



KING'S MATHS SCHOOL

SUMMER TERM 2017

OFSTED SUCCESS

King's Maths School welcomed a team of Ofsted inspectors into the school in April. The inspectors spent three days observing lessons and meeting students, staff and governors. Gayle Saundry, Deputy Head, acted as nominee for the school, managing the process and debating the findings of the team with them. The inspectors graded the school as Outstanding in all areas and Outstanding overall. The report highlighted the inspiring culture of learning that encourages exemplary collaboration, the skilled teaching and the impressive learning behaviours of our wonderful students. The staff celebrated this well-deserved bouquet with drinks and nibbles at the House of Lords, hosted by Baroness Alison Wolf.

TOP OF THE TIMES TABLES

The 61 leavers of KCLMS' second cohort this summer celebrated results that eclipsed even those of the first cohort.

An incredible 59% of all entries were A* grades, with 89% A*-A grades and 99% A*-B grades. These proportions were enough to put KCLMS, according to The Times newspaper, as the top performing

school in the UK. Not just of state schools, then, but of every school in the country!

The leavers are an incredibly inspiring group of young adults. Every single university applicant gained a place at a Russell Group or Sutton Trust 30 university. Congratulations go to Alex, Ben, Bex, Cameron, Charles, Daniel, Felan, Misha, Oliver, Phoebe, Rui, Seb M, Seb T and Tom for securing their places at Oxford and Cambridge, an amazing 23% of the cohort. Warwick was a particularly popular destination, with seven students gaining places there, including Michelle, chair of the student council, who will read Mathematics and Philosophy. Gresham also secured a Warwick place, but with the school's full support has instead decided to take up an engineering scholarship at the Dyson Institute.

With over nine out of every ten grades in Mathematics at A*, it is no surprise that this subject is itself a popular choice for our leavers to take on to tertiary study. Over half of the cohort is going on to study maths (or maths and/with another subject), with everyone else going into engineering, computer science, physics or economics.

The value added is +1.1 grades per entry, suggesting that students are

attaining on average over a grade better at KCLMS than students with similar GCSE results attain in these subjects elsewhere.

7+ AND PHYSICS+

This year King's Maths School ran two completely new outreach activities, both targeted at students from groups that are less well represented in mathematics and physics at university level. 7+ ran for three days over the Easter break and was for 120 students about to sit their GCSE Mathematics who had been predicted a high grade but were keen to turn 7s into 8s and 8s into 9s. Physics+ ran for a full week in July and was for 100 students who had just sat their GCSEs and who were keen to progress to A Level Physics, in

GRADES AT A GLANCE

- 59% A*
- 89% A*-B
- 99% A*-B
- VALUE ADDED AT OVER ONE WHOLE GRADE PER ENTRY!



Above: Class of 2017 Leaver's Prom

many cases having only taken two Science GCSEs. Both of these new programmes were incredibly well received by the students, with every single participant rating their experience positively. Both were also fully funded by KCL's Widening Participation team and stood as part of their wider goal to improve attainment in schools.

CULTURE TRIP

Year 12 enjoyed a day of culture at some of London's most celebrated sights. A choice between either the Tate Modern or the The Bank of England museum for the morning offered students an opportunity to independently explore exhibitions. In the afternoon they visited the Planetarium and Astronomy Centre at the Royal Observatory Greenwich. Guided by an astronomer the planetarium show took the students on an awe inspiring journey through space. They also took the opportunity to ask some somewhat challenging questions during the Q&A.

END OF YEAR PRIZES

Before breaking up for summer, two subject prizes were awarded in every subject marking the end of year 12. The two prizes have different emphases:

Epistemic Award - derived from the Greek word for knowledge, the winners must have demonstrated excellent subject knowledge through outstanding levels of attainment throughout the year. Maths: Katherine Horton, John Harber. Physics: Natalie Pounanov. Computer Science: Stanley Dodds. Economics: Olive Bradshaw. Academic Literacy: Siana Zhekova.

Philomathean Award - a philomath is a lover of learning. this is an award for learning. The winner student must have consistently demonstrated their enthusiasm for learning through their participation in lessons, their commitment outside of lessons, and the progress they have demonstrated over the year. Maths: Vincent Kong, Abdul Hamied.

Physics: Michael Bradnick.
Computer Science: Jack Parsons.
Economics: Teddy Chankova.
Academic Literacy: Usman Ahmed.

YEAR 12 TAKE ON UCAS

Year 12 have been busy preparing to make their university applications in the Autumn term. They visited King's College London, Imperial College London, The University of Oxford, The University of Warwick, and The University of Nottingham during the summer term. This allowed them to experience the "feel" provided by different universities, from campuses to buildings in the centre of major cities. During the visits, they spoke to current students, heard talks from academics and admissions tutors and toured student accommodation. We have also been busy drafting personal statements and learning about how to make informed and successful choices for university options before making final choices in September.

WEEKLY MATHS CHALLENGE: MUSIC MIX-UP

At a wrestling competition, there are 4 competitors, and each competitor chooses a song to be played as they enter the arena. They all choose different songs because they don't want to be confused with any of the other competitors. Unfortunately, as they enter, the sound system just plays the songs in a random order, rather than matching the song to the competitor. What is the probability that none of the wrestlers have the correct song played for them?