

ST KATHERINE'S SCHOOL PE & SPORT NEWSLETTER

1718 - Term 2 Newsletter



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7 BOYS RUGBY V PRIORY

Boys enjoy tough friendly fixture against impressive PCSA side

On Tuesday 31 October the year 7 boys arrived back to start term 2 and pretty much headed straight back out onto the rugby pitch. After the half term there is always an extra opponent to beat and that is the light! The boys raced to board the coach bound for Priory School in Weston-Super-Mare just in time to squeeze a short friendly fixture in before they were left in darkness.

Matthew BRENNAN, Euan CAUL-PATERSON, Kanye CHRISTIE, Jacob DUNCAN, Finley GREEN, Reggie-Lee HAYWARD, Dylan HEWETT, Alfie KING, Jonasz MALCOLM, Mac MARSHALL, Trysten NMAI, Rufus SHEPPARD, Charley SONGER, Will STRATTON

The pace of the journey appeared to have left some boys behind as the whistle to start the game went and it seemed that quite a few were still back on the bus! From the first whistle the boys failed to deal with the deep Priory drop start which eventually saw their opponents recycle the ball and score with their first possession of the game – not the best start! Psychologically this had a huge impact and Priory went on to grow in dominance during the early stages of the game. It quickly became clear that they had a good amount of rugby experience in their side and they were using it impressively. St Kath's were determined in their defensive duties and refused to let the strong Priory runners through the middle but their bunching presented great opportunities for their opponents out wide. Often at this young age that space goes unnoticed but huge credit to the Priory boys as they exploited it brilliantly and continued to do so when it was on offer throughout the game.

It wasn't as though St Kath's were starved of possession as they also enjoyed a fair amount of the ball early in the game – they seem to have a knack of stealing the ball in contact. Matty, Kanye, Alfie, Trysten and Will in particular often target the ball in contact. They may have had a lot of ball but almost all of it was in their own 22 and the organisation of the Priory defence was making it difficult for us to retain possession. We weren't struggling to make ground as plenty of boys had good go forward but when the tackle eventually came in, we weren't anywhere near dynamic enough at the breakdown – not surprising considered we have spent next to no time on rucking in training! The subsequent turnovers were costly as the boys were finding it hard to get their defensive spacing and line speed.

The boys resorted to kicking the ball away which usually leaves most coaches scouring in anger. In actual fact, kicking the ball was the right option given their field position and the first couple of kicks that the boys put in were followed up well and gave us a little space to breathe. Will Stratton hit one kick and brought the line up the pitch and then Alfie King did the same moments later. The Priory boys quickly adjusted and dropped some of their strong runners out of their line to field the kick when it came. In actual fact this was how our try came about. With a couple of key defensive players out of the line the SK boys decided to start running the ball again. SK aren't short of strong runners with Euan, Will and Charley all making ground with ball in hand.

Will Stratton looked in fine form with ball in hand and was using his hand-off to really good affect whenever he could. This is another thing that coaches often try to discourage as tucking the ball under one arm limits options with the ball and also increases the risk of spilling the ball in contact. Will was learning about the balance of when to carry the ball out in front to offer a passing threat and when to use his fend. Moments before his try Will make a half break and had a player outside him on his right with just one defender covering both but wasn't able to get his pass away but on the flip side he scored a superb try after that with 2 or 3 excellent hand-offs which allowed him to sprint to the corner to touch down before the covering defenders that had dropped out of the line could get across to him.

Unfortunately our try couldn't match the five scored by Priory but I have to say that at least 3, if not 4 of their 5 tries came about from really high quality rugby. They took the ball to the line well and put the ball through the hands whenever the opportunity presented itself. It was a pleasure to watch from the side and although the SK boys were obviously disappointed with the result, the game was a great lesson for the boys.

Man of the match was awarded jointly to Alfie King and Will Stratton. Alfie tackled superbly and was dynamic in getting to his feet to try to disrupt the breakdown and turn the ball over. Will carried the ball brilliantly and gained more ground than anyone else on the team earning himself a try in the process. Congratulations boys!

This group of boys should be looking to work on some of the learning that came out of this game before their tournament later this year. Just small improvements in defensive spacing, line speed and rucking would make them much trickier to beat and had it not been for a little rugby naivety they would have competed much better in this match. All of the signs are extremely positive and I am looking forward to watching this group go from strength to strength on the rugby pitch.

Well done gentlemen.

Mr Cook



AUTUMN HOUSE SPORT

Battle commences for houses on the dodgeball and benchball court

The first fortnight of November presented students with the opportunity to compete for the second set of house points in the 2017/18 competition. Dodgeball and benchball competitions are usually up there with some of our most popular competitions and always showcase the brilliant sporting talent that exists within the St Katherine's community. The short, sharp, intense nature of these lunchtime events makes for frenetic and frenzied performances from a whole plethora of students. The competitions are always a real spectacle and this year was absolutely no different!



Year 7

Dodgeball

It was really exciting to see the newest students at St Katherine's take to the dodgeball court. The boys have thrown themselves into their rugby at the start of the year and shown themselves to be really quick learners. They have picked dodgeball up just as quickly and there were some excellent matches in their competition. Saturn house lost to Mercury in their semi-final and then suffered another defeat at the hands of Mars in the losers final. Despite finishing in last place there were some excellent performances. Gabe Antolic-Furlong dodged and threw with great energy from start to finish, Jonathan Puati-Kambu took out several players with his arm and Najib was everywhere covering a huge amount of the court including the other teams half! Mars took 2 points from their first competition with standout performances from Alfie King, Charley Songer, Josh Moore and Saul Wright-Brennan. It was Mercury who went to the final only to lose at the final hurdle but not before giving absolutely everything in search of victory. Will Stratton fought long and hard in the last game surviving right until the death but was unable to overturn the dominance of the blue house. Ryan Bundy and Kazim Pala were other standout performers both of whom had impressive displays. Congratulations to Jupiter house for their first victory in the house competition. Kanye Christie was absolutely central to everything positive from the blue house and was backed up brilliantly by his house mates.



Benchball

With the four houses, Jupiter, Mars, Mercury and Saturn competing against one another in teams for the first time, it was always going to be a close competition, full of energy and enthusiasm.

In the first round of games, which effectively were the semi-finals, Jupiter faced Mars and Mercury faced Saturn. In the first of the games, the game was close and the advantage changed frequently with both teams matching the players going onto the bench, however it was in the final throws of the game where by Mars stole the victory away from Jupiter. In the second semi-final, Mercury faced Saturn. Having watched a game from the sidelines, the two teams played much more tactically, using height in defence to stop the advances of the opposition. Daisy Wilkinson played really well for Mercury in defence, whilst Hollie Andrews matched this at the opposite end. This also was a very close game, but the win went to Saturn eventually.

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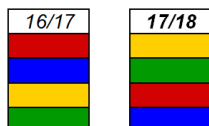


Playing in the 3rd/4th play-off, Saturn faced Jupiter. The game was close from the start with Amber making some useful catches for the Saturn team, but for every player Saturn managed to get on the bench, Jupiter matched them. The game was even throughout and on the final whistle the two teams couldn't be split and a draw was awarded to both sides. The final saw Mars face Mercury. Poppy Baldwin Brooks defended the Mercury bench well for Mars, whilst Charlie Mobbs worked hard for her mercury team to make some important catches. The game was close throughout but Mars just edged it at the end to take the house benchball title this year.



Year 8

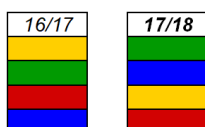
Dodgeball



The year 8 competition was attended in great number by boys from all houses and this made for a really intense competition. This year Saturn managed to go all the way to the top after a fantastic turnaround performance against Mercury in the final. Jupiter and Mars battled it out in the losers final and it was the blue house who were confined to the bottom of the standings despite playing some great dodgeball. Standout performances came from Ben Lumoso who at one point in the final was holding on to 4 dodgeballs – the boys watching found it hilarious but it wasn't until his last throw that Ben actually managed to hit anyone from the opposition team! Ben Cook held a superb catch to get Jody Quinn back in to the game – an act that proved decision in the final. Isaac Ozborn enjoyed an unbelievable purple patch in the losers final that was almost solely responsible for his team securing 3rd place. He took catch after catch until he had clocked up 5 in the space of about 30 seconds – incredible catching! Enzo Perold was another standout from Mars house showcasing his skills with and without the ball. Nana and Shadrach used all of their character and tactics for their house in the midst of other fantastic performances from Joe Paice and some great dodging from Maxwell Williams but it just wasn't enough on the day.



Benchball



An impressive turn out for the year 8 girls meant that the teams competing had huge numbers and would be massively competitive. 64 girls turned out from 75 to represent their house in a really close competition.

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In the first round of games; the semi-finals, Jupiter faced Mars and Mercury faced Saturn. In the first of the games, Jupiter got off to a flying start, with a huge advantage of players on the bench, however some excellent defence by Sophie Weaden kept Mars in the game and they managed to get some players on the bench. Ella Leakey was also really strong defensively and stayed back until the final throws of the game where she managed to get on the bench to win it for her side. In the second semi-final, both teams started well, getting extra players on the bench, in fact it stayed close throughout the game, until Chloe Weaden and Isobel Taylor remained on the floor for the Mercury side and Asha Storer for the Saturn team. The defence by them was exceptional but allowed no room to get on the bench, this part of the game went on for a long time, and it looked like Saturn had grasped the win, but the bench failed to catch Asha's throw and Mercury clung on for the win.

In the 3rd/4th playoff both Mars and Saturn were keen to get a positive result, despite some excellent defence by both teams the game was over relatively quickly, with Saturn gaining many more players on the bench and ultimately the win. In the final game it was going to be a defensive battle and it didn't disappoint. Both sides played really tactically leaving their strongest players on the floor to defend. The game was close throughout and for every Jupiter player who made it onto the bench, a Mercury player did too. It went down to the last two players with Chloe Weaden against Ella Leakey, but a great catch by the Mercury bench gave them the overall victory.



Year 9

Dodgeball

15/16	16/17	17/18
Blue	Blue	Blue
Green	Red	Green
Red	Yellow	Yellow
Yellow	Green	Red

For the last two years Jupiter have been crowned house dodgeball champions but the minor positions have always been up for grabs. Would Jupiter be able to make it a hattrick? Jupiter faced Mars in the first of the semi-final matches and a depleted Mars looked set to struggle from the outset. Zaeem, Kyle and George offered resistance for the red house; Kyle in particular exercising his dodging skills but it was Jupiter house led by Louie Dun who cruised to the final. If house competitions were decided on turnout then Ethan Emery's Mercury would have won comfortably as all but 2 boys from the green house turned out. They comfortably beat Saturn in their first semi-final guaranteeing themselves second place as a minimum.

Robert Mackenzie was left last man standing for Mars as they took on Saturn in the losers final but there was no way back when Saturn had him pinned against the back wall with Charlton, Beau and Max throwing powerfully to leave him no chance. The final saw a great contest between green and blue but it was Jupiter who proved strongest at the end of the contest. Their big players stepped up when it mattered to earn them the title of three-time house dodgeball winners. Congratulations to all boys involved.



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Benchball

15/16	16/17	17/18
Red	Yellow	Yellow
Blue	Blue	Red
Green	Red	Green
		Blue



Year 10

Dodgeball

14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18
Blue	Red	Blue	Yellow
Red	Blue	Yellow	Blue
Green	Yellow	Red	Red
			Green

Jupiter were hot favourites heading in to the competition and having been near the top or top of the pile for the last 3 years of the competition it wasn't difficult to understand why. Saturn's George Hayward and Zubair both had huge enthusiasm to lead their house for their fourth and final year of full competition so their commitment and organisation saw Saturn arrive looking to dethrone Jupiter as House Dodgeball champions. Saturn ended up top of the pile at the end of the competition boasting several players who had excellent performances. Alex Wilson has a lethal arm which took out a number of key opposition players; he didn't put much down either and combined with the fact that he is well over 6 foot with an impressive wing span he made for a formidable dodgeball opponent. Charlie and George Hayward both used all of their guile and strategy to survive long into each of their matches. Zubair's energy kept the other teams on their toes and the net result was a victory for the yellow house. Jupiter had to settle for second despite coming mighty close in their match against Saturn. Jupiter weren't short of top sportsmen with Eli, Morgan, Henry, Zak, Logan, Ethan and Will all in attendance. Khaled Loutouf also deserves a special mention for Jupiter as his energy and dodging capability came in more than handy in this competition. Mars fought hard throughout the contest but were up against two really strong houses. Survival was their main aim in their matches and they managed it pretty well with some impressive dodging displays from Shamarka and Brodie; one of which was captured expertly on camera.



Benchball

14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18
Green	Yellow	Yellow	Blue
Red	Red	Blue	Red
Yellow	Green	Green	Yellow
Blue			Green

It seems that Year 10 are destined not to have a full complement of players with numerous trips and visits taking students

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out, however it was decided that their benchball competition would go ahead. With good numbers from both Saturn and Mars, it was decided that Jupiter and Mercury would merge to enable those who had turned out to play an opportunity to compete.

Mars v Saturn: The two full teams faced each other in the first match. Jazzy Pither was on the bench for Mars and Molly Peppin was on for Saturn. Both sides started well with accurate passes to the bench to gain more opportunities. Lucie Robertshaw was one of the first players on the bench for her side; Saturn and assisted Molly in getting the rest of the team up. The game was close throughout but it was Izzy Fielden who made the final pass onto the Saturn bench that won them the game.

Saturn v Jupiter/Mercury: Lauren Hooper started on the bench for the combined side and Ellie McCarthy started for Saturn. Ellie made an immediate impact taking some great catches assisting her team onto the bench. Despite their great start, the combined team soon started to make things closer and with only Liv Richards and Elise Caddick left to finish, it was up to Izzy again to make that all important final pass - which she did to Ellie successfully and won another game for the Saturn side.

Mars v Jupiter/Mercury: Ebonie McCombie and Jazzy Pither again started on the bench for their teams and despite her height advantage it was Jazzy Pither who made the first important catches. Zerine Akbayir and Emily Drohan supported Mars well and made some important defensive interceptions. The game remained close with Ebonie being joined by Wren Talbot Ponsonby and Jess Butcher; however when Emily made the final pass onto the bench, Mars clinched the victory.

Overall Results

Please see results below for individual year group and gender competitions.

House	Year 7		Year 8		Year 9		Year 10		Total		
	Points	Rank	Points	Rank	Points	Rank	Points	Rank	Points	Rank	
BOYS	Jupiter	4	1	1	4	4	1	3	2	12	1
	Mars	2	3	2	3	1	4	2	3	7	4
	Mercury	3	2	3	2	3	2	0	4	9	3
	Saturn	1	4	4	1	2	3	4	1	11	2
GIRLS	Jupiter	2	3	3	2	1	4	0	3	6	4
	Mars	4	1	1	4	3	2	3	2	11	2
	Mercury	3	2	4	1	2	3	0	3	9	3
	Saturn	2	3	2	3	4	1	4	1	12	1
OVERALL	Jupiter	6	1	4	3	5	2	3	3	18	2
	Mars	6	1	3	4	4	4	5	2	18	2
	Mercury	6	1	7	1	5	2	0	4	18	2
	Saturn	3	4	6	2	6	1	8	1	23	1

Congratulations to everyone who took part for their houses.

The PE Faculty



SENIOR BOYS BASKETBALL V NS STARS II

Boys trail by 10 at end of second match of tri-series against Stars

On the morning of Sunday 5 November 14 senior boys arrived at school to contest the second match in a tri-series against the North Somerset Stars team. A handful of boys who had played in the first match were unavailable for the second game which gave others a chance to make their debut for the school on the basketball court. The boys were heading in to this game 1 up but were looking to close out the series on their second meeting. As is customary at this time of year, the team were looking to put on an impressive display of their own and start the match with a bang.



Danny CONWAY, Christopher DROHAN, Samatar ELMi, Tom GREEN, Sharmarka MATTAN, Zakaria MOHAMOOD, Dexter MOTT, Reece PALMER, Matthew PARSONS, Louis STRATTON, Nabil WARSAME, Kieran WHITFIELD, Alexander WILSON, Hao Hao ZHANG

Quarter 1 | SK 10 v 22 NS

The first group of boys took to the court looking to set the tone and the tempo for the match but quickly found themselves on the back foot and struggling to get going. They were uncharacteristically sluggish in offence and defence which nullified any hope of putting early points down and made life far too easy for their opponents. NS quickly opened up a lead and SK were left in their wake and looking for a spark to ignite their performance. It was the experience of Conway and Green that started the scoreboard moving accompanied by captain Sam Elmi and debutant Reece Palmer. Danny and Tom added 4 points each while Samatar and Reece contributed 2 but they were still too reliant on the ball handler getting the ball to the hoop. In actual fact SK were making life almost impossible for the handler as there was a complete lack of movement ahead of the ball which meant that we were caught in possession on more than one occasion.

Quarter 2 | SK 16 v 29 NS (SK 6 v 7 NS)

Changes in the second period brought completely fresh legs on to the court and they made an almost immediate impact. The ball handling duties were left to Louis and Nabil as each took it in turns to test out the defenders. Kieran worked himself into some neat shooting positions but the quickness with which SK were moving the ball meant that he often got the ball too late. Louis wasn't going to just ease himself in to his second basketball match for the school and started his outing with a brilliant intensity. Louis bought all of his rugby skills including his vision and his handling to the basketball party and earned himself 4 points in the process after he was rewarded for having the confidence and competence to drive to the basket and work the defence. Kieran eventually got the pass he was open for towards the end of the quarter and converted the shot from inside for 2 more points. SK had stemmed the flow of NS baskets but were unable to cut the deficit during this period of the match. At half time the boys were faced with a 13 point game – a big margin in anyone's book!

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Alex getting the defensive treatment



Samatar driving while Sharky watches nervously



Danny bringing the ball up the court

Quarter 3 | SK 36 v 38 NS (SK 20 v 9 NS)

In the third period the contest really came alive from a SK perspective. The 5 who began the quarter wasted absolutely no time at all in getting stuck in to the challenge of cutting the lead. On the basketball court if you have a player who is hitting his shots for fun then you need to get him into a half decent shooting position and get him the ball and that was exactly what happened with Alex Wilson. Having had a quiet first quarter by his own standards, Alex came thundering into the game at the second time of asking. I'm sure there are loads of firework related puns I could include at this point but I wouldn't want to detract from what was an unbelievable 12 point streak. The NS boys simply couldn't get near him and he was strong and athletic enough to win the rebound from any shots he or his team mates did miss. It was great basketball to watch and the volume from the boys on the side was starting to increase. Alex's performance was tremendous in this period but was also accompanied by 4 points from Reece Palmer. Reece is very intelligent on the basketball court and really gets the idea of cutting to the basket. He made a number of quality moves to the hoop and was found with the pass for his first 2 points while his second 2 came from some good work under the bucket to knock in a rebound. Tom and Samatar also weighed in with their own 2 point efforts which cut the 13 point deficit to just 2 – game on! Points aside the third period was also a fantastic one for Zhang – he enjoyed a 2 minute spell with at least 4 steals and some brilliant defensive work to help win possession for his team which was key given how hot some of his team mates were under the basket at the time.

Quarter 4 | SK 44 v 54 NS (SK 8 v 16 NS)

More changes in the fourth and final period introduced more fresh legs in to the game at a time where they couldn't afford to suffer the effects of fatigue. The start of the last period was just like watching proper basketball and teams traded 2 point plays, each notching their score up as the stakes grew higher and higher. The big players for the NS team really stepped up when it mattered and SK were unable to keep them out legally so ended up giving away too many fouls. All credit to the opposition boys as they hit their free shots and crept in to the lead. Even an impressive 3 point effort from Nabil Warsame couldn't save the St Kath's boys as they could feel the game slipping away from them. Zak and Shamarka both chipped in with neat 2 pointers towards the end of the quarter but unfortunately for them and for the team, the NS boys had edged further still in to the lead. Before the end there was just time for Louis Stratton to drive to the basket once more drawing contact on his way. He hit his first free shot before his second came up short leaving his points tally at 5 for the morning.

