



April 2003

Dear Parents

**A reminder to parents dropping off boys outside the school:** Last Thursday the police were stopping cars and booking drivers who did not obey the signs. If you really have to drop your son off, please do it well before the road narrows or, preferably, get your son to walk to school from further away. We have had two serious accidents during the past two years.

**Changes to Free School Meals Entitlement:** Changes are being implemented in the entitlement to Free School Meals to take effect from 6 April. At present the entitlement applies to children whose parents are in receipt of Income Support and Income Based Jobseeker's Allowance; from 6 April, children of parents who are in receipt of Child Tax Credit, who do not receive Working Tax Credit and who have an annual taxable income of less than £13,230, will also be entitled to receive a free school lunch.

If you wish to apply for free school meals for your son, please contact the school office for an application form. When submitting the form parents need to provide evidence of the benefits they receive. Parents are also reminded that, should their circumstances change, they should inform the school at once if their son is no longer entitled to receive a free meal.

It has been a busy term that ends in a flurry of activity. I hope many parents will join us for the Year 9 Parents' Evening on Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup>, the Spring Concert on Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup>, the PTA Auction on Friday, 11<sup>th</sup>, and Review Day on Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> April.

The examination season will be upon us before we know, and the school holiday should be an ideal time for structured revision, especially for Years 9, 11, 12 and 13.

*Mr Sonley*

**PTA GRAND AUCTION UPDATE –**  
**FRIDAY, 11 APRIL 2003**

Plans for the PTA Grand Auction in support of the school's bid for Science College Status are all but finalised with just one week to go. The open auction itself will be limited to forty quality items, including: an Original 'X Box' David Beckham Soccer Computer Game, signed by David Beckham; tea for two with Lynne Jones MP at the Houses of Parliament; tickets for a prestigious CBSO concert; a forty-six piece dinner service; a green fee voucher for a round of golf for four people at King's Norton Golf Club; a sitting for a family portrait session; a rucksack picnic set with wine; a Michael Owen signed autobiography; a flight for two in the BRMB Flying Eye; a day's sailing package in a 44-ft ocean-going catamaran around the Solent; plus a number of family tickets to various attractions around the Midlands.

In addition to the open auction there will be a large number of instant bargains to be had by all on our "Buy It Now" extravaganza, with opportunities to buy a computer, tumble dryer, porcelain, meal vouchers, records, gift sets, guided walk, champagne, fitness work bench, and hair and beauty products.

As a result of the magnificent support the PTA has received, we will also be offering a number of items on the night by means of a silent auction, where you can bid a maximum value for an item. These will be finalised during the interval break.

In order to participate in the auction you will need to buy an official catalogue for the sum of £1.00 and register your details. This will give you a unique bidding number which will also be entered into a free raffle. Catalogues will be available upon entry but can be purchased from the school office from Monday, 7, to Friday, 11 April. Pre-registration, instant bargains and the silent auction will be available from 5.30 pm, when it will be possible to preview items.

The Grand Auction will start at 7.00 pm, and refreshments will be available throughout the evening.

Please give the school and the PTA all the support you can. If you do not wish to bid, then please feel free to come along and buy a bargain; but please turn up early so as to assist with the registration process.

Thank you to all who have contributed and who are helping in any way.

**Mr Martin Luck**  
**PTA Treasurer**

### MARCH MERIT AWARDS

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

20 badge: **Jordan Brotherton (7D), Christopher Brown (7D), Michael Fogarty (7D), Josh Glover (7D), Oliver Green (7D), Joe Howes (7D), Jon Kelly (7D), Abdi Kizildag (7C) Daniel O'Reilly (7B), Matthew Roper (7D), Christopher Wakeman (8C).**

40 badge: **Andrew Ashforth (8D), Jordan Brotherton (7D), Adam Checkley (7D), Scott Hall (7A), Eamonn Martin (7B), Fraser Parker (7C), Adam Smythe (7B), Sean Wellings (7A), Ewan Whyte (7A) Joe Wilson (8A), Max Woolf (7A).**

60 badge: **Alex Barnett (7C), Stephen Cooper (8A), Daniel Evans (7D), Robert Jenkins (8A), Hasan Mahbouba (7D), Sean Wellings (7A).**

80 badge: **Richard Brotherton (7C), Michael Hall (9C), Robert Jenkins (8A), Hasan Mahbouba (7D), Stuart Sheldon (8D).**

100 badge: **Ben Symak (9D).**

160 badge: **Lewis Godwin (8B).**

Well done, everyone! Merit badges were awarded by Mr Vine and Andrew Evans (Head Boy).

