

HWCE SPORTS NEWS



All the latest sports stories from
High Wycombe Church of England Combined School

February – March 2026

THE BOYS ARE BACK!

After another defeat, the boys of Wycombe CE show their style in a glorious victory against Oakridge

(All reports by Mr Burgin)



Jumping for joy! Smiling faces from Mr Burgin and the Under 11s football team after defeating Oakridge 3-0 in their most recent game.

As the saying goes – “There’s good news and there’s bad news...”

First, the bad news: On 26th February, our Under 11 team of boys travelled the short distance to Hamilton in the hopes of turning their disappointing league season around.

It’s always tough playing against bigger schools as they have 3 times the number of talented players to choose from to make up their sports teams. Nevertheless, we weren’t going to let that worry us; feeling we had something to prove, we were determined to show that we could play some great football.

We started fairly well, passing the ball confidently and looking to open up the Hamilton defence. However, on Hamilton’s first counter attack, their giant centre-forward, who towered above almost everyone (including one or two teachers!) scored for the home side. This could have broken our spirits. In fact, it did the opposite and almost straight away we surged forward and Ellis, playing on the right wing, let loose a ferocious shot which beat Hamilton’s keeper to level the scores.

From then on, it was end to end stuff with both sides pressing for more goals. Unfortunately for us, it was just too tricky to deal with the power of Hamilton’s attack, spearheaded by the aforementioned Goliath-like striker. The final result was a 6-2 defeat – Joel scoring our second goal.

And now, the good news: On 18th March, both our Under 11s team and our Girls’ team travelled the equally short distance to Oakridge School to play a ‘double-header’ of league matches. You can read the Girls’ report on the next page.

Our slightly re-jigged boys team consisted of Matthew in goal, replacing the injured Andrey, William and Jonah in defence, A midfield three of Ellis on the right, Zachary on the left and Jonah in the centre with captain Flynn playing as striker. Dylan and Kaedon kept the subs’ bench warm – eager to enter the fray at some point.

We started in fine form with some great linking play and some strength in challenging for every loose ball. The team were disciplined and kept their shape well, marking tightly and effectively when under pressure from the home side and finding space in attack. Matthew looked confident in goal and mopped up everything that came through to him – not that a lot did, as William and Jonah were great at clearing their lines and the midfield were dropping back to help too. It was a splendid display of teamwork.

The deadlock was broken a third of the way through the first half - a terrific goal - Joel, hammering home a fierce

shot from in front of the Oakridge goal. You could probably hear the cheers from Mr Burgin and the High Wycombe supporters all the way back at Loakes Road!

The game continued with High Wycombe in fine form and before half time, Flynn had added a second to make it 2-0 at the break. There had still been a lot of pressure from the home team and we knew we were in for a tough second half as Oakridge were bound to come out feeling determined to peg us back.

It was more of the same in the second half though and Flynn added a third goal for us before William made way for Dylan to come on in defence in his place and Zachary was replaced by Kaedon in midfield. We saw out the game well with our two substitutes performing as equally well as those they had replaced – Dylan making some great tackles and clearances and Kaedon linking well with Joel, Flynn and Ellis who all looked like they could add to the score at any moment.

As it was though, 3-0 was how it stayed. There were sighs of relief amongst the very respectful handshakes from both teams at the end of the match and great big smiles from High Wycombe CE at getting some points on the board in the league. We hope we can now do it again in our two remaining matches.

KEEP SMILING!

Girls remain in positive spirits despite loss

The girls' match was the prelude to the boys' game reported on the previous page. It was a glorious sunny Wednesday afternoon when our team took to the field in their second league game of the season.

It had been a good start to the season for our girls – winning 2-0 against Disraeli in the league and then beating Downley convincingly 5-0 in the cup, In the district tournament, they had beaten Disraeli by the same goal margin and had earned a 0-0 draw against really tough opposition from Manor Farm. Their only loss had been a 2-0 defeat against district champions Hamilton. But, as the saying goes, all good things must come to an end...

Our starting line-up consisted of captain Lucy in goal, a defensive duo of Lois and Bella S, a midfield trio of Anna on the right, Stephanie on the left and Amara in the centre with Elsie playing as a lone striker. Sofia, Bella R and Thea waited patiently as substitutes.

We started quite well with some encouraging forays into our opponents' half – mostly led by Anna on the right and Amara in the middle. There were shots on target and a couple of near misses, but, no goals – we couldn't seem to get near enough to the Oakridge goal to make it count. Elsie kept pushing through, only for the Oakridge defence to swarm in numbers to win the tackle and set up their number 10 - who, as it soon became obvious, was probably the best player on the pitch – to make mazy runs forward with the ball looking like it was tied to her feet as she zigged and zagged past our players. At half-time, the score was still in deadlock 0-0.

