



Welcome to the WCGS Sports Newsletter. This term has again been a busy one for the PE department, coaches and students. We have been successful in a variety of sports and witnessed some outstanding individual and team performances. This newsletter is a chance to highlight success and celebrate the sporting achievements of the tremendous WCGS students!!



WCGS U13 Table Tennis 2nd in England

The WCGS Under-13 table tennis team are officially the second best team in the country. This is a tremendous achievement considering over 300 schools entered the National competition in September. Our four boys Ojasvii Borah, Jacob Archer, Chidumebi Egbeama and Sai Gandepalli battled through the Sutton Borough tournament then through the South London tournament then on to the London Zone finals and through the Regional finals, winning all of these tournaments without dropping a game (8:0 in every match). This amazing accomplishment meant they had earned their place in the last four schools in the country at the National finals.



The WCGS team had a fantastic start to the National finals, winning their first two matches against John Hampden Grammar School and Harrogate Grammar School again without losing a game. These wins took the boys to a final against St Mary's College, who had also cruised through their first two matches. After a slow start, narrowly losing the first three, Sai Gandepalli won the next game which led to a mini comeback with Ojasvii Borah and Jacob Archer also winning their next games to take it to 3-3 with only two games left to play. WCGS unfortunately lost their next match which meant that Sai Gandepalli had to win three sets to nil for WCGS to take the title. Unfortunately this was not meant to be as Sai lost a five set match by the narrowest of margins. Considering all the boys in the St Mary's team

are ranked in the top 30 in the country pushing them so close in the final is a great achievement. Well done boys!!! Huge thanks must go to our hugely talented table tennis coach Mr Maric for all the time and effort he has put in to making WCGS table tennis a National force.

Rugby VII's

The senior sevens season started with a tough group in the U18 Surrey tournament. WCGS managed to get a win against Harris Academy Crystal Palace, but fell short against UCS and Wellington College who were equally impressive in terms of their tactics and personnel. The second tournament was the Rosslyn Park National sevens. In the first group game WCGS won comprehensively against Kings of Wessex, Oscar Bown scoring 4 tries. Our next fixture was against the favourites for the group, Mount Kelly. With outstanding defending and a determination not to give up, the squad managed to come back from behind to win the game 17-12. A nervous performance in the first half against Liverpool College in the next game increased the tension, but with the help of the calm heads of Ben French and Frank Panton plus fabulous running form Joseph Doyle and Mark Tugume, WCGS went on to win the match 34-7. As a consequence, in order to reach the next day a victory against Rossall School was required. Despite Rossall's best efforts WCGS were resolute, and a moment of brilliance each from Damola Olawumi and PJ McCoy meant that WCGS secured their place in the quarter finals of the bowl competition. This was a significant achievement, and one which has only happened 4 times previously for WCGS. The quarter final day saw WCGS pitted against some of the best schools in the country. This would mean that a run to the semi-finals would be difficult enough; a situation which would be exacerbated due to injuries picked up by key members of the squad. Drawn against a school with a rich rugby history in the shape of Taunton, the squad were certainly up against it, and as with most games across the tournament conceded an early try, but were able to answer straight back with one of their own. Tension ran high as the game entered the final 2 minutes, and a fantastic run by Damola Olawumi meant he got over the line to square the match at 19-19. There was still time to snatch a victory with the last play of the game, but the team were held up and unable to get over the try line. This meant that the next fixture against Exeter College became a must win game. Despite the heroic comeback against Taunton having taken a lot out of the boys in the squad, they gave it their all to try and again come back from a losing position and this resulted in a try from Frank Panton and an excellent set move to put Mohammed- Amin Fatah in to move the score to 19-10, and put Wallington back in touching distance. Time was against WCGS and with a couple of decisions not going our way, Exeter were able to effectively manage the clock and finished as 19-10 winners. I can't thank this squad enough for an amazing season and it really was fitting to end it by making school history. Those involved are a credit to the school and the Upper Sixth members of the team will be sorely missed by all.



COMPLETED HOUSE RESULTS

Rugby Junior

Year 7- Woodcote
Year 8- Radcliffe
Overall- Woodcote

Intermediate

Year 9- Bridges
Year 10- Woodcote
Overall- Woodcote

Senior

Overall - Ruskin

Table Tennis

Junior

Year 7 - Ruskin
Year 8 - Radcliffe
Overall - Radcliffe

Intermediate

Year 9 - Mandeville
Year 10 - Woodcote
Overall - Mandeville

Football

Junior

Year 7 - Ruskin



Year 8 - Radcliffe
Overall - Ruskin

Intermediate

Year 9- Radcliffe
Year 10 - Bridges
Overall - Radcliffe

Senior

Overall - Woodcote

Basketball

Overall - Carew

Netball

Overall - Carew

CURRENT STANDINGS

- 6th Place - Mandeville (68)
- 5th Place - Carew (70)
- 4th Place - Radcliffe (72.5)
- 3rd Place - Bridges (79)
- 2nd Place - Ruskin (81)

1st place - Woodcote (91.5)



Representative Rugby

Congratulation to the following individuals who have all represented Surrey Rugby. Benjamin French and Damola Olawumi both U18. Owen Hanford U16, Yanni Konstantinou U15, Andy Muirhead U15 & Zak Khan U14.