### RED NOSE DAY

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to this very successful fundraising event. The final total raised was £1,112.61. A great effort.

**Mr Brett**

### NO HOT MEAL PROVISION DURING DINING ROOM REPAIRS



The complete replacement of the main dining room floor is to be undertaken during the Easter break. It will not be possible therefore to provide hot meals on Monday, 14 April, and from Wednesday, 30 April to Friday, 2 May.

Instead, the canteen staff will provide a full range of sandwiches and baguettes, etc, which will be distributed from the school hall at break and lunchtimes on these dates.

### CLEARING OUT OF LOCKERS IN THE DINING ROOM

As a result of the flooring replacement all lockers will have to be moved from the canteen. Students must therefore clear all their belongings from these lockers by afternoon registration on Friday, 11 April.

### BICYCLE LOCKS

Over time a lot of bicycle locks have been left discarded within the bicycle compound and at other locations around the school. We plan to remove and dispose of all these locks during the Easter break.



Students must therefore remove all locks currently in use prior to the break to avoid them being damaged in this programme.

### NEW GOVERNORS

In the absence of any competing nominations, Mrs Lorna Brown (parent of a Year 7 pupil) and Mr David Gunn have been elected as Parent Governor and Teacher Governor respectively.

### LUNCHTIME SUPERVISOR VACANCIES

We have vacancies for Lunchtime Supervisors to cover the lunch break (1.10 – 2.00 pm) for a duty five days per week and an additional single duty on Wednesdays. If you are interested in one of these vacancies, please call Roger Groom, School Administrator.

**Mr Groom**

### SPRING CONCERT – THURSDAY, 10 APRIL, AT 7.30 PM



Parents and friends are invited to a Music Concert to be held in the School Hall from 7.30 pm on Thursday, 10 April.

Tickets can be purchased in advance or bought on the door: price £1.00.

**Mrs Yates and Mrs Fitzgerald**

## RE DEPARTMENT

Hot on the heels of our amazing poems come the fantastic models of various places of worship. If you get the chance to go to the school website, please have a look at the models – truly fab! Congratulations to those boys who work so hard in RE.



There is also a report on the Internet about our Year 9 visit to the Young People's Parliament. Nine of our lads represented the school very well. **Michael Skerrett** managed to ask an excellent question which the panel of experts tried to answer. Well done to all involved!

**Mr Lomas**

## 'BORN TO WIN' AT COCKS MOOR WOODS – GNVQ GROUP

On Friday, 28 February 2003, seven boys and I went with Mr Knibbs to Cocks Moor Woods Leisure Centre, where we took part in a fitness test for the BBC Talent Competition 'Born To Win'. We started with the bleep test. **Chris Asforth** did fantastically well (because he is always running away!). Well done, Chris! We then did the Sargent Jump, and the two best were **Ben Julian and Steven James**. The press-ups came next. Simon Rochford did 65 in a minute, so well done, Muscle Man!



We then had to do shuttle runs, which were 6 x 20 metre runs. The 'doughnut of the day' was Ben Julian, whose shoe fell off during his run.

So we were all prepared for Sunday, 9 March. We arrived in our tracksuit bottoms and our T-shirts with the logo of BBC Talent on. We were met by Paul Robertshaw, who told us what was going to happen. We then went into the gym and were met by the camera crews. We were all very scared but, when Paul Robertshaw asked Steven James to take part in the actual contest, he said 'yes' straightaway.

We worked with different people all day. Ben Julian and I were shown in close-ups on the camera. The day started to wind down, and everyone left except for us. We then played football for an hour. I don't know how we did it, as we were exhausted, but we did!

Both days were extremely enjoyable, and the Leisure and Tourism boys would like to thank Paul Robertshaw and Mr Knibbs for it.

The lads who attended were: **Martin Burston, Chris Ashforth, Simon Rochford, Steven James, Ben Julian, Steve Bird and Haroon Shahid (Year 11)**.

**Martin Burston, 11B**

## GNVQ GROUP VISIT TO DRAYTON MANOR PARK ON TUESDAY, 25 MARCH 2003



We arrived at Drayton Manor Park at 10.00 o'clock in the morning. All of us were very excited, especially **Simon Rochford and Chris Ashforth**, because it was the first time we had been on a roller coaster. The first ride we all went on was the Apocolypse, and everyone was very excited, except for Mr Knibbs, who was terrified!

