KING'S NORTON BOYS' SCHOOL



July 2002

Dear Readers

As we come to the end of another school year, we say, "Farewell" to several members of staff.

Mr Nelson retires after 15 years at KNBS having helped many students to share his love of Physics and the outdoor life; his commitment to the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme and generous use of time to serve his pupils and colleagues will be very much missed. Mrs Henderson, Mr Kafai and Mrs Lavelle-Teague all leave us for promotion, while Ms Morris is joining Edgbaston Girls' High School and Mr Russell is leaving to pursue a further degree in Design. Miss Morgan, whose generous two-term involvement with the school culminated in a summer concert that delighted a packed house, also leaves us, as does Mrs Cohen, who returns to the USA after her year on exchange. The school owes a great deal to these members of staff and they leave with our gratitude and best wishes for their own future careers

Jacky East, who is soon to resign as governor when she leaves the district, is the last of the governing body that appointed me over ten years ago. In expressing special thanks to her, I think with gratitude of all those governors who have given me such support and guidance during that time.

The SATs results had some pleasing features but were not quite so good as last year's record high, with the exception of Maths at Level 6 or above. We are unhappy about some elements of the marking of the English tests and have requested that they be remarked but, in the meantime, they are set out below.

	% above Level 5	% above level 6
English	58	23
Maths	75	52
Science	71	30

We wish AS Level, A Level and GCSE students well as they wait for their results on 15 and 22 August respectively, and before we know it, we shall be welcoming your sons back to school on 3 September for another busy year. (Please look at the calendar dates at the end of the newsletter for starting times.) This month's Newsletter sees the first special magazine supplement entirely written by pupils and devoted to reports of the Year 7 residential visit to Newquay and a special report on the World Cup at KNBS.

Mr Sonley

GOVERNOR VACANCIES

Mrs Jacky East has resigned her post as a Partnership Governor effective from the end of the school term. Partnership Governors must be members of the community served by the school, and nominations from parents are invited from which the Governing Body may select.

A vacancy for a Co-opted Governor also exists and, although it is up to the Governing Body to nominate and appoint, if you know of anyone in the local business community, particularly with a bias towards Science, who might be interested or whom the Governors could approach, please let us know.

Please contact Mr Groom, Administrator, if you require any further details or have any nominations.

JUNE AND JULY MERIT AWARDS

The following students were awarded their merit badges at our recent merit assemblies:-

20 badge: Andrew Ashforth (7D), Matthew Brown (7C), Leigh Green (7D), Tom Restall (7B) Robert Sharpe (7C), Calum Sheehan (7D).

40 badge: Alex Abel (8D), James Adams (8C), Nathan Crooks (8B), Leigh Green (7D), David Hunt (9A), Paul Knox (8A), Luc Meredith (7D).

60 badge: James Adams (8C), David Hunt (9A), Matthew Plant (7C), Andrew Stacey (7B).

80 badge: Jason Brandy (8A), Andrew Gordon (9D), David Hunt (9A), Jon Scully (9D).

100 badge: Luke Bridgman (8C), Lewis Godwin (7B), David Hunt (9A).

120 badge: Tom Richardson (9D).

180 badge: Daniel Kelly (9A).

Congratulations to all of these students and especially to Daniel Kelly for achieving our top badge.

GOODBYE

I could not end my exchange year here at KNBS without letting each of you know what a pleasure it has been to have your sons in my classes. We have really gotten to know and to learn from one another.

You can be very proud of your child's academic efforts as well as his open and generous spirit in welcoming a new teacher from a different culture. I do hope that our classes have either met or surpassed your son's expectations and that he will continue his efforts and achievements next year.

Thank you again for such a rewarding experience.

Mrs Cohen

YEAR 9 INDUSTRY DAYS, 10 - 12 JULY

Year 9 students participated in three varied and busy days last week in order to encourage them to think ahead to their upper school studies and the world of On Wednesday our theme was work beyond. Citizenship and the Army gave presentations on Human Rights, and the Fire Brigade on Fire Prevention and Fire Safety. Thursday saw several visitors from the world of industry come to school and lead workshops that included catering, construction and retail. On Friday the Industrial Society led activities based on the title "The Challenge of Industry", and again several visitors came to help the students. Some boys visited the production areas at Cadburys, some visited the City Learning Centre, and others went to the UB40 studios in the City. The students had every opportunity to talk to experts about their work and businesses with a view to gaining ideas about possible future training and careers.