All up the boys finished 10 points down after clawing their way back in to the game brilliantly. Another close contest ended up going the way of the opposition team but they were thoroughly deserving of their victory. With the series now tied level at 1-1, the scene is set perfectly for the deciding match which is scheduled for early next year.

MVP: Alex Wilson – a fantastic 12 point run in the third quarter that was the reason the team got back in to the match in such dramatic fashion; closely followed by Zhang who also enjoyed a purple patch during the same period.

It's brilliant to see so many boys out representing the school on a Sunday morning and doing something constructive on their weekends. The skill level is already there boys, we just need a little more team cohesion and organisation! Let's get a full complement out to training as often as possible before the next game.

Mr Cook

Player	Points
A Wilson	12
R Palmer	6
L Stratton	5
T Green	4
D Conway	4
S Elmi	4
N Warsame	3
K Whitfield	2
Z Mohamood	2
S Mattan	2



10 BOYS RUGBY V HANS PRICE

Boys looking for strong performance to finish 15-a-side season

On Tuesday 7 November the year 10 boys took to the field for what was likely to be the last 15-a-side rugby fixture of the season. Having returned from their tournament in a positive frame of mind after some pleasing performances the boys were hopeful of continuing their improvement trend in this fixture. Any fond memories of tournament rugby quickly faded on their exit from the changing rooms on Tuesday afternoon as they were greeted by some disgusting weather conditions. The rain, the cold, the wind and the darkness were all stacked against the players from both teams but despite conditions, the game got underway with around 30 minutes of daylight left.

Tyler BARR, Harry BELCHER, Danny BENNETT, Jordan COLE, Connor COLEMAN, Will CONROY, Henil DESAI, Ashya GRAY, Zak HARRIS, Felix MCGOVERN, Eli SMITH, Henry WELCH, Sam WILLIAMS, Muhammed ZUBAIR

St Kath's kicked off and watched the ball head up into the swirling wind and rain before landing in the arms of a Hans Price strike runner. SK were on the back foot and full back Will Conroy had no time to ease himself in to the contest as he was called into defensive action immediately needing to make a covering tackle which he did. During the early part of the first half St Katherine's were starved of possession and forced into making countless tackles. Other boys followed Will's example in defence and committed themselves to their individual tackles and refused to allow Hans Price to simply stroll through their line. Despite having absolute commitment to the defensive cause, the boys were lacking some defensive organisation which meant that simply retaining possession and building phases was enough for the Hans Price boys to cross the try line. Before SK had any real possession of their own their opponents were 14 points ahead and looking good for their lead.

Eventually the home side managed to get hold of the ball after some smart work from their restart and you could see that they posed a threat. Harry Belcher was able to cross the gain line after carrying hard into contact and some good work in the clear out allowed half backs Williams and Smith to get the ball out to some of their imposing runners. Ashya Gray and Henry Welch both got touches of the ball from this first spell of possession but Hans Price weren't about to surrender their lead at the first time of asking. The SK boys really grew in confidence following their first spell of possession and started to compete in all aspects of the game. Danny Bennett was impressive in defense and made one excellent chop tackle on a Hans Price player attempting to run out of his own 22. Zubair was straight in over the top of the ball to win back possession for his team and the signs were improving for St Kath's.

Hans Price composed themselves and refocused their energies with ball in hand and once again began building phase after phase. The backline put great speed on the ball and took it hard to the line to draw in the St Kath's defenders. The quality of the handling from both teams was mightily impressive given the nature of the weather conditions and it was their handling ability that saw the opposition notch up one final score before half time.

The mid-way point in the match provided us with an opportunity to reflect and put some plans in place for the second half. SK were suffering the ill effects of a possession drought but on occasions where they did have the ball in the first half, they found they were only able to track laterally across the pitch. During the break we spoke about combating the Hans Price line speed with some variation of our own in possession.

In what was almost the first action of the second half the boys were able to put their half time plans into action. Stand-off Eli Smith gave himself some more room to receive his pass from Sam Williams before starting to take the ball to the line. As expected the Hans Price defensive line closed down the space with speed and without hesitation but could only turn and watch when Eli executed a near-perfect cross field kick toward the onrushing Connor Coleman. With the kick in behind the first line of defence and Connor bearing down on the loose ball, SK were staring down half a try-scoring opportunity. Connor collected the ball superbly going at full tilt and was now embroiled in foot race with the Hans Price full back who was harrying across to make the covering tackle. Just a handful of metres shy of the line Connor was caught and Hans Price snuffed out the ensuing SK attack. The boys were disappointed to have no reward for their efforts but took heart from almost executing a brilliant play.

Hans Price grew in strength as the game wore on and SK found it harder and harder to compete for or retain any ball. The lion share of possession provided the perfect platform for the opposition runners to give the SK defence a real workout in the closing stages of the match. Several of the St Kath's boys stood firm and their natural competitive nature was clear to see. In one defensive set Ashya and Henry were both on the receiving end of thumping hand-offs as Hans Price fought their way in to the St Kath's 22. After being bumped off initially, both Ashya and Henry came back with almighty tackles that really knocked the stuffing out of the ball carrier. Undeterred by one or two big hits, their opponents retained the ball and were able to cap off their victory with 3 more second half tries taking the final score to 38-0.

Well done to the boys who turned out in miserable conditions and stood up to the challenge. A spirited performance against a strong Hans Price team but a match played in great spirits by both teams.

Well done gentlemen.

Mr Cook



U14 BOYS BASKETBALL V GORDANO

SK escape with victory after rusty first performance of year

On Wednesday 8 November a group of U14 boys made the journey across the motorway to local rivals Gordano for their first basketball match of the school year. Basketball continues to grow in popularity right across the school with an impressive number of students regularly attending practices for the sport. In fact in key stage 3 there are more than 50 different students who have attended at least one practice already this year.



Kyle BARRETT (c)	8 points
Ruffin BUNKETE	2 points
Shadrach BUNKETE	
Tom EVANS	2 points
Benjamin LUMOSO	4 points
Charlton MILLIGAN	12 points
Toby RICE	
Ariel RUGMAN	
Joseph WILLIAMS	
Mansur YILMAZ	6 points
Muhammed ZAEEM	

Quarter 1 | SK 10 v 2 Gordano

SK were really slow to get out of the blocks and during this first 10 minutes were completely devoid of any defensive organisation at all. Some opposition players were being marked by 2 red shirts and others were not being marked at all. SK players who had managed to find their man initially were quickly left marking thin air not long after and Gordano were finding it all too easy to get to the basket. Had it not been for a lack of the clinical edge under the basket, St Katherine's would have, without a doubt, been behind at quarter time. Gordano weren't the only side struggling under the hoop as SK were also turning down good opportunities to get the scoreboard moving - 3 minutes into the game the score was still 0-0! It was captain Kyle Barrett who hit the first 6 points for SK with two great jump shots and an impressive lay-up. The going was still tough but Kyle did his best to lead by example and to get his team mates going. Ben Lumoso and Charlton Milligan also added 2 point efforts of their own before the quarter time buzzer which gave SK a cushion that would turn out to be decisive at the end of the game.

Quarter 2 | SK 16 v 8 Gordano (SK 6 v 6 Gordano)

At quarter time the boys were completely aware that their defensive work was letting them down and set about trying to rectify this as soon as possible during the second period. Unfortunately despite recognising the issue and being determined to address it, their defensive organisation continued to plague them through the second period and the rest of the match. St Kath's were far more clinical under the hoop during the second period and although only managed a total of six points on top of their existing score, these points came from far fewer shots in comparison with the first quarter. Charlton Milligan added the first two with a nice jump shot following some smart rebounding work and Mansur Yilmaz contributed the last four points demonstrating his jump shot and lay-up techniques perfectly.

Quarter 3 | SK 26 v 18 Gordano (SK 10 v 10 Gordano)

Tom Evans got the scoring under way in the third period and showed that his basketball has really come on since he started playing. Since first taking to the court Tom has always been athletic under the hoop and has always had an excellent quality to his passing. One of the areas that Tom found more difficult when first picking up the game was shooting which is an area that beginners often find difficult. Tom weighed in with a perfectly executed jump shot to earn points 17 and 18 which was testament to the way he practices and works hard to improve. Equally as athletic under the hoop is Charlton Milligan who called on all of his strength and power on multiple occasions during the third period. Charlton added 4 points to the total all of which came after prolonged physical tussles under the hoop and some really dynamic rebounding work. Kyle and Ruffin also chipped in with 2 point efforts to give them a 14 point lead heading into the last quarter.

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Quarter 4 | SK 34 v 26 Gordano (SK 8 v 8 Gordano)

The fourth period presented an opportunity to get all 11 boys some court time as it was clear that players were starting to fatigue. Boys were given the instruction to empty the tank as they were only likely to be involved in the game for a matter of minutes. During this final period the game really opened up and SK looked tired and weary on the court. Gordano finished really strongly and put together some of their best basketball with some excellent pass and move offence and some great hustle without the ball. They added 8 points to their total which St Kath's matched through Milligan (4), Lumoso (2) and Yilmaz (2).

The boys finished with the 8 point cushion that they had earned in the first quarter but couldn't quite produce their best basketball although not for lack of effort. This group of boys really enjoy their basketball and have made some great progress since playing their first match just over a year ago.

MVP: A joint award to Charlton, Kyle and Mansur for their contributions – quite simply the boys would not have won the game without their points – scoring 26 of the 34 points between them is an impressive stat.

Well done gentlemen.

Mr Cook

U13 BOYS INDOOR CRICKET V TSA

SK get indoor cricket season underway with exciting friendly fixture

On Friday 10 November the U13 boys kick started their cricket season with an indoor friendly game against Thompson's Sports Academy. Over the next few Friday evenings we will play host to a variety of boys from TSA and are hoping to be able to give a whole range of SK boys the chance to familiarise themselves or rediscover the game of indoor cricket. With Somerset Cricket Board competitions on the horizon in the New Year this game was a great opportunity to blow away the cobwebs from the end of the summer season.



Not all pictured: Isaac ADEBO, Shadrach BUNKETE, Louie DUN, Nana GYIMAH-SARPONG, Benjamin LUMOSO, Mac MARSHALL, Jody QUINN, Toby RICE, Ariel RUGMAN, Harry SLAPE, Will STRATTON, Euan SUTTON, Jack THOBURN, Joseph WILLIAMS, Maxwell WILLIAMS

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St Kath's batted first and it was down to opening pair Toby Rice and Louie Dun to get things going. The pair started brilliantly and got the scoreboard ticking immediately with 6 runs off of the first two deliveries thanks to some sharp running between the wickets. The boys went on to take 17 runs from the first over which was a brilliant start considering the strength of the boys in the TSA team. The boys continued to go well until the fourth over of the match where Louie was undone by a full, quick and straight delivery shortly followed by Toby having to retire. These two events in quick succession brought two completely new batsmen to the crease.

Ari Rugman settled in really well and was looking in fine form but others struggled to hang around at the other end. Of the 5 boys that followed Ari, 4 were run out and all were dismissed for less than 5 runs. You could really see that it had been a while since some of the boys had played cricket, let alone indoor cricket which is a completely different game. Indoor cricket is an incredible quick game where good running between the wickets is magnified intensely. Most of the boys who were run out were so keen to back-up at the non-strikers end that they forgot to make ground when the ball was hit straight back to the bowler and the others just came about from some miscommunication.

Despite the tumble of wickets in overs 4 to 8 the SK boys battled on and Ari hung around long enough to support Toby at the back end of the innings. Toby came back in and batted superbly to make more than twice his initial score. Some of his ball striking was superb and it was clear that he hadn't spent any time away from the game since the end of the summer! With Toby's impressive 36, Louie notching up 15 and Ari hanging around well for his 8 the boys wound up on 96 which was a defendable total.



St Kath's set about defending their total and knew that they needed to restrict their opponents to less than 10 runs per over. The experience of Toby and Louie shone through as both boys managed that task with their first two overs. TSA got a feel for the ball well and were then able to accelerate their scoring rate later on in the innings. Jack Thoburn bowled well in his overs and was backed up brilliant by Ari Rugman who bowled a very tight over indeed. Harry, Joe and Maxwell all got through their overs well but TSA were really starting to demonstrate their hitting power at the end of their innings. Despite the fact that TSA finished some way beyond the SK total, the game was a brilliant opportunity for all of the boys to get back in to some cricket in the winter.



I have absolutely no doubt at all that this group of boys will sharpen their cricket up really quickly over the next few weeks and am also really looking forward to seeing a number of different boys experiencing indoor cricket. There are loads of positives to take from their first match and lots of things to work on. More importantly than anything else it was great to see so many boys from both teams enjoying every minute of playing cricket in the winter!

SPECIAL THANKS to Senior Sports Captains Matty Crutchley and Caolán Pearce who both gave up their Friday evenings to help out. I say help in the loosest sense of the word because what they actually did was take responsibility for every single aspect of the evening. Before the opposition arrived the boys ran some drills and a practice match, then took responsibility for umpiring and scoring the game. Quite simply I needn't have been there but I am glad that I was able to witness two fantastic young role models putting on a brilliant evening of sport for more than 20 boys! There aren't many 16 years olds like these two and they set a fantastic example to younger students.

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Well done to everyone involved.

Mr Cook

Batting (batting first)		
Batsman		Runs
T Rice	Not out	36
L Dun	Bowled	15
A Rugman	Bowled	8
M Williams	Run out	4
H Slape	Bowled	3
J Thoburn	Run out	1
J Williams	Run out	0
N Gyimah-Sarpong	Run out	3

Bowling					
Bowler	O	R	W	Econ.	
T Rice	2	23	1	11.50	
L Dun	2	23	1	11.50	
J Thoburn	2	24	0	12.00	
H Slape	1	10	1	10.00	
A Rugman	1	5	0	5.00	
J Williams	1	17	0	17.00	
M Williams	1	13	1	13.00	

Extras	0
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Extras	26
Total (10 overs)	96 - 7

TSA Batting Total (batting second)	
Total (20 overs)	115 - 4



9 BOYS RUGBY TOURNAMENT

Even wind, rain and mud doesn't dampen year 9 spirits

On Tuesday 14 November a group of year 9 boys travelled to Backwell School for their North Somerset rugby tournament. As seems customary at end of season tournaments, year 9 and I once again arrived in miserable weather conditions. St Katherine's were drawn in the participation pool against Churchill, Hans Price, Gordano and Broadoak. The boys were heading into the competition in really good spirits having beaten 3 of the 4 opposition teams in friendly fixtures earlier in the season.



Max ANDREWS, Finlay BELCHER, Ruffin BUNKETE, Seb DE MONTFORT, Maximus DIXEY, Louie DUN, Ethan EMERY, Tom EVANS, Brandon GEATER, Beau GILBERT, Finley KING, Charlie MEDDER, Charlton MILLIGAN, Hanad MOHAMED, Tony TANNER, George TURNER

In their first match the boys faced unknown opposition in the form of Churchill School. Churchill started the game extremely well and it soon became clear to SK that they were in for a tough opener. Inside the first 3 minutes of the half Churchill had broken through and touched down twice. The SK defence line was non-existent and this made tackling seemingly impossible. Churchill continued to exert their dominance and were up by 4 scores in almost no time at all. Eventually SK managed to retain the ball for a while and relied on their stronger runners to make ground. Several phases of crash ball later and Bunkete pinned his ears back and came thundering into the line. Ruffin smashed his way over the whitewash to give his team some hope at half time. Defensive issues continued to plague the boys throughout the game and they continued to leak tries. Good scores in return came from Andrews and Medder. Max picked and went blind which caught all of the Churchill boys off-guard while Charlie tucked the ball under his jumper and smashed his way over. The final score, 6 tries to 3, left the boys feeling deflated but with positives to take forward into their second match.

Hans Price were their next opponents and SK were in for a bit of a shock! Once again defensive frailties were their downfall and the Hans Price boys needed no invitation to run hard and fast to the line. A great combination of some direct running and some exceptionally good footwork was too much for SK and Hans Price were able to break the line almost at all. The red resistance was led superbly by Finlay Belcher at full back and as the last line of defense Finlay made several superb try saving tackles. Unfortunately Finlay was the only boy who was really prepared to get low and cut down opposition ball carriers. Max Andrews carried strongly and was well supported by Ruffin after making one excellent break following a dummy kick from inside his own 22. Weather conditions got the better of Ruffin as the ball squirted out in the tackle but not before he hit a superb support line. The reds did enjoy spells of possession and came close to scoring in the second half after moving the ball right along the line well to Evans on the outside who was caught well by his opposite number to snuff out the attack. Two down and not much to show for it!

Their third game turned out to be their final game against Gordano and the boys took to the pitch determined to give a better account of themselves. Their line speed had been their Achilles heel all afternoon and several boys in the back line decided to take responsibility for addressing it. Right from kick off you could see that there was a conscious effort to get off of the line. Louie Dun was vocal and could be heard right across the pitch which was having the desired effect. One particular passage of play saw Beau go hurtling off of the line up to the first receiver who shipped the ball on just before

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Beau could get to him. Fortunately Charlton was up on Beau's outside just as quickly and managed to get man and ball causing a knock on and earning his team possession. This pattern was repeated a number of times during the game. SK were able to earn possession and field position in this game and had a number of good try scoring opportunities. George Turner went on a threatening run across the 22 but was caught by a Gordano tackler. Brandon and Tom both had opportunities to offload but the pass just wouldn't go to hand. It just wasn't St Kath's day and to make matters worse Gordano managed to notch up 4 tries of their own and it had to be said, player the better rugby and were deserving of their victory.

Full time, the end of the afternoon and St Kath's were clearly disappointed. They were expecting to perform better but things just didn't go their way on the day. What I was proud of was the way that the boys didn't let their disappointment hinder their play at all. In fact in their last game against Gordano, the boys were running the ball back up to restart the game with just as much enthusiasm and haste as they were in the first match. The weather and the results tried their best to dampen spirits but the boys simply wouldn't allow it.



Player of the tournament was an easy decision given that Finlay Belcher was the absolute stand out player. Finlay's tackle count and performance at full back was excellent, despite leaving his boots at school! Finlay's rugby has gone from strength to strength this year and you can really see the difference that playing for a club has made.

Special thanks also to ex-student Ryley Murtagh who has moved on to study with Bristol Rugby. Ryley volunteered his services for the day to support the boys and was invaluable as an extra pair of capable hands. Ryley warmed the boys up, led them for practices between matches and was a constant source of support from the side. I am extremely grateful to him for rearranging his time to help out and I know that the year 9 boys are too.

Hard luck gentlemen but well done for your efforts.

Mr Cook

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NS CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS

Runners test their mettle against the best NS has to offer

On Wednesday 15 November a group of gutsy, committed and brave students boarded the coach bound for the North Somerset Schools Cross Country Championships. The run is a selection event for Avon Schools with the aim of finding the best 10 runners from North Somerset to take on teams from Bristol, BANES and South Gloucestershire later in the year. The majority of runners earned their place on the back of their performances in our house cross country competition however some of the bravest students also volunteered themselves at short notice to step in where their peers had stepped out. All of the students headed for the start line alongside the best from the other 10 schools in the county. Special thanks to those runners who stepped in at short notice – amazing SK team work!



Minor Boys 2.2k	Minor Girls 2k	Junior Boys 3.2k	Junior Girls 2.2k
Gabriel ANTOLIC-FURLONG Kanye CHRISTIE Alfie KING Mac MARSHALL Josh MOORE Kenneth NEWBURY	Poppy BALDWIN-BROOKS Jemima GERMAN Megan HART- JONES Jamie PACKHAM Ruby WALSH Daisy WILKINSON	Isaac ADEBO Fergus CRETON Corey GARLAND Mursal SHARIF	Natasha BORLAND Molly JACKSON Maya MATTHEWS Daisy MONEY Grace NEWBY Leah PORTER

It was the 59 minor boys who got the afternoon underway and hopes were high given the number of excellent performances that we had witnessed during our house competition. Kanye Christie has been asking me since the start of the year about cross country and ran superbly in the stronger field. In a tough race Kayne went all out and finished in an impressive 26th place. Gabe Antolic-Furlong gave a really gutsy performance to finish in 18th position despite having been off school for the two days prior to the rest – an even more amazing achievement given that he clearly wasn't 100%.



