly through PDHPE programmes, and students in Years 9 and 10 receive information about the harmful effects of alcohol and other drugs. We also host parent forums. We also have rules in the School that no student under 18 is permitted to drink at School functions, such as At Homes or sporting dinners (and only students over 18 are permitted to drink at approved private functions).

We are tilting against the wind to some extent, because a survey of Australian Secondary School Students Use of Alcohol in 2005 prepared by the Drug Strategy branch of the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, found that just over half of students aged 13 had consumed alcohol in the year preceding the survey, as had 89% of 17 year olds: 75% of those 17 year olds who had drunk that year had consumed it in the past month. The Australian National Council of Drugs recently reported that in any given week approximately 10% of 12-17 year olds (and one in five 17 year olds) reported binge drinking at harmful levels. That Council went on to indicate “that drug and alcohol use by young people has become normalised and is often seen as a rite of passage to adulthood. It is clear from the report that parents have an important role in influencing what happens to their children. Adolescents are less likely to drink and engage in binge drinking if parents actively disapprove and hence parental monitoring is a most effective strategy to minimising the risk of adolescents ending up drinking at risky levels once they start to experiment”.

I suppose we can all help by talking to our children about it, discussing where they are going and what they’re doing, and approving or disapproving of certain activities. Would we want our child getting into a car that was being driven by somebody who was intoxicated? Or would we want to go and pick them up, for instance? What should we do if we know our child is drinking to excess? Assess more carefully the next outing perhaps? What sort of checks, what sort of guidelines do we have in place for attendance at parties? Information about all of these matters is available on many websites, including www.youthsafe.org (and search for Safe Celebrating).

Character

In the opening Assembly of the term I mentioned that many of the boys were involved with various Anzac Day services. The School was represented, of course, by the Marching Band in Sydney and six or so boys went to Canberra to be part of the Dawn Service. I speculated that there would have been a number, probably with parents or friends, who had attended other Anzac Day services and who probably had a very close connection with somebody who had given service for their country. Hugh Mackay, who was a guest of honour at Speech Day a number of years ago, wrote an article in The Age on 26 April 2008 about the unsung heroes in Australia and he talked about how a nation’s character is not defined by its leaders, its celebrities, its stars or its official heroes. “It’s defined by those who are prepared to get on with their lives, destined to be lived out of the spotlight, who stick to the often tedious tasks they’ve taken on and who accept the possibilities that go with being ordinary”.

During the holidays I read a book by Nicholas Basbanes called Every Book Its Reader. At one point it tells the story of Dr Robert Coles, a Harvard University psychiatrist and Pulitzer Prize-winning author of sixty books, who became fascinated about the character of people and organisations.

Coles formed his views about character from the inspirational stories and novels passed on to him by his parents when he was a boy growing up in Boston in north-eastern America in the 1930s and 40s. He said that “That entire fascination I have for character flows from my mother’s deep interest in spiritual matters and from the lessons that she gave my brother Bill and myself about behaviour, and the idea that good is so important. In fact, she often told the two of us, quoting from Emerson, that character is higher than intellect. For years I quoted that line in my lectures, that character is higher than intellect; to tell a group of Harvard students that character is higher than intellect, I think, is a big statement to make.”

Coles’s working definition of the word came from his father. “Dad said character is how you behave when no one is looking. What he meant is that it’s a rock-bottom way of behaving that you either know or ought to know.”

In Assembly I went on to ask the students what we asked of their character and I said the things that parents say all the time, but perhaps you might care to repeat to them: “that the School and the community looks to you to be well-behaved, to respect others, to apply yourself to your work and co-curricula pursuits, and to represent the School, your House, your family and yourself, well.”
a few examples (and they’re not too hard to guess what they might have been about) I tried to suggest that lack of care about minor or simple things can lead to a malaise about big picture stuff. I exhorted everyone to try to get the little things right, too, and to try to make the School better at the end of term than it is now. I remind everyone, for instance, that uniform for boys in the Senior School in Terms 2 and 3 is Full School Uniform to and from School (other than if a boy is travelling by car both ways to and from the home and the turning circle only, when the coat isn’t required). Any help you can give in this regard would be appreciated, of course.

**Congratulations**

For their performance at the Diploma Concert held in the Recital Room on Friday 2 May 2008, congratulations to Roger Kong on the piano and Matthew Chua on the violin. Matthew was accompanied by Mrs Christine Dean. Amongst other composers, Roger played pieces by Bach, Beethoven, Chopin, Rachmaninov, and Liszt. Matthew played Vivaldi, Beethoven, Smetana and Suk.

Peter Rainey

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**A Take on Leadership**

St Paul in first Corinthians 4 clearly encourages the community to model their lives by this example.

1. Not to understand the privilege of leadership as an opportunity for boasting to create social status or reputation.

2. Not to protect that reputation by using the legal system as a way of dealing with people of lesser means. It would appear that the legal system in Rome in the first century was heavily in favour of the powerful and wealthy (has anything changed?).

3. Not to rely on reputation carved out of oratorical prowess nor the patronage of others, which only has the effect of puffing up the leader at the expense of the less gifted.

4. To be morally beyond reproach and to respect in every way people who are influenced by leadership.

These are universal good and right principles for effective leaders in any age. The question of right behaviour and the powerful towards the powerless are timeless issues. St Paul goes to the very foundation of how people should authentically relate to each other in a community (summary from G.M. Bell, PhD Thesis, p.229, 2001)

Grant Bell
SUBMISSION OF ARTICLES

Please note that all submissions must be forwarded to Susan MacDonald by 4.00 pm on the Tuesday preceding the publication date. (For reference – please see the following publication schedule.) Suitable items with minimal formatting and of no more than half an A4 page should be emailed to srm@kings.edu.au. Please note that this includes Membership forms, Dinner invitations and the like. Please make note of the following:

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Susan MacDonald
9683 8467
0412 522 028

Transport Matters
School bus services have been extended for 2008. Transport and General Duties Master, Mr Max Yates (9683 8411 mgy@kings.edu.au) and his faithful drivers (John - Mosman, Abraham - Hunters Hill/Balmain and Steven - Hunters Hill - morning) have ensured that the difficult start up phase has been successful. ShoreLink continues to bring full bus loads from Gordon station.

