

BOOTH HOUSE

'THEY CAN CONQUER WHO BELIEVE THEY CAN' (Emerson)

If a House motto were needed, then the above quotation would be suitable, for it reflects the enthusiastic and confident attitude which the House has adopted towards competitions this year. The first indication of a change of House spirit came in the only contest of the Autumn Term, the House Music Competition. Under the guidance of Clive Black, Laurence Jones and Clive Roberts the House retained this trophy, defeating both Thomas and Gray by a comfortable margin. The House has not had a great deal of success in the 15-a-side Rugby competition over the past three years, but it was the general feeling that this was our year, and so it proved to be. Having defeated Thomas by 18 - 3, we went on to beat the holders, Gray, 12 - 4 in the final. Another success for Booth! Unfortunately, our superiority in the Rugby was not evident in the House Sevens. We were positioned third, and thoughts were that our luck and spirit were beginning to change. Fortunately, this was not so, for possibly the greatest Booth House success was still to come — the House Swimming Gala. Out of a possible five trophies to be won, Booth secured all but the Junior Department Individual Cup. Simon Dobbs (Junior), Jonathan Dakin (Intermediate) and Andrew Gregory (Senior) were the individual winners, and to cap this Booth won the House Swimming Cup which has not seen the Booth shelf for more than a decade. All this, and a victory by more than 30 points (a record?). The next success was the Cross-Country Cup, an unexpected but well-deserved capture. Andrew Little and Simon Sperring were Booth's individual winners, but once again it was the efforts of the not-so-talented that decided the issue in our favour. It is hoped that our run of success can be maintained throughout the Athletics and Cricket season and that, maybe, we can secure further trophies. Our congratulations go to David Walters, Geoffrey Ellis and Andrew Gregory on gaining their Senior Rugby Colours, and to Richard Williams, Captain of the very successful 2nd XV, and William Roberts on gaining their 2nd XV Colours. Finally, we should like to say a word of welcome to two new Booth House Masters, the Rev. P. R. Gould and J. P. Loughton — an ex-Booth House Captain himself — whose support, together with that of Mr. Harris, has been very much in evidence.

ANDREW GREGORY, House Captain
ANDREW HAYCOX, Vice-Captain