Half time saw some changes with Sofia replacing Bella S in defence and Bella R coming on for Stephanie in midfield.

It was Oakridge's number 10 who set up their striker for their first goal – a blistering shot which powered past Lucy's outstretched left hand to make it 1-0 to



Still all smiles. The gallant Girls' team remaining positive after their defeat against Oakridge. "We'll win the next won when we play them in the cup." Is the positive outlook of the team.

the home side. Their lead was doubled a short time later when there was judged to have been some contact on their attacking player in the box and a penalty was duly awarded and converted with another powerful strike.

Try as we might, we couldn't fight back. Our passes weren't penetrating the brick wall of the Oakridge defence and luck just wasn't on our side.

Thea came on for Lois in defence as we kept up the effort, but consistently we found ourselves trapped in our own half soaking up attack after attack from Oakridge, frustrated that we couldn't get the opportunity we needed to try to at least get on level terms as time started running out. In the end, tired legs conceded the ball for Oakridge to add a third and decisive goal to seal a 3-0 victory.

We will now need to see how other results go to see if we have any chance of a league title. We still have 2 league games to play – against Downley and Chepping View and we will return to Oakridge to see if we can get a more favourable result in the quarter final of the district cup.

What counts most though is that the team all had great fun playing football. There were (mostly) smiling faces at the end of the game and a positive outlook to the end of the season. Much was learned from the game and skills and tactics were all developed.

Thank you as always to all parents who brought players to and from the match and formed our excellent cheerleading section! We'll break out the pom-poms for you all for the next match!!



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There are many sporting opportunities to be had in and around High Wycombe. From previous sports reports, readers will have seen pupils celebrated for their involvement in clubs in the area in such sports as football, rugby, judo, gymnastics, swimming, dance, athletics, golf and hockey.

Please consider the advertisement on the left if there is a young person in your family who could be interested in taking up hockey as a sporting interest. As the ad' says – "all abilities welcome" so why not give it a try and see what it's like? Of course, we'd love to hear if you do so that we can help celebrate any achievement - big or small.

HWCE SPORTS STARS



Zachary proudly shows off his silver medal

ZACH ATTACK!

Silver for Zachary on his judo debut

The school are celebrating the latest in what is becoming a long line of judo stars from Year 5 with Zachary following in his classmates' footsteps.

In his very first judo competition, Zachary overcame early nerves to win two bouts and draw another to win a silver medal.

He said, "My friend, Andrey, inspired me to take up judo. I really like the fact that it can help me defend myself if I need to and the training is lots of fun. The coaches are inspirational and they really push you to do your best."



Dancers Ezra , Matthew and Sofia at the Aylesbury Theatre for the production of 'Stars of Tomorrow'

FLIPPING AMAZING!

Matthew adds parkour to his string of sporting talents!

Is there nothing this boy cannot do? Rugby, hockey and dance star Matthew in Year 5 has added another sporting string to his bow in the form of parkour.

For those not in the know, this is a sport which makes use of obstacles both man-made and natural in an urban environment with competitors showing their athletic and gymnastic skills in traversing these obstacles in a stylistic manner in a combination of speed and artistic interpretation.

Matthew attends Booker Gym Club every Friday and, in this competition, he completed a course



All -rounder Matthew shows off the latest additions to his ever-expanding trophy cabinet in the form of his parkour medals

that had been set out both by using his own imagination and interpretation and then at speed – making sure each obstacle was touched. This involved twists, turns, flips, rolls and balances.

He won a gold medal in the skills element and a silver in the timed element. He said, "I love doing front flips because I'm really good at those – it's my signature move."

THE WORD ON THE STREET IS...

HIGH WYCOMBE C of E HAS SOME EXCELLENT DANCERS

Making strides (should that be Urban Strides?) in their dance careers are the trio of Ezra, Matthew and Sofia – all from Year 5 – who recently performed in front of a packed audience at Aylesbury Theatre for the production of 'Stars of Tomorrow' showcasing the talents of young people in Bucks. The three classmates all attend Urban Strides Dance Academy and performed an "amazing" street-dance routine which stunned the audience members.

Sofia, who aspires to be a professional dancer said, "Dancing is lots of fun and you can let all your energy out and express yourself through music." Ezra added, "I love dancing with my friends and the whole crew from Urban Strides. There are about 25 dancers in the junior crew. I've been doing street-dance for 3 years now. At first I wondered what it was going to be like and soon found out it was great; I'd recommend it to anybody else."



Matthew and Josh – enjoying their hockey.

JOLLY HOCKEY STICKS!

