



LOUGHBOROUGH  
Schools Sport

# Sports

NEWS

DECEMBER 2023



#LSFSport  
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**LOUGHBOROUGH**  
Schools Sport

As we approach the Christmas holiday it is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the varied and exciting opportunities that there have been in sport this term, and our superb team of staff, who continue to ensure there is a wide range of options for all of our pupils.

Aside from the range of opportunities, our team strive for performance and excellence at all levels, and we have been delighted to see the large numbers of pupils representing our Foundation teams. Our Heads of Sport will share more information in their individual reports, but here are a few of our highlights:

- The superb Loughborough Grammar School 1st XV Rugby team performance in their Friday Night Lights match to a crowd of 1500 people at Loughborough University
- The exceptional run for the girls' hockey teams which, at the time of writing, continues to progress
- Our excellent swimming team performances at the Independent Schools Association (ISA) and friendly galas this term
- The number of pupils accessing our wide array of clubs, especially those starting at 07:30 in the morning
- The Prep festivals that we have hosted this term for the Independent Association of Prep Schools (IAPS)
- The superb attendance by our Senior pupils to our fitness facilities.

I hope that our Prep parents have enjoyed the opportunity to access the Richard Shorter Non-Perfect Dad online workshops this term, and we are looking forward to the workshops for our Senior parents next term. I hope that you have enjoyed supporting your child on the touchlines as much as I have this term and that you all enjoy a wonderful festive season.



**Jo Hackett**  
Director of Sport,  
Loughborough Schools Foundation  
X @LsfSport



## SPORT REPORTS

### Badminton

**Mrs Rachel Lewis**  
Head of PE at Loughborough Grammar School

We are delighted to celebrate the success of Joshia from Loughborough Grammar School who played in the National U15 badminton competition in Manchester. He won a gold medal in the mixed doubles and a bronze medal in the boys' doubles.



### Basketball

**Mr Peter Gacs**  
Basketball Coach at Loughborough Grammar School

The **U12** team represented Loughborough Grammar School in the annual North Charnwood Basketball Tournament. After winning our group stage we played Charnwood in the final, narrowly losing by only a few points and finishing a respectable 2nd place in this very exciting 6-team tournament. I would like to congratulate every **Year 7**

basketball player for their efforts in the tournament and the progress they have all made in this sport since they joined LGS.

The **U13** and **U16** teams also competed in the annual North Charnwood Basketball Tournament. It was a tough competition because only the winner goes through to the next round: the knockout stage. Both of our teams dominated their tournaments and were victorious, beating every opponent

they faced on the day. This means that they have now advanced to **quarter-finals**. Congratulations to all players involved for their fantastic efforts on the basketball court.

In recent weeks our **U13** team dominated their games not just against Bosworth Academy, 37-8, but also against Welland Park Academy, 68-17. The **U13** team is still unbeaten this season - well done boys!

The **U18s** have played Uppingham and Oundle this term, and special mentions go to Jonathan and Isaac for their efforts on the court. Against Oundle the **U18** side unfortunately lost their game by only three points, although at half-time were up by eight. Their result was 39-42. Special mentions also go to Alphonsus and Lukasz for their good shooting, and Sibbo for his solid defence and rebounding.



U12 LGS Basketball Team





## SPORT REPORTS

### Cross-Country

**Mrs Rachel Lewis**

Head of PE at Loughborough Grammar School

Cross-country team members have battled the elements this season with Loughborough Grammar School competing at the Leicestershire individual races in rain, frost and sun. Three events were hosted this year at Mallory Park and all four school runners have been improving in each race.

Eight Loughborough Grammar School boys took part in the English Schools AA Cross-Country at Ratcliffe College earlier in the term, with fantastic performances from Kieran 1st, Ewan 2nd and Oliver 4th.

We are looking forward to taking part in the prestigious King Henry cross-country relay in January.



### Dance

**Mrs Sam Davey**

Head of Dance and Gymnastics

The annual Loughborough Schools Foundation Dance Show will be held on the evenings of Wednesday 20 and Thursday 21 March 2024 in Amherst School's Main Hall. This year's very exciting theme is 'A Night at the Movies' and will link the choice of performance stimulus to the style of dance from a variety of films. Within the show, pupils can showcase their achievements from the co-curricular clubs and school representations.

