

KING'S NORTON BOYS' SCHOOL



October 2002

Dear Readers

The term is well underway now, and this Newsletter reflects the busy enthusiasm that a new school year brings. Helped by good weather, the school looked better than ever for last week's Open Evening, and the Year 7 volunteers showed how quickly they had become knowledgeable and loyal members of KNBS as they escorted our visitors round.

The Awards Evening for last year's Years 7 and 8 was a very pleasant occasion when Mr Julian Ingleby, Development Manager for Aston Science Park, presented the certificates and announced an exciting project that promises to strengthen our links with the Science Park.

The Governors' Report to Parents will be published before the half-term break and will contain full details of the summer examination results, including the upgraded Key Stage 3 English results which the examination board has now marked correctly.

Thank you to all the parents who have made arrangements to pick up boys away from the congested front of the school at 3.05 pm. The road is much clearer now, though a handful of parents continue to create hazards. One day this week, a Year 7 boy was knocked down by a car before school, reminding us how vulnerable boys are as they cross this busy road. The next boy may not be lucky enough to have such slight injuries.

I hope all parents receiving Income Support or Job Seeker's Allowance (Income based) are claiming their entitlement to free school meals for their sons. The City Council has asked me to write separately to all parents of boys claiming free school meals, to check their eligibility, and these letters will be posted out shortly.

The final Homework Timetable is attached to this Newsletter, as is an invitation from the PTA to their AGM, when the whole question of Homework can be explored. It promises to be a lively and useful meeting and I commend it to you.

Mr Sonley

PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION 200 CLUB

A warm welcome to all new boys and parents of Year 7. This is a reminder to those of you who have not yet joined the PTA 200 Club to return your completed application forms to the school office. Please take some time to read the application to understand the objectives of the club and how you can help support the important extra-curricular activities for your son.

Prize winners over the last three months have been as follows:-

July	C Delaney	no 18	£31
	B Cooper	no 126	£19
	L Sutherland	no 74	£16
August	D Welch	no 53	£31
	P Hackner	no 152	£19
	T Forsyth	no 89	£16
September	B Thomas	no 105	£33
	F Collin	no 2	£21
	M Prosser	no 124	£12

Mr Martin Luck
PTA Treasurer

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

As in previous years we are going to support Operation Christmas Child. Please fill a shoebox with items that a needy child would be glad to receive this Christmas.



- 1 Fill a medium-sized adult shoebox. Cover the lid and box separately with wrapping.
- 2 Decide if the box is for a boy or girl.
- 3 Fill the box with items that are new or nearly new, such as: cuddly toy, toothbrush/toothpaste, colouring books, felts, crayons, pencils, hat, gloves, scarf, tennis ball, small jigsaw, a greetings card and a photo of yourself.

Please don't include food, war-related items, clothing (other than as listed above), glass, liquids, toys which need batteries, sharp objects, medicines, books with words.

Please send the shoebox with your son to school any time between now and Monday, 21 October 2002. Mr King and I will make sure they are stored and delivered. Please put £2.00 in an envelope to help towards the cost of postage and delivery.

There will be awards for the form with the most boxes!

Mr Lomas

ORDNANCE SURVEY MAPS

Each Year 7 pupil has been issued (or soon will be issued) with his own copy of a 1:25000 scale Ordnance Survey map of Birmingham courtesy of the Ordnance Survey. A letter accompanies the map explaining the purpose of the issue, along with a leaflet on map reading, a sticker and a discount voucher for the purchase of an OS map from W H Smith.

Pupils will be developing their map reading skills during Year 7 and throughout their Geography course. Please encourage your son to look after the map to help him with this process.

Mr Kirsz

TECHNOLOGY COMPETITION WINNERS

Congratulations go to **Thomas Restall and Alex Taylor** who have won runners-up places in the 'Gadgets of the Future' competition. Thomas entered with the "Dead Line Bath" and Alex entered with "The Inner Ear Radio".

As well as winning £100 worth of Kingfisher Gift Vouchers for themselves, they have won £200 for the Technology Department.