Thank you to the staff and visitors who made the days possible, enjoyable and worthwhile.

Mr Brett

SPONSORED WALK

Boys in Years 7, 8 and 9 took part in this year's Sponsored Walk on Tuesday, 16 July, walking along the Birmingham to Worcester Canal towpath towards Alvechurch. Each boy has obtained sponsorship in order to raise money for a children's charity. This year the main charity to be funded will be the Blind Association. A representative of this charity, Mr Ladwa, came and spoke to the pupils about the work this association does for blind and visually impaired children.

Please do all you can to encourage your son to bring his sponsor money in as soon as possible.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

The following boys are to be congratulated on gaining their awards:-

Daniel Atkins	Bronze
Mark Hills	Bronze
Ben Julian	Bronze
Matthew Murray	Silver

Mr Nelson

BIRMINGHAM SCHOOLS SAILING REGATTA 2002

On Thursday, 4 July, Dr Pilkington took a team of KNBS students to the Birmingham Schools Sailing Regatta at the Edgbaston Sailing Club. The team consisted of:

Optimist Team:	Sam Wright Robert Cartin Luc Meredith
Schools Topper Class:	Simon Rochford Simon Ibbetson
Club Topper Class:	Tom Storey Tom Simpson Phil Morton

The results for the optimists are shown below:

Heats 1	Rep from KNBS Robert Cartin	Position 2 nd 1 st
2 3 4	Sam Wright Luc Meredith None	4 th
Plate final:	Luc Meredith	2^{nd}
Final:	Sam Wright Robert Cartin	3^{rd} 4^{th}

These results won the KNBS Sailing Team the team trophy for the Optimist race. Sam Wright also won an individual trophy for finishing in the top three. We were very pleased with the results as this was the first time we had entered an Optimist race. Well done!

Schools Topper Class: *Simon Rochford* came 3rd in his final, winning himself an individual trophy for finishing in the top three. Well-done, Si!

Club Topper Class: *Phil Morton* came 2^{nd} in the Topper Club Class final, winning an individual trophy, and *Tom Storey* came 1^{st} , winning an individual trophy. This won KNBS Sailing Team the team trophy, and we get to keep it until next year's event.

We would like to thank Mr Mobley for organising our participation in the day, Clive Coleman for organising the day and Dr Pilkington for driving us, supervising and giving us his moral support.

by Robert Cartin, 7D

SPORTS NEWS



Participation to reach potential

<u>Sports Relief</u>: What a fantastic effort from the boys in Years 7, 8 and 9! The boys had a sports afternoon organised at KNBS with virtually every boy donating £1.00 to the charity. The activities included football, hockey, basketball, table-tennis, badminton, short tennis, cycling, tug of war, golf, cricket, the welly wang, the jumping challenge, the three-legged race and Rugby. (Photographs from the event will be placed on the KNBS website.)

There is a rumour going around school that Mrs Best and Mrs Keeling-Easley were able to defeat Mr Preece at the tug of war. Unfortunately, this is not true and just a figment of Mrs Keeling-Easley's imagination!

The school has raised £320.00, which is an excellent achievement. The staff who helped out were brilliant, especially when it started to rain on Tuesday afternoon!! A big thank-you to Mr Russell, Mr Corbett, Mr Farrell, Mrs Reed, Mr Fadden, Mr Flynn, Mr Jones, Mr Carrington, Mr Tonks, Mr Turner, Mr Wright, Mr Davis, Mr Bibb, Mr Lomas, Mr Thomas, Mrs Best, Mrs Keeling-Easley, Mrs Thomas, Mrs Reynolds, Mr Chapman, Mr Taylor, Mr Adams and Mr Moss.

<u>Cricket</u>: confirmed news – Year 10 have won their league! Brilliant news, lads.