This term, pupils have been given the opportunity to join the lunchtime and after-school dance clubs and this will continue until the show, with those who participate in the dance clubs automatically placed in the show.

Auditions for solos, duets and trios took place prior to half-term and they did not disappoint! Pupils have now been informed of the outcomes, and rehearsals are underway. It's not too late to be a part of the show; please email [S.Davey@lsf.org](mailto:S.Davey@lsf.org) for more information. Tickets will go on sale in the New Year.

Natasha (LAS Year 12) reached the National final of the ISA dance competition in November. Natasha performed beautifully on the day. She won a runners-up prize and was awarded a place on the Rambert Grades workshop in London. This is a tremendous achievement, especially with there having been over 142 entries! In the same week, she also qualified for the All England regionals as well as winning her categories in the West Midlands festival! Well done Natasha!

Charlie (LHS Year 11) successfully auditioned at Studio 79 in Leicester. During the gruelling day, she participated in jazz, ballet, commercial and vocal classes. Charlie's talent shone through and she was offered a place on the B-Tech Level 3 dance course. Well done, Charlie; we're excited to see where this journey takes you in the world of performing arts!



Natasha in ISA dance competition



# SPORT REPORTS

## Gymnastics

**Mrs Sam Davey**  
Head of Dance and Gymnastics

This term saw the start of a much larger gymnastics provision for our pupils across the Foundation. Coach Rob from 360 gymnastics has ensured that the club not only enhances those foundation skills required for gymnastics but he has also introduced trampolining into the club for pupils from Amherst and the High School. It has proved to be a great success. **Year 3** LAS pupil Melina, **Year 7** LHS pupils Emmy and Ellie and **Year 10** LAS student Lilia have all excelled in their trampolining skills, with their challenging routines and competition standard routines which have impressed us all greatly!

This provision is excellent for our pupils, and something we are hoping to build on in the coming years. If you would like to join the waiting list for Gymnastics club after school on a Thursday, please contact Rob - [rob@360gymnasticsuk.net](mailto:rob@360gymnasticsuk.net) or [S.Davey@lsf.org](mailto:S.Davey@lsf.org) for more information.



## Football

**Miss Nic Attwood**  
Head of PE at Loughborough High School

Loughborough High School senior footballers had their first win of the season with **5-3 vs Lutterworth College** in the **U18 Team Leicestershire League**. The girls demonstrated a fantastic team performance against a very strong Lutterworth side. Goals from Elena, Marinella 2x, Antonia and an LHS Alum saw our team run out as eventual winners. Shout outs to Ellie with an outstanding player of the match performance and a match winning save from Lucy, to tip an almost certain goal round the post!

We are delighted to celebrate the success of Bea, **Year 9**, LHS. Bea currently trains with the Aston Villa girls academy twice a week with matches at weekends. Following a referral to the FA's 'Discover My Talent' team in September, she was invited to a Future Lioness Talent ID event in Milton Keynes. This proved to be successful and she will now be monitored and supported for progression on the FA Women's England Talent Pathway. This is a superb achievement and we will follow Bea's progress with interest!

We are delighted that our footballers have been able to train this half-term at Quorn Football Club. We have enjoyed using the floodlight 4G pitch three evenings a week to focus all of our teams for the main football term after Christmas. Our senior boys are very much looking forward to their pre-season football training trip to Portugal in January and we look forward to reporting back next term.

We are proud to have provided the training facilities for the Midlands Independent Schools trials for the 2024 Gothia Cup in football. Over 200 players tried for the team selection and the coaches and selectors were very impressed with the talent displayed by pupils from Loughborough Schools Foundation. I am delighted that a number of our Foundation students have been selected for a team and offer our congratulations to them all.





