

## KING'S NORTON BOYS' SCHOOL



June 2002

Dear Readers

This is a busy season, both inside and beyond the classroom. Visits to Alton Towers and test match cricket at one end contrast with deep concentration in the examination halls at the other, and amidst it all comes the reviewing of one year and the planning for the next and beyond.

While A-Level Business Studies candidates were enjoying their examinations, the rest of us were dutifully encouraging England in the World Cup. The pleasing approach the lads brought to these two extremes of school life meant that both halls had the atmosphere we hoped for. It is good to know we can trust our students in contexts as far apart as these.

### Old Nortonians' Golf

The Annual Golf tournament, followed by dinner, will be held at King's Norton Golf Club on the afternoon and evening of Thursday, 11 July. Any Old Nortonians interested in joining the event will be very welcome and are invited to contact the school office for details.

*Mr Sonley*

### PARENT GOVERNORS

As you are probably aware, the Governing Body of KNBS includes seven Parent Governors. We are:

Yashpal Dehele, Chris Forrest, Debbie Jenkins, Martin Luck, Said Salhi, Roy Sutherland and Moira Wright.

We represent the interests of you, fellow parents, in the Governing Body. If you have any issues you wish to raise with us, in confidence, we can be contacted via the School Office – leave a number or address for us to get in touch with you.

*Mrs Debbie Jenkins*

### MAY MERIT AWARDS

Congratulations to:

20 badge: *Andrew Hooper, 7A, Alex Hopkins, 7C, Michael Millward, 7A.*

40 badge: *Jack Burnett, 7A, Jack Hitchinson, 7C, Stuart Sheldon, 7D.*

80 badge: *Luke Bridgman, 8C, Dale Buckley, 8D, Lewis Godwin, 7B.*

100 badge: *Kailash Sungum, 9D, Chris Targett, 8C.*

120 badge: *James Steadman, 8D.*

180 badge: *Daniel Birch, 8B.*

Congratulations to all of these students and especially to *Daniel Birch* for achieving our top badge in record time. All students in Years 7, 8 and 9 are encouraged to put their merits forward for recognition, as not only will they receive a badge, they also receive a letter of congratulations that can be use in their Records of Achievement in the future.

### SCHOOL COUNCIL

The School Councillors are now meeting on a weekly basis and are really making progress in organising and running the meetings. The students involved are very keen to keep making the school a better place to be and put a note to the form tutors encouraging participation by both staff and students to “make the school a good and enjoyable place to work in”. Interestingly one of the issues that the Council is very clear about is the need to make the area outside the school safer. In particular, they do not wish parents to park outside the school to pick up their sons as they feel that there are dangers for the students. I hope that the Councillors will report to you on a regular basis in the newsletter, but in the meantime the school website now has an area dedicated to the activities of the School Council. Thank you to Mrs Newton for ensuring that the library is available for the meetings each week and for showing such enthusiasm for the venture.

*Mr Brett*

## YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE

*Work Placement: Monday, 8, to Wednesday, 17 July.  
Back in school for Final Debrief: Thursday, 18 July.*

I have now made the final arrangements for this year's Work Experience programme, which are as follows:

I shall be writing this week to all of the employers who have agreed to accept our pupils for their Work Experience to inform them that each boy will telephone them to arrange a preliminary visit.

Boys will need to telephone their Work Experience contact as soon as possible to organise a visit on the afternoon of **Friday, 21 June**. However, if this date is not convenient to the employer, an alternative date may be arranged in consultation with myself.

The purpose of the preliminary visit is to:

- find out how long it will take to travel to their Work Experience placement;
- meet their supervisor and find out what will be expected of them whilst on Work Experience;
- discuss with their supervisor how they can get the most out of the Work Experience.

There are still a few boys who do not have a Work Experience placement organised. I may still be able to help them, even at this late stage. However, boys who do not have a placement for the above dates **are expected to attend school as normal**.

*Dr Pilkington*

## DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD EXPEDITION 1-3 JUNE

Before the expedition started we knew the weather was going to be a problem, but not by how much. While we were walking up to our campsite in the mountains on Friday night, the wet and boggy conditions were testimony to previous rain. We awoke on Saturday morning to glorious sunshine and unbroken blue skies and spent the day wandering the hills. It was a wonderful day with brilliant views of the whole of Snowdonia, and we succeeded in getting to the summits of both Cnicht and Moelwyn Mawr.