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The standout performer in this race category was Josh Moore who ran superbly to finish in 8th position. This fantastic run means that Josh will be selected for the Avon Schools competition and we can't wait to see how he gets on – what an achievement! Excellent runs from all boys earned them 5th place out of the 11 schools in the team competition!

The 61 junior girls were next out on the course and the joint year 8 & 9 race age didn't put off Daisy Money and Maya Matthews one little bit as they both crossed the line in great finishing positions. Really gutsy runs from all of the girls earned them a very respectable 8th position overall; even more impressive given the fact that there were 4 year 8 girls in the team. The standout runner was Leah Porter finishing in 15th place and narrowly missing out on selection for Avon Schools. Leah still has another year in this race category so the signs are really positive for next year. A great run ladies and a real team effort – well done to you all for your contributions!



Next out on the course were the 56 junior boys and unfortunately for SK the runners who had made it to the start line knew that they faced a tough ask as they were missing a number of runners who had been selected. The four boys who went out gave it their all and ran brilliantly in a tough and gruelling race. Isaac and Corey battled hard for their finishing positions but it was the two year 9 boys, Mursal and Fergus who finished highest. Mursal went out hard but faded whereas Fergus saved some for the final kilometre to finish strongly in a very respectable 32nd position. Well done to you all boys for your endeavour out on the course.



The final race out was the minor girls which saw 59 girls make the start line. A brilliant team performance saw the girls finish in 6th position out of 11 schools with some outstanding individual runs. Ruby has already made a name for herself among her peers thanks to her unbelievable gymnastic ability and it was brilliant to witness a young lady who competes at such a high level in one sport doing so well in another! Ruby crossed the line in 27th position to add vital points to the team total. Second best finisher in the team was Poppy Baldwin-Brooks who finished in an excellent 18th position in what was a very tough race. Standout performer in the team was Daisy Wilkinson who earned herself the prize of best SK



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finisher. Daisy crossed the line in 6th place and earned herself a place running for North Somerset in Avon Schools along with Josh – a fantastic run!



It was fantastic to see so many of our students really testing themselves at the highest level and all of our runners deserve huge credit for the way that they represented St Katherine's. Perhaps the highlight of the afternoon was to see our students gathering on the final corner of the course to cheer home runners from all of the North Somerset schools – what a lovely atmosphere for the finishers to run home to.

Special mentions go to the year 7 boys and girls teams – two fantastic runs to finish in 5th and 6th position respectively. Huge congratulations to Daisy Wilkinson and Josh Moore who will have the opportunity to represent SK running for North Somerset at the Avon Schools Championships later this year. It has been a long time since two of our students have earned themselves selection at this tough event. The standard of athletics in North Somerset is extremely high and so these achievements are even more impressive.

Congratulations to all of our runners.

Miss Ball and Mr Cook





1ST XV BOYS RUGBY V SIDCOT

Simply sublime showing from our first XV on the rugby pitch

On Thursday 16 November the first XV made their way to Sidcot School for a rematch of a fixture that took place earlier in the year. The first contest was a high scoring affair which saw 80 points shared between the two sides with Sidcot running out winners by a 15 point margin. Determined to better their previous performance, SK took to the pitch looking to put together some of their best rugby. Little did they know that they were about to be a part of one of the most impressive school boy performances St Katherine's has seen for a long time!



Lewis BAKER, Louis BOYCE, Danny CONWAY, Tom GREEN, Drew HASTINGS, Justin LAWRENCE, Angus MASON, Lewis MASON, Dexter MOTT, Lowell MOTT (injured but travelled), Ben PAINES, Caolán PEARCE, Edward POWELL, Charlie RICE, Jay SPICER, Louis STRATTON

St Katherine's were boasting a plethora of sporting talent yet just 5 of them are playing regular club rugby outside of school. I suppose that there are two ways to view that; 1 – imagine how good they could be if they all played regularly but 2 – what better evidence that rugby is such an inclusive game where great sportsmen can transfer so many skills from their other disciplines.

Lewis Baker took responsibility for setting the tone after the kick off when he put in a punishing hit that stopped the ball carrier right on the gain line as well as dislodging the ball to earn the away side their first possession. Lewis is dynamic winger who is solid in defence but also travels sharply with the ball in hand. Unfortunately shortly after Lewis had earned his team the ball, they turned it over – a pattern that would repeat itself too many times during the course of the match. Charlie Rice followed Lewis' example and lined up the ball carrier to put in another bone crunching tackle, again forcing the knock on and earning his team possession. SK weren't short of early ball but everything they constructed in attack went laterally and they didn't have any real penetrative threat during the first 10 minutes.

In desperate need for someone to straighten things up, the boys were delighted when Charlie Rice hit a line that scythed through the first line of Sidcot defense. Charlie still had a lot left to do and had only just made his way into the opposition 22 but fortunately still had plenty in the locker. Charlie threw in a brilliant goose step that completely threw the covering defender off-guard and allowed him to go on the outside and slide over in the corner for the first try of the match. Lewis converted from inside the 5 metre channel and so the scoring was underway. Charlie wasn't finished with his first impressive score and just minutes later came at full tilt onto a superb pass from Louis Boyce. Louis has been a great addition to the SK team and Charlie did what all great backrow forwards do and got on his shoulder. Louis did superbly to get the pass away out of the tackle but Charlie had a huge amount to do just to get his hands to the ball. Those who know Charlie will know that it was a mighty impressive sight to see him hold the pass at full stretch while traveling at full speed to go over for his second try of the match.

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Midway through the first half there were worrying signs for SK despite their lead when winger Lewis Baker hobbled off clutching his hamstring. Fortunately some stretching and the magic sponge allowed him to return to the game bring SK back up to a full 15 as they were without any substitutes due to injury and unavailability. The Sidcot defense was being tested but was standing firm and several impressive defensive sets saw us turn the ball over a little too easily. When they were able to get good quality front foot ball the SK boys looked unbeatable, especially out wide. The third try came after Drew Hastings took the ball to the line before ripping his pass out to Jay Spicer. Jay had numbers outside him and was able to show and go through a gap to score in the corner giving Lewis Mason another difficult kick which he made.

The best SK try of the game came right near the end of the second half as Ed and Charlie worked in harmony, each off of the other. Ed caught the restarted and drove the ball in to contact hard managing to turn his body and free his arms to offload the ball to Charlie Rice who was in support and traveling! When Charlie has go forwards he can be difficult to stop and it was at least another 10 metres before he was hauled to ground only to pop the ball to Ed to return the favour. Ed crashed it in again making more ground before Charlie had gotten to his feet dynamically to clear the subsequent breakdown. This pair of powerful and destructive ball carriers had tied in countless defenders meaning that there was so much space out wide. Jay Spicer was first to spot the space and called for the early ball after Charlie had done some excellent clear out work. Truth be told, Louis Boyce had a really easy run in and rounded off an excellent try for which Charlie and Ed deserved the majority of the credit. Danny responded to Jay's call without hesitation and Jay put Louis in really well to cap off an excellent first half performance that earned SK 27 unanswered points.

At half time I gave the boys three points to focus their attention on in attempt to tighten up what was already a strong performance. 1 = the Sidcot line speed was good but we hadn't used the kick as an attacking option at all in the first half, 2 = cut out the turnovers after turning the ball over, stay on your feet and set it up to give your team mates time to transition and finally 3 = get set on the line and then get off of the line, Sidcot will keep coming at you in the second half and you'll have to stop them with the same 15 you started the game with.

What happens when you tell your team to think about kicking to attack at half time? They kick when they are under pressure and find themselves on scramble defense after it gets charged down. In fairness the boys scrambled really well and showed great resolution not to let their opponents gain sustained possession in the red zone. Five or six phases saw five or six different boys bravely going low to cut down the Sidcot ball carriers before Danny Conway ended the panic with some smart defensive work in the form of a sneaky interception. So quick was Danny's speed of thought that none of his team quite managed to get with him and he was turned over after being dragged to the ground which saw SK defending once again – so much for using the kick and cutting out the turn overs followed by turn overs!

It took a Sidcot try for SK to finally realise that they needed to sharpen up their decision making with ball in hand. Another wayward kick was watched by static red shirts and the follow up tackles were even worse as a strong Sidcot runner broke through 2 or 3 tackles to cross the line. As they watched the conversion sail over, SK were gently reminded about the detail behind the 3 points we set out at half time! Lewis Mason led by example with a brilliantly execute turnover at the breakdown just seconds after the restart only for his team mates to waste possession and get tackled out in to touch. Louis Stratton was then first to react to an overthrown Sidcot lineout and did exactly what I had asked when he set the ball up well. However a moment of madness from the ensuing breakdown saw us choose to go blind, meanwhile the touchline hadn't moved since kick off! 2 turn overs from 2 turn overs – I was tearing my hair (what little I have left) out!

Fortunately for my hair line the boys finished the second half from this point onwards with some sublime rugby that was just an absolute privilege to watch from the side! Charlie Rice's eyes widened when he picked up from the base of a scrum and found himself with a 4 man over-lap outside him. Determined to get his hattrick, Charlie crashed the ball in but was wrapped up but thankfully scrum half Conway got the ball away quickly and into the hands of Jay Spicer who went over to score his second of the match which was converted by Lewis Mason who was in fine kicking form. Jay didn't stop to draw breath and yelled loudly as found himself under the restart. The call was hands left and Jay obliged moving the ball to team mate and friend Danny Conway. Danny set up perfectly with the ball in 2 hands and classic Conway dummy pump eased him through a gap with nothing but fresh air between himself and the try line. In years previous Danny may not have had the pace to go 80 metres without being caught but nowadays this was easy pickings for him.

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Sidcot responded with their second try of the game after some more strong running and impressive offloading – it was great to watch two sides so keen to throw the ball around and play. The secret to SK's success in this game was the sheer volume of sporting talent in their ranks. Quite simply all 15 of the boys can play and want to play and nowhere was this more evident than with our 7th try. Conway fired the ball out to Stratton who was really starting to run the game effortlessly at 10. Stratton shipped it out to centre Caolán Pearce who has been in fantastic form on the rugby pitch of late. Pearce offloaded brilliantly to Green who had come in off of his wing only to dance through several attempted tackles. Caolán didn't just move the ball on; he passed and supported the ball again on the loop to get the offload from Tom just before he hit the floor. Caolán took the ball on the stoop as he went outside Tom to go over in the corner for his first try of the game – a great example of Louis orchestrating the play with 3 brilliant sportsmen; none of whom play club rugby. Meanwhile Lewis Mason was still quietly going about his kicking duties with absolute accuracy.

SK possession and field position was causing Sidcot real problems and they were forced to exit with a box kick. As the most senior player in the team Angus Mason was operating in the full back position for this match and if you ever needed validation as to the quality of Angus' sporting talent then the passage of play following the box kick was it. Angus repositioned himself with consummate ease under the high ball taking it fluidly as it travelled over his shoulder. Angus then made the call to run the ball back to maintain the attacking threat & intensity and picked a line at the outside defender that just invited his winger in support. Angus drew the defender out before throwing an outstanding flat pass which Tom could take without having to break stride at all. A simply brilliant series of skills executed to perfection by a hugely talented sportsman who just slotted into the 15 jersey despite playing little rugby.

The SK boys were starting to run, offload and support the ball over the pitch and were making life extremely difficult for their opponents. It seemed that they were just taking it in turns to each enjoy purple patches – next up, Caolán Pearce! You don't need to know much about rugby to know that when Charlie Rice is carrying it is worth supporting him because he's likely to break the tackle and give an offload. Angus and Caolán did exactly that and with Angus on his left and Caolán on his right, Charlie was spoilt for options. Both supporting runners were bursting on to the ball but it fell to Pearce to come on to Charlie's offload which he held impressively to round off the move giving Mason yet another conversion. After the try the space was starting to open up and the kick was really on. Jay spotted the space and put in a neat little grubber kick for Caolán to give chase to. Travelling at the speed he was there was no way that Caolán was going to collect the ball so he did exactly the right thing and chose to fly hack the ball on. Kick through ... kick again ... one last kick but Caolán still had to collect the ball to score. He couldn't believe it when he knocked the ball on at the last hurdle but took solace from the quality of the move that had presented him with the opportunity.

In the dying embers of the game the boys were camped inside the Sidcot 22. On several occasions it looked like boys were going to cross the line and nobody came closer than Dexter Mott who was denied just inches short of the whitewash. The pressure on the try line drew in Sidcot players and a well organised back line was left with a simple walk in try eventually scored by Ben Paines who had put in a real shift in terms of work in the tackle and at the break down. In a fitting end to the match, Lewis Mason hit the conversion to take the final score to 64-12 – what a result, what a performance and what a team! Sensational performances all over from 1-15 made it impossible to pick a man of the match – it wouldn't have been fair to single any one player out in what was a great team performance. Special thanks to Lowell Mott for traveling and supporting the boys despite injury.



I really wish you could have seen the quality of some of the rugby that was on show during this match – my words and a few photographs just don't do some of the play justice.

Another brilliant afternoon with a brilliant group of young men!

Mr Cook



U19 BOYS FOOTBALL V NAILSEA

Last kick of game sees U19 progress to quarter finals after 13 goal cup thriller!

On Tuesday 21 November the U19 boys travelled to Nailsea School to play their second round match. A bye in the first round of the competition is just about as much luck as both year 12 and 13 have ever had in cup competitions. For that reason the year 13 boys in particular took to the pitch with a determination to make sure that this wasn't their last school football match!



Louis BOYCE, Jacob KINSELLA-FRESHWATER, Angus MASON (c), Lewis MASON, Patrick MCGOVERN, Ben PAINES, Daniel PARSLAW, Mason SMART, Finley SMITH, Jay SPICER, Robbie WARDEN, Daniel YOUNG

Just 5 minutes into the tie hopes of progression had been severely dented after the Nailsea captain and centre forward had given them a two goal lead and looked a real threat anytime he was involved in their attacking play. SK were mentally still very much on the minibus on the way to the game which wasn't surprising given the fact that they forfeited their warm up in order to meet the agreed kick off. SK slowly began to wrestle their way into the match and eventually established some defensive organisation from 1-11. In all honesty at this point in the game it looked as though the Nailsea score was heading for double figures!

Dan Young began to pick up the Nailsea captain; something that he would go on to do extremely well for the entire game which would limit the impact he would have on the final outcome. Finley Smith swept behind Dan and his composure with ball at feet meant that SK enjoyed their first spells of possession. The boys weren't short of attacking options and it was the variety in their attack that went on to give Nailsea a serious defensive headache during the latter part of the first half.

The 11 minute mark saw St Katherine's score their first goal through central midfielder Jay Spicer. Jay and Angus were beginning to complement each other superbly in the middle of the pitch; Jay with his fierce ball winning tenacity, strength and aerial dominance and Angus with his exquisite close control, creativity and ability to pick a pass. Lewis and Dan also offered different qualities higher up the pitch. Lewis was proving himself to be a constant nuisance for the Nailsea defenders but was really clever at winning the ball and bringing others in to the game and it was clear from the offset that Dan had the beating of his defender in terms of pace. The boys worked an opening down the right side before the ball was eventually pulled back to Jay Spicer who had made a late run to get just inside the box and strike the ball firmly first time into the bottom corner to beat the keeper – SK were back in the game!

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Dan getting in front to get to the ball first



Angus assured in possession



Lewis winning the ball in the air

The St Kath's goal saw them grow in confidence as they started to look really assured in possession. The next 10 minutes bought about numerous set piece chances for the away side as they started to vary the points of their attack. Full back Robbie Warden was at the heart of everything good during this period of the game and hit some superb diagonal balls to winger Smart who was eating up the ground in front of him and demonstrating a voracious appetite for getting in behind his full back. Robbie showed the quality and variety to his passing range by mixing his long diagonal passes with some cute clipped passes down the line to winger Ben Paines who was enjoying real success against his full back. SK were able to get around the Nailsea defence almost at will but centrally they were proving tougher to beat and that final pass or finish was eluding the boys in red. It looked as though their reward may come from set piece during this period of the game but two or three really inviting deliveries were wasted by SK with wayward headers and miscued shots. Perhaps against the run of play it was Nailsea who scored next after capitalising on a defensive mix up during the midway point of the first half; you had to give them credit because they were clinical in their attack and made SK pay for their mistake.

It was the latter part of the first period where SK really earned their stripes and started to control almost every aspect of the game. It was Finley's goal that proved the catalyst for the period of dominance which saw some unbelievable goal scoring and an even better quality football. Yet another SK set piece opportunity looked destined for the scrap heap until Finley Smith managed to get free from his man at the far post by drifting away from the goal to manufacture enough space for himself to hit the ball first time on the volley demonstrating one of the trickiest techniques on the football pitch. Finley wheeled away in sheer delight after watching his volley cut across the face of goal and nestle into the bottom corner – back in the game ... again!

In his early secondary years Dan Parslow was always a real attacking threat with his pace and wiry strength on the ball but now has so much more to his game and is a really accomplished centre forward. Dan is still every bit the danger in behind that he was lower down the school but is now equally as dangerous with his back to goal, running at defenders or linking up with players who are running beyond him when he has come short to get the pass. Mr Thomas and I were in absolute agreement that there was no player on the pitch in this game who had more impact; fitting then that it was two moments of magic from Dan in as many minutes that drew SK level and then gave them the lead towards the end of the first half. Not the first time we have said that about Dan in recent years! Dan's first goal (35 minutes) was a screamer – a superbly struck right footed effort that dipped with devastating cruelty over the helpless Nailsea keeper and in to the top right hand corner. We were stood right behind the ball as Dan made contact; it was destined for the top corner from the moment it left his boot. His second (36 minutes) was a deft chip from just inside the penalty area that looped over the keeper once more and into the back of the net. Two sublime goals that really changed the momentum in the game – and SK weren't ready for half time just yet!



Ben setting off down the left



Louis hitting his pass perfectly



Ben popping up at the back post for his first

In what was almost the last play of the first half SK were able to nick another goal which gave them a 5-3 lead heading in

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to the break. SK were on top and flying, their football as slick as ever and it was the two wingers Smart and Paines who were enjoying the fruits of the teams labour. Jay and Angus had complete hold over the centre of the pitch and were overrun with passing options. They could hit Dan or Lewis' feet before moving the ball wide, slide the ball through first time or move it out to full backs Robbie and Louis who could hit the line – either and any which was it was Mason and Ben who found themselves bearing down on their opponents. The fifth goal was scored by Ben Paines who did what all great wingers do when the play is on the other side of the pitch and burst into the box late. So good was Ben's run that he nipped in at the back post to tap finish off what was another excellent team move resulting in a great delivery into the area – not the first time that Ben would intervene at the back post with limited time left on the watch!

Nailsea came out strongly in the second half as you would expect and gave the SK boys a few defensive problems again. A few too many times the player in possession tried to be a little too clever and got caught out on the ball which meant that Nailsea were able to attack with the opponents caught out of position. Fortunately for St Kath's Boyce and Warden closed out the attacks quickly and when Nailsea did get through Smith and Young covered really well making up for the SK mistakes. Nailsea were on top at the start of the second half but it was SK who scored next after some sharp work from Lewis Mason. Lewis normally keeps goal but availability of players dictated that he was needed to do a job outfield which he is more than capable of doing. Last year he earned himself something of a reputation for being a goal scorer in our indoor football league and it seems as though this reputation was warranted after he grabbed the sixth goal for his team. Lewis caught a Nailsea defender in possession, made the tackle and then went on to finish really well into the bottom corner – surely a 3 goal lead was enough?