# SPORT REPORTS

## Hockey

**Miss Hannah Grieve**  
Foundation Head of Hockey

Girls' hockey is in full swing with lots of fixtures taking place on a weekly basis and all boys have been working hard in their training sessions to be ready for a busy term of fixtures after Christmas. Some of our highlights from this half-term include:

- Fairfield **U11** girls won silver in the plate competition of their IAPS Regional tournament
- 21 girls from Loughborough High School **U13s** team went on tour to London during the half-term break. The girls got to experience some hockey mixed in with a tour of Wimbledon and some shopping
- Our **U13A** team are going strong in their Independent Schools' Hockey Cup (ISHC) competition. On December 6 the **U13** Girls' hockey team beat St Johns Leatherhead 3-2 in the quarter-final of the U13 Independent Schools Hockey Cup Competition. They have now reached the National semi-finals of this competition which will be held after Christmas. A superb achievement for this team.
- Loughborough High School **U14s** won their county round and finished 2nd in their zone round to qualify for the **Midlands Regional Finals**. The girls performed brilliantly on the day, only to come up short in their semi-final to a strong Ratcliffe team
- Loughborough High School 2nd XI won their county and zone rounds to reach their Midlands Regional Finals, only to lose out on a place in the **semi-finals** by 1 point
- Loughborough High School 1st XI have a fantastic record, playing 18 games so far this year, winning 13, drawing 1 and only losing 3. The team has also for the second year in a row, reached the **semi-finals** of their **National Tier 2 competition**. They played St Peters, York in the **quarter-final** securing a home tie and finished the games with a superb 2-0 victory. We await their next opponents for the **semi-final** after Christmas.





## SPORT REPORTS

### Netball

**Miss Ella Clark**  
Head of Netball

Girls from both the High School and Amherst competed in the Leicestershire County Tournaments for **U14**, **U16** and **U19**. Amherst **U14s** narrowly missed out on making the semi-finals after some extremely, close games, and the High School **U14s** finished 6th in their pool.

The **U16s** finished 2nd in their group and after the finals took place, finished a very respectable 4th. The **U19s** took part in a round robin format and after some very tough, and very close games, also came away with a 4th place finish.

The **U12**, **U13** and **U15** age groups took part in the first round of the Team Leicestershire; all being successful and progressing on to the next round, which will be played imminently as they aim to make it to the finals evening in January. Amherst **U16** also took part in the ISA regional competition in September, just missing out on the **finals**.

The 1st VII netball team had a very successful senior sports tour with 2 wins from 2 against Gibraltar pathway and performance teams.



### Orienteering

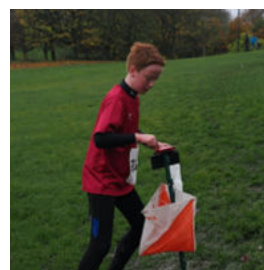
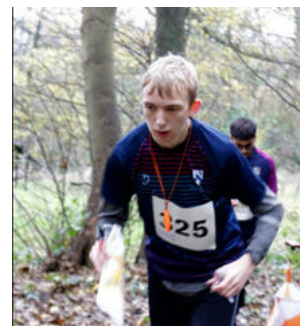
**Dr Toni O'Donovan**  
Learning Support and Academic Tutor

On a cold, and slightly damp, November morning our Loughborough Schools Foundation orienteering team headed to Temple Newsam in Leeds for the **British Orienteering Championships**. Our team had a real mix of experience, with some pupils having competed internationally where others had only recently started.

Eoin (LGS **Year 9**) had the best individual performance of the day but was frustrated that some small errors left him six seconds off an individual medal. Robyn (LHS **Year 13**) and Cara (LHS **Year 8**) were also keen to replicate their individual medals from earlier in the year at the **Score Championships** but the competition was tough and both lost a

little time. Paddy (LGS **Year 7**) had a great run to finish 15th in the **Year 7** race as he is relatively new to the club having only started this term.

In the **Year 9 boys** competition there was clear rivalry with Bradford Grammar School who are coached by former Loughborough Grammar School student David Alcock. Thankfully we were ahead of Bradford but unfortunately beaten by Lancaster Royal Grammar School and The Perse School in Cambridge into 3rd place. Eoin, Harry and George made up the **Year 9 boys** team and enjoyed receiving their medals and prize!





## SPORT REPORTS

### Rugby

**Mr Emyr Lewis**  
Head of Rugby

In what is our 100-year anniversary of rugby at Loughborough Grammar School, it is a very special year to be able to represent and be part of the rugby here at the school this season.

We kicked off proceedings with a lovely dinner for over 150 former Loughborough Grammar rugby players, followed by our annual game against Trent. The game didn't disappoint, with several tries being scored by both teams, however unfortunately we didn't get the win. This term for the 1st XV is always tough; many of our fixtures have been against sides that have the size and quality to trouble any side at any level, let alone at U18 level.

