



Welcome to the Autumn sports newsletter 2023. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff, students, the PTFA, parents and volunteers for all their hard work, commitment and dedication to sport at WCGS. This has been another busy and successful term for WCGS sport with a huge number of students taking part across a wide range of sporting activities. I hope you enjoy reading about their achievements. Mr D Johnson (Director of Sport).



## WCGS Rugby

### U12



The U12's have had a tough season. Many of our new intake will not have played the game of rugby before, and the opportunity to do so is always very new and exciting. The students created and nurtured a great internal coaching and learning environment, and this has played a huge role both in their personal and rugby development throughout the autumn term. Participation levels were excep-



tional, with boys desperate to represent their new school, meaning that we have regularly been able to field teams at A, B & C team level. Special praise and congratulations must be reserved for the A & B teams, where students have freely interchanged between squads, so fierce has the competition for places been. All boys have been under pressure to perform to keep their place, or have been rewarded for their development with promotion. The A team achieved a memorable win against Riddlesdown. The B team had some very close games. With over half the year group having represented the school so far, there is no doubt that the future is bright for the current year 7, and we look forward to seeing even more players improve their skills and embrace the game next year.



### U13

In the Year 8 A and B rugby teams, the boys have demonstrated remarkable growth and prowess throughout the season, particularly in the areas of tackling and their overall understanding of the game. Both teams have shown significant improvement in tackling techniques, showcasing their dedication to refining essential skills on the field. Both Mr Hennah and Mr Kumar commends the players for their commitment to enhancing their defensive capabilities, a crucial aspect of rugby. The B Team, in particular, has been nothing short of outstanding. Their collective effort and teamwork have resulted in commendable performances that have not gone unnoticed. The A Team has also made a noteworthy impact, with the season's highlights being their exhilarating draw against Langley Park and a fantastic Win over Wimbledon College. This result speaks volumes about the team's resilience, adaptability, and ability to compete at a high level. The A Team's commitment to excellence has set a standard for sportsmanship and determination. It is evident that both teams have not only embraced the physical aspects of the game but have also deepened their understanding of rugby strategies. We are pleased to witness the boys' growth not only as individual players but as cohesive teams striving for success. The Year 8 A and B rugby teams are poised for continued success, and their dedication to improvement bodes well for the future. Congratulations to all the boys on their achievements, and here's to further success in the 7's and next season.



### U14



The U14 rugby teams have arguably been the most successful in the school, with the A team boasting the most positive win record out of all teams, and the B team having an equally impressive record this season. It is fair to say that it was a slow start to the season for the A team, losing their first 3 games. However, after a fantastic work ethic and application at training, they were able to turn their fortunes around, winning their next 7 matches in a row. Special mentions must be made for Hugo Rogers, who has developed into a fine scrum half and goal kicker this year, along with Manveer Singh Saini, who has scored far too

many tries for a hooker! A nod also to Joel Kolanchery, whose impressive tally of 20 tries this season has kept the scoreboard ticking over each week. The B team has thrived this year, regularly having 30+ players attending training - which has certainly caused Mr Davies some selection headaches! It has been brilliant to see the team develop, and I am looking forward to seeing what they can achieve next season. On the whole, a thoroughly enjoyable, and equally successful season - on behalf of both myself and Mr Davies I would like to extend my gratitude for your efforts. Roll on sevens season.



## **COMPLETED HOUSE RESULTS**

### X-Country

Year 7 - Radcliffe  
Year 8 - Carew

### **Junior Winners - Carew**



Year 9 - Bridges  
Year 10 - Radcliffe

### **Inter. Winners - Ruskin**



Year 11 - Mandeville  
6th Form - Mandeville

### **Senior Winners - Mandeville**

### Football

Year 7 - Radcliffe  
Year 8 - Bridges

### **Junior Winners - Mandeville**



Year 9 - Bridges  
Year 10 - Radcliffe

### **Inter. Winners - Bridges**

### **Senior Winners - Woodcote**

### WCGS Year 7

#### **Assault Course**

6th - Carew (1892 pts)  
5th - Woodcote (1868 pts)  
4th - Ruskin (1599 pts)  
3rd - Bridges (1563 pts)  
2nd - Mandeville (1414 pts)  
**1st - Radcliffe (1372 pts)**



### **Current Cock House Cup Standings**

6th Place - Ruskin (26)  
5th Place - Carew (32)  
4th Place - Woodcote (33)  
3rd Place - Radcliffe (35)  
2nd Place - Mandeville (43)  
**1st place = Bridges (47)**





## Rugby Continued - 2nd XV



The 2nd XV have been an entertaining and enjoyable group to coach this year - with lots of Lower 6th students continuing to play off the back of a successful South Africa Tour in the Summer. Despite there being a few fixtures cancelled due to weather conditions or opposition not being able to put out a side, WCGS have managed 3 wins so far this season (wins over Wilson's, Glyn and Wimbledon College). There have been lots of students who have stood out, but the main forwards who have consistently been available as well as making a huge impact have been Luke Bignell, Dinesh Raja and Ayush Patel, all of who have been influential in the success of the lineup. In terms of backs, the partnerships between Tom Jerrom, Jack Simpson, Amaan Dhooma, Chris Finch and Ralph Dennis have been varied but always effective - all of who have a chance of stepping up to play 1st XV rugby next year with a large amount of U6th students making up the bulk of Senior Rugby this year. Well done to all those who have played and hope to continue the good work next year with the current U16s stepping up to play Senior Rugby.