The Old Nortonians' Trophy: Year 11 v Staff Year 12 v Year 10

Year 12 and the staff won their respective games and will meet in the final on the last Wednesday of term. *Michael Wylde, Y10,* hit the first half century of the year, scoring 53 not out. Mr Nelson showed why he will be missed next year with a mesmerising spell of spin bowling.

<u>Thank you</u> to Malcolm Burgess and Ian Burch for their hard work and dedication in maintaining the school field.

The PE Department would like to express their appreciation and thanks to Mr Nelson and Mr Russell for their efforts in developing Rugby at KNBS. They have given up their own time after school for a number of years to aid the learning and understanding of the boys. Both teachers will be sorely missed. Good luck to you both.

<u>Interform Cricket</u>: Years 7, 8 and 9 have competed in the Interform Cricket programme in the last two weeks. The finals in Years 7 and 9 have still to be played owing to the bad weather. The winners in Year 8 were C, with A coming runners-up.

Sportsman of the Year Awards:

Year 7 -	Steven Byford
Year 8 -	Michael Skerrett
Year 9 -	Daniel Hancock
Year 10-	Oliver Edwards, Matthew Key
	and Michael Wylde

<u>Year 7</u>: Steven has been the captain of the football side and represented the school at athletics and cricket. He has a fantastic attitude to his sports and has shown himself to be reliable and hardworking in the way he has organised 7A's Interform team.

<u>Year 8</u>: Michael Skerrett has represented the school at football, athletics, cricket and hockey. He has recently been chosen to play in the Birmingham Developmental Squad for hockey.

<u>Year 9</u>: Daniel Hancock has been an important member of the school football team. He has averaged eight points a game at Basketball, and he has also played cricket for the school. He has helped organise 9C's Interform sports teams, and he has demonstrated an enthusiastic and dedicated approach to all Physical Education lessons.

<u>Year 10</u>: it was impossible this year to pick one individual as sportsman of the year. Three boys have performed to a very high level across a range of sports, so therefore we have decided to award all three with this honour:

Matthew Key – Matthew has developed into a prolific scorer in basketball, a fast and accurate opening bowler in cricket and an opportunist try scorer in Rugby. He has represented 10A in the Interform sports programme and has been a committed and reliable member of the GCSE PE group.

Michael Wylde – Michael has been school football captain for a number of years. He has also played for the West Midlands and Cheltenham Town. He has improved in basketball and has become an important point scorer for the team. He is an outstanding longdistance runner and natural athlete. Michael was a member of the Year 10 Rugby side which won the Sandwell Cup. Michael actually scored the 'golden try' in my boots!!

Oliver Edwards – Oliver is a very talented individual who has represented the school at football, basketball and rugby. His performances for the school football team have shown real improvement in the last two years. Oliver plays guard for the basketball team and has increased his range of passes this season. Oliver was captain of the tag rugby side that lifted the Sandwell Cup and played a major part in that victory. Oliver has broken a number of school athletics records this year and is the only person to beat Michael Wylde in distance running. Oliver has been the major force in 10C's Interform sides and is a fierce competitor. He has also been able to break the record for walking from R2 to the changing rooms!

Interform Scores:

7A - 169 pts	8A - 148 pts	9A - 90 pts
7B - 158 "	8B - 180 "	9B - 110 "
7C - 175 "	8C - 177 "	9C - 150 "
7D - 113 "	8D - 118 "	9D - 130 "
10A - 130 pts 10B - 80 " 10C - 100 " 10D - 90 "	11A - 11B - 11C - 11D -	80 [°] " 110 "

with the cricket, tennis and athletics results to come.

Sports Day Winners:

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
100 m	J Hitchinson	D Cottrill	M Davis
200 m	J Wilson	A Fleming	R Bishop
400 m	S Byford	L Knight	J Ford
800 m	A Forbes	D Cottrill	J Couch
1500 m	S Byford	J Hull	P V Lane
High			
Jump	J Hitchinson	A Fleming	W Yates
Long			
Jump	S Thorley	A Daniels	R Bishop
Triple			
Jump	B Laidley	S Lee	M Madden
Shot	A Murphy	P Whitehouse	P Bottomley
Discus	K Taylor	C McCoy	M Davis
Javelin	J Stoker	A Hocking	M Dunseith
Relay	James(A)	Reynolds(B)	Weaver (C)

A great day – the boys did themselves proud with their attitude and commitment in doing their best for their form and themselves.

