

## Girls' Sport

### Netball

Netball has developed as the major sport for the girls in the College. This year we have had success in every age group, in some form or another. The new courts have not only made life easier practically, but have installed a sense of pride and ambition in the girls. They took the opportunity to train hard and built on past successes and in reflection, should be proud of what they have achieved. The depth of talent and interest has also grown as B teams at U12 and U15 levels were produced this year. 2001/2 has been a much more enjoyable and rewarding year for all.

#### 1st VII

The College's first team is the most successful to date, losing only two matches out of the nine friendlies played. The team was only marginally different to the previous year, gaining strength in defence from Zara Harradine and Aisha Hosein. Unfortunately due to injury, the Vice-Captain Sarah Bodenham missed much of the first term but Fay McCaul and Sirin Arif stepped up to share mid-court positions. Sirin later secured a permanent place in the first team when Gemma Holmes took over the hockey captaincy. The team trained hard, taking on an extra fitness session a week and this increased further in preparation for the U19 Kent Schools' Tournament. A highly motivated squad of eleven players battled their way through to the second round, finishing in the top sixteen schools in Kent. Ade Adeniyi has led her team by example as player and Captain, showing great strength and determination on court. Sarah Bodenham who will be attending U18 Kent County Trials, takes over the captaincy next season for what I am sure will be an exciting and victorious year.

GK – Zara Harradine, GD – Sarah Bull, WD – Sarah Hunt / Aisha Hosein, C – Gemma Holmes / Sirin Arif, WA – Sarah Bodenham, GA – Ade Adeniyi (C), GS – Rebecca Dove

**Full colours:** Sarah Bodenham (Re-awarded), Gemma Holmes (re-awarded), Ade Adeniyi (re-awarded), Zara Harradine

**Half colours:** Sirin Arif

Results this season show seven wins and two losses.

#### 2nd VII

The second team began the season in a positive frame of mind and had some strong performances early on in the season. The level of commitment was hard to maintain, partly through an inevitable loss of players to hockey, but also due to a lack of motivation from some in the second term. Hopefully next year, the Open squad will have greater depth, producing two strong and highly motivated teams.

GK – Jenny Greenshields, GD – Ade Adeniran, WD – Rachel Terry, C – Sirin Arif, WA – Fay MCCaul, GA – Natasha Nkonde / Natasha Nanuck, GS – Christina Saullo

Results this season show three wins and two losses.

#### U16 VII

Some of the younger players took time out from the Open squad to play as an U16 team. It was hard to find local schools to play against in this age group and so the girls only played two matches, but won both. The girls came together once more with a few U15 players to form an unstoppable combined team in the Bacon's College Invitational Tournament. The final was one of the year's

highlights and I could hardly watch as we entered extra time. The tournament was to be decided on a golden-goal and the tension was unbearable as we shot and missed, they shot and missed and we re-gained possession. It was all or nothing but Tara Postma (U15) kept her cool and scored the winning goal.

GK – Zara Harradine (\*) / Dionne Breedy Anderson, GD – Ade Adeniran, WD – Erone Knight-Simpson, C – Sirin Arif (\*), WA – Hazen Ahmet, GA – Natasha Nanuck, GS – Christina Saullo (\*)

Results this season show two wins, no losses.

*\*Bacon's College Invitational Tournament squad*

#### U15 A VII

This year the U15 A team only lost two matches out of eight. The very first match was a disaster and the team clearly demonstrated how not to react under pressure. This was the sore point of the season, and I am glad to say the girls learnt from this. They went from strength to strength and finished on a high note. A number of girls played a year out of age at the Bacon's College Invitational Tournament and were highly successful. This is a competitive and motivated team who are aiming high next year. As well as fighting for places in the 1st and 2nd VII's, Laura Dalrymple, Emma Bodenham and Tara Postma will be attending U.16 Kent County trials.

GK – Laura Dalrymple (\*), GD – Beth Tanner, WD – Shereena Nain (\*) / Theo Coppinger, C – Konje Ahmet, WA – Emma Bodenham (\*), GA – Venita Akpofure, GS – Tara Postma (\*)

Results this season show six wins, two losses.

