

KING'S NORTON BOYS' SCHOOL

June 2004

Dear Parents

A glance at the activities planned for the last few weeks of term shows that there are exciting times ahead for all pupils and considerable interruption of the routine school timetable. I would particularly like to emphasise that parents and friends are welcome to the Awards Presentations through which we recall and celebrate the many achievements throughout the year. The dates are:

Year 7 – Friday, 2 July, 2.05 pm

Year 8 – Thursday, 15 July, 2.05 pm

Year 9 – Wednesday, 14 July, 2.05 pm

Year 10 – Friday, 16 July, 12.15 pm.

All the presentations will be in the school hall and will last approximately one hour.

We have been making plans for Science College Status in September, and our detailed plans to spend the capital grant of £100,000 and the £50,000 of funds raised by the school have now been approved. We look forward to installing the equipment in time for the new term.

Mr Sonley

MAY MERITS

Congratulations go to the following pupils who received their merit awards at our May Award Assembly.

March:

20 merits: *Shaun Atkinson (7B), Jack Bentley (7B), Joshua Robinson (7B), Adam Webb (7D).*

40 merits: *Shaun Atkinson (7B), Ben Ellis (7C), Aaron Elvins (7B), Graham Loat (7C), Adam Webb (7D).*

60 merits: *Tim Jones (8B), Graham Loat (7C).*

80 merits: *Markus Andrews (7A), David Gardner (7A).*

Well done to you all. Merits were presented by Mr Sonley.

ACTIVITY CHALLENGE DAY – 9 JULY

On Friday, 9 July, I intend putting on for our Year 12 students some challenging activities of a theoretical and practical nature. If there are any parents or Old Boys who are currently or have been involved in this type of exercise, please get in touch with me.



I would expect the activities to bring out certain qualities in the students, such as initiative, leadership, negotiation skills, etc. Any practical help on the day would be greatly appreciated.

PRACTICE INTERVIEWS

During the next academic year I will be holding some practice interview sessions with the Sixth Form students. Again, if any parents or Old Boys have been or are currently involved in this type of exercise, please contact me if you are willing to sit on an interview panel. The sessions will be held either on a school training day or during an afternoon/early evening. Thank you.

Dr Griffith

SUMMER BOOKFAIR

We will be holding a bookfair in the school hall from Monday, 28 June, to Friday, 2 July. Please encourage your son to come along. There will be plenty of bargain books available as well as posters and stationery. All items sold will earn commission for the school library. We will also be running competitions throughout the week with lots of prizes on offer.

OVERDUE BOOKS



I am continuing to send reminders out to students who have books outstanding from the library. Please help us by asking your son to check his room and to return any books as soon as possible.

MAGAZINES

Magazines are one of our most popular resources in the school library. We have subscriptions to film, skateboarding, music and games magazines but would like to offer more choice. Can you help by passing on your old issues or by donating a subscription? Football, motor sports, TV, wildlife and history are all subjects we would like to cater for.

Thank you for your support.

Mrs Newton



Science Notes

News and thoughts from your science department

The Sky's the Limit ...

Or it certainly was for some lucky Year 9 pupils last half term. Miss Davis explains ...

It was time for a different kind of challenge for 9u1 after all their hard work in the lead up to their SATs. The mission: to design a rocket, fuelled by bicarbonate of soda and vinegar, to carry a raw egg as its cargo. After lift off, the egg had to return to Earth unsmashed! After several lessons spent rocket designing, building and holding trial launches (sorry to those parents who had to wash rocket fuel off their son's uniform), it was time for Mr Shaw and his class to observe the competition and judge it.

On the morning of Friday, 28 May, the winning group's rocket was propelled a magnificent 10 metres in the air, before returning to Earth with an intact egg. NASA rocket scientists of the future, perhaps? Congratulations to *Daniel Greaves, Stuart Sheldon and Richard Miller*, who each won a £10 Woolworth's voucher, and well done to all the others in 9u1 for their teamwork and inventiveness.

Thanks to Miss Davis and Mr Shaw.



Go to <http://www.bbc.co.uk/sn/quizzes/> for some real space travel fun and have a go at their on-line game – “Sci-fi or fact?”.

Competition

Last month's competition was won by *Jason Howell* in Year 10. He gets a £10 JJB Sports voucher. Well done, Jason!

This month, answer the following and drop it in to Mr Butcher by 25 June. It's a tricky one, requiring a little lateral thought. Good luck!

Three switches outside a windowless room are connected to three light bulbs inside the room. How can you determine which switch is connected to which bulb if you may enter the room only once?

Did You Know??

There are more living organisms on the skin of each human than there are humans on the surface of the earth.

Creepy, huh?

Mr Butcher

SWORD COLLECTION

Thank you to Mr J Crumpton for coming in during period 4 on Wednesday, 26 May, to show us his collection of swords in Mr Knibbs' History lesson.

