

# HWCE SPORTS NEWS



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

May - July '24

## A YEAR TO REMEMBER (Looking back on 2023-2024)

*(All reports by Mr Burgin)*

It really has been an incredible year of sport and physical education here at HWCE.

The year kicked off with new playground markings and equipment for the children to enjoy during their breaktimes. Since then, the equipment has been added to further with games to keep brains active as well as more apparatus such as space-hoppers to encourage movement. In addition, the re-introduction of the 'team mile' has led to more exercise during morning break as teams compete for house-points. Whilst not all children are participating, it remains a further option for physical activity.

The PE noticeboard was revamped and is still looking very smart at the end of the school year. Pupils seem to enjoy pausing to catch up on sports news from both inside and outside of school and are proud to see their achievements displayed for visitors and their peers to see. It has also been closely monitored by pupils who are keen to see the house-point scores. Hopefully, there has also been some uptake for local sports clubs and children have been inspired by the sporting quotes from sports stars from all areas of sport. Our Learning Behaviour and Christian Value characters have also been given a sporty look for the display/noticeboard too!

After a slightly stuttering start in knockout competitions, our football team gelled brilliantly to finish their league campaign undefeated being crowned champions for the first time in quite a while. With much of the team comprised of pupils from Year 5, we have high hopes for next season.



Pupils from different classes have taken part in events organised by the schools 'School Games Officer' who is based at John Hampden School. In December, the whole school took part in a Santa Dash – a great, fun event where we could all don our Santa hats and pretend we were the man in red himself, hurtling around to get all the gifts ready for the big day.

The new year saw our swimming team take part in a swimming gala against other schools from High Wycombe. Spring Term continued with festivals in cricket, tennis and badminton – increasing the breadth of sport that our children can experience.

Our curriculum has seen us encompass some 'alternative sports' such as lacrosse, archery, crazy-catch, ultimate frisbee, orienteering and quidditch (flying broomsticks will be part of next year's PE budget!!) Of course, these have been coupled with the more traditional sports of football, tag-rugby, cricket, rounders, netball, tennis, badminton, table-tennis, basketball, gymnastics and athletics. All classes have also had dance lessons to improve co-ordination and rhythm.

Teamwork skills have been developed along with physical fitness – helping pupils to forge positive relationships with their peers and to build speaking and listening. This has helped class-mates bond with each other and to understand their roles in wider society.

Of course, there has been some healthy competition between the houses with class house competitions every half term. These have helped develop a sense of sportsmanship between teams rather than rivalry with all applauding their opponents as well as cheering for their own team.

Hopefully, this was very apparent during our Healthy Heroes Sports Week (see the report below) which we think was a fitting finale to the sporting year!

Once again, a big thank you to all parents, carers and staff at the school who are positive role models in encouraging their children to be fit, active and healthy and a big personal thank you from me for your kind words and positive feedback about these sports reports. I've enjoyed sharing all of the school's achievements with you and I'm glad you've enjoyed reading about them. Enjoy the summer break!

# PHEW – WHAT A SCORCHER!

## Temperatures soar for Healthy Heroes Week.

Mr Burgin says he prayed for no rain for Healthy Heroes Week for ages. It might very well be that he prayed too hard as, not only was there no rain, but the sun shone more brightly than ever before and temperatures rose to a thermometer popping 28 degrees centigrade.

The week kicked off on Tuesday with the 'carousel' morning. This saw house teams of children from mixed year groups traverse 12 events (I suppose you could call it a dodecathlon?). Shooting (in basketball and football, before anyone gets too worried!), javelin throwing (the foam type, before people get more worried still!), obstacle course, hockey dribbling, ball bouncing, target throwing with beanbags and velcro balls, jumping, quoit balancing, under and overing and the traditional egg and spoon were the events in question all brilliantly manned by our amazing staff. By lunchtime, the children were flagging and, although they all enjoyed themselves (at least that's what they told me), I'm sure lunch was very welcome. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank so many of the parents who came to support the children. It was fantastic to see so many of you and you definitely added to the joy on the children's faces and to the cheerleading squad!