Having had an excellent pre-season camp in Portugal, it's been a very successful season to date with some outstanding rugby played. The boys' consistency and attitude has allowed them to develop and progress across the season, and we are now in the Natwest quarter-finals of the Bowl, the furthest the school has ever gone.

Another highlight of this term is our win against our nearest rivals Nottingham High School. It was a fantastic spectacle with over 1500 spectators in attendance under the lights at Loughborough University.

The 2nd XV have kept the pressure on the 1st XV with consistent performances and some excellent wins. The good mix of Year 12 and 13s has proved to be a good balance enabling the boys to gel and develop well as a team, putting the necessary pressure on the 1st XV to keep performing.

The U16 team is also having an excellent season. They are developing and continually progressing into good rugby players. A positive attitude off the field, with the extra training in the gym is enabling them to express themselves on the rugby field, resulting in some impressive wins; a highlight being a 50-7 win vs Oakham School.

The U15As have had a good season with just a little more consistency required. However, the squad has a fantastic attitude; they are keen to progress and continue to develop as rugby players.

The U15Bs have improved immensely with two excellent wins to date. As



was the case last year, it is pleasing to see the number of boys who are new to the game of rugby and who are now established and committed to representing the school on Saturdays, and it continues to grow.

It has been a very tough season for our U14As; a side who are always training well and portray a fantastic attitude throughout. A win has certainly helped! Continued hard work and sticking together as a group is the message moving forward, as I have no doubt that there's plenty of potential in this group to develop and excel further in their rugby journey.

The U13As have been very consistent, registering some very impressive victories. Numbers are excellent and the boys continue to train well.



The U13Bs have picked up from where they left off last season, winning all but one of their games. They continue to push the A team and we are now seeing several boys having the opportunity to play for the A team.

The Year 7 boys have engaged enthusiastically with rugby this term; it is wonderful to regularly see over 40 boys attend after school training on Tuesdays, some of which have never touched a rugby ball before joining LGS. Similarly, on several Saturdays we have been able to field three teams, all with plenty of replacements. With lots of boys new to the game it's been fantastic to see such good results. It is clear to see that the boys' hard work has been rewarded with some excellent performances and results.





## SPORT REPORTS

### Shooting

**Mr Dan Murphy**  
Head of Shooting

Athletes from across the Foundation have enjoyed great success in the regional rounds of British Shooting School Championships. In the air pistol competition, Oscar, Toby and Jacob represented Loughborough Grammar School as the winning team in the Intermediate regional competition, and will go on to compete in the National Finals in Staffordshire next February. Meanwhile, in their first ever air rifle competitions, Eva (LAS) won the Intermediate 6yd Sporter Class for the East Midlands area, and Charlie (LHS) took gold in the Senior 6yd Sporter Class.

A veteran of the Championships, but moving into the 10m Sporter Class for the first time, Patrick (LGS) was East Midlands' senior individual champion, and will be joined by Luca (LSF Shooting Captain, LGS) and Samuel (LGS) as the region's winning 10m Senior Sporter Team.

Meanwhile, in the 6yd Senior Sporter Team category, LHS took top place with Robyn, Charlie, and Emily. All of these medal-winners will be representing the East Midlands and LSF at the National Finals - and with other results still coming in, there remains a good chance that some of our other teams may also qualify!

Their success could not have taken place without the support of the Loughborough Grammar School Parents' Association, who have provided much of the equipment needed to train and compete.



# SPORT REPORTS

## Swimming and Triathlon

**Mr Chris Perham**  
Head of Swimming & Triathlon

Warwick 100's meet was our first gala of the academic year for the senior schools and our first time ever filling all age groups as an Loughborough Schools Foundation team. Across all the individual and relay events we had some outstanding performances and many personal best times. The girls' team from Loughborough High School and Loughborough Amherst School managed to show great teamwork and effort to place 3rd overall, with 9 schools entered. The Loughborough Grammar School boys equally showed some amazing performances and many stepping up age groups to swim against older swimmers and maximise the points for Loughborough Schools Foundation as a team. The boys along with many personal best times finished 6th out of 10 teams entered.

At the Independent Schools Association (ISA) Midlands Gala, our Amherst swimmers performed well with the highlight being Henry who finished 2nd in the Freestyle race and qualified for the National ISA for the Midlands Team in the Freestyle and Medley Relays.

