



Welcome to the WCGS Sports Newsletter. Welcome to the Spring sports newsletter 2020. In these worrying and unprecedented times I hope that this newsletter celebrating the successes of WCGS sport last term will help brighten your day. I would like to say a huge thank you to all the staff, students, parents and volunteers for their hard work, commitment and dedication to sport at WCGS. Mr D Johnson (Director of Sport).



WCGS U14 Table Tennis—3rd in the National U16 Tournament

Our Year 9 Under-14 Table Tennis team (Jacob Archer, Ajasvii Borah, Chidumebi Egbeama, Sai Gandepailli & Akal Dosanjh) have again performed brilliantly and achieved National recognition. Due to the fact that there is no pathway for U14 table tennis teams in the Regional and National levels, our talented year 9 students had to enter the U16 competitions. With the boys playing in a higher age group, it was already a great achievement when they earned their place in to the regional finals (last 16 in the country) by winning the London Zone finals. So when they travelled to Bristol in February and beat everybody to win the Regional finals they had surpassed all expectations and earned qualification to the National finals (last 4 in the country).



On the 14th March, the mighty year 9 table tennis team competed in U16 National Finals in Hinckley (probably one of the last sporting competitions to take place in the country). The competition was incredibly competitive. The boys first game was against the leading Table Tennis academy in England, Ackworth school. This was a real baptism of fire for the boys and they unfortunately lost 8:0. Their second match was against London Academy (who had beaten WCGS 8:0 in the London finals), the boys played some fantastic table tennis and came close to providing an upset but a few close games resulted in a 6:2 loss. Their last match was against St Mary's School and with a medal still up for grabs the WCGS

team had everything to play for but as this was the team who beat us in the U13 National finals last year we knew it would be tough. Yet again, the students made us proud and played some of their best table tennis beating St Mary's 5:3 and securing third place in the whole of England and the bronze medal. This is an awesome result and I would like to thank Mr Maric and the boys for all of the hard work, commitment and courage that have seen them succeed in such a brilliant way.

Rugby VII's

Unfortunately due to the weather and the corona virus pandemic a number of rugby tournaments were cancelled this half term, including the Rosslyn Park National 7's tournaments. This has meant that our U12's, U15's and U16's have sadly not been able to compete this term but I would like to commend them and their coaches for the commitment to training and for the hunger they have demonstrated to learn and improve.

Senior rugby

Whilst the season ended in December for the majority of students, it gave us an opportunity to play some U17 fixtures for those who are going to progress into the senior squad next season. Before the sevens season started, we played two friendly matches against Wilson's, home and away. We managed to win one game emphatically and lose the other game by a couple of points in the last play of the game. On to the sevens which saw the senior squad participate in only one tournament which was the U18 Surrey sevens. Students grew in confidence throughout the tournament. Eton was our first fixture and we held our own in the first half but a couple of good plays from Eton opened us up and we couldn't sustain a come back. Our second fixture against St George's Weybridge, very similar to Eton. We played some great rugby but not able to make any inroads and get over the try line. With us unable to progress into the cup competition pride was at stake playing our final match against Abingdon. It was a tight contest with Abingdon going 5-0 up at half time. With some determination the squad tried to break through but just knocked the ball on at crucial times which halted our chances of winning the match. Abingdon stopped us in the final play of the game and managed to turn the ball over and score to win the match. It was a tough sevens season as we were unable to train regularly due to poor weather conditions. Despite the losses in the Surrey tournament, it has been an incredible season and I want to thank the whole squad for their support, hard work and determination this year. I would also like to wish them well in their rugby careers but would also love to see them playing for Old Walcountians in the near future. To the current U16s and L6th in this difficult time, you must try to keep in shape as much as you can so we can have a strong start to next season.



COMPLETED HOUSE RESULTS

Rugby Junior

Year 7 – Mandeville
Year 8 – Woodcote
Overall – Mandeville

Intermediate

Year 9 – Woodcote
Year 10 – Postponed
Overall – tbc

Senior

Overall - Ruskin

Table Tennis

Junior

Year 7 - Woodcote
Year 8 - Carew
Overall - Woodcote

Intermediate

Year 9 - Ruskin
Year 10 - Woodcote
Overall - Ruskin

Football

Junior

Year 7 - Mandeville
Year 8 - Ruskin
Overall - Mandeville

CURRENT STANDINGS

- 6th Place - Radcliffe (46)
- 5th Place - Carew (61)
- 4th Place - Woodcote (63)
- 3rd Place - Bridges (72)
- 2nd Place - Mandeville (75)
- 1st place - Ruskin (84)**



WCGS Sport on Instagram

If you wish to follow WCGS on Instagram, simply follow @wgs_sport and get involved in daily challenges, which you can tag us and we will post them - be great to see many of you getting involved (parents and students are welcome)



Other Table Tennis news



WCGS had 20 boys representing the school in the South London Jack Petchey individual championships. Thaksan Sutharsan 8CA reached the quarter finals of U13 tournament. Jacob Archer 9RA and Krishnamohan Nagarajan 11T reached the semi-finals of the U16 tournament but Ojasvii Borah 9RA went one better claimed second place in U16.

