



LOUGHBOROUGH
Schools Sport

Sports

NEWS

March 2024



#LSFSport
#SportForAll



LOUGHBOROUGH
Schools Sport

The Spring term always amazes me with just how much the staff and pupils manage to pack in. This year has been no exception with friendly fixtures, county, regional and national competitions, as well as the numerous House sport competitions, sports trips, and tours, the celebratory sports dinners, a dance show, and so much more.

Our pupils have continued to perform superbly at all levels of their sports, and particular highlights this term have been:

- the high number of pupils representing their Foundation teams
- the success of our badminton and basketball teams as regional champions
- the girls' U13 hockey teams reaching the National Finals
- the boys' Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 badminton teams winning through to the National Finals

Our pupils have continued to perform superbly and as we hope that the rain finally stops, giving our pitches time to recover over the break, we look forward to the Summer term and the cricket, tennis and athletic seasons with great enthusiasm.

We are thrilled that so many parents tuned in over the course of both this term and the last to join us for the Richard Shorter parent workshops. We had the highest number of parents from any school, and this shows how lucky we are to have such superb support on the sidelines. We hope that you enjoyed these workshops as much as we did, and we look forward to continuing with these and other initiatives in the future.

I hope that you enjoy looking through some of the highlights in sport this term and I shall look forward to seeing you all next term at some of the many sports events that mark a key place in the Summer term calendar.



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





SPORT REPORTS

Badminton

Mr Utkarsh Arora
Head of Rackets

Four boys represented LGS at the first round of the Leicestershire Championships. Whilst it is a Key Stage 3 competition, in which most boys are Year 9, LGS took three Year 7 boys and one Year 9 boy. Joshua T, Ibthiha O, Max Z and Jaden D played against four local schools with the matches being a combination of singles and doubles. The most any school scored against LGS was five and we won all four matches meaning the LGS Key Stage 3 badminton team won the **Leicestershire County Finals** and became county champions!

Our **U14** and **U16** badminton teams progressed to the next round of the **National Badminton Championships** by winning the County rounds in both age groups. This competition was hosted for the first time at Loughborough Grammar School and the team played with high levels of intensity as we overcame Manor High School and Crown Hills Community College in both singles and doubles matches. The boys won 5-0, 4-1 and 4-1.

The **senior boys'** team, Dani A H, Hugo S, Cheng P and Thibault C, won the team Leicestershire Key Stage 5 competition, winning every match and losing very few points.

Our LHS Key Stage 3 Badminton team consisting of Sofia, Amber, Rosie, and Bella competed in the Team Leicestershire County **Badminton Finals**. Unbeaten until the final, the girls lost out on the gold medal to an excellent Rushey Mead team. However, the girls walked away with a silver medal and a very commendable **second place** finish out of seven teams! Loughborough Grammar School Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 badminton teams travelled to the National Schools England Badminton Championships East Midlands Regional Finals.



This is the first time we have entered this competition and having won the county round convincingly, we were all looking forward to the next challenge.

The Key Stage 3 team showed their prowess from the first point. They won all three of their matches 5-0 with Joshua T and Ibthiha O performing superbly, winning all of their singles, despite a couple of very close matches. The matches are scored by points, and the team beat Oundle 105 - 72, Priory 105-55 and West Bridgford 105 - 80.

Not to be outdone by the younger team, the Key Stage 4 team, Marco C, Alex V, Demetrius C and Oscar H achieved some great results. Their first match was against QUEGS which was the closest of all of their matches, and with a tight doubles game they finished 3-2 winners with a 90-78 scoreline. After this there was no stopping the team as they continued to beat West Bridgford 105-42 and Oundle School 105-59 winning both matches 5-0. A special mention to Marco C who won all of his singles matches easily throughout the day.



These amazing results mean that both Grammar School Teams are now **Regional Champions** and will progress to the **National Finals** at the National Badminton Centre next month.



LGS Key Stage 5 Badminton Winners

LGS Key Stage 4 Badminton Winners

SPORT REPORTS

Basketball

Mrs Rachel Lewis
Head of PE at Loughborough
Grammar School

The Loughborough Grammar School U16 basketball team has had a superb cup run this term culminating with an exciting Team Leicestershire final at the Morningside Arena. The boys were too strong for the opposition finishing the final with a 84-36 win.



