



TAUNTON
SCHOOL

Senior School COURIER

23rd October 2020

#TAUNTONSCHOOL

CCF HAVE A FIELD DAY



On Tuesday 13th and Wednesday 14th October, the CCF was able to run Field Day with a mixture of activities at School and the use of local water sports centres. It was great to get Cadets outside and enjoying time again after the last 6 months. Whilst there was a lot of last minute planning and a certain amount of flexibility required, it was great to be doing something 'normal' again! Many thanks to Mr Sainsbury, Mr Turner, Miss Rogers and Dr Loaring for their continuing efforts to make the CCF run as smoothly as it does.

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Next Senior Courier: 13th November 2020

Head's Up: Co-Curricular Participation

by Hayley Mortimer



One of the net positives of the uncertain environment that was forced upon us during the CoVid-19 pandemic is that we have had the time to stop, breathe, reflect and evaluate and adapt many aspects of the school education, but in particular for me, our co-curricular offer within the whole school.

It would be fair to say that placing clubs and activities at the heart of each and every student's personal development is nothing new, but keeping a careful account and reflecting what they offer our students is massively important. I am pleased that in a world whereby the term and confusion between "extra-curricular" and "co-curricular" often exists, for many it is a lack of understanding or just a turn of phrase, but here it is way more than that. The term co-curricular is complementary to working in unison with all of the others pillars within the school strategy: academic study, pastoral care, our global outlook and the ways in which we can all make a difference within the community. The inter-weaving nature of these areas, is fundamental for the success of many aspects of the Horizons Programme and of course, what makes this aspect so vibrant, dynamic and relevant and well as engaging for those that get involved in the opportunities on offer.

I have been delighted once again, to be able to see in person the excellent co-curricular events and opportunities that have continued to happen this half term: the Concerto Competition, the CCF Field Day, the Burke Debates and the many sports fixtures we have seen in cricket, hockey, football and Ready for Rugby. But it would be wrong not to highlight all of the other things that happen day-to-day in a busy school such as Taunton. For me, one of the most positive things I have seen in our return is the increased student voice and interest in what we offer. Since September, I have already had a number of meetings with students on ideas for talks in assemblies, lectures, scholarship subjects and new clubs and well as challenging our provision across the board in the programme. We have much more of a combined link between different areas of the school co-curricular programme. Pastorally in Enrichment, topics studies have been picked up in debating topics, or our global themes have been discussed in both assemblies and within academic lessons, all giving opportunities for our students to have their say or have their voice heard.

Having events such as chapel remotely gives opportunity for discussion and debate with tutors on topics discussed, all encouraging fruitful discussion between different people within the school.

Having moved onto a whole school SOCS platform across the school, meaning all of our clubs and our calendar dates are all in the same place, this supports more than ever the delivery of a whole school pathway in a number of areas that encompass the ethos that instils our aim to challenge, inspire and nurture young people to success in a global community. It creates the opportunity to challenge students at the appropriate level whatever their age and gives them increased opportunity and ability to get involved across the whole school site.

I have explored the whole school SOCS programme to really see if what I believe is happening, is actually what happens in the day-to-day and found these interesting statistics:

Out of the **1072** students we have across all five areas of the school, **1011** of them are involved in the clubs programme which is **94.31%**

The total number of clubs offered across the school is **393**, with the total number of events this half term being **3912**.

The average number of clubs available on each day is **52.4**

The average number of clubs that students attend in the school are **4.82** per week.

The club with the most pupils is CCF, with **180** cadets involved.

It is great to see engagement is high, but as ever we will continue to evolve, develop and listen to the student voice for suggestions and ideas.

A big thank you to all the students and staff for continuing to support the co-curricular programme and I wish everyone a restful half term.

Hayley Mortimer, Assistant Head Co-Curricular and Outreach



CCF Field Day

...continued from front page

TUESDAY

Year 11 and 13 CCF cadets met on Tuesday afternoon to begin two days of field day. The Tuesday consisted of the four Army sections, two Royal Navy and two RAF sections competing for the Contingent Commander's Cup over five stands. They would need to master the Field Gun, work together in a drill competition, complete a Morse Code task on the climbing wall, complete a March and Shoot competition and battle out at dodgeball. The competition was full of ups and downs but a large amount of fun was had in the process, although some shooting was less than accurate! After the last six months it was great to see the whole year group together attempting activities they may never have met before. The competition concluded on Friday with the Gun Run timed runs down the Front of school. The wall was only demolished a couple of times and all put their training in practice effectively. At the end of it all it the Royal Navy's Brave won by a comfortable margin.