Drivers Required
The School will be advertising for back-up drivers for both mini-buses (requiring a light rigid licence) and van (private vehicle licence) in the next few weeks. These positions would ideally suit qualified retired or semi-retired people who may be interested in some morning and/or afternoon work.

There is a particular requirement for drivers to transport a few boys involved in elite level sports coaching at the tennis and aquatic centres to and from the Olympic precinct at Homebush at various hours. Please contact Max Yates on the phone/email above if you are aware of any contact who may be interested in assisting with these positions.

Bruce Hilliard

Year 12 Formal

The Year 12 Formal has been booked at Miramare Gardens, Terrey Hills for the night of Saturday 27 September 2008.

Miramare Gardens looks to be a superb venue for the event and promises to be a great night for the boys.

Full details will follow at a later date but mark your calendars now and if you have any queries in the meantime, please contact:
Pamela Davis – phdavis@bigpond.net.au
ACTING DEPUTY HEADMASTER

A Plea from and for Staff
One of the great joys of teaching at The King’s School is the high level of support our staff receive from parents. One of the great concerns is when this support appears to wane for whatever reason. At a recent Housemasters’ meeting some concern was expressed that there was a risk of our excellent parent/teacher partnerships breaking down in some areas. I reiterate that the concerns do not apply to most parents reading this article.

In seeking clarification from staff as to the reasons for their concerns, some examples were offered.

Whilst accepting that we all make mistakes and that we invite open communication with parents, it was felt that in some instances the professional integrity of staff was questioned in an unfair and non-constructive manner. Examples included:

- Selection of sporting teams, particularly at the higher levels
- Selection of students for scholars’ classes and other class placements
- Selection of boys for the exchange program
- Academic prize winners
- Determination of discipline policy and sanctions such as suspension and detentions.

We encourage and respect the right of parents to support their sons. To seek clarification where apparent injustices occur is absolutely proper. But to assume that parents are better judges of team composition, class placement, prize winners or appropriate punishments, has the danger of undermining the professional integrity of staff and of making it more difficult for boys to accept the decisions of staff.

There is a strong body of research which suggests that ‘mixed messages’ are enemies to a boys’ social and emotional development. Parents know their boys extremely well, but in many cases they are not in the possession of as many of the relative merits of other boys, to be the best selectors.

My plea to all parents is to continue to give the outstanding support which they have given over many years. My plea to some parents is to reflect on being openly critical of staff decisions. A good rule of thumb is to ask who has the most information about the cohort from which selections must be made. Not always, but in most cases that will be the professionals who are empowered with making those decisions.

Rob Chandler

Anzac Day
A few King’s students played a special role in the recent Anzac Day March in Sydney. James Danos, Andrew Ford, Alex Last, Kristian Quinan (Year 12), Jackson Gray (Year 11) and Dougal Ford (Year 10) formed a group to add to those representing the descendants of WWI participants. The boys did themselves and their School proud, as the following comments attest:

Whilst waiting at the forming up point in the city, the group was approached by Philip Gibson (TKS 1940-45). Mr Gibson was a boarder in Forrest House and was introduced to Andrew Ford. Mr Gibson was most impressed by those representing his old School!

Another elderly gentleman, Walter Bull, approached the group whilst waiting for the March to commence. He was impressed with the presentation of the boys and gave them a small amount of money to share on treats after the March!

After the March, a female participant asked the boys which School they came from, thanked them for looking so smart in their uniform and for joining with her and the other descendants on this special day.

The School is very proud of the boys’ participation on such a memorable occasion.

Women’s Dinner
The 2008 Annual Women’s Dinner will be held on Tuesday 19 August 2008.

Guest speaker will be award winning author Celia Lashlie, He Will Be OK ... How to Turn Gorgeous Boys into Great Men.
So Many Tough Questions
One of the all time classic commercials is when a boy and his father are driving together and the boy asks his Dad “why did they build the Great Wall of China?” Children expect their parents to know everything, so not to disappoint the young lad the Dad makes up a story how it was built by Emperor Nasi Goring to keep out the rabbits. The scene ends with the young child about to share this (dis)information with his classmates and in front of his teacher.

Children ask so many wonderful questions. Some we can answer but for others we have no idea! We don’t want to share our ignorance with our children but sometimes coming up with what we believe to be the correct answer is difficult.

Many parents share their exasperation with me because their children keep asking questions about God, death and Jesus. (Some parents feel the opposite and are astounded by what their children are learning at School about the Christian Faith.) While it is impossible to know everything about God, as he is far greater than we can ever understand, we are still able to know something about him because Christians believe he has graciously revealed himself to us.

Would you like an opportunity to chat about some of the questions you have about the Christian Faith? Would you like to experience some of learning that your son is enjoying? Then the Alpha Course is for you. If you do not live close to the School you may want to check with your local Church what options there are for you. But if you are close by then you should come along. Details follow.

Alpha Introduction Night
Thursday: 15 May, 7-9pm
Thomas Memorial Pavilion
Alpha provides an opportunity to ask questions about life and explore the Christian faith in a relaxed setting. The “Introduction Night” will give you an idea of how the program will run. The evening will involve dinner at no cost.

Contact Stephen Edwards (chaplain@kings.edu.au or 9683 8414) for further details or to RSVP.

Confirmation Preparation for Years 9-12 Day Boys and Families
Confirmation provides an opportunity to publicly declare your faith. Church@Kings is preparing people for Confirmation with our Service being held on 10 August 2008 at 9.30am in the Chapel. Anyone form the King’s Community (including staff, parents, brothers and sisters, old boys and their families) from Year 9 and above are welcome to join us if they wish to be confirmed.