Cross-Country

Mrs Rachel Lewis
Head of PE at Loughborough Grammar
School

Seven LGS boys took part in the historic King Henry 52nd Boys' and 24th Girls' Annual Relay Race 2024 with over 500 runners from over 40 schools across England and Northern Ireland! They finished 32nd out of 56 which they were very happy about, especially as there were more teams this year. LGS finished five places higher than last year and had a mix of Year 8, 9, 10 and 11 boys in the U18 event.

All boys were invited to run in the Secondary Schools County Cross Country Championships being held at Ratcliffe College in February. The first eight finishes in each age group form the team to represent Leicestershire and Rutland in the English School Cross Country Championships being held in Pontefract. Congratulations to the following boys who qualified to run in this event: **Oliver S, Kieran J and Ewan M**. Well done to all who took part, it is such a fantastic achievement to run at this level of competition and against the finest in the country.





SPORT REPORTS

Football

Mr Louis Gosrani
Football Graduate Sports Assistant

We have seen a huge interest in football across Loughborough Schools Foundation this year, leading to a large number of pupils participating, either in their weekly games sessions or by representing the school in competitive fixtures.

LGS has been represented by the senior 1XI and 2XI in the Mercian league, as well as the U16 and U15 teams. The First and Second team boys have been magnificent throughout the season with some hard-fought wins and close defeats for both. A particular highlight being a comfortable win for the Firsts under the floodlights at Quorn, roared on by a big crowd. Our U16s remain unbeaten showing our football is in good hands as we say goodbye to our talented Year 13s.

Over at LHS we have been represented by all the year groups, in different formats of the game, with a huge uptake from our Year 7 and 8s. A big well done to our Year 8 footballers who played against Repton School in a friendly match in preparation for the Repton Festival. A fantastic team performance and some great goals saw us come away with a 2-1 win. Special mentions to Isla for a couple of great saves and some excellent distribution from the back; Amber for being solid in defence and not allowing anything or anyone past her; Sophie for some nice wing-play and tidy touches and passes to maintain possession; and Olivia for a nice solo goal at the end to secure the win for us!



We took eleven Year 8 and 9 girls to compete against schools from across the country. The day was very well organised, with our girls playing five 12-minute matches. They had a slow start, losing their first game, however some of the girls had never played with each other before and so it took a little bit of time to gel as a team. Once they got going, they looked unbeatable. They won their next four games and played some beautiful football in the process, leading to a second place finish. Overall, it was a great day out and they did themselves and the school proud. Some tough fixtures in the ESFA cup meant we didn't progress to the later rounds but with interest at a record high, the school is now in a good position to remain competitive for years to come.

Our new Head of Football, Mr Perry Wild, joins us after Easter and has many fresh ideas on how to advance football across the Foundation. This, alongside record engagement, ensures we should have a bright few years of football ahead of us.



SPORT REPORTS

Hockey

Miss Hannah Grieve
Foundation Head of Hockey

We have had an incredible term of hockey at LSF, playing over 100 games across the Foundation and achieving lots of success along the way. Some of our highlights from this term include:

- **U11 girls** were silver medallists in their IAPS plate competition and runners-up in their In2Hockey County Qualifier. This means the girls have qualified for the **Regional Finals** which were hosted at Rugby School.
- **U13 girls** finished their cup campaign as bronze medallists in the Independent Schools Hockey Competition following a very entertaining **Finals Day** at Beeston Hockey Club. The girls also finished their County Tournament as runners-up and took part in their **Regional Finals** where they performed superbly and were unbeaten all day. They will now progress to the **National Finals** after Easter. The girls have had another incredible season and will be looking to finish their season on a high.
- **U13 boys** went on their **Manchester Tour** during the February half-term break. 18 of our **U13** boys experienced a mixture of competitive fixtures and sightseeing, including a tour of Old Trafford stadium and visiting the Etihad stadium to watch a Premier League match.
- **U14 boys** came out on top of their County Qualifier meaning they qualified for the **Tier 2 U14 Regional Finals**. The boys played some very good hockey throughout the day and finished up in sixth place with three wins, one draw and two losses.
- **U14 girls** qualified for their Regional Tournament after battling their way through a County Tournament to end up as **winners**, and a Zone Competition where they finished as runners-up. The girls made it all the way to the **semi-final stage** of their regional round only to lose out narrowly to Ratcliffe College. This was a year of development for this group which ended with a lot of good results and team performances.