#### U14 VII

Some ups and downs throughout the year but overall some pleasing results. The U14s fought long and hard in the Lewisham Schools' League, over two terms and to every-



body's delight finished third. Likewise they finished third in the South-East Schools' League. There were also some great individual performances, in particular Lucy Hinton, Hannah Watson and Kayleigh Nicholls and Molly Robson who stepped in at the last minute for the 2nd VII. Molly was selected for Lewisham Borough to compete at the Heathrow Youth Games and along with Shamicka Jordan will be attending Kent County trials next year, which will undoubtedly be great experience for them. Special thanks goes to Shamicka Jordan for giving up time after school to help with

training the Year four netball team.

GK – Natalie Bartley / Anna Harborow / Holly Grima / Carys Moore\*, GD – Shamicka Jordan, WD – Molly Robson, C – Kayleigh Nicholls, WA – Julia Hanman, GA – Hannah Watson, GS – Lucy Hinton.

Results this season show seven wins, one draw, seven loses.

\* Reserve – played in the SDC Kent Tournament Team

### U13 VII

Friendship groups inevitably change each year and the U13s had to learn to overcome such barriers on court. Team cohesion was lacking at times, as was the motivation to train. There were a number of positive results however. As a team the U13s struggled in the Lewisham Schools' League however Samantha Holder was awarded Player of the Tournament. The team managed to finish first in the South-East Schools' League. A number of players were picked once again for the Kent Satellite squad. Samantha Holder and Francesca Hodge took their interest one step further by joining a club outside of school and both girls deserve every success in the forthcoming U14 Kent County trials.

GK – Lauren Brown / Claire Nelson, GD – Sam Holder, WD – Alice Royston-Lee, C – Sarah Lewis, WA – Lizzy Skinner / Georgia Lopez-Cea, GA – Francesca Hodge, GS – Rosemary Anrude

Results this season show seven wins, eight loses.

### U12 VII

What can I say? Unbeatable! (Almost). This team consists of some great players, but more importantly they gelled from day one. Each and every one of them is competitive, highly motivated and enjoys being part of a team. They have shown great support for each other (as have their parents) and have worked hard to succeed. The U12s were unbeaten in all friendlies. They won both the Lewisham Schools' League and the newly established South-East Schools' League. Tara Facey was awarded Player of the Tournament for the first of these. Many girls were selected for the Kent Satellite squad and Tara Facey and Janine Robson will attend U14 Kent County trials next year. The highlight of the year had to be their success at the Kent Schools' Tournament. The U12s progressed further than any St Dunstan's team so far, finishing third in the whole of Kent. With continued hard work next year who knows what

they can achieve? Watch this space!

GK – Emma Burnet, GD – Janine Robson, WD – Anna McDowell / Anne Nelson, C – Alice Sperring, WA – Catherine Villeneau, GA – Tara Facey, GS – Cecilia Stilwell.

Results this season show sixteen wins, one draw, no loses!

Finally, many thanks to the following for their help and support throughout the netball season: Natalie Seaton (Assistant coach), parents of the U12 and U13 teams, Mr Bodenham.

### Hockey

With the loss of a number of club players in the open squad, the strength and experience that was relied upon in the past had gone. The team changed dramatically; many younger players moved into the 1st XI and a number of girls who had not represented the College for some time re-kindled their interest in the game. Gemma Holmes, the only remaining club player took over the captaincy of the 1st XI and used her experience to steer the team in the right direction. Despite failing to conquer their opponents week in, week out, there were a number of individuals who showed great promise. Mr Stevens who took time out to coach the team, remarked on the potential within the squad and the great enthusiasm shown at fixtures.

This year it was decided to combine the talent from Years 9 and 10 to make one U15 squad. It was hoped that this would strengthen the team, selecting the best from each year. Once again, results were seemingly disappointing but there were some great individual performances. Notably from Year 10 Ela Ceyhan, and Jo Redler and from Year 9 Kayleigh Nicholls and Sara Bassey. Tactical awareness and use of space improved with every game and with a little more time and experience on a full sized pitch, results would have been more positive.