Half-way through the day we had a talk about how the park was run, which was useful for our Leisure and Tourism coursework on Customer Service.

The last ride of the day was the Shockwave, and everyone was a bit scared of the loop-the-loop.

We would like to say thank-you to Mr Knibbs and Mrs Franklin for a wonderful day out.

The boys who took part were: **Simon Rochford, Ben Julian, Chris Ashforth, Martin Burston, Steven James, Simon Ibbetson, Jason Weston-Tate and Haroon Shahid (Year 11)**.

**Simon Rochford and Christopher Ashforth**

## MILLENNIUM POINT VISIT ON 31 MARCH 2003 FOR GNVQ LEISURE AND TOURISM GROUP

There were four participants in the live Leisure and Tourism debate: **Haroon Shahid, 11B, Chris Ashforth, 11C, Steve James, 11C and Simon Ibbetson, 11C**. Our aim was to debate the advantages and disadvantages of the construction of more leisure based facilities in the Birmingham area.

It was held in debate style with cinema-like chairs, with a little remote switch attached to each one, which allowed us to vote and answer questions which we were asked.

Our roles in the debate were as follows: Haroon made the argumentative points against the campaign whilst Chris, Steve and Simon expressed the points to the rest of the council.

This was a first-time experience for us all, and we gained excellent communication skills. We had the chance to have our voices heard, which was the main purpose of the debate.

We would like to thank **Mr Knibbs** and his right-hand man, **Simon Ibbetson**, for organising the trip for us.

**Haroon Shahid (11B)**

## SPORTS NEWS

### Badminton:

The boys in Year 10 competed in the Birmingham Championships held at the NIA. They played some excellent badminton but really suffered through our inability to smash the shuttlecock.



The boys finished a respectable third in both groups. Well done to all concerned: **Neil McGrillen, Ben Peach, Richard Bishop, Andrew Weaver, Jon Ford, Luke Breslin, John Couch, Daniel Hancock, James Pugh and Richard Welch.**

### Basketball:

Year 9 v Kingsbury: The boys competed in the quarter-final of the Birmingham Schools Basketball Tournament on Monday, 10 March. KNBS started the game well, drawing away to a six-point lead; this, however, was quickly eroded by Kingsbury scoring a higher percentage of shots. The game was very tight until the last six minutes when KNBS went into a comfortable lead. KNBS ran out winners 49-36. Well done, lads: **Alex Fleming, Andrew Hocking, Daniel Cottrill, Ryan Cush, Nikul Mayariya, Mitchel Millard, Max Selvester-Webb and Jermaine Pencheon.**



Year 9 v Aston Manor High School: In the semi-final of the Birmingham City Championships we came across by far and away the best team in the tournament.

The opposition started very strongly and threatened to run away with the match. At 32-4 I was getting a little despondent; however, up stepped **Alex Fleming**, who for a ten-minute period could not miss. **Max Selvester-Webb** started to find his form from long range, ably supported by **Cush, Cottrill** and **Jennings**. **Hocking** scored the best basket of the night when, after being tripped up accidentally, he ran the length of the court to score. **Mayariya** did his bit for the side, as he has all year, and by the end of the game we had closed the gap to 58-38.

It is always disappointing to lose in semi-finals, but we can take great heart from the way we played and in the words of Mr Schwarznegger – “we’ll be back”.

### Football:

Year 7: The boys have been very busy and successful this month; they have played three games, scoring 21 goals and only conceding 5.

The first game was the quarter-final of the District Cup against Frankley. The game was one-way traffic all the way, with the boys running out 13-1 winners.

The goals were scored by **Howes (5), Judd (3), Hancox (2), Walker (1) Buaben (1), and Jacques (1).**

The second game was a friendly against Ninestiles. The boys again found their scoring boots, winning 6-3; again **Joe Howes** scored a first-half hatrick with **Adam Smythe** scoring two and **Gary Richards** completing the scoring.

The final game of the three was the semi-final of the District Cup against Bournville. The boys were keen to gain revenge for the only defeat in “normal time” they have had this year. In an excellent game which produced some very good defensive work, a close first half finished 1-0 to KNBS, with a great solo goal from Joe Howes. The second half saw the boys take a two-goal lead thanks to **Michael McDonald**, who struck a great goal from the edge of the box. Bournville reduced the lead with five minutes left to start the nail biting amongst those who came and supported the boys in awful conditions. However, we held out, and our reward is a final against Archbishop Ilsley or St Thomas Aquinas with a date and venue yet to be confirmed.

