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DOWNSEND
SCHOOL

DOWNSEND SPORTS BULLETIN

07 March 2019

Welcome from the Sports Department

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 editor@downsend.co.uk.

Please keep an eye on www.schoolssports.com for team sheets and match results. Follow us on Twitter [@DownsendSport](https://twitter.com/DownsendSport)

The Sports Department

U12 IAPS Netball Team Reach National Finals



Last Friday the U12 netball team headed to Hurst School to take part in the qualifying round of the IAPS netball tournament. As with any of these competitions it is a tough event and we knew it would be a busy day ahead and we had to work hard to fight for a place at National Finals.

With slightly fewer schools taking part in the U12 age group the girls had to play a round robin competition and were faced with 8 games throughout the course of the day. A strong first match against Holmewood House finished with a 9-0 win and gave the girls the positive start they needed. Our next game against Burgess Hill Girls School was a tougher game and unfortunately a few errors stopped us scoring resulting in a 3-3 draw. Not to be disheartened by this, the girls had no rest before their next game the girls were playing each game at a time and trying not to think about the results from the other teams. Our next two matches were strong wins so with four more matches to play we knew things would be tight at the top of the table.

With a tough game against Brighton College next the girls had to dig deep and try and keep the score line close. Despite the loss they carried on and didn't allow this to affect their play. The next two games resulted in one win and one loss and so we headed into our final game unsure of the placings.

The final game was an extremely close game against Windlesham House. The ball went from end to end with a few missed goals from both teams as the nerves and tension took hold. The final whistle blew with the score at 4-3 to Downsends. We now had to wait patiently for the results.

As the results were read out we knew we had finished inside the medals but not sure exactly where. A fantastic 3rd place finish was achieved and bronze (rose gold) medals were presented to the girls. The top 2 schools secured a place at National Finals but after the presentation the coach from Brighton College came over to myself and the girls and said that they wouldn't be able to attend the finals for a couple of reasons and that the place would be ours! In order not to tempt fate, I informed the girls and parents that we should wait for official confirmation from IAPS before overly celebrating! The long wait over the weekend was rewarded with the confirmation on Monday that we have been invited to the National Finals. This was a fantastic result for the hard work the girls have put in!



We now wish them the best of luck at Epsom College on Friday 22nd March.

Team - Rhianna P, Damla S, Elizabeth H, Chloe M, Gracie N, Mia K, Natasha C, Evie S, Alexa E-M

Thank you to all the girls for their hard work and to the parents for their continued support.

Miss Seivewright

U11A Sevens Team enjoyed more success at Thomas' Festival



After a slow start the boys played some outstanding rugby. They kept possession of the ball really well and demonstrated outstanding handling and teamwork. The key was to move the ball quickly and make the opposition work hard in defence, something we achieved with great success in numerous 'switch play' tries. For their first exposure to the game all the boys picked up the skills and tactics really well and should be very proud of scoring 27 tries and conceding 9 wins over Wetherby Prep, Fulham Prep, Thomas' Battersea and Harrodian saw us stamp our mark on the London market!

Well done to all the boys on a great start to the season.

Squad: Alex D, Luca CS, Angus W, Curtis T, Charlie K, Jacob G, Ralph M, Ralphie A, Felix A, Louie L.

Jon Albert



GB Hockey Masterclass



The girls across Year 2, 3 and 4 were very fortunate to be able to take part in a two hour hockey masterclass

on Friday afternoon with two current senior GB International and Surbiton hockey club players. Both Hannah Martin and James Gall, fresh from their recent GB Pro-League matches in Australia, NZ and China, set the girls challenges and skills to develop and improve their hockey, demonstrated some of their amazing stick work and shooting ability, answered questions and signed many sticks and photos.



Hannah is renowned for her speed, trickery and goal scoring ability and helped England to EuroHockey bronze by scoring in their 2-0 win over Germany in 2017. She first picked up a hockey stick in Year 4 at Ipswich School and once she got going there was no stopping her. She has also won a European Championships Under-18 bronze medal and a bronze medal with Team GB at the 2013 Australian Youth Olympic Festival.

James appeared at his first Commonwealth Games in Australia 2018 where the team won a bronze medal. He previously represented his country at U16, U18 and U21 level. He first represented GB in 2017 helping the team win the Sultan Azlan Shah Cup. He plays in midfield, is strong and fast on and off the ball with incredible stick skills and the ability score goals. He is a Surrey born player and learnt his hockey at Cranleigh school and Surbiton hockey club.



The girls were amazing, very receptive, asking many questions and really got involved in the activities. Highlights were some of the girls challenging Hannah on a 1-1, with Tileena T successfully getting the ball and James reverse striking the ball at a nominated corner of the goal depending on where the girls shouted.

