



Please continue to send your children's personal sporting highlights out of school. As ever we are keen to celebrate all their successes. Please email details and any images to <a href="mailto:editor@downsend.co.uk">editor@downsend.co.uk</a>

Please keep an eye on <a href="https://www.schoolssports.com">www.schoolssports.com</a> for team sheets and match results. Follow us on Twitter @DownsendSport.

Howard Roberts & Marie Seivewright

#### **Biathlon**





**Team and Individual Success at the British Modern Biathlon Championships** 

Following on from the success at the Southern Region Biathlon 14 boys and girls from Downsend qualified to take part in the British Modern Biathlon in Solihull at the weekend. This competition is another event that enables the pupils to improve on their times for the British Schools Finals in March.

A large number of competitors at this event participate in biathlon through specific pentathlon/biathlon clubs and therefore the competition is tougher, especially on the track with club runners dominating the field.

After a busy week at school, the pupils headed up to Solihull ready to compete in this National final. The cold conditions proved tough for some of our competitors but they continued on knowing the warmth of the pool was to come next! A number of personal bests were achieved on the track as well as in the pool.

After the performances on the track the boys and girls headed to the pool. Once again the pupils showed strength in the pool swimming well, knocking vital seconds off their times and adding valuable points to their overall scores. Strong performances both in the pool and on the track ensured a great team score from all the pupils.

Once the boys and girls completed their event we then had the wait for the final results. It gives me great pleasure to announce that our U10 Boys team are National Champions and our U10 Girls team are National Runners up. Congratulations to all involved.

A special mention to Angus W who performed superbly both on the track and in the pool (with an injured knee!) winning the silver medal in the individual competition. Well done Angus.

The U12 boys were beaten to the podium by three very strong Whitgift teams but should be equally proud of themselves for reaching the National Final. The U12 girls performed superbly as individuals, both improving their ranking.

We now look forward to the British School's Finals in March.

I would like to thank all the pupils who participated in the competition; once again you performed strongly and with courage to succeed. It was a tougher competition but everyone should be proud of their achievements at a National Final! Thank you also to the parents for their continued support.

Miss Seivewright

Competitors over the weekend included:

Angus W, Monty H, Adam V, Megan R, Kitty M, Alice U, Olivia B, Noah B-W, Jack M, Thomas U, Elizabeth H and Natasha C



## Rugby



#### **U13A Rugby Team Shine at Wellington Rugby Festival**

On a windy day the U13A rugby squad travelled to Wellington College to take part in their annual prep schools rugby festival. The boys had performed well in their first fixture, the previous Saturday against Feltonfleet, winning 40-5 and we were all excited about what the day had in store.

We had five games to play across the day, starting with another match against Feltonfleet. We won, but this time by a solitary try, 5-0. There were some positive elements to the performance. Our attacking lines were dangerous and we demonstrated good handling skills.

Our second game was against Horris Hill. We put in a much improved performance in the first half, where our support play progressed and we kept possession with greater consistency. Leading 10-5 at half time, things took a turn for the worse as we dropped our levels of intensity and physicality. The match ended in a 10-20 defeat.

The boys were disappointed and aimed to put things right in their next fixture. A straightforward 25-5 victory against Wetherby ensued. The attacking play was again a highlight and there were some super tries scored.

After an honest talk as a team, the boys approached their next fixture against Hall Grove with a super attitude. From the first whistle to the last, they played with power and determination, making big hits in defence and attacking with electric pace. The tries scored were brilliant and the 35-0 score line was a fair reflection of how well we played.

This set up a brilliant final game against local rivals, Cranmore. The boys were very excited for the game and leapt out to an early lead through a very well worked try. We maintained the pressure on Cranmore throughout the match. The Cranmore boys tackling was excellent and our support play was equal strong to match this, keeping the game tight. Cranmore equalised in the second half with some quick thinking after a turnover. An intercept try for Cranmore then put them ahead. On the last play Downsend used the ball well to create an overlap and score the equalising try in the corner.

This was a very positive day for the team. They demonstrated that they have much potential as a side, especially when they have an aggressive and dynamic attitude. There was some excellent play from all but we would like to thank the four Year 7 boys who stepped up an age group and raised their game so well on the day. Also we would like to thank the parental support we received on the day and the great level of positivity given to the team.

Mr Thompson and Mr Roberts

Squad: Roman H-T, Ethan S, Oscar A, Oliver G, Jonny P, Lukas E, Fraser L, Marco H, Louis P, Teddy K, George T, Oliver C, Tom D, Lachie T, Sonny A, Matthew Y, Turkay S-CMr

#### **Team Sheets**

All team sheets are posted on the schools sports website at least 2 days in advance of the scheduled matches. Please do check through the calendar to see when all matches are for your son/daughter's year group. It is common practice that they are predominately on the same afternoon but on occasions this may differ.

The link to the Downsend home page is <a href="here">here</a> - <a href="http://www.schoolssports.com/school/?id=958">http://www.schoolssports.com/school/?id=958</a> Alternatively you can click on the link at the top of the Downsend website.

Once you are in the website you can either select the team by the calendar option or by the sport that is needed. A small icon that looks like a little blue man will appear if the team sheet has been added. This provides all the information that will be needed for the match.

# Pick up from practices

Just a quick reminder that all boys and girls must be picked up from the location of the practice by an appropriate adult. Children will not be able to leave to meet parents at any other location.

### **Match Results**

#### **Football**

| Cougars | Lanesborough | Won  |
|---------|--------------|------|
| Jaguars | Lanesborough | Lost |
| Lions   | Lanesborough | Lost |
| Pumas   | Lanesborough | Lost |
| Tigers  | Lanesborough | Lost |

#### Hockey

| 1 <sup>st</sup> VII | Cranleigh  | Lost |
|---------------------|------------|------|
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> VII | Cranleigh  | Lost |
| U11A                | Danes Hill | Won  |
| U11B                | Danes Hill | Lost |
| U11C (Red)          | Danes Hill | Won  |
| U11C (Black)        | Danes Hill | Won  |

# **Other Sporting News**

Well done to Ben W, Angus W, James W, Jamie T, Findlay S and Alexander C who all competed in the Box Hill Club Champs at the weekend and picked up an impressive medal haul!





Well done to Matthew Y who played for Sutton and Epsom RFC U12 v Chobham at the weekend and scored 8 tries. He was awarded 'Man of the Match' by the Chobham team.



Well done to Lucas R who competed in the South East England Chess Championship that took place at the weekend.

Lucas scored enough points to get a Rosetta in this very competitive and high profile tournament.

It was a very long day for Lucas with 5 games over a period of 5 hours. Everyone at home is very proud of him.



Well done to Ben W who took part in the Surrey Open Airgun competition last Sunday at The National Shooting Centre, Bisley. Ben competed in the junior spotter rifle category; a course of fire of 40 shots at 10 metres in a one hour time limit.

Results have not yet been published but Ben was pleased with his performance given that this was his first major individual squadded competition.





## **Next Week @ Downsend**

Please see a list of next week's fixtures at www.schoolssports.com

# **Sports Notices**

Team Selection Policy and Sport for All Schools Sports Website Sports Fixture Line Parents' Swimming

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