SK were playing so well at the end of the first period that they really didn't want half time. Unfortunately they lost their way a little in the second half and players who had been the dominant force early on just couldn't get themselves into the game, despite their best effort! The effort was so great in some cases that cramp set in which forced a substitution bring Kinsella into the game. Realising the importance of the game Jacob wasted absolutely not time in getting stuck into his duties up front and absolutely ran himself into the ground chasing every single ball. Jacob was chasing the ball but SK were starting to chase the game and all too often were relying on the back four or Patrick to keep them in the game. Finley cut out several through balls brilliantly during this period of the game and demonstrated yet again that he has a superb ability to read the game. Dan Young stuck to his marking duty with admirable resolve and was starting to frustrate the talented Nailsea forward. When the defence was beaten Patrick also came up with a couple of excellent saves demonstrating his reactionary shot stopping capabilities. Despite their resolve SK conceded 3 goals to set up the tensest of finishes to the cup tie. All three goals came about from defensive mistakes which was hugely frustrating for everyone out on the pitch in a red shirt. Their third and final equalising goal was netted with a little over 5 minutes to play and with football a being such a game of momentum you couldn't help but fear for a late Nailsea winner and at best the game looked destined for extra time. Ben Paines had other ideas!

Dan had been playing out of position in the middle of midfield to cover for the injury enforced substitution, but a further tactical change late on in desperate attempt of finding the winning goal saw Dan move back to his normal position. This proved absolutely decisive and SK wasted no time at all in getting the ball in to his feet. Dan had cleverly drifted out wide right to attack the Nailsea left back and used his pace superbly to get around the outside of him and drive the ball to the bye line. If you were unsure whether or not SK wanted to win the game you need have looked no further than the handful of runners who set off on gut busting runs from midfield to make it into the box to support Dan. Incredibly in the dying embers of the match SK had managed to get 3 bodies into the area for Dan to aim at. When he first whipped his ball in I was sure that he had overdone it as it whistled passed the first two red shirts. In almost identical fashion to the first half it was Ben Paines who popped up at the back post. I deliberately say 'almost identical' because on this occasion rather than there being seconds left on the clock there was no time at all left on the clock, apart from that the two goals were exact replicas! Ben knocked the ball home to give his team the victory in the most dramatic of fashions. Almost as soon as the ball crossed the line the referee blew for full time and Ben was surrounded by his team mates.

Man of the match was a tricky one to award – Robbie had one of his best games for the school, Dan Young took on a difficult challenge and succeeded, Jay Spicer had a storming first half and Dan Parslow was arguably the best player on the pitch in terms of impact and is unlucky not to take the accolade. Ben Paines has to take the award as he didn't just pop up with two vitals goals but also had a great outing on the left wing.

Sport can be cruel at times and nowhere was this more evident than the final moments of this match. Nailsea deserve huge credit for their reaction to the late winner which was testament to their sportsmanship. In actual fact it was enjoyable to watch a football match without any swearing, whinging, appealing or poor sportsmanship. It was a real pleasure to take this team – without a doubt the current 12s and 13s are two of the best sporting year groups we have had through St Katherine's in recent years but more importantly this group are full of first class sportsmen. Congratulations on your second round victory gents – Chew Valley await in the quarter finals which will take place in the New Year!

Congratulations one and all – bags of character on display from both sides in a fantastically entertaining sporting contest.

Mr Thomas and Mr Cook



9 GIRLS NETBALL TOURNAMENT

Girls enjoy great afternoon of netball at annual tournament

On Wednesday 22 November St Kath's Y9 Netball Team went to the Small Schools Netball Tournament with enough players for two teams. The commitment and desire from Y9 girls to represent the school is a victory in itself. The girls show passion, pride and motivation in every match and competition. The teams were captained by Molly Jackson and Grace Newby who led the teams by example with strong, fair and disciplined play.



Team 1 played three games and won convincingly against Priory B (4-1), Hans Price (7-2) and Broadoak (6-0). Freya Barnett was player of the match in all three games. Team 2 also played three games with an even spread, with a win against Worle B (2-0), a draw versus Clevedon B (2-2) and a loss against Backwell B (1-2). There was an even spread for player of the match with Molly Jackson (central), Chantelle Hawkes (defence) and Freya Barnett as a shooter claiming the nominations.

The overall result found St Kath's finish the tournament in second position (with statistics of played 6, won 4, drawn 1, lost 1). This is a truly fantastic achievement and the squad of Molly Jackson, Anida Bonomo, Beth Edwards, Rose Giles, Chantelle Hawkes, Leah Milkins, Grace Newby, Amelie Purvis and Annika Rugman should feel very proud of their success. Well done girls!



Mrs Price



SENIOR BOYS BASKETBALL V NSETC

SK 1 point short in low scoring inter-academy basketball contest

On Thursday 23 November a group of year 11 and 12 students travelled down to newly opened North Somerset Enterprise and Technology College also known as NSETC. Our opponents were supplemented with some Weston College students who are also part of the same academy trust as St Katherine's and so this friendly fixture was a great opportunity for students from across the academy to compete.



Danny CONWAY, Matthew CRUTCHLEY, Samatar ELMi, Angus MASON, Daniel PARSLow, Matthew PARSONS, Caolán PEARCE, Mason SMART, Louis STRATTON, Nabil WARSAME, Hao Hao ZHANG

From the outset it was clear that it was just going to be one of those days where players just couldn't find their usual quality on the basketball court as the normal areas of SK strength were uncharacteristically sloppy. Their passing was well off the pace, loopy and inaccurate and they gifted possession to their opponents on far too many occasions.

Third 1 | SK 10 v 10 NSETC

Scores were close at the end of the first period with Caolán Pearce stepping up with the lion share of the points joined by Matty Crutchley who was the only other to accumulate. What was really pleasing was that you could see some of the aspects that we have been working on in practice coming to fruition at game time. 2 of Matty's points came after he worked the easiest of openings through the NSETC defence. Matty did what all good basketball players do after passing the ball in motion offence and that is to cut to the basket! Matty was rewarded for his good habits with a sharp pass and therefore the easiest of lay-ups for 2 points. Unfortunately for SK, Matty was one of few boys who weren't falling into bad offensive habits which was really stifling our attacking options. Despite the sluggish start the boys were in the game.

Third 2 | SK 15 v 16 NSETC (SK 5 v 6 NSETC)

The second period bought about changes in the SK team and these contained two debutants in the form of Angus and Dan in their last year. It was great to see two of our most successful sportsmen turn their hand to basketball and with a little more competitive experience both would discover how and when to use the skills that they already possess. Angus was typically clever in possession of the ball and Dan immediately took it upon himself to mark one of the most athletic NSETC players to try to stop him visiting the hoop. One of the highlights of this period was the 3 point shot that Nabil

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sunk but despite this impressive effort the boys were still trailing by 1 at the end of the period. Zhang really came to the forefront during his 10 minutes of court time and was easily the standout player in this second period once again showing his competency on the steal!



Third 3 | SK 27 v 28 NSETC (SK 12 v 12 NSETC)

The third and final period of the game saw SK go all out for victory and they certainly weren't short of effort. What they lacked in execution they certainly made up for in terms of work rate but unfortunately for them this wasn't enough to see them home. Defensively they were all at sea during this period and allowed their opponents to have a number of almost unchallenged dribbles right to the basket. Meanwhile at the other end SK managed to execute the pass for the fast break at least a handful of times to give their team mates an easy unopposed lay-up but it just wasn't their day and they failed to capitalise on their chances. SK were up by a point with 30 seconds on the clock but with just a few seconds remaining NSTC managed to sink a 2 to give them the lead. SK worked an opportunity to clinch victory but all they were left with was the bitter taste of another missed basket attempt. A cruel end to a close game in which SK couldn't find their best basketball.

MVP: Caolán Pearce takes the accolade for his double in points. Despite not producing his best basketball his rebounds, assists and blocks were not too bad at all. Zhang was a close second posting impressive stats for steals.

Hard luck for a tough defeat in a tough game gents.

Mr Cook

Player	Points
C Pearce	10
M Crutchley	6
D Conway	4
S Elmi	4
N Warsame	3

BCFC GIRLS U13 SCHOOLS TOURNAMENT

Superb performance against national level opposition to come 3rd overall

The Year 7 and 8 girls have been working hard in practice alongside the coaches from Bristol City Community trust towards this competition and were excited about the prospect of competing against other local schools.



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St Katherine's fielded 2 sides in the competition, each competing in opposite pools. The girls were split into their two sides for the entire competition. St Katherine's A side comprised of Isobel Taylor, Maya Matthews, Chloe Weaden, Sophie Weaden, Ella Leakey and Leah Porter. Their pool was 7 teams so they played all 6 opponents.

In their first game they played t Bernadette's A team. This was a close game, with both sides getting used to the surface and playing as a team. St Bernadette's struck first, despite St Kath's having the most possession; however this did not deter the St Kath's attack. Chloe Weaden made some excellent saves in goal, whilst Maya scored 2 fantastic long range goals, to win 2 - 1. Next up the side played Ashton park, this game was much more straightforward for the girls, with Leah Porter finding the net twice and Isobel Taylor joining her on the score sheet for a 3 - 0 win. Further emphatic wins against Bristol Met, Bedminster Down B and Bristol Cathedral meant that going into their last game against Gordano, they were topping their pool. The Gordano game was a tough battle, with both sides creating plenty of chances. Sophie Weaden found the net to level the game after an early lead from Gordano, and this was swiftly followed by another goal from Leah Porter. Despite the defence's best efforts and some key interceptions from Ella Leakey at the back, the Gordano side levelled the game at 2-2. St Kath's A side topped their pool and qualified for the semi-finals as winners, ready to face runners up from the other pool; Bedminster Down B.

Whilst all of this was going on the St Katherine's B side were also competing in the opposite pool. Facing their toughest opponents first and winners of the national competition overall, were Gordano. This was an unfortunate first game for the side that unfortunately were competing as a 5, due to absence. The five included Jamie Leigh Bell, Lola Willis, Jamie Packham, Charlie Mobbs and Holly McCarthy in goal. The girls faced some really tough opposition in their pool, but all girls played well and made massive improvements throughout the competition. Holly McCarthy in goal made some excellent saves during the games and at one point made a triple save, ensuring the St Kath's side gained a well-deserved draw. Lola Willis was tireless in the midfield, working really hard, chasing down players and creating attacking opportunities. Jamie Packham made some excellent breaks from defense to support the St Kath's attack and supported the solid defense work of Charlie Mobbs who made some goal saving interceptions and tackles. All in all, the side did not manage a win, but did some great resilience and made massive improvements throughout the competition.

It was then left to the St Kath's A side to face Bedminster Down A side in the semi-final. This was a really close game throughout. Chloe Weaden was formidable in goal, making some calm but key stops. Ella Leakey defended strongly, alongside Isobel Taylor who had the job of man marking their star player, whilst Maya Matthews and Leah Porter linked well to create shooting opportunities. In fact it was Maya that opened the score, putting St Katherine's in the lead, but after half time the Bedminster Down side came out strong and immediately equalised. The pressure from the opposition was immense and it inevitably lead to a goal, which unfortunately put St Kath's out of the final and into third place, having beaten St Bernadette's 3 - 2.



Well done ladies.

Miss Ball

10 LEADERS DODGEBALL FESTIVAL

Y10 leaders put to the test for frantic & frenzied primary dodgeball

On Monday 27 November St Katherine's once again played host to a number of different North Somerset primary schools. This time the activity was dodgeball and with year 5 and 6 students competing for a place at the School Games Finals, the event was set to test the strength of their leadership and dodgeball officiating. I have to credit the year 10 sport cohort as on every single occasion I have asked for leaders I have been inundated with offers of help. This was a great opportunity for some to lead for the first time alongside some more experienced leaders. Having had their pre-event training the week before the students were confident in their ability to run a successful festival.

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Will CONROY, Leah DICKINSON, Ethan EGGLESTON, Ashya GRAY, Charlie HAYWARD, George HAYWARD, Lauren HOOPER, Kaie LAWRENCE, Sharmarka MATTAN, Felix MCGOVERN, Reece PALMER, Maddison PALMER-GIVAN, Corey PARKHOUSE, Jazzy PITHER, Alfie RENDELL, Lucie ROBERTSHAW, Niamh SCANLAN, Eli SMITH, Henry WELCH, Logan WEST, Muhammed ZUBAIR

There were 7 different primary schools in attendance; Court-de-Wyck, Crockerne, Golden Valley, Kingshill, Northleaze, Wrington and Yatton and it was fantastic to see almost 100 students in our sportshall all getting stuck into their dodgeball. The nature of the activity makes it highly charged and the energy grabs hold of players, spectators and teachers alike which makes for a fantastic competitive atmosphere. With the students giving their all on the dodgeball court and the teachers encouraging them as much as they could it fell to our leaders to keep their calm and enforce the rules to ensure a fair competition for all.

Our leaders took responsibility for organising the fixtures, timing the matches, keeping score and officiating. It is common knowledge that dodgeball is one of the trickiest sports to officiate as there is so much happening at any one time that it is almost impossible to keep an eye on everything. Teams of officials took responsibility for a court each and did their level best to watch for students who had been hit or crossed the boundary lines. At the same time the leaders had to cope with the pressure of the competitive atmosphere and keep their cool in order to make the correct decisions. I was really impressed with the maturity that our leaders demonstrated as well as the way that they diffused any situations that could have caused controversy. The leaders were brilliant at settling disputes and enforcing the rules to the best of their ability; so much so that none of the adults in the room could have done a better job themselves.



I was really proud of the way that they went about their duties and led an excellent competition for a large number of primary school students. It was great to see the first event in the North of the county taking place and I was equally pleased that we were able to host the event and provide such a high standard of young leaders. Congratulations to Yatton Junior School for winning the competition on the day and being crowned North Somerset (North) Champions, winning the gold medals! Yatton Junior will now proceed to the Level 3 Winter School Games as North Somerset's representatives, joining Mendip Green Primary who were winners of the South event. Congratulations also to Crockerne (silver medallists) and Wrington (bronze medallists) for their second and third placed finishes!

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A special thanks also to Mr Excell and Mr German from NSSPEA who supported our leaders with invaluable training and guidance on the day itself.

Finally - congratulations to every single one of our leaders for doing such a brilliant job!

Mr Cook

10 & 11 BOYS BASKETBALL V GORDANO

Training pays off as boys get back to winning ways on the basketball court

On Wednesday 29 November a group of 10 & 11 boys were selected to represent the school in a basketball fixture against Gordano. After a couple of frustrating practice turnouts, boys were selected based entirely on their attendance to training. Basketball relies so heavily on team cohesion and organisation so it was becoming all too clear on court which boys were trying to implement some of the things we had covered at training. On this occasion all of the boys were on the same page and it was clear at the final buzzer that just a little bit of practice can make a lot of difference. Special thanks to the Y11 boys in the group for their commitment despite their busy mock exam schedules. As a little bit of fun I made the boys tally some key stats as they went in search of the illusive doubles – fair to say that they made for interesting reading!



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Matthew CRUTCHLEY, Ashya GRAY, Sharmarka MATTAN, Zakaria MOHAMOOD, Dexter MOTT, Matthew PARSONS, Caolán PEARCE (c), Nabil WARSAME, Hao Hao ZHANG

Quarter 1 | SK 8 v 4 Gordano

The boys started with a great energy and were really looking to put a lot of their practice into action during the early part of the game. You could visibly see boys trying to set up correctly on the court and to maintain good habits with the ball despite defensive pressure. Captain Pearce got the scoreboard going alongside talented ball handler Zak Mohamood but it was Matty Crutchley who weighed in with the most points during the first period. The secret to their opening quarter success was in their hustle as the boys notched up 5 steals, 9 rebounds and 2 huge blocks! Matty and Caolán both shared the blocking statistics and both were big denials under the basket – there's nobody who doesn't love to see that. Ashya was dominant under both baskets as well earning himself a handful of rebounds early on. All up the boys looked strong in the first quarter.

Quarter 2 | SK 20 v 12 Gordano (SK 12 v 8 Gordano)

SK continued to work hard and another 4 point margin at the end of this period made for an 8 point game. There was some great basketball in this period with Shamarka in particular causing problems on the perimeter for the Gordano defence. He was getting on the ball as much as he could and managed to earn himself 3 assists during his first minutes on court. Dexter and Zhang worked well in tandem to top the steal stats during this period which meant that SK were able to enjoy the lion share of possession but as fatigue started to creep in among some of the boys they did lose a little quality in possession and started to force the pass when it wasn't on.



Quarter 3 | SK 32 v 20 Gordano (SK 12 v 8 Gordano)

The third period of the game saw Caolán rested for the entirety for two reasons; firstly because he was tired and secondly because he often contributes the majority of the boys points and we need lots of boys who can contribute. Sure enough with Caolán on the side, other boys started to chip in which was great to see. Nabil Warsame added 4 to the tally with some sharp work under the basket rebounding his own shot and turning it in for one 2 point play. Ashya Gray began to impose himself on the Gordano players and started to use his build and athleticism to great effect. Matt Parsons nicked two great steals for the team towards the end of this quarter and was unlucky not to get himself on the scoreboard after he called for a fast break. It was great to see Zhang respond to the call and throw a great pass to Matt which he took brilliantly but unluckily found himself just beyond the basket. Another great quarter opened up the lead further which gave them a nice cushion heading into the final period.

Quarter 4 | SK 38 v 32 Gordano (SK 6 v 12 Gordano)

In fairness to Gordano they were depleted in terms of numbers due to clashes with exams too and with only 6 players they really had their work cut out. They worked tirelessly on court and didn't seem to tire at all throughout the game. The final period saw the introduction of a talented young basketball player who plays at a high level away from school for the Flyers. He regularly gives up his time to help officiate the matches but for just a few minutes of the final period he had the opportunity to get out on court. Unsurprisingly SK were really tested during this period but it was other Gordano players who were coming up with the goods under the basket. The finish to the game was a little closer than we would have liked but that was simply because we had turned away some really good opportunities of our own at the basket. Had we been able to convert our chances we would have had a slightly less tense end to the match! Caolán showed his metal as a fierce competitor during this tense finish to the match coming up with two huge blocks and a brilliant run of 6 points – the only red player to add to their tally during the final period.

MVP: Caolán Pearce – the only player to earn himself a much coveted double (points) but also for sheer determination when the competition went up a gear. You can always measure the stature of a sportsman by the nature of their response when the momentum swings. One of the boys turned to me on the side when Caolán was mid 6 point run and having just denied a Gordano player at the last and said 'Caolán is not going to let us lose this game'. Needless to say that Caolán bought his best when he needed to during the last period of the match – a top response from a top sportsman.

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It was great to see the boys really working hard to put some of the things we have worked on in practice into their matches and also to see it pay off! A great performance from a great group of boys. Special thanks also to Gordano for working hard to field a team despite low numbers and credit to the 6 players who got through a serious amount of work during this game.

Mr Cook

Player	Points	Steals	Rebounds	Assists	Blocks
M Crutchley	6	2	3	0	3
A Gray	4	4	3	0	1
S Mattan	0	0	2	3	0
Z Mohamood	6	0	2	2	1
D Mott	0	2	1	0	0
M Parsons	0	2	1	0	0
C Pearce	14	5	3	0	3
N Warsame	4	4	4	1	0
Z Zhang	4	3	1	0	0

7 BOYS RUGBY FESTIVAL

SK score more than any other team with an amazing 17 tries!

On Thursday 30 November 18 boys from the year 7 rugby squad travelled to local rugby club Gordano Sharks to take part in their end of season festival. The temperature was quite literally freezing but the boys layered up and arrived ready to test their metal against other North Somerset schools. St Katherine's are responsible for organising the festival each year and so I took a couple of helpers in Mason Smart and Ryley Murtagh to support the boys on the afternoon. The turnout for the festival was superb with all of the schools attending and a total of 12 teams filling two pools of 6 – that's getting on for 200 boys out playing rugby which was brilliant to see!



