



DOWNSEND
SCHOOL

DOWNSEND SPORTS BULLETIN

27 June 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



I am delighted to inform you that, this morning, we received the news that Downsend has been shortlisted for 'Independent School of the Year for Sporting Achievement', at the Independent Schools of the Year 2019 Awards. We are hugely honoured to be nominated for these prestigious awards, won last year by some of the finest schools in the country: Wellington College, Sedbergh, Canford and Fettes to name but a few. It is a testament to our continued ambition and success in the competitive sporting world of independent schools, that Downsend is being mentioned in the same breath!

The panel were impressed with the inclusivity of our sporting approach and provision. Our school provides opportunities for all to compete regularly, in over 1000 fixtures a year, whilst providing an elite pathway and extensive support for community sport to flourish. I am very proud that this approach has been recognised and will have my fingers crossed for good news when the Awards are presented in October. Every Downsend pupil and coach has contributed to earning us this recognition, and I hope that you enjoy celebrating it with them at the various Sports Days, which begin this afternoon.

Ian Thorpe, Head

Match Results

All match results can be also be viewed on Schoolsports [here](#).

Girls Cricket

U9A	Notre Dame	Won
U9B	Notre Dame	Won
U9C	Notre Dame	Won

Boys Cricket

U9A	Danes Hill	Won
U9B	Danes Hill	Won
U9C	Danes Hill	Lost
U9D	Danes Hill	Tie

English Schools Swimming Association Primary Team Championships National Finals 15th June 2019





Following on from the success of the U11 Boys Medley Relay team at the South East Regional Championships the boys travelled up to Sheffield to compete in the English Schools Swimming Association – Primary Team Championships National Finals. The boys enjoyed a relaxed afternoon in Sheffield, before fuelling up at Pizza Express and having an early night in preparation for the swim on Saturday afternoon.

For all the competitors to compete at such a fantastic pool as the International pool – Ponds Forge, Sheffield is an achievement in itself.

After the ceremonies and National Anthem we didn't have to wait long for our first swim. The heat of our event – the boy's medley relay. Whilst waiting to swim we cheered on other local schools and made sure we kept ourselves cool as the heat in the pool area can be really draining.

The competition brings together the top 24 schools in the country. The heats take place to whittle down the number of teams progressing to the 'A' and 'B' finals. The aim is to qualify well for one of the finals. With some great swimming and safe takeovers the boys swam a fantastic new personal best as a team but we still had to wait for the other heats to finish before we could find out which final we were in. Waiting patiently and watching the times of every school we believed we had finished in an outstanding 3rd place. The confirmation came through and we had indeed qualified for the 'A' final with the third fastest time.

Making the final 8 in the country after having gone through all the previous rounds is in itself a phenomenal achievement. The boys were excited and ready for the FINAL! Knowing that the final would be a closely fought competition we had to swim fast with safe changeovers and display the excellent swimming that we have demonstrated in the past in order to finish in a podium position.

The final was tight from the beginning and with some super swimming, cheering from the gallery and poolside we knew it was going to be a close finish. A confident start, successful and safe changeovers, fast swimming and strong finishing ensured a podium place. From visually looking at the finish and touches I was pretty sure that we had maintained the 3rd place but waited for the final confirmation. This seemed to take forever, with heart racing and hands shaking I could see that we had come third! We then headed straight to the podium for our medal ceremony. Two of the top three places were from schools in the South East of the country with a number of other schools in

the final from the South East or London region, demonstrating the standard of swimming in the South of the country as exceptionally high.

We now have another shield to add to the display in the Sports Hall corridor, and pride in achieving such a great result. I have thoroughly enjoyed coaching the boys during the build up to this competition and was delighted that they achieved this reward. Over 750 schools start out in the competition in the preliminary rounds, so to finish 3rd Nationally is a fantastic achievement and a testament to their hard work and determination. I'm very proud of you all.

A huge thank you to all the parents who travelled up with the boys - you have been a great support to me and the children throughout every stage of this competition.

Team: Angus W, James W, Leo L and George P

Marie Seivewright

Epsom College Prep Schools Athletics Meet 14th June 2019





Over 170 young athletes, watched by a large crowd of supporters, took part in the Epsom College Prep Schools' Athletics Competition and Barbecue. 24 pupils from Downsend were among this very competitive field.

Each pupil was allowed to compete in one individual event plus the relay so we had to think carefully about our teams in order to achieve the highest amount of points possible.

Our Year 6 teams competed strongly in both the field and on the track, some participating in events that they weren't overly familiar with, but produced some pleasing results. Special mention to Jada J who won her 200m and Luca C-S who finished 3rd in his 200m race.

For our Year 7 & 8 teams, many had competed at this event previously so understood the format. As always, they performed with determination and pride. It was fantastic to watch our Year 8 boys relay team perform excellent changeovers to secure a clear victory, their technique would have put the GB Men's 4x100m team to shame!

Stand out performances from our Year 7 & 8's came from Emerson N (Bronze – Shot Put), Toby W (Gold – 200m), Louie P (Silver – Discus), Sonny A (Bronze – Long Jump) and Harry McD (Silver – Shot Put)

The afternoon produced some excellent athletics with many competitors achieving personal bests.

Following the relay races, competitors and their families made their way to the presentations and BBQ, where they were able to socialise with friends and family before the presentations took place. There were individual prizes for the medal winners of each event and an overall shield for the winners of each age group.

The presentations got underway with the medals mentioned above presented. It was fantastic to hear that the Year 8 boys team finished in a very respectable 2nd place overall. When the full results came through we found out that we missed out on the gold medal by 1 point!

The girls and boys performed extremely well and were a credit to the school. Well done to all who took part and thank you to the parents for coming to support.

Marie Seivewright

Other Sporting News

A big congratulations to Thomas B and William R in year 5, who both collected Most Improved Footballer awards for the season with their respective teams at Leatherhead Youth FC.



Congratulations to Elliot M, Ethan L-T and George G, who competed over the last 3 weekends in the Epsom District Swimming Club 2019 Championships. Despite tough competition, all three of the boys won a variety of 1st, 2nd and 3rd places across a range of events. Well done boys - a fantastic achievement!



Congratulations to Joe C, who won the U9 event in the latest Neil Desai Squash Super Series tournament, held at Ebbisham Squash Club on the 23rd June. Well done Joe!



Oliver F has been busy polishing up his hockey umpiring skills by becoming one of the youngest umpires at the Surrey Youth Games held at Surrey Sports park recently. He thoroughly enjoyed the experience, learning from highly qualified umpires, and even got to umpire the Final.

On Sunday, GB hockey came to The Stoop in Twickenham where GB men and women took on New Zealand in the FIH Pro League. Oliver F was extremely proud to be invited to hold the flag during the National Anthem.





Inspiring young minds