As expected, Lower School performances were gutsy and competitive. Hockey was a new sport for many Year 7s however they embraced every opportunity with great enthusiasm. Most matches in the Lower School were kept to seven-a-side teams. Players grasped the basic concepts quickly, despite being on a small scale. Many matches were very close, with both teams struggling to put the ball in the net. One quick break seemed to make the difference between winning and losing. Great individual performances came from Amy Burnell, Lucy Heffernan (GK) and Kasey Redler in Year 7, whilst Frankie Hodge, Rosemary Anrude, Georgia Lopez-Cea, Helen Keppe and Emily Hindle led the way in terms of effort and performance.

Next year there will be greater opportunity to practice on astroturf, with after school training sessions. Of course this will require commitment and drive from the girls. This is a fantastic opportunity for them and I know many will jump at the chance.



## Rounders

The summer term began with trials for the rounders teams. There was a great turn out in all age groups and competition for places in the teams was hot. Thankfully, the weather at the start of term was kind and allowed lots of practice. Unfortunately we lost all pupils in Year 11 and above to exam leave soon into the summer term and therefore fixtures only involved Years 7 to 10. Of course the main aim of the term was our own tournaments and the girls worked hard in preparation.

### U12

There were a number of weaknesses to address and it was going to take a lot of hard work to overcome the problems. Decision-making under pressure and batting in particular had to improve. The girls worked hard however and whilst their fielding went from strength to strength, their batting still lapsed behind. Tara Facey and Alice Sperring showed all-round consistency in their game. Lauren Goldberg made a responsible captain and showed great awareness as bowler. Most improved players were Kasey Redler and Janine Robson. The girls were slightly disappointed with their performance in the end of term tournament, finishing fifth. The matches were incredibly close and were often lost due to a moment's loss of concentration. Better luck next year.

Bowler – Lauren Goldberg / Catherine Villeneau, Backstop – Alice Sperring, 1st Post – Janine Robson, 2nd Post – Cecilia Stilwell, 3rd Post – Kasey Redler, 4th Post – Devika Wood, 1st Deep – Anna McDowell, 2nd Deep – Tara Facey, 3rd Deep – Lucy Heffernan.

Overall results this term show 3 wins, 2 losses.

### U13

What a nice team! So kind, so gentle, so polite . . . so they said! But by the end of term they were a lean, mean fighting machine! The U13s came in abundance to practice and matches, with enough players to have a full team with a crowd of supporters – some even kindly offered to play for the opposition! With many matches cancelled due to the lovely British summer we had very little time to evaluate our performance to find a successful method of play. After the first match against Chislehurst and Sidcup Grammar School it was clear that the only way to win was with strong defence. A dramatic and unusual change in tactics and lots of practice helped the U13s gain a great 13-8 victory against Royal Russell – the winning formula had been discovered! Finally we were ready for the SDC tournament, some tough challenges ahead but with more fighting spirit than Jackie Chan the U13s rose to the occasion. After a nervous start and two very close draws the girls finally warmed up to two thrilling wins against Royal Russell and Sydenham High. Unfortunately this was not enough to clinch an overall win but third and just one point behind second position. Well done girls!

Bowler – Helen Keppe, Backstop – Rosemary Anrude, 1st Post – Frankie Hodge, 2nd Post – Samantha Holder, 3rd Post – Babette Radclyffe-Thomas / Ella Morrison-Derbyshire, 4th Post – Hanna Austin / Emma Corbin-McKenzie, 1st Deep – Alexandra Bainbridge, 2nd Deep – Emily Hindle, 3rd Deep – Georgia Lopez-Cea / Lauren Brown.