The javelin competition saw some fine throws. The Year 9 record was broken three times by *Peter Bottomley, Alex Douglas* and, finally, *Myles Dunseith. Max Davis, Daniel Cottrill, Alex Fleming, Richard Bishop and Steven Byford* were all double winners on the day, which is an excellent achievement.

I would like to say a special thank-you to Miss Morgan who provided all the musical entertainment on the day; it made the event more enjoyable for all concerned.

The Year that was: five great sporting moments:-

• Oliver Hartill cutting through the Italian defence and crashing the ball into the far corner of the goal to put the Year 8 team into a 1-0 lead.

- *Michael Wylde* running through the Bishop Challoner defence to score the 'golden try' in the tag Rugby final.
- Daniel Page taking 3 wickets in 3 balls again!!
- *Oliver Edwards* clearing 10 metres in the triple jump.
- Alistair Connor's performance at the swimming sports (Year 9 backstroke).
- 29 Interform Sports competitions.
- We have competed in football, basketball, athletics, rugby, cricket and hockey and run practice sessions in badminton, table-tennis, gymnastics and softball.
- The school has visited Edgbaston, Wimbledon, Venice, the Alexandra Stadium and the NIA.
- We were victorious in the Selly Oak Athletics, winning in Year 7 and Year 8. Year 8 were then place 5th in the whole of Birmingham at the NIA.
- Year 10 won the league at cricket and the Year 10 tag tournament.
- 29 students (87.8%) achieved GCSE A*-C and 7 achieved A* or A grades.

The school is currently applying for Sportsmark Status – fingers crossed, we should achieve this award. The school also received the FA Charter for Excellence, which is in recognition of the standards of football in the school.

Mr Preece

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday, 15 August

- AS and A Level results day – collection from 10.00 am.

Thursday, 22 August

- GCSE results day – collection from 10.30 am.

Monday, 2 September

- TRAINING DAY FOR STAFF.

Tuesday, 3 September

FIRST DÂY OF AUTUMN TERM FOR PUPILS. Starting times:-8.30 am – Year 7 (new intake) 9.30 am – Years 8 – 11. New Year 12 Enrolment.

Thursday, 5 September

New Year 13 Enrolment/Induction.

Monday, 23 September

- TRAINING DAY FOR STAFF. SCHOOL CLOSED FOR PUPILS.

SPECIAL MAGAZINE SUPPLEMENT JULY 2002

YEAR 7 TRIP TO NEWQUAY (THE A TEAM)

Monday: 82 lads from Year 7 travelled to Newquay, Cornwall, on Monday, 8 July 2002. We took two stops at Exeter and Sedgemoor Services. When we finally arrived at Holywell House, our accommodation for the week, we were greeted by Mr Mobley and 'Dunc'. Dunc would be our head leader and manager of the hotel for the week. We had time to throw our bags into our rooms (which were already opened) and go down to find out our first activities. By now we had discovered the other school sharing with us: London's very own 'Moat'.



We walked down to Lusty Glaze beach where we were divided into our four groups: Antelopes, Bears, Cheetahs and Dingos. A's and B's got suited up for body boarding in the Newquay surf, and C's and D's went rock climbing. For the rock group was the Tyrolean traverse (which D's sampled first) and the Abseiling wall.

The traverse was more or less the same thing as...JUMPING FROM A CLIFF AND ZIPWIRING OVER A 110 FOOT DROP INTO WATER AND HAVING TO PULL YOURSELF BACK UP WHEN YOU ARE HELPLESSLY DANGLING OVER THE SAME! It was fun.

Abseiling was lowering yourself down a wall whilst attached to a rope dangling from the top. When we had completed our activity and walked back to the hotel, we had time to unpack before dinner: leek and potato soup followed by fish and chips with chocolate mousse for dessert. Our evening activity was the town trail: a quiz about Newquay in which you could only find the answers by walking around it by following simple instructions. Bedtime was 10:00.