Contact Stephen Edwards for more information.

Note: The Boarders Confirmation program begins in Term 3.

Stephen Edwards  chaplain@kings.edu.au

Church@Kings
a Church for the King’s Community meeting each Sunday (during term)

11 May 2008
9.30am Auditorium (CLL)
Mother’s Day Service

18 May 2008
9.30am Auditorium (CLL)
Guest Speaker: Rev Marty Telfer
(Tara Anglican School for Girls’ Chaplain)

25 May 2008 –Super Sunday
8.00am
Traditional Communion Service with the Choir in the Chapel
9.30am
Auditorium (CLL)
Seminar Speaker - Mrs Jan Donohoo
(The Children’s Hospital at Westmead Chaplain)

Parents Prayer Group
Thursday, 22 May 2008, 7.30pm, Chaplain’s Cottage

King’s/Tara Christian Camp
6-8 June 2008, Blue Gum Lodge, Springwood. Application forms available from the Chaplain’s Office.

Final Call
The School is planning a trip to Uganda to help build a house for the Watoto Children’s Ministry from 6-19 December 2008 for students in Years 11-12. Plans are being finalised this term and students wanting further information need to contact Rev Edwards during the next few weeks to avoid disappointment.

Stephen Edwards
Stay Focused

I was reading a book over one weekend and realized that I couldn’t remember much of what I had been reading! The problem? I wasn't concentrating. My mind was wandering, more concerned with other pressing issues than what I was reading. My eyes saw the printed words, but I didn't comprehend or retain very much. I just wasn't concentrating.

Do you or your son have trouble concentrating? With the start of this new term, students will be expected to remember what they've learned in class or studied. With assessments and tests on the way, then he is certainly going to need to concentrate. But how can we improve concentration? Or, better yet, how can we help our students concentrate and have their best school year ever? Here are a few techniques and suggestions that may help you, as well as your son...

Do one thing at a time

Most people do not multitask that well. Give me more than one item to think about, and I usually struggle to remember what I was doing before. In other words, take on one task at a time. Perhaps if I had limited myself to only one chapter of my book, I would have read it, rather than reading many pages, not retaining much information.

Slow down

When you notice your son rushing through his homework, show him he needs to take more time with his Maths problems, checking and rechecking his work, before he delves into his other assignments. On the other hand, sometimes it is good to switch gears. If he has spent hours studying for History, suggest he switch over to his Maths assignment. Maybe after doing something different, his brain will be more ready to memorize those historical facts!

Realise when your mind is wandering and stop it

Do you ever think about what you're thinking? Too often we let our mind run loose without even realizing what's going on. If your wandering mind has busted through your immediate task, then get out your "rope" and lasso your thoughts back to where they should be.

Write down main ideas

Encourage your son to take notes. This valuable study habit has proven beneficial to me for many years. When I take the time to record what I'm reading, it reinforces new facts, helping me to concentrate.

Apply what you learn

In addition to just learning facts, show your son how he can relate what he has learned. For example, rather than just learning the formula for finding the area of a triangle, have him measure something in his room that has a triangular shape. This will make Maths more realistic and applicable to him.

Take breaks

Just as a vacation re-energises everyone, so a 'mini-vacation' from your son’s studies recharges him to complete his homework.

Give rewards

After your son has completed all his homework, reward them with some free time or a favourite treat. Just having an incentive to look forward to, helps him get through his homework.

These are just a few pointers in helping students improve their concentration. As their concentration improves, so will their grades. And, as an added bonus, they may apply these techniques to everything else in life that requires concentration. One can always hope!

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN)

Years 7 and 9

All Year 7 and 9 students will be sitting these tests in Week 3 of Term 2 from Tuesday to Thursday, 13-15 May. Friday May 16 is a ‘catch up’ day for students who have missed one or more of the tests.

Readak

It is not too late to register for the Readak Advanced Study Skills Course. The course runs for 3 weeks and starts next week. Classes will cover strategies like predicting test questions from notes, improving reading speed and comprehension, eliminating subconscious distractive behaviours, improving memory, structuring essays, and preparing for tests. The teacher, Miss Berman, is now on campus and is available to answer any questions. Please contact her at SIB@kings.edu.au or call 0406 966 142.

Clive Logan
DIRECTOR OF BOARDING

What a Story!
Sam Bailey was a boarder at the Armidale School. He was tall, strong and athletic and had an exciting future ahead of him. After he left school, like many country kids, he went jackarooing. Unfortunately, he was involved in a major car accident that left him a paraplegic. It seemed that his life dream of returning to farming, marrying and raising a family was in tatters.

Sam and his wife, Jenny, were guest speakers at Assembly this week. They shared their story with the School in a way that resonated with staff and boys alike. Sam would say that he is just an ordinary bloke, but the way that he has refocused his goals in the face of profound difficulties and has overcome so many challenges with such resilience and good humour, is an inspiration to all who hear him. Not only is he a farmer with a family, he is working towards being the first Australian paraplegic to gain his helicopter pilot’s licence. No wonder he is in such demand as a motivational speaker and was featured on an episode of the ABC’s Australian Story. Ask your son what he thought of Sam Bailey’s story.

Boarder Parents’ Roundup
An informal social function for boarder parents is to be held in the Thomas Pavilion tonight, Friday May 9 at 7.00 p.m. It’s a good opportunity for boarder parents to meet other boarder parents and boarding staff. As it was the night before the GPS Athletics Carnival at Homebush, many boarder parents had planned to visit the School that weekend. In addition, Year 8 parents were able to attend straight after the Year 8 Parent Teacher Interview Afternoon. Unfortunately, the group email invitation that was sent during the holidays did not transmit for technical reasons, so many parents only heard about the Roundup at very short notice. We will do better next time. Many thanks to Bronwyn Taylor for her assistance in organising this event. Please note: another Roundup will be held at the School on 23 August. Details will follow.

