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SPORTS REPORT

1 March 2024

S2 Girls – Netball Match – Ryde School – Monday 26 February

Team: (S2) Adelyn, Elsa, Bella, Florence, Millie, Melaina, Eliza (C), Emma, Bea

Report:

The S2 Netball team played 3 games against Ryde School on Monday 26 February.

The team turned up high spirited ready for an exciting game of Netball. Ryde had 3 teams for us to play, and we were up against their hardest first. The attack really stood out in this game, working hard to progress the ball up the court at any given opportunity. Emma played GS, demonstrating a skill she had just learnt in holding her space behind her defender. Emma executed this well and it was effective during the game. Florence played GA for this game, using her speed to help navigate herself around her defender and free up space to receive a pass. Both shooters worked really hard this game, but unfortunately the wind was not in their favour, and they were unsuccessful in their most of their shooting attempts. The team worked really hard for this game, but unfortunately Ryde had had lots of practice and experience with this team and they came out with a 10-1 win.

Game 2 was the defences' time to step up. Bella played GK, her strongest position, where she was able to demonstrate great improvement from her previous netball fixtures. Bella used her strength to jump high and intercept many balls, keeping calm and composed resulting in a successful turnover. Eliza worked with Bella as GD, where she marked her attacker tightly, also making great intercepts and putting Ryde under pressure. Melaina worked as WD, marking her opposition tightly and forcing them to make mistakes. The combination of the three defenders put Ryde under great pressure. Despite their best efforts, Ryde still managed to push through and take the game, an 8-0 loss to Priory.

The final game really was a team effort. There was not one member of the team who did not play their heart out during the game. Adelyn started the last game as WA where she was able to demonstrate the skill she had just learnt, of passing over a high ball into Emma, which resulted in a successful shot. Halfway through the game, Millie came on as WA, and after watching Emma and Adelyn, was able to demonstrate the same skill. The three worked well together to create good movement in attack. In Bea's first fixture for Priory, she played WD. Despite not having played much netball before, Bea really stepped up to the challenge. She demonstrated lots of movement and great marking of her player, a great effort all-round. Elsa played C for this game, where she demonstrated good movement and agility across the whole court, supporting the team in attack and defence. It was clear the team made vast improvements throughout the afternoon, demonstrating great communication and understanding of the other players. This came to light in the final game where Priory won 2-0.

A great effort from the whole team. They should all be incredibly proud of their perseverance and determination throughout.

For this fixture, there is no one 'player of the match' the team worked so hard throughout, and everyone improved immensely as individuals, therefore the player of the match has been earned by the whole team.

Miss Mildenhall

S1 and S2 Boys – Rugby Match – Free School – Tuesday 27 February

Team: (S1) Aubrey, Cam, Leo, Samuel, Sam, Rowan, Ollie
(S2) Charlie, Tom, Will, Isaac, Stan, Toby, Josh

Report:

We tried a different game plan this match with our strongest carriers Tom and Josh out wide. This to encourage us to move the ball into space. We have some very quick runners who in space can really disrupt defences and get behind them. Initially this worked well. Until we reverted back to trying to create tries from 1st phase. The result of this was with our 2 powerhouses out wide our fly half to 2nd centre were having to double up in defence giving them space. This resulted in them scoring 3 tries without us touching down.

We shuffled Josh and Tom back into the middle to try and regain some control, which they both did, and Tom aided by Ollie and Josh went over to score after a typically good carry by him. The lads settled a bit and started to put together good phases of play. I think we were a little rushed and our handling wasn't as tight as usual, so we lost possession in attack a little too often. However, Josh scored a super try to bring us 1 behind at half time.

We flagged in the second half. Ollie and Sam and Aubrey who was MVP (year 7!!) worked non-stop Ollie nicking a couple of scores to take us to 4. They however hit their stride and played some very good rugby. Scoring 6 second half tries.

After the game the lads were really honest and accepted that the TIFS boys were fitter than we were and capitalised on that in the last 15 minutes of the game.