Two U13 students, Adam Dean and Terrence Dzanta, have also done brilliantly and been selected for the Harlequins developing player programme.

Special mention should also be made for Ben Charnock and Callum Tillery, two Old boys of the school who are representing Surrey in the U20 Counties Cup final in Durham on the 14th April.



Senior & Junior Rugby Awards Dinner

WCGS hosted the Senior & Junior Rugby Awards Dinners in the main school hall in what was an excellent evening of celebration, food and merriment. The main award winners are listed below;

Bill Ireland Trophy & 1st XV Players Player =
Frank Panton



Nigel Hook Memorial Trophy =
Daniel Watkins



Millwood Trophy =
Sam Wingham



Rugby Vlls cont.

U12

The U12 team have trained really hard this year in some horrendous conditions. Through this training they have developed their rugby skills immensely. With only one tournament this year, the U12 Surrey sevens, this was a chance to show some of the skills they have developed in training. Our first match was against Trinity losing 20-0 but only conceding one try in the 2nd half. In game 2 the boys put in a solid performance with some excellent running rugby with tries from Christian and Tim to ensure we won 20-0. Our next three fixtures were really tough against Reigate Grammar, Richard Challoner and St Andrews losing to them by two tries in each game. The afternoon meant we would be matched with similar level opponents but this proved to be a bit difficult for us as the effort we put in the morning meant we were out of energy, but we did manage to pick up a two try win over Christ's Hospital with another great solo effort try by William Frost.



U13

The U13 sevens a-side squad have had a fantastic term. The dedication to training from this talented group of players is admirable and gave us coaches a selection headache when trying to pick the squad of 12 players to take to the tournaments. Our first tournament was the Surrey 7s at Trinity School, the WCGS team had a great day beating Gordon's, Reed's, RGS Guildford, City of London Freemans, drawing with Dulwich College and losing only one game to Whitgift. The second tournament was the Rosslyn Park National 7s. The Year 8's again showed how talented they are beating The King John School 35-20, Porthcawl 45-5 & Wisbech Grammar 40-10 before running out of steam against Christ's Hospital. The final rugby of the term saw the U13 squad playing in the Sutton Rugby League 9s tournament. Despite the boys having had only one rugby league training session and not really understanding the league rules, they did brilliantly beating Cheam High, Carshalton Boys, Stanley Park and John Fisher to win the Sutton Borough crown and progress to the London Youth Games Finals in June.

U14

At the Surrey 7's the U14's finished third in their pool after beating St James School but losing narrowly to Trinity and Tiffin. The game of the tournament was a fantastic come back to beat Emanuel 14-12. At the Rosslyn Park National 7s despite a good fight back after a poor start in the first game against Bryn Tawe from Wales, the WCGS students suffered a narrow defeat. The 2nd game saw the WCGS students play to their full potential beating Woodhouse Grove 28-12. Unfortunately, the third game against a strong New Hall School side ended in defeat but the WCGS boys showed fantastic commitment and courage during the game.



U15

The U15 boys performed admirably in their only 7s tournament of the season after the U15 Surrey Vlls were abandoned due to inclement weather. At the John Fisher Founders Day 7s, the boys started well with a resounding 28-0 hammering of RGS Guildford with Abs Fatah starring during his first ever start at scrum-half, bagging a brace of tries. The boys followed that up with an honourable defeat to one of the top schools in the country, Brighton College, losing 19-7, but winning the second half 7-0, with Yanni Konstantinou's tireless work ethic seeing him crash over for a deserved 5 pointer. Daniel Watkins ran the show in another narrow loss to eventual cup semi-finalists, Campion, who were the outstanding outfit of Pool D, with WCGS coming up just short in a thrilling encounter.

Other Table Tennis news



The WCGS U13 and U16 teams are currently top of their respective South London table tennis leagues and our U19 team are currently second in their age group. Our U12's are currently in third place in their league and have improved greatly since September showing huge potential for the future.

In the Jack Petchey Individual competitions Jacob Archer, Ojasvii Borah and Sai Gandepalli progressed through the borough tournament to secure their place in the prestigious London finals, held at the University of London in April. Krishna Nagarajan also did exceptionally well at the individuals earning a place in the U16 London finals. We wish them all the best of luck. Ojasvii Borah and Jacob Archer have also received invitations to represent the Surrey Cadets. this year.