On Friday, we were also able to award the Best Recruit Trophy to Sophie Austin (RN) (pictured below) as she was selected, narrowly, over Devrim Tarr (Army) and Grace Talbot (RAF).

Andrew Pring



WEDNESDAY

RN

The Royal Navy section went out to Wimbleball Lake for this year's field day. Blue skies and a hearty breeze provided the section with perfect conditions for a day

packed with sailing, paddle boarding and kayaking. Having missed out on activity week in the summer, the Year 11 and NCOs were champing at the bit to get out on the water.

The cadets were split into mini groups, as well the staff and NCOs, and took part in the activities on rotation. With experience on the water ranging from complete novices to dinghy instructors, the cadets demonstrated exceptional teamwork as they looked to support one another through the activities. Sails were unfurled, dinghies afloat, dagger boards down and cadets aboard. Capsizes were few and far between which was particularly impressive given the prevailing winds. Ben and Ashley proved a capable pairing on the dinghy showing off their skills. However, success isn't always about those who are the most skilled, sometimes it's about overcoming the odds – Evie and Bo felt the fear and did it anyway.

Paddle boarding and kayaking provided the opportunity for fun and games including some impressive acrobatics. The Year 11 seemed to particularly enjoy the chance to race each other in mini activities designed by the instructors. There was also the opportunity to give the teachers a hard time by knocking them into the water – Miss Lalic was a prime target! Throughout the day, virtually everyone experienced falling in at some point and whilst it was no surprise that being October the water was freezing, credit must be given to all as they braved the cold, battled on and enjoyed the experience. Ollie and Charlie deserve a mention for being phenomenal across all the field day events and helping to bring home the Contingent Commander's Cup for Brave, the second year in a row! The cadets returned to school tired, windswept but with big smiles having had



a great field day. It was good to end the half-term on a high and for the students to experience something different. Special mentions go out to teachers involved; Mr Dougan, Miss Lilac and Mr Dunn who helped us all and made our day, and massive thanks to Mrs Rogers who organised the whole day out and made it one of the highlights of the CCF calendar.

Ben Ashmore and Joni Shaw



CCF Field Day



with enthusiasm. Each lesson took the cadets one step closer to completing the basic syllabus which they have worked hard towards over the course of the last year and a half. With the sound of gunfire and the calls of "give covering fire" much fun was had by all cadets and staff. The next step will see the Year 11 cadets move into a more complex 24 hour exercise. Celer et Audax!

and Mars before going outside to launch their own rockets.

Out on the front field, the cadets launched 15 rockets, all but one reaching over 300ft (100m) in altitude. Equipped with parachutes; each rocket was then recovered by a running cadet!

In the afternoon cadets attended the Taunton Activity Centre at French Wier Park where they had the opportunity to try kayaking, stand up paddle boarding and rafting. They spent three hours on the water, playing team-building games, especially designed to leave no one dry! It was a pleasure to see all the smiles and laughter and to see the cadets working together in such a positive way.

Captain Turner

RAF

The RAF section of the CCF enjoyed a packed Wednesday following Tuesday's inter-section competitions. The day began with a morning of rocket building where cadets worked in small groups to build model rockets and learn about the principles of rocket flight. They also learned about the history of rockets from early beginnings in China, to the latest developments in re-usable commercial rockets such as SpaceX's falcon 9. They finished the rocket-building workshop with discussions of future missions to the Moon

Dr Loaring

ARMY

On Wednesday 14th October the Army section conducted a series of battle lessons on the Uppers playing fields. The cadets moved between an ambush stand, fire and manoeuvre stand and a patrolling stand. Whether it was crawling towards the ambush site, identifying the targets in the stream ditch or tactically moving across open land, much was learnt and executed



CCF Field Day



#HelloYellow

You may have noticed we embraced #HelloYellow at Taunton School recently. Staff and students alike donned their brightest yellow scarves, tops, bandanas, ribbons and socks to show support and raise awareness for mental health in young people. The catering staff created delicious themed fairy cakes which went down a treat! A great initiative by Young Minds for World Mental Health Awareness Day on the 10th October.



