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## SPORTS REPORT

15 March 2024

### S1 & S2 and S3 & S4 Boys – Hockey v Ryde School – Smallbrook Stadium – Sat 9 March

**Team:** (S1) Aubrey, Cameron, Archie, Sam R, Isaac, Lucas  
(S2) Isaac, Solomon, Stan, Toby  
(S3) Austin H, Raymond, Hector, Victor  
(S4) Noah, Finlay, Joe, Harry R, Kirby, Ethan, Tom S

#### **Report:**

##### Game 1

A really strong performance from this group. To win 2-1 against their B team is a good result. Ethan and Joe worked really hard and created lots of opportunities. Austin H was excellent and is a very gifted player. Harry R played very well on the wing.

It was an exciting game to umpire, full of end-to-end stuff. Through Tom and Kirby, we managed to dominate up the middle which created our 1st goal, scored by Ethan. They came back with a goal to make it 1-1 at half time.

Priory dominated the second half with hard defence and a superior work rate. Again, Joe and Ethan led from the front, converting the last goal to seal the win. Sports wise it's clear these boys can play hockey, even with limited opportunities to practice. Very well done.

##### Games 2 and 3

These were very much opportunities for our younger lads to play Saturday hockey fixtures. For those that made it, it was an excellent morning. Results wise we were a little behind. However, to see the lads getting better as every minute ticked by, was fantastic. A lot of the rugby boys played, and it was clear Sam and Cameron's competitiveness was as strong in hockey as it is in rugby. Tom stepped in to support Toby, who played really well and gained lots of confidence.

This was a great training opportunity on an artificial surface and the boys certainly enjoyed the pastries after the game.



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## S4 Boys – Basketball Tournament – Medina College – Tuesday 12 March

**Team:** (S4) Joe, Noah, Finlay, Kirby, Ethan, Tom S, Nikita

### Report:

After last week's dominance of Ryde, the boys were hopeful of winning this competition and progressing. Unfortunately, we were unable to take our full squad.

#### Game 1 Carisbrooke

A low scoring game, although hard fought. Both teams needed time to adapt to the smaller back boards and the lack of lines showing the playing area. In addition, we were a little out of sync, as players roles and responsibilities had to change to adapt to the new squad. Ethan stepped up as our number 1. Fair play to him, he was feeling poorly, and had been off school all day due to that. He did everything in his powers to score and dominate the centre. Unfortunately, they got wise to this and focussed on shutting him out. Nikita reads the game really well and anticipates ball movement rapidly. This allows him to steal a lot of ball; he did this, and it meant they also struggled to score. Joe and Fin really stepped up, but we just seemed to lack that final bit of skill to score. Our conversion rate was less than 5%, meaning we shot 40 times and only scored once. Final score was 2-8, Carisbrooke win.

#### Game 2 Ryde Academy

Another low scoring game. This time Ethan began to find his rhythm and scored all 9 of the points. Special mention to Noah and Tom, who dominated the defensive zones in this game. I feel that although this opponent was not as strong as the others, we played well, and the lads worked incredibly hard to try and implement a new playing system. We had to get a bit more physical in the centre and disrupt their best players as Carisbrooke did to us in game 1. Noah and Kirby took to this well and slowed them down, allowing us to play a zone defence getting Nikita and Tom under the basket to dominate the rebounds. They scored 2 baskets, but we were comfortable winners at 9-4.

#### Game 3 The Bay.

We had watched The Bay beat Carisbrooke. So, as it stood, they would win our group and knock us out if we didn't win. Watching them play was a real help, as it allowed us to plan our game plan. They had 2 very tall lads; one was a rebound man who was inconsistent at the basket, the other was a better basketball player, but less effective when under pressure. Kirby didn't let the latter settle and put him off every time he was in possession. Although we changed our defence to man marking, the lads adapted pressuring The Bay into lots of mistakes. Ethan and Joe put us in the clear with good scores, and although another low scoring game, Priory played the better ball. 8-4 Priory win.

This led to a shoot-out, as Priory, The Bay and Carisbrooke had all beaten each other. Our 3 shooters were Ethan Joe and Nikita. As is always the way, all the schools missed every shot! So round 2. Fortunately, Joe found his target, Carisbrooke followed with a basket, fortunately The Bay missed, and we qualified second in our group, as we had lost to Carisbrooke. This meant we played Medina in semi-final 1.

#### Game 4 semi-final Medina

They were the best side we played all day. They had 2 big strong lads at centre and point guard. They were good at shutting down our play makers. After his success in the shoot-out, Joe decided to sink a top quality



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3 pointer giving us the lead. Ethan did get through to score as well. The boys went end-to-end and were getting tired. Medina peaked just at the right time. We could have finished them off but our last attack, even though we hit the backboard twice, ended with no points and with 15 seconds left, we allowed them to get behind us and they scored to win 6-5.