Other highlights were Jessica finishing 3rd in the Year 11-13 200m Individual Medley, and Eva finishing 2nd in the Year 9-10, 100m Backstroke final. Well done to the whole team.

Next up will be some time trials at Loughborough Schools Foundation to select our best team for the Bath and Nelson cup in London, and for our Year 7 and 8s, the World School Games event; both being held at the London Olympic Aquatic centre next year. The first event will also be attended by Fairfield Prep with the best 6 boys and 6 girls being selected across Year 5 and 6 from our current selected swim academy on Tuesday lunch times.

We also had a successful Loughborough Amherst School prep swimming gala with Agnes house just coming out on top by 5 points.



# SPORT REPORTS

## National Tennis Academy News

**Dr Toni O'Donovan**  
LUNTA Academic Tutor

Henry has been making the step up to the Men's game following his win at Junior Wimbledon in June and he has continued his impressive form into the Autumn. Recognising the trajectory of his development, he was invited to train with the Men's GB team at their dramatic Davis Cup tie in September which made for a memorable boarding trip to Manchester to support the team. Although often competing further afield, we expect to see Henry play at the Pro Series 25k tournament in Loughborough in January so keep an eye on X, formerly known as Twitter, for more information on where and when you can see him play in the new year.

Since making the Junior Wimbledon quarter-finals in June, Mika has been incredibly busy competing at the US Open, Beijing Open and the Osaka Open. She is currently in Florida at the last junior major of the year with her eyes firmly set on next season's opener at the Australian Open in January. She is going from strength to strength and is now ranked 59th in the world and 6th in her age group - incredible!

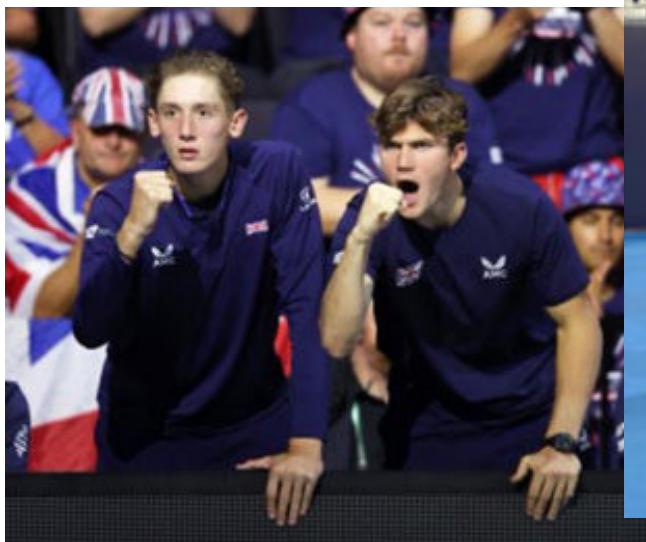
This year we have also welcomed five new players to the National Tennis Academy; Ben, Zechariah, Rhys, Henry and Alex. Despite the significant adjustment that came with a new school, new coaches and living away from home in boarding for the first time, we have seen some phenomenal results from our newest recruits.

This term Hollie, Rhys, Alex and Zechariah headed for Rhodes where Hollie celebrated her first ITF tournament win which was followed up with a second win for Hollie and a first for Zechariah in the Lexus Open in Loughborough. Mika, Ben, Daniela and Ruby headed to Asia where both Mika and Ben picked up doubles titles at the Beijing Open. Ben also made the final of the singles but a bad fall during the match meant that he had to withdraw and this has been followed by two months of rehab work; elite sport is hard but he hopes to be back in time for the Australian Open in January!

Abby has been busy with rehab too and is hoping to start the new year with some international competitions which is really great news.



But it's not all about tennis...Daniela celebrated the highest GCSE results in Amherst in August and, while settling into her A Level programme, she has been managing the significant academic demands admirably alongside some great performances, which have seen her ranking improve all season.





## SPORT REPORTS

### Senior Girls Sports Tour Costa Del Sol

**Miss Clark & Miss Grieve**  
Head of Netball and Head of Hockey

Players from our senior hockey and netball teams went on tour to Costa del Sol during the half-term break. The girls experienced some great sightseeing excursions to places such as Malaga, Marbella and Puerto Banus, as well as a group highlight trip to Gibraltar where they got to see some monkeys and dolphins. The tour consisted of two netball and two hockey games spread amongst the 5-day trip. The hockey team played against two teams from Benalmadena Hockey club winning 6-2 and 2-0. The netball team played two games against the Gibraltar National Netball pathway teams winning 32-8 and 34-29. The girls showcased their skills and represented the Foundation extremely well, coming away undefeated in all the games. A great trip had by all, despite the weather not always being on our side!



