



# WCGS SPORT Autumn 2024



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).

forwards have been our biggest strength this year with Dominic Burger and Joss Dawson leading the way with their big ball carries, ferocious rucking and strong tackling. The A-team saved their best performances for the last two games where they recorded a great win over Rich ard Challoner through a great defensive display not allowing them to score a point. The last match of the season was against John Fisher who had inflicted a 45-5 thumping on the boys last year. This year was different and showed the huge improvements made, every one of the WCGS boys stood up and took the game to John Fisher and with 5 minutes to go with the score line 22-19 in Fisher's favour WCGS put some immense pressure on them unfortunately a few small errors at key moments meant that WCGS couldn't get over the line but it still is one of the best performances of the season. The B-team have also had a good season winning 3 out of 7 games with the highlight being a hard fought 25-22 win over Halliford School. There are a number of players in the squad knocking on A-team places so we are looking forward to seeing them improve again next year.



## WCGS Rugby



**U12**  
The U12s have had an exceptional season. For many of our new recruits, it was their first foray into rugby, making the experience both fresh and exhilarating. The students cultivated a supportive coaching and learning environment among themselves, which played a

significant role in their personal growth and rugby development throughout the autumn term. Participation was outstanding, with boys eager to represent their new school, enabling us to regularly field A, B, and C teams. Special commendations go to the A and B teams, where players often switched between squads due to intense competition for positions. Every boy was motivated to perform at his best to maintain his spot or was rewarded with promotion for his progress. The A team secured memorable victories against St Andrew's and Carshalton Boys, while the B team engaged in some tight games and celebrated a brilliant win against Gravesend Grammar. With over half the year group having represented the school already, there's no doubt that the future is bright for our current Year 7. We eagerly anticipate more players improving their skills and embracing the game next year.

## U13



The U13's rugby squad have had a great year of growth and progression, unfortunately having the final two fixtures of our season cancelled. With the tough matches we have faced over the season we may not have come out with the number of wins we would have wanted however the goal of this year as players and coaches, myself included, has always been to progress and

improve so we can grow into a competitive rugby team in the future. The team has been brilliant with commitment to training and, yes, the struggle of balancing commitments on a Saturday has been a challenge, when the opportunities to play arose, the students have put their hearts and souls into every moment of the games, with a true 'never give up' attitude. Week in week out, the lads have made it uncomfortable for the opposition. The improvement from the beginning of the year to now has been outstanding and something that the boys must be proud of, holding their heads high. Special mentions must go to the leadership of the team, Joaquin Rookard, each week ensuring the team sheets are sorted and leading his team from the front. The incredible work ethic from Milan Trivedi, Harry Nwagwu, Matthew Medina, Rehan Hossain, Advik Arun Kumar, Felix Bedford, Owais Gani and Reece Burbidge are just a few names out of the whole squad who all deserve a huge shoutout and praise. There is not enough time or space within this report to thank everyone for their hard work and perseverance through this season. One final shoutout must go to Theo Barnes, who each week has been a shining star of grit and determination and is turning into a fantastic, and very French, rugby player. I would like to thank all the students and parents this season, who have made a tough but progressive season an enjoyable one. I am so excited to see the impact this year group will have next season as we continue our journey of growth as a team together. Let's cause some upsets.

## U14



The U14 rugby squads have demonstrated great improvements this season in their skill levels and tactical awareness. The commitment to training has been excellent with over forty boys coming out on Wednes

days after school in all weather conditions. The biggest problem this year group has is the availability of players on Saturday mornings. A number of boys play other sports and this has caused selection issues most weeks which has resulted in both the A and B-teams struggling to find consistency during matches. The A-Team finished the season with 2 wins, 2 draws and 6 losses but with three winnable games cancelled and a few games that could have gone either way, it really could have been a winning season. It seems tough to pick out just a few students because the whole squad have done some excellent things this term but special mention must go to Earl Flete for his excellent captaincy and for being our top points scorer with 9 tries. The

forwarded have been our biggest strength this year with Dominic Burger and Joss Dawson leading the way with their big ball carries, ferocious rucking and strong tackling. The A-team saved their best performances for the last two games where they recorded a great win over Rich ard Challoner through a great defensive display not allowing them to score a point. The last match of the season was against John Fisher who had inflicted a 45-5 thumping on the boys last year. This year was different and showed the huge improvements made, every one of the WCGS boys stood up and took the game to John Fisher and with 5 minutes to go with the score line 22-19 in Fisher's favour WCGS put some immense pressure on them unfortunately a few small errors at key moments meant that WCGS couldn't get over the line but it still is one of the best performances of the season. The B-team have also had a good season winning 3 out of 7 games with the highlight being a hard fought 25-22 win over Halliford School. There are a number of players in the squad knocking on A-team places so we are looking forward to seeing them improve again next year.