- **1XI girls** battled their way through to the **Tier 2 National semi-final**. The girls cup journey came to an end as they narrowly lost out to Perse School. It has been another great year for our **senior girls** who continue to push the standard of hockey for our school and put Loughborough High School on the map.
- **1XI boys** have had a wonderful comeback season under the new leadership of **Mr Willars**. The boys continue to make progress in their **Tier 2 Plate competition** and had a home tie against Scarborough. The boys will finish their season with a tour to **Holland** where they will experience playing and watching hockey in the country which is ranked top in the world for both men and women's hockey.

Overall, we are incredibly proud of all the efforts and achievements from our players this season and are looking forward to acknowledging some of these in the coming weeks and months during our sports awards evenings.



SPORT REPORTS

Netball

Miss Ella Clark
Foundation Head of Netball

Netball season was in full swing this term with over 260 girls representing their respective schools in fixtures. Amongst their weekly fixtures Fairfield U11 team competed in the annual IAPS netball tournament at Stamford School. The girls had a great tournament finishing third in the pool but unfortunately losing by one goal in the first round of the knockout round for the Plate. After IAPS the U10 and U11 teams transitioned from bee netball to 7-a-side netball; it was fantastic to see how quickly they adjusted to the new rules and positions in some great fixtures and festivals.



Meanwhile, Amherst and the High School were competing in block fixtures week in week out. There was a lot of growth this season not only in skills but also in their tactical knowledge. Some highlights of the term include:

- LHS U13 team winning the **Team Leicestershire Cup**. This was a culmination of four knockout rounds that started before Christmas, with the final held at the university with the teams' families, friends and teachers supporting them.
- Amherst U14 team finished third out of 19 this year in their **ISA U14 Midland Tournament**. Their third/fourth playoff went into extra time but the girls dug deep and came away with the one goal win.
- LHS and LAS U15 teams participated in the **DRET invitational tournament** which was hosted at University of Nottingham against other schools from around Leicestershire and neighbouring counties. LAS pushed hard in the knockout stages to finish second in the Plate whilst LHS had a tough ask in the cup finishing third.

Finally, a special note to our 1VII netball team who played their last game for the school this term. The team has grown massively throughout their time at LHS, showing unwavering commitment to school sport. It was great to see them play some wonderful netball this term.





SPORT REPORTS

Boys' Rugby

Mr Emyr Lewis
Foundation Head of Rugby

Following on from a very busy Autumn term, the cold and wet weather once again played a part in the cancelling of several fixtures at the start of the Spring term. However, we did manage to finish the Saturday 15s season off with a full block against Old Swinford Hospital, followed by our annual **House 7s** tournament.

Our **1XV** played in the semi-final of the **National Bowl**, the furthest any of our teams have done in recent times. Unfortunately the opposition proved too strong, and we lost. However, these boys have had the most successful season the school has experienced in a number of years! The **Year 13s** involved will be missed. Not just for their performances on the field, but also off the field as role models; they have worn the **1XV** jersey with pride.

Overall, rugby has shown a big improvement in our results this season, and whilst, it's not all about winning, let's be honest; as much as we do promote participation, there's nothing quite like winning!

We have entered the County Cup this year at both **U15** and **U16** with both awaiting their date for the Final, following a win for both in their semi-finals.

Although the weather has had an impact on the **7s** season, most of our teams managed to play in at least one tournament. We sent three teams to the **Rosslyn Park 7s tournament** this year and with over 800 schools entered, it is the biggest school **7s** tournament in the world. Once again, all players thoroughly enjoyed the occasion and competed well in their respective groups.

Our **Year 7s** had their annual Blackpool tour and our **Year 9s** travelled to Castleford for their respective weekends. Lots of fun was had, and behaviour was exemplary throughout.