Boarding Staffing
Mr Keith Bell, Housemaster of Forrest House was taken ill with a rare form of creeping paralysis and hospitalised at the start of the term. He is making excellent progress and we are hopeful that he will make a full recovery and will return in the near future. In the interim, his boarding duties are being covered by Mr. George Lyall and members of the Executive. As previously advised, Mr Peter Wearne is on Long Service Leave this term. Mr Scott Hoppitt is Acting Housemaster of Bishop Barker House in his absence. Mr Andrew Willcocks has moved into the newly renovated Bishop Barker Pottery Flat as residential assistant in Bishop Barker.

NSW Boarding School Expos – Orange and Canberra
As part of the annual marketing of boarding, The King’s School will be represented at both of these expos this term. The dates are as follows:
Orange – Friday 16 and Saturday 17 May
Canberra – Friday 13 and Saturday 14 June
Current, former and prospective King’s families are encouraged to call in at the King’s booth if they are in the area.

Malcolm Powys

Passing Out Parade Luncheon for Year 12 Cadets and their Families
27 June 2008
Thomas Memorial Pavilion

This year the Passing Out Parade will be held on the Doyle Fields. Immediately following the Passing Out Parade formalities it is the pleasure of The King’s School Parents’ Auxiliary to host the graduating Year 12 Cadets and their families to a luncheon in the Thomas Memorial Pavilion. Year 11 members of the TKS Cadet Corp and their families will be assisting the TKSPA on this occasion.

Soup, sandwiches, tea, coffee and cake will be offered.

The Passing Out Parade commences at 10.45am and Luncheon will be served at its conclusion. We wish to congratulate your sons on their graduation from the TKS Cadet Corps and look forward to welcoming you at lunch.

RSVP 17 June 2008
Susan Quartermaine squartermaine@hotmail.com or
25 Glenview Street, Gordon 2072

Name of Cadet ..............................................................
Accompanying persons .................................................
Contact phone number ..................................................

Enquiries to Carole Pooley: (W) 9324 2825
In my more egotistical moments I yearn for everyone else in the world to be carbon copies of me! Wouldn’t life be so much simpler if everyone adopted my attitudes and actions in life? There would be no need for disagreements. There would be no misunderstandings. Concord, comfort and congeniality would abound. Yes, and possibly catastrophe! Not only would there be an unacceptably high demand for Laphroaig and Hill of Grace, but I suspect I’d come to grief in other ways. Immersed in a world of ‘yes men’, there would be nobody to test my viewpoints. My strategies would automatically receive ringing endorsement – but unfortunately this would not spare me the embarrassment of a goodly proportion of them turning pear-shaped.

The reality is that we need others. I sometimes feel frustrated with my wife, Diana. Why can’t she see things my way? Can’t she understand that, by definition, my game plan is superb … a masterstroke of intuitive planning? What? You want details? You want to think through the practical implications of my inspired thinking? You’re not convinced it will work in practice? How dare you! Then, in the aftermath … ah … yes … well, I think you probably had a point!

That’s one reason teams tend to work more effectively than dictatorships. Teams can brainstorm the complications of a plan and nut out some practical solutions. Teams can tap into the strengths of various individuals and offset their weaknesses. True teamwork should have averted the Challenger space shuttle disaster – but some dictatorial attitudes overruled the legitimate concerns that were raised.

My management style is to harness the power of team … because I am all too aware of my frailties and inadequacies. Were I perfect, perhaps I could go it alone! Mind you, even God chooses to work in partnership with people – not because he needs to, but because he values the connections and relationships that emerge. Dictatorship can be very lonely.

To what extent do we value others here at King’s? The Primary Years Programme (PYP), currently being rolled out in the Prep School, emphasises the power of teamwork. It celebrates empathy, tolerance and acceptance. This doesn’t mean that the individual surrenders his own views and perspectives – merely that he allows them to be shaped through interaction with others.

Opportunities abound at King’s for rubbing up against others’ ideas: such as teams (in the classroom and on the playing field), LOTE, diversity of cultural backgrounds, overseas tours to explore other cultures.

Let us treasure diversity! Let us delight in difference! Let’s not succumb to defensiveness!

“Attitude is a little thing that makes a big difference.” Sir Winston Churchill

“There is little difference in people, but that little difference makes a big difference. The little difference is attitude. The big difference is whether it is positive or negative.” W. Clement Stone

Keith Dalleywater

Free Graduated Licensing Scheme Workshops for Parents of Learner Drivers

Young drivers are three times more likely to be involved in casualty crashes. That’s why the RTA has introduced a new licensing scheme, with more supervised driving practice for learner drivers.

To help parents to supervise learner drivers, the RTA has set up a FREE 2 hour workshop for parents offering practical advice on how to help learner drivers become safer drivers.

A FREE RTA parents’ workshop will be conducted by David Riches on Thursday 5 June at the Dundas Sports Club (Elder Road, Dundas) from 6.00 pm – 8.00 pm.

Early bookings are essential, so phone 0438 215323 now to reserve your place, or email parentworkshop@optusnet.com.au

Assistance Required

The School is keen to hear from parents who might be willing to record our Year 7 and 8 set English novels on tape to assist some of our international and less able students grasp a better understanding of their texts.

If you are able to assist, please contact Mrs Babs Helleman, Head of English, on 0413 517 229 or email her at bfh@kings.edu.au. The boys would be most grateful!
CENTRE FOR LEARNING & LEADERSHIP

Willie Wonka’s assertion that we have ‘So much time, and so little to do’ certainly will not reflect this term for our boys.

It would be more prudent to describe the second term as ‘So much to do! So little time!’ but hopefully by the end of the term we won’t be hearing them reciting Cecil Rhodes’ famous quip. ‘So little done, so much to do’.