Gabriel ANTOLIC-FURLONG, Matthew BRENNAN, Ryan BUNDY, Euan CAUL-PATERSON, Kanye CHRISTIE, Jake DRYSDALE, Finley GREEN, Reggie-Lee HAYWARD, Alfie KING, William KING, Mac MARSHALL, Myles MASON, Kenneth NEWBURY, Trysten NMAI, Rufus SHEPPARD, Charley SONGER, Will STRATTON, Shane SWAN

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The boys were entered into the old transitional pool and were up against opposition from Nailsea, Gordano B, Sidcot, Hans Price and Broadoak. Since the start of the year we have spent almost no time at all looking at any sort of structure and instead spent the whole time working on passing, keeping the ball alive and running forwards. It was great to see the boys put so much of this into action against their opponents and to hear parents & supporters all saying the same thing ... 'this is great to watch'. The boys scored some fantastic tries and played some brilliant running rugby beating all but one of the teams in their pool but scoring more tries than any other team, in either pool on the day. If that isn't evidence for the brand of rugby they play then I don't know what is!

Opposition	Score	Try Scorers
Nailsea	5 – 2	Will Stratton (3), Ryan Bundy, Kanye Christie
Gordano B	5 – 0	Kanye Christie (2), Jake Drysdale, Will Stratton, Alfie King
Sidcot	0 – 1	
Hans Price	5 – 3	Kanye Christie (2), Alfie King, Jake Drysdale, Will Stratton
Broadoak	2 – 1	Alfie King, Kenny Newbury

The boys scored 5 tries in all of their matches except for their last game, which was cut short due to time, and also in their defeat. Frustratingly for the boys they did have chances to score against Sidcot but suffered from a bit of white line fever brought on by the closeness of the contest.

This year there have been well over 30 boys who have attended training sessions and represented the school in other fixtures and there are so many individual development stories to tell that I could take over the entire newsletter. It is important to remember that not all of the boys from the squad made it to the festival but I'd like to recognise the achievements of the boys that did briefly below.



Kanye with great poise and balance



Finley carrying the ball at speed



Euan taking Nailsea head on!

Gabriel ANTOLIC-FURLONG – Gabe is a great asset to the team and brings all of the raw qualities from his football goalkeeping into his rugby. He is brave in the tackle, a safe pair of hands and athletic all over the field. He knows so much more about the game now compared with the start of the year and has developed into a great rugby player.

Matthew BRENNAN – Matt easily wins the prize for the most improved player since the start of the season. He is right at the centre of every bit of rugby action, hitting every ruck, throwing himself at every tackle and getting his hands on the ball wherever he can. If we had a whole team of Matt Brennan's they would be a nightmare to play against!

Ryan BUNDY – Ryan is a natural runner who has unbelievable footwork and an awareness of what is going on around him. Ryan seems to glide through defenders at will and is near impossible to tackle. Despite his gifts with the ball in hand he isn't afraid to roll up his sleeves and get stuck into his defensive work – every coach's dream winger!

Euan CAUL-PATERSON – Euan is a formidable ball carrier who has great footwork and hands. So often players expect Euan to look for contact but he's much smarter than that and mixes his game up superbly. He certainly isn't afraid of the physical side of the game mind you and that makes him a really tough opponent to defend against.

Kanye CHRISTIE – There is no better sight than watching Kanye accelerate up to speed. When he's going he runs with an effortless poise and balance but he is also one of the strongest boys on the team. You certainly know about it when you tackle Kanye despite the fact that it doesn't seem to happen very often! A great captain and leader too!

Jake DRYSDALE – Jake is a fantastic runner when he gets hold of the ball and has a great ability to weave his way through tacklers. Jake has really worked hard in PE lessons to develop his understanding of the game and is showing himself to be a great talent out in the backline when he gets his hands on the ball.

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Finley GREEN – Finley is another boy who has made great strides forward and is now finding that he can harness all of his natural athleticism and strength on the rugby pitch. Finley is a great runner who seems to have trademarked his use of the spin out of a tackle. I am delighted that he is now playing club rugby and will get better and better.

Reggie-Lee HAYWARD – Reggie is the engine & the heart of the team who keeps everything going and everyone happy. He is one of our best tacklers, great at the break down, has brilliant ability to draw in defenders, effective in the scrummage and has a great kicking game but perhaps most importantly he is a superb leader & role model!

Alfie KING – Alfie is a real bundle of energy on the rugby pitch and an absolute handful for any opponent. He has got real physicality in the tackle and at the breakdown and has earned himself a reputation for a big tackle and turnover. Alfie is a fantastic character who has a brilliant appetite to play the game which is a real treat to watch!

William KING – Will was one of the boys that I was desperate to get out on the rugby pitch right from the word go. Unfortunately, just as he got into his rugby he got injured and missed a few weeks. He more than made up for it with his debut performance in the festival. A tackling, running and passing machine this lad!



Will with the ball in two hands, fortunately for his opponents!



Mac taking on kicking duties



Trysten and Will coming – look out!

Mac MARSHALL – Mac is a really clever sportsman but is also a tough character when it comes to the physical side of the game. Mac has a huge amount to bring to the table from the whole range of other sports he plays but his best attribute is his decision making and awareness of what is happening around him – pretty rare at this age!

Myles MASON – Myles is a great character with a cheeky smile but is an absolute monster in defence. His ability to haul boys to the ground is second to none and he is a real defensive leader. Myles doesn't just stop at tackling either and causes opponents heaps of problems when he is going at full speed.

Kenneth NEWBURY – Kenny is a hugely talented athlete who does gymnastics outside of school. To be a great gymnast you need strength and explosive power in abundance and you only have to watch Kenny for a few seconds to see he has those qualities nailed down. Kenny brings great athleticism and physicality but scores tries too!

Trysten NMAI – Trysten is a real leader on the pitch and is someone that other boys look to for setting the tone. He is strong, athletic and determined to leave his mark on the game every time he comes on to the pitch. There is no rugby player that wouldn't kill to have Trysten on their team and we're delighted that he's on ours!

Rufus SHEPPARD – Rufus came to the game mid-way through the season but has been a great find. In a short space of time Rufus has made huge strides forward but not quite a huge as the strides he takes when he's holding on to the rugby ball. I'm just glad that he's not taking those strides in to me and I bet his team mates are too!

Charley SONGER – Charley is a brilliant character in the team who never loses his sense of humour. All joking aside, Charley is lethal with the ball in hand and can carve teams open with footwork or just leave defenders in his wake after coasting around the outside of them. It's just an added bonus that he does all of that with a huge smile on his face!

Will STRATTON – Will is a superb leader who is a really accomplished all round rugby player. Will's not afraid of a tackle but loves to get the ball in his hand. I say hand because he has a punishing fend off with the other one which a number of boys have been sat down by this season. A superb captain and a great rugby player with a really bright future.

Shane SWAN – Shane has worked tirelessly to improve his rugby this season and really started to stand out in the run up to the festival. His work rate and effort are second to none and he doesn't leave anything to chance on the pitch. Shane quietly goes about his business but you really notice it when he isn't on the pitch. A great end to the season!

Special thanks to Ryley who, after completing a course prior to the festival, rearranged his college schedule to come and support the boys by refereeing all of their matches and giving them a huge amount of rugby related advice and support during the afternoon. Thank you also to Mason Smart, Senior Sports Captain in year 12 who came along to look after the team and took responsibility for organising the boys during and in between matches. I would have found it impossible

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without the help of these two boys so on behalf of the team and myself – thank you!



15-a-side rugby will finish now for all students but after Christmas we move on to the 7-a-side variety and I cannot wait to see how the boys take to 7s!

It was great to see so many parents and supporters come to watch the boys and then to really enjoy watching the quality of the rugby they played was a huge bonus. I'll say it once more ... we scored more tries than any other team, in either pool on the day!

Huge well done gentlemen.

Mr Cook

St Kath's	17
Sidcot	16
Churchill	14
Gordano A	13
Worle	12
Broad oak	11
Nailsea	11
Hans Price	10
Backwell	5
PCSA	3
Gordano B	2
Clevedon	1

8 GIRLS NETBALL TOURNAMENT

Girls crowned North Somerset Champions after emphatic netball display!

During the season of fixtures, the girls have been playing well, with good results against all opponents but some really close games. The tournament would be their final chance to prove their ability to the rest of the North Somerset schools and they achieved this easily.



In the pool games they first faced Backwell, who they believed would be their toughest opponents, but in the short 10 minute game they immediately took control of possession and the shooting skills of Chloe and Sophie Weaden were clear to see. Backwell were not short of chances but the defence was tight and they opened the tournament with a 6 - 1 win.

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In their next game they faced Nailsea, who they had drawn with in a recent fixture, despite this result, the girls did not look phased and began to stretch out to a comfortable victory. Jess Stanley made some important interceptions when the Nailsea side did attack, but this ensured they were given any shooting opportunities and St Kath's won 5 - 0.

Next up was Broadoak, who started well, however the defensive skills of Lauren Clifford were on show to block any Broadoak advances. Alongside this the shooting of Sophie and Chloe Weaden and the space they were finding in the shooting circle ensured another victory for the St Kath's side; 8 - 1.

Their next opponents were Priory, who traditionally are extremely strong at netball, so knowing they had already reached the semi-finals; the St Kath's side approached the game confidently. The Priory side were stunned by the pace and precision that they were faced with and St Kath's displayed immaculate passing and tactics. Isobel Taylor was immense as centre, covering huge amounts of court to provide ball to the St Kath's attack, whilst Melissa Madamombe and Asha Storer were unstoppable as a defensive unit. The final score was a win; 8 - 0 and they qualified as top of their pool.

In the semi-finals they faced Worle, who had beaten them in the recent fixture but with this renewed confidence, the St Kath's side played the better netball and found themselves comfortably victors. Chloe Weaden worked hard to create space and Sophie picked up a number of rebounds to ensure an easy win; 6 - 0 into the finals.



In the final they faced an unbeaten Clevedon side, who were also feeling confident about their chances of victory. The St Kath's centre passes had worked extremely well throughout the tournament and this was the undoing of Clevedon. St Kath's converted their centre passes into shooting chances, which were confidently put away, whilst Clevedon appeared to have no plan and Melissa and Asha disrupted play to regain possession. The final result was in fact an emphatic St Kath's victory and they were crowned North Somerset champs.

They now go on to represent North Somerset in the WESPORT regional games in January.

Miss Ball

U19 BOYS FOOTBALL V ASHTON PARK

Enjoyable pre-Christmas friendly fixture is welcome break from cup football

On Monday 4 December the U19 boys were looking forward to a friendly football fixture against local school Ashton Park. The boys were really relishing the opportunity of getting out and playing without the pressure of knock out football and I for one was looking forward to watching a game without any late drama! A few changes in personnel saw a slightly different team of 12 travel to Bower Ashton to contest the match.

The boys lined up as follows: Robbie Warden stepped in to fill the void left by keepers Lewis Mason and Patrick McGovern – who'd have thought it, St Kath's number 3. Louis Boyce retained his place at right back after a strong performance against Nailsea. Finley Smith moved over to the left back position in order to make better use of his attacking creativity and flair. Centre back Dan Young kept his place but was partnered by the returning Danny Conway. Captain Angus Mason and team mate Jay Spicer held positions in centre field while Mason Smart retained his place wide right. Lowell Mott was introduced to the left hand side after really impressing during training while Dan Parslow was once again required to lead the line. Youngsters Caolán Pearce and Matty Crutchley shared the game and partnered the experienced Parslow up front.

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Louis BOYCE, Danny CONWAY, Matthew CRUTCHLEY, Angus MASON (c), Lowell MOTT, Daniel PARLOW, Caolán PEARCE, Mason SMART, Finley SMITH, Jay SPICER, Robbie WARDEN, Daniel YOUNG

04 minutes – Parslow whipped a cross straight onto Pearce's head but he was unable to direct it goalwards

06 minutes – A Parslow flick gives way for a Smith snapshot which flashed narrowly wide

08 minutes – A Parslow chip passes agonisingly over the head of Pearce despite him rising well in the air

The boys opened well for the first few minutes and Dan Parslow really began to exert his influence on the game and linked up well with a number of his team mates. Spicer and Mason had acres of space in the middle of the pitch and both sets of wide players were constantly offering for the ball; Mott and Smart in particular were heavily involved early on. Despite their early dominance St Kath's were guilty of trying to over play the ball but conditions under foot just weren't conducive to Formula 1 football.

11 minutes – A Parslow free kick was glanced wide by captain Mason

12 minutes – Warden turns playmaker as long ball is well challenged by Pearce who heads just inches wide

15 minutes – A Parslow corner is attacked at the front stick by centre half Conway who misses the target

25 minutes – Parslow himself has an individual effort cleared off of the line as St Kath's have done all but score

The chances came by almost minute by minute as St Kath's absolutely dominated the possession stats. Ashton Park did have attacking periods but these were quickly snuffed out by the back four; Boyce in particular covered superbly to nullify one Ashton attack. Despite their dominance the boys were still left without scoring and the game was still goalless at half time. During the break a few key messages were passed on in an attempt to convert some of their footballing dominance into goals. One of the most enjoyable aspects of working with this group of boys is that they have the ability to listen to a game plan or tactical change and actually implement it and quickly after the start of the second half the boys had done it again!

31 minutes – Smart goes outside his full back and crosses low and hard, keeper fumbles and SPICER capitalises

33 minutes – Smart touches down a chipped pass for Crutchley who scuffs wide but onto Mott who scuffs wider

34 minutes – Parslow works himself enough space for a snapshot that whistles inches wide of the top right corner

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Finally St Kath's had the goal that they had been looking for although it did come about in unfortunate fashion if you were an Ashton Park player or supporter. Nonetheless you couldn't argue that St Kath's weren't deserving of their lead. Ashton responded well and came out at the reds linking together several passes. Warden was called into action for the first time in the game and although the process wasn't pretty the end result was an important save. It looked as though it could be one of those games where 1 should be enough but you never know whether it will be!

36 minutes – Warden fumbles but gathers well

38 minutes – Mason lets fly from the edge of the 19 yard box but is forced to watch it wide

44 minutes – A defensive mistake gives Ashton an opening but Conway quickly pounces to halt the attack

44 minutes – Parslow receives to feet, turns well and lets fly forcing a great tip over the bar from the Ashton keeper

45 minutes – Smith gets forward wide left and crosses well but Conway can only turn the ball over the bar

Three quarters of an hour into a 60 minute game and I couldn't believe that the boys were only 1 goal to the good. They had utterly dominated possession so much so that Ashton must have been growing in frustration with each passing minute; especially given that they were now attacking up the slope as well. It wasn't as though boys were having bad games; Angus and Jay were running the show in the middle of the pitch and linking up superbly, Dan Parslow was at the heart of everything good, full backs Boyce and Smith were readily getting forward and causing huge problems on the overlap but the final touch was still missing.

49 minutes – Crutchley flicks on and wins footrace to ball, carrying in and passing square to PARSLOW for a tap in

50 minutes – An Ashton back pass plays in PARSLOW who makes no mistake finishing coolly into the bottom corner

53 minutes – Crutchley plays into Mason who hits first time pass to PARSLOW who finishes emphatically

58 minutes – Smith horrendously offside but not flagged so delivers crosses for Smart turn the header in

58 minutes – Excellent sportsmanship from SK led by captain Mason as they concede the goal as offside

Patience had certainly paid off as the SK boys made their dominance show a little more in the last 10 minutes of the game with some neat but sensible football. None more so than Matty Crutchley who won a header on the half way line only to give chase and beat Ashton to the ball, carry right in to the penalty area and square the ball for an easy goal. In the first half I'm sure the boys would have tried something a little more elaborate but in search of goals just stuck to simple football.

Keeper Warden only touched the ball a handful of times during the match so it was decided that a penalty shoot-out might be a good way to end the friendly fixture. Mott, Pearce and Crutchley were elected first three takers for SK but unfortunately number 4 wasn't needed after the Ashton keeper pulled off 3 saves, the first routine, the second impressive and the third bordering on unbelievable. Warden seemed to be enjoying the chat with his fellow keeper between penalties but wasn't able to emulate any of his counterparts shot stopping prowess conceding the first 3 Ashton penalties to give them the win in the shoot-out.

Man of the match was a tough call – Parslow could have had it, Finley Smith could have had it but the award went to Jay Spicer who just loves to play football and makes the most of every minute out on the pitch – a pleasure to watch him play! All up a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon of school sport!

Well done gentlemen.

Mr Cook

U14 BOYS FOOTBALL V BROADOAK

SK boys march on to round 3 after victory against Broadoak boys

On Tuesday 5 December a group of year 8 and 9 boys were selected to represent the school in an U14 Boys Somerset Cup fixture against Broadoak School. Last year the boys played a handful of games combined and so the decision was made that for the cup competition they would also play as a combined team. Having had a bye in the first round, the boys were looking to steal a spot in the third round of the competition which would be further than they have been in the cup before.

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Max ANDREWS, Ben BOHIN, Tyrese BRACEY, Seb DE MONTFORT, Maximus DIXEY, Louie DUN, Ethan EMERY, Beau GILBERT, Nana GYIMAH-SARPONG, Finley KING, Benjamin LUMOSO, Jazper PEACEY, Toby RICE, Ollie STRATTON, George TURNER

Quite often in school boy football the players dictate the formation and the game plan and that is no different with this team. Both of these age groups have always been short of defensively minded players and this has caused them problems on more than one occasion. The boys who play in defensive do a brilliant job but there just aren't enough of them! The game plan was simple; get the ball through or over the top as early as possible so that we could make the most of Max's pace and physicality and Tyrese's blistering pace up front.

I'd like to qualify what was said about the game plan; it wasn't just about hoofing the ball forward because this team have got boys in midfield that can really pick a pass! I was absolutely delighted after just 2 minutes when George Turner picked up the ball in the middle of the field and his first reaction was to let the pass go. He weighted a perfect ball through to Max Andrews who arrived on the end of it just a split second before the Broadoak keeper who had come out to sweep. Max got his toe to the ball first and turned it into the net giving his team the perfect start.

It quickly became clear that Broadoak were really going to struggle to contain Max and Tyrese up front and St Kath's started to play on their dominance in that area. Shortly after the opening goal full back Ethan Emery found himself in an advanced position inside of the box. He was found with a pinpoint cross but couldn't keep his effort down after he fired over the bar. SK had a lot of the early ball and fortunately much of this possession fell at the feet of captain Louie Dun or his midfield partner George Turner. Still inside the first 10 minutes the ball once again dropped at Turner's feet only for him to pick out Andrews once again with a nice cross field chip. Max controlled the ball well holding it for a second or two before playing in Tyrese who bore down on goal with real pace and intent to finish well passed the Broadoak keeper. SK continued to pile forward and were really testing the Broadoak defense which was earning them goals at best but at worst corner kicks. George delights in delivering the set piece and for one kick picked out Finley King brilliantly who was unlucky not to score.



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SK were certainly on top when they were going forward but it wasn't all one way traffic. Some defensive frailties gifted Broadoak a few half chances and mainly these came when the SK midfield got caught on the ball leaving their team mates exposed at the back. A number of times Lumoso and Emery just managed to get across to see out an attack but when they weren't able to then Dixey or Gyimah-Sarpong took on the responsibility. Nana in particular is a voracious ball winner who also has great distribution and was responsible for starting a number of attacking plays for his team having stolen possession from the Broadoak attackers. Toby Rice was called into action for the first time right at the end of the first half but stood up to the challenge quite literally forcing the Broadoak striker to make his move. Toby made an excellent save having stayed on his feet for as long as possible as all good goalkeepers should 1 on 1.

Meanwhile at the other end Louie and George were orchestrating things superbly in the midfield. Wingers King and Gilbert were also really in the game and both fed the front two really well when they had the opportunity. Beau used all of his athleticism to get to several loose balls first knocking them on to team mates and Finley was equally as effective going forward down the left side combining really well with his team mates too. Tyrese and Max were looking a real threat anytime the ball was around them and both were clearly enjoying playing with each other but also with the service they were getting from midfield. Yet another through ball found Tyrese who left fly while the ball was still bouncing unleashing a venomous strike that looked bound for the back of the net. The Broadoak keeper parried superbly but only back out to Bracey who hit the ball first time and even sweeter than he had done for his first strike. Amazingly, between shots the Broadoak keeper had regained his feet and launched himself toward the second effort turning this around the post to complete the most impressive of double saves.