Talking to Will Fulker, Head of Colt's coaching at Surbiton HC, and Hannah and James afterwards they were thoroughly impressed with how the girls approached the afternoon, they were fully engaged and a number of the girls' impressed the coaches with their talents.

Photos and videos of the afternoon can be viewed on the VLE under sports, hockey, masterclass.

Well done to all the girls who took part.

Fiona Fitch

U10A Rugby Team @ Donhead Prep



The U10A rugby team played in a very strong competition at Donhead Prep on Saturday 2nd March. In the group stage some fantastic rugby was played resulting in us beating CLFS, Thomas' Clapham and a very strong Donhead Prep team. This resulted in us winning the group and progressing through to the winners pool.

The winners pool was a tough group and had some of our fiercest rivals in it. First we played Cranmore winning the game 20-5. We then faced a very strong Danes Hill side who we narrowly beat 10-5. Our third and final game in the winners pool was against Rokeby who we beat 20-10 resulting in us finishing unbeaten

throughout the festival. We were the only school at the tournament to remain unbeaten which was a big achievement given the standard of competition.

Big congratulations to Ted C and Bobby H for winning the teams best players medals. Also a special mention to Zac S who took quite a big knock to his knee in the game against Cranmore but was able to pick himself up and play in the final 2 games. Well done to all who took part – Toby D, Toby T, Zac S, Bobby H, Ted C, Ned S, Louie S, Max L & Alex G.

Grant Lawrence

Guildford High Cross Country



Last Monday over 200 girls from a number of different schools took to Stoke Park to take part in the Guildford High Cross Country. Once again it was great to take a large team to this event where we knew the competition was strong.

The Year 3 girls were off first and headed down the hill in Stoke Park at considerable speed. The pace slowed as they carried on into the 1.2km course. They ran extremely well in tougher conditions than last time, with more mud to contend with!

Next on the course was the Year 4 girls who, once again, were determined to try their best and ran well. They were followed by the Year 5 team who ran well and achieved good results, increasing the distance run to 1.6km.

The final race of the day was the Year 6 girls who were also competing over 1.6km. Once again the girls represented the school with grit and determination. A great afternoon of running and well done to all the girls who took part.

Congratulations to Tileena T (Year 3) and Lauren Le Q (Year 4) who once again both finished inside the top 10 in their respective Year groups.

Marie Seivewright

Surrey Hockey Cup



After a lovely spring week winter was back and it was time for our U12's to play their Surrey Hockey Cup at Kingston Grammar School. With their new tournament coats and plenty of energy we started our warm up. Games were 7 minutes each way with 2 minutes team talk.

Priors Field were our first opponents, and we played our best first tournament game ever. With a final score of 5-0 the girls were into the tournament from the very beginning. Just one game off to rest and we were back playing Emmanuel. Another outstanding performance with a 5-0 win and compliments from the other team coaches. Our next game was against Surbiton High School, it was a close game with plenty of opportunities. Unfortunately, in the final minute Surbiton HS picked a ball at the top of our circle and scored. At the final whistle the final score was a 0-1 loss. With a quick turnaround between games, we headed to play St John's. Our girls were playing fast and transferring the ball from one side to the other controlling the game. The goal was going to come at any time and it did, by the end of the first half we were 1-0 up.

On to the second half and with some controversial decisions the game finished with a 1-2 loss. After two games in a row we had a little break to have quick snack and get our positive energy back. So we did, we went into our game against Ibstock Place with a positive focus and came back with a 4-0 win. Playing our

best hockey we headed into our last pool match vs Wimbledon High School. Attacking throughout the game and with lots of shots on goal, saved by a great goal keeper we finished with a 1-0 win.

The weather was getting worse and the wind was blowing harder. Knowing we could have played the final but had two unlucky games that took us out of the qualification to semi finals, with 12pts we finished up third in our pool. We had one more game to play against the team that finished third in pool B, Hollyfield. Knowing it was our last hockey match of the year we went and played it like a final. Transferring the ball, playing as a team, having control of the game we ended up winning 3-1.

Now it was time to go back to school with lots of compliments of outstanding hockey and team game from all of the opposition. Our girls played an amazing tournament scoring 19 goals and just letting in 4 in just 7 matches of 14 minutes. Playing at our highest level we finished our hockey season looking forward for the next one to arrive soon.

Congratulation girls for such a high level of hockey, I am proud of you.

Miss Ceci RT



U9 Milbourne Festival



The U9A rugby team battled with enthusiasm, determination and better tactical understanding in the Milbourne Rugby Festival on Monday. The defensive press, followed by committed tackling, is the area that has improved the most and put the opposition under real pressure when they had the ball. This resulted in

numerous turn overs and the ensuing possession lead to tries, especially against CLFS and the Milbourne 'B' side.