Mr David Wright

YEARS 10/12 GCSE HISTORY TRIP 2002

On 27 June we left KNBS by coach; Mr. Griffith, Mrs Henderson, Mr Knibbs and myself (along with Mr Dyson and Miss Layton from Birmingham University), for the Battlefields of Flanders. It is a trip the History Department runs every year but was especially meaningful for me as it would be my last with King's Norton Boys' School.

The boys were an asset to the school at all times, including the coach journeys and ferry crossings. It was a packed few days. On Friday we took in many sites. We started the day at Langermark German Cemetery, a peaceful and sombre memorial to the German dead of the First World War. Afterwards we went to Tyne Cot Cemetery, the largest British Cemetery in the world. Here there are nearly 12,000 graves, 70% of which are unknown. In addition, the memorial wall at Tyne Cot holds the names of 34,927 soldiers with no known grave. The boys searched the

wall, many of them finding their own names listed. At the end of this visit the group gathered for a poetry reading from Mrs Henderson:-

The Soldier

*If I should die, think only this of me:
That there's some corner of a foreign field
That is for ever England. There shall be
In that rich earth a richer dust concealed;
A dust whom England bore, shaped, made aware,
Gave, once, her flowers to love, her ways to roam,
A body of England's, breathing English air,
Washed by the rivers, blest by suns of home.*

*And think, this heart, all evil shed away,
A pulse in the eternal mind, no less
Gives somewhere back the thoughts by England given;
Her sights and sounds; dreams happy as her day;
And laughter, learnt of friends; and gentleness,
In hearts at peace, under an English heaven.*

Rupert Brooke

Rupert Brooke's words provided one of the most memorable and moving parts of this trip, as the boys listened and thought about the sacrifice given by so many during the First World War.

After Tyne Cot we visited Sanctuary Wood Museum, where there is a preserved Trench System. The boys explored the trenches to the full – mud and all! Other stops on Friday included Hill 60 and Essex Farm Cemetery. Our final visit was to the town of Ypres and the Menin Gate for the Last Post Ceremony. At 8 o'clock every evening, traffic is halted for the Last Post, a moving tribute to the dead in all wars. The Menin Gate itself is a war memorial with the names of 54,896 soldiers of the commonwealth who have no known graves. Many boys found their own names here, too. After this it was back to our hotel and then to the beach for a game of football.

Saturday morning was spent in the town of Ypres, again for some last minute chocolate shopping before boarding our coach and heading home. The staff involved felt that this was the most successful tour yet and would like to thank all the boys for such a memorable trip. In turn, we are sure that the boys gained a greater knowledge of the First World War and the debt we owe to those who gave their lives. This unforgettable trip was a great high note to end my time at King's Norton Boys' School, so a big "THANK YOU" to the staff and pupils who made it so worthwhile. All the photographs taken on the trip are available to view and download from the KNBS website.

Mrs Lavelle-Teague

SPORTS NEWS

*Participation
to reach
potential*



Welcome to Mr Holme who has joined the PE Department and good luck in Birmingham.

Interform Basketball: The Interform programme is already in full swing with Years 8, 9 and 10 competing in their respective Basketball tournaments. Each tournament has seen over thirty-five boys taking part, which has made the evenings real successes.

Results:-

Year 8	1 st – D	Year 9	1 st – D	Year 10	1 st - C
	2 nd – A		2 nd – A		2 nd - D
	3 rd – C		3 rd – C		3 rd - A
	4 th – B		4 th – B		4 th - B

Basketball practices are as follows:-

Monday lunchtime - Y8

Tuesday lunchtime – Y7; Tuesday after school – Y8

Wednesday lunchtime – Y10

Thursday lunchtime – Y9

Friday after school – Y11/Staff

A coach from Birmingham Bullets will be coming in on Tuesdays to work with the Year 7's and Year 8's.



A new Basketball Club is starting at Bournville School from 7.00 to 9.00 pm on Tuesday evenings, run by Active Sports Co-ordinators, and all boys in Years 7 and 8 are encouraged to take part.