## COMPLETED HOUSE RESULTS



**X-Country**  
Year 7 - Radcliffe  
Year 8 - Radcliffe

## Junior Winners - Radcliffe



Year 9 - Woodcote  
Year 10 - Carew  
**Inter. Winners - Bridges**  
Year 11 - Radcliffe  
6th Form - Bridges  
**Senior Winners - Bridges**

**Football**  
Year 7 - Ruskin  
Year 8 - Mandeville  
**Junior Winners - Ruskin**



Year 9 - Woodcote

Year 10 - Bridges



**Inter. Winners - Woodcote**

## WCGS Year 7 Assault Course

6th - Mandeville (1999 pts) 5th - Bridges (1769 pts) 4th - Ruskin (1574 pts) 3rd - Woodcote (1513 pts) 2nd - Carew (1493 pts) **1st - Radcliffe (1182 pts)**



## Current Cock House Cup Standings

6th Place - Ruskin (21) 5th Place - Mandeville (22) 4th Place - Woodcote (27)  
 3rd Place - Radcliffe (33) 2nd Place - Carew (35) **1st place = Bridges**



(36)



**WCGS Sports Website:** All information about WCGS sport can be found by visiting [www.wcgs-sutton.co.uk](http://www.wcgs-sutton.co.uk) and clicking on the Sport tab.



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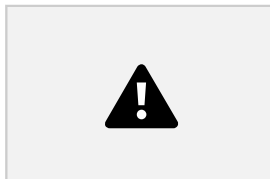


# WCGS SPORT Autumn 2024



## Ladies Rugby

It was a great surprise at the beginning of this term to hear from Ms Boland that a group of 6<sup>th</sup> form female students were keen to get a rugby team started. We haven't had a ladies rugby team at WCGS since 2017, so I was really pleased to say let's give it a go. A core group of ten girls have turned out regularly on Thursdays after school for training, they have been a delight to coach and despite rugby being brand new to them they have shown loads of potential. We will hopefully recruit some more ladies from Wallington High next term, so we can get the numbers up and put together a seven a-side squad that can enter a few tournaments. I'd personally like to thank Ms Boland for her enthusiasm and organisation. I'm really excited to see the WCGS ladies play against other schools and see what they are capable of.

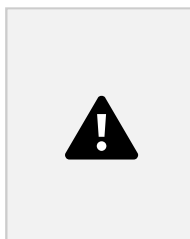


## Representative Rugby Players Congratulations to

Tosin Ewuola U16, Oluwanifemi John U16, AJ Asamoah Djan U15 and Joel Kolanchery U15 who are



training with and playing for the Harlequins Player Development Group.



## Rugby Continued



### U15

The U15 rugby teams have once again had a successful season. The A team boasts the most wins in the school, with 7, whilst the B team has also collected a strong set of results, losing just 2 matches all season. It has been a challenging season with a number of

injuries throughout, and I have been impressed with the resilience and togetherness of all boys involved. The highlight of the season was undoubtedly the opening fixture

against Tiffin, where the boys put in a commanding performance to win comfortably against a strong opposition. Jakub Wincenciak has been a revelation at fullback, joining the team this year, whilst Sam Collett has put in a string of commendable performances, leading with physicality and aggression. AJ Asamoah Djan and Joel Kolanchery have thrived outside of school, working as part of the Harlequins setup. B team numbers have, as ever, been high, with Armaan Naviwala making his debut this year and impressing on his way to becoming an A team regular. Mr Davies has worked hard on bringing more structure to their game, and their skill and precision at the lineout has been a feature of their success, with Sri ram Yeleswarapu scoring tries for fun. Moving forward, I have no doubt all involved will do well as they move into Year 11 and senior rugby. In the meantime, we look forward to sevens season.

