

KING'S NORTON BOYS' SCHOOL

May 2003

Dear Parents

This is the term when most members of the school, pupils and staff, have examinations on their minds and we wish everyone the success they have been working for.

I suppose my column is often rather bland as I try to keep readers informed about the school, but this month I have to say a couple of things that may generate strong feelings. The first is about funding and the other is about drugs.

You may be aware that the government has introduced a new national process for allocating funds to local authorities and this has resulted in talk of teacher redundancies in some schools in parts of England. We are not in that predicament, but I feel you should know that our funding is barely enough to cover essential services. This is not the place to go into details, but I just wish the government would let schools decide how their money is most effectively spent instead of requiring us to direct so much of it towards nine day wonder ideas dreamed up within the Department for Education and Skills.

We continue to be concerned that boys are coming into contact with drugs and fear that some drugs may be coming into school. The governors have therefore agreed that we should invite police sniffer dogs to visit the school premises unannounced and pinpoint any substances they may find. We feel that it is right to issue this warning in the newsletter so that parents can lend their weight to our efforts.

On a happier note, I must thank those who supported the Concert and the PTA Auction at the end of last term. Both of these happy occasions owed a huge amount to the preparatory work undertaken by their respective organisers and we are all in their debt.

Mr Sonley



PTA GRAND AUCTION – FRIDAY, 11 APRIL 2003

Some quite wonderful bargains were obtained by those who came to the evening: such as the five days' B&B in Blackpool for a family of four for only £110, the fitness workbench that went for £20 (despite the magnificent modelling and demonstration by Mr Sonley) and the mystery package that went for £42 and which turned out to be for three months' subscription to the LA Fitness Centre in Kings Heath (value £150). The highlight of the evening was the trip for two in the BRMB Flying Eye that was purchased for £180.

Whilst attendance was below our expectations, a creditable figure of £1,822 was raised on the night and will go towards the PTA's pledge of £5,000 to the school's bid for Science College Status. We are hopeful of obtaining additional funds for some items that were not sold on the night.

Many thanks must go to all PTA Committee members for their enthusiasm and help in organising the event and for the support of all parents, teachers and friends of the school who bid for and purchased the many items. Finally, we thank Jeremy Thornton of Biddle and Webb for doing such a magnificent job as auctioneer.

Mr Martin Luck
PTA Treasurer

APRIL MERIT AWARDS

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

20 badge: *John Page (7D)*.

40 badge: *Joshua Hopkins (7C), Sam Hughson (7A), Christy Lakeman (7C), John Page (7D), Richard Sharpe (7B)*.

60 badge: *Hassan Adi (8C), Jake Hemming (8D), Sean Kelly-Walsh (7C), Alex Lynn (8C), Eamonn Martin (7B), Jamie Summers (7C), Tom Wilson (7C), Alex Woodhouse (7C)*.

80 badge: *Hassan Adi (8C), Humza Chaudhry (7A), Daniel Evans (7D), Alex Woodhouse (7C).*

100 badge: *Richard Brotherton (7C), Robert Jenkins (8A), Hasan Mahbouba (7D), Alex Woodhouse (7C).*

120 badge: *Richard Brotherton (7C), Hasan Mahbouba (7D), Alex Woodhouse (7C).*

140 badge: *Hasan Mahbouba (7D), Alex Woodhouse (7C).*

Well done, everyone! Merit badges were awarded by Mr Sonley and Head Boy, Andrew Evans. Thank you to Andrew for all the support he has given to our merit assemblies and all good wishes to him as he embarks on his exam leave

Mr Brett

TECHNOLOGY OPEN EVENING

On Thursday, 8 May, from 6.30 to 8.30 pm, the Technology Department will host the annual exhibition of coursework completed by pupils in Years 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 (please see page 4 of this Newsletter). This is an opportunity to view the wide range of work completed by our students and to see the high standards achieved. Students who attend receive a certificate for their Record of Achievement/Progress Files. All parents and friends of the school are particularly welcome.