The Centre for Learning and Leadership is indeed a Centre for Learning. We are continually adding more and more great books for the boys to use to help them with their curious investigations or indeed their wider reading needs.

So let’s start the term with reading motivation – a reminder that we can all help to encourage not only competency in reading all types of information and literature but reading for the sheer love of it.

A few tips for motivating boys to read are shared here (www.preteenagertoday.com/articles/development/motivating-boys-1068/)

Tip 1
Encourage boys to read aloud.

Tip 2
Take field trips to the bookstore... give your son a chance to select what he wants.

Tip 3
Keep books in the car or tucked in backpacks.

Tip 4
Encourage the reading of a series.

Tip 5
Connect reading with their favourite activities.

Tip 6
Location, location, location. Encourage boys to read where they are comfortable.

Tip 7
Give a gift certificate to the local bookstore.

Tip 8
Let him read in bed if he wants to. Reading before bed could turn into a lifelong habit.

Tip 9
Let him know that lying on the bed reading a book is not a waste of time.

Tip 10
Show your son you value reading – do it!

Linda Langford

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Year 11 and 12 in Concert
Next Tuesday, at 7.30 pm in the Recital Room, students from the Year 11 and 12 elective music class will perform. The programme these advanced musicians will present is varied and should delight many diverse tastes. All are welcome and there is no admission.

Marching Band on ANZAC Day
Forty musicians met for a three day camp over the holidays to prepare for the ANZAC Day march in the city. Under the guidance of Head of Bands, Mr Dan Williams, and assisted by Old Boy, Alex MacInnes, the boys practiced their marching drill on the School streets, even through wet weather. The parade in the city was well received and good coverage was shown on ABC television.

Guild of Church Musicians
The Annual Festival Service for this group was held this year at the Chapel of the Garden Island Naval Dockyard. Six King’s students made up a small orchestra to accompany the service which commemorated the 120th anniversary of the Guild’s work in promoting quality music in the liturgy.

ANATS Conference
The first weekend back in term saw a two day conference at the Music School for the Australian National Association of Teachers of Singing (NSW). During the conference, the Senior Choir took part in an exciting workshop led by guest clinician Sonny Chua from Melbourne. The choir learnt some new skills to accompany their singing of Mr Chua’s arrangement of the well-known Carol King song, I Feel the Earth Move, when he taught the boys the dance movement which was a lot of fun and added to the music’s impact.

St Patrick’s Cathedral, Parramatta
A splendid night of superb music is assured on Thursday, 26 June when the Senior Choir and Schola Cantorum join with the girls from MLC School, Burwood in a night of choral music. The combined work is Benjamin Britten’s Rejoice in the Lamb, which, in the acoustics of this wonderful cathedral, will be a memorable highlight for the year. More details will follow leading up to 26 June.

Barry Walmsley
DIRECTOR OF SPORT

We look forward to watching the athletes compete in the AAGPS carnival on Saturday. There are sure to be many outstanding performances by our own athletes and some from other Schools as well. This is one of the spectacular days on the School calendar. The display of School pride and the response by those competing makes it a very special experience.

We are well into pre season training for the winter sports season. Most boys are in the process of being placed in teams and this process leads to the first trial game against Knox, at home on 17 May. Coaches have conducted many skills and drills sessions at all levels in order to look at the development of players with the endeavour to place them at the most appropriate level. There will be many changes in the early weeks as teams sort themselves out.

With the White Oval being unavailable at this stage, all Rugby fixtures will be played on Doyle grounds. Doyle 4 (near the canteen) has been developed into the main oval and all senior games will be played there. This will be a difficult time for spectators as there are limited areas for seating and in reality, most would expect to stand. We will need cooperation from spectators to respect the task of the referees, touch judges and, indeed the players, and in so doing, stay behind the markings and barriers during matches.

In accordance with usual practice, the roads beyond Broughton Corner and over at Massie field will be blocked off. I would ask that we all understand that this is because there is limited parking around Doyle and the roads become hopelessly clogged with the volume of traffic that we get on these days. It is important that swift vehicular access is available around and between all fields in the event of an injury to any boy. Could I ask that we are all prepared to leave home a couple of minutes earlier than necessary, to enable parking on the grass above the White Oval and a leisurely walk to Doyle.

If there are any issues with regard to elderly folk or indeed any folk who need special consideration for a one off “pass”, then please contact me to make the necessary arrangements.

Entry and access to the Football (Massie, Old Boys’ and Wanderers) must be via Masons Drive and through the Tara car park.

A gentle reminder to all please, to keep things in perspective both in relation to the placement of boys in teams and the general attitude whilst watching games. There has been plenty written of late referring to parental support at junior games – particularly in relation to all codes of football. We should be bound by the guidelines given in the document A Code of Behaviour in Sport, as produced by the AAGPS. It is printed on page 178 of the School Diary and also appears in this edition of the King’s Herald.

Could I ask for recognition that it is not acceptable for parents to raise issues or complaints directly with staff from other schools. The accepted practice, if you feel that there is an issue of concern in any matter in relation to sport is to contact me with the details and I will deal with the matter through the appropriate channels. I am confident that there is an overwhelming desire by all staff from all Schools to provide a safe and fair environment for all of our sportsmen. Mistakes may be made, however, in my experience, very few of these are intentional. Perspective again!

Let’s look forward to an enjoyable and productive season of winter sport.

Peter Phipps

SWIMMING

Last Tuesday eight boys represented the combined GPS team to compete in the CIS Championships at Homebush. Competition was very tough with the very best of our schools’ swimmers competing on the day, vying for selection for the NSW All Schools Championships and possible selection into the Pacific School Games.