To conclude, they had lost their strongest player on the day of the comp. They practice and plan around their format, so to lose him was so disruptive to how they play. Credit to them, they showed real character and skill trying to find an alternate game plan in 'must win' games. They almost pulled it off. All of them deserve plenty of credit for their commitment and resolve under pressure.

Mr Woodward





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## S3 Boys – Basketball Tournament – Medina College – Thursday 14 March

**Team:** Raymond (C), Henry, Austin H, Brogan, Toby, Victor

**Result:** 1<sup>st</sup> Place!!

### Report:

What an achievement for these keen basketballers!

The first game against The Free School took the team a while to warm up, they seemed uncertain in their passes and were not fully trusting each other on the court. However, just after the halfway match, the boys started to work better as a team. Victor worked really hard in defence, covering the opposition's attack and causing lots of turnovers. Austin and Brogan supported in attack, pushing the ball up, allowing us to get 2 clean shots in. The game ended on a well-deserved 4-0 win.

Next up, Priory played CTK, an experienced team. The boys struggled at the start of the game, making errors in defence, allowing CTK to score a couple of times. Toby and Henry quickly picked this up and started disrupting CTK's attack and turning the ball over. Raymond and Brogan were then able to capitalise on this in attack and score multiple goals. A hard, but well fought game resulting in an 8-4 win.

We were up against Medina next, who had watched and played very well defensively, marking Raymond to prevent him from getting the ball. The boys worked as a team, particularly showing off their dribbling skills in this game to reach the basket and score. Raymond subbed off in this game, which allowed the 5 other team members to work together and really showed how far this team have progressed as a whole. A great push from all 6 boys, resulting in an 8-2 win. On to the semi-finals we went!

The semi-finals, what a game! Last year, we lost 2nd place to Carisbrooke in a penalty shoot-out, so the team were determined to prove they could win. The teamwork really came to the fore in this game, although evident that Raymond is the most experienced player in the team, all other players on court supported, used positioning well and really worked hard in defence. We gained 2 lots of free throws in this game, and after a great push from the team, we dominated Carisbrooke with a 9-0 win. What an improvement from last year!

The finals! What an achievement to make it this far. The boys knew this would be a tough game, The Bay are known for their basketball skills and were not going to let us off lightly. This, however, did not seem to worry Priory as we took the lead straight away. Every single one of these boys played their heart out in this game; Raymond absolutely dominated in attack. Victor, Henry and Toby covered defence, making lots of interceptions and really putting the pressure on The Bay's attack. Austin and Brogan supported Raymond in attack, pushing the ball up the court and past the Bay. There is no other word to describe this final other than exhilarating. The spectators were on the edge of their seats watching the ball go from end to end. The team had been struggling, shooting in the baskets at Medina all afternoon, but they found their flow in this game. They won the final 8-0, a tremendous win.

This group of boys spend every breaktime and lunchtime outside practicing basketball, which really demonstrates their passion for the sport. Within their PE and Games lessons, Mr B and Miss Mildenhall pushed the boys hard to improve each week, these lessons really made them become the strong team that they are. It is clear the boys have really taken onboard all the guidance and feedback given, allowing them





to make a vast improvement from last year.

Mr Peake, the tournament organiser commented, he (Raymond) is the one of the most talented players of his age on the Island right now. This was a team effort, and they won as a team with an exceptional player, the teamwork was the key factor here.

I could not have phrased it better myself; Raymond is our most talented basketball player at Priory, but he and the team knew how to work together to produce the outcome they wanted. A tremendous team effort, where every individual earned that win.

Player of the match: It goes without saying, Raymond was the most skilful player of the whole tournament. However, there is no player of the match, as every single one of these boys played their heart out, and that's what makes them a successful team.

Congratulations to the U14 IOW Basketball Champions, we are so proud of your accomplishment!

Miss Mildenhall and Mr Byrne





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## Y5/Y6 Mixed – Netball Tournament – Seaclose Netball Courts – Friday 15 March

**Team:** (Y5) Libby, Ruby (Y6) Lauren, Joe, Felicity, Theo, Georgia (C), Huxley

**Result:** 1<sup>st</sup> Place

### Report:

After last Wednesday's netball fixture, the team were back in action, more ready than ever! They had worked hard within PE and Games lessons to improve their netball skills with master classes from Miss Mildenhall and Miss Mulligan and were ready to show this in the game. This tournament was 'versatility', so each player played every position.

Firstly, we played Queensgate, who we had also played at last week's fixture. We started slow and a bit chaotic, making some silly passes and missing the balls. However, after the first rotation the team gelled, controlling the ball and progressing it down the court, although this game was a bit of a fight, Priory came out on top with a 2-1 win. Felicity and Libby were really able to control this game, with great communication and skills between the pair, pushing Priory to the win.

Next up, we played Summerfields. This game was a really even game and both teams worked hard throughout. Although Priory dominated the play, we were unable to score. Georgia was amazing in this game, she worked really hard to move the ball up and down the court, as well as supporting the team as their captain. We still worked hard, keeping the pressure on in defence; unfortunately, Summerfields managed to squeeze a goal in, ending in a 1-0 loss.