Points for the morning all added up, the rest of the week consisted of coaching sessions in squash, rugby, street-dance, athletics, basketball, cricket, football and rope-skipping.



Year 1s in full stride for Races day

All of these sessions were delivered by visiting professionals who we welcomed into the school and thankfully by the time most coaches arrived on Thursday, a nice cool breeze meant that temperatures were far more bearable.

Wednesday saw classes from Year 2 to Year 6 compete in cross-country running in the woods on Tom Burt's Hill. Friday saw them make the climb again for orienteering.

Other events included ultimate frisbee, crazy catch, tri-golf, going on nature walks and taking part in house competitions.

Downtime in class consisted of learning about dietary health, exercise and mental health as well as some focus on the European Championships in football and the forthcoming Olympic Games in Paris.

There was also time to prepare and practice for Races Day – the grand finale of the week's events.

This was held in the beautiful grounds of Wycombe Abbey School on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July.

Both Key Stage 2 classes in the morning and Key Stage 1 and Reception in the afternoon, participated in running, sack, hoop, egg & spoon, bean bag shuttle, skipping and relay races with a crowd of parents cheering them all on.

There was a fantastic atmosphere and it was great once again to see such friendly competition amongst the children who were all rewarded with stickers for their efforts.

Victory at the event went to the team of Skaters. But, would this mean that they would retain the house trophy having won it last year?

# HEALTHY HEROES

We thought you would enjoy seeing some photographs of the highlights of Healthy Heroes Sports Week. Obviously, with so much going on, this is just a snapshot, but we hope it gives you an idea of the variety of events and the fun that was had by all.



'Ultimate' Frisbee on Tom Burt's Hill



Javelin throwing at the Carousel Morning



Rugby coaching from Scott - one of our visiting expert coaches



Successfully negotiating the woods on a cross-country run



Obstacle Course – Carousel Morning



Spotting crickets, butterflies & dragonflies on a nature walk



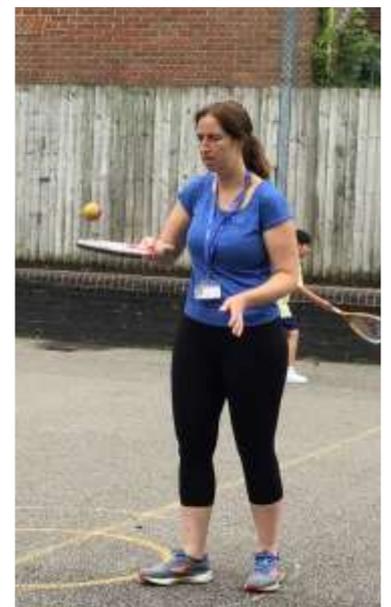
Rope-Skipping Coaching – Dan the Skipping Man



Year 1 created amazing masks on their nature walk



Playing parachute games



Even staff benefitted from the coaching sessions!



Squash coaching from Heidi from High Wycombe Rackets Club



Jump to it! Athletics coaching from Mr Styles (our SGO)



Hands up who loved our street-dance coaching with Urban Strides' Rhys!



A sprint finish for the Year 5s



Races Day was a great finale to the whole week. Lots of fun was had by all – and everybody earned stickers

# HWCE SPORTS STARS



## ON YOUR HIKE!

Hannah in Year 5 completed a 5km hike with her Brownie pack and has also earned her gold award – the highest award a brownie can achieve!



## BADGE OF HONOUR FOR ISLA

Isla in Year 4 just pipped Hannah to the Brownies gold award, earning hers a month earlier. Furthermore, Isla has earned every single interest badge awarded by the Brownies. This has required a lot of hard work and dedication. Part of this included doing a sponsored skip to raise £560 for Wycombe Homeless Connection for which she received her charities badge. She and Lois (right) – also Year 4 were part of the same team as Hannah for the 5Km hike.



Reuben – a potential future Open champion?

Reuben (Year 6) plays in the Bucks Berks and Oxon Futures-Golf-Tour. In a June tournament, he came 3rd in the Under 12 category having placed 2nd and 5<sup>th</sup> previously. Reuben spends nearly every Saturday and Sunday playing a round of golf and with the lighter evenings can also often be found playing 9 holes after school! His handicap of 14.8 places him in the top third of all golfers in England (adults included!)