Boys represent their club in style in Thames Valley Tournament

Well done to Matthew in Year 5 and Josh in Year 4 who played for Wycombe Hockey Club Under 10s in a recent tournament in Reading – playing a whopping total of 6 matches back to back. Matthew said, “I love playing in defence and it lets me tackle lots of players. It means I don’t score a lot of goals but it’s great to be part of the team.” Josh added, “I play striker, so I score more goals than Matthew. Scoring goals is the best part of playing hockey, but the whole sport is fun because you get to run around and play with your friends.”

STAFF SPORTS STAR – MR GOMM (and the rest of the staff team – and a governor or two as well!)

It turns out our much-loved departing premises manager - Mr Gomm – is an ace at table-tennis. So, what better way to bid farewell than a few games of ping-pong? Joined by a number of staff members – Miss Whyte, Mrs Salgia, Mr Biddle, Mr Bicknell, Miss Collins, Miss Plume, Miss Blandford, Mrs Moorhouse, Mrs Allard, Miss and Mrs Hawkins and our Chair of Governors, Mrs Robertshaw - a fun afternoon was had around the tables followed by snacks and drinks to celebrate Mr Gomm’s 10 years at the school. Mrs Hawkins was heard to say, “With Mr Burgin not here (he was with the school football teams) I might stand a chance of winning!” There may not have been an actual winner as such, but Mr Gomm proved he was the superior player on the day!



Mrs Hawkins & Mr Gomm duel it out at table-tennis!

ON THE DOUBLE!

Success for Khalia in not just one sport but two!

Khalia in Year 5 has two achievements to celebrate. Not only did she win her green stripe belt in Taekwondo where she had to demonstrate power and precision in all her moves and stances, but she has also earned her Level 5 Learn to Swim Award where she had to complete a length of the pool and perform a series of moves in the water – including a forward roll. She said, “Taekwondo is a useful sport to learn as I could use it to defend myself if ever I need to. Swimming is fun but it is also hard as it can be so exhausting having to swim as many as 4 lengths. It’s great exercise though and keeps you fit.”



A smiling Khalia with her awards



Matthew (left), Ellis (centre) and Jude (right) in action for High Wycombe Rugby Club

TRIO SHINE IN PHOENIX RUGBY FESTIVAL

There were more celebrations for Matthew in Year 5 (should we rename this edition of the sports report 'The Matthew Edition' as he has featured in 5 separate articles!?) who along with classmate Ellis and Jude in Year 3 took part in the Phoenix Rugby Festival in Taplow – all representing High Wycombe Rugby Club. Matthew and Ellis played for the Under 10s team whilst Jude, played for the Under 8s in his first ever rugby tournament. They all had a great time and earned medals for their efforts. Ellis said, “Some of the players we come up against are scary to run at because they can be a lot bigger than you, but Matthew, Jude and I are usually fast enough to get past them and score.”

HIGH WYCOMBE CE SCHOOL BOOKED BY LOCAL FOOTBALL TEAM!

Don’t fret, we aren’t in trouble – no red or yellow cards – just a fantastic haul of over 100 books donated by Wycombe Wanderers in aid of World Book Day as part of our ongoing partnership – our thanks go to all at Adams Park!



Books gifted by Wycombe Wanderers to boost our class libraries

HOUSE TO HOUSE ENQUIRIES

Latest House-point Scores

Year One - Robins – Bat & Ball Skills



1st Riders, 2nd Bikers, 3rd Skaters and Surfers

Year Two – Swallows – Cricket



1st Surfers, 2nd Skaters, 3rd Riders, 4th Bikers

Year Three – Kites – Archery



1st Riders, 2nd Skaters, 3rd Surfers, 4th Bikers

Year Four – Hawks – Dance



1st Surfers, 2nd Skaters, 3rd Riders, 4th Bikers

Year Five – Eagles – Tag Rugby











1st Bikers, 2nd Surfers & Riders, 3rd Skaters

Year 6 Owls: Badminton



1st Surfers, 2nd Bikers, 3rd Skaters, 4th Riders

HOUSE-POINT RUNNING TOTALS

1st		1913 points	HOUSE CAPTAINS – JOEL & LUCY 
2nd		1847 points	HOUSE CAPTAINS – KAEDON & ESHAAL 
3rd		1842 points	HOUSE CAPTAINS – JONATHAN & AMARA 
4th		1694 points	HOUSE CAPTAINS – LOIS & WILLIAM 

Only 1 term left to go – but what a term! Our Healthy Heroes Sports Week is looking like it will be crucial in deciding who will be this years' house point champions. Surfers have started to pull away from the others but certainly don't have an unassailable lead as there are so many points that can still be scored. It is certainly close for second and third at the moment and Bikers will need a great team effort across the whole school to make up ground. Anything is possible – especially with such great house captains to inspire the teams.