St Kath's continued to enjoy large spells of possession and played with real intent. Louie Dun clipped a lovely pass into Tyrese's feet to then watch him beat 2, 3 and then 4 defenders before finishing with absolute authority to make the score 3 nil. Shortly after the third had gone in Finley King found himself running with the ball down the left wing. Finley clipped a lovely pass down the line to Bracey who had tracked across to get involved with the play. Inside him George Turner had made a real burst from the midfield and it was the obvious pass to play so Tyrese didn't disappoint his team mate when he played the ball inside first time. George carried the ball right to the by-line before squaring it to Max Andrews for an easy tap in and St Katherine's fourth goal. St Kath's scored twice more before the break; the first coming from yet another through ball played by Turner and finished by Andrews for his hatrick but the second was born out of sheer pressure and frustration. A defensive mistake saw a goal kick hit straight to Max Andrews with nothing but fresh air between himself and the goal which had been vacated by the Broadoak keeper. Max certainly wasn't guilty of over thinking his options after he leathered the ball first time right into the back of the net with complete conviction. Max had scored 4 goals and Tyrese 2 in the first half and neither boy showed any signs of stopping.



St Katherine's stuck with their game plan for the second half and at half time the score may have been 6 but the boys were looking to quickly crush any hopes of a comeback. The first 4 minutes of the game saw two pinpoint through balls that unleashed Max and then Tyrese – with the start that these boys had to the game there was little chance they were going to miss their chances at the start of the second half.

The introduction of De Montfort and Stratton both at full back added another attacking dimension to the team and both boys wasted no time in starting off the attack. Seb linked up nicely with Finley who was still enjoying both time and space out wide left while Ollie and Ben combined nicely down the right side to give Broadoak a real defensive headache. Ben Bohin was responsible for starting off the move that led to St Katherine's ninth goal when he found the feet of turned (pictured). George then played a lovely angled pass to Max who returned the favour to give George the easiest of tap ins for his first goal of the match. Having spent a large part of the game supplying Max and Tyrese with pinpoint passes, George was delighted when both of his team mates combined to work him a second goal scoring opportunity. Max picked up and held a ball out of defensive before knocking it on to Tyrese who breezed his way to the goal line to pull the ball back for George who ended up in the back of the net but thankfully alongside the ball! Max Andrews managed to take his personal tally to 6 when he scored with near enough the last kick of the game to complete an emphatic victory for his team.

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I could easily have given man of the match to Max or Tyrese but in actual fact they wouldn't have been able to score as many as they did had it not been for George Turner in midfield who unselfishly let the pass go whenever he was presented with the opportunity.

A fantastic attacking display from these boys and on to round 3 in the New Year!

Congratulations gentlemen.

Mr Cook

Andrews	Bracey	Bracey	Andrews	Andrews	Andrews	Andrews	Andrews	Bracey	Turner	Turner	Andrews
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36
37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48
49	50										

GIRLS BASKETBALL V GORDANO

Girls up to the challenge of Gordano with two convincing victories

U14: St Kath's 26 - 8 Gordano

The game started slowly with both sides getting to grips with each other's tactics and formation. In fact it was Gordano that had the early opportunities and the St Kath's side had to make some vital rebounds in defence. However after soaking up some early pressure it was St Kath's that opened up the scoring with Lola Willis scoring a long range shot. Isra Sandhool supported the attack well, whilst Sophie Weaden and Leah Porter made some crucial interceptions to halt the Gordano advances. Gordano did have one very skilled player who on occasion would break free of the St Kath's defensive line, but with little support she was unable to amount a score line to threaten the St Kath's total. Rose Giles covered a lot of the court and carried the ball well into the Gordano half; Sophie Weaden supported her well and picked up a number of points from long range efforts, whilst Leah and Rose were picking up points from under the basket. Chloe Weaden and Katie Hill came on to further support the St Kath's attack and also were on target to advance the St Kath's total. An excellent game with some great shooting from the St Kath's girls to gain a convincing victory in their first match of the year.

U17: St Kath's 18 – 14 Gordano

With Gordano unable to field a full team of girls, it was agreed that Gordano would play a mixed side. This unsettled the girls at the start and the game remained pointless for the opening minutes. Both teams had their attacking chances, with Gordano making good advances into the St Kath's half, only to be met with a wall of defence. Megan Andrews made some key interceptions and it was from one of these interceptions that she was able to break into the Gordano half and score the first points of the match.

Bo Marshall was excellent in defence alongside Tara Harvey who were able to withstand some consistent pressure from the Gordano side. The game remained close at the start, with every 2 points scored by St Kath's, being followed by Gordano. But as the game neared the end, the fitness levels of the St Kath's side proved to give them the advantage. Megan Griffiths was on point from long range, whilst Meg Edwards picked up some excellent long passes out of defence by Bo. Bo was also on target with her rebound in the attacking end, adding to the St Kath's total. Towards the end, as the Gordano players were tiring, Tara Harvey was able to score 2 layups from breakaway attacks. Although a closely fought game, the St Kath's side were deserving winners at 18-14.

Miss Ball



7 & 8 SPORTSHALL ATHLETICS

Memorable North schools event sees two SK teams make finals!

On Wednesday 6 December a full complement of schools (Backwell, Clevedon, Gordano, Nailsea and St Kath's) from the north of North Somerset gathered at St Katherine's for one of the first indoor meets of the year. The atmosphere at these events is always electric and this year was absolutely no different! It has become tradition for us to host sportshall athletics and also customary for us to provide leaders to help. Year 10 weren't shy in coming forward to offer their support and assumed complete responsibility for the field events as well as supporting on the track. Four of our Senior Sports Captains took responsibility for managing our teams of competitors which meant that the PE staff were able to sit back and enjoy the competition.

It was brilliant to watch all 45 SK students contribute to what turned out to be a fantastic evening of athletics!



Gabriel ANTOLIC-FURLONG, Poppy BALDWIN-BROOKS, Melissa BARTLETT, Ben BOHIN, Jolie BREAKWELL, Ryan BUNDY, Kanye CHRISTIE, Will CONROY, Matthew CRUTCHLEY, Leah DICKINSON, Jemima GERMAN, Zak HARRIS, Megan HART- JONES, Lauren HOOPER, Amani ISLAM, Benjamin LUMOSO, Bo MARSHALL, Maya MATTHEWS, Daisy MONEY, Josh MOORE, Kenneth NEWBURY, Scarlett NEWBY, Izaac OSBORN, Jamie PACKHAM, Joseph PAICE, Corey PARKHOUSE, Caolán PEARCE, Leah PORTER, Alfie RENDELL, Toby RICE, Lucie ROBERTSHAW, Lois SCANLAN, Eli SMITH, Charley SONGER, Jessica STANLEY, Louis STRATTON, Will STRATTON, Isobel TAYLOR, Waide WATSON, Sophie WEADEN, Ruby WEBBER, Henry WELCH, Logan WEST, Daisy WILKINSON, Lola WILLIS

We have been hosting these competitions for so many years now that they just seem to run like clockwork. All of the competitors start on the track with an opening relay, the boys then head off to complete their field events while the girls stay on the track, boys and girls then swap halfway through before coming together once more for the final set of relays. The best thing about the event is the atmosphere as all of the events take place in such a short space of time and are really close together meaning that you simply can't fail to get sucked in to cheering on your team mates!

Year 8 Girls

The year 8 girls have enjoyed some real sporting success of late what with their North Somerset netball victory and with a good few of the same girls involved in the athletics; they were hoping to continue their run of form! Unfortunately some unavailability meant that they were left a little short but thankfully there is no shortage of year 8 girls willing to fill in! Congratulations on finishing in third position ladies!

The girls got off to a fantastic start on the track crossing the line in second place for the opening obstacle relay which is really impressive given that we never practice the high stepper, speed bouncer or hurdles at any length. Other impressive performances on the track came from Maya Matthews and Isobel Taylor who teamed up in the gruelling 8 lap paarlauf and the 4 ladies who joined forces for the final 4 x 2 lap relay both teams earning themselves bronze medals. The year 8 girls enjoyed great success in the relay events on the track. In the field the top performance came from Leah Porter who threw a huge 6 metres and 80 centimetres in the shot to claim her gold medal by an impressive 30 centimetres. Maya Matthews gave everything in the speed bounce to finish in second place with a score of 74 which was right up there with the top scores of the day. To add to these performances in the field the girls also put out the third furthest shot of the day with an impressive 6 metres and 40 centimetres and there were two more bronze medals in the standing long and triple jump as girls jumped 1 metre and 80 centimetres and 5 metres and 40 centimetres respectively.

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Year 8 Boys

The boys knew they were in for a tough evening when they had 2 of their team mates drop out due to illness. If there was a prize for guts and determination then the five remaining year 8 boys would have won it hands down. Their team performance was arguably the most impressive of the night as with just 5 athletes it is impossible to cover all of the events without seriously being hampered by fatigue!

It feels unfair to highlight an individual when a team has really pulled together and gritted their teeth but Ben Lumoso deserves a special mention as he took home all three coloured medals for different events. Ben's gold in the vertical jump came after he leapt an amazing 60 centimetres, his silver came after he launched the shot an impressive 8 metres and his bronze from a tough 4 lap race. Izaak Osborn picked up a silver in the speed bounce after bouncing 75 times to finish just 3 bounces behind first place despite injuring a muscle in his side.

For me the closing relay of the day epitomised the nature of the boys in this team. With only 4 fit athletes left to run Ben, Ben, Joe and Toby took to the start line and ran as hard as they could from start to finish despite the fact they must have been exhausted! After the event all of the boys joined in with the celebrations of our other teams and all made a point of thanking the staff – if that isn't evidence of great sportsmanship, I don't know what is!



Year 7 Girls

Our year 7 girls finished in second place and qualify for the North Somerset Finals; narrowly missing out on the top spot by just 1 agonizing point!

The highlight on the track by far was watching Daisy Wilkinson tear her 6 lap race up. Daisy has already shown her metal as a distance runner earlier this year by finishing in 6th position at the North Somerset Cross Country event but was still really apprehensive about her indoor race. Daisy stayed with the field brilliantly for the first 3 laps and then began to look around after her 4th lap to discover that her competitors were nowhere to be seen. Daisy cruised to victory and looked stronger and stronger as the race wore on – a dominant performance to take gold. Medals also came from Megan Hart-Jones in the 4 lap race, Poppy Baldwin-Brooks and Melissa Bartlett who teamed up for the paarlauf race and Jemima German, Megan Hart-Jones, Jamie Packham and Amani Islam who closed the evening in the 4 x 2 lap relay. The relay was a dramatic end to the evening as SK needed gold to win overall and were just beaten by Gordano in the last few metres of the race – an amazing end to a superb evening.

The field events were littered with medals for the year 7 girls! Amani Islam took double gold in the shot put with 6 metres and vertical jump with 44 centimetres while Daisy Wilkinson took gold in the triple jump with 5 metres 36 centimetres. Silver medals came in the standing long jump as Megan Hart-Jones put out an impressive 1 metre and 78 centimetres and also in the vertical jump as Melissa Bartlett jumped 40 centimetres to give St Kath's an amazing 1, 2 in this event! The point scoring didn't stop there as Jamie Packham and Poppy Baldwin-Brooks both earned bronze medals in the shot and the speed bounce with scores of 5 metres 20 centimetres and 69 bounces respectively.

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Year 7 Boys

Our year 7 boys finished top of the pile amassing an unbelievable 142 points with the second and third placed schools back on 128 and 125!

The boys dominated the track events earning gold or silver medals in 5 out of the 8 races. Ryan, Josh, Kenny and Gabe kicked proceedings off with a great second place in the obstacle relay and things kicked on from there! Kanye went all out to finish second in the tough 4 lap race while Josh Moore narrowly missed out on gold in his 6 lap race. Ryan and Gabe stormed the paarlauf bringing home another gold while the relay team of Will, Charley, Kanye and Waide brought the evening to a close in style with another assured victory.

In the field the boys continued their dominance winning 3 golds, 2 silvers and a bronze across the 5 events. Kanye was proving himself to be a point scoring jumping machine as he won silver in the standing long jump with a huge 2 metres and 10 centimetres and gold in the triple with a humungous 6 metres and 32 centimetres. To give you some idea of how big his triple jump was the next nearest was 5 metres and 88 centimetres! Kanye wasn't the only boy earning points; Ryan Bundy absolutely annihilated the field in the speed bounce with a crazy 82 bounces in 30 seconds – the joint highest score of any boy or girl from either year group on the day! Kenny wasn't far behind Ryan with his 73 bounces either which earned him a silver medal. SK also took gold and bronze in the vertical jump as Waide Watson and Kenny Newbury climbed to 47 centimetres and 40 centimetres respectively.



Leaders

It's no secret at St Katherine's that we have a brilliant crop of young leaders and our year 10 students assumed complete responsibility for running, measuring, recording and officiating a whole range of events as well as doing a little bit of coaching and encouragement along the way. The boys and girls that gave up their Wednesday evening were a real credit to themselves and I am extremely grateful to them for their time and effort.

It was also lovely that 4 of our best students also gave up their own time to come and lend a hand as team managers. Bo, Louis, Matty and Caolán are all Senior Sports Captains and all did a fantastic job in helping to make the event the success that it was. Thank you all for being such great ambassadors for PE at St Katherine's and fantastic role models for our younger students.

For the first time in as long as I can remember, two St Katherine's teams have qualified for the North Somerset Finals which will take place early in the New Year. These teams will go on to compete for a place representing North Somerset at the Winter School Games. However more important than any result is the fact that all of the St Katherine's students that were on show at the event were at their best on all fronts - outstanding leadership, courage in the face of the toughest competition and bucket loads of good old fashioned hard work! Congratulations and thank you to everyone involved!

The PE Faculty

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Event	7 Girls	7 Boys	8 Boys
Track Events			
Obstacle Relay	Daisy Wilkinson Melissa Bartlett Jamie Packham Scarlett Newby	Ryan Bundy Josh Moore Kenny Newbury Gabe Antolic-Furlong	Joe Paice Ben Bohin Ben Lumoso Toby Rice
2 Lap	Jemima German Poppy Baldwin-Brooks	Will Stratton Charley Songer	Izaak Osborn Ben Bohin
4 Lap	Megan Hart-Jones Scarlett Newby	Kanye Christie Kenny Newbury	Ben Lumoso Izaak Osborn
6 Lap	Daisy Wilkinson	Josh Moore	Toby Rice
8 Lap Paarlauf	Poppy Baldwin-Brooks Melissa Bartlett	Gabe Antolic-Furlong Ryan Bundy	Ben Lumoso Joe Paice
4 x 2 Lap Relay	Jemima German Megan Hart-Jones Jamie Packham Amani Islam	Will Stratton Charley Songer Kanye Christie Waide Watson	Joe Paice Ben Bohin Ben Lumoso Toby Rice
Field Events			
Shot	Amani Islam Jamie Packham	Waide Watson Kenny Newbury	Ben Lumoso Toby Rice
Standing Long Jump	Megan Hart-Jones Melissa Bartlett	Kanye Christie Will Stratton	Toby Rice Joe Paice
Standing Triple Jump	Daisy Wilkinson Jemima German	Kanye Christie Charley Songer	Izaak Osborn Joe Paice
Speed Bounce	Poppy Baldwin-Brooks Megan Hart-Jones	Ryan Bundy Kenny Newbury	Izaak Osborn Ben Bohin
Vertical Jump	Amani Islam Melissa Bartlett	Waide Watson Kenny Newbury	Ben Lumoso Ben Bohin



9 BOYS SPORTSHALL ATHLETICS

Athletes in Y9 narrowly miss out on third place finish at NS meet

On Tuesday 12 December the year 9 boys sportshall athletics team travelled to Gordano School to test their metal against athletes from across North Somerset. When students reach this age group you tend to find that you are competing against serious athletes and our year 9 boys were 1 of 6 schools who fielded a team in this category. The boys gave 100% in all of their events, were really good fun all evening and put in some impressive athletic displays.



Max ANDREWS, Tyrese BRACEY, Fergus CRETON, Tom EVANS, Brandon GEATER, Finley KING, Charlton MILLIGAN, Mursal SHARIF

The boys started well in the obstacle relay event finishing in a strong position to kick start the event. They then headed into the field with all boys posting strong scores up against a great standard of athlete. Tom and Brandon posted good scores in the standing long jump while Fergus and Tyrese bounced themselves into respectable finishing positions in the speed bounce. Max and Charlton both put out strong shots. Finley and Tyrese leapt with all of their might while Charlton and Brandon did the same in the triple jump to leave the year 9 boys just outside the medal positions after the field events.

The boys started to claw their way back into contention on the track as Tyrese Bracey kicked off proceedings with a silver medal in the two lap A race. Finley King really stepped up on the track by running his 4 lap race closely followed with a team effort in the paarlauf alongside Fergus Creton. With points still vitally important at the end of the competition the boys 4 x 2 lap relay team were hoping for victory to round off the evening. Things were going perfectly to plan for the first 2 legs of the race however in the final 2 legs another school managed to eat away at their slender lead and narrowly beat them to the line despite a brilliant run.

At the end of the evening the boys performances had earned them a very respectable fourth placed finish just a handful of points behind the team in third place.

Congratulations gentlemen and thank you for your efforts.

Mr Cook

Event	9 Boys
Obstacle Relay	Tom Evans Fergus Creton Brandon Geater Finley King
2 Lap	Tyrese Bracey Max Andrews
4 Lap	Finley King Tom Evans
6 Lap	Mursal Sharif
8 Lap Paarlauf	Fergus Creton Finley King
4 x 2 Lap Relay	Tom Evans Charlton Milligan Max Andrews Tyrese Bracey
Shot	Max Andrews Charlton Milligan
Standing Long Jump	Tom Evans Brandon Geater
Standing Triple Jump	Charlton Milligan Brandon Geater
Speed Bounce	Fergus Creton Tyrese Bracey
Vertical Jump	Tyrese Bracey Finley King

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U14 BOYS BASKETBALL V GORDANO II

Young talent shines as 4 year 7 boys make their basketball debuts for SK

On Wednesday 13 December a mixed group of boys headed to Gordano to contest their second basketball fixture of the year and this proved an excellent opportunity to give some of the younger boys who are training regularly an opportunity to play competitively. Basketball is really popular in school and it was great that several of the older boys agreed to help out the younger ones in this match in order to ease them in to competitive school basketball easily.



Gabe ANTOLIC-FURLONG
Kyle BARRETT (c)
Shadrach BUNKETE
Kanye CHRISTIE
Finley KING
Charlton MILLIGAN
Jonathan PUATI-KAMBU
Toby RICE
Ariel RUGMAN
Joseph WILLIAMS
Najib YUSUF

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Quarter 1 | SK 6 v 4 Gordano

Captain Kyle Barrett took to the court for the first period of the game and led several new boys out on court. One of the boys making his debut for the school was Finley King and it was great to finally see him involved in a competitive fixture. Finley wasted no time getting involved in the point scoring with 2 separate 2 point efforts following a good dribble with intent. Finley demonstrated that his shooting technique is pretty accurate, even under pressure. The other points were scored by another debutant Kanye Christie who managed to get free inside to put up his own 2 point effort that he watched drop.

Quarter 2 | SK 10 v 16 Gordano (SK 4 v 12 Gordano)

The second period saw a lot of changes and brought in a lot of boys for whom this was their first time on the basketball court. Charlton Milligan was put in charge of helping the boys through their first minutes on the basketball court and led by example contributing the only points of the period. The boys slowly found their feet in the game and you could see them learning with each play that passed. Gordano grew in both strength and confidence during this period of the game and started to build some real momentum. They worked several excellent plays to get open under the basket and executed the shot that followed to put SK down by 6 points at half time.

