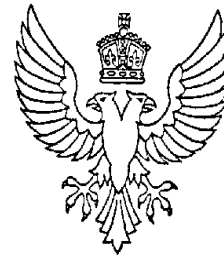


KING'S NORTON BOYS' SCHOOL



February 2003

Dear Parents

We are very busy finalising our bid to become a Specialist Science School and our readers may still be able to help in crucial ways. First, though, may I remind you of our commitment to invest ambitiously in all areas of the curriculum, and not just in the subjects central to the bid, Science and Mathematics. We see specialism as a necessary next step if we are to continue to develop and improve as a school.

We are still by no means home and dry in raising the £50,000 of pledged sponsorship necessary for the government to release firstly a further £100,000 and then over £80,000 per annum. We are most grateful for the energy and dedication of the PTA who have unearthed some wonderful items for their auction on 11 April. It looks like being an evening not to be missed for entertainment value alone, and if you bring your very full wallets, so much the better.

But it is not only in fundraising that you can help. There is still time for us to strengthen our bid with more community activities. Do you know of local businesses with a scientific flavour that could offer our boys experiences to enrich their work in school? Do you know of local businesses or groups, especially charitable groups, that could benefit from access to our scientific or mathematical resources? If you do, please contact us fast, so that we can make contact with them and incorporate them into our plans.

Mr Sonley

PTA GRAND AUCTION UPDATE – FRIDAY, 11 APRIL 2003

Since announcing the PTA Auction in support of the school's bid for Science College Status, the response has been quite outstanding. Already a number of quality items have been donated to the auction; these include signed items by major premier league soccer stars, a forty-six piece dinner service and a trip for two in the BRMB Flying Eye.

Can I please remind parents that we are looking to compile our first catalogue at the end of February in order to advertise the event adequately in the locality? Any items that you are able to pledge before that date will be greatly appreciated. Please send a note of the items to the school office before then.

Many thanks to all who have contributed so far. Please mark 11 April in your diary; your support on the day will be important to the success of the auction.

Mr Martin Luck
PTA Treasurer

JANUARY MERIT AWARDS

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

20 badge: *Robert Adams (9C), Philip Barraclough (7B), Jack Bramhall (7D), Muaz Buaben (7B) James Cook (7A), Louis Fleming (7D), Keiran Fullerton (7C), Jevon Handcock (7B), Michael Hart (7A), Christopher Henman (7A), Joshua Hopkins (7C), Sam Hughson (7A), David Hunt (7A), Felix Hyde (7B), Joshua Jenkins (7A), Tim Jones (7B), Connor Malins (7A), Karan Mayariya (7D), Jack McCarthy (7B), Sanjeev Rajput (7A), Richard Sharpe (7B), Aaron Taylor (7B), Amar Viteskic (7D).*

40 badge: *Humza Chaudhry (7A), Daniel Evans (7D), Jake Hemming (8D), Sean Kelly-Walsh (7C), Hasan Mahbouba (7D).*

60 badge: *Richard Brotherton (7C), Nathan Crooks (9B).*

80 badge: *Mathew Barrington-Smith (8B), Luke Mosley (9B).*

100 badge: *Dale Buckley (9D), Luke Mosley (9B).*

120 badge: *Christopher Targett (9C).*

180 badge: *James Steadman (9D)*

Well done, everyone! Merit badges were awarded by Mr Sonley and Mr Tim Wright (an ex-student).

Mr Brett

SEN DROP-IN SESSION – 3.15 TO 4.30 PM ON WEDNESDAY, 12 FEBRUARY

I will be available to meet with any parents who feel that their son is having a particular difficulty with his learning. This might include problems with reading, writing or spelling, or it might be another issue that you feel needs to be brought to our attention. You are very welcome to call in via the school office – no appointment necessary.

This is a new initiative which we hope will be of value to parents.