We then played Newchurch 1, who were a very confident and able team and really pushed Priory. Theo worked super hard in this game, playing centre and showing his great understanding of the game. Lauren was absolutely incredible in this game, especially in defence where she does not normally play. She intercepted many balls and was able to play calm and collected during the game. This was a tight game, but with some great shooting from Huxley, who has improved his play greatly, Priory won 2-1.

Finally, we played Newchurch 2, who were also very prepared for this game. Ruby really shone in this match and was in control of the game, showing great improvement from last week's fixture, particularly positionally and in anticipating the play. Joe was able to demonstrate a different side to his play today. He really stepped up to the mark in shooting as well as defending. He was the strongest defender on the team, constantly intercepting the ball from the opposition. Priory worked really hard in this game, coming away with a 2-1 win.

Finally, it was results time, the team (and myself!) were nervous, as the top two teams from this tournament would progress to the Island finals later this year. The build-up was tense, but eventually only first and second were left to call. We were not called for second, so Priory win first place. A picture-perfect moment when the team realised what this meant, we all jumped for joy!

We progress to the Island finals in May. What a win for this team, who came 4th in the previous week's tournament. Determination and teamwork really helped the team with this outcome, what an achievement!

Player of the match:





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Theo. Theo was only asked to play at 9.00am the same morning, and we are so glad he said yes! He dominated the court and demonstrated great skill, thank you for stepping up Theo!  
Special mention also goes to Lauren. She has not played many fixtures for Priory, but today she absolutely stepped up the mark and dominated the court. Her confidence has come on leaps and bounds and she was incredible on the court.

Well done to the whole team, this was a commendable effort and improvement in a week, and you should all be so proud of yourselves.

Miss Mildenhall

(please note in the two photos below – Lauren & Felicity are both not shown)





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## Sports Report:

It's been a good week for Priory sport; we have trained hard, made good progress with our teams and finished with success.

We began on Monday with some fitness training, and we made a start to the athletics season with a timed mile run in PE. Some hard work to get us going resulted in a few personal best times, a great start! The senior groups had seen the Danish Longball game played at the end of last week and requested to play themselves. We have been working really hard on skills for fixtures recently and we still had some sessions to go later in the week, so we changed up our plans and set a harder senior version of the game in action. This game works on team position and passing skills, so it is still relevant to our fixtures, but allows a bit more fun at the same time.

Tuesday games lesson for the lower senior group started with some more athletics preparation, and then we attempted to make a start on some rugby skills with those not in the basketball team, but we underestimated how the light rain overnight had affected the field and we had to retreat to the playground for the rest of the session, before the field got too destroyed by studs. We extended the basketball training to the whole group and worked on skills. The older seniors left for their own basketball fixture and the younger seniors switched to match practice to finish up the afternoon.

Older seniors on Wednesday had the girls staying at school for rugby training and the boys walking up to the Queensgate artificial turf for handball training. There are a few similarities in the set-up of handball and basketball, so we were able to work on defensive formations that apply to both games. We set up a few games and focused on ball turnover into a defensive set up after an attack. The S3 boys absolutely nailed this training session and left them confident for their basketball fixture on Thursday and the upcoming handball fixture next week.

Thursday was yet another wet day, but we managed to work around this and began with a playground lesson for Key Stage 1. This lesson was an important one for young players – the importance of good sportsmanship. We had some very good discussions about not being a sore loser, always congratulating an opponent if they beat you and shaking hands at the end of the game. We split into teams and put these ideas into practice with a game of hand hockey. The older juniors split into netball and football groups for training, again for upcoming fixtures. The S3 basketball team left for their fixture and the heavens took this as a sign to open! Thankfully a brief shower, so the juniors were able to continue for the rest of the afternoon.

Year 3 and 4 PE on Friday stuck to the playground for ball-based invasion games; they were very competitive and played very well. Our final lesson of the week, and we decided to try something new. I attended a tennis course last term and from that we were given a brand new set of portable tennis nets, so we set them up. Sticking to our current theme of hand-based skills we began teaching the group volleyball. The



class did very well learning the new game and by the end of the lesson, were performing some excellent rallies.

**Senior Sports Star** this week goes to our excellent S3 basketball team, **Raymond, Brogan, Henry, Austin H, Toby and Victor**. They have been training hard in PE, Games, lunchtime clubs and in their own time during break. It's been great to see, and all the hard work has paid off. See the report for all the details. Well done boys!

It is also a double award for these boys as Sports Captain Joshua Byrne would also like to name the team for **Priory Sports Captain Player(s) of the week**.

**Junior Sports Star** is another new pupil, **Theo (Year 6)**. Theo has worked hard in all his lessons since joining Priory a short time ago. He has learned new skills and adapted to new games well. To finish this week off, Theo played in the mixed netball fixture with great success. All the details in the netball report, but a great start to Priory life for Theo.

Lots more fixtures to come before the end of term, so let's all concentrate on our training in PE and Games. Great work so far team Priory!

Mr Byrne