Quarter 3 | SK 14 v 22 Gordano (SK 4 v 6 Gordano)

Gordano increased their lead by a further two points during this period but SK fought back with points and performances of their own. Toby Rice was playing in just his second basketball match for the school but the improvement in his confidence and performance was huge. When he's not at PE clubs, Toby can be found most break times and lunchtimes on the tennis courts playing basketball and this has really helped his ball handling skills. Toby is a natural sportsman anyway but you could see that just a little extra practice had really given him the confidence to take the lead on the ball handling duties in this period of the match. He had no hesitation about bringing the ball up the court and finding the right pass. Toby and Jonathan added the points in this period yet SK still found themselves trailing heading into the final period, now by 8 points.



Quarter 4 | SK 18 v 30 Gordano (SK 4 v 8 Gordano)

There were signs at the start of the final period that SK might get back into the game when they quickly cut the Gordano lead to 4 points thanks to baskets from Kyle Barrett and Charlton Milligan. Although the older boys had added the points it was the younger boys who were leading the way out on court with their performances. The biggest improvement was in Gabe Antolic-Furlong who enjoyed an absolute stormer during the last quarter. Gabe seems to have a natural ability to find space and get open and when he gets the quality pass he causes real problems on the basketball court. Najib has some seriously slick ball handling skills for a year 7 and is a real athlete as well – this boy definitely has a bright future on the basketball court. Jonathan showed himself to be a cool shooter under pressure and equally as cool when in possession of the ball choosing when to pass, shoot and dribble at the right times. Kanye Christie was fantastic on the steal and in defence generally and has a natural desire to win the ball back and pressure his opponent. These boys showed huge amounts of promise on the basketball court considering this was their first match for the school.

The final result may have gone to Gordano but there were a lot of positives for SK to take from the match and it was a great opportunity for a number of boys to gain some competitive experience. I am really looking forward to seeing how they can put their learning into action in their next match.

MVP: Charlton Milligan – for points contribution and leadership.

Well done gentlemen.

Mr Cook

Player	Points
C Milligan	6
F King	4
K Barrett	2
K Christie	2
T Rice	2
J Puati-Kambu	2



SENIOR BOYS BASKETBALL V NS STARS III

Boys notch up 44 for second game running but Stars take 2017 series

On Sunday 17 December the U16 boys took to the basketball court for the final time in 2017 to contest their third match of the 2017 tri-series against NS Stars. St Kath's won the first game 43-41 and lost the second game 44-54 so it was all to play for in the final match with the series tied at 1-1. The last few weeks have seen a group of dedicated and committed boys regularly attending practice in attempt to improve their basketball having realised that natural talent and athleticism will only get you so far. This last game was a perfect opportunity to put some of their newly acquired understanding into practice.



Hamza BULALEH, Matthew CRUTCHLEY, Samatar ELMI, Ashya GRAY, Sharmarka MATTAN, Dexter MOTT, Reece PALMER, Matthew PARSONS, Caolán PEARCE (c)

Quarter 1 | SK 14 v 22 NS

St Kath's started with a good intensity and enjoyed the first few visits to the basket; characteristically they were athletic in defense and forced 4 good quality steals in the first period of the game. Parsons, Elmi, Crutchley and Pearce were responsible for the steals but there was one boy who was a constant threat to the basket. Ashya Gray is perhaps the best male athlete in the school and was using every ounce of his ability under the hoop. It didn't seem to matter how the boys got the ball in to Ashya; he was magic playing as a post player. Ashya started and continued the scoring in the first period earning his team 8 points and drawing contact going to the basket for one of his 8 but narrowly missing his free throw for the 3 point play. Caolán fed Ashya at every opportunity he could by either dropping the ball under or popping it over the Stars defence. Reece Palmer and Sam Elmi also contributed 2 point efforts but SK found themselves trailing by 8 at quarter time.

Quarter 2 | SK 22 v 36 NS (SK 8 v 14 NS)

Matty Crutchley was doing a phenomenal job for the team in the second period and was tasked with emptying the tank.

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Anyone who knows Matty knows that it's a pretty big tank to empty and he just seemed to go on and on. Deep into the second period Matty was still going strong and showing absolutely no signs of fatigue at all, in fact quite the opposite – he was enjoying his best period of the game with 2 points, 2 steals and 3 rebounds to add to his impressive stats from the first quarter. The Stars meanwhile were growing in confidence and upping their intensity all the time; they were really accurate in possession and punished SK sloppiness at almost every opportunity with some really slick offence. Elmi, Palmer and Gray weighed in with the rest of the points in this period but a drop in intensity for SK meant that they were a little too static ahead of the ball and when they did move into the restricted area they stopped almost dead and flooded the space they were trying to attack.



Ashya bringing the ball up the court



Reece driving hard down the outside



Matty going to the basket

Quarter 3 | SK 24 v 43 NS (SK 2 v 7 NS)

The third period was a strange one and was really low scoring for both sides. SK were chasing down a 14 point lead and in dire need of points but they seemed near impossible to come by for both teams! The Stars defended their lead hard in the third period and denied dribble attempts with real authority. At the other end the boys in red were rebounding the ball better than at any other time in the game. Between them, Dexter, Matt, Ashya and Caolán notched up 8 rebounds and 3 steals but even their best efforts to earn possession seemed futile. Several boys managed to get beyond the Stars defence and get to the basket drawing the foul on their way. Ashya, Matty and Caolán earned themselves 2 free throws a piece but none could make the points stick. Eventually Caolán drove in hard and made his two stick earning an extra shot for his trouble but unfortunately the team remained at 0% from the foul line.

Quarter 4 | SK 44 v 58 NS (SK 20 v 15 NS)

At three quarter time we spoke about the lack of points and agreed on targeted our biggest point scoring quarter of the game so far. This seemed to really motivate the boys as they set about chasing down the now seemingly impossible 19 point deficit that confronted them. If that wasn't enough then loosing Matty Crutchley after a hard fall was almost the nail in their coffin. Early points were the key if they were going to stand any chance of clawing back the game and it was Reece Palmer who seemed to cut with ease before receiving the pass to finish with a neat lay-up for 2 points. The boys were determined to continue the momentum and between them Ashya, Sam and Reece scored 18 points in the final period of the game. Sam and Reece both made free throw attempts to make the opposition pay for their fouls. Unfortunately the boys missed Matty at the other end of the court and their offensive efforts left them exposed defensively and they conceded just 5 fewer points than they scored. Despite one of their best scoring quarters on the basketball court the points still finished some way adrift of their opponents total at full time.



Caolán and Matty closing a route to the basket



Ashya majestic in starting the fast break



Shamarka handling to get passed

At the buzzer the SK boys were down by 14 but this doesn't really align with the story of their improvement on the basketball court. Even in this match the boys left 12 points on court from missed free throws which just goes to show that the contest was closer than the score would suggest. Quite often students judge by outcome but at the end of the game I

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strongly urged boys to look back to their first basketball match and recall their lack of understanding and strategy. The points that they scored back in that match happened almost by accident whereas now they are creating opportunities and working openings on the court even if they can't always convert them.

MVP: Ashya Gray – nobody has improved on the basketball court more than Ashya Gray and in this match his performance was talismanic, so much so that his team mates would have had him on court from start to finish. Ashya top scored in points but was in the thick of all of the action on court – a great performance!

Player	Points	Assists	Steals	Rebounds	Blocks
01 D Mott	0	0	1	3	0
10 M Parsons	0	0	1	3	0
08 S Elmi	11	2	2	2	0
07 H Bulaleh	0	1	0	0	0
03 R Palmer	9	0	0	2	1
09 A Gray	16	1	1	3	0
15 S Mattan	0	1	0	0	0
14 M Crutchley	4	0	3	5	1
02 C Pearce	4	5	4	1	0

Although the rest didn't go their way, this group of boys are so much better on the basketball court now compared with at the start of this year. I would urge them to persevere with developing habits so that they become second nature and continue to work hard and approach their practice with the same commitment and dedication.

Mr Cook

SK SPORTING STUDENTS

Millie wins huge medal haul at the World Championships!

Millie McLoughlin (Kick Boxing)



Those who read our coverage last year will know that Millie is no stranger to sporting success and that she is a formidable kick boxer at such a young age.

Earlier this year Millie triumphed at the World Karate and Kickboxing Championships in Albufeira, Portugal and brought home an impressive medal haul that included a gold medal, two silvers and a bronze.

What an exceptional achievement especially considering Millie recently moved up a classification and was competing against girls a year or two older than her.

Congratulations Millie. We wish you lots of success in 2018 and cannot wait to hear all about it!

The PE Faculty

Does your son / daughter deserve to be recognised for their sporting achievements?

If so we want to know about it! Email cookd@skdrive.org to tell us more!



WINTER HOUSE SPORT

Final points of 2017 decided on rugby pitch and netball court

Winter House Sport is often at the mercy of the December weather and this year our students were forced to adapt once again as we had to resort to indoor alternatives for a number of our competitions. Even the frost, wind and rain couldn't put a stop to students competing for the final points of the calendar year and every single house was determined to fight for the best position heading into the Christmas holiday. We are really grateful for all of the students; competitors and leaders who chose to take part in this round of competitions which always falls at a time of year where students are on their last legs at the end of two very long terms! There was a fantastic atmosphere in all of the events and it quite quickly became clear that students were far from winding down at the end of term!



Year 7

Netball

17/18	1 – Mars – 6 points (+2)
	2 – Saturn – 6 points (+1)
	3 – Mercury – 6 points (-1)
	4 – Jupiter – 0 points

It was a close battle throughout the Y7 competition, with excellent turnout from all houses. All teams had to manage substitutions and were assisted by our senior sports captains to do this. All teams played each other in a round robin competition and goals scored and conceded were vital in such close and short games.

Mars 2 - 0 Jupiter: In the first of the games Mars faced Jupiter, with an excellent combination of shooters, Isabella Wake and Poppy Baldwin-Brooks linking well to open the scoring to win the first game 2 - 0.

Saturn 2 - 1 Mercury: Next up was Saturn vs Mercury. This was a closely fought game with Saturn taking an initial lead through Tikia Mack. Mercury fought back well and created plenty of chances with Kyla Hunt, but it was Jamie Packham who scored the winning goal to take the lead.

Jupiter 0 - 1 Saturn: After both losing their opening game, they were both eager to score their first points of the competition. The game was close throughout with most of the play in the centre third, with both teams losing possession to excellent interceptions. There were a number of chances for both sides, but it was Jamie Packham that scored the only goal for the Saturn side to take the win.

Mercury 1 - 0 Mars: In the closest of all the games, a number of the St Kath's netball team players met in this battle. Daisy Wilkinson playing as GA made the difference scoring the only goal of the game, supported well by Amani Islam. Melissa Bartlett worked hard for her team in the centre court too, whilst Mitzi Hines-Ewens battled hard for her team in the centre third.

Mars 3 - 2 Saturn: This was a much more competitive game from both sides with players working the ball through the court well. Jemima German was excellent in defence and stopped many attacking chances by the Mars side. It was Saturn that took the initial lead through Tikia Mack, but Mars soon followed this by goals from Renae Rush, Poppy Baldwin-Brooks and Isabella Wake. Charlie Mobbs managed to score in the final minutes of the game, but it wasn't enough for the Saturn side.

Jupiter 0 - 1 Mercury: In the final game of the competition, both sides were effective in stopping any attacking chances from the team's shooters. Zara Mace was excellent in the centre of the court and provided her team with plenty of possession; unfortunately it was her opposite house captain, Scarlett Newby that scored the only goal of the game to give Mercury their first victory of the day.

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Rugby



- 1 – Jupiter – 23 points (14A, 9B, 0d)
- 2 – Mercury – 22 points (10A, 12B, 0d)
- 3 – Saturn – 18 points (14A, 7D, 3d)
- 4 – Mars – 14 points (10A, 8B, 4d)

The year 7 boy's competition was the first of the week and took place on the Tuesday. The pitches were frozen solid overnight as temperatures plummeted and daytime temperatures just couldn't thaw them in time which meant that we had to revert to indoor wacky. Wacky is a non-contact version of indoor rugby that has been a St Katherine's tradition for many years since the days of Mr Excell and Mr Townsend and is one that we are determined to keep going! There were too many boys for 1 competition so we ran two separate competitions, A and B with a win or draw being slightly more valuable in the A competition than the B.

Mars A and B got off to a fantastic start winning and drawing their first round matches against Jupiter respectively but unfortunately that was as good as it got for the A team and the B team could only manage another draw against Saturn later in the competition. James Briggs scored his first try of the competition and also earned his team a penalty try; something he would repeat later in the competition. Their other tries in the competition came from Matt Brennan, Adil Mohamood and Aaron Sojan but there were also great performances from Trysten Nmai who was a man-mountain midcourt and Alfie King who used all of his rugby skills to great effect. Unfortunately Mars had to settle for fourth place but would have finished level with Saturn had it not been for their deductions.

Saturn managed to grab the third spot after opening up with a dominant 5-1 victory against Mercury in the A competition with house captain Jonathan Puati-Kambu helping himself to all 5 tries and setting a fantastic example to his team mates. Saturn's best result in the B competition came against Mars after Charlie Evans and Seth Cook both scored to earn their team a draw against the red house. Saturn A managed another victory late on against Mars house with yet another try from captain fantastic ably assisted by team mate Najib. Daud was almost unplayable in the middle of the court using his stature and excellent ball handling skills to dominate this area which help his house immensely.

Mercury managed to ease themselves clear of third place and only found themselves 1 agonising point adrift of a dominant Jupiter at the end of the competition. Mercury's only points in the A competition came against Mars with tries from Will Stratton and Ryan Bundy despite scores in other matches from Kazim and Will Stratton again. Kazim bought bags of energy to his performance and was a real live wire all over the court – in their last match against Jupiter it seemed as though there were 3 or 4 of him playing! Mercury's real success came in the B competition where they won every single match thanks to some of the best wacky of the afternoon. Their tries came mainly from try scoring machine Taygan Smith who won the prize of top try scorer with an amazing 7 scores during the afternoon. Taygan was supported well by Myles Mason who also got himself two scores but their secret to success came from the quality of their play on the floor. Myles and Taygan linked up superbly with Adam Britton to play some of the best wacky of the afternoon and had they thought more carefully about which players they played in which team, they may have gone on to win the



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competition as they were the only house to take more points from the B competition than the A.

In the end victory went to Jupiter house who came back from defeat in their first match in the A competition to win their remaining two matches. In the B competition the Jupiter earned themselves 9 points with a win, a draw and a loss. Rufus Sheppard and Mustafa Olol did the scoring for the Jupiter B boys but there was some great play across the court from Bilaal Jama and Dylan Hewett. Jupiter's A team took just as many points as Mercury's but had one huge victory against Saturn with tries coming from Kayne, Zaid, Mac, Shane and Mohammed. The Jupiter boys balanced their teams better than any other house so credit for this has to go to captain Kayne Christie. Jupiter also had a fantastic turn out so were able to put out two squads of 8 for both of the 6-a-side competitions.

Year 8

Netball

16/17	17/18	
		1 - Mercury - 6 points (+5)
		2 - Saturn - 6 points (+3)
		3 - Mars - 3 points (-3)
		4 - Jupiter - 3 points (-5)

Jupiter 1 - Mars 4: Ella Leakey and Indya Sydeham made a good shooting partnership, with Ella opening the scoring for Jupiter. This was quickly rebuffed by some sharp shooting by Sophie Weaden for Mars to draw level at 1-1. Bailey Gardner worked hard as GD to stop the continuous attack by Jupiter, but the centre court play of Issy Howie and Jess Stanley kept the pressure on. Despite this pressure a quick break by Mars, with good work between Phoebe Durrant, Jamie Leigh Bell and Katie Thomas gave Sophie another shot that she didn't miss. Sophie Powell and Lauren Clifford worked hard in the Jupiter defence to stop any further goals. At half time, a change in positions and a change in defence for Mars with Melissa Madamombe and Muna Omar gave Jupiter a much tougher time in attack, whilst Mars continued to stretch their lead to 3 - 1. Ruby Aczel worked hard as WD for Jupiter and was well supported by GK, Lily Morris.

Mercury 2 - 5 Saturn: With lots of vocal support for Mercury, it was Saturn that opened the scoring with Maya Matthews, and quickly followed by Lola Willis to make it 2- 0. Ruby Stephens worked hard in defence to clear the mercury lines and Jolie Breakwell was excellent in the centre third. Excellent defence by the Saturn pair, Asha Storer and Yusra Hassan, made creating shooting opportunities difficult. Another breakaway attack led to a further goal by Maya Matthews and they stretched their lead to 3 - 0. Some further pressure by Mercury did lead to their first shooting chance and this was quickly converted with an excellent long range shot by Katie Hill. Taking to the court for Mercury in the second half was Chloe Weaden, Megan Larkin, Daisy Money, Isobel Taylor and Leah Porter, strengthening their centre court play. However Saturn remained relatively unchanged and linked well as a team, scoring a further two goals. In a closely fought half, it was the determination of the Saturn side that was the edge that was needed. Chloe Weaden scored a last minute goal, but it wasn't enough to stop Saturn in this match. Mars 2 - 5 Mercury: The attacking duo of Isra Sandhool and Jolie Breakwell linked well to create some immediate shooting opportunities for the mercury side. Despite all this early pressure it was Mars who opened the scoring with Sophie Weaden again. Natasha Borland worked hard against Sophie in defence, but the constant pressure by Muna Omar and Phoebe Durrant, ultimately lead to another Mars goal. At half time another change of team by Mercury injected some energy and created some shooting chances, which Leah Porter as GS took well. Molly Green worked well as the Mars GA but it was Isobel Taylor with an interception that led to another chance for Mercury with Chloe Weaden scoring. A further goal each for Leah and 2 for Chloe, stretched the Mercury lead to 5 - 2

Jupiter 5 - 2 - Saturn: An immediate goal by Saturn opened the scoring, with sharp shooting from Ayaan Abdi. Jupiter had plenty of possession in the centre third, but Yusra Hassan and Leah Rudolf were strong in defence. The pressure continued to mount on Saturn and Katie Clarke took her chance well for her side. The 2nd half opened with a chance by Jupiter, despite initially missing, Saturn were unable to clear their lines and Ella Leakey scored Jupiter's 2nd goal. Ruby Aczel and Lauren Clifford made some key interceptions and both Ella and Katie, stretched their lead to 4 - 1, however sharp shooting by Lola Willis brought the score to 4 - 2. Hetty Cleaver worked well in defence and supplied more ball to her teams attack, eventually stretching their lead.

Mars 0 v 3 Saturn: This was a vital game with each side going into their last game with a win and a loss. Sophie Weaden was playing against Asha Storer in a great battle, whilst Yusra Hassan was also marking Phoebe Durrant in the Mars attacking end. Early pressure failed to result in a goal for the Mars side, whilst the Saturn side did not waste any chances, with goals from Ayaan Abdi and Ellie Ojo. The second half of the game was mainly played out in the centre third of the court with possession alternating between the teams. Sophie Weaden defended well in the second half to keep the Saturn attack out but the Mars shooters were lacking any shooting opportunities.

Jupiter 5 v Mercury 0: The game started as a great battle between the shooting pair of Chloe Weaden and Leah Porter for Mercury and the defence of Lauren Clifford and Ruby Aczel for Jupiter. Chloe was first on target for Mercury and the pressure soon returned for the Jupiter side, with Chloe adding to her first with a second. A third was soon added with great link play between Isobel Taylor and Daisy Money. Both teams knew that the final result would be down to goal difference so the pressure was on to score goals. The tension was also building in the crowd as they could sense the importance of these goals. Chloe Weaden added a 4th goal and this was followed by a 5th.