# SPORT REPORTS

## Rugby 1st XV Pre-Season Tour to Portugal

**Joe Wells**  
Year 13 at Loughborough Grammar School

The Loughborough Grammar School senior rugby tour to Portugal in August has allowed us to massively improve our team cohesion through a broad range of activities. Whilst in Portugal we visited both Porto and Lisbon where we had access to elite level facilities in the form of our training centre, and off the pitch we took part in activities at our resort. Whilst in Lisbon we visited the Benfica football stadium and received a guided tour, as well as having afternoons to explore the city in groups. After our week of training, we faced a high-level Portuguese side in which we had a close encounter.



A strength of our tour was the opportunity to train as a whole squad and build friendships which we will maintain forever. As a result of our gelling on and off the pitch, our season has been aided massively as our teamwork and work rate for one another has increased to a great degree from the tour. Following the tour, we felt ready for our first game of the regular season vs Ratcliffe in which we came out heavy victors.





## SPORT REPORTS

### Amherst Prep

**Mrs Emma Hopper**

Head of PE at Loughborough Amherst School

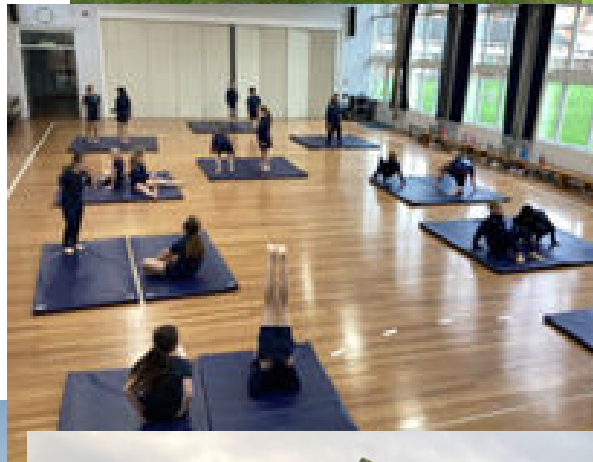
The Preparatory school pupils have risen to the theme of challenge though the new concept curriculum in representing the school in a variety of sporting opportunities during the Autumn term.

There was lots of excitement and strong performances for the Year 4-6 team at the ISA Midlands Swimming Gala. Year 6 have learnt touch rugby, won the C pool tournament and drew in the D pool tournament hosted by Fairfield. They also hosted Derby High School for enjoyable football fixtures at the start of the season.

Six pupils took part and put in strong runs at the first race at Mallory park for the Leicestershire and Rutland cross-country league, and meanwhile all of Year 6 took part in a bike ability week, passing level 1, with 6 progressing to level 3.

Pupils have been inspired by Amherst school's new member of Preparatory staff, Mrs Bristow, Prep School Teacher, as she represented Ireland in the 12th World Korfball Championships in Taiwan. Well done Mrs Bristow!

We are looking forward to the annual Preparatory swimming gala this term, where all the pupils will compete and demonstrate progress learned from their weekly swimming lessons.



Mrs Bristow



# SPORT REPORTS

## Fairfield Prep

**Mr Adam Hoult**  
Head of PE at Fairfield Prep

At Fairfield, we always win. We always win because we emphasise not winning. That does not mean that we do not want to win, absolutely we do, however we understand that by focusing just on the result, we will create a pressure and a motivation driven by external factors outside of our control. Our staff work hard to promote the focus on things that are within the control of our children, such as the weight of our pass, the timing of our run, the things we say to ourselves as we stand on the block before our first dive. We often ask, "What does a great performance look like without mentioning goals or winning?" The children often come back with things that they can focus on and what they can control, ensuring that no matter the result, we are always learning and developing.

The children's growth and development has been fantastic to see this term across our major games of **hockey** and **rugby**. There have also been some excellent examples of determination in the swimming pool, on the vaults and on the **football** pitch. Every child in **Upper Prep** has had the feeling of representing the school and this is something that, as a department, we are incredibly proud of. At Prep school level, growth and maturation levels can differ immensely and it becomes important for us to provide everyone an opportunity to play and have a positive experience because, as we know, they might develop at a later stage.