Year 8: v Baverstock on 26 March 2003

The boys entertained Baverstock in the semi-final of the District Cup; we started the game very sluggishly and went a goal behind. It stayed this way until half time, when suddenly after the break we roared into life with good work from the midfield and forwards who created chances for **Green** and **Ricketts**. On another day we would have scored three, but the Baverstock keeper with a bit of luck managed to keep us at bay.

Well tried, boys – but it just wasn’t our day:-

**Beech, Bradshaw, Byford, Sheahan, Nicholls, Forbes, Hitchinson, Smith, Green, Gilligan, Ricketts, Laidley and Hemming.**

Year 8: v Frankley - won 5-0.

Year 10: v Colmers Farm (Cup match) - lost 0-2.

We can do better! On a difficult pitch and with players missing, the Year 10's again didn't do their chances of cup success this season any favours. Our passing was inaccurate, defensively we looked strong but we had no cutting edge. Until we learn how to score goals we will not win the league or a cup. Back to the drawing board, lads!

Year 10 League Winners: In our final league game of the season the Year 10 lads had to beat Colmers Farm to finish top of the table.



After losing in the cup the previous week, the lads worked hard all week and really poured on what we had to do.

KNBS took an early lead through **Sam 'Shearer' Ensor**, who rose at the back post to head in from a corner. From this point on the boys never looked back and went into a 2-0 lead with a ferocious free kick from **James Pugh** that flew into the corner of the net. The defence stood firm for the rest of the game, with **Weaver, Dodd, McGrillen, Hancock and Bishop** repelling wave after wave of Colmers attacks.

As the game drifted into the final ten minutes, **Wilkins** came on and scored his first goal for the team when he showed his pace and determination to run through and score.

This is the first trophy the boys have won, and they can be very proud of themselves. They have been really determined to win a trophy this year, and they have achieved their aim. Great stuff, lads: **Andrew 'Shilton' Weaver, Grant 'Neville' Dodd, Neil 'Cole' McGrillen, Daniel 'Adams' Hancock, Richard 'Rio' Bishop, James 'Beckham' Pugh, John 'Scholes' Couch, Daniel 'Veron' Rumble, Richard 'Giggs' Sebastian, Sam 'Shearer' Ensor, Jon 'Yorke' Ford, Luke 'Van' Wilkins, Ben 'Pires' Peach, Luke 'Forlan' Breslin, Tom 'Charlton' Vincent.**

Hockey: The combined Year 7 and 8 hockey teams continued where they left off the week before in the Selly Oak Hockey Festival held at Baverstock School.

Our first game against Bournville saw us go a goal behind early on, but the persistent pressure we applied finally paid off with **Karl Taylor** scoring in the final minutes. The boys then took on Selly Oak and managed a 3-0 victory, with goals from **Steadman (2)** and **Jones**.

In the final game we played our main rivals, Colmers Farm, and played our best hockey so far, with '**magic**' **Muaz Buaben** scoring a thunderbolt of a goal.

Played 8, won 4, drew 4, goals scored 11, goals conceded 1. Well done, boys!

Results from Hockey Tournament on 20 March 2003:

Selly Oak v KNBS: won 6-0 - **Restall, Steadman, Kizildag (2), Roper (2).**

Bournville v KNBS: 0-0.

Colmers Farm v KNBS: 0-0.

Lordswood v KNBS: won 1-0 – Kizildag.

At this stage the two teams were lying 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> in the league with three weeks to go.

Results from 27 March 2003:

v Bournville: drew 0-0

v Lordswood: won 3-1

With two games to go the boys are now top of the League!

**Stop press:** The combined Year 7 and 8 team has won the local Hockey League. They have been unbeaten in every match played. Well done, boys!

*'Participate to reach Potential'*

*Mr Preece*

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



**Monday, 7, to Friday, 11 April**

- Y9 Geography Field Visits.

**Tuesday, 8 April**

- Y9 Options/Parents' Evening: 4.00 pm to 6.30 pm.

**Tuesday, 15 April**

- Review Day.  
- LAST DAY OF TERM FOR PUPILS.

**Wednesday, 16 April**

- Staff training day: SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS.

**Wednesday, 30 April**

- FIRST DAY OF SUMMER TERM FOR PUPILS.

**Friday, 2 May**

- May Newsletter issued.

**Monday, 5 May**

- MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY.

**Tuesday, 6 May**

- Y9 SATs begin.