Tuesday: We arose to a wonderful breakfast of hash browns and beans following a room inspection by Mr Knibbs and Mr Fadden. Dunc then introduced the rest of the hotel team to us, Gemma, Sas, Adam, Toby and his girlfriend Debs, also co-owner of the hotel. A short coach journey brought us to Fistral beach, one of Europe's top surfing venues. The A's and B's spent the morning surfing and C's and D's spent the morning doing beach games. Our packed lunches (fresh from the kitchen) were delivered as the two groups met up for lunch. After that, all was rotated and the C's and D's had the surf to themselves! The 3 leaders gave us a quick brief and then we rushed into the ocean waves. We were lucky in that the sun was shining and the waves were wicked. Nearly everyone stood up (or went 'gnarly' as it's called) but everyone fell off (or wiped out!). We had a dinner of cheesy bread and lasagne followed by jam roly-poly.

That night's evening activity was quad biking. Every biker had to suit up with body armour and drive slowly around the oval track, to prove they were capable. Then we were let loose! Each group had a half hour session on the intermediate track but were entitled to face the 1-mile expert track if they felt they could. Many people did but some preferred to stay on the intermediate track. I don't blame them really. There were many crashes including James Beech's body paralysis and Sam Wright's journey into the pond! Whilst we were waiting to use the quads we had three options, watch the other groups, play football...or try Mr Knibbs' power yoga!(?)

We took the coach back to the hotel and got a good night's sleep for the challenge that would befall us on the very next day ...

Wednesday: The next day we were sent on the Camel Trail after a breakfast of sausage and beans. The Camel Trail is a 17-mile bike ride to one end and 17 miles back to the start. After hiring our bikes from Padstow Cycle Hire, we set off. The fast group with Mr Knibbs and Mr Mobley set out first, and then the medium group headed by Mr Fadden and finally the slow group with Mrs Pearce, Mrs Franklin and Mrs Kavanagh. After about 5 miles of riding, the groups stopped to refuel at Lidl, the nearby supermarket. Lots of lads bought bottles of water, sweets and huge bottles of economy Irn-Bru. Some boys grabbed crates of 'Sitting Bull Energy Drink' (it gives you horns!).

The ride resumed with regular stops. The fast groups went to the town of Bodmin and back to Padstow, giving them a total of about 25 miles. The medium group returned much later after they had gone to Poley's bridge and back; giving them a grand total of about 38 miles. When they were returning, Mr Fadden told the famous story of the beast of Bodmin, the huge panther-like creature that had been known to eat men and women and has been sighted surely but rarely around the area. Spooky, huh?

After a dinner of chicken soup and roast chicken we headed out shopping for an hour or so. Some were feeling weary but I won't mention any names because they may be embarrassed about eating **FOUR** - yes, four - chickens. (Yes, I am talking about you, Fetus!) We met after our shopping spree in the park by the beach.

Thursday: We woke up on what was going to be the last full day of our holiday. We were taken to Stithians Lake where we were divided into our four groups to be put into a rota system. Ewan, the leader of the day, provided us with instructors for sailing, windsurfing, canoeing and rafting.



The sailing took place in Picos and the windsurfing on junior windsurfers. The canoeing was more paddling since so many people fell in and capsized. As for the rafting, you had 8 barrels, 6 logs and endless amounts of rope. The winner was declared as Dingos but we think it was mainly because Dunc sabotaged all of the others' rafts. Our evening activity was swimming at Oasis. This was the one activity where we could meet up with the B team at Towerside Hotel. The Oasis had rapids, water jets and 3 flumes: the slow but long green one, a slow one on rubber rings, and a long fast red tube which took no more than 6 seconds to literally 'throw' you from one end to the other. Jack Hitchinson took an early bath but got thrown in with all his clothes still on. Oops!

When we returned we had a small presentation for all of the boys who deserved to be commended. Among them were Simon Gilligan, Steven Byford and Michael Johnson. Dunc handed out some comedy prizes as "that's the kind of guy I am!" as he said. Since it was our last night we were allowed to stay up extra late. Some kids played pool, some kids skated, there was a huge party in room 27 (for some reason one of the smallest rooms) and most kids and the teachers watched about three and a half hours of continuous Trigger Happy TV. Spirits were high on that night, and it's a night that many people are thankful for and will not forget.