However that is our only bad result against TIFS and that's credit to the boys and their rugby skills.

Mr Woodward



S1 Boys – Rugby Tournament – Medina College – Wednesday 28 February

Team: (S1) Aubrey, Cam, Archie, Samuel, Sam, Lucas, Ollie

Report:

I must start by saying it was awful weather and we were so small in stature compared to all the teams we played it was quite worrying.

Our first game was against Medina the hosts. As above we only had 7 and in reality, with the size difference that was better for us. Please also bear in mind a number of these boys played the previous day against TIFS. Ollie has confidence in his ability and rightly so and early doors he bossed the gain line. This allowed us to move the ball to Sam who in space has fantastic feet. His try was wonderful he turned 2 defenders around with 1 step and whistled past to touch down. To be fair to Medina they weren't going away and actually went 2-1 up. However, Ollie darted from the breakdown and scored 1 try in the corner, followed by a second after a storming run by Aubrey. At the whistle we won 3-2. A great performance.

Game 2 v Ryde academy.

I can honestly say some of their players were literally twice the size of our boys. It must have been pretty intimidating for our lads to line up opposite them. In truth their size dominance and the skills of 1 of their big lads won them the game. However, the heart our boys showed was inspiring. To see Aubrey crashing into them getting up and going again is a credit to him. Special mention must go to Cameron who played his best rugby to date. Also, Lucas in his 1st ever game put in a couple of tackles that he should be really proud of. We really surprised them and led by Ollie we played clever rugby. Trying to turn their big lads which we did. Unfortunately, we did cross the line twice but didn't ground the ball correctly. In my opinion a draw would have been a fair result. Sadly, fine margins in sport are a reality. However, walking off you could see the boys were happy with their performance.

Game 3 Carisbrooke

They were quite inexperienced and it was a pretty stop start affair, not ideal in the conditions. They were continuously offside. When we did get chance to play our boys kept good shape, Samuel and Archie really starting to get to grips with the centre of the pitch, which in this game we dominated. Although we won 1-0 it did evolve into a training game to help Carisbrooke develop. Had it not we would have dominated due to our experience.

A very good day at the office for these boys all 7 played all 3 games in horrible weather. They played together and for each other. We are lucky in such a small group to have some very talented players.

Mr Woodward

Y3 and Y4 Girls – U9 Football Quarter Finals – (home game v Newchurch) – Thursday 29 February

Team: (Y3/4) Neave (C), Ava, Beatrice, Harriet, Lovella, Autumn, Evie

Score: 4-3 Newchurch

Report:

On Thursday 29 February, Priory hosted the 'Small Schools' U9 Quarter Finals.

The conditions for this fixture were very poor, the pitch was flooded, and the rain did not hold off. The girls on both teams must be commended for their efforts during this game.

Turning to the game, the team worked incredibly hard to show improvement from their last match. Evie stood strong in defence, making clear tackles and kicking the ball up the pitch towards the attackers. Harriet and Lovella both supported in defence, choosing players to mark when the opposing team had the ball and using their speed to move towards the ball and intercept. Beatrice worked as a defensive midfielder pushing up as we attacked and offering great support for the attackers, whilst also working hard in defence to put pressure on the opposition forwards. Neave dominated across the whole pitch - wherever the ball was, she was there. She showed great skill and tenacity, controlling the ball, dribbling around the pitch and making accurate passes, despite the flooding. Ava stayed up front, in the opposition penalty box for most of the game. This worked massively in our favour, as Neave was able to pass the ball into the box for Ava to finish. Finally, Autumn played goalkeeper for this match. Autumn's efforts were commendable during this fixture, not only did she have to battle with the rain, she also was in a pool of mud as well as having to save a wet ball. She worked incredibly hard, and this showed in the number of successful saves she was able to make.

Overall, the team should be incredibly proud of how well they played. The goals were terrific, particularly when Neave crossed to Ava and Ava placed it accurately into the goal. Neave took the corners in our attacking end, almost scoring off more than one of them. The whole team worked really hard and had clearly listened to Mr B's team talk on tactics.