Our annual rugby dinner hosted 210 players, plus our guest of honour, Matt Everard, Lead Defence coach at Leicester Tigers. Matt is an LGS Alum and spoke fondly of his memories at LGS. His closest friends now are the ones he played rugby with at school, and he reminded players to never forget their roots. Hence, he jumped at the chance to come back to our dinner.



None of the above would be possible without the help of so many staff members, caretakers, catering and grounds staff who give up their time to coach and help support the rugby.

We rarely mention individual players, however we wanted to highlight the performances of **1XV rugby captain Edd M.** Edd has not only continued to perform superbly for school during this season, but he has been selected to represent the Midlands Representative Rugby Team for their fixtures this season. **A superb achievement.**





SPORT REPORTS

Girls' Rugby

Miss Jess Weaver
Foundation PE Teacher

Year 7, 8, and 9 pupils from both LHS and LAS attended a girls rugby festival at Loughborough Rugby club led by Leicester Tigers. The festival focused on introducing the girls to contact and finished with a handful of friendly competitive games. All the girls had a great time and embraced the new challenge of contact rugby.



The Foundation swim team and FFD swim academy are continuing to train weekly in preparation for the world school games swimming event this May.

Jacob D, Toby D and Oscar P headed south for a final run out before the **National Triathlon** at the end of March. A solid set of performances left them in first place and inside the top five individually.

The first triathlon event of the year took place at Trent College for our FFD and LAS prep teams. This provided for some the first opportunity to complete a triathlon and after all the weekly training at the LSF Tri club we had some amazing performances and close racing. We await the full team results but a special mention to Darcey F (FFD) for **finishing second overall**.

The whole triathlon club is preparing for many more triathlon events as the Summer term starts.



Swimming and Triathlon

Mr Chris Perham
Head of Swimming and Triathlon

LSF took a Foundation team to the Leicestershire schools **swimming championships** at Iveshead school with many personal best times and individual/team podium finishes. We are waiting to see how many have been selected into the county team at the regional championships.

LGS boys recently went to **London** for the Bath cup which is one of the highest national school swimming events of the year and again saw many personal best times achieved in the Olympic swimming pool by our boys, Alvin L, Felix L, Seth G and Luke S.





SPORT REPORTS

Boys' Cricket

Mr Alex Aldred
Foundation Co-Head of Cricket

The Spring term has seen the beginning of the cricket season across the Foundation for 2024. Whilst our outdoor matches don't start until after Easter, pre-season training has been in full flow with all age groups having had multiple training sessions in preparation for the season.

Alongside our pre-season training, the U12s participated in the Leicestershire Indoor County Cricket finals at Crown Hills, Leicester. The winner of this competition goes onto represent the Midlands in the next stage of the national competition. Whilst the tournament is an U13 competition, we competed with an entirely U12 team. We made it to the final of the competition to face Leicester Grammar but were unfortunately beaten by 40 runs leaving us as runners-up across the county of Leicestershire.

We are now working up to a busy Summer term of cricket and have a lot to build on moving forward.



U12 LGS Boys Indoor Cricket Team

Girls' Cricket

Miss Alice Quemby
Foundation Co-Head of Cricket

The girls have started this year's cricket season very well with many attending indoor training sessions at lunchtime and after school. Recently our U13s and U15s took part in the Team Leicestershire Indoor Cricket County Finals where both teams faced some tough opposition. The U13s made excellent progress as the tournament went on and grew in confidence with each game. The first two games were won comfortably due to some brilliant bowling and fielding displays, and the final game became the decider between ourselves and Leicester Grammar. A high scoring match resulted in a thrilling ending with our girls requiring 12 runs off 6 balls. Some calm and composed batting saw us through with two balls to spare and ensured that the girls qualified for the Regional Finals which will take place after the Easter break.

Having played in this tournament before, our U15 team were sure that the competition would be fierce. The first two games came down to the wire with only a few runs in it and the girls showed a huge level of composure and teamwork. In the end, they were victorious which meant it came down to the final game, also against Leicester Grammar.