In attack the boys ran hard and with confidence, offloaded with increasing consistency and scored lots a tries against all the teams they played. Against Milbourne 'A' and Cumnor House the boys put themselves under pressure however by standing too flat in attack and so gave passes that went behind the supporting players. To develop their play even further the boys should make every effort to stand deeper and more spaced out in attack. Organising our defensive line so that we line up man for man will also help the team progress.

Overall this was a very good performance from the team. Well played everyone!

'A' squad: Henry J, Joe C, Riley N, Archie N, Sam Y, Sawyer K, Tommy G, Tommy C and Zach W.

Rupert Howe

U9B Rugby Tournament @ Lanesborough



The U9B Rugby team travelled over to Lanesborough on Monday 4th March to play in a hotly contested development rugby festival. 7 teams entered the festival with the festivals aim being to improve attacking rugby. The tackle law was modified to anyone being held would immediately class as a tackle to encourage more passing and running rugby. This objective was certainly achieved as there was a large amount of tries scored from all teams attending.

The boys battled valiantly winning 3 games, drawing 1 and losing 2. The 2 games that we did lose were to schools A teams which was a shame but totally understandable. In our 3 wins we demonstrated some excellent attacking running rugby trying to change our lateral lines of running to being more direct, which certainly improved as the festival progressed.

Well done to the following boys who took part in the tournament – Aidan H, Finlay G-S, Horatio M, Benji S, Henry H & Aidan W.

Grant Lawrence

U7A Football Tournament @ Hawthorns



On Saturday 2nd March the U7A Football team visited The Hawthorns School for their annual football tournament. On the ball the boys were asked to find their own space, time their passes when needed and be confident on the ball. Off the ball we wanted to make the boys aware of the hard work required.

Archie R showed his unselfishness by finding some great passes to team mates and capped it off with a fantastic goal. Alex C showed the importance of drawing players in before releasing a pass. Brady J, Fin P-S and Toby H showed some fantastic individual close control. A special mention to George M and Jasper T who stepped up and showed their hard work!

Well done boys on an excellent morning of football.

Josh Evans

Year 2 and 3 Hockey Tournament



There was a great turn out from Year 2 and 3 girls on Saturday morning to put in to practise their hockey skills learnt in their masterclass the day before. Fielding seven 'wild animal' teams from the Zestful Zebras to the Marvellous Meerkats, each team had a joker card to play which gave them double points if they won their game. There was also a team activity during their rest period, A-Z of Sport, where they could gain additional points for the number of sports named.

The mixed year group teams worked really well together and the year 3 captains did a great job integrating the year 2's. Across the games there was some great skills and team work on display resulting in lots of goals. The tackling was strong and the passion and desire to win was clearly on display. Well done girls for a great morning of hockey and congratulations to the winning team, The Leaping Lions, lead by Amy J.

A big thank you to the games staff that umpired the games (Mrs Cooper-James, Miss Ceci and Miss Seivewright) and a special mention to the following children from the Upper School who helped run the team A-Z activity, timing the matches and assisting with the games – Ben W, James W, Brooke T, Kristy Mc.

Fiona Fitch

Other Sporting News

A Great Family Weekend of Sport!

One Downsend family had a great weekend of sport with both Sophia and Alexander doing the family proud. Firstly Sophia competed in a national Karate Tournament finishing second overall and winning a

silver medal. Secondly, Alexander played in Sutton & Epsom's rugby festival and won the teams best defending player, helping his team to some very impressive performances against tough opposition.

Well done to both Sophia and Alexander on an excellent weekend of sporting success!





Curtis T Meets England's Top Man

Curtis T was lucky enough to meet England's Head Coach Eddie Jones on Sunday at the Camberley festival. Curtis was playing in a tournament for his club side (Dorking) when randomly Eddie Jones turned up to support the tournament. Eddie's arrival was met by a huge crowd with a number of Downsends boys lucky enough to meet him. Let's hope that the boys' good style rugby can help inspire Eddie Jones to get the England team back on track in their final 2 games in the 6 Nations against Italy and Scotland!



Well done to Gregor D in Year 3 who braved the elements at the weekend with his Dorking team to put in a fantastic tagging and try scoring performance, winning all their matches. Well done boys!



Attendance at Clubs / Practices

If your son/daughter is unable to attend a practice or sports club please can you ensure you let the PE department know in advance. We need to ensure that all our pupils are in the correct place at all times. Pick up from sports practices will be at the location of the practice, pupils will not be released to meet parents/carers at any other location.

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.

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 child's year group. It is common practice that they are predominately on the same afternoon but on occasions this may differ.

Within the website you can either select the team, calendar option or by the sport. 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.

Don't forget you will now need the password to access the team sheets.

Sports Notices

[Team Selection Policy and Sport for All](#)

[Parents' Swimming](#)

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