

# HWCE SPORTS NEWS



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

November – December '23

## VICTORY! FOOTBALL TEAM TRIUMPHS

*(All football reports by Mr Burgin)*



The team enjoy a hard-fought but deserved victory.

On 15<sup>th</sup> November, the school football team made the journey to Highworth School, Totteridge for their first league game of the season. Both teams were looking for their first win having been plagued by misfortune in all previous games.

For High Wycombe CE, it would be easy to think that our bad luck would continue with the talismanic and influential captain, Reuben, out of action poorly and with goalkeeper Noah still recovering from a wrist injury. Add to that the absence of regular team members Harry and Toba (both with other commitments to fill) it could be said that the team-sheet for the match was less familiar than usual.

Nevertheless, the boys were determined to win the game for their absent teammates and went into the game with confidence.

After a warm-up under the quickly setting November sun, with a cool breeze now filling the air, the match kicked off.

Immediately we were put under pressure by a shot from kick-off – clearly a tactic honed in practice sessions, designed to catch the opposing keeper off-guard. Isaac (playing his 2nd match between the sticks) was up to the challenge and gathered the ball smartly. Not to be discouraged, Highworth's forward players continued to attack keeping Finlay and James in defence very busy and when Isaac couldn't quite get his hands to a ball crossed from the right, Highworth struck first to take a 1-0 lead early in the game.

High Wycombe looked to make a quick comeback and it came only a minute or so later. Captain for the day, Jerry (who is fast earning the nickname Jerzinho) made a terrific zig-zagging run down the left wing, foxing his opponents and dodging their tackles before executing a fantastic through-pass with pin-point accuracy to Arthur who fired the ball past the despairing outstretched hand of the Highworth keeper and into the net. 1-1!

It was then real end-to-end action for the remainder of the half with chances shared between the teams – Isaac keeping High Wycombe in the game with some heroic saves, throwing his body at anything that came his way and passes from Jerry, James and Alfie in particular, finding striker Arthur who was unlucky not to score a second.

Changes in personnel were made at half-time with Zhenglin entering the fray in place of Khyan who had done a sterling job on the right of midfield. The second half kicked off and this time, with the sun at our backs, our vision was less impaired. Before long, we were awarded a free kick about 15 yards from goal. Jerry took it and bent it Beckham-style into the top right-hand corner of the Highworth goal. 2-1 to High Wycombe CE!

Alfie had to come off having received a knock which saw us being awarded the free kick and Gervas took his place in the centre of midfield whilst Alfie took a rest and let some air get to his ankle.

2 minutes later in a Highworth attack, one of their forwards managed to break through Wycombe's defence and knocked the ball past Isaac to make it 2-2. This was how it stayed for the next 4 minutes by which time Alfie declared himself fit to resume his role in midfield only to find himself in the right place at the right time not just once but twice, scoring two almost identical goals from crosses not dealt with by the Highworth defence and goalkeeper which left Alfie free to knock the ball into an inviting goal. We found ourselves 4-2 up with 7 minutes to go! With a little daylight now between the teams score-wise (as well as a little daylight left in the sky) could this be our first victory of the season?

Highworth were obviously determined to not make it the case as they attacked in numbers searching for a way back and scored when Wycombe's defence couldn't quite clear their lines. 4-3 to High Wycombe CE – it was going to be close!

Highworth's supporters (clearly willing to settle for a draw) yelled. "Just one more goal!" A minute later they almost had their wish as there was one more goal – but it went to High Wycombe CE. Highworth, who had spent much of the match committing players forward leaving Arthur unmarked (a fact noted in the half-time team talk) were finally outdone by this and a long ball over the top of their defence found Arthur who controlled the pass brilliantly to hammer it home for an emphatic 5-3 victory which was wildly celebrated!

# HWCE SPORTS STARS

Please e-mail the school office with any sporting achievements outside of school. We'd love to hear about them!

## MULTI-TALENTED BROTHERS SHINE IN A RANGE OF SPORTS!

Matthew and Robert continue to go from strength to strength.

It's quite something to be talented at one sport, but it's definitely something else to be talented at two. So, imagine what it's like to be talented in three or more! Well, that's the case with High Wycombe C of E's own sporting superstars – brothers Robert and Matthew who this term have notched up an impressive list of achievements in sports activities outside of school.



Robert shows his skills on the hockey field.



Matthew & Robert proudly show off their rugby medals.



Matthew surges for the try-line.

Both brothers enjoy playing hockey for High Wycombe (Robert in the Under 10s team and Matthew in the under 8s). As well as this, both play for High Wycombe Rugby Union FC (again in the under 10s and Under 8s respectively). In addition to that, Matthew is an accomplished dancer, dancing at Urban Strides Dance Academy and Robert is a terrific swimmer and recently received his Level 6 award. I'm sure you'll agree it is rare to get such multi-talented boys in the same family.



Above – Matthew shows great skills on the ball in hockey. Below – equally great skills from Robert.



Matthew shows off his Player of the Week Medal in rugby...



...and his 'Most Improved Dancer' certificate.

In Hockey this season, Robert and Matthew have played in tournaments in Windsor and Maidenhead as well as home matches in High Wycombe. Both boys have defended well and scored goals.

Scoring isn't just something the boys do in hockey; they've also scored tries for their rugby side at the Amersham and Chiltern Minis Rugby Festival in October.

