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## SPORTS REPORT

13 October 2023

### S3/S4 Girls – Netball Matches v CEC & CTK at Cowes Enterprise College, Wednesday 11 October

#### Team:

(S3) Nina (GS), Maddie (WD), Neve (WD)

(S4) Hannah (GK), Amy (C/GD), Eleanor (WA), Mai (GA), Francesca (GD/C), Laura (WA),

**Report:** Wednesday afternoon saw the return of competitive fixtures for the S4 Netball team. Our first game was against Cowes Enterprise College. Cowes got off to a quick start and built a lead of two goals. As the half progressed our girls became more acclimatised to the bigger court. Amy did well to dictate the play from the centre, feeding Mai and Nina to create attacking openings. Our perseverance was rewarded in the closing minutes of the half when Mai produced a clinical shot from just under the basket to take the score to 3 – 1 to Cowes.

After a short gap to play the first half against CTK, we returned to complete the second half of the game against Cowes. With a few positional adjustments the game was underway, and it was already evident that the girls' confidence had grown as they were starting to produce some beautiful free flowing netball. Hannah was getting stuck in ensuring their GS was restricted to just a few shots, and Amy marked their GA tightly to pinch the ball off her on many occasions. This half we had a different goal scorer in Nina who produced a fine finish to ensure we got on the board in the second half. The game ended 6 -2 Cowes, however, was closer than the score reflected.

Player of the match: Hannah Charnley: Was a nuisance to Cowes attacking players, constantly getting in front of them to disrupt their attacking play. A great defensive display.

Our second game was against Christ the King. The game got off to a cagey start with few chances being created. CTK landed the first blow to take a lead. However an exquisite shot from Mai, close to the edge of the shooting circle, brought the score back to 1-1. CTK grabbed another goal towards the end of the first half to take a narrow lead.

The second half began, and we quickly hit back with another goal from Nina. Laura and Eleanor began to find pockets of space in the channels of the court such that we always had an attacking outlet for our team if the middle of the court became overcrowded. This tactical advantage served us well with Mai managing to get on the score board and take us level with CTK. Amy, Neve and Maddie did a brilliant job at marking their GD and WD respectively, pinching the ball and making them become increasingly frustrated. However, CTK managed to break through our tight defence and score another goal.

With the clock ticking down we had one last chance. Francesca produced a beautiful over the top ball to Mai who popped a pass to Nina, who had a shot. As the whistle blew the ball was travelling through the air and all eyes were on the basket as the ball dropped in, for us to snatch a draw in the dying seconds with the game ending 4-4.

Player of the match: Amy Lee: Did a brilliant job as Goal Defence marking tightly and intercepting, as well as producing some beautiful passes to link well with Francesca and get our attacks underway.



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The girls should be very pleased with their effort during the games. They should take a lot of confidence in how they continued to improve as the game progressed and have set themselves a great foundation to build from in future netball fixtures.

Well done to all.

RM

### **S3/S4 Girls – Netball Matches v CEC & CTK at Cowes Enterprise College, Wednesday 11 October**

#### **Team:**

(S3) Jess (C), Lola, Bella M, Bella W, Caris, Millie, Daisy, Bluebell

**Report:** On Wednesday our S3 Netball team faced Cowes EC and CTK in a triangular netball tournament.

We played Cowes in the first game and they had a very strong team. Cowes started strong holding the bulk of the possession and the team struggled to defend. They quickly took a 1-0 lead. However, Priory were quick to turn that around and evened the game to 1-1. Caris played wonderfully as WA during this game; she constantly drove into space giving passing options to her teammates. Daisy was GS for this game, working hard to move away from her defender in the shooting circle to be free for the ball. Lola worked alongside Daisy, giving great options for a pass in the centre court and progressing down to the shooting circle. Lola was a very strong shooter during this game and this was evident in her shot accuracy. Bluebell played both WA and GS during this game, working hard to find the space on the court to make a successful pass. Priory continued to push Cowes and after an even game for the first 3 quarters, Priory broke through taking the lead in the final quarter, ending 6-4 to Priory.

In the second match, Priory played CTK. This is where our defensive team of Bella M, Bella W and Millie came to play. Bella M had an incredibly difficult job of marking a county level netballer, but she did not let this dull her spirits. Bella worked hard to put pressure on the GA, forcing mistakes and allowing for turnovers; she consistently jumped for balls and marked the attacker brilliantly. Bella W also worked incredibly hard as GK. She marked her GS very tightly allowing her to receive the ball only a handful of times during the game. A great defensive combination from the Bellas! Finally, Millie worked incredibly hard as WD to defend the ball in the middle (centre) third. Millie's confidence developed greatly throughout the game and she really put up a fight to make it difficult for the opposition. Unfortunately for Priory, CTK had an incredibly strong defence which was tough to break. Although Lola managed to get an incredible goal in, the game ended 16-1 to CTK.

This team worked very hard to improve their netball throughout the afternoon. They looked like an entirely different team by the end, confident in themselves, each other and their decision making. These girls should be proud of their resilience during the game against CTK, this is what will make the difference between a good netball team and a great one.

Player of the match: Jess Smith - Jess received player of the match from both opposition teams, an impressive and well deserved achievement.



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LM



#### Y4/Y5/Y6 – PEACH TAG Rugby Festival – Queensgate Foundation School, Thursday 12 October

##### Team:

**Report:** This wasn't a tournament as we understood; it was in fact a training hour.

All of the children were in excellent spirits and set about every drill with wonderful enthusiasm. Even when the rain came down they kept on task and showed a real enthusiasm to improve. Sadly they didn't get to put their skills into a fixture. However they thoroughly enjoyed themselves and represented Priory extremely well.

AW





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## Sports Stars of the Week

Sport this week has continued from last week with rugby and hockey as the main focus, with football and cross-country training in preparation for post half term fixtures. Fitness this week was the mile and half mile run, and we are seeing times improving all the time.

On Monday in PE we began with a tag rugby and football split for the younger seniors, while the older seniors worked on netball skills, assisting the girls with one last training session before switching to football.

On Tuesday it was rugby and hockey as usual, with everyone working hard on their skills and match practice.

Wednesday saw the senior girls team off to their netball fixture, while the rest of the senior group remained at school for hand hockey, rugby drills and rugby mini matches. We also practiced for the cross-country relay event, which comprises 4 runners, each running 1000m.

On Thursday the Peach Rugby Tag Team travelled to Queensgate (see above), with the rest of the juniors on the school field preparing for football fixtures later in the term. Friday's PE lessons were interrupted by a bit of rain, but we still managed to continue football training after an indoor wet weather quiz.

The **Junior Sports Star** for this week is awarded to **Sidney Barnes** for his unwavering enthusiasm in PE and Games. He is keen to improve, asks sensible questions and has a big smile on his face even when he is tiring during fitness work. Sidney was keen to go to the Peach Tag Rugby Festival and tried his hardest throughout.

The **Senior Sports Star** is **Jess Smith**. Jess always pushes herself in every sport and event we do, she runs hard in both the mile run and multi level fitness test, and you will always see Jess getting stuck in during competitive encounters. This week, she showed other schools how good she is at netball and was twice nominated as player of the match by separate opposition teams.

It is always difficult for the PE Department to choose our sports stars as we have so many worthy contenders every week. As we come to the end of the half term, we would like to say that we are very proud of the school as a whole and look forward to seeing how they all apply themselves against the challenges other schools will provide.

Mr Byrne