## U16/2nd XV



The U16s have worked extremely hard this season and have continued to develop their skills across all areas of the game. It has been great to see boys from this age group feature in the 1st XV - Tosin Ewuola (11BR) Oluwanfemi Johnny (11CA) and David Encarnacion (11MA) have made a huge impact and will no doubt feature heavily in the seasons to come. The U16s have had some close games this year, most notably a 31-33 loss to St Olaves where the team were 0-33 down and fought back in the second half to narrowly miss out on taking the win. Key mentions go to Gabriel Taguiam (11MA) and David Encarnacion who have been excellent with helping with supporting team selection and captaining the team this season. I really hope the group continue playing next year and enjoy seeing them make further strides in their development when playing Senior Rugby



The early stages of the campaign were particularly challenging, starting with a narrow loss to Tiffin in the opening game. In the NatWest Cup, the team displayed commendable determination but fell to a strong John Fisher side. As the season progressed, the team began to gel, and their performance improved significantly. A dominant victory against Riddlesdown Collegiate marked a turning point, sparking a winning streak of four consecutive matches. Three of these victories were decided by less than a single score, highlighting the team's resilience, particularly in goal-line defense. Special recognition is due to the leaders of the 1st XV— Matthew Hodgson, Luke Bignell, and Thomas Jerrom—for their exceptional guidance. Additional mentions go to Charlez Altea, Ayush Patel, Timofe Ogunleye, Emmanuel Asiedu, Ralph Dennis, Jack Simpson, Aman Dhooma, Chris Finch, Christian Toasland, Zuriel Darko, and Peter Skorodelov for their tremendous effort in both training and matches. A noteworthy achievement this season was the inclusion of U16 players Tosin Ewuola, Oluwanifemi Johnny, and David Encarnacion in the 1st XV squad—a first in our history to have three U16 players stepping up to this level. Their contributions were invaluable and reflect the depth of talent within the school. The Lower Sixth players have also been instrumental, providing strong support and laying the groundwork for future success. Their continued development bodes well for the coming seasons. The highlight of the season was undoubtedly the thrilling match against Gravesend. The team delivered an incredible second-half performance, overturning the deficit to clinch a dramatic 22-21 victory—a testament to their spirit and determination. To conclude their season, the 1st XV delivered an outstanding performance, securing a remarkable victory against John Fisher, one of England's most prestigious state rugby schools. Determined to finish on a high, the team showcased exceptional discipline, resilience, and determination. In a fiercely contested match, they defended tenaciously and capitalized on key attacking opportunities to clinch a narrow but well-earned win. This hard-fought triumph was a true reflection of the team's growth over the season, demonstrating both their potential and their ability to compete at the highest level.

As we bid farewell to our Upper Sixth players, we extend our heartfelt gratitude for their contributions to WCGS rugby. Their leadership, dedication, and passion have left an enduring legacy, and we wish them every success in their rugby careers beyond Wallington. They have truly set the standard for future generations.

### 1st XV



The 1st XV had a season of mixed results, securing five wins from nine fixtures.

**WCGS Sport on Instagram:** WCGS Sport is now on Instagram. You can follow us @wcgs\_sport to receive updates on fixtures and results and general information regarding Sport at WCGS. Follow us today!!



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### Wimbledon Ball Boy

This year sees WCGS have the largest amount ever of potential students striving to become Ball Boys with 11 places and 4 reserves. This is down to the success in the previous years and the recalls giving up their time to support the upcoming new ball boys in their training. The final group are working hard towards the Selection Trial and we wish them luck when the trial comes around in January.

### Table Tennis

It has yet again been an excellent term for table tennis at WCGS. In the Sutton Borough tournaments our Under-16 team came second after a very close final but did enough to progress to the next round. Our Under-13 team found themselves in a competition that really demonstrated the high standard of table tennis in the borough and after one win, one loss and a draw they finished in third place. In the South London Jack Petchey

very successful season last year, we have been ranked in the top 25 cricketing state schools in the UK - a fantastic achievement, and I would like to extend my praise and thanks to all those involved; players, coaches, parents and carers.