This game was well fought from both sides and after winning the toss the girls put Leicester Grammar School in to bat first. They set a very good target of 90 to win and we knew we had a big challenge on our hands. The girls batted amazingly well and there were some superb displays of individual batting and teamwork between the wickets. The girls reached the score with an over to play and have now qualified for the Regional Finals!



SPORT REPORTS

Indoor Athletics

Miss Nic Attwood

Head of PE at Loughborough High School

A team of keen athletes from the High School competed at the North Charnwood Year 7 and 8 Sports Hall Athletics Competition. The team took part in a range of disciplines and performed superbly finishing first overall. A great preparation for athletics this summer.



Shooting

Mr Daniel Murphy

Foundation Head of Shooting

Last month, our teams competed at the **Pistol National Finals** and the **Rifle National Finals** of the British Shooting Schools Championships, held at Cannock Chase in Staffordshire.

In a very tense atmosphere at the Pistol Finals, the LGS pistol team with Toby D, Jacob D and Oscar P, came sixth overall in the team category, with Jacob shooting a **personal best** to come sixteenth individually. These were great results which showed loads of potential for the future!

The following day myself and Mrs Hopper, Head of PE at Amherst, took fourteen Year 9-13 pupils to the Rifle Finals. It was a fun and challenging day, and a useful learning experience for us all. The highlights were as follows:

- LGS (Luca L (capt), Patrick C, Enzo M) fifth in the senior team 10m Sporter
- LHS (Charlie H, Robyn J, Emily T) first in the senior team 6yd Sporter
- LGS (Joe B, David S, Alvin L) second in the senior team 6yd Sporter
- LGS (Gaurav A, Will M, Samuel S) third in the senior team 6yd Sporter
- LAS (Eva H sixth and Pippa H) fifteenth in the intermediate individual 6yd Sporter
- Gaurav A third, Charlie H fifth, Robyn J sixth and Joe B seventh in the senior individual 6yd Sporter





SPORT REPORTS

Dance and Gymnastics

Miss Sara Chirimini
Acting Foundation Head of Dance and Gymnastics

We were delighted to welcome so many families to our dance showcase across the Foundation. 113 pupils choreographed, performed or assisted with technical direction over two evenings of performances.

With high expectations for the evening, the audience was blown away by the solo and group choreography and standards of performance. The Year 3 pupils won the audience's hearts with their theatrical rendition of 'Be My Guest'.

Congratulations to Amber W, Natasha N and Ruby Mae G, who choreographed large group performances, which gave the show that special wow factor.



SPORT REPORTS

Laser Run

Mrs Kate Allenby
Modern Pentathlon Coach

A group headed to Leweston School for the **National Laser Run World Championships** qualifier. All performed superbly came home with medals and qualifications. Results were as follows:

U13 - Alistair M, third

U15 - Oliver S, second

U17 - Ewan M, fourth

From the results in the competitions, Alistair was automatically selected to represent Great Britain in the **World laser run championships in China** at the end of May.



Loughborough University National Tennis Association (LUNTA)

Dr Toni O'Donovan
LUNTA Academic Tutor

The Spring term has been incredibly busy for our Tennis Academy players with tournaments in **Australia, Germany, Slovakia, Austria, Thailand, Turkey, Glasgow, Liverpool and Loughborough!** It is hard to keep track of them all and keep lessons going with such a busy schedule.

After an injury in the Autumn term, Ben worked hard on his rehab so he was ready for the Australian Open in January where he reached the **second round**, following this up with quarter finals in Germany a mere two weeks later. Mika reached the **third round** at the Australian Open which is amazing for a Year 10 pupil and she has launched herself up the ranking list reaching a high of **27th in the World**.

Mika and Ben also played in Thailand where Mika won the girls' tournament and Ben was runner up in the boys' which means he is now in the **top 50 in the world!** Bravo both!

Henry is busy on the mens' circuit, currently in Turkey and has broken into the **top 800 in the world**. At age just 17, his results on the mens' circuit astound us all and are such a credit to his hard work. He is looking ahead to turning pro in the summer when he leaves us.

