

Sports Report w/c11th March 2024

Friday 8th March 2024

U9 A Football v Richmond House

Won 7-4



Man of the match Jacob was unstoppable with the ball at his feet from the start of the match. Skipping through players, he was a joy to watch and, finding an inch of space, struck the ball with force to score our opening goal early on. This set the tone for the rest of the game. After a few scrambled line clearances from Richmond, Rory found space on the edge of the box and struck the ball hard, going through the keeper's legs. Gateways had our second.

Henry kept drawing players out wide and found himself in acres of space. It was only a matter of time before he got on the scoresheet. Slotting past the keeper not once, but four times, in as many minutes. The midfield, playing some brilliant passes, saw Henry's final goal of the day from a wonderful team goal.

With the scoreline assured, we made changes to try out some new positions and plays. This saw the hosts get a few goals back and build their confidence despite Isaac pulling out some outstanding saves. As the final whistle drew nearer, Henry was wiped out in the box. The referee pointed to the spot for a penalty. Henry gave up his chance to score more and tapped his teammate on the back to take it. What a fantastic thing to witness from such young players. Freddie struck it well, but the keeper pulled off a wonder save to close the day. A spirited performance, with moments of real sportsmanship.

Mr Mike Arnold

Under 11 A Football Draw 1 - 1



Gateways started very well, moving the ball in triangles; something we have been working on for the last few weeks. With just 5 minutes gone on the clock, Gateways won a corner, Seb made a darting run, and came very close with a brilliant glancing header.

A moment of brilliance from Rupert, gliding past several players helped break the deadlock, with a calm Santiago finish. As the final whistle neared, we became a little tired and conceded late on. Both teams did exceptionally well.

Mr Mike Arnold

Under 11 B Football

The B team played in an exciting series of three football matches, each contest presenting unique challenges and showcasing the team's diverse skills.

In the initial encounter, the B team clashed with Richmond House's year 5 squad. Santiago emerged as the standout performer with a breathtaking hat-trick. His first goal materialised from a 1v1 manoeuvre, concluding with a sweet finish into the bottom corner. The second goal unfolded seamlessly, as Max delivered a pinpoint cross to Santiago, who capitalised with clinical efficiency. Santiago's third strike saw him unleash a powerful shot into the bottom corner. Seb then joined the scoring spree, contributing a fourth goal through a precisely executed finish. The defensive prowess of Max, Vitor, and Ashwin played a crucial role in maintaining the team's clean sheet.

The second match was equally captivating, with Seb initiating the goal-scoring sequence. Jayden added to the spectacle with a remarkable one-touch shot, setting the tone for an outstanding performance. Oliver B further solidified the lead with a well-placed blast into the bottom corner. The synergy between Oliver B and Jayden culminated in another goal, the latter executing a first-time shot to secure another resounding 4-0 victory. Mekaeeel contributing to this win with some great passes to his teammates.

The final match posed a challenge, pitting the B team against the well-rested Richmond House Year 6 squad. From the outset, the opposition asserted dominance, leaving our boys struggling to match their intensity. Despite valiant efforts, fatigue crept in, and the B team succumbed to a 3-0 defeat. Nevertheless, the team demonstrated unwavering courage throughout the match, refusing to be disheartened by the scoreline.

In conclusion, the B team's journey through these three matches showcased a commendable mix of offensive prowess, solid defence, and resilience in the face of adversity.

Mrs Hannah Nichol

Friday 8th March Under 11 Netball v Richmond House

**A Team Won
B Team Game 2 Lost
B Team Game 3 Lost**



Our A team had a really competitive game against Richmond House. We started off a bit slow and the girls were blown away by the opposition. We were making lots of unforced errors, and often hiding behind our players. The game was extremely physical and both teams were hunting for intercepts. Before the last quarter, the girls were 8-3 down and the team talk was all about playing the 'Gateways way'. The focus was on passing and moving constantly and getting into a space away from defenders.

The whole last quarter, the girls were amazing and scored 7 goals to the oppositions 1 meaning the girls came away with the win. The last quarter was by far the best netball the girls have played this year and I hope to see more of that throughout their time at Gateways.

The B team had a difficult game against a swift opposition. However, the girl's heads never dropped, and they continuously looked for areas to improve on. Each quarter time, the girls got together to discuss the key areas of driving towards the ball and making sure they were in a space. They started to have some success through the defensive end and were regularly gaining tips and intercepts to cause problems for the opposition. One of the pleasing areas was how the girls communicated about what they were needing from each other and were supporting each other to have some success as a team. This was a good experience for the girls to make sure they constantly worked hard for each other and were always being supportive.

Miss Jade Preston

B Team Game 3



For three quarters of the match, this was a wonderful game to watch. The girls began at a lacklustre pace with Richmond House dominating possession and territory, our girls being too nice and a little slow to grasp the positional requirements.

The hosts scored 4 goals with relative ease. Thankfully our girls took on board the advice and stepped up their intensity. We were helped enormously by the introduction of Ella K, the pace of her movement around the court totally knocked the centre court players from Richmond House off their stride. This positively infected our team as Honey took control of the mid-court and this allowed us to feed the ball to our scoring players. Dominique caused her defender a lot of problems with intelligent movement and freeing herself up for passes whilst Isobel grew into the GK role and became a rock at the back. With a cool breeze off-setting the flight of several shots, we couldn't quite make the most of this improved play.

A similar pattern followed for the remaining half of the match; we were slick, fluent and fast and yet could only score a handful of shots. Had this been a boxing match, we would easily have won on points. Although the girls were a little disappointed not to win on the scoreboard, RH having converted two further chances, there were comments of, 'we played awesome', which is a very fair assessment.

These girls were a joy to work with and fully deserved to be smiling at the final whistle.

Mr Phil Holmes

Tuesday 12th March

Under 9 Football v Highfield

A hastily arranged fixture gave all our boys in years 3 and 4 an opportunity to test their skills against another school. All were thrilling games and it was great to see so many boys representing Gateways School. Our players were working hard to put into practice the areas of the game we have worked on in our games lessons. They did a great job with maintaining possession of the ball allowing them to link play and create scoring chances for the boys playing higher up the pitch. The muddy conditions didn't dampen any enthusiasm as the players lit up the afternoon with their high levels of energy. Well done to all the boys for taking part in a last-minute fixture.

Mrs Hannah Nichol

Tuesday 12th March 2024 Under 9 Netball Festival @ Ashville



Our under 9 girls played their final festival of the term with a series of matches at Ashville. We made the decision to play the girls in year groups; a team from Upper 1 and also Lower 2.

In a festival dominated by genuine year 4 players, our Upper 1 team were fabulous. Their rate of learning and development has been such that they were able to rotate positions, play with some structure and were competitive in every game. An early win settled their nerves and added to the high levels of energy and enthusiasm they had displayed through the warm up. The next 2 games were drawn before the one game that ran away from the girls with a strong Moorlands 1st team showing what a year of netball experience does for a team. Our Upper 1 girls were superb throughout and deservedly came off court smiling.

The Lower 2 team dominated their early games and recorded early wins. These were slightly offset with a defeat but the afternoon finished strongly with some flowing netball to end the day with another win. The most pleasing aspect for this older group was their willingness to move once they had passed and create more options for the ball carrier. There were times when players were trying to tell their teammates to move but this slowed down the pass. Once this message was understood, we moved with fluency and rhythm and created many more shooting chances.

The 5-a-side format now switches to 7s for the final fixture at Richmond House.

Mr Phil Holmes