

# **Cleves School**

## **Sports Newsletter - May 2024**

The first half of the summer term has gone by in a flash. It's always a busy half term with the introduction of summer sports such as cricket, rounders and athletics whilst many of the winter sports come to a conclusion with finals and further festivals. This year has been no exception. At the time of writing this newsletter we still have a netball festival, the much anticipated year 6 district cup football finals and a rugby festival taking place on the last few days before half term. All of these will be reported in our next sports newsletter.

This half term, an additional 53 children have represented the school in a competition or festival for the first time making it a total of 601 who have done so in this academic year. Our summer extra curricular provision is also well underway with a fantastic offering of athletics, badminton, volleyball, pickleball, mountain biking, netball, rounders, trampolining and fitness all available to various year groups at lunchtimes and before/after school. This is in addition to the provision provided by our externally run clubs and groups. These are really impressive figures and I would like to congratulate all the pupils that take part in these opportunities.

There's lots to report on below and I hope you also enjoy looking through the many photographs.

#### **BIATHLON EVENT**

Congratulations to the 14 girls who took part in the Biathlon event at Notre Dame on Thursday 16th May. The girls took part in a 50m/100m swim followed by a 600m run. They had to manage the transition completely independently which included putting shoes on wet feet!

The girls should be extremely proud of themselves - despite the understandable nerves at the beginning they all did brilliantly well and it was a great experience for them.







#### **SWIMMING GALAS**

On a Thursday evening at the beginning of May, 18 of our pupils in Years 5/6 took part in the annual Cobham Cup swimming competition, hosted by ACS Cobham. It was a fantastic evening of exciting races with the Cleves swimming squad excelling.

The results were very close at the end but I am pleased to report we secured an impressive 3rd place, winning bronze medals. In the year group results, the Year 6 team managed to finish in joint 1st place! Huge congratulations to the team and well done to those who put themselves forward for representing the school in something a little bit different. I hope the swimming team will grow in strength and numbers next year.



Then, on 11th May, Kayla, Ella, Martha and Holly represented Cleves at the Regional Primary Swimming gala at the Guildford Spectrum. This was the first time a Cleves team has reached a regional final coming up against the best teams in Surrey, Sussex, Kent, Hampshire and Buckinghamshire. They did brilliantly well, knocking off a huge 3 seconds from the time they got in the Surrey competition. Well done girls!



#### **GIRLS TAG RUGBY**

At the end of April, Cleves took part in a local Girls Y5/6 Tag Rugby Tournament hosted at Cobham RFC. With some focussed training and advice (thank you to Martin Davidson) the girls played 5 pool matches and a final. By not losing any matches and only drawing one, playing some exceptional rugby in the process, the girls quite rightly came home with the silverware. Huge congratulations to all involved.

Squad: Abi, Abigail, Annabel, CeCe, Georgia, Lara, Martha, Mica, Penny, Rajna, Sophia, Thaleia.



#### **CRICKET**

The cricket season is well and truly underway with matches and tournaments coming thick and fast for our Year 5/6 girls and boys. It's also great to see so many children regularly coming out to our cricket clubs at lunchtime - there is certainly some really strong emerging talent. Here is a quick summary of what has taken place so far this term.

At the beginning of May, the Year 5/6 girls cricket squad played two fantastic matches against Feltonfleet and St. Georges. The girls showed wonderful skills with both the bat and the ball to run both teams very close in the Starburst tournament. There was clear improvement over the 2 games and we very much look forward to the next opportunities. Squad: Abi, Bailey, Belle, Cece, Issy, Kayla, Martha, Tara.

Also at the beginning of May, the Year 5/6 Boys cricket team took part in a triangular hardball tournament (against St. Lawrence and St Pauls, Richmond) hosted at Walton CC. The boys acquitted themselves with real vigour and deserve great credit despite the results. The bowling and fielding were the highlights with some very impressive performances of both pace and spin bowling. A huge thank you to the boys for working so hard and to the support of the parents who were able to join. We very much look forward to the next event. Squad: Andrew, Blake, Buster, Luke, Magnus, Ollie, Swanik, Will.



#### Elmbridge Girls Kwik Cricket Tournament

What finer way to spend an afternoon than playing cricket in the pouring rain! This was the task set for the Yr 5/6 Girls cricket team on Tuesday 21st May.

The girls truly stepped up to the task playing some fantastic cricket. From the start they took the previous day's training session and implemented excellent calling and running to set Royal Kent an almost impossible target. The bowling and fielding matched our prowess with the bat and we were off to a stunning victory. The next game against St. Albans was again set up with an excellent batting display. This time the accuracy of our bowling shone through restricting the opponents to very few runs - another wonderful victory. The final group game was a stern test which came down to the last over before being resolved. Another fine bowling display saw us come out on top against a very accomplished Thames Ditton outfit. With the rain still lashing down, we scored 65 runs in our semi final (a very good score) this however was not quite good enough as in the end we lost by 3 runs - the game going right to the last ball.

