



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!!



### Rugby VII's

#### Senior VII's

The senior sevens rugby season was notably brief this year, largely due to adverse weather conditions. With limited game experience, we ventured to the Rosslyn Park National 7s. Our opening match saw WCGS facing a tough match against SEEVIC, which ended in a loss. However, our subsequent game against the well-regarded Eltham College turned out to be surprisingly straightforward. Our team displayed remarkable offensive prowess, managing to score a try that began from our own try line. Benjamin Mitchell stood out by scoring an impressive hat trick. I am deeply grateful to this squad for a truly remarkable season, which appropriately concluded with us making history for the school. The members involved have brought great honor to our school, and the departing Upper Sixth players will be greatly missed by everyone.



#### U16 VII's

Unfortunately due to the very wet term we have had the U16 Surrey 7's tournament was cancelled and combining this with very little training due the academic commitments in Year 11, meant that we went in to the Rosslyn Park National 7 a-side tournament (our only tournament) a bit under prepared. Despite this the WCGS boys had a very good day at the Nationals. Their first fixture was against The King's School Canterbury, this was always going to be a challenge against a very well known rugby school. The boys battled hard throughout the game and scored two great tries but unfortunately lost 24-14. The second game was against Salesian's, a team we had lost too last year. In a very physical and exciting game through some great tries from Tim Mazela, Nico Pilai and Will Howe combined with heroic defence WCGS came out on top winning 22-17. Our third and final game was against Ysgol Y Preseli from Wales, who had just beaten King's 40-7. This did not dampen the WCGS boys spirits and they started the game brilliantly by scoring the first try. As the game went on the lead changed hands continuously and going into the last two minutes it really was anyone's match. Unfortunately the Welsh boys managed to score at the end and with a few extra conversions for them, WCGS lost 33-24 but earned the respect of our opponents and everyone who watched. I'd like to thank the U16 for all their commitment and dedication to WCGS rugby over the last 5 years.



#### U15 VII's

The U15's season this year comprised of only one tournament, because of many students being absent due to the Spain trip. Many training sessions during games helped to develop the relevant 7's skills that the boys need to succeed. This shone through at our tournament, with all the kids' demonstrating skills beyond their years. Unfortunately, on the day, the weather was horrid. Pouring rain for hours led to sub-par conditions for all teams present. We played 4 games, winning 2 against very capable teams such as Ashcombe and Riddlesdown. This accomplishment took us to the plate quarter-final, where we unfortunately lost 7-5 due to a missed conversion. Because of the inclement weather, we could not play the brand of rugby we trained so hard for. On a different day I am sure our results would be significantly better. I cannot fault the effort or determination shown by the students during training or the tournament, with their commitment and determination shining through. Hopefully we will have more luck next year during the 7's season.



#### U14 VII's

It has been a productive term for the U14 rugby team, looking to continue the fine work that they put in during the 15s season. There is a huge amount of talent in this squad, and a number of players whose explosive pace could be a threat in the 7s version of the game. Unfortunately, due to some terrible weather in the build-up to the tournament, the Surrey 7s was cancelled, as was the 15-a-side tournament due to be hosted by Harlequins in Dulwich. Latterly, the team travelled to Rosslyn Park for the annual national sevens tournament. We found ourselves in a challenging group, but the boys stuck at it and finished with an excellent team performance against Sherborne in our final match.



### COMPLETED HOUSE RESULTS

#### Rugby

##### Junior

Year 7 – Radcliffe

Year 8 – Bridges

**Overall – Mandeville**



##### Intermediate

Year 9 – Carew

Year 10 – Carew

**Overall – Carew**



##### Senior

**Overall - Radcliffe**



#### Table Tennis

##### Junior

Year 7 - Mandeville



Year 8 - Carew

**Overall - Carew**

##### Intermediate

Year 9 - Bridges

Year 10 - Ruskin

**Overall - Mandeville & Ruskin**

### CURRENT STANDINGS

**1st Place - Bridges (74)**



2nd Place - Mandeville (73.5)

3rd Place - Radcliffe (66)

4th Place - Woodcote (62)

5th Place - Carew (58)

6th place - Ruskin (56.5)





### Wimbledon Ball Boy



After another tough year regarding selection following gruelling Thursdays mornings where students were put through their paces by previous Ball Boys and Girls - working on rolling skills, feeding and general court play. Wallington were allocated 8 students to put forward to Selection Day in January and for the first time, all 8 students were successful. They are now working even harder during the training process ahead of the Championships in June/July 2024. Well done to Thomas Ratoi (Y9), Aaron Morrell (Y9), Hugo Rogers (Y9), Sipping Manoah Nzena Pousseu (Y9), Raiyaan Abdul-Mughis (Y10), Kamil Marczewski (Y10), Gabriel Teguiam (Y10), and Josh Pinto (Y10). Two students were also successful in being called back for a second year David Encarnacion (Y10) and Daniil Simdyashkim (Y10).