## Representative Rugby Players

Congratulations to Tosin Ewuola, Krish Maleku and Oluwanifemi Johnny who have been selected for the U14 Harlequins DDP. Well done and congratulations also go to David and Adam Lamy who have been selected for the Saracens U16 DDP programme.



## Rugby Continued

### U15



The U15 rugby team has faced a challenging season. This year we had many players who were either playing rugby for the first time, or picking up the game again after a couple years off; it was a collective effort to learn and improve our rugby skills and knowledge this season. It has been a huge pleasure to get to know these year 10 boys more and to develop their skills and knowledge of the game. Throughout the season, we played a total of nine games, securing victory in two. Both these victories came against Riddlesdown and Claremont Fan Court School, which came about due to the determination and skill shown on the rugby pitch. There are many students who deserve a huge amount of recognition for their hard work and leadership skills this season, including both Tosin Ewuola and Krish Maleku, who have worked hard at maintaining strong numbers at training and on Saturday Mornings. The boys also had some very tough losses to strong opposition, but our resilience regularly shone through, and the boys deserve to hold their heads high because of the determination and passion shown on Saturday mornings. Some credit must also be given to both Femi Johnny and Younis Rizvi; who have both had great season in their own positions. Aside from just those mentioned, all the boys have worked extremely hard to develop their skills and enjoyment of the game.

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### U16



through a tough season they have stuck together as a team and although the results don't show it, they have made life uncomfortable for their opposition every week. Special mention must go to the leadership and work ethic of Tim Mazela, Henry Finnegan, David Lamy and Adam Lamy who have led from the front in every game. There is not enough space to mention all the other players who have worked so hard for the team but I would like to say a huge thank you to all the students and supporting parents who have made this tough season an enjoyable one despite the results. I am looking forward to seeing the impact this year group will have on senior rugby next year.

The U16 rugby squad have had a bit of a strange season and have only played six fixtures. With all the other demands on the students during Year 11 the numbers at training have been varied which has unfortunately hindered the teams progress in terms of developing a consistent game plan and the student's tactical awareness. Having said this the commitment on a Saturday morning and the never say die attitude the students have demonstrated during the matches is a credit to these young men and



### 1st XV



The 1st XV have had a mixed season, winning six out of ten fixtures. The early part of the fixture card was testing, A tough first round fixture in the NatWest Vase against Hayes set a great platform for the rest of the season, with the team winning this game, and with boosted morale, a further win against Emmanuel was secured, before knocking out Langley Park in the third round of the Vase. The team visibly shifted their ideas and behaviours and challenged themselves to become better rugby players. The spirit within the team was shown against St Olaves and victory against them was secured by following the right processes and mastering the set-piece. Having shown resiliency and determination in this knock-out competition, a game against an accomplished Ravenswood side saw WCGS narrowly eliminated. A special mention should go to the leaders of the 1st XV, Adam Dean, Sam Wingham, Marcus Hallam, Max Scanlon, Terrence Dzan-ta, Matthew Jefferys, Benjamin Mitchell. In addition special mentions to Simon Sanusi, Abines Karuneswaran, Daniel Oduwole, Will Pownall, Deji Bello, Abhishek Sivakumar, Zaim Rizvi, Simon Sanusi for their supreme effort in training and matches! The Lower Sixth have played an important part in helping the 1st XV this season and will continue their development next season. In saving the best till last, the highlight of the season came in the Wimbledon College fixture, where the team produced an unbelievable performance against and managed to win 42-19, the first time in over 10 years that a Wallington 1st XV had beaten Wimbledon college away from home. Whilst we are sad to see our Upper Sixth leave, we are grateful for all they have given to WCGS rugby. We wish them a long, continued and successful playing career in the game, wherever they go next. They have left their Legacy at Wallington for many generations.

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**WCGS Sport on Twitter:** WCGS Sport is now on Twitter. You can follow us @WCGSSport to receive updates on fixtures and results and general information regarding Sport at WCGS. There will also be the occasional tweet during tournaments to keep everyone up-to-date, whether you are at work or at home. Follow us today!!