It is very hard to pick just one player of the match from this game, but the most 'deserves' goes to Autumn and Neave. Neave was clearly the most skilled player on the pitch, able to turn and control a ball in the truly awful conditions, whilst Autumn managed to save so many shots in the mud bath that was our goal area.

Well done all, you should be very proud of how the team played.

Miss Mildenhall





Sports Report

I was hoping to be able to write this week's report without a mention of the wet stuff, but sadly not. Rain stopped play several times again this week; let's try again next week!

Monday was the only fully dry day this week for Priory sports. The S2 and S3 PE lessons were all fixture preparation, beginning with netball for the girls and rugby skills for the boys in S2. The boys were all about

the basics for this lesson, ball handling and passing being the main objectives. The girls were readying themselves for a fixture immediately after PE. S3 switched sports to handball for their PE lesson, we spent the lesson covering defense and ball turnover which is very much a main component of handball as the game is played at high speed.

Tuesday was another day of fixture preparation for the girls in games, the boys were out for a rugby fixture all afternoon. We began the session with a cross country run around the edge of the grounds, only a 10 minute run this time. This was just a warm up for most of the class but for the cross country team a final preparation run for the Hampshire finals next week. We then moved into rugby skills for the afternoon to prepare for Trojans, also next week. We began with the basics of ball handling and worked through passing, positioning and tackling. The group then played tag rugby to work on game skills.

On Wednesday we tried with the older seniors to make the best of the weather. It rained all afternoon, but light rain started our session and so the girls took to the field for rugby and the boys went through their hockey stick skills on the playground. We stayed in the rain as long as we could but as it got heavier, we were forced inside with the ground becoming unusable on both surfaces. A rugby fixture for the younger seniors still went ahead, despite the weather, but for the older seniors paperwork in the hall.

KS1 lesson on Wednesday was a good ball skills lesson and Thursday, thanks to more rain, was a dance lesson in the hall. The older juniors joined them for a short time before KS1 returned to class. The rain was coming down and a junior girls' football fixture was due to take place. Ideally, we would have postponed this, as the field was a giant puddle, but this was a quarter final match and needed to be played by a certain time. So out we went! The girls braved the rain, mud and, thanks to standing water, the ball not moving more than about half a meter when kicked! The field may very well have been the muddiest I have ever seen it.

Friday was something different for junior school, and S1. We had a visiting athlete, champion kickboxer Jessica Roper. Jess took each class individually from reception up to S1 for a circuit class which included a warmup, body weight work, some actual kick boxing training and a cool down. The children all enjoyed it very much. The pupils all had sponsorship forms for this event, which hopefully all parents and families for these classes have contributed to! Jess then took all year groups for an assembly where she talked about the importance of not giving up and having goals to work towards. The children asked very sensible questions throughout and were excellently behaved.

If I can just ask that any sponsorship money that has been physically collected (instead of online donation) please be brought into school, no later than Wednesday (6th). Thank you.

Moving onto Sports Stars and an apology. Last week's newsletter had this young lady listed as coming in 15th place at the cross country, when in fact she came in 14th. So, to add to last week's stars this week's **Senior Sports Star of the Week** is **Millie Henley**. The team for Hampshire was extended and Millie made it into the team after her fantastic run last week. Excellent work Millie and sorry I mistyped your position in the last report!

Junior Sports Star this week is **Evie Walker**. Evie played very well in the junior girls' football fixture. Even playing in what was essentially a giant puddle, did not stop Evie controlling the ball, dribbling through players and making some excellent passes. She also made a few great crosses across the pitch, which is even more impressive given the surface to make the kick from. A great game for Evie.

Also from our junior football game, Sports Captain Joshua Byrne noted "**Neave Bell** was great on the pitch. She made some incredible runs through opposition and her ball control is brilliant. Really enjoyable to watch her play". She is the **Priory Sports Captain Player of the Week**.

Another busy week coming up, fingers crossed in much kinder weather.
Mr Byrne