Good luck to **Ross Baylis and Mark Robertson** who are currently undertaking their Level 1 Coaching Award in Basketball.

The boys in Year 12 are working towards a Sports Leadership Award sponsored by Pertemps Workshops. So far we have had some very positive feedback from the coach, and the boys are making good progress.

We have many boys in the Upper School helping to coach the younger students at the school. Well done to **Matthew Key, Adam Ricketts and Ross Baylis**. We also have **Daniel Neeld and James Greagan** working at Turves Green Girls' School helping to coach the girls' teams, and **Ross Baylis and Mark Robertson** introducing Basketball to St Joseph's Primary School.

Football:

Year 7 v Bournville – 16/09/02: This was the first league match for the new boys of the school. Unfortunately the result did not go in our favour as Bournville finished 3-0 winners. This result did not reflect the whole game, as KNBS had the majority of possession but just lacked the final ball in to the two forwards. There were some promising performances from all the boys, with **Steven Jacques** being nominated as 'Man of the Match' for the KNBS team for his tireless running in midfield. The first two goals for Bournville came from scrambles in the box following two long throws. The final goal came from a quick breakaway as our boys attacked to get back into the game. Finally, thanks to all the parents and pupils who came along and cheered the boys on.

Friendly Match v St Thomas Aquinas – 19/09/02:

After a few team changes, the boys put the disappointment of Monday's result behind them with a convincing 7-2 win, with goals coming from **Ben Judd (2), Muaz Buaben (2), Jamie Summers, Joe Howes and Stuart Cottrell**. This result highlighted the excellent teamwork the boys put into the game, although how they managed to go behind 2-1 still has Mr Holme baffled! The performances of Muaz and Ben particularly impressed those watching, with Muaz crossing the ball as well as Beckham and Ben being the dead ball specialist.

Year 8 v Bournville: Lost 1-2 after extra time.

The boys played as well as they have done in two years and thoroughly deserved to win. **Daniel Green** hit the woodwork three times in the second half which kept the result to 1-1. As the game was a 'double header' the match went into extra time; a game we looked like winning was cruelly taken from us with a bizarre own goal. With performances like this we will definitely improve our win to loss ratio. **Richard Ricketts** scored our goal and was a real threat throughout.

Year 9:



The team dominated their first game but could only score twice against Bournville. Goalkeeper **Richard Partridge** was a virtual spectator as he did not have one save to make.

In the West Midlands Cup Year 9 played High Arkle from Dudley; it was the first time the school had faced this opposition. Playing their most attractive football since joining the school, Year 9 ran out worthy 10-3 winners. Strength in depth was shown when, with six second half substitutions, the dominance continued.

In the Trevor Gill Cup an under-strength team could not compete with a very strong and physically bigger team from College High School. The team lost 5-1, with **Chris McCoy** scoring the goal.

Year 10 v Four Dwellings: **McGrillen** to **Pugh, Pugh** to **Douglas, Douglas** in to **Ford** – penalty, ref! Up steps **McGrillen** to start the Year 10's season with a bullet into the bottom right-hand corner. **Ford** adds a second with a header that Andy Gray would have been proud of and, when **Pugh** rounded the keeper in the style of a young Lineker, the game was complete at 3-0. The defence again proved the foundation for the win, with **Dodd, Douglas, Hancock and McGrillen** guarding the goal like sentries outside Buckingham Palace.

Year 11: The boys made a good start to the season with a 5-1 win over a skilful team from Golden Hillock. **Adam Ricketts** took his chances well to record a hat-trick; the other goals were scored by **Justin Williams and Adam Ricketts**. **Adam Wilkinson** performed admirably in goal but had no chance when conceding the best goal of the game, a twenty-yard strike.

In a niggly game against Arthur Terry School, KNBS took the lead just before half-time with a powerful **Michael Wylde** header from a corner. After considerable pressure the opposition equalised ten minutes before full-time. In a 'golden goal' extra time period Arthur Terry scored after seven minutes to put KNBS out of the West Midlands Cup.