Mr Crumpton brought in two swords. The first sword was a Scottish Claymore; this sword was long and was used in battle. The Scots had to hold it in their right hand close to their chest and stand like that for hours, preparing for battle. The second sword was a small replica sword called a Roman Gladius. The Romans were victorious in battle and could kill up to five people at once. Mr Crumpton had brought this sword from Spain.

Mr Crumpton did not bring in his battle-ready swords as it was not safe to touch the blades.

We would like to thank him for coming into our History lesson. It was interesting to learn about different swords.

by Daniel Clarke, Year 7

SPORTS NEWS

'Participation to reach Potential'

Cricket

Year 8: Our first match of the year saw us entertain Aston Manor in the Cup. After winning the toss, we put them in to bat and kept their score down to 48 all out off 17 overs, with some great bowling. The best came from **Adam Freezer**, with one wicket for no runs off 3 overs, and **Steven Jacques**, with 4 wickets for 5 runs off 3.4 overs. With such a low target we struggled at first to make any impact. In fact, we only looked like winning thanks to some poor bowling from the visitors. We were 44-5 in the last over and somehow lost 2 wickets with the first 2 balls, but two wides from the last two deliveries saw the scores go level and KNBS win by losing fewer wickets (the third time this team has managed that).

Our next match brought a strong Moseley side to the school. They batted first, and this time our fielding let us down, as they scored 79-3 off 16 overs.



Requiring 5 runs an over to win, we tried our hardest to pull off what would have been a great victory. However, we struggled to keep up with the required run rate, although Steven Jacques scored an impressive 29, including one massive 6. We fell 14 runs short of our target, finishing 65-4 off our 16 overs.

We were desperate to return to winning ways, and our next match was against Bournville at home. We lost the toss, and Bournville made us bat – something they came to regret. With an impressive second wicket stand of 96, Steven Jacques (34) and Adam Freezer (27) set us on our way to a Year 8 best of 119-3 off 20 overs. Bournville battled in vain to keep in the game and were finally bowled out for 45. KNBS won by 74 runs, with **Michael Ralph** coming from keeping wicket to bowl 3 overs for one run and grabbing 3 wickets.

Year 8 Cricket Festival: We attended this festival on a high after the recent demolition of Bournville. In a three-team tournament, we faced Kings Heath and Bishop Challoner. Our first game was against a very strong Kings Heath team who batted first and scored 82-6 off 15 overs, with some good fielding from Steven Jacques and **Joe Fox** keeping the score down. However, our batting line-up was in for a shock, as Kings Heath unleashed their main weapon: a lad who plays County Cricket and who could bowl at 75 mph. We fought hard but could not keep up with the run chase, ending up on 70-9 - with **Tom Caesar** top-scoring on 20 – therefore, losing by 12 runs.

Against Bishop Challoner we were put in to bat, and a poor display by the top order saw us at one stage 40-6. However, Joe Fox came to our rescue with a rapid 19, to leave us a good total of 76-8 off 15 overs. After a nervous couple of overs our bowlers and fielders finally got their act together, and we finished off Challoner for 53, with Adam Freezer claiming 3 run-outs with direct hits, leaving us victors by 23 runs.

Kings Heath quickly destroyed Bishop Challoner, leaving us runners-up in this year's festival.

Well done to all those who played!

Year 9 v Bournville: It was the boys' first game of the season owing to many rain delays. The extra time practising had definitely paid off, because we were able to record a thumping victory.

We put Bournville in to bat, and their openers managed to put on 20 runs without loss. Then **Beech** struck. He bowled with pace and accuracy, and he managed to tempt their best batsman to edge one behind to a diving **Bateston**. **Blaymires** kept it tight at the other end, putting pressure on the other opener to lash out and find himself trudging back to the pavilion (22-2). **Taylor and Byford** then bowled with great accuracy: Taylor picked up 4 wickets and Byford 3, as we reduced Bournville to 30 all out. A great display of bowling, and certainly one of the best I have seen in the last five years at KNBS.

Byford and Bateson opened the batting and took their time to reach 31 without either of them getting out. A great victory by an improving team.

I have often cited the importance of practice in this newsletter, but this is no more evident than with this team. I watched them at breaktime on Monday practising their batting and bowling because, as they said, 'they really want to win something this year'. With this attitude they will give every team a run for their money, especially if Taylor keeps bowling his special delivery, which he described in his own words as 'the first ball with swing and half spin'?? Nearly, Karl!

Year 9 v Bishop Challoner Sports College: A strange game in many ways! The boys had braced themselves for a tough encounter against a local sports college. However, it was all over in forty-five minutes.

After putting Challoner in to bat, we reduced them to 12-5 after 16 overs. This was mainly as a result of some fantastically tight bowling.

Murphy and Green opened the innings and closed the game out in two overs with a couple of big hits. **Restall** took his first wickets of the season, as did **Sheehan**.