King’s was represented by Kristian Quinan, Andrew Ford, Heath Dowling, Kevin Kim, Dennis Kim, Will Sacilotto, Nathan Watson and John Murphy. All boys swam with conviction and tenacity and the final results were pleasing. Nathan Watson broke a School record in the 13 Years 50m Breaststroke and narrowly missed out on a podium place. Heath Dowling received a bronze medal in the 17 Years 50m Breaststroke, breaking the School record yet again this season and Kevin Kim who had a very busy programme that day, won a silver medal in the 18 Years 50m Breaststroke and a bronze medal in the Open 100m Freestyle.

Congratulations to all swimmers. It was a fitting way to end a very exciting and successful season.

Linden Neale
Master in Charge
GPS Code of Behaviour in Sport
(Revised in 1995 by the Headmasters of the GPS Schools of NSW)

The GPS Headmasters have produced the following guidelines to assist teachers, coaches, boys and parents. Games in our schools are an important part of a fully balanced education for our students. The Heads are concerned to preserve sound educational and social practices in the many inter-school games that are played and ask for the cooperation of school communities to ensure that these aims are realised.

The trend towards professionalism in school sport is to be viewed with caution. Where such an approach involves sound coaching techniques and is aimed at producing a satisfying and improved level of performance, this approach can be beneficial. However, care should be taken to exclude from our schools practices which place the pursuit of victory above those aspects of sport concerned with enjoyment, balanced development and good sportsmanship.

In other words, the spirit of the amateur - in its best sense - should remain the ideal which guides these aspects of school sports.

More specifically, the following points are made:

**A. PLAYERS**
1. Play may be hard and vigorous, but deliberate violence should never be used towards opponents.
2. Verbal provocation or vilification of any sort is unacceptable.
3. Players should not react with violence to any physical or verbal provocation.
4. Use of bad language, where directed at an umpire/referee, another player or oneself, is unacceptable.
5. Players should never argue with an umpire/referee (whether boy or adult) or contest a decision. Any negative response towards an umpire's ruling is unacceptable. (A Captain - only - may ask a referee to clarify a ruling in the event of uncertainty.)
6. Immodest behaviour in victory or success, and manifestation of self-disgust at an error or failure are poor sportsmanship. Gracious conduct, whatever the result of a game, is important.
7. Unfair or illegal tactics to gain an advantage should never be used.
8. Excessive or inappropriate talk should not be used on the field of play.

Players are encouraged to play in a positive and sportsmanlike manner and to extend every courtesy to the opposing team. This should include pre-match courtesies, recognition of good play on the part of the opposition and extending thanks to the umpire/referee and to the opposition after the match.

**B. COACHES**
1. All coaches (and particularly those who are not on the teaching staff) should ensure that they are fully aware of the expectations and practices of the school in which they are coaching. Coaches should remember that school sport plays an important role in a boy's education and is for the benefit of boys rather than adults.
2. Coaches should teach sound sportsmanship along with games skills; chivalrous conduct is an important element of school sport.
3. Coaches are asked to bear in mind that even senior school students need guidance; make clear the school's expectations regarding courtesies, punctuality, behaviour and dress.
4. Leadership and responsibility on the part of the captain should be encouraged. Coaches should refrain from running every detail or interjecting from the sidelines. (It is acknowledged that traditions and practices differ between, say, basketball on the one hand and, on the other, cricket and rugby.)
5. Coaches should not engage in excessive and ritual "psyching up" of a team.
6. If a match is lost, coaches should avoid giving the impression always that it could have been won if the team had played with more determination. (The opposition is sometimes just too skilful!) Similarly, coaches should avoid stating or giving the impression to players that bad refereeing decisions cost them the game.
7. Coaches should avoid any hint of criticising the umpiring or refereeing of a match - particularly in front of boys or parents.
8. A coach's aim should be always to coach in such a way that boys are able to learn for themselves.
9. Coaches are encouraged to establish and regularly to renew cordial relations with the coaches of opposing teams.
C. SPECTATORS
1. Parents are asked to make their presence and support as positive as possible.
2. If your school is host, parents are asked to assume some responsibility for making visiting parents feel at home.
3. When visiting another school, the host school's premises and rules - in matters of parking, tidiness, etc. - should be respected. Adults are asked to note that, with the exception of family picnics in some circumstances, alcohol should not be consumed at GPS matches. If in doubt about such matters, visiting parents should check with an official of the host school.
4. Parents should never seek, during or immediately after a match, to give advice to coaches, umpires/referees or to players.
5. Barracking may be enthusiastic, should be positive rather than negative, avoiding excessive attention to the individual - even to praise him. A good example should be set by applauding skilful performance and play regardless of school.
6. Parents can assist their son's fuller education by being sensible about the number and length of his sporting commitments. While these are regulated within the school context, parents should see that other, outside sporting involvement does not interfere unduly with academic study, religious activities, cultural and social life, as well as time spent with the family.

D. SCHOOLS
1. Heads of schools, through their Sportsmasters and Masters in charge of sports, will foster sound attitudes towards sport in players, coaches and spectators.
2. Host schools will ensure that First Aid equipment, toilets, change rooms, refreshments, etc., are provided for visiting teams.
3. Visiting teams should be met courteously and shown the facilities they will use.
4. Forfeiting matches is to be avoided wherever possible. Early notification is an important courtesy in the event of inability to field a team.
5. Schools are to regard themselves as responsible for the conduct of their supporters, whether parents, boys or Old Boys.

The King's School Football Club presents
The Australian Juniors Football Sevens Tournament
Sunday 1 June 2008
Register a team now
7 players per side (must be attending school)
7 minutes in each way on a full field round robin competition
modified FIFA rules
trophies and prizes presented to the winner and runner up in each division
Special Guests
Parking, Barbecue, Food and Beverages Available
Change Room and toilet facilities available throughout the day.
Don't miss a wonderful day of fun and Football.
David Nuberg 0418 767 966
Jocelyn Bruce 9871 7371
www.kings.edu.au/community/football
ATHLETICS

The final week of Term 1 saw the running of the 2008 School Athletics Carnival. For the second year in a row the “Athletics Gods” gave us a beautiful day over on the Massie Field. There were many impressive individual performances, which is timely, given the AAGPS Championships are almost upon us!