On Sunday morning we awoke to the sound of thunder and could see lightning strikes on the mountains opposite. We spent the day walking through thundery showers and hill fog. Another beautiful campsite and a big camp fire raised the spirits of the whole team, before we walked back to the minibus on Monday morning.



I am grateful for the help of Dave Galloway, Mark Charles and Geraint Evans, without whom the trip would not have been possible. It is a testimony to the strength of this school that so many Old Boys are prepared to come back and help with outdoor pursuits.

*Mr Nelson*

## CONTIBOARD COMPETITION

*Mark Hills and Samantha Don* won through to the finals of this competition and were given free materials to realise their designs. Both were rewarded at the finals with a certificate, rosette and a cheque for £50.00. Details of their work will be posted on the website soon.

## YOUNG PERSONS' AWARD FOR INNOVATION

Once again the Technology Department has produced some excellent work for the Rotary Club Competition, and this has been recognised in both categories open to the school. *Nathan Povey (Year 13)* was placed third for his A-Level project "Orthopaedic Chair".

In the other category, *Robert Howard* receives the 1<sup>st</sup> Prize of £100.00 for his design of a kettle for the blind; joint 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize goes to *Naseem Arar* for his walking stick for the blind and *Andrew Weaver* for an open freezer door alarm.

Prizes will be awarded at a luncheon at the Burlington Hotel in July.

*Mr D Wright*

## WALKERS FREE BOOKS FOR SCHOOLS



Thank you to everyone who collected tokens and sent them into school. We were able to buy some much needed new books for the school library.

## SAINSBURY'S EQUIPMENT FOR SCHOOLS

A big thank-you to all parents who took part in this scheme again this year. The final school points total was 3221. We have, therefore, been able to order a much need book trolley and some book vouchers.

## OVERDUE LIBRARY BOOKS

Despite issuing reminders in April, we still have a number of library books outstanding from as far back as 2001. Please check at home and remind your son(s) that any overdue books need to be returned before the end of term.

*Mrs Newton*

## YEAR 7 SWIMMING UPDATE

The drive to be the fastest swimmer in Year 7 is forcing down personal best times. The top four at the moment are:



- |                          |                         |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1) <b>David Romp</b>     | 66 seconds for 8 widths |
| 2) <b>Daniel Greaves</b> | 69 seconds " " "        |
| 3) <b>Stephen Cooper</b> | 70 seconds " " "        |
| 4) <b>Adam Bailey</b>    | 70 seconds " " "        |

David and Adam are gaining these times with nobody to 'push' them in their respective groups. They are, in effect, racing against the clock.

Meanwhile, on 14 May, seven other personal bests went tumbling. The new PBs went to:

**Andrew Hooper, Robert Jenkins, Joe Wilson, Ashley Plane, Ali Sharifi, David Wilson and Robert Stiff.**

Well done! Your efforts are being watched and noted.

**Mr Jones**

## SPORTS NEWS

Hockey:

Congratulations to **Sam Walsh, Michael Skerrett and James Coyne, Year 8**, who were all selected to go to the Birmingham County Hockey Trials. Michael has made the Birmingham Development Hockey Squad and will be attending a two-day training camp in July: a great achievement by Michael, who has only recently taken up the sport.

Football:

Finals and Officials: The football season ended with disappointment this year as only one of our teams reached a final. However, after appearing in three of the last seven Blues Cup Finals, the school was well represented again. Despite the Year 11 team going out to St Thomas Aquinas in the quarter final, the school still had a presence in the final. It was not the team this time but an official. After a late withdrawal through injury, Year 10 pupil, **Frank Walker**, stepped in as one of the referee's assistants. The match was refereed by former Premier League referee and Old Boy, Mike Reed. Mike is now a League Referees' Assessor and Coach to six Premier Referees, two of whom officiated at this season's two major finals, the FA Cup and the Worthington Cup. These were, according to Mike, 'very good days out'. Mike was very complimentary about Frank's performance, particularly as he made some crucial decisions in front of very partisan supporters.

If any boys in school over the age of fourteen are interested in following in Mike and Frank's footsteps, the Regional Referees' Co-ordinator will be visiting

the school in the near future to inform about a local course. If boys are short of money, this can be very lucrative. Frank earns £15.00 an hour for less than one hour's work – a far better rate than McDonalds or a paper round!

Football in Italy: After a scenic journey through the snow-covered Alps, Mr Preece emerged as draughts champion and Mr Kafai emerged from under his duvet. The boys settled in well at the hotel and were able to practise their French as they mixed with students from Marseilles.

