

## Sports Report w/c 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November**

**U11 Boys' Rugby Triangular**

**A Team won 6-5 v Highfield**

**A Team drew 6-6 v Read**

**B Team won 8-4 v Highfield**

**B Team drew 7-7 v Read**



A trip to the Power Stations at Drax saw us play Highfield and then Read School in four high quality, competitive matches.

Our A team saw a couple more of the year 5 players step up and play the contact matches, reward for some smart application and hard work shown across this term. We have developed a pattern of being slow starters and this allowed Highfield to win more ball, find gaps and put us under pressure. Once the cobwebs were blown away though, our team began to show the fluency and teamwork that is also becoming part of our game. All players contributed and this was a clear sign that we are not relying on one or two individuals to carry others. A dominant second half saw us win the opening game against Highfield before taking on the host school, Read, and being involved in a real tussle where the game ended in a draw. Lessons

were learnt in keeping our composure when under pressure and it was good to see a positive response to conceding tries.

The B team played tag rugby; in the first game we were a little hesitant on being tagged and the ball movement was slower than desired. Seb and Jasper did lift the tempo and helped us to the win. In the game against Read, we were much better at releasing the pass as soon as we were tagged, resulting in many metre gaining breaks on the subsequent tackles. Rory stood out for reading where the space was, enabling us to find gaps as their defenders had some tough decisions to make.

There were many signs of yet more progress - well done to all.

Mr Tom Davidson & Mr Phil Holmes

## Tuesday 21st November Gateways U9 v Read School



Read brought an impressive, mixed age group team, to challenge our under 9s, creating an exciting contest. The girls played with clear determination, all three teams showcasing moments of brilliant play. Mr Arnold and Mrs Nichol ask the girls to try their best to maintain their positions on the pitch and the girls are now starting to understand the importance of spreading out when playing football.

Teams 2 and 3 strategically pressed high when Read had possession, resulting in some impressive interceptions and some attempts at goal. What stood out the most was that both teams showed relentless effort and resilience, overcoming the challenges posed by the formidable Read team. A special shout-out to Isla and Beatrice, who proved to be Gateways rocks in defence, contributing significantly to the team's success.

Well done to Team 1, who successfully secured a victory against their opposing Read team. An unforced error allowed their striker to score an early goal in the bottom corner. However, our team rallied together, demonstrating resilience by moving the ball more swiftly and playing higher up the field. Consequently, when the opportunity presented itself, the midfield threaded the ball through, resulting in an equalising goal, making the score 1-1.

A newfound belief emerged within the team that they could compete against the physically bigger Read girls, leading to a second goal in a matter of minutes. As the clock ticked down, some impressive passing by our players enabled us to secure a late goal, concluding the game in style with a 3-1 victory. This remarkable performance highlights the substantial progress that every girl involved in the fixtures today have made.

Mrs Hannah Nichol and Mr Mike Arnold