Mrs Powell

FARADAY LECTURE – TUESDAY, 28 JANUARY

On Tuesday, 28 January, one hundred and twenty boys from Years 10 and 11 attended the Annual Faraday Lecture held in Symphony Hall in Birmingham. The auditorium was filled with more than two thousand young people enjoying a presentation on forensics.

The stage was set out as an office where a university professor was shot and killed when a criminal stole a computer disk of valuable information. The two young presenters of the lecture were both studying for PhD's in areas useful to forensic investigation.

Our boys arrived early, and two of them were invited on stage as volunteers to take part in the investigation. Congratulations to *Justin Mullings and Greg Martin* of Year 11, who handled their performance on stage in a most professional manner. The presenters talked us through and demonstrated several hi-tech investigation methods, including facial recognition techniques and DNA testing. They were, I am pleased to say, successful in catching the "baddie".

It was a pleasure to see so many young people enthusiastically enjoying the event. Well done, too, to our boys – an excellent day!

Mr Shaw

YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE – 7-17 JULY 2003

If your son has not yet obtained a Work Experience placement, it has now become extremely difficult to find an employer who still has places available. Please urge your son to see me immediately if he is finding difficulty in getting a placement.

It may be that you or your son have agreed a Work Experience placement with an employer but have not yet informed me. If this is so, please send me a note with the name and address of the employer as soon as

possible. I will then arrange for approval of the placement. It is vital that all Work Experience placements are checked to ensure that it is a safe and suitable place for your son, and little time now remains for this to be done.

Dr Pilkington

OUTDOOR PURSUITS VISITS

The following Outdoor Pursuits residential visits have been organised for this year:-



Skiing and Snowboarding course to Salt Lake City, Utah, USA, this February half-term for thirty-seven boys from Year 8 through to Year 12. Intensive training at the Snowdome has prepared

these boys for knee-deep powder runs in the Rocky Mountains where fifteen boys will be skiing and twenty-two boys will be snowboarding the Olympic ski resort and backbowls of Utah.

Nearly ninety boys from Year 7 have paid deposits for the five-day Outdoor Pursuits course in Newquay from Monday, 7 July. They will have an opportunity to try body boarding and surfing in the famous Fistral Beach surf, abseiling and zip wire across the sea cliffs, mountain biking upriver from Padstow, quad biking the largest course in Britain, canoeing, sailing and windsurfing on Stithians Lake.

Fifteen boys in Year 8 who have learnt to dinghy sail at KNBS during their games lessons will be going to the United Kingdom Sailing Academy in Cowes, Isle of Wight, for five days from Monday, 30 June, to improve their dinghy sailing skills in the Solent and pick up RYA national qualifications.

Twenty boys from Year 9 will be going to the Cornwall Outdoor Education Base in St Just in Roseland near Falmouth for seven days from 23 May for expedition training in canoes and dinghies culminating in overnight bivouacs.



Sixteen boys from Year 10 will be selected to join the coastal dinghy sailing weekend at Brightlingsea from Friday, 13 June. These five-mile passages to Clacton or Marewell across the Essex Blackwaters are always exciting under full spinnaker and demand team co-operation amongst the crews.

A different group of fifteen boys from Year 10 have been invited to the Birmingham LEA mountaineering school at Ogwen Cottage, North Wales, for six days from Sunday, 6 April. These boys will be rock-climbing, mountain walking and sea cliff girdling with the best mountaineering guides in Britain.

If our dinghy race training is good enough over the next few months, we hope to send a race squad of twelve boys from KNBS to the National School Sailing Association Regatta at Weymouth during the first week of the summer holidays to represent Team Birmingham.

Dinghy sailing will resume at Edgbaston Reservoir after Easter for boys in Years 8, 10 and 11.

Mr Mobley

SPORTS NEWS



Basketball:

Year 7: The boys produced two outstanding performances in two days to secure a place in the top two of the league. The first match against Frankley saw the lads win 48-8 in a game that went all one way, especially for **Tyrone Renford**, who tried to score in both baskets! Man of the match was **Steven Jacques**.