Mr D Wright

SPORTS NEWS

'Participate to reach Potential'

Year 7 Sporting Success:

What a week the Year 7's had. As reported in our stop press in April's Newsletter, the combined Year 7 and Year 8 Hockey team finished overall winners in the league. The boys played twenty games in five weeks and, between the two teams, they won 8, drew 11 and lost one. Well done to all the lads; it was a great achievement: *Muaz Buaben, Joshua Jenkins, Karl Taylor, Tom Restall, Ewan Whyte, Michael Steadman, Tom Wilson, Abdi Kizildag, Jake Coleman, Elliot Hancox, Matthew Roper, Kieran Fullerton, Fraser Parker, Luke Cullotty and Connor Malins.*

After victory in the Hockey competition, the Basketball team took centre stage in the Birmingham Schools Final held at Aston Events Centre. They played Perry Beeches School and got off to a great start, leading by ten points with one

quarter to go. Unfortunately, nerves took hold, and the team ended up drawing. In overtime the foul count by Perry Beeches had an effect, leaving our boys shooting free throws every time they were fouled. KNBS eventually ran out 31-28 winners with *Michael McDonald* 'man of the match'.



Well done to *Steven Jacques, Michael McDonald, Joe Fox, James Cook, Adam Smythe, Muaz Buaben, Gary Richards, Jay Berry, Michael Ralph and Daryl Gordon.*

The final part of the treble was completed on Thursday, 10 April, when the football team took on St Thomas Aquinas at West Hills for the final of the District Cup. In a game that KNBS dominated, the score line suggested a closer affair.



Joe Howes opened the scoring early in the first half, but in their only attack Aquinas equalised to leave the score 1-1 at half-time. The second half again saw one-way traffic, and a fantastic goal by *Muaz Buaben* sealed the treble for KNBS. The whole squad was nominated as 'men of the match' for what has been a great season.

Well done to: *James Cook, Michael Ralph, Joe Fox, Ben Judd, Steven Payne, Ned Walker, Muaz Buaben, Stuart Cottrell, Steven Jacques, Elliot Hancox, Joe Howes, Gary Richards, Adam Smythe, Michael McDonald, Tom Wilson, Harry Lapworth and Fraser Parker.*

Interform Football:

The tournaments in Years 7-10 have now been completed. The results will be displayed in next month's Newsletter. Well done to the 200+ boys who took part.



Team Photographs:



All the boys who have played in the teams this year have been captured on film, and photographs are available at the very reasonable price of £5.00 each.

These are great mementoes for the boys; they will cause great amusement and stir fond memories in years to come. See Mrs Best or Mr Preece if you want to order a photograph. Please make payment with the order.

Lands End to John O'Groats:

Mr Chapman and I will be cycling the length of Britain to raise money for the Whizz Kidz Charity. We will be running cycling competitions at school



where the boys can make £1.00 donations if they would like to be a part of our fundraising efforts. Whizz Kidz is an excellent charity, which helps buy mobility chairs for young people.

If you would like to help in any way, please let us know; we are trying to raise £6,000, and at the moment we are just about halfway there.

Mr Preece

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Monday, 5 May

- MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY.

Tuesday, 6 May

- Y9 SATs begin.

Wednesday, 7 May

- Y11 Study/Revision Day.

Monday, 12 May

- Years 11, 12 and 13 Study Leave begins.
- Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 School Exams begin.

Monday, 26 May

- START OF HALF-TERM HOLIDAY.

Friday, 30 May

- END OF HALF-TERM HOLIDAY.

Friday, 6 June

- June Newsletter issued.

Monday, 16 June

- A2 Lessons begin for Year 12 (until 4 July).

Monday, 30 June

- New Y12 Induction Day and Parents' Meeting at KNBS.
- Y8 Geography Visits start (until 4 July).

Tuesday, 1 July

- Y13 Leavers' Ball.

Wednesday, 2 July

- New Y7 Induction Day.

Thursday, 3 July

- New Y12 Induction Trip.

Friday, 4 July

- July Newsletter issued.
- Years 7, 8 and 10 Reports issued.

Monday, 7 July

- Y7 Residential Trip begins (until 11 July).
- Y10 Work Experience Week 1.
- Y12 Activities Week 1.

Thursday, 10 July

- Y8 Activities/Y9 Industry Day 1.
- ONA Six-a-side Cricket Competition.

Friday, 11 July

- Y8 Activities/Y9 Industry Day 2.

Monday, 14 July

- Sports Day.
- Y10 Work Experience Week 2.
- Y12 Activities Week 2.

Tuesday, 15 July

- Sponsored Walk.

Wednesday, 16 July

- Y9 Reports issued.

Friday, 18 July

- Y10 Work Experience Debrief.
- END OF TERM.