

Football

Review

Yet again the appalling weather in the New Year played havoc with the school's football fixtures. The heavy rain made the school pitches unplayable for a majority of the term. However the games played, especially at senior level, showed a pleasing improvement on previous seasons. The weather impacted more at Junior level with the Under 13s and Under 12s only playing three games between them. My thanks to Paul Moran and his ground staff for all their hard work in trying to get the pitches playable, in sometime impossible conditions.

Congratulations to Matthew Elliott and James Williams for representing the District in their respective age groups. Matthew was also invited to train with the county squad. Sadly his season was interrupted by a knee injury.

Thanks to Messrs Duckworth, Bodenham, Alton, Loudon and Harrild for their help in running teams and refereeing the matches. Your help is much appreciated by the boys and myself alike.

I would especially like to thank all the boys who played. You were all a credit to the school with your behaviour and commitment. Well done.

Here's wishing everyone a drier New Year and continued success on the field in 2003.

NRT

1st XI

I would like to start by saying what a pleasure this team was to be involved with. The enthusiasm, dedication and team spirit made this squad one of the most enjoyable I have ever worked with in the school sporting field.

If certain situations had gone our way the 1st team should have remained undefeated. The two losses to Emanuel and Ravensbourne were certainly games we could have easily prevailed in.

The season started off with a disappointing performance against Bishop Challenor. A lax attitude saw a slim victory on the astro at HSBC. Having only ever played Emanuel 2nd XI before, they sent their strongest eleven for this fixture. The game was played in a howling gale and playing up the hill we took a 2-0 half-time lead. It should have been more but unfortunately several clear-cut chances were spurned and we paid for it in the second half eventually losing 2-5 in a bad tempered affair. Thanks for refereeing Mr Alton!

The next game versus Kemnal Tech. showed the true spirit of this team. Six players withdrew on the morning of the game due to illness and yet the remaining players found replacements, without me knowing, thank heavens. My team sheet bore no resemblance to the players who took to the field. With a makeshift team we triumphed 2-1 with a last minute Alex Bull strike. Wonderful!

Sadly the Bromley cup match was a repeat of the Emanuel game with far too many chances wasted. The 3-1 loss was not a particularly fair reflection of the team's performance in which Xavier Wing-Hing was outstanding in his defensive midfield role.

The next match against MPW was a repeat for 45 minutes. We totally dominated the game but still turned around 1-0 down. The second half showed just what we could do with five unanswered goals. Next a powerful Charles Darwin were dismantled 6-3. I'm told this was our best performance of the season because I did not see any of the

game due to spending the whole match waiting in the car park for the RAC to fix the mini-bus. My thanks to 'manager' Paul Peters.

Our final game was a 2-1 victory over Royal Russell. A fitting end to a very enjoyable and successful season in which the whole squad contributed.

My thanks go to captain Kemal Tuccaroglu for all his hard work during the season and for making my job that much easier. Colours were awarded to leading goalscorers Alex Bull and Dan Kitchingman (5 goals apiece), goalkeeper Will Taylor, Graham Condon and player of the season Xavier Wing-Hing. To everyone else, well played and I wish you all continued success in 2003.

NRT

2nd XI

The 2nd XI only had two matches during the season and lost both in closely contested games.

Having taken a first minute lead through a Mark Waite strike we failed to add to this and conceded three goals to a strong Colfe's team

The match against Royal Russell ended with another close game in which we lost by the odd goal in five. Mark Waite and Piers Tweddell were the two goal scorers.

This was a particularly young team and plenty of this squad will be pushing for 1st XI spots next year.

NRT

U15 XI

As ever the inclement weather and an early Easter meant games were limited and points were hard to come by. We achieved a couple of good results and special mention should go to Barney Wakefield, who started at right back and quickly moved to centre forward, Robert Jackson and Carl Dennis who all performed admirably.

RJA

U12A XI

Sadly the weather meant this team only played one match. Against a strong St Pauls team, which reached the District cup final, the boys fought bravely in atrocious conditions to only lose 3-0. Considering this was the opposition's 15th match of the season we did remarkably well. James Williams was outstanding and must be congratulated on his selection for the Bromley district team.

NRT

As far as I am aware the seasons for the U14 XI and U13 XI were completely washed out. Therefore, no reports have been submitted – Ed