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Rugby

16/17	17/18

- 1 – Saturn – 28 points (18A, 10B, 0d)
- 2 – Jupiter – 22 points (10A, 12B, 0d)
- 3 – Mercury – 17 points (10A, 8B, 1d)
- 4 – Mars – 16 points (10A, 6B, 0d)

The Y8 boy's competition suffered the same fate as the year 7 boys only not due to frost but rather wind & rain. This meant that the Y8 boys would also compete for their points by playing wacky rather than rugby.

Mars were forced to settle for a single point for the second year running but out of the 5 games that they lost across both competitions, 3 of them were by just one try! Fuaad Musa was doing everything that he could for his house and scored both tries in their 3-2 loss to Jupiter. Fuaad wasn't alone as Ben Bohin scored a hatrick of tries in their only A victory against Mercury house. Ezra Kay and Ciaran Large joined in the Mars scoring in the B competition but it wasn't just the try scorers working hard for Mars; Izaak Osborn was doing a fantastic job on the mat as a defender which gave his team mates the opportunity to attack where possible and captain Joe Williams did his level best to control the middle of the court.

Mercury suffered rather a fall from grace this year as they slipped from top spot down to third. You would have thought that four tries from Isaac Adebo in their first two A competition matches would have earned them some points at least but it wasn't to be and they were forced to wait until their final game against Jupiter before they were to earn any serious points. Daniel Burt was the most valuable in his team during this game scoring two tries while Ollie and Isaac got the other two. Mercury did accumulate points in the B competition where Leo West enjoyed himself not least because he bagged 5 tries across their three matches. Mansur, Jack, Ollie and Dylan worked hard in the mid court but in the end Mercury finished some way behind Jupiter and only narrowly ahead of Mars.

Jupiter bettered last year's performance and finished in second position earning more points than any other house in the B competition with 3 victories from their 3 matches. Callum Stock dominated the scoring for the blue house with 4 tries in just 2 matches while Shadrach chipped in with a vital try in the Saturn match which turned out to be the only score of the game. Alex Nikolov bowed out with a great performance on the floor for his house – a great way to end his time at St Katherine's. Jupiter performed well in the A competition too with a number of boys chipping in with the scoring duties. Joe Paice, Nana, Harry and Abdi all scored tries but Jupiter were 1 of 3 houses who were only able to win a single game in the A competition.

The tactics from Ari Rugman and Toby Rice were spot on for Saturn house as they top scored in the A competition with 18 points from their 3 victories and were second best in the B with another healthy 10 points. They balanced their team really well but also had the luxury of having some fantastic strength in depth. Ben Lumoso was a machine on the mat at both ends scoring an amazing 7 tries during the afternoon but also saving a good number on his own mat. Ari and Jody



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helped with tries of their own but it was Ben who really stole the show for the yellow house. Toby had the same impact in the B competition with 5 tries himself although Jupiter did managed to close the gap with a victory in their B match. Saturn had the luxury of boys from the rugby team but also great teamwork and contributions from Bruno, Tyrone, Will, Oscar, Muhsin, Ben and George all of whom played brilliantly and were directed superbly by those boys with more rugby experience – an excellent all round performance from the yellow house.

Year 9

Netball

15/16	16/17

17/18

- 1 – Mercury – 6 points (+5)
- 2 – Saturn – 6 points (+3)
- 3 – Mars – 3 points (-3)
- 4 – Jupiter – 3 points (-5)



Rugby

15/16	16/17

17/18

- 1 – Mercury – 6 points (+5)
- 2 – Saturn – 6 points (+3)
- 3 – Mars – 3 points (-3)
- 4 – Jupiter – 3 points (-5)

Finally towards the end of the week we were able to get outside on the pitches with the older year groups but it wasn't just the opposition players that the boys had to battle. The temperature and the pitch conditions underfoot were equally tricky opponents and this had the effect of levelling the playing field somewhat.

The Saturn boys had little choice but to withdraw from the competition at the start after being let down by some of their house mates. The boys that did represent their house did so admirably in a series of friendly matches against the boys from each of the other teams. Beau and Charlton were typically brilliant and really set a fantastic example to their team mates. When Max Andrews ran straight at Charlton in the first minute of the first 'friendly' game and Charlton made the hit you knew that they meant business. Ajay used all of his skill and guile with ball in hand dodging a number of tackles while Mursal carried strongly. Leeban perhaps impressed most on the afternoon as he demonstrated real potential on the rugby pitch – the boys should be working hard between now and next year to make sure that he finds his way to rugby practice!

Mercury took to the field with a renewed enthusiasm this year which is often the case when new students join houses. Ethan Emery and the rest of the boys in green couldn't wait to see Tyrese Bracey on the rugby pitch having watched him in full flow during sportshall athletics earlier in the year. Their first contest was their biggest against Jupiter house and they lost agonisingly 5 tries to 6. Tyrese didn't disappoint with 3 tries and was joined by Hanad and Charlie Medder who added the other two. Mercury played some great rugby during the afternoon; Tony Tanner's footwork was on point when he stepped about half of the Mars backline in their match and Alfie Wagland and Louis Hakwer both made great contributions to their house.

Jupiter came back with a vengeance from last year's disappointing bottom placed finish to secure second spot. It was their victory against Mercury that proved decisive in which their tries came from Finlay Belcher, Tom Evans, Ruffin and Brandon. Finlay is arguably the most improved rugby player in year 9 this year and continued his excellent form into the house competition. Brandon was strong as ever in their toughest contest against Mars and didn't shy away from the red physicality. Josh Reeve put in the best tackle of the afternoon against Mars' captain Max Andrews after he had broken the line. The chasing tackle from behind is the most difficult to master and Josh hauled down his opponent superbly. Charlie Ashdown and Louie Dun were both causing real problems with their neat footwork and Tim Pomery complemented them brilliantly with his strong carrying.

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Mars finished top of the pile for the first year ever having bettered themselves each year so far. Truth be told, Mars ran away with the competition beating all of their opponents comfortably. Finley King, Max Andrews and Kyle Barrett used all of their strength and power to bustle their way over the try line a number of times and all played brilliantly but it was great to see the Mars boys with less rugby experience so heavily involved. Fergus Creton showed no signs of hesitation and got straight into the action when it was his turn on the pitch, Harvey Harris and Jed Keen also both impressed with the ball in hand both making excellent mini breaks and Eugene Furniss took positive and decisive action towards gathering possession every time he found himself around the action!



Year 10

Netball

14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18
Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Blue
Red	Green	Blue	Red
Blue	Blue	Green	Yellow
Green	Red	Red	Green

- 1 – Jupiter – 9 points
- 2 – Mars – 6 points
- 3 – Saturn – 3 points
- 4 – Mercury – 0 points

Mercury 1 - 4 Mars: With Mercury only able to manage to field 5 players, it was a surprise to all watching that they took an immediate lead through Anna Pope's shot, after some quick thinking by Niamh Scanlan. Mars responded well and used their 2 player advantage to move the ball down to their attacking end, with Emily Drohan scoring to level the game. The game remained close and an excellent ball into the circle by Mars C, Zerine Akbayir was converted by Emily again to give them a deserved 2 - 1 lead. Mercury continued to battle well with Wren Talbot Ponsonby working well in the centre third to keep possession. Despite their 2 player advantage, Mercury were defending particularly well through Lauren Hooper and Leah Dickinson who disrupted many of the Mars attacks. The second half started with a Mars centre pass but Lauren Hooper managed to intercept the final ball into the circle. Unfortunately for Mercury any chances Emily got in front of goal she didn't miss. Mercury were attacking the Mars defence, but Grace Brown was difficult to get the ball past and made crucial interceptions, supported well by Steph Thomasset. Towards the end of the half, Grace Brown (GA) and Lily Hannan (WD) for Mars linked well to bring the ball down the court, but again Lauren Hooper made a well-timed interception to regain possession for Mercury. Well fought by Mercury, but a win for the Mars side.

Jupiter 3 - 2 Saturn: A frantic start to the game, with a fumbled centre pass by Saturn led to a goal by Priscilla Lumoso for the Jupiter side. This was then immediately followed up by a goal by Ebonie McCombie. The ball was fast paced and soon enough it was down at the Saturn attacking end. A free pass by Ellie McCarthy gave Abbie Ring a chance and Abbie came close, but Josie Chanfi rebounded well to clear the ball out. An excellent interception at the Jupiter shooting end by Saturn GK Caitlyn Semple saw the ball travel down the court through Stella Croker and Ilsa Issa gave Abbie another chance, which she put away to draw the game level. The second half started at the same pace as the first with Izzy Fielden and Priscilla Lumoso having a great battle. Priscilla scored for Jupiter but this was immediately rebuffed by another goal for Abbie Ring. Mel Health and Shanice Ashford Campbell linked well in the centre court for Jupiter and brought Ebonie and Priscilla the opportunities they needed.

Mars 2 - 3 Jupiter: A failed centre pass by Jupiter led to immediate pressure by Mars, with Grace Molton having an opportunity at goal, however Elise Caddick rebounded well to relieve the pressure. Quick play through the centre court gave the Jupiter side a glimpse at goal and this was taken well by Priscilla Lumoso, despite Harmani Clarke's best defensive efforts. For Mars, Emily Drohan and April Steadman linked well, giving Grace a shot at goal, which she scored. Another goal resulted in another shooting chance for Priscilla, which again she scored. The second half began with a change of position for Mars, bringing Harmani into the centre who made an immediate impact, linking well with Grace Brown, however Ebonie playing GK for Jupiter was impassable.

Mercury 0 - 3 Saturn: After the disappointment of their first game, Saturn were keen to make an impact on the smaller team of Mercury. Stella Croker linked well with GS Shanice James to create chances for Saturn, whilst the Mercury side worked hard to maintain possession. Shanice James scored her first goal to stretch out the Saturn lead and Stella

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followed closely behind to make it a 3 - 0 lead at halftime. In the second half, Saturn upped their game with consistent pressure on the Mercury defence. The Mercury central players worked hard (Leah Dickinson, Wren TP and Niamh Scanlan) to create chances, but the 2 player disadvantage was clear to see and Saturn used their extra players effectively.

Mars 2 - 1 Saturn: This game was a closely fought battle with both sides having won and lost a game. The possession reflected this with both sides having chances and making excellent interceptions. Saturn were first to open the scoring with Stella opening the scoring, but Zerín Akbayir followed this with a goal for Mars. Emily Drohan was excellent as GK to block some extended pressure by Saturn towards the end of the first half. The second half started with chances in position for Saturn, with Abbie Ring coming on as GS. The Mars defence of Lily, Steph and Emily worked well as a unit to keep Stella and Abbie out and also provided the centre court players with plenty of ball. Grace Brown extended the Mars score to 2, to take the lead for her side.

Jupiter 5 - 0 Mercury: Going into the final game, Jupiter knew they needed to win to ensure they came first in the competition overall, this clearly put them on edge and their play was slightly nervous, making silly mistakes. After a period of frantic play, Jupiter settled into their game and both Priscilla and Ebonie scored a goal each. Despite Mercury's best efforts the ball continued to come back down to the Jupiter attacking end and Ebonie added a third goal, quickly followed by a fourth. Mel Heath joined Priscilla in the Jupiter attack and this provided them with a further 2 goals.



Rugby

14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18
Red	Red	Blue	Blue
Green	Blue	Green	Green
Blue	Yellow	Red	Red
Yellow	Green	Yellow	Yellow

- 1 - Jupiter - 9 points
- 2 - Mercury - 6 points
- 3 - Mars - 3 points
- 4 - Saturn - 0 points

For the final time the year 10 boys waited in the gym ahead of the house rugby competition. The turnout was fantastic with all houses posting healthy numbers and it was clear to see that a number of boys had finally bitten the rugby bullet knowing that they wouldn't have the same opportunity again next year.

Saturn were consigned to fourth place after narrow defeats against Mercury and Mars by just a single try. Felix McGovern (2), Zubair and Alex Wilson (2) were the Saturn try scorers but there were some excellent performances from the boys from the yellow house. Ollie Kearns' smile got bigger and bigger over the course of the afternoon and it was great to watch someone enjoying themselves as well as playing well. It was equally great to see Lewis Ojo back to fighting fitness and putting in some thumping hits all over the pitch. Zubair was dynamic around the breakdown, Reece Palmer was strong and clever with ball in hand and Felix McGovern worked really hard from start to finish.

Mars have suffered ever since two of their big names left the school in year 9 and have never really recovered but managed to muster enough to beat Saturn with a score in the final play of the most dramatic of games. Brodie Storer nabbed a breakaway try against the run of play to kick off the scoring and two tries from the mercurial talent Connor Coleman secured the 3 points for his house. AJ Jama put in a monumental display of strength and courage for his house really making the most of his last house rugby outing alongside Danny Bennet and Ben Walbridge who were both tackling machines. Danny Bennet won the prize of tackle of the day after giving chase to Felix McGovern and hauling him to the ground short of the try line - had it not been for Felix's height it would have been a try saving tackle. Jordan Cole was a constant threat with ball in hand and used his rugby experience to take on the more challenging duties.

Mercury fought back from the pit of despair at the end of last year to finish in second place with some excellent performances from a number of boys. Sam Williams passed a last minute fitness test and this was nothing but good news for his house as he was instrumental in their victories. George Fry brought real physicality to the Mercury defensive line while Finn O'Rourke was majestic with ball in hand picking some lovely lines. Zak Harris, Harry Belcher and Tyler Barr seemed to delight in the hard work and darker aspects of the game which gifted their running backs great ball. Bailee Farley helped himself to a couple of tries on the afternoon using his pace to great effect and Charley Saunders also got his name on the scoresheet with a try of his own against Saturn.

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Victory went to Jupiter house for the second year running and it was Ethan Eggleston who kicked off the Jupiter try scoring. I think it's fair to say that rugby has never been Ethan's favourite sport but you wouldn't have known it watching him play as he didn't stop at scoring tries but also tackled more than his weight for his house to boot. Jupiter have a great combination of physical athletes and clever sportsmen. Ashya, Henry and Sam are three of the best all round athletes in the year group and to compliment them you have Will Conroy, Morgan Tiley, Eli Smith and Logan West – all of whom are clever all round sportsmen. It was also great to see Harrison Burchill, Alex Mathers and Zak and Aranvir feature so heavily in their matches and play such an important role in such an exhausting format of the game. A well balanced house, well organised and deserving of their victory.



Overall Results

Please see results below for individual year group and gender competitions.

House	Year 7		Year 8		Year 9		Year 10		Total		
	Points	Rank	Points	Rank	Points	Rank	Points	Rank	Points	Rank	
BOYS	Jupiter	4	1	3	2	3	2	4	1	14	1
	Mars	1	4	1	4	4	1	2	3	8	3
	Mercury	3	2	2	3	2	3	3	2	10	2
	Saturn	2	3	4	1	1	4	1	4	8	3
GIRLS	Jupiter	1	4	1	4	1	4	4	1	7	4
	Mars	4	1	2	3	4	1	3	2	13	1
	Mercury	2	3	4	1	2	3	1	4	9	3
	Saturn	3	2	3	2	3	2	2	3	11	2
OVERALL	Jupiter	5	1	4	3	4	2	8	1	21	1
	Mars	5	1	3	4	8	1	5	2	21	1
	Mercury	5	1	6	2	4	2	4	3	19	3
	Saturn	5	1	7	1	4	2	3	4	19	3

Thank You!

A special thank you to all of the students who gave up their own time to support the running of our Winter House Sport events. Students from exam groups in years 11 and 12 as well as some of our Senior Sports Captains really added to the quality of the competitions and we are extremely grateful to them for giving up their time to help us out!

Special thanks to: Lauren DUN, Bo MARSHALL, Mason SMART, Megan ANDREWS, Tom GREEN, Athea HEAVENS, Louis STRATTON, Madeline WATTS, Danny CONWAY, Lewis MASON, Caolán PEARCE, Finley SMITH, Leesha COLEMAN, Dexter MOTT, Hao Hao ZHANG

Congratulations to everyone who took part for their houses.

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HOUSE RESULTS DECEMBER 2017

Saturn extend lead as students participate in Autumn & Winter competitions

The race to Christmas 2017 is complete and students have competed for all of the points available in terms 1 and 2. This term has been a busy one in our House Sport calendar with students competing for points across Autumn and Winter House Sport events. Saturn are still on top of the pile and have extended their lead by 3 points but all three chasing houses are hot in pursuit setting up 2018 perfectly!

Current Standings		
Position	House	Points
1	Saturn	60
2	Mars	54
3	Jupiter	52
4	Mercury	51

“ Saturn double their lead at the top of the pile heading in to 2018 with just 3 points separating the chasing houses ”

Previous Standings		
Position	House	Points
1	Saturn	18
2	Mars	15
3	Mercury	14
4	Jupiter	13

House	Year 7		Year 8		Year 9		Year 10		Year 11		Total		
	Points	Rank	Points	Rank	Points	Rank	Points	Rank	Points	Rank	Points	Rank	
BOYS	Jupiter	11	1	6	2	10	1	7	1	0	1	34	1
	Mars	7	2	6	2	7	2	4	3	0	1	24	3
	Mercury	7	2	6	2	6	4	3	4	0	1	22	4
	Saturn	5	4	12	1	7	2	5	2	0	1	29	2
GIRLS	Jupiter	5	4	5	3	4	4	4	3	0	1	18	4
	Mars	11	1	5	3	8	2	6	1	0	1	30	2
	Mercury	9	2	12	1	7	3	1	4	0	1	29	3
	Saturn	6	3	8	2	11	1	6	1	0	1	31	1
OVERALL	Jupiter	16	2	11	3	14	3	11	1	0	1	52	3
	Mars	18	1	11	3	15	2	10	3	0	1	54	2
	Mercury	16	2	18	2	13	4	4	4	0	1	51	4
	Saturn	11	4	20	1	18	1	11	1	0	1	60	1

Month	Event	*
October	Cross Country (7-9)	✓
November	AUTUMN HOUSE SPORT: Boys Dodgeball and Girls Benchball (7-10)	✓
December	WINTER HOUSE SPORT: Boys Rugby and Girls Netball / Hockey (7-10)	✓
January	Badminton (11)	
	Table Tennis (11)	
February	Basketball (11)	
March	SK Ninja Warrior (10)	
April	SPRING HOUSE SPORT: Boys Football and Girls Netball / Hockey (7-10)	
June July	SUMMER HOUSE SPORT: Striking and Fielding (7-10)	
	SPORTS DAY Field Events (7-10)	
	SPORTS DAY Track Events (7-10)	
	SK Superstars (7-10)	

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CLUBS AND CAPS TERM 2

A look back at student achievements in the second term of the academic year

We are really pleased to be able to share some information about notable student achievements this term. So many of our students give such substantial and sustained contributions to our faculty and they deserve their recognition!

Top Clubbers

Congratulations to the top male and female clubbers for each year group below!

Daisy Wilkinson	Year 7	Matthew Brennan & Will Stratton
Chloe Weaden, Sophie Weaden & Lola Willis	Year 8	Toby Rice & Joseph Williams
Rose Giles	Year 9	Louie Dun
-	Year 10	Hamza Bulaleh
Lauren Dun	Year 11	Louis Stratton
Megan Andrews & Megan Edwards	Year 12 & 13	Danny Conway

School Caps

Congratulations to the students below who notched up the most school caps during this term!

Jamie Packham	Year 7	Gabe Antolic-Furlong & Kanye Christie
Maya Matthews, Daisy Money & Sophie Weaden	Year 8	Ben Lumoso, Toby Rice & Ari Rugman
Freya Barnett & Molly Jackson	Year 9	Charlton Milligan
Lucie Robertshaw	Year 10	Ashya Gray
Bo Marshall	Year 11	Caolán Pearce
Megan Andrews & Megan Edwards	Year 12 & 13	Danny Conway

Congratulations to the students below who are currently the highest cap earners in the school!

Ruby Webber	88	Most Capped Students	Danny Conway	118
Lauren Dun & Bo Marshall	68		Tom Green	108
Jazzy Pither	60		Caolán Pearce & Jay Spicer	100

Keep working hard - your effort, endeavour, dedication and commitment doesn't go unnoticed!

Thank you all for your contributions.

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