Closer to home, we have had two **ITF tournaments** in Loughborough over recent weeks. Although home tournaments are a great opportunity for the players, it also presents real challenges as they try to attend lessons around their matches! The schedules are tight so the players sometimes only have an hour after finishing a match to catch up with their coach, eat, shower and get to Amherst ready for their lessons. However as they travel so much, it is always great to have a home tournament so that we can facilitate as many lessons as possible.

Rhys and Daniela were our outstanding singles players of the week with Daniela winning the girls' tournament and Rhys making his first **J100 semi-final**. Hollie and Ruby made doubles semi-finals in Loughborough following on from some good doubles performances earlier in the term. It is often bemusing as a teacher to see the players arrive into lessons almost straight off the court but I'm sure it was also bemusing for them to see their Maths teacher cheering them on from the side of the court which is obviously easier to do when they are in Loughborough rather than Melbourne, Australia.

As I write Rhys and Alex are in Dublin, both through to the quarter-finals in singles and in doubles so fingers crossed for some more great matches in the next few days and then next week they are heading off to an **U16 training camp** in London. Over Easter, most of the players will be playing in the **National Championships** and then all eyes turn to the French Open, Wimbledon and of course school exams. No rest for our LUNTA players this term!





SPORT REPORTS

Tennis

Miss Nic Attwood
Head of PE at Loughborough High School

Congratulations to Anya T in Year 10 at Loughborough High School who was selected to represent Leicestershire in the U18 Girls County Cup team at the recent National Cup Competition. The Leicestershire team lost two close ties (both 4-5) against Devon and Scotland North but won all the matches against Shropshire.

Anya lost one singles 6-2 6-2 on day one but won her other singles 7-6 6-2 and a doubles match.



Fairfield Prep

Mr Adam Hoult
Head of PE at Fairfield Prep School

The children at Fairfield have once again experienced a term brimming with activity and joy. The extensive array of sports available stands as a testament to their unwavering dedication and enthusiasm. From representing the school in swimming, netball, football, rugby, hockey, to triathlon, our children have embraced the opportunity to explore diverse interests and uncover their strengths. Engaging in various sports not only cultivates physical prowess but also instils invaluable life skills such as teamwork, communication, discipline, and resilience - qualities that extend far beyond the sports field. Furthermore, exposure to a multitude of sports fosters inclusivity and respect for individual differences, nurturing a sense of camaraderie and sportsmanship among peers. Ultimately, this rich tapestry of sporting experiences empowers our children to lead active, fulfilling lives while nurturing their holistic growth and development.

In the midst of a packed schedule of fixtures, there have been standout performances on the tournament stage. The girls' hockey team has consistently impressed, gearing up for their upcoming county finals with determination and skill. Meanwhile, the boys' hockey IAPS squads ventured to Oundle, facing formidable opponents and pushing their limits admirably. The IAPS swimming squad showcased their talent at the regional event, delivering stellar performances and eagerly anticipating national qualification. Not to be outdone, the U11 boys' football team exhibited breathtaking play at the ISFA

regional finals, remaining undefeated until a narrow loss on penalties in the final.

We are bursting with pride as we reflect on the remarkable performances of our sports teams this term. From the thrilling victories to the hard-fought battles, each match has been a testament to the dedication, skill, and teamwork exhibited by our athletes. Their relentless determination and unwavering spirit have not only brought glory to our school but have also inspired admiration and respect from competitors and spectators alike. As we witness the triumphs achieved through sheer perseverance and unity, I am reminded of the immense talent and potential within our community. It's truly a privilege to be part of such an exceptional school community who continue to raise the bar and leave an indelible mark on the fields and the courts. Here's to celebrating our successes and embracing the boundless possibilities that lie ahead during the Summer term.



Amherst Prep

Mrs Emma Hopper
Head of PE at Loughborough Amherst School

Years 5 and 6 at Amherst School have embraced the Spring season of netball and football games. They have shown drive and determination on the court and field against Twycross School, Derby High School and Stonegate School. They have had success at the Fairfield football and netball festival placing first in their respective division.