## STAFF SPORTS STAR MR BURGIN

Whilst Mr Burgin hasn't really got the physique of a sportsman (unless that sport is darts or maybe shot-putt.) There is no denying that he has a keen love of sport. In his youth, he was a 100-metre sprinter, rugby player & hockey player, competing for his school and college. He played football for his church & youth club team in 5-a-side and 11 a-side matches & loved playing baseball with his friends.

Nowadays, he enjoys the more sedate sports of 10-pin bowling (his best score is 197 – without the bumpers up!) and golf (but only on a par-3 course). He is hopeful that our school sports star, Reuben, might give him some pointers as Mr Burgin's golf handicap is not a number, it's just his poor tee shots and inconsistent putting!



Straight down the fairway – & into a bunker probably!

Mr Burgin enjoys his golf. It's the taking part that counts!

# HOUSE TO HOUSE ENQUIRIES

## Latest House-point Scores

### Reception – Wrens – Team Games



1<sup>st</sup> Skaters 2<sup>nd</sup> Surfers 3<sup>rd</sup> Riders 4<sup>th</sup> Bikers

### Year One - Robins – Javelin



1<sup>st</sup> Skaters, 2<sup>nd</sup> Surfers, 3<sup>rd</sup> Bikers, 4<sup>th</sup> Riders

### Year Two – Swallows –



1<sup>st</sup> Bikers & Skaters 2<sup>nd</sup> Surfers & Riders

### Year Three – Kites - Dodgeball



1<sup>st</sup> Riders, 2<sup>nd</sup> Surfers, 3<sup>rd</sup> Skaters, 4<sup>th</sup> Bikers

### Year Four – Hawks – Athletics



1<sup>st</sup> Surfers, 2<sup>nd</sup> Skaters, 3<sup>rd</sup> Bikers, 4<sup>th</sup> Riders

### Year Five – Eagles – Rounders



1<sup>st</sup> Bikers, 2<sup>nd</sup> Skaters, 3<sup>rd</sup> Surfers, 4<sup>th</sup> Riders

### Year Six – Owls – Bench Ball



1<sup>st</sup> Surfers, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bikers, 3<sup>rd</sup> Skaters, 4<sup>th</sup> Riders

# HOUSE-POINT FINAL TOTALS

<p><b>1st</b></p>		<p><b>5151 points</b></p>	<p>HOUSE CAPTAINS – LOIS &amp; REUBEN</p> 
<p><b>2nd</b></p>		<p><b>4975 points</b></p>	<p>HOUSE CAPTAINS – JESSE &amp; ELLA</p> 
<p><b>3rd</b></p>		<p><b>4598 points</b></p>	<p>HOUSE CAPTAINS – KIERA &amp; ALEX C</p> 
<p><b>4th</b></p>		<p><b>4569 points</b></p>	<p>HOUSE CAPTAINS – KHYAN &amp; EMILY</p> 

Well, the House Competition is done for this year. Surfers did seem to run away with it – opening up a lead of nearly 400 points on their nearest rivals. All houses scored impressively in Healthy Heroes Week but Skaters stormed through to claim the trophy in the end.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank our fabulous house-captains for leading their teams so well. I only hope next years' captains can maintain the standard set.



Reuben & Lois, House Captains of Skaters, receive the Winners Shield in our Sports Assembly

# **WE ARE GOLDEN!**

**Gold Award achieved by High Wycombe  
Church of England Combined School!**



**It's official! We are proud and delighted to announce that we, High Wycombe Church of England Combined School, have achieved the School Games GOLD Mark Award for the 2023/24 academic year.**

**The School Games Mark is a Government-led award scheme launched in 2012, facilitated by the Youth Sport Trust to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community, and we are delighted to have been recognised for our success.**

**We are extremely proud of our pupils for their dedication to all aspects of school sport.**

**As part of our application, we were asked to fulfil criteria in the areas of participation, competition, workforce and clubs, and we are pleased that the hard work of everyone at our school has been rewarded this year.**

**We look forward to applying once again in 2025!**