### U14

'Team Spirit' is the new motto for the U14s! Scoring rounders came easy thanks to the performance of some strong batters Julia Hannman, Molly Robson, Lucy Hinton and Chantelle Persaud. However, the real success of this team came from their outstanding ability to field out their opposition within four minutes of the innings! Throughout

the term the U14s were unbeatable, picking up winning scores of 11½ - 2½ against Royal Russell and 17 - 3½ against Chislehurst and Sidcup Grammar School. Unfortunately on the day of the SDC tournament, due to illness and family commitments, the team was three players short, which dampened the team spirit and put a chink in the armour of what has always been a strong team. Despite this the U14s, with the help of Emily Hindle from 9U, played some great matches and managed to beat champions, Alleyn's 6-4! However this wasn't enough to win the tournament, a tough game against Colfe's led to some silly mistakes and lack of concentration, pushing us out of third position, leaving us overall fourth. As next year's U15s team the girls should look back at how well they played as a team and finish next season as they started this one – winners.

Bowler – Julia Hannman, Backstop – Kayleigh Nicholls, 1st Post – Molly Robson, 2nd Post – Hannah Watson, 3rd Post – Natalie Bartley, 4th Post – Shamika Jordan, 1st Deep – Emily Tildsley / Sharla Singh, 2nd Deep – Lucy Hinton, 3rd Deep – Chantelle Persaud.

### U15

This team were a delight to watch. As well as performing to their best, they showed great maturity and team spirit in every game. They applauded success and encouraged each other when mistakes were occasionally made. I could not have asked for more. Notable performances throughout the term came from Tara Postma and Sarah Barnett, whilst most improved players were Emma Bodenham and Jo Redler. Whilst it was disappointing only two other schools attended the U15 tournament, it turned out to be the most exciting and competitive afternoon of the whole term. All three teams were highly motivated and losing was not an option. After convincingly beating Blackheath High we faced Royal Russell in the final. With growing confidence, St Dunstan's relaxed and became more and more focused as the game progressed. It was their afternoon and the victory was inevitable. Well-done girls!

Bowler – Laura Dalrymple, Backstop – Emma Bodenham, 1st Post – Tara Postma, 2nd Post – Beth Tanner, 3rd Post – Jo Redler, 4th Post – Theo Coppinger, 1st Deep – Venita Akpofure / Ela Ceyhan, 2nd Deep – Shereena Nain, 3rd Deep – Sarah Barnett.

Reserves – Konje Ahmet, Francesca Josephs.  
Overall results this term show 4 wins, 2 losses.

## Girls' Rugby at SDC

For the first time ever the College were represented in rugby football by a girls' team. A really keen band of girls pestered Mr Bodenham and finally, once time allowed, some twelve girls turned out for training. For some four weeks the girls regularly turned up at lunchtimes and after school in order to learn the rudiments of the noble game. Eagerly they asked when we were to play contact and reluctantly Mr Bodenham had to deter them until it was felt they were ready. Shoulder pads and the girls purchased head guards and contact began. They certainly attacked the process of contact with enthusiasm and fervour – players did not take a backward step. Gradually the team took shape and a warm up fixture with Epsom College was arranged. Off we went to face the might of Epsom College who pick from greater resources and had been playing the game for a number of years. Not deterred by this fact the girls played their hearts out and managed to secure one win in three warm up matches; a fact that brought great pride to

the team. Back on the training ground the girls persevered to improve their game in preparation for the National Sevens Competition. The clouds gathered, the rains fell and the ground flooded. Epsom College to the rescue as some 16 girls' teams mainly from the south east of England trans-



ferred to Epsom for a smaller tournament. The matches were hard fought and closely contested but unfortunately none were to go our way. This did not lessen the passion or joy of the players who thoroughly enjoyed their experience of rugby football and we look forward to those who are staying and a new crop of youngsters taking the game forward. Our thanks also go to those girls who have moved on to university and hopefully they will continue with their new found hobby.

Players who represented the College in competition:  
Sarah Hunt, Camika Hayles, Laura Edwards, Vishni Balakhrisna, Monique Howell, Sarah Bodenham, Emma Kerr, Theo Coppinger, Vicky Keppe, Nikki Vasilou.

RDB