

3rd March 2023

SPORTS NEWS

High 5 Netball Tournament

On Friday 24th February, 8 of our netball squad attended the annual 'High 5' Netball tournament at Raglan School. This is a variation of the usual netball rules, whereby 5 players, instead of the normal 7, are on court at a time. A further (and perhaps more challenging) change to the usual rules is that there is a strict rota of positions that the players must run through, meaning that all the players have a go at shooting, defending and playing centre. Games were fast paced, at just 8 minutes long, and as soon as the players had settled into their position, they were rotated for the next game!

Eversley faced some really tough competition and order of play was as follows:

First up, Eversley vs Vita et Pax. Vita were a really strong team and brought their A-game from the very beginning; it didn't take them long to score their first goal. They remained strong and soon after brought the score up to 2-0. Eversley kept their cool and the game started to look a lot more balanced. Vita had some very strong attacking players and, despite Eversley's best efforts, managed to score one more goal just before the whistle blew. Final score was 3-0 to Vita.



Next game was Grange Park Prep vs Eversley. Another very strong team and GPP were soon 3-0 up. It was then Eversley's centre pass and our team took the opportunity to fight back. Some clever, quick passes followed and Alex was able to score Eversley's first goal of the tournament, bringing the score to 3-1. GPP were not prepared to give up, and responded with a brilliant shot from near the edge of the circle to increase their lead to 4-1. Encouraged by their great play, GPP were able to score 1 more goal and the over all score was 5-1 to GPP.



High 5 Netball Tournament contd...

Our 3rd game was against Raglan 1 - the hosts of the tournament. They were absolutely on fire and their shooting was superb. Unfortunately for Eversley, we were unable to break their brilliant play, and their goals kept coming! Eversley lost 8-0.

Game number 4 was against St Andrew's. They took the lead and both sides were playing really well. There was a long time before any more goals, with both teams defending amazingly. Towards the end of the game, St Andrew's did manage to score another 2 goals, and the final score was 3-0 to St Andrew's.

Our final game was against Raglan 2, and the girls did not let their heads drop. We took an early lead with Esmee securing the first goal of the game. Amelia doubled our lead shortly after with goal number 2. Our hard work finally seemed to be paying off and this continued with a fantastic long shot from Esmee. Before the final whistle blew, Amelia scored the final goal of the game, resulting in a brilliant 4-0 win to Eversley - a lovely way to finish!

Despite the disappointing results in the first few games, Eversley really did play brilliantly - the standard was incredibly high and it just didn't seem to go our way. The results were not a reflection of how hard the girls worked and the brilliant passages of play between them all. Esmee was captain for the tournament and her and the team showed great sportsmanship and respect throughout the afternoon. We cannot fault their attitudes, their enthusiasm and their resilience to keep going; they worked hard throughout, played excellent netball and thoroughly deserved to end the tournament on a high.

Well done Orla, Jasaiya, Kimmi, Esmee, Ava, Amelia and Alex.

(Miss Boothby and Miss Kilkenny)



Netball Cluster League Matches

Eversley played host to the Netball Cluster League fixtures on Monday 27th February. Across 3 dates throughout the year, the local schools come together to play against each other, revealing a winner at the end of the season. At Eversley, there were games between us, Grange Park Prep and Oakthorpe, whilst Merryhills, SMAB and St Monica's met at Merryhills. Each game consisted of two 10 minute halves.

Eversley first faced Grange Park Prep, one of the competitors we faced in Friday's tournament. Eversley started the game confidently, and it was clear from the very beginning that this was going to be a high quality game. There were great interceptions from both sides, and it looked evenly matched. Kira managed to score the first and only goal of the first half, giving us a 1-0 lead.



After a quick break, the team was raring to go for the second half. Everyone worked well together, creating excellent spaces and passing well. Esmee scored a further 4 goals, and we only conceded 2 well-earned goals to GPP. Having scored the first goal, Kira bookended the game nicely with a final goal for Eversley making the final score 6-2 to Eversley.

Eversley then had a break whist GPP played against Oakthorpe. Oakthorpe came out on top, beating GPP 5-0, so it looked as though the next game was going to be an even tighter competition! And so it was... in the first half both teams demonstrated brilliant skill and perseverance, and neither team were able to pull ahead of the other - the score at the end of the first half remained 0-0.



Netball Cluster League Matches contd...

Eversley showed fantastic determination in the second half and refused to give up. They remained calm, passed accurately, and defended every single ball. We were rewarded with 4 goals from Esmee and Kira in the second half, and, thanks to our amazing defence, Oakthorpe were denied the chance to score any goals against us. The final score was 4-0 to Eversley.

Every single player did themselves proud and contributed to the overall team effort. Kira and Esmee were a dynamic shooting duo; Having provided brilliant support bringing the ball down through attack and feeding into the circle; Amelia held the fort in Centre for the majority of the game, barely stopping moving until her well-earned rest; Orla, Jasaiya and Louisa were a formidable wall of defence; Alex showed amazing versatility playing multiple positions of defence and Centre to a brilliant standard. Orla captained these matches and led by great example, chasing every ball and giving the game 100% effort, inspiring all our girls to follow suit.

Thank you to the wonderfully supportive parents, who gave the team added confidence and added to the lovely, positive atmosphere. Many parents commented on the excellent progress the girls have made since the first cluster league matches, so they should all be really proud of how far they've come and the work they put in during training sessions every week.

(Miss Boothby and Miss Kilkenny)



Boys Football Report

On Monday 27th February, Eversley took two football teams to play friendly matches at Raglan School.

Team Yellow: Jack, Zahid, Leo BD, Theodor, Oscar, Roshan, Darsh, Thomas

Team Red: John, Leo N, Aryan, Max, Kerem, Jake, Niam, Zach

Both teams played six matches each, including a game against each other which finished 1-1. Some notable highlights were brilliant goals by Leo N and Roshan, along with excellent saves from both Jack and John. All the boys showed a great attitude to the games and good sportsmanship to their peers throughout the afternoon. Well done boys!!!

(Niall Halloran)