The first day began well as we approached Venice by water from Punto Sabbatim. We were able to enjoy the cultural delights of the famous old city and indulge in the favourite pastime of English tourists ... shopping! On making our way to the waterside stadium the boys got their first experience of football Italian-style as we had to pass through numerous checkpoints manned by heavily-armed and baton-wielding police. The arrival of the Atalanta fans was a stunning sight as they arrived like the Armada, in a fleet of boats with massive flags blowing in the wind. The game was not a classic, ending 1-0 to Atalanta, with the goal being scored by Doni, the only member of the present national team. Former Manchester United goalkeeper, Taribi, also played in the game.

Monday began with our own mini World Cup competition. The winners were then lucky enough to have the experience of playing the staff team, and their star 'keeper,



**James Peckham.** Of course, there was only one team going to win this game as the staff exhibited their full range of skills. However, the goal of the game was a classic header by **Sam Walsh** from a Beckham-like **James Coyne** cross. In the evening we played two games against Club Lido di Jesolo. Year 8 started well with the 'goal of the tour' being scored by **Oliver Hartill**, but the Italians proved stronger at the end to win 2-1. Year 9 faced a physically stronger opposition and, despite putting up fierce resistance, went down 5-0. **Daniel Rumble** starred in midfield, and **James Pugh** came closest to scoring with a shot from 35 metres. The travelling band of flag-waving England supporters gave fanatical support throughout.

Tuesday began with a tour of the summer villas of the ruling Doges of Venice. After passing several disappointing residences, the boys were shown around the magnificent Villa Pesini. We then travelled on for a little more sightseeing and shopping in Padua. In the evening we played the very impressive Academy team of AC San Dona. "I'd love to work in a set-up like this" was a quote from Mr Preece. A mixed Year 8/9 team was convincingly beaten by the very impressive Italian outfit.

The trip home seemed a long journey, but spirits were lifted by a cosmopolitan gastronomic feast – at McDonalds!

The trip was very memorable for all the boys. They will never forget the fantastic sights, the sporting fixtures, the crowd's greeting of 'Macca' – and Mr Corbett's near death experience! "Can we go next year?" was heard from all the group.

### **Mr Taylor**

#### Cricket:



Sixty boys attended the first day's play at the Edgbaston Test Match on 30 May. The weather was gloomy, but everyone still had a good day.

#### Year 8:

v Waverley: A disappointing start to the season. KNBS batted first and managed 48 for 8. **Evans** top-scored with 19 not out. KNBS failed to bowl straight and allowed Waverley to reach 49 for 2 off 17 overs.

v Turves Green: KNBS had learnt from their mistakes in the first game of the season. Again they batted first and ran up a sizeable total of 71 for 2 from their 20 overs. **Selvester-Webb** scored 12 not out, and **Evans** managed 14 not out.

Turves Green started well, but **Page** ripped out the opening batsman with a ferocious spell of fast bowling. **Pencheon** bowled with confidence and pace from the Hawthorne Road end. Page took three wickets in 5 balls, nearly repeating his feat of 4 wickets in 5 balls last year. **Elliott and Partridge** then came on to clean up the tail. Turves Green were finally bowled out for 25. A great win for the boys!

On Monday, 20 May, the Year 8's entertained Lordwood and Golden Hillock. This enabled all the boys who had been to training to represent the school. The boys were beaten comprehensively by a very strong Lordwood side (KNBS all out for 32). However, against Golden Hillock the game went into the last 2 overs, the difference between the teams being a couple of very powerful hits by the Golden Hillock Captain. (KNBS 55 for 7 from 16 overs, Golden Hillock 56 for 3 in the 14<sup>th</sup> over.)

Although we lost both games, there were many positives on the evening, and it was very good for the boys to play on a grass wicket for the first time this year. Thanks must go to Ian Burch and Malcolm Burgess for their hard work in preparing the wicket.

### **Mr Preece**

#### Year 9:

The Year 9 cricketers have made an encouraging start to the new season despite losing their opening games. Facing quality opposition, they have shown improvement on last year. This is due, in part, to their hard work over the winter in the cricket academy run by Mr Fadden and Mr Preece. This kind of progress should continue with the help of the new mobile nets which are currently being used. Many thanks to Mr Preece for his diligence in pursuing new sources of funding for school cricket.

In the opening fixture against Saltley School Year 9 came up against last year's losing finalists. Although we restricted them to 92 for 6 off 20 overs, KNBS could not handle Saltley's excellent spin attack. More practice is needed in this area! Man of the match was **Harris-Gregory** for some fine bowling.