During the early parts of the term, the **Year 6 girls' hockey team** progressed well, narrowly losing to an incredibly strong Bromsgrove school in the Independent Association of Prep Schools (IAPS) plate final. Our boys' **football** team endured a difficult start to their IAPS competition, losing the first 3 matches, only to come back to win the plate final on the day. After losing the first four matches of the season, the **Year 6 boys' rugby team** won three of their IAPS competition matches and have recently finished with a strong victory over Spratton Hall. We firmly believe that this progress is through focusing on the small details that are fully within our control and the majority of the children have fully embraced this. Children competing in the **cross-country** have been outstanding, showing real levels of determination, especially on such a difficult course. The swimming squad took part in their first swimming gala of the year against Leicester Grammar School and performed fantastically well on the day, winning all the relay events, proving that togetherness and teamwork are the key.

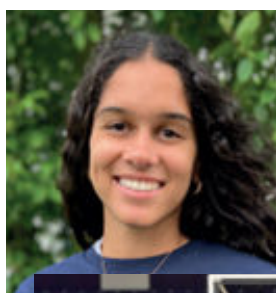
Recently our IAPS **gymnastics** squad made the long trip to West London to compete at the national event. The gymnasiums were packed with visiting schools and spectators and our girls stood tall, performing brilliantly well and earning some outstanding feedback from the judges. A huge congratulations must go to our silver medallist, Sophie **Year 4**, a true testament to the work that she puts in.

We are proud of our children and the way they get stuck into to everything we offer here at school and for that, we always win.

# STAFF NEWS

Over the course of this term, we have been delighted to welcome some new staff to the Foundation Sports Faculty.

Miss Taylor O'Brien joins our basketball coaching staff having graduated from Florida State University where last season she averaged 6.7 points. Miss O'Brien comes to the UK to play basketball for Leicester Riders in the Women's British Basketball League (WBBL) and also holds the Bucknell's record for high jump in the track and field cup.



Miss Charlotte Allen has joined our team as a netball Graduate Sports Assistant. Charlotte is a Loughborough Amherst School Alum, who has a wealth of netball playing and coaching experience. She joins us having worked for England Netball over the summer.



We are delighted to be able to announce that we have appointed an Assistant Head of Hockey, Mr Paul Willars, to work alongside Miss Grieve our Foundation Head of Hockey. Paul, a Loughborough Grammar School Alum, joins us in January and is a highly experienced hockey coach having coached for the MT13 Coaching Academy. He is an experienced Level 2 Coach who is dedicated to creating a safe and fun environment that allows players to thrive and fulfil their hockey potential. Paul has strong hockey links in the local community, and we have no doubt that he will add huge value to our hockey student programme.



We would like to wish Mrs Davey our Head of Dance and Gymnastics the very best of luck with the arrival of her twins when she soon departs on her maternity leave, which will be covered by Ms Sara Chirimini. Ms Chirimini has a huge amount of dance performance experience and her areas of specialism are Contemporary Dance and Afro-South American dances (Uruguayan and Brazilian). She studied Japanese Butoh dance theatre in Japan for 18 months with Kazuo Ohno and Butoh practitioners based in Kyoto.



Sadly, we also had to say goodbye to Mr Kulk our Head of Football this term. Mr Kulk made a huge impact to our football programme, and as many of you will already know, he has now returned with his family to his native Australia. We have secured a strong replacement for him who will join our department in April 2024, and we look forward to sharing more details next term.

We are delighted to share the news that we have appointed Mr Emyr Lewis as our first Head of Performance Sport. Mr Lewis will work with Mrs Hackett and the Heads of Sport and PE to support our offer for our student athletes. Mr Lewis, who will still retain his role as Head of Rugby, is perfect for this role and is able to share his own experience as an elite athlete in supporting our aspiring elite within the Foundation. We look forward to sharing more information on this in due course.



For lots more sports news, follow us on X, formerly known as Twitter.

**Fairfield**  
X @LboroFPSport

**Amherst**  
X @LboroAMSport

**Grammar School**  
X @LboroGSSport

**High School**  
X @LboroHSSport