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### Cricket

During the off season, WCGS cricket has been published in 'The Cricketer' magazine. After a

Team competition the WCGS U16 team had a great start winning their first match 8:0 against Kings College School taking them into the semi-finals. In the semi-final they met a really strong St Olave's team, every game went to the wire and the match ended in a 4:4 draw, unfortunately on countback WCGS lost 15 to 14 on sets. In the Under-19 South London Jack Petchey Team competition the WCGS boys played excellently, winning 8:0 against St Olaves, drawing 4:4 against KCS and then beating Whitgift 8:0 to be crowned as South London winners and will represent WCGS in London finals in January 2025. There has only been one game so far in the South London Table tennis Leagues. Our Under-12 team had to step in as replacements for our Under-13

team due to house football and they had an excellent win against Cheam U13 boys. We have great turnout at all of our training sessions and with over 40 yr7 boys attending table tennis club on Thursdays, the future of WCGS able tennis is bright.

hugely successful season last year, we have been ranked in the top 25 cricketing state schools in the UK - a fantastic achievement, and I would like to extend my praise and thanks to all those involved; players, coaches, parents and carers.

In December, the



The senior girls team came 3<sup>rd</sup> and our sixth form boys team came 2<sup>nd</sup>. Our best performers on the day were Connor Harrow and Luke Bedford who both won bronze medals.



U15 cricket team took part in the Sutton Schools Indoor Cricket Tournament. Following on from the team of last year, the boys were once again victorious, advancing to the Surrey Cricket lead area final. Congratulations to Aryan Luthra, Saket Kaila, Armaan Naviwala, Tanmay Dhingra, Dhruv Menon and Smayan Bhatia - we look forward to the next stage of the competition. Pre-season winter nets will start for all age groups after the Christmas break, details to be released soon.

**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 8's put in some great individual performances in the track and field events and against some very talented athletes did very well to finish 3<sup>rd</sup> overall. Our Year 7's were outstanding coming either first or second



**Badminton**

This term we entered the Na



This term the WCGS cross country teams have yet again demonstrated the commitment and courage that embodies our students. In the English Schools championship our junior team made up of Year 7&8 students finished 4<sup>th</sup> overall with Michael McCearney and Conor Harrow our best finishers in 15<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> respectively. The Year 9/10 team also did well coming 5<sup>th</sup> overall, Arron Morrell (7<sup>th</sup>) and Luke Bedford (8<sup>th</sup>) were our highest finishers. Due to the results in other regions our U15 team qualified for the Regional Finals. In this event the students put in a huge amount of effort against some of the best runners in the country. They managed to finish in a very good 13<sup>th</sup> place, the boys should be proud to be part of the 13<sup>th</sup> best cross country team in the South East of England. In the Sutton Borough Championships our Year 7, Years 8/9 and years 10/11 teams all came 4<sup>th</sup>.

in the majority of the events, winning the championship by 20 points. They now progress to the next round to represent Sutton in the South London Youth Games Finals in January.



tional Badminton Cup at U16 level. Our first match was against the Priory School and our boys did brilliantly winning 4-2 to progress to the next round. Our next fixture was against Wilson's and although all the games were close we lost 5-1. Hopefully we will get more badminton in next term and continue to grow the sport.

**Individual**



**Achievements**

Monty Holcombe U6RU – Monty's golf continues to go from

**Cricket Sponsorship:** WCGS would like to thank Neyo Ltd. for their commitment to provide financial assistance for



**Basketball**

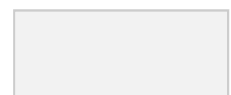
This term WCGS competed in the U13, U14, U15 & U16 Surrey Cups. All teams did well, putting in a huge amount of effort, commitment and determination but in every game the greater experience of our opposition meant we didn't progress further in the competition. However, it was great to witness the WCGS teams learning and improving during every game. With the iBall coaching, morning sessions and possibly some more friendly matches next term basketball can continue to grow at WCGS.



London Foursomes

Trophy. This has all led to Monty signing for the prestigious North western University in Illinois USA on a golf scholarship.

**Ismael Mirza 8MA** – On the 8<sup>th</sup> of December Ismael fought his way to third place and a bronze medal in the British Judo Championships, competing in the U42kg pre-cadets category. Because of this result he will now be selected for the England Judo team.



the coming years. It will greatly help with improving equipment, facilities and aid future tours.

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