



Bishop Wordsworth's School

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Head Master: Dr S D Smallwood BSc (Hons) PhD NPQH

29 March 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians

This term has felt like the longest and shortest at the same time. I feel in particular for our footballers who have had hardly any game time due to the weather, but also due to our opponents dropping out of their respective leagues. Our rugby 7s boys too have headed to U16 Nationals having not played any tournaments due to 'The Beast'.

That said however it has not been without some real highlights as school sport across the country has persevered through the rather cold and wet conditions.

Badminton

For their very last time, our KS4 boys went to regionals and placed 3rd overall, putting them in the top 12 nationally, their highest ever finish in five years of badminton at the school. This group of boys have been together throughout and so to go out on a high was great. The KS3 team couldn't quite match their more senior team mates, but likewise made it to regionals and with another two years at this age grade I would expect big things from a talented group.

Mr Hole's badminton club has also been a huge success with non-club players regularly participating on a Tuesday and Wednesday lunchtime. We hope to do more non-competitive clubs in the summer term and beyond to increase opportunities for boys of any level to participate.

Cross Country

Mr Griffey has once again had the cross country boys working hard this term as we entered various races and relays, coming home with accolades across the south west including both the junior and inter trophies from the Ken Baily races at Bryanston and also the inter boys relays at Clayesmore. This week they head to Millfield with high hopes of more silverware.

As individuals representing the Wiltshire Schools team, a number of boys made it to regionals and then national finals with L Bailey ranking in the top 100 despite losing a show in the melee at the start of the race. Once again the boys have shown the future of cross country is in good hands, and I look forward to seeing them on the track in the middle distance events over the athletics season.

Basketball

Despite its funding being almost completely wiped out on a national level the sport thrives in Salisbury, led by Mr Duckett in and outside of school. The U12s for the first time entered a national competition, the U14 team made it to the last 32 as did our U16 side. The U19 team (made primarily of U17 and lower) made it to the last 24 nationally. With the likes of J Tully to lead the senior side next year and the talent coming through, basketball looks to have some golden years ahead – in Salisbury and at BWS at least.

Football

In terms of fixtures played this has been a highly frustrating period of time for all age groups. With the poor weather and flaky opposition, some teams have gone all season without a game before playing in their area semi-finals. Needless to say, while slightly under-cooked due to a lack of competition, we have been unable to fulfil our true potential against some tough opposition. The brand of football has been

great to watch and credit must be given to Mr Podger and Mr Oldham for instilling an exciting and expressive culture within the teams, but without testing ourselves regularly we have fallen just short in three of our five semi-finals. That said however both Year 9 and Year 11 head into their finals full of confidence and looking to bring some silverware home.

Plans are already afoot for next season to expand our fixture list beyond our area cup teams and look to get some regular mid-week fixtures against other opposition as we have done with the seniors to great success. They continue their county cup run beyond Easter and we look forward to some competitive football in the British summertime sun.

Rugby 7s

This year we have had a real crack at the 7s circuit across all age groups. The U12s won their local school games round to then play at the county finals where they were pipped to the post by an excellent Hardenhuish. The U14s took on new opponents at the Merchant Taylor 7s, equipping themselves well on their first outing, only for Sherborne 7s to fall to the snow. The U15s were Cup runners up at Bryanston and then Dorset School Champions the following week. Our U16 group had three tournaments cancelled before Rosslyn Park National School 7s where they were excellent, to only be knocked out on points difference despite some cracking results against the likes of Caterham.

Finally our 1st VII managed to get most tournaments played, starting in Seaford where they were Plate winners, beating the hosts and Haileybury along the way. They then had a long gap before Bryanston 7s where they took the Cup home after wins against Canford, Colston's and Bristol Grammar, before they went off to Rosslyn Park. We had high hopes at Rosslyn and finished our group as winners after beating a rather resilient and large Dean Close team to set up a play-off against Durham. By this point in the day we weren't at our freshest and Durham, the better team, took the win, but we had done enough to qualify for the next day. This saw us in a group with new opponents in September St Pauls and also Monmouth. After losing narrowly to Monmouth and them then losing to St Pauls, it would again come down to points difference, and despite beating St Pauls for the second time in a week, BWS left Rosslyn Park by the narrowest of margins, but with plenty to celebrate and the future of 7s in the school in a good place.

Individual Success

Anthony Sweeney was part of the Bramshaw golf team who became national champions earlier this month which saw the team then head to Portugal to represent England in the Home Nations Final. A couple of other boys have had the opportunity to travel abroad with their sport this term as well. Chris Chaddock went to Sri Lanka with county cricket and Vaughn Covil spent a week in The States playing football. Congratulations to all our sportsmen in and out of school.

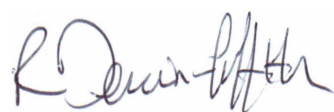
Next Term

There are still a few football matches to be played, but the main focus next term is athletics and tennis with hopefully some cricket along the way. With the South Wilts track out of action training for athletics will take place at the field and tennis will continue on a Friday lunchtime at Salisbury Tennis Club.

With new addition Henari Veratau in the PE department, Bishops Athletic Development Club (BAD Club) starts up again with a focus on core strength, injury prevention and power and anyone is welcome to the morning break sessions, with hopefully an after school option.

Frustrating, but successful, it's been a stop-start term, but the boys have stepped up and done themselves and the school proud as always and as ever I look forward to what the next term brings.

Best wishes



Richard Demain-Griffiths
Director of Sport



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Dear Parents/Guardians

TENNIS & ATHLETICS 2018/19

The tennis and athletics season is once again upon us with Aegon National School Tennis and English Schools Athletics fixtures.

Alongside this we have our Road to Wimbledon competition for boys in the lower school and at the end of the year our own Sports Day.

I would like to offer the boys who are likely to be a part of our tennis and/or athletics teams the opportunity to purchase Team BWS Tennis & Athletics kit, as a team I think it is important we look the part when competing. The tennis playing kit will feature the school crest and your initials with TEAM BWS on the back.

The training t-shirts will be white and feature BWS TENNIS or BWS ATHLETICS on the front with your surname on the back.

For the kit I am using two suppliers, Michael Hope who does most of our kit and also DBA Sports who have previously worked with us for both football and rugby.

None of the kit is compulsory, and as well as the kit to be purchased through myself, all TEAM BWS items are available on the Michael Hope website and are of course transferable across the various sports. DBA also does a range of personalised kit available via their website.

I will do another whole school kit order for the rugby term in June/July.

The deadline for replies is Monday 16 April.

Please pay online: Via www.scopay.com. If you need a link code please email amh@bws.wilts.sch.uk

Yours sincerely

Mr Richard Demain-Griffiths
Director of Sport