Congratulations to Britten House who were crowned winners, closely followed by Baker and Bishop Barker Houses. It was a terrific day of competition!

Some results from the day follow:

School Records broken (old Record in brackets)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>New Record</th>
<th>Old Record</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jack Stapleton</td>
<td>U13</td>
<td>800m</td>
<td>2:17.8</td>
<td>2:18.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joshua Clark</td>
<td>U13</td>
<td>LJ</td>
<td>5.51m</td>
<td>5.16m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lugad Omido</td>
<td>U13</td>
<td>SP</td>
<td>13.96m</td>
<td>13.28m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jake Parkinson</td>
<td>U15</td>
<td>HJ</td>
<td>1.75m</td>
<td>1.74m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nick Hough</td>
<td>U15</td>
<td>200m</td>
<td>23.1</td>
<td>23.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Todd</td>
<td>U16</td>
<td>800m</td>
<td>2:02.94</td>
<td>2:03.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>U16</td>
<td>1500m</td>
<td>4:18.1</td>
<td>4:34.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nic Bills</td>
<td>U16</td>
<td>SP</td>
<td>17.28m</td>
<td>14.56m</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The AAGPS Athletics Championships are on tomorrow, Saturday 10 May. It is a fantastic day of competition and King’s athletes are always competitive across both the Senior and Junior divisions. A reminder that attendance is compulsory for all students and that they are to be dressed in their full no.1 uniform.

All parents of athletes are invited to sit together at the southern end of the stadium on the grassed area. For details contact Tamara Jeloudev on fjeloudevfamily@optusnet.com.au or 0418 630 018.

Ben Gavan
Master in Charge

RUGBY

The winter rugby season is about to commence with our first trial against Knox on Saturday 17 May at The King’s School.

This year we have 35 teams across the age groups, with rugby training having commence in the second last week of March for all players other than those involved with the athletic program.

The first stage of pre season has been purely focussed on a skills development program that has seen all boys from 13s to Opens participating in core skills development.

In this program all boys work on the same skill sets based around:
1. Catch and pass
2. Tackle technique
3. Contact at the breakdown

The boys were not divided into their previous year’s teams, as we were keen for all players to train together and have their individual skills reviewed. This is the first year at The King’s School where all the boys irrespective of age or ability have participated in the same program.

The results of this preseason program will hopefully been seen in the weeks to come. If the enthusiasm and commitment by the boys is an indication, then I’m sure the benefits of our skills development will be evident in our up and coming fixtures.

The trial fixtures will see us playing against the CAS schools of Knox, Waverley and Barker, before our last trial against our traditional rivals, St Ignatius’ College.

The GPS season commences on Saturday 21 June and we play against Grammar at King’s.

I would like to wish all the boys every success in the up and coming season and remind them that performances will be reviewed weekly by the coaches, with boys being moved up and down the teams accordingly.

Stephen James
Master in Charge

Rugby Club Luncheon

Just a reminder that the annual Rugby Club luncheon is on Friday 16 May, at the Four Seasons Hotel in the City. Last year’s lunch was a fantastic event, so don’t miss out on the opportunity of another quality day, with guest speakers being former King’s old boy and Wallaby, Ross Reynolds and the ARU CEO, John O’Neill.

The rugby club provides tremendous support to King’s School rugby and your attendance at this luncheon won’t only see you have a terrific afternoon, but will help support our rugby program for the 2008 Season.

For information on the luncheon, please visit the rugby club event website at http://www.seminars.net/GO/kickofflunch08/ or contact Peter Lawson on 0418 265 399.
EQUESTRIAN

Mitavite Interschools NSW Equestrian Championships, Sydney International Equestrian Centre - April 22-25 2008

Wet weather prevailed for the duration of the competition making camping a nightmare, but The King’s School competitors did themselves proud!

Charlie Brister (Year 12) and Sam Cornwell (Year 9) were the only students to represent TKS at this year’s State Championships. With over 400 competitors, both boys had good success. Charlie was placed first in his Dressage as well as placing first in his year for the 1.20m equitation. He also placed second in two Show Jumping events on separate horses and fourth in the 1.1m AM7.

Sam, who only acquired his new horse ten days before this competition, was first in Introductory One Day Event over all years and also won first place for the best Year 9 Eventer. Sam also achieved two thirds and a fifth in Show Jumping. As a result of this both boys have qualified for the Interschools Nationals to be held in Toowoomba Qld, in October. Congratulations to them!

The Equestrian team will be heading to Coonabarabran Interschools Expo at the end of May. Boys representing TKS will be: Charlie Brister (Year 12), Ted Hall (Year 10), Campbell Brister, Lachlan Green, Archie Bell, Sam Cornwell (Year 9), Nick White (Year 8), Hugh Marriott and James Green (Year 7).

Stephen Edwards

Year 10 Boys and their Families

Join us at the Doyle Hay Shed for a Year 10 get-together on Saturday 31 May after your game, between 12 noon and 3.00pm. BBQs will be available, so bring your own meat and/or picnic for an informal game of 7a side rugby, or 5 a side football. Canteen facilities may also be available.

This is a great opportunity to catch up after the holidays.

Stay after 3pm and see the 1st XV play at Home.

Year 2010 Committee
All enquiries to Bronwyn Slater on 9872 4616 or email bronwyns@bigpond.com

Year 11 Parents

The Year of 2009 Committee has been asked to organise the luncheon on Friday, 27 June 2008 for the Year 12 students who end their Cadet Corps commitment at the Passing Out Parade.

This is a tradition passed to Year 11 by The King’s School Parents’ Auxiliary and we ask if you would consider assisting our committee in some way.