In the South London leagues WCGS is again dominating with us currently top of the league in the U13a, U13b, U16 and U19 age groups.

Handball



The current Y11 GCSE students took part in a Handball match with Ravenswood. This was an opportunity for the students to put into practice the skills they have been learning in lessons in a fully competitive match (an aspect they are assessed in on moderation day).

Both teams started slowly but soon WCGS started to show some excellent counter attacking play and went into the half time break 5-2 up. WCGS continued to pull away in the second half and with some strong defending and precise shooting, WCGS came out on top, eventually winning the match 15-11.

The plan was to play another match but this had to be cancelled. Hopefully the match can be re-arranged but if it can't, WCGS will be a lot more confident if Handball is selected for Moderation.

Rugby Vlls cont.

U13

The U13 rugby sevens squad were lucky that their Surrey 7's tournament went ahead at all. As a result of the appalling weather on the previous two days the U13s went to Trinity School expecting to play in a mud bath. But thanks to great ground work by the school the pitches were in fine condition allowing for some great rugby to be played. Through the whole day the boys achieved an incredible feat of staying unbeaten and only losing out on top spot to Hampton on points difference by 10 points (2 tries). the boys scored 18 tries in all and returned stats of P8 W7 D1 L0 All 12 boys gave a great effort to assist the team's results, the highlights of which were a 10-10 draw with Hampton, 15-0 win over Howard of Effingham and a 10-5 win over Royal Alexander and Albert School.



U14



The U14 rugby squad have as ever worked extremely hard this term with skills training on Monday lunch times and 7's training on Wednesday after school. This has been the lucky year group who have managed to play in 3 sevens tournaments this term. Their first tournament was the Langley Park U14 friendly tournament. This was quite early in the sevens season so the boys were a bit raw (and the weather was atrocious) but it was really pleasing to see the boys trying to put some of the seven a-side tactical rugby in to play. They recorded some great results on the day beating Langley B-Team and Dulwich college to set up a decider against Langley A-

Team. This was a fantastic clash with two evenly matched sides who couldn't be separated on the score board ending in a 10 all draw, and a tie for the tournament. The Surrey tournament came next and was played on pitches that were barely playable and due to the number of teams had to be played on half a pitch, so a very different type of sevens game was needed. With a very short warm up before our first game the boys didn't really get off the bus and lost the first game against St James Senior Boys School 10-5, then improved recording draws against strong sides from Epsom College and John Fisher, in the final game of the morning the boys played some great rugby beating Wilson's 35-5. After lunch the WCGS students were determined not to be beaten and they went through the afternoon beating, Gordon's, Rutlish, City of London Freeman's and Howard of Effingham. So they ended the day with a great record of Played 8; won 5, drew 2, lost 1. The final tournament was the inaugural Fulham Boys school & Richmond Rugby tournament. Finally we had a dry day and firm pitches to play on and the boys didn't disappoint, playing some fantastic and expansive seven a-side rugby. With a number of our strike runners missing due to illness and injury, It was great to be able to give some of the other squad members a run out in this tournament. Our first match was against our local rivals Fisher and despite a quick start by WCGS, Fisher managed a good come back to record the win. Next up was Fulham Boys School, in this game the boys offloading game came to the fore and we recorded a strong 30 point victory. This was enough to take us to the semi-final where we played Richmond Park Academy, again WCGS scored some wonderful tries to win the game and reach the final. The final saw us yet again meet or rivals Fisher. WCGS played some of their best rugby in this match and dominated territory and possession but unfortunately Fisher managed to score two break away tries to take the win. Overall it has been a term of development for the U14, and I would like to thank them all for their continued commitment and I can't wait to see how good this squad can become next year.