Old Nortonians' Football Club: Lost without the World Cup? The Old Nortonians' Football Club is looking for people to help with the teams and even play! They run two teams in Divisions 1 and 7 of the Birmingham AFA on Saturday afternoons. The 1st XI especially need someone to be involved with the running of their team. If you are interested, contact Ken Taylor or Chris Griffith at the school (tel: 628 0010). The team's home ground is the school.

Golf: want to play golf? The school has clubs to lend you. Just come to the PE Department and ask.

Extra-curricular Activities: are you attending extra-curricular activities? If not, why not? See your Form Tutor if you are unsure, but there must be something here for all of you.

Year 7:

Football	-	Monday after school
Hockey	-	Wednesday after school
Rugby	-	Wednesday after school
Table-tennis	-	Wednesday after school
Badminton	-	Monday after school
Basketball	-	Thursday lunchtime

Year 8:

Football	-	Monday after school
Hockey	-	Wednesday after school
Rugby	-	Wednesday after school
Table-tennis	-	Wednesday after school
Badminton	-	Tuesday after school
Basketball	-	Monday lunchtime & Tuesday after school

Year 9:

Football	-	Monday after school
Hockey	-	Wednesday after school
Rugby	-	Wednesday after school
Table-tennis	-	Wednesday after school
Badminton	-	Wednesday after school
Basketball	-	Tuesday lunchtime

Years 10 and 11:

Football	-	Monday after school
Table-tennis	-	Wednesday after school
Basketball	-	Thursday lunchtime

GCSE Badminton practice – Friday lunchtime
Y10 Badminton – Thursday after school
Y11 Badminton – Friday after school.

Kit Sponsorship: The PE Department and team players have been very fortunate to receive new kit from a variety of sources. Year 11 received a very impressive Nike football strip. This was provided by Mr Hickey, one of our parents, through a promotion by a supplier of the Cotteridge ex-Servicemen's Club.

A second football kit and twenty training bibs were provided by sponsorship from Playstation. The company arranged a five-a-side tournament to promote a new game. Twenty schools from around the country were invited to participate, and each received the new kit.

In the first group game of the tournament the joint Year 10/Year 11 team beat Lancaster School from Leicester with a well-taken **Richard Bishop** goal. In the second game they drew with a very physical Highbury Park team from North London. They then drew against Notre Dame from Sheffield to finish at the top of their group. In the quarter-final they went out 2-1 to a last-minute goal from a team from South London. The team of **Nathan Coates, Adam Ricketts and Adam Wilkinson** from Year 11 and **John Couch, Richard Bishop, Neil McGrillen and James Pugh** from Year 10 each received a 'goody bag' which included a tee-shirt and playstation game.

The PTA is also providing new basketball vests for the upcoming season which will ensure our teams will remain the smartest dressed ... even if results do not always go our way. Coca Cola have also provided footballs and training bibs. Can you or your companies help – with publicity or not? If so, the PE Department will be delighted to hear from you, and it will be much appreciated by all the boys.

Mr Preece

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Tuesday, 15 October

- Y11 Informal Parents' Evening (appointments by arrangement with Head of Year only please).

Monday, 28 October

- Start of Half-term Holiday.

Friday, 1 November

- End of Half-term Holiday.

Monday, 4, to Friday, 8 November

- Y13 Geography Field Trip.

Tuesday, 5 November

- Y12/13 Informal Parents' Evening (appointments by arrangement with Tutor and Head of Year only please.)

Thursday, 7 November

- Sixth Form Open Evening at King's Norton Girls' School: 6.30 to 9.00 pm.

Friday, 8 November

- November Newsletter issued.

Sunday, 10 November

- ONA Remembrance Service.

Tuesday, 12 November

- Y11 Parents' Evening.

Wednesday, 13 November

- Y10 Photographs.

Thursday, 14 November

- Annual Parents/Governors Meeting: 7.30 pm.

Friday, 22, to Sunday, 24 November

- Y10 Geography Field Trip.

Monday, 25, to Thursday, 28 November

- Book Fair.

Thursday, 28 November

- Y10 Parents' Evening.
- Y9 BCG Immunisations: heaf tests.