### Junior Rugby Awards

The junior rugby awards was a great night that saw the school hall full of parents and students from years 7—10. It really was a great celebration of the WCGS rugby family. Congratulations to all the award winners, the players of the season are;

Year 7A;  
Matthew Medina



Year 8A; Earl Flete

Year 9A; Hugo Rogers



Year 10A;  
Femi Johnny

**U13 VII's** The U13s rugby 7's season commenced with high hopes and diligent training sessions leading up to the anticipated tournament at Trinity School. Despite the brevity of the season, the team's preparation was thorough and promising. However, the outcome was mixed, with a narrow defeat to Glyn School, succumbing by only a single try. Nevertheless, amidst this setback, the team showcased their prowess by securing victories against Harrodian and Kingsdale. Their performance highlighted impeccable offloading skills, blistering pace on the wings, and formidable defensive capabilities. Although the season may have been brief, the team's resilience and skill were evident, leaving a lasting impression on the field.



**U12 VII's** This year, the U12 sevens squad has put in an exceptional amount of effort in their training, which has significantly enhanced their rugby abilities. Representing our school, they participated in a tournament where they demonstrated their advanced rugby sevens techniques, delivering an outstanding performance. Despite the challenging weather conditions that tested the team in the afternoon, leading to closely contested matches that resulted in narrow defeats, the boys showed great resilience. I want to extend a heartfelt thanks to the U12 team for their dedication to training since Christmas, contributing to an impressive debut sevens season.



### Table Tennis



Table Tennis at WCGS continues to achieve great success. In January our U19 team started their bid to become National Champions with a dominant win at the Jack Petchey London Team finals. Next up was the Regional Finals in Bristol, again the boys demonstrated their amazing skills and gameplay beating Hampden Grammar School, Lispon Co-op Academy and Morpeth Boys School to yet again be crowned the South East of England regional



champions. This means they are already one of the top four teams in the country and are now training hard for the National Finals in April. We had several boys playing the South London Individual tournaments across all age groups. Vedanth Manohar and Leo Bhat reached quarter finals in U13s. Vihan Nirmal did very well to come 3<sup>rd</sup> at U16 level. We also had excellent results in the U19 age group with WCGS dominating, Jacob Archer came 1<sup>st</sup>, Chid Egbeama 2<sup>nd</sup>, Akal Dosanj 3<sup>rd</sup> and Ojasvii Borah 4<sup>th</sup>. All the U19 boys will play London Finals in May, and Jacob will also compete in England Nationals representing WCGS and London South region. We currently have three teams playing in the South London Schools table tennis leagues at U13 & U16 levels, all three teams are currently in the top three in their respective leagues.



**Cricket** We began this term with receiving the news that WCGS cricket was awarded the MJ Edwards award 2023 for recognition of WCGS being the best performing state secondary school in the SSCA competitions in 2023. This term has been an industri-

ous one in terms of cricket, with pre-season nets beginning. There have been a vast number of students attending, keen to put in the hard work in preparation for the upcoming season. Over 40 students have attended senior net sessions, vying for a spot in the 1XI team this year, which has proved to be a competitive field for selection. It has been fantastic to start coaching and training in our new outdoor nets, thanks again to the wonderful WCGS PTFA. We have also been lucky enough to tap into the knowledge and wisdom of external coaches, with students benefiting from the coaching of Trevor Fordyce from 'First Ball Academy'. It is an exciting time for WCGS cricket, and we are very much looking forward to fixtures starting after the Easter break. We are also delighted to share that our U15 team were undefeated in claiming the title at the Sutton Schools Indoor Cricket Tournament, hosted by Carshalton Boys last month. The U13 team also did brilliantly, claiming 4<sup>th</sup> place in the tournament that we hosted in January - well done to all involved.

We have a full fixture card for the upcoming summer season with fixtures at the moment for As and Bs at U12's, U13's, U14's & U15's as well as 1st XI and 2nd XI. After School Training nights will be as follows; **Monday's - Year 7; Tuesday's - Year 10; Wednesday's - Year 9; Thursday - Year 8; Friday's—Senior.** **All are welcome** to attend on your age groups night and training will run from 3:30 - 5:15.