The second game was against Bishop Challoner. Again, there was one-way traffic as the boys won 40-14. Man of the match was **Joe Fox**, who scored 10 points in a row. Well done to the boys!

Year 9 v St Thomas Aquinas: The Year 9's have gone 'back to basics' to improve their general play. After two wins where we felt our performances were not up to our high standards, we have been focusing on the basics of all team play - passing! We simply out-passed Aquinas for forty minutes and thoroughly deserved our 58-17 win. **Cush to Selvester-Webb, Selvester-Webb to Hartill, Hartill to Magic Millard** – deux points!



The boys were on a roll and producing a quality of performance to match any team. Good work, lads! – **Oliver Hartill, James Clifton, Max Selvester-Webb, Ryan Cush, Jermaine Pencheon, Andrew Hocking, Daniel Jennings, Mitchel 'Magic' Millard**.

Year 9 v King Edward School: A great victory for the boys. **Max Selvester-Webb** was on fire for KNBS, scoring from inside and outside of the key. We have now had four wins and one defeat and are, therefore, guaranteed a place in the quarter-finals.

Year 10 v Year 11: The GCSE group in Year 10 competed against the Year 11's in a friendly Basketball game in which pride was at stake. The Year 11's proved too strong throughout the game, with their additional height and speed making it difficult for the Year 10's to gain possession of the ball. **Michael Wylde** dominated the key and passed the ball out to the forwards who scored basket after basket with jump shots from the edge of the key. Both teams should be able to see the benefit of passing and moving to receive the ball. Attacking the rebound is also such an

important feature of the game, and it became apparent to both teams. Disappointed with the result, the Year 10's have asked for a re-match.

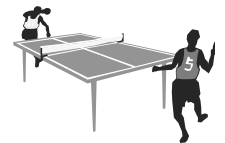
Interform Table-tennis:

Year 7: It took an hour and a quarter to decide the winner of an enthralling Interform Competition. After a lot of pinging and ponging and scrambling under the dinner tables to fetch the ball, we got through to the final.

Joe Fox and Steven Jacques demonstrated a high level of skill and fierce determination. Jacques was determined to win through this time after coming runner-up in the Badminton to **Fraser Parker**. However, it was just not to be as Fox used his topspin drive in the later stages to win through. Well done to all the boys who took part!

Winner: **Joe Fox**
Runner-up: **Steven Jacques**

Year 10: Twenty boys participated in the competition with all boys producing a very high standard. Pre-competition favourites **Milan Topalovic and Jack Woodfield** crashed out in the quarter-final stages, leaving the route to the final free for **Couch and Hancock**.



The final could have gone either way, but Hancock took the game, winning the important pressure points. Well done to all who took part!

Year 11: A very high standard of performance was shown by everyone who took part. **Ricardo Manouchehri and Matthew Atkins** reached the final with Atkins winning through. There are some great players in Year 11; let's hope they continue to play after leaving school.

Interform Hockey:

Year 7: On a bitterly cold evening thirty-five boys took part in the Interform Hockey Competition. All the lads did fantastically well and did not complain about the cold once. The hockey was fast and furious, which led to a few mistakes, but it kept the ball stuck in the midfield area. B and C both won their second game, which meant that they went through to the final. This was a nervous affair with both teams having but missing their chances.

When the game ended a draw on countback, both teams were equal and were, therefore, declared joint winners:

Tom Wilson, James Cook, Elliot Hancox, Jamie Summers, Jake Coleman, Joe Howes and Tyrone Renford all shone on the night.

7B: Muaz Buaben, Nathan Allen, Aaron Taylor, Jake Coleman, Tyrone Renford, Tim Jones, Ralph Brown and Carlos Roberts.