I can't praise the girls enough for the skill level which they showed in very challenging conditions. Amazing stuff.

Squad: Abi, Belle, Bailey, Bailey, Cece, Macie, Martha, Tara.



Finally, Weybridge Cricket Club are looking for girls in year 3/4 to join their club and try out cricket. Sessions take place every Sunday morning between 10am and 11am on the Weybridge cricket green. I know a number of Cleves girls already attend so if your child is interested, please contact Daisy Huntington - <a href="mailto:daisyhuntington@gmail.com">daisyhuntington@gmail.com</a>

#### DISTRICT CROSS COUNTRY COMPETITION

Saturday April 27th saw the annual district cross country competition take place at Notre Dame and involved 15 other schools from across the area. Nearly 40 of our athletes took part and it was a hugely successful morning for Cleves.

In the team competitions, we were overall winners in the Under 9s boys, Under 10s boys and Under 11s girls whilst we were also runners up in the Under 11s boys.

Individually, everyone ran brilliantly with the Cleves children really standing out. The training has clearly paid off. However, particular well done to the following children who achieved top 10 finishes

- Under 9s Boys Sebbi 1st, Bert 2nd, Leo 4th
- Under 10s Boys Will 3rd, Freddie 6th, James 6th, Josh 7th, Adam 9th
- Under 11s Girls Martha 1st, Bailey Bird 3rd, Bailey Burnand 4th, Eva 7th, Olive 9th
- Under 11s Boys Joe 6th, Andrew 9th

Congratulations to everyone who ran!









#### **SPORTS DAY**

Our annual sports day this year takes place on the following dates:

- Year 6 Wednesday 12th June (am)
- Year 5 Wednesday 12th June (pm)
- Year 3 Thursday 13th June (am)
- Year 4 Thursday 13th June (pm)

Your child will require a coloured t-shirt to wear to match their house colour.

- Arundel Red
- York Yellow
- Warwick Green
- Windsor Blue

#### **MINI MARATHON**

Huge congratulations to the 50 Cleves pupils who took part in the London Mini Marathon on Saturday 20th April. This saw them all run the distance of 1 mile around the iconic streets of London, finishing up on The Mall. Many were then presented with their medals by Joe Wicks.

A hugely enjoyable and memorable occasion and I hope many have been inspired to run the actual marathon when they are older. We've put together a short montage which can be viewed by <u>clicking here.</u>













### SPORTS LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME

Over the last seven weeks, we have been trialing a sports leadership project with a group of year 5/6 pupils. The classroom based sessions have been looking at a range of topics including mental toughness, the importance of communication and body language, self talk, decision making and leading by example. In the last of the sessions, the pupils were visited by professional footballer Cameron Green who spoke about many of the above topics. It was a really interesting and

engaging session and I think the group took a lot from it. The children then got to ask their own questions before posing for a group photo.



#### YEAR 4 MINI OLYMPICS

At the beginning of May, 4C took part in a mini olympics competition against five other local schools. The event, which took place at Cleves, involved an afternoon of relay races and was brilliantly led by our Year 6 Sports Crew. The class did brilliantly well and were crowned overall winners at the end of the afternoon. Well done 4C



### **NETBALL UPDATE**

The year 6 team are currently training hard for their league final match which takes place on Thursday 6th June at Cleves against Cobham Free School. We wish the girls all the very best of luck!

#### **FOOTBALL MATCH REPORTS**

It's been another really busy half term of football at Cleves with lots of children representing the school across our many teams. The staff members who look after these teams have written a short summary of their achievements.

#### YEAR 5 COUNTY CUP FINAL

On Friday 10th May, the Year 5 A Team travelled to Dorking Wanderers stadium to play their highly anticipated Surrey County Cup final versus Cheam Park Farm. The fixture, which was played on Dorkings 4G pitch, kicked off with high intensity. The boys were as focussed as ever and moved the ball around well. The pressing of Cleves soon became a problem for Cheam and they struggled to deal with the constant pressure in the final third. Cleves snatched the opening goal with some lovely play and soon after, they made it 2-0 from excellent composure in front of the goal. As the boys were fired up from the half time team talk, they came and continued to play in a similar way. Cheam struck first in the second half to make it 2-1, but Cleves hit back instantly with a third and 3-1. As the minutes went on, Cleves held onto the lead well and dominated the possession. Close to the end, Cleves hit a fourth goal to see out a comfortable 4-1 win and the trophy confirmed to be coming back to Cleves. A huge, huge congratulations to the boys who played in the fixture and a very impressive performance too!