We need volunteers to prepare one of the following:

- Plate of Sandwiches
- Soup (we will provide the recipe to you)
- Plate of Cake or Slice

If you are unable to spare actual time then you could still assist by offering a small donation to help cover the costs of the materials used to make the various items.

For further information please contact either:

Julie Gray jgray@hillstransport.com.au 0407 700 101, Work 02 9728 000

or

Jane Girling-Butler J.Butler@usyd.edu.au 0418 233 190, Home 02 9440 9580

This is a Year of 2009 project

Dalmas House Trivia Night
Saturday 14 June 2008 Trophy Room 7.00pm

Entry fee is $2.00 per head and tables are of ten. BYO food and drink and table decorations encouraged.

Lots of prizes and the chance to outsmart Year 12! A representative of your son’s Year group will be in contact.

All proceeds to Sunrise Children’s Orphanage in Cambodia.

RSVP to pjl@kings.edu.au
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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</table>
| Saturday 10 May | AAGPS Athletics, Homebush
5.00 pm  Athletics Dinner, Thomas Memorial Pavilion |
| Monday 12 May | Tennis Club AGM, Thomas Memorial Pavilion
7.30 pm  Cricket Club AGM, Centre for Learning & Leadership |
| Tuesday 13 May | Years 7 and 9 National Assessment for Literacy
9.30 am  Senior School Tour
8.30 pm  Senior Midweek Fellowship, Chaplain's Cottage |
| Wednesday 14 May | Years 7 and 9 National Assessment for Literacy
12.45 pm  Day Boy House Photos, Doyle Field
6.00 pm  Year 10 Dance with Loreto, Normanhurst
7.30 pm  Parents' Auxiliary Meeting, Governors' Room
7.30 pm  Art Show Committee, Prep Staff Centre |
| Thursday 15 May | Years 7 and 9 National Assessment for Literacy
7.30 pm  Scipionic Circle, Cartesian and Twelve Club Meetings |
| Friday 16 May | Year 9 Parent/Teacher Afternoon and Refreshments |
| Saturday 17 May | Rugby, Football v Knox (H)
10.00 am  Cross Country, Centennial Park |
| Sunday 18 May | Prep Fathers' Association Work Party
7.30 am  Prep Fathers' Association Work Party
8.00 pm  Evening Service – Baker, Waddy, Macarthur |
| Monday 19 May | Cadet Corps Ceremonial Training |
| Tuesday 20 May | Senior Midweek Fellowship, Chaplain's Cottage
8.30 pm  Years 7 and 8 English Excursion |
| Wednesday 21 May | Year 7 Midweek Fellowship, Gowan Brae
6.00 pm  Year 9 Dance with Loreto, Normanhurst
6.00 pm  Year 9 Dance with Loreto, Normanhurst |
| Thursday 22 May | Year 10 Visual Arts Excursion
Year 12 Music Excursion |
| Friday 23 May | Prep School Tour
11.00 am  Prep School Tour
Year 10 Visual Arts Excursion
Year 10 History Debating
ISDA Debating Semi Final I
NSW All Schools' Swimming Championship, Homebush |

Prepaid ride tickets can be ordered at a reduced cost of $25. Kids of all ages can experience hours of fun on favourites like dodgems, hurricane, challenge, giant slide and many more. Tickets can be purchased on the day in the form of armbands for unlimited rides for $30 per person, or single ride tickets at $5 each.

Contact Tara Senior School Reception by Friday 16 May 2008 on 9630 6655.
The Venetian Twins

a KINGS/TARA Production in THE KING'S THEATRE
Directed by PETER RAINNEY and MICHAEL TERZO
Adaptation and Lyrics by NICK ENRIGHT
Music by TERENCE CLARKE

An Australian two-act Musical Comedy adapted from the 1747 play by Carlo Goldoni of the same name, which was based on Plautus' Menaechmi.

Venetian Twins tells the story of two brothers - one wise, the other stupid - who happen to be in the same town – one to marry a girl he has never seen, the other to find his fiancée. A complex plot with countless misunderstandings.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Preview @ $15 per Adult and Student ticket (GST incl)</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Adult</th>
<th>Student</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 1 August 2008</td>
<td>8:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Performance @ $25 per Adult/$20 per Student ticket (GST incl)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 2 August 2008</td>
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<td>Sunday 3 August 2008</td>
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<td>Thursday 7 August 2008</td>
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<td>Friday 8 August 2008</td>
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<td>Saturday 9 August 2008</td>
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<td>Friday 15 August 2008</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 16 August 2008</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Please choose session times carefully as tickets will not be exchanged or refunded at the Door.

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New online ticketing system available
→ performance and seat selection
→ secure payment and confirmation
→ ticket issue

Go to http://www.kings.edu.au to and look for the icon above to purchase tickets online.

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For those Entities registered for GST and eligible to claim Input Tax Credits, this document becomes a Tax Invoice on payment.
The King's School ABN 24 461 364 452
Tara Anglican School for Girls ABN 38 512 104 678

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Booking Sheet
The King's School
The Theatre Booking Office
PO Box 1
Paramatta NSW 2124

Name: ____________________________________________________________
Student Name: ____________________________________________
Student No: _____________

Phone: _____________

House: __________________

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Tickets should be prebooked and payment made at time of booking. No payment for pre-booked tickets will be accepted at the door.

☐ A cheque for $_______________ is enclosed, payable to The King’s School.

☐ Please debit the cost to the School Fees account.

☐ Please debit MasterCard/Visa/Bankcard (4% surcharge will apply)

☐ Date of Birth __________________________

☐ I will collect the tickets from the Box Office on the night. Please note that tickets not collected ten minutes before the performance may be resold.

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Ticket Collection/Delivery Instructions

☐ Please send the tickets to my son’s House.

☐ Self addressed stamped envelope enclosed for return of tickets.

☐ I will collect the tickets from the Box Office on the night. Please note that tickets not collected ten minutes before the performance may be resold.