



# Edington and Shapwick

## Summer Diary 2008

# Dreams can become reality

At Speech day parents were told how the recent sale of the school to Kedleston UK (a company dedicated to providing education for children with special needs) will enable Edington and Shapwick to remain 'not just one of the best schools in it's field' but the national leader.

Mr Walker explained: "We now look forward to further progress with Kedleston who bring additional resources that will allow the school to develop. All systems and staff will remain in place and the management of the two schools will remain much as before." One of the most significant changes he said, would be the expansion of the Sixth Form, while a number of other plans were in place.

Mr Walker introduced the school leavers now going on to further study. Their future careers would be in subjects as varied as

land management, fashion, archaeology, music, animal care, agriculture, engineering, arts and design, computing and the performing arts.

The guest speaker was Colin Javens, who eight years ago broke his neck in a diving accident and in consequence endures permanent paralysis from the neck down. In an inspirational address he described how after the accident he had returned to university, gained his degree, and then embarked upon a career of raising funds to aid spinal injury research. He has raised over £500,000.

In one noteworthy venture, Colin, himself a dyslexic, drove a specially adapted Landrover from Stoke Mandeville Hospital 22,000 miles overland to Cape Town. It was, he explained, a long-held dream.

"My message to all is that if you have a dream and take it seriously, that dream can become reality. It happened to me."

His audience of parents, pupils and staff gave him a standing ovation louder than the sound of thunder and heavy rain beating down outside the marquee.





A glimpse of sunshine came just at the right moment for everyone to show off their trophies and cups

And the Winners Are ...