SPORTS TRIPS AND TOURS

Senior Boys' Football Trip to Lisbon

William Hogg
1st XI Football Captain

The Senior Football Tour to Lisbon was a great success filled with great memories, experiences and fun. We played against exceptionally strong opposition in the form of a number of players from the **Benfica Academy** at their training ground. We were lucky to experience **high-quality elite coaching** as well as down time in the form of surfing lessons, a trip to watch **Benfica A team**, a tour of the **Benfica stadium** and local sights. A truly memorable trip which prepared us superbly for the return to school and the football season, and made **fond memories for life**.



Year 7 Rugby Trip to Blackpool

Mr Jeremy Parton
Head of Year 7 at Loughborough
Grammar School

The **Year 7 Blackpool Rugby Tour** is a long standing LGS tradition. The boys are selected on the basis of their commitment to attending training and fixtures during the Autumn term, so this year **40 boys**, a record number, participated in the three day trip, enabling us to field **three teams** for our fixtures. Day one included a match against **RGS Lancaster**, one of the strongest rugby schools in the northwest of the UK. Although the results went against us, all three teams gave a good account of themselves.

Day two is all about **Blackpool Pleasure Beach** and the famous rollercoasters. Everyone had a memorable day, rounded off with an evening in the equally famous **Blackpool arcades**. Sadly our second fixture versus our old friends at **Kirkham Grammar School** was cancelled due to waterlogged pitches, so instead the morning was spent playing football and digging holes on **Blackpool beach**. A couple of hours in the **Sandcastle Water Park** brought the tour to a close. Throughout the three days the boys were superb ambassadors for LGS, they all looked out for each other, and their enthusiastic approach to every activity was brilliant.

Thanks to Mrs Parton, Dr Ball and Dr McKay for all their hard work and support.



SPORTS TRIPS AND TOURS

Year 8 Hockey Trip to Manchester

Mr Paul Willars
Assistant Foundation Head of Hockey

The U13 boys embarked on their trip to the North West in February. The first stop was **Manchester United's Old Trafford**, where they had a stadium and museum tour and participated in a skills lab. The squad were based in Altrincham and over the weekend played two fixtures; on Friday evening they played **Kings School Macclesfield**. The As lost 5-3 and the Bs drew 1-1.

On Saturday lunch-time they travelled to the **Etihad Stadium** to watch Manchester City v Everton, then went bowling in the evening. The trip was rounded off with fixtures v Bowden Hockey Club on the Sunday where the As lost 3-1 and the Bs won 3-2, after which we combined the two squads to give the boys a taste of 11 a-side hockey, where in a shortened game the boys won 1-0. The boys had a fantastic weekend that I'm sure they will remember for a long time.





SPORTS TRIPS AND TOURS

Year 9 Rugby Trip to Yorkshire

Mr Ben Korosi

Head of German and Sixth Form
Academic Coordinator at Loughborough Grammar School

24 Year 9 boys, accompanied by Messrs Emmet, Ferraby and Korosi, made the trip north to Yorkshire on their rugby tour. It started auspiciously, with a close fought 12-24 victory against Harrogate Grammar School, and continued in positive fashion. From Harrogate, we travelled to the hotel for the weekend in Castleford, ready for a few games of Tenpin bowling and the arcades.

On Friday, Lorcan M claimed the green jacket in the forwards vs backs mini-golf tournament before three games of laser quest to ensure a winner followed in the afternoon. That evening, we were welcomed to the jungle - at Castleford Tigers' Mend-a-hose Jungle Stadium - where we saw a Tigers performance that left a lot wanting, being hit for 50 points by the Huddersfield Giants. More shopping and bowling rounded off the trip during which a great time was had by all.



STAFF NEWS

We are delighted to announce the appointment of two new sports coaches who have joined our coaching staff this term.

Mr Milo Sigmund Basketball Coach

Mr Sigmund is currently a semi-professional basketball player who was part of the team that were BUCS National Champions in 2023. He was awarded a sports scholarship to Vincennes University in the US in 2019, and in the same year was awarded the most improved junior player award.