Basketball

It has been a good term for WCGS basketball with matches being played against Sutton Grammar at U18, U16, U15 and U12 age groups. The U18's had a very close game where the boys showed some fantastic individual skills but unfortunately couldn't come back from a poor 1st quarter, losing the match 49-45. The U15 game was a really tight affair with the lead changing hands constantly throughout. With the game tied at 25-25 and the final seconds ticking away, Daniel Watkins scored a fantastic 3 pointer on the buzzer to win the game for WCGS 28-15. A special mention should go to Josh Weir-Sangara who scored 14 of WCGS's points. Our U16 team also had a close match but a lack of tactical experience lead to a narrow defeat. The U12 team, who were coached by 6th formers Qabir Ali and Tony Vong, played their first ever basketball match and although they showed fantastic amounts of potential the lack of accuracy when shooting lead to a defeat on the day.



Handball



This term our Year 11 GCSE PE students played two competitive handball games against Ravenswood School both matches really showed the development the students have made to their skill levels, tactical awareness and knowledge of the game. The 1st match saw WCGS utilizing some aggressive attacking play and structured defence to ensure the victory by 14 goals to 9. In the 2nd match Ravenswood brought a few new players in their squad and this made the game much more competitive and despite some excellent goals scored by WCGS the team found it difficult to stop Ravenswood's 6'3" centre from scoring and the game went to Ravenswood 10-9.

Swimathon

WCGS students again outdid themselves at the Purley Rotary Club swimathon. The swimathon entails the students swimming an extended team relay and clocking up as many lengths as they can in 55 minutes. It was a close contest between the three WCGS teams with team 'Tom Fisher' managing 146 lengths, team 'Mohamed Fatah' registering 147 lengths and team 'Luke Shaw' achieving a staggering 164 lengths. These large distances meant that the three WCGS teams came 2nd, 3rd and 4th overall out of all the teams that took part in the swimathon. The current total raised by the WCGS students is around £800 which is great but with more money to come in and our mydonate page not closing until the end of April, we are hoping to get over the £1000 mark when all the coins have been counted. Well done boys and thanks to everybody who has so generously donated. It's not too late to donate, please use this link to donate straight to our my donate page. <https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/wcgssport>



Indoor Cricket



U13s went to Greenshaw on 5th Feb to play in the Sutton Schools indoor cricket tournament. The boys played some great cricket winning the tournament by beating both John Fisher and Greenshaw in our pool and then handsomely beating Carshalton Boys in the final by 30 runs. From here we progressed to the Outer London Schools Indoor Finals hosted by Tiffin School. First up was Rutlish and with a fine 20* from captain Matt Jefferys, Rutlish needed 58 in their six overs. Bowling straight and well with 2 wickets each for Matt and Archit Bhansali WCGS bowled Rutlish out for 34. A hard game versus Tiffin followed who set us 64 in six overs. It went to the wire with us requiring 7 to win off the last over but just falling short getting 6, making it a tied match. Our last game was against St Joseph's with WCGS still able to win the tournament. St Joseph's batted well setting us a total of 69 to chase but in a desperate attempt to win WCGS got bowled out for 30. This left us in 3rd place overall. A great effort over both tournaments from the 6 boys who represented WCGS: Matthew Jefferys(capt), Archit Bhansali, Hayaat Ahmad, Nayan Patel, Rushil Parimi & Sam Wingham

Cricket training

After Easter, Cricket at WCGS will come alive once again with A & B team matches being played throughout the week as well as A team matches on a Saturday mornings. All students are encouraged to come along to training after school on the days indicated in the table: Training will be from 3:30pm – 5:00pm. Anyone can attend and kit can be provided for those that don't have all aspects of batting equipment. We do hope to see as many of you there as possible.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
10 & 1st XI	9	7	8

Student Success Outside of School Sport



Sajjan Selvakumar 8MA has competed this year in the World Karate (WUKF) and European Karate (EUKF) championships in the U13 age group. He did amazingly well in both competitions winning the silver medal and earning the titles of 2nd in Europe and 2nd in the World. Well done Sajjan.

Noah Findell 7MA



came 9th in the country in the British Schools Biathlon Championships. He swam a long course personal best and ran a personal best for 1 mile on the track.

Netball

The girls Netball team have again had an enjoyable term. They played A & B competitive fixtures against Trinity school and although they lost both games the girls really showed how much they have improved. Their teamwork and ability to move the ball quickly up the court was a strong fixture of both matches. The highlight of the term was a charity match in RAG week against the boys 1st XV rugby squad. In a low scoring but exiting game the boys handling ability and height proved the difference with the boys winning 7-5. Thanks to Mss Gayle for all her hard work in coaching the team.



WCGS Sports Website

The WCGS Sports Website gives up to date information on Curricular and Extra-Curricular PE. Fixtures, team sheets and results can all be found by visiting <https://wgsacademytrust.fluencycms.co.uk/> and clicking on the Sport Tab at the top of the page