The Week Ahead

Thursday 21st October to Sunday 1st November - HALF TERM

Sunday, 1st November	Boarders Return (Supper 6pm-7pm)
Monday, 2nd November	16.30 - 18.30 - TSI Information Evening
Tuesday, 3rd November	8.30 - 8.55 Chapel 15.15 - Football Fixtures 15.45 - 17.00 - Year 9 and 10 Enrichment
Wednesday, 4th November	8.30 - 8.55 - Headmaster's Assembly 9.00 - 12.30 - University Admissions test UK (BMAT, MAT ELAT etc) 9.00 - 17.00 - Year 10 GCSE Geography Data Collection Trip 12.40 - 13.10 - School Council 17.05 - 17.30 - Tea-Time Concert, Chapel
Thursday, 5th November	9.00 - 12.30 - University Admissions test UK (HAT, TAS etc) 15.45 - 17.05 - Year 11, 12 and 13 Enrichment
Friday, 6th November	16+ Scholarship Application Deadline 8.30 - 8.55 - Scholars Sessions 17.15 - 20.30 - Senior Interhouse Debating

Meet the Head Groundsman - Mark Joliffe

What does your role at the School involve?

As Head Groundsman, I manage a team in the preparation, maintenance and renovation of all the sports pitches and facilities as well as the lawns and gardens

Do you have a 'typical week' or is every week different?

What I love about my job is that generally no two weeks are the same as the team are dictated by the weather, demands and the variety of sports throughout the year

When did you start at TS and what did you do before?

I started at Taunton School in July 2002. Before that I was Deputy Head Groundsman at Radley College near Oxford.

What led you into working in Grounds?

I started out as a volunteer groundsman at my local cricket club where I grew up in Oxfordshire and really enjoyed the work so much so I decided to make it into a career.

What do you enjoy most about your job?

Summer and the hustle and bustle of a busy cricket season

What do you find most challenging?

Most challenging is juggling the demands of the job and prioritising work to keep the department running smoothly

Who inspires you?

David Attenborough – I find him inspirational in his beliefs and he is in touch with reality. The world needs more like him.

What is your most memorable moment or proudest achievement?

Well I would say that working on my own for 3 ½ months is pretty memorable during lockdown, also when the school hosted the Lashings cricket team in 2005 on the Front with Sachin Tendulkar and Aravinda De Silva playing.

How do you 'switch off' from your job at the end of the school day?

Once I get home, I enjoy going running and reading.



Quick Fire questions now...

Favourite Film?

The Italian Job (original)

Favourite Book?

A Short History Of Nearly Everything – Bill Bryson

Hobbies?

Long distance running, cricket

Any Pets?

Cat (Eddie)

Favourite singers/bands?

Coldplay, Muse

Favourite TV programmes?

Top Gear, Question of Sport, most documentaries

Any claims to fame?

I have met the Queen and I have helped out preparing the pitch at Twickenham!

Thanks for telling us about yourself, Mark. The grounds at Taunton School really are the best around in our humble opinion! You and your team do a wonderful job.



Looking after the Mental Health of our students at TSI



World Mental Health day marks a useful reminder of perhaps one of the most important conversations we should possibly have in the current climate; the state of our mental health. Naturally impacted by the nuanced pressures of today's complex world, the facts speak for themselves; during the latter two weeks of August, 45% of the UK population experienced anxiety, one in five felt lonely, and approximately 10% of the UK population experience suicidal thoughts (according to the Mental Health Foundation's 'Coronavirus: Mental Health in the Pandemic' research, wave 7) due to the pandemic.

The mental health of our young people has been declining for a while now, with the pressures of social media, of labelled body image and of socio-political requirements, leading to an enormous increase in the presence of anxiety, depression, and post-traumatic stress within the world's young people. The conversation, whilst occurring, still needs the efforts of us all to further explore ways in which we can help not only our young people, but ourselves, in understanding and developing holistic wellness in a world where anxiety is an almost 'fostered' concept.

At Taunton School International, we take the mental health of the students in our care extremely seriously and have a wide provision to best support the development of their welfare. For World Mental Health Day, however, we wanted to take things a step further, offering a number of different opportunities for our students to explore how they might best look after their mental wellness.