Miss Alex Johnson Netball Coach

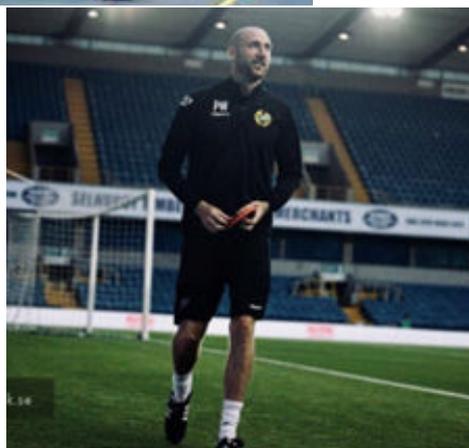
We welcomed Miss Johnson to our netball coaching team this term. She is a current Oldham Netball Club Premiership 1 team player and was selected for the Manchester Thunder pathway at the age of 14 where she stayed until she moved to Loughborough to attend university. Miss Johnson was with Loughborough Lightning for the first two years of university and is currently in her second year of being a training partner for Loughborough Lightning National Super League. She is also part of the Welsh Feathers squad and played against Uganda in the recent test series.



We also have two new heads of sport.

Mr Utkarsh Arora Head of Rackets

Mr Arora joins the team to lead our rackets development. Having just recently completed his Masters in Sports Management at Loughborough University he has a range of coaching and playing experience in badminton. He has been an Indian International Badminton Player and a member of the Indian National Team. Mr Arora was part of the Indian National Camp in 2019-2020 and had a world mixed doubles ranking of 62, as well as an Indian National doubles ranking of 1 and mixed doubles 2.



Mr Perry Wild Head of Football

Mr Perry Wild is relocating to Loughborough from Hammarby in Sweden.

Mr Wild is a UEFA A licensed coach, and has completed his UEFA Elite Youth A. He has worked at all levels from grass roots to professional football, from juniors to open age. During his time in Sweden he has been fortunate enough to help players who now play and compete in the Premier League, La Liga, Serie A, Bundesliga and Ligue 1 amongst others.

On his visit to Loughborough this term Mr Wild said: "Those who choose to play football with us can expect both a highly demanding yet highly supportive environment. They can expect a high intensity, attacking brand of football that will challenge them to become better every day. Players will be asked to work hard and be humble but most of all to enjoy football. I am so excited to be joining the Foundation and I see huge potential for the football programme. I can't wait to get started."



SCHOLARSHIPS

We are delighted to share the news that Loughborough School Foundation will be offering sports scholarships to further enhance our sporting offer and experience. The scholarships will come into effect in September 2025, and will be offered following an application process as follows:

Sporting Talent Award

- Available to pupils entering Year 7 (11+) or Year 8 (12+). We are looking for pupils who demonstrate evidence of athletic ability and the aptitude to work hard, demonstrating self-motivation and a clear desire to compete and strive for success. If you are applying for this award, you will have advanced physical competences and movement skills, and will benefit from a high level of coaching.
- Our Sporting Talent Award entitles the successful applicant to a single award of £500 to enhance their sporting experience.

Sports Scholarship

There are two application points for our Sports Scholarships:

- Year 9 (13+) and Year 12 (16+)
- Recipients of the 13+ Scholarship would need to re-apply for the 16+ Scholarship in Year 12.
- The Sports Scholarship comes with a fee remission of up to 20%. The exact amount will be at the discretion of the Head of the relevant School in consultation with the Director of Sport, based on the individual's sporting ability and potential in the School's major team sports.

Application and Assessment

We would welcome applications from a range of sporting disciplines but representation within the Foundation's major team sports will be favoured. If shortlisted for the Sporting Talent Award or Sports Scholarship, you would be invited to attend a scholarship interview day led by the Director of Sport and the Head of Performance Sport. This will involve time within your chosen School, taking part in sporting activities, and short interviews with staff. Additionally, shortlisted applicants for the 11+ awards should expect the interview day to focus on core skills, tactical awareness, and drivers of sporting potential.

We welcome applications from both current LSF pupils as well as prospective pupils.

For further details on the application process and to give an expression of interest, please [click here](#)

The application window for sports scholarships for September 2025, will open in September 2024 and full details will be available on the [webpage](#). In the meantime, if you have any questions or would like to discuss anything further, please contact Mrs Hackett.



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



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