### Wimbledon Ball Boy



WCGS have continued to provide a huge amount of students to be part of the Wimbledon Tennis Championships in the Summer Term. This has meant interest has been high and this year has seen some really exceptional talent. With over 40 boys applying, the group has been whittled down (with the support of the returning ball boys coming in to help coach the sessions) with 8 students (plus 2 reserves) being selected for Ball Boy Trials in January. Good luck to those students who have been nominated

### Cricket

It is an exciting time for WCGS cricket, with the new outdoor nets installed this term. Lots of work has gone on behind the scenes, namely in holding trials for our new Year 7 cohort. Both myself and Mr Collins have been hugely impressed by the level of talent and ability that this group has shown already, and I hope that moving forward, they will be a very strong team. Winter nets will commence on the first week back after the Christmas break - respective coaches for each age group have been going through the process of setting up google classrooms and sending out invites. I am very much looking forward to working with each year group next term, to drive WCGS cricket forward.

### Badminton



Mr Kumar has been running a badminton club and this term we entered the U16 National Cup. Unfortunately our first round game was against one of the best badminton schools in the country and proved too tough a game for the WCGS students. However, the effort and skill shown by the students was excellent. We will hopefully get some more friendly matches for other age groups next term.



### South Africa Rugby Tour July 2023

The South Africa Rugby Tour proved to be an immensely successful and enjoyable experience for our students. The opportunity to engage in the sport within such a vibrant rugby culture as South Africa's was in itself a priceless experience. The students were exposed to new styles of play and coaching techniques, enriching their understanding of the game. Aside from the rigorous matches, the tour was an excellent platform for cultural immersion. They also had the chance to explore the rich cultural and natural landscapes of South Africa, making the trip as educational as it was enjoyable. Despite the tough fixtures, the spirit of our team never waned. They demonstrated immense resilience and adaptability, qualities that are crucial both on and off the field. This experience has not only improved their rugby skills but has also fostered a deeper understanding of teamwork, perseverance, and the importance of respecting diverse cultures. The tour was a resounding success. The balance of challenging games, cultural experiences, and team bonding activities made it a memorable trip for everyone involved. The students returned with not just enhanced rugby skills, but with life lessons and experiences that will benefit them in their future endeavours.



### Cross Country



In the Sutton Borough Championships the WCGS students again demonstrated their great courage and determination, putting in a huge amount of effort. We had some great individual performances but when the placings were added up our U12's came 7th, U14's came 7th, U16's came 5th, Girls came 4th & the U18 Boys came 2nd.



### Football



The U15 Team entered the Sutton Cup this year, being drawn against John Fisher in the Prelim Round. WCGS started really well, controlling the game with some excellent intricate passing throughout, causing John Fisher to spend majority of the time chasing shadows. WCGS took the lead with a well worked move resulting in a sublime strike from the edge of the box from Denis Yorke, with the ball nestling in the corner at the expense of the John Fisher goalkeeper's out stretched glove. With WCGS already thinking about the next round, 2 goals in the space of 2 minutes in injury time meant John Fisher snatched victory from WCGS grasps and go marching on into the next round. WCGS totally dominated the match from start to finish and felt hard done by at the final whistle. Man of the Match Oluwanifemi Johnny was calm and collective at the back throughout. More Football fixtures to come in the New year where other age groups will have the opportunity to compete against local schools.

### Basketball

This term WCGS competed in the U13, U14 & U15 Surrey Cups. All three age groups showed their potential and put in a huge amount of effort on the court but unfortunately with a tough draw in every age group we didn't manage to make it further in the competition. Our U14 and U16 teams also competed in the Sutton Borough competitions again making life tough for their opposition but just falling short. We also had a friendly U17 match against local rivals Wilson's which was played in great spirit and was an exciting game.



### Table Tennis



The WCGS table tennis teams have again made a great start, winning their opening matches in the South London Schools table tennis league with all our age groups sitting at the top of their respective league tables. The Under-13 and Under-16 teams also played brilliantly in their Sutton Borough tournaments with both teams winning their competitions which means both age groups qualified for the South London Finals. In the South London Jack Petchey Team competition our Under-13's played some great table tennis, winning the tournament without dropping a match. The Under-16 boys also did brilliantly and won their age group, beating Whitgift in the Final match. Our under-19 Boys played in a round robin tournament and finished on top once again. This means that we have 3 teams representing WCGS and Sutton in the prestigious Jack Petchey London Finals in January 2024. So, we are looking forward next term to more good news from all the teams competing in the Jack Petchey Zone Finals and South London Schools League.



### Sports Hall Athletics



This term our Year 7 and 8 Indoor athletics teams competed in the Sutton Borough Sports Hall athletics championship at Sutton Grammar. The Year 7's put in some great individual performances in the track and field events but had some very stiff opposition and finished 5th overall. Our Year 8's were outstanding as they blew the opposition away winning the championship by 17 points. They now progress to the next round to represent Sutton in the South London Youth Games Finals.

### Individual Achievements

Ismael Mirza 7 Mandeville represented WCGS in the Northern Home Counties Regional Schools Judo Championships and excelled during the competition achieving second place and claiming the silver medal. He now progresses to the British Championships in March. Good luck Ismael.



**Cricket Sponsorship:** WCGS would like to thank the Surrey Masons Sports Association for their commitment to provide financial assistance for the coming years. It will greatly help with improving equipment, facilities and aid future tours.