#### YEAR 6 COUNTY CUP SEMI FINAL

At the beginning of May, the Year 6 team travelled to The Whitgift School in Croydon to play their long awaited Surrey County Cup semi final.

Inside 5 minutes, our opponents struck first when a parried shot was slotted home. After a period of sustained pressure, we equalised following some good work from Ramzy and Kaiden which eventually saw Harry finish from a tight angle. Again Whitgift came back at us and scored from a corner minutes later. Our heads didn't drop though and Ramzy scored a great individual goal to level the tie once more. It really was end to end football! Once more though, Whitgift were the next to score, again from a corner which went straight in.

At half time, we knew we were very much in the tie and with the slope in our favour, we very much fancied our chances. However a combination of a slow start and a fired up Whitgift we quickly conceded two further goals to put the game out of reach. Despite having a number of further chances, we just couldn't find the breakthrough and Whitgift grabbed a sixth just before the final whistle. This was a little harsh on the boys as the game was closer than the scoreline suggests. There is still plenty to fight for in the league and league cup this season so hopefully the boys will come back fighting in the next couple of weeks.

#### YEAR 5/6 B TEAM GIRLS FOOTBALL

On Thursday, fifteen Y5 and Y6 girls went to Burhill for a Football festival. The event was aimed at giving girls who do not generally play in their school's first team a chance to enjoy an afternoon of football competing against other schools. Our girls did us proud as usual with a high standard of play, showing drive and determination throughout all their matches. Well done to all who took part, both teams were unbeaten throughout the festival.



#### YEAR 5/6 B TEAM BOYS FOOTBALL

Back at the beginning of the summer term, the Year 5/6 B team were back in action for their final league game against a very tricky team from The Hythe. With much eagerness, the boys were determined to win and score some goals.

Soon into the first half, Cleves found themselves behind and needed to switch up their play and move the ball quicker. Moments before going into half time, Cleves found the equaliser after some great teamwork. The second began and the Cleves boys continued their momentum and found the net a further two times to take a comfortable lead. Cleves dominated with the ball in their half and saw out the game to finish 3-1 winners. A huge well done to those who played in the fixture. This means that they remain unbeaten this season and are league winners. Huge congratulations!

Then, on the following Thursday, the re-arranged football festival at Cleves took place which included nine teams entering from five local schools. It was a great evening of football with Cleves entering four teams, two from year 5 and two from year 6. It was one of the year 5 teams that came out strongest, topping the group and making the final against Bell Farm. The final was a very close encounter which ended goalless. After a period of extra time, there still wasn't a breakthrough which meant the game went to penalties. Bell Farm emerged victorious but this should not take anything away from the performance of the Cleves boys. Well done to all the Cleves boys who took part in the tournament, you represented the school brilliantly and on another day each of the teams could have made the final.

Finally, on Friday 10th May, the Year 6 B team were back in action in the next round of the league cup. The semi final game against St James started with a fantastic battle in the middle of the pitch. Both teams were pushing hard and had multiple chances. Cleves settled into the game and started to dominate the possession and create several chances. The boys fired several shots towards their goal and after many more opportunities, Cleves found a breakthrough to take the lead. The boys kicked on and continued the pressure until the final whistle. An excellent 1-0 victory for the team and one that now sets up a grueling league cup final game against Cleves

Year 6 A team. Well done to all those involved! An amazing achievement to have a Cleves vs Cleves final!

### **WALTON FREETRI SERIES: ENTRIES OPEN**

In the last couple of years, I know that a number of our children have taken part in the Walton FreeTri Series. It is a great introduction to triathlon in an inclusive and relaxed environment.

For more details, please click on the image below



#### WWHSP PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

With Cleves taking the lead on the Walton, Weybridge and Hersham Sports Partnership, we have continued to host, organise and lead a number of sporting festivals this half term. This has included a year 4 mini olympics competition



which 4C took part in as well as a year 5/6 girls football festival, year 5/6 netball festivals and an afternoon of handball which year 5 took part in with Ashley School. The mini olympics competitions were led brilliantly by our Year 6 Sports Crew.

For the remainder of the summer term there are more competitions and festivals planned which include

- Mini Olympics for years 2, 3 and 5
- Year 3 Football festival
- Year 2 Football Festival

I look forward to reporting on these in future newsletters.

#### LIVE SPORTING EVENTS

Just a reminder, at Cleves, we would like to keep a record of occasions when children at Cleves get to watch a live sporting event. If your child is lucky enough to see a game or competition of any sport, please can I ask you to complete the following form so we can keep a record. Please click here to complete the form.

This rounds up a very busy spring term of sporting action. Congratulations to everyone who has been involved and we look forward to reporting on all the events that take place for the remainder of the school year.

Mr Smith - Sports Coach