7C: Michael McDonald, Abdi Kizildag, Elliot Hancox, Bradley Boyce, Jamie Summers, Liam Batty, Tom Wilson, Michael Steadman, Chris Heath, Keiran Fullerton, Joshua Hopkins.

Football:

Year 7: The long-awaited replay against Park Hall was played at Park Hall on 3 February. In a very close game, which went to extra time, the result was 2-2, with goals from **Joe Howes and Gary Richards**. Then came the dreaded penalties! Although we scored five, Park Hall progressed, scoring all six. The boys were very unlucky and deserved to win both games. The league and league cup will resume in March, giving the lads an extra chance of a trophy.

Year 9 v Our Lady and St Chad's: On Wednesday Year 9 moved through to the quarter-final of the West Midlands Cup. After going behind and having four forwards unavailable, it looked like the game would be beyond them. However, **Mitchel Millard** equalised, and the game seemed to be drifting into extra time when **Michael Skerrett** scored with two minutes remaining for a 2-1 win.



1st XI – 2002/2003

KN v Solihull College (H)	0-7(L)
KN v Solihull Sixth Form C (H)	0-0(D)
KN v Worcester (A)	1-7(L)
KN v Dudley C (H)	0-2(L)
KN v St Peter's College - Cup (A)	0-2(L)
KN Youth Team U18 ONA v Holly Lodge (A)	3-2(W)
KN v KE Stourbridge (A)	2-2(D)
KN v Arthur Terry - Cup (A)	2-7(L)
KN v Solihull Sixth Form C (A)	1-0(W)
KN v KE Stourbridge (H)	4-0(W)
KN v Solihull College (A)	5-2(W)

KN v Worcester (H) to be played on 12 February.
 KN v Dudley C (A) to be re-arranged.

P	W	D	L	F	A
11	4	1	6	18	31

After a very slow and disappointing start to the season the team now appears to be finding its form and commitment to win. Even in the early games we were very unlucky with a 0-0 draw at home to Solihull Sixth Form, and we did not deserve to lose away to St Peter's in the cup or at home to Dudley College, both 2-0. Even our 7-1 defeat at Worcester saw us missing four very good chances to score. Since our 3-2 win in the

Old Nortonians' Youth Cup we have steadily improved. Our last two victories over Stourbridge and Solihull College (who beat us convincingly 7-0 at home in September) have been emphatic. Beating Solihull College 5-2 away was particularly pleasing, as they are a football academy.

Peter Maddocks, Aaron Caulfield, Peter Hand and Kamran Anwar have been steadfast in defence. **David Kilvert** has been excellent in goal since he started in November. **Dan Neeld, James Gegan, Max Dorsett and Tom Hickey** have been strong in midfield, and **Darren Gray** is working well with **Jon Russell** up front. Towards the end of the season the team is at last coming good.

'Participation to reach Potential'

Hockey Practice on Wednesdays after school is continuing to run; everyone is welcome to come along.

Recreational Football is on a Monday after school for anyone who just wants to play in a game situation. Come along and get involved!

Dance Express are coming – watch this space!

Fundraising: Mr Chapman and Mr Preece are cycling from Lands End to John O'Groats in July. We are currently deep into our fundraising activities and hoping to raise £6000 for the Whizz Kidz Charity. If you have any ideas or think you can help in any way, please let us know. We have arranged a quiz evening in March and will need prizes for this event; if anyone would like to donate a prize, we would be most grateful.

Mr Preece

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Thursday, 13 February

- Y11 Reports issued.
- Ski Trip departs (until 22nd).

Monday, 17 February

- HALF-TERM HOLIDAY BEGINS.

Friday, 21 February

- HALF-TERM HOLIDAY ENDS.

Wednesday, 26 February

- Y8 Parents' Evening: 4.00 pm to 6.30 pm.

Tuesday, 4 March

- Y9 BCG Heaf Tests.

Friday, 7 March

- March Newsletter issued.

Tuesday, 11 March

- Y9 BCG Vaccinations.