Matthew said, "My favourite sport is hockey. We get to play lots of matches."

Robert says, "My favourite sport is hockey because I've played it longest and it is probably the one I am best at. The thing I like most is that it is easy to understand. Anyone who understands football can use that information to play hockey."

## STAFF SPORTS

### STARS: MISS CAROE

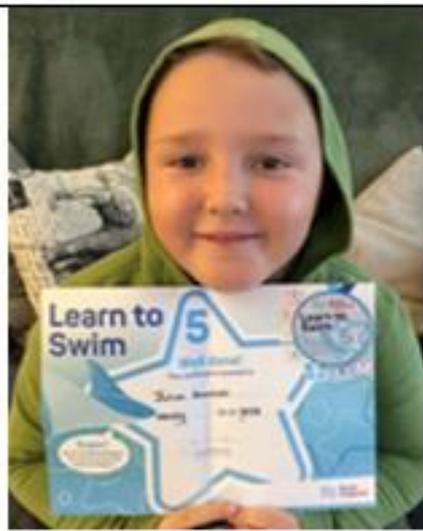
Did you know, our brilliant Year 3 class-teacher, Miss Caroe is an amazing ultimate-frisbee player? She was inspired to take up ultimate Frisbee when she was at Wycombe High Secondary School where she was taught by Mr Rushton – a parent at our school. She soon found she had a natural talent for the sport – a sort of version of American football without the contact (no helmets or shoulder pads required) and played for the Great Britain under 17s and under 20s teams, travelling to the European and World Championships! She now plays several times a year for her former university team, travelling to tournaments across the country. Here she is in action at a recent tournament which her team won!



Left: Miss Caroe uses her height advantage and leaps to make a magnificent catch.  
Right: Tight marking by our fabulous Year 3 teacher



Julian shows off his certificates for karate (above) & swimming (below).



## DOUBLE SPORTING ACHIEVEMENT FOR JULIAN

It would seem that there is no end to the sporting talents of our pupils at the High Wycombe Church of England Combined School, with Julian in Year 3 the latest to show his prowess in sports outside of school.

Julian recently gained his 'Learn to Swim Level 5' award after successfully carrying out several disciplines in the pool.

In addition to this, he has excelled on the martial arts front by earning his full red belt in kick-boxing and certificates in Krav Maga, which is a martial art that uses techniques from judo, karate, aikido, boxing and wrestling.

Julian said, "I like to learn how to kick. It might be good if I ever need to defend myself."

## EMILY STRIDES TOWARDS SUCCESS!

Emily, one of our house captains in Year 6 is a keen cross-country runner and can often be found braving the elements (not elephants!) most weekends. She has had some great achievements in her cross-country running so far this season.

On the weekend of the 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> December, Emily recorded her highest finish so far in the Chiltern Cross Country league, finishing 25<sup>th</sup> in the under 11s girls category whilst representing her athletics club, Wycombe Phoenix Harriers. The event was held in Luton in near sub-zero temperatures.

Emily said, "I love running, as when you are running you feel completely free. You don't have to worry about anything – it's as if I leave all my worries at home. I especially love running with my friends. One day, I hope I will be able to compete in the Olympics."



Emily in cross-country action in Luton.

## "ON DASHER..."

On 6<sup>th</sup> December, as well as sporting Christmas Jumpers, the pupils of HWCE dashed around the playgrounds at the school to raise awareness of the need to stay physically fit. It was a lot of fun to see all the jumpers and hats on display!

We hope you enjoy the pictures below!



Left: Miss Caroe leads the school around the playground. Right: Year 2 pupils suitably dressed for the Santa Dash

# HOUSE TO HOUSE ENQUIRIES

## Latest House-point Scores

### Year One – Robins - Dance



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

### Year Two – Swallows - Basketball



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

### Year Three – Kites - Quidditch



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

### Year Four – Hawks - Badminton



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

### Year Five – Eagles - Quidditch



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

### Year Six – Owls



All Houses tied for 1<sup>st</sup> place!

# HOUSE-POINT RUNNING TOTALS

<b>1st</b>		<b>776 points</b>	<b>HOUSE CAPTAINS – JESSE &amp; ELLA</b> 
<b>2nd</b>		<b>741 points</b>	<b>HOUSE CAPTAINS – KEIRA &amp; ALEX C</b> 
<b>3rd</b>		<b>728 points</b>	<b>HOUSE CAPTAINS – LOIS &amp; REUBEN</b> 
<b>4th</b>		<b>706 points</b>	<b>HOUSE CAPTAINS – KHYAN &amp; EMILY</b> 

A big part of this half term's house-point totals has been the run a mile challenge that has been taking place during break-times. This has been re-introduced as a further opportunity for our pupils to have a bit more healthy exercise. Our house captains continue to perform a fantastic job – ably co-presenting sports assemblies and providing inspiration and encouragement for their house teams whilst they run their mile on the playground at break-times during the week. We like to think they are excellent role models for the younger children in the school. As the year continues, they hope to organise and lead more sports based activities for the school and would welcome any suggestions from pupils or their parents in regards to what they would like to see done. Feel free to e-mail the office with ideas – marked for the attention of 'Mr Burgin and the House Captains' or speak to Mr Burgin directly.