KNBS were mightily unlucky to miss out against Lordwood. Superb fielding helped restrict the opposition to 85 for 9 off the 20 overs. Pick of the bowlers was **Ensor**. **Ford** excelled as wicket-keeper. In reply KNBS batted bravely, with Ensor hitting a six and two fours in one over. In the end we fell 15 short of the total. A great effort! Man of the match was **Ensor** for a superb all-round performance.

### **Mr Fadden**

#### Year 10:

v Bishop Challoner: KNBS put Challoner in to bat and soon reduced them to 5 for 2 after some excellent bowling from **Key**. Instead of pressing home the advantage KNBS took their foot off the pedal and allowed Khan and Mahmood to put on a strong partnership, which put Challoner in a good position at 66 for 3. KNBS came back strongly at the death and took 5 quick wickets to reduce Challoner to 82 for 8.

**Wilkinson and Braniff** opened the batting for KNBS, and, when Braniff was out in the second over, the task of scoring 80 runs seemed a very tough one. Wilkinson, however, had other ideas, and with some straight powerful hitting he demolished the Challoner attack, scoring 39 runs from 13 overs to give KNBS a winning total of 83 for 2

Performances of the game:

<b>Key</b>	– 3 for 16 from 4 overs
<b>Iqbal</b>	– 1 for 6 from 4 overs
<b>Wylde</b>	– 1 for 6 from 2 overs.
<b>Wilkinson</b>	– 39 not out.

v Wheelers Lane – 12 June: After winning the toss KNBS put Wheelers Lane in to bat. From the very first over KNBS had Wheelers Lane on the defensive with the accuracy and pace of **Key** picking up two quick wickets, one being from an excellent catch from **Tipping**. In his next over Key also ripped out the number four for Wheelers Lane. Tipping from the Hawthorne Road end began to get in on the act, bowling two batsmen, and **Wilkinson** took two flying catches. **Aftab** replaced Key and again bowled with real pace, picking up his first wicket of the year. The spin twins of **Darwood and Avery** then plucked the tail-enders from the crease, leaving Wheelers Lane 37 all out.



Bowling figures:

<b>Tipping</b>	-	4 for 14
<b>Key</b>	-	3 for 4
<b>Aftab</b>	-	1 for 4
<b>Darwood</b>	-	1 for 3
<b>Avery</b>	-	1 for 5

In reply, the loss of Wilkinson early on gave Wheelers Lane confidence, but the ship was steadied by the commanding performance of **Braniff**, ably assisted by **Wylde**. KNBS reached 38 for 1 after 10 overs.

Played four, won four – surely the league is ours!

These boys have worked very hard to improve over the three years I have spent with them, and they deserve all the success they get. Well done!

Cricket Nets: The nets have finally arrived! The boys have been making full use of the cricket netting purchased with the £500.00 from the Awards for All funding. They are being used in lesson time and after school and can only improve the performance of the lads.

**Mr Preece**

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



### **Monday, 17 June**

- A2 lessons start for Year 12 students.

### **Monday, 1 July**

- New Year 12 Induction Day and Parents' Meeting at KNBS.

### **Tuesday, 2 July**

- Year 13 Leavers' Ball.

### **Wednesday, 3 July**

- New Year 7 Induction Day.

### **Thursday, 4 July**

- New Year 12 Trip to Blackpool.
- Year 7 and 8 Awards Evening.

### **Friday, 5 July**

- Year 7, 8 and 10 reports issued.  
(Year 9 reports will be issued when SATs results have been received.)

### **Monday, 8, to Friday, 12 July**

- Year 7 Residential Week.

### **Monday, 8 July, to Wednesday, 17 July**

- Year 10 Work Experience.

### **Thursday, 11, and Friday, 12 July**

- Year 8 Activities Days and Year 9 Industry Days.

### **Friday, 12 July**

- July Newsletter issued.

### **Monday, 15 July**

- Sports Day.

### **Tuesday, 16 July**

- Sponsored Walk.

### **Wednesday, 17 July**

- Year 9 Awards Afternoon.

### **Thursday, 18 July**

- Year 10 Work Experience Debrief.
- Year 10 Awards.
- LAST DAY OF SUMMER TERM.

### **Thursday, 15 August**

- AS and A-Level results day.

### **Thursday, 22 August**

- GCSE results day.

### **Monday, 2 September**

- TRAINING DAY FOR STAFF.

### **Tuesday, 3 September**

- FIRST DAY OF AUTUMN TERM FOR PUPILS.