Well done, lads!

Year 9 v Baverstock: After putting Baverstock, another Sports College, in to bat, we found it difficult to put their batsmen under pressure as they scored continually through their 16 overs. All of the bowlers bowled relatively well without really excelling themselves. Just as the game seemed to be drifting away from us, Byford managed to take 2 wickets and engineer 3 run-outs. Baverstock lost 3 wickets in the last over to reduce them to 62 all out.

KNBS batted well again, though still not up to our usual standard. Then Beech took control and scored 26 to steer us home with 4 overs to spare.

We have now played 3 and won 3 in the league and have a real chance of taking the championship.

Well done, boys: **Beech, Blaymires, Bateson, Byford, Aftab, Sheehan, Gately, Green, Laidley, Murphy, Restall, Iqbal, Greaves and Taylor**.

Year 10 v Lordswood: Only one word can describe our opening to the cricket season – rain! However, we have had some excellent practice sessions. This is why our defeat by Lordswood was even more hurtful. We bowled well, reducing them to 71-6 after 14 overs, with **Osman Ahmed and Daniel Page** bowling fast and straight and extracting lift from a sodden pitch. Our batting was disappointing, with only **Partridge and Adams** scoring any real runs. When we lost our last wicket with the score on 61, the lads looked thoroughly dejected.

Year 10 v Bournville: After putting Bournville in to bat, we found it very difficult to contain their obvious batting flair. **Page** was his usual - accurate and fast - but our other bowlers all seemed to have an 'off day' at the same time. Our fielding was poor, as was our throwing, which cost us an extra 15 runs. Bournville finished on 93 for 5.



After some harsh words by Mr Preece, we battled with a real determination. Adams and Partridge started well, and it soon became apparent that Bournville had no confidence in their bowling.

All the way through our innings we kept scoring, giving us a chance of victory. **Millard** then hit a ball that landed near Cotteridge to put us close to the target score. Page came in at the end and steadied the ship to give us a famous victory.

Well done, lads! We did not perform very well, but we showed real guts and determination.

Athletics at Norman Green Stadium, Solihull, on 8 June:

KNBS were invited to a prestigious athletics competition alongside some of the top schools in the Birmingham area (KE Camp Hill, KE Fiveways, KE Stratford, Handsworth Grammar and Fairfax). The boys, as always, did themselves proud with the important issue being that the boys should do their best and not worry about their position in the competitions.

'**Tiny**' **Tyrone Renford** was our first competitor in the very first race to record a personal best and a fantastic victory: he came first in the Year 8 800 m. He has shown a real talent for this event and will surely go on to bigger things.



Our other two victories on the evening belonged to **Joe Howes** (10.13 m in the triple jump) and **Jack Stoker** (41.27 m in the javelin).

Berhon Laidley recorded a second in the triple jump and a third place in the high jump. Tyrone also managed a third in the long jump, and **Steven Jacques** came third in the high jump.

Well done to all the boys who took part!

Year 7 Interform Short Tennis: Well done to the sixteen boys who took part in this event. The semi-finalists were:

Ryan Prosser v Jack Bentley
Joe Peach v Daniel Smith

The final was highly competitive with Jack Bentley defeating Daniel Smith 8-6.

Congratulations to all concerned!

7B	=	40 points
7D	=	30 points
7A	=	20 points
7C	=	10 points

KNBS Tag Rugby Tournament: KNBS hosted its first junior school sports tournament. St Joseph and Fairway Schools fielded three teams of six in a Tag Rugby Tournament that demonstrated a high standard and created an environment where everyone had a good time. St Joseph's went on to win the trophy, but the important objectives of enjoyment and fun were clearly achieved. Well done to all concerned!

Mr Preece

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday, 14 June

- SEN Drop-in Session: 3.15 pm.
- A2 Lessons start for Y12 (until 2 July).

Tuesday, 29 June

- Y8 Geography Fieldwork Visits this week.

Thursday, 1 July

- New Y12 Induction Trip.

Friday, 2 July

- Y7 Awards and Reports issued.
- July Newsletter issued.

Monday, 5 July

- Y7 Residential Visit departs (until 9 July).
- Y10 Work Experience Week 1.
- Induction Day and Parents' Meeting for new Y12 Students.
- Y12 Activities Week 1.

Tuesday, 6 July

- Y13 Leavers' Ball.

Wednesday, 7 July

- Induction Day for new Y7.

Thursday, 8 July

- Y8 Activities/Y9 Industry Day 1.

Friday, 9 July

- Y8 Activities/Y9 Industry Day 2.

Monday, 12 July

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

Wednesday, 14 July

- Y9 Awards and Reports issued.

Thursday, 15 July

- Y8 Awards and Reports issued.

Friday, 16 July

- Y10 Work Experience De-briefing, Awards and Reports issued.
- LAST DAY OF SUMMER TERM.