On Friday last week, Taunton School International ran a 'Mufti', a non-uniform day, raising money for Young Mind's #helloyellow scheme, a movement designed to support the mental health of young people. Students and staff from across the school were encouraged to wear an item of yellow clothing in solidarity of the movement, and to raise awareness of the necessary conversation. Everyone donated £1 which will go directly to supporting #helloyellow.

On Saturday 10th October, World Mental Health Day itself, the students partook in a number of activities designed to encourage them in exploring ways to protect their mental wellbeing. The Foxcombe House Master, Mr Bull, took the students on an optional morning run at 6.45am, giving them a moment to get some endorphins pumping around the system, and to give them a head

start on the day. Off of the back of the positive turnout, Mr Bull has decided to run this morning session every Saturday, encouraging the students to partake in physical activity every weekend, something well known to benefit mental health.

During the morning House Meeting, Mr Wilkinson also ran a short meditation session, encouraging the students to explore quiet, and take a moment of silent reflection away from distractions.

The conversation about Mental Health is, as always, on-going. It is important now more than ever that we come together to the benefit of the global mental health, and change attitudes towards individual struggles. At Foxcombe, we encourage our students to talk to staff or to each other if they are struggling and we encourage you to do the same.

Benjamin Wilkinson,
Graduate Residential Assistant at TSI



Maths Society Book Club

The Simpsons and their Mathematical secrets

The Maths Society Book Club met on Thursday to discuss this half term's book, *The Simpsons and their Mathematical Secrets* by Simon Singh. It was well attended with students from Year 10 to the Upper 6th. The book had many themes but the one that seemed to get most interest/discussion revolved around the question, 'is Maths uncovered or discovered'. Are we making it up as we go along or are we uncovering pieces of a massive jigsaw puzzle showing a unified Mathematics code sometime in the future? The book club has enthusiastically started their next book, *Alan Turing – the enigma*. We meet again on Thursday 3rd December to discuss the life and times of Alan Turing.

Tony Workman, Mathematics Teacher



Who wants to be a Quillionaire?

The latest Quillionaire's challenge for Years 10 and 11 is to write a letter to your younger self.

Get your entries in by 22nd November for a chance to win a prize. For full details of the competition and how to enter take a look at the poster here.

Alex Carter, English Teacher

Burke Debate

Last weeks Burke Debate saw the motion "This House would defund the Police". It was an extremely high standard of debate from both the proposition of Renée and Ruth and the opposition of Kara and Hanna, all masterfully chaired by George. Lots of meaningful information and statistics shared by the speakers and some insightful and provocative questions asked from the floor. An excellent demonstration of the strong student voice within the school community. The motion was defeated. Well done to all involved.



Who Wants To Be A Quillionaire?

Year 10-11 Write a letter to your younger self...



Griffins prize...

Deadline for entries: 22nd November

See notices / Miss Carter for more information

Email all entries to maisie.raven@tmail.co.uk

Jonathan makes a splash in regional swimming competition

Jonathan Turck competed in a Regional swimming competition in his resident Germany over the weekend. Jonathan, a Year 10 student, competed in the County Championships Weser-Ems over the weekend in 4 events, he gained three firsts and a third.

100 Butterfly 3rd
400 Free 1st
200 IM 1st
200 Free 1st

Back in the summer Jonathan raised money for the NHS by undertaking a triathlon raising over £600.

Well done Jonathan!

David Tarr, Housemaster Wills East



England Trials beckon for Hockey students

Ten students from the Senior School have been nominated to try-out for the England national hockey squad at U16 and U18 levels.

The players will travel to one of three venues this half term to take part in three days of intense training and game play. They will be tested on their physical, mental, psychological and technical ability, attributes that are developed and fostered in the hockey program at Taunton School.

There has already been success for Year 12 student Jacob Pengelly who has been playing for the U16 England squad this year and will be training with the U18 team from November.

Elliot Foweraker, Director of Hockey says, 'It is a brilliant achievement for all the players to get this far - they have all shown great skill and dedication. It will be a hard week but a great experience for them all. Whether they are successful or not, they will learn a lot to help them continue to improve as players and bring that knowledge back to school with them.'

Outside of Taunton School, Elliott Foweraker is involved with England Hockey as a Diploma in Sporting Excellence (DISE) coach and works with Wales Hockey U21 and Senior Women teams. He will also be part of the England Hockey trials during half-term. The trials take place 25th – 30th October.