Junior and Senior Rugby Awards Dinners

WCGS hosted the Senior & Junior Rugby Awards Dinner in the main school hall in what was an excellent evening of celebration, food and merriment. All age groups have clearly made huge progress this year and it was great to hear the captains of each team speak so proudly about their teammates and the season. Congratulations to all the award winners the main award winners are listed below;

Bill Ireland Trophy = Michael-Daniel Ac-



Nigel Hook Memorial Trophy = Zach Khan



quah 1stXV Players Player = Chidi Ofili



Millwood Trophy = Matthew Hodgson





Netball



This has been another great term of Netball at WCGS, although this being the last term of Netball for the school year it is sad to lose so many great girls. The girls continued to work as a team and improve their play on court and with every fixture they added a new level of competitiveness and team spirit. On a rare sunny day in January the netball squad travelled to Trinity for their first match of the term. The girls played well throughout and put together a number of good attacking moves but unfortunately Trinity were

too good on the day and we lost 15 – 9. Our second match was against Greenshaw. This was a very close game, Greenshaw took an early lead but the WCGS girls put in a huge amount of effort, improving their match play during every quarter. Unfortunately, luck was on Greenshaws side and despite being the better team on court the game was lost by only one goal (7-6). Mrs Gayle is very proud of all the girls and how well they conducted themselves



Mrs Gayle would like to say special thanks to Miss Herbal again supporting fitness within Netball this term. She would also like to thank Jade Mcfarlane for her continued leadership of Netball and the amount of time and thought that goes into all she has contributed to netball, Huma Ahmed for her commitment in putting the team first and Miriam Okunola who was the stand out player of the term, with her amazing interceptions and skill of reading the game was invaluable. Hopefully we can look forward to Rounders next term?!?!?!?

Swimathon

WCGS students did brilliantly at the Purley Rotary Club swimathon. The swimathon entails the students swimming an extended team relay and clocking up as many lengths as they can in 55 minutes. This year we approached the swimathon differently in having one super team who were determined to break the record of 222 lengths in 55 minutes. This team, ably lead by Luke Shaw, set off at a fantastic pace and looked to all spectators to be on track for breaking the record. Unfortunately, there was some controversy with the length counting and their final recorded amount of lengths came in at 171 (however, we are convinced that they did break the record, so morally we recorded a victory). Our other two teams, made up mainly of year 7 & 8 students, also did fantastically well and recorded 262 lengths combined. The main aim of the event is to raise money for good causes and it makes me really proud to say that the WCGS students have yet again raised over £800 for local charity's.



Indoor Cricket



The school have played in two tournaments this term. The U15s and U13s both gave a good account of themselves in their respective cups. The U15s (Rohan Patel, Christian Spink, Dhey Patel, Ved Badgi, Dhyey Shah, Kobi Fordyce-Browne and Arjun Bhogal) played their tournament at Greenshaw School and beat John Fisher and Greenshaw quite convincingly but in the final match lost in a tight game to Carshalton Boys. Because of the results in the other pool games first place was decided on the team who had

lost fewer wickets overall and we unfortunately lost out to John Fisher by the fact they lost 1 less wicket than we had.

The U13 tournament was held at WCGS. The team (Kailash Davey, Emad Atif, Matt Hodgson, Methuka Wijeratne, Ralph Dennis, Stefan Kowalczyk and Krithhic Ravindran) won one and lost won in their pool. They had a good win against Wilsons and then lost their match against Carshalton Boys in a tight game. A good effort from both teams and we are still really hopeful that we will get some cricket played in the summer.



Student Success Outside of School Sport

Pravin Mahendrakumar L6MA



has excelled in the swimming pool over the last few years representing Kent. His National rankings are excellent with him ranked 7th Nationally in 50 metres Breaststroke, 6th Nationally in 100m Breaststroke & 11th Nationally in 200m Breaststroke. His best achievement so far this year has been on the weekend of 14th March Pravin achieved the British Championships time in competition. This means that if the British Championships go ahead this year, Pravin has a chance of qualifying for the Olympics!! Well done and good luck Pravin.

Cricket Sponsorship

Although the cricket seasons looks as if it may be shortened this year, it is really pleasing that the School have secured a great sponsorship deal with the Surrey Masonic Sports Association. The Association have given money to assist with kit for the senior cricket tour. The sponsorship also includes money for the school to further develop the cricket facilities and buy new equipment which will enable the school can donate more old equipment to 'Charity Pravin'. With this very generous sponsorship their logo will appear on the standard school cricket shirt and jumper. It is hoped that this may be the start of a long term relationship with Surrey Masons and with them assisting in many future sporting projects.

WCGS Sports Website

The WCGS Sports Website gives up to date information on Curricular and Extra-Curricular PE. Fixtures, team sheets and results can all be found by visiting <https://wgsacademytrust.fluencycms.co.uk/> and clicking on the Sport Tab at the top of the page