Friday: Well, our last activity at the beach. We swapped everything around so that A's and B's would do rock climbing and C's and D's would do body boarding and beach games. We travelled home stopping at the same service stations, on the same motorways seeing the same sights.

We would like to thank Mr Mobley for everything he did, Mr Fadden for keeping everything in line and all the rest of the staff (Mr Knibbs, Mrs Pearce, Mr Bibb, Mrs Franklin and Mrs Kavanagh) for all their support.

by Robert Cartin, 7D

<u>REVIEWS OF THE WORLD</u> <u>CUP TOURNAMENT</u>

On Friday, 21 June, all Year 7 pupils took part in a tournament of football in honour of the World Cup. The lads were put into different groups by Mr Preece. The groups were numbered 1, 2, 3 and 4, and a PE teacher was with every group.



The boys were then sorted into different countries such as England, Sweden, Belgium, etc, and then different teams played against each other while other teams watched and waited for their game. The games usually lasted four minutes. The teachers put up different flags as the goalposts.

I am sure we lads thoroughly enjoyed this event and would like to thank the teachers and the learning support assistants who helped organise this fabulous event. We would also like to thank the PE teachers most for setting this up. It was a fabulous day for all.

by James Scott, 7B

My experiences of the World Cup were a mini-World Cup Tournament after school on Friday, 21 June. We were all gutted when England lost 2-1 to Brazil earlier that day, so this tournament would keep our minds occupied. There were five-a-side games, although some of us had four on our team. We were then named as countries from the World Cup. My team was named England! The team consisted of *Jermaine Pencheon, Luke Mosley, Adam Terry* and myself. The twelve teams were put into three groups and were sent off to play. Our group was made up of: Cameroon, Germany, Republic of Ireland and England. Our first match was against Germany, to whom we lost. The next match was against Cameroon, and we won. The last match was against Ireland, and we needed to win to go through – we won!

The semi-finals were next. We were against Costa Rica, who consisted of *Ram Raithatha, Philip Truran, Mitchel Millard and Jonathan Evans.* I scored the only goal that got us through to the finals. It was a fluke, though.

In the finals we were up against Denmark. Its team members were *Anthony Ward*, *Oliver Hartill*, *Dara Wearden and Will Paton*. We lost 3-1. Jermaine scored our team's goal in this match 'while on the floor!'

I want to thank all the team members for taking part.

by James Steadman, 8D

My experience has been excellent throughout the 2002 World Cup in Japan and Korea. Obviously I was supporting England, and I am extremely proud of their progress up to the quarter-finals. After they lost 2-1 to Brazil I followed Brazil, because I would rather England lose to the best team.

I am glad KNBS pupils were good supporters and would like to thank the staff who organised the big screen and let us off some lessons. I would especially like to thank Mr Preece and the other gym staff who put together a World Cup Tournament for us kids. It was very successful and enjoyable, even though my team lost. Overall there was an extremely good atmosphere.

by Josh Turbill, 8D

I only watched one of the England games in my own house, and that was the first match, the disappointing 1-1 draw with the Swedes. The next match, the one that sent the whole nation into a frenzy, the 1-0 win over long rivals Argentina, I watched at Joe Burrows' house. The next time I got out of bed extra early was to watch England scrape through to the second round, holding Nigeria to a 0-0 draw and putting us through with five points, as Argentina could only draw with Sweden.

In the next round England scored not once, not twice but three times past the helpless Danes. England were in it to win. Nothing was going to stop us, then ... Belgium 0 - Brazil 2. The nation was tense, as it was official: England would be playing Brazil in the quarter-finals.

21 June – the day that England won't forget – the whistle blows, and they're off playing their hearts out for their country. Then - shock in the twenty-fourth minute – Owen scores and England are winning 1-0. The second half has started and after only four minutes Brazil score: it's 1-1. Ronaldinho takes a free kick from a crossing position; it's bad, it's curling all wrong, it's ... it's ... in! 2-1 to Brazil. England's dreams are crushed, and we will have to wait another four years.

by Ben Coates, 8D