Celebrating Black History Month

This month our students have been learning about influential black figures as part of Black History Month. Last week students from across the Prep and Senior School created a poignant film sharing some of the most powerful quotes from some inspiring individuals in modern history: <https://www.facebook.com/tauntonschool/videos/2670089933242709>

Makena
Year 13



Ben
Year 13



**Black
History
Month**



Hanna promotes BHM at Youth Parliament

Year 13 student Hanna has been promoting this year's British Black History Month (BHM) in her role at Somerset Youth Parliament. They are working to raise awareness of the cultures that define the county. Read the full article on [Somerset County Gazette website](#).



Tea-time Concert

Every Wednesday from 5.05pm - 5.30pm in the Chapel

Watch online: <https://intranet.tauntonschool.co.uk/liveevents/concerts/tea-time-concerts>



Support your friends and get inspired!

Concerts run every Wednesday throughout each term, from 5.05pm - 5.30pm

Everyone from Year 9 to Year 13 are welcome. If you would like to perform or find out more information, please see Mr Reading.

Autumn Concert

TAUNTON SCHOOL CHAPEL
FRIDAY, 13TH NOVEMBER 7.00PM

Featuring a variety of instrumental and choral ensembles such as Dance Band, String Ensemble, Chamber Choir and more

Watch the livestreamed event
<http://bit.ly/TSLiveConcerts>

Spooky Halloween Fun in Woodyer



The girls in Woodyer celebrated Halloween early this week before their half-term departures and had lots of fun getting involved with lots of spooky Halloween activities, fun and games! It was a great way to end what has been a very busy half-term.

A socially distanced Halloween party was held on Friday night and the girls worked in their year group bubbles to decorate their rec rooms with ghostly garlands, spiders and rats! We played some Halloween games including mummifying themselves with toilet rolls and finally we sat around the fire pit in the dark toasting marshmallows!

The Halloween spirit continued with some Sunday afternoon pumpkin carving, showing off Woodyer's creative talents and turning our pumpkins into some impressive Jack-o-lanterns illuminated with tea lights on the windowsills to ward off any evil spirits! What a spooktastic final week of half-term!

Jennie Windsor, Housemistress Woodyer



SPORT

Rugby



Our Rugby teams experienced their first competitive touch "Ready4Rugby" matches against King's College on Saturday last week.

1st XV

..or I should call them 1st X had an extended squad of 20 impatient players ready to start the match after spending four weeks working on their skills and fitness. Players adapted well to the new rules and managed to score numerous tries. Players' attitudes were exemplary on and off the field, and they demonstrated amazing work-ethic throughout the game. I was happy to see them following our game plan. Overall a very positive experience, worthwhile.

2nd X:

It was great to get some competitive rugby and the game day tension and excitement was evident. The teams were evenly matched and it was difficult to see where a score would come from as defences were on top. However, both teams held their nerve and scores were exchanged throughout. The last score came in the final minute which levelled the game and was a fair reflection of the quality of both teams. The match was enjoyed by all concerned.

3rd XV:

With only a few short sessions together as a team, this was always going to be a difficult fixture. A well organised and fit King's side took early advantage of Taunton's 3rd XV's inexperience with this format, scoring a number of times before Taunton rallied and began to make inroads into the King's defensive line. A highly competitive middle stint of the game saw both sides matching each other's scores. However, King's more experienced side saw them open up a gap in the final quarter.

U16:

A team squad enjoyed the opportunity to lock horns with King's. The demanding pace of the tens touch format and the size

of the 1st XV pitch tested fitness levels. Some fine running and handling skills were displaced alongside considerable tenacity and persistence.

U16B:

Strong from the outset, the SCB squad played an absolute blinder of a game; achieving victory over their rival. King's put up a good fight, but the SCB's teamwork and skill won the day. Commendation should be given to whole team, as sterling efforts were given by all. Taylor Flitton stepping three players, followed by a chip and chase, leading to a swan dive try. Ben Read's excellent game awareness, which led to three tries; awarding him man of the match from his team mates. Max Hodder's pace with the ball in hand, making impressive ground and scoring a try. Karl Ko's dedication to supporting his team mates. An outstanding first game of the season!

U15A:

Really good to get back out and playing competitive rugby. The 15s enjoyed a tough match against kings with plenty of areas to work on. Some good performances from Jack Done, Ben Giles, Alex Chaffey, Shaw Browning and Lewis Frost.



SPORT

Rugby

**U15B:**

After arriving at rivals King's for our first touch game, U15B knew that teamwork, skill and courage were essential in order to win bragging rights. After a tense first half we were down by one try and tired legs were setting in. What happened next showed true Taunton spirit as we managed to turn the contest around in our favour.

U14A:

The team took on King's in a game of touch on Saturday. Four quarters of silky skills followed although the kicking suffered a little due to the strong wind. A full game of rugby would have been preferred by all but the manner in which both sides approached the game and the effort on show were great to see. Tries were shared around and created by some fine teamwork but mention should go to Roberts who ran the length to score to round off an enjoyable afternoon.

U14B:

The Under 14Bs had a rewarding, fun and cordial gusting amicable game against our rivals south of the river. The draw was the right result and touch rugby was the winner but along the way we discovered Hugo has great hands and Rory, Piers and Oscar run great lines. The rest of the boys played their splendid hearts out and got plenty from it. When the broad sunlit uplands of 2021 hive into sight these boys will be a good team and this fixture will be a great game.

U14C: The team had a great game against King's. It took a little while for both teams to really get to grips with the rules and the best way to build speed into their attack. Taunton seemed to grasp the nettle the quickest and took a well-deserved lead. It was great to see the team rally and dominate the last quarter with a final try in the last minute. A great afternoon!

Nic Sestaret, Director of Rugby



SPORT

Girls' Hockey vs King's 10th October

RESULTS**14A Won 4-0****14B Won 2-0****15A Lost 7-1****15B Drew 3-3****4ths Drew 1-1****3rds Lost 3-0****2nds Won 3-1****1sts Lost 1-0****U14**

The U14 girls played their best hockey of the season in the second fixture vs a strong King's side. With the previous game being an even 2-2 draw the girls did brilliantly to gain an early lead via Brooke Oliver-Whittaker from a narrow gap inside 5 minutes. They finished the first half convincingly 2-0 up.

In the second half the girls moved the ball brilliantly particularly around the back and looked to really control the game. A goal from Poppy Tull increased the lead to 3-0. Jasmine Porter who had moved into the back 4 made a full pitch counter attack before offloading in the D for the final goal of the game and to finish at 4-0. Well done girls on a brilliant performance, more of the same for Clifton.

1st Team

1st team girls hosted King's College at the Durrant. After a thrilling 10 goal game first time round, the girls were up for the rematch! The game started quickly and the girls found themselves 1-0 down after just 5 minutes, where King's latched on to a mistake from the Taunton defence and punished accordingly. Taunton bounced straight back and pushed on, creating many chances of their own to level the score. Taunton looked the dominant team tactically outwitting King's and playing with a much better structure. However the score remained 1-0 to the visitors at half time. The second half Taunton stepped up the pressure and full pressed the opposition, chance after chance and but still the girls couldn't find

the leveller. Despite a few corners and good attacks King's came away the winners. Well done to all the girls who showed fight and commitment to the end.

U14B

A fine performance from the U14Bs away at King's Taunton. Goals from Liv and Meg saw Taunton gain control at half time. Taunton School had opportunities in the second half but were halted by a strong King's Taunton goal keeper. Notable performances came from Mia Shearman who ran midfield and worked tirelessly throughout along with Poppy Crouch and Sienna Mitchell who both provided Mia with an outlet going forward. Another fine display; role on Clifton!

U15B

U15Bs rose to the challenge of getting an early goal, with a beautiful strike in the first four minutes of the game. The Taunton side were looking strong from the start but King's came back strong and quickly equalised. With some great transferring between Esther, Jana and Faye we quickly managed to secure a second goal, only for King's to match us just before half time. They came back eager and once again found the back of the goal placing them in a 3-2 lead. But thanks to some great saves from Fliss, strong clearance from Hetty and Liv and some pace from Zara and Poppy in the middle, Taunton managed to once again find the goal and equalise to end the game 3-3 in the final minute of the game. A great performance from all.



SPORT

Girls' Hockey vs King's 10th October

**2nd Team**

When turning up to the hockey pitch at 2:30 pm for our match, the cold wind dampened our energy. However, once we had warmed up, our attitude adjusted, and we were ready to play King's College for the second time after losing our previous match against them. Since the last match our team has grown in strength and confidence. During the first half, we were facing the sun giving us a disadvantage. But that did not falter our team play and we worked with great tenacity. Our first goal of the match was scored by Annabelle Mellenchip. This goal scored by Annabelle certainly lifted our spirits.

After a break for half time, we were sure we could score a few more goals, as our team optimism had not wavered. With a rejuvenation in energy, once again we were ready to play. In the second half we seemed to be a lot more proactive in attack. After great play up the pitch from the defending end with our mid-fields and forwards, the ball had made it to the attacking D. Some great work from the forwards resulted in a goal from Jess Fisher. During the next few minutes King's managed to score a goal against us. As we strived through our exhaustion, we won a short corner. As we worked together for this goal, the whistle was blown, this resulted in us not receiving our goal, but instead getting a penalty flick. Martha Mileham took the flick, putting it into the middle of the goal, concluding the score to be 3-1. In the last few minutes our energy was impeccable. The final score was 3-1, with the seconds winning their second match. The girls all left the pitch in a high from this win, eager to be ready for the match against Clifton next week.

Martha Mileham, Second team captain

3rd Team

The team from King's arrived in confident mood after their win on home soil a few

weeks before. However, this quickly evaporated due to the tenacious attitude and determination of the Taunton players. Only a quick breakaway goal by King's separated the teams as they neared the half time whistle. Then the game took a decisive turn as King's were awarded a controversial goal; this unsettled the Taunton players, but they kept their composure to begin the second half as solidly as the first. The final piece of bad luck for Taunton came when they had to defend a short corner deep into the second half without a goalkeeper, due to injury, giving King's an easy goal. The scoreline ended at 3 - 0, but Taunton can be pleased with their excellent team performance. Player of the match: Emily Halliday.

4th Team

We drew 1-1 in a very competitive game. King's scored first but it was very even and we could have scored a few in the first half. We pushed even harder in the second half, equalising through a good goal by Bryony Griffiths, and nearly scored more! Zoe Lucas' speed was incredible, but as usual it was a whole team effort & every player should feel proud.



SPORT

Girls' Hockey vs Clifton College 17th October

RESULTS**1sts Lost 2-1****2nds Lost 1-0****3rds Drew 2-2****15A Won 3-0****15B Won 3-2****14A Won 3-1****14B Drew 2-2****U14A**

The U14s had their second home fixture vs a strong Clifton side that we were well acquainted to. With a draw already previously, it was always going to be a tough fixture to get a win from. Taunton started strong and Lizzie H K won the ball in the middle of the pitch to put Brooke Oliver Whittaker through for a counter attacking goal. Jasmine Porter made the lead 2-0 before half time putting Taunton in a really strong position.

Clifton came out fighting and played aggressive counter attacking hockey with Taunton looking vulnerable at times but saves from Lizzie Kemmish and Octavia Woodley kept Taunton afloat before conceding with less than 10 minutes left to make for a sprint finish. With chances both ends the final whistle blew with Taunton to play a short corner with Caoimhe Kirtland finishing the last play at the back post to end 3-1.

U14B

The U14Bs played the game of the season against a very strong Clifton side. They played the majority of the game defending Clifton's strong attacks, but scored a counter acting goal to go one nil up. Clifton then scored two goals despite some strong saves in goal from Marnie Gallimore. In the final seconds of the game Taunton School's superior fitness level saw us come back into the game and draw level making it 2-2 and sending the TS faithful (Mr Horsington and Miss Lewis, socially distanced) into celebration. Fine performances from Eliza Hopwood in defence along with clinical finishing from Jasmine Lemme and Megan Pocock up front. What a great way to sign off an unbeaten half term!

U15A

The U15As won their first match of the season this week against Clifton's U16B side. Taunton dominated the first half, creating lots of shooting opportunities with two goals disallowed. Defensively, they played with more confidence and structure, controlling the play from the back and creating attacking phases. A couple of good saves from Chloe Hims kept the match closely contested at half time. The second half saw Taunton continue to attack strongly. Some great work rate in attack and defence by Eva Wilbourn and some endless running by Rosie Imm, saw Rosie slot the first goal past the Clifton goalkeeper. Taunton maintained their work rate and composure, continuing to create opportunities with Amalie Thomas narrowly missing the goal. Their efforts were rewarded with conversions by Lily Fawcett and Zara Pitman also beating the keeper to finish the game with a 3-0 win.

U15B

After a sluggish start which allowed Clifton to take an early lead, the U15Bs found some energy and drive, thanks to the help of both Jana and Poppy who worked tirelessly to win and keep the ball. Erin, Liv, Amelia, Esther and Morgan all worked solidly as a defensive unit to break down some strong challenges from our opponents and beautifully transferring the ball down the wings to mids Chloe, Mollie and Shai. There were some great (and some not-so-great) shots on goal and this eventually allowed us to finish the first half level 2-2. After half time and some words of wisdom from Captain Daisy, the forwards came back with a punch and Faye, Daisy and Poppy all managed to place the Clifton keeper under great pressure. Ultimately allowing Poppy to complete her hatrick and score her 3rd goal of the game. But the match wasn't



SPORT

Girls' Hockey vs Clifton College 17th October

over yet, and some strong saves by Fliss and a great final effort the team helped secure a win. This is the best I've seen the team play, let's hope it continues!

1st Team

Saturday afternoon saw the return leg of the 1st XI vs Clifton College and we were all determined to set the record straight. A lot of early possession and circle entries gave us great confidence going forward. Despite creating many opportunities, we did not manage to convert, and a counterattack led to Clifton scoring just before the half time whistle, but we did not let our heads go down. A very positive team talk by Mr Foweraker prepared us for a competitive rest of the game. For the majority of the second half we did not leave the attacking third and Taunton were clearly the dominant side. Some quality pressing and high turnovers by Phoebe Gray on her debut allowed Rhiannon to score her second goal of the season but a momentary lapse in concentration enabled Clifton to quickly steal one back. Though we fought extremely hard towards the end with Lucy making many exceptional saves and both Izzy and Julia making crucial goal line clearances, Clifton held us off to then end; the game finishing 1-2. We left the pitch with our heads held high and are looking forward to a rest over half term ready to kick off our cup run, starting with a match vs Blundell's.

A huge congratulations to Year 11 Julia Louw on securing an u16 NAGS trial and the whole team wish her the best of luck.

3rd Team

This week the 3rd XI got their first goals of the season on the scoreboard! The girls attacked the game with high intensity from the off and managed to continue this until the final whistle. There was a continuous battle for possession but the 3rd XI stayed strong and continuously fought back with a strong (as always!) defence. Helen Hounslow scored the first goal after several rebounds and the second was scored by Tia Chaloner from a breakaway run down the pitch. The 2-2 score line doesn't represent how well the

girls played as a team or the improvement that they have shown since the beginning of the season. Looking ahead positively to even more goal scoring and some wins after half term!

Player of the match: Katja Wegner

2nd Team

On Saturday we played on the Jowett for our second home game against Clifton College. The team were still on a buzz from the previous win the weekend before. Our formation included a defensive back four, four midfielders and two forwards. The team started off strong with some great transfers being played across the back from our defenders Ellie Trescothick and Kara Klimczak-Gange. The defensive style press that was worked on in the previous training also resulted in being a fundamental aspect to the succession of play. We knew Clifton were going to be a strong side and it was going to test us as a team. However, throughout the first half we really adapted to our play of being on a different pitch with some great attacking play from Rosie Norman and Jess Fisher, as well as some big hits and quick ball pace being played down the wings from Chloe Sanderson advancing us in our attack towards goal. The first half ended as an equal 0-0 and after a quick drinks break, we were ready to go out and score some goals. The second half included many shots on goal from Emily Jones. Some great saves were made from Izzy Hogevoold which put the team in good stead. However, in the last 10 minutes fatigue finally got the better of us and Clifton slipped in a goal resulting in a final 1-0 loss to Clifton. Overall, the team ethos and attitudes towards the game from all players were positive and encouraging. It was a testing game and a brilliant effort from both sides and all players.

Lucy Beresford, Year 12



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Football

Last week we hosted our 1st round ISFA cup match against Truro School.

**TAUNTON SCHOOL 3 – 1 TRURO SCHOOL
(GOAL SCORERS: SAMMY PRATT X2, BRODY PEART)**

It was great for both teams to be playing a competitive match; for Truro it was their first of the season which in part contributed to them conceding an early goal from a rebound off the bar (scorer Sammy Pratt). For the remainder of the first half Taunton School dominated possession and scored a penalty to make it 2-0 at half time (scorer Brody Peart). After going 3-0 up in the 2nd half (scorer Sammy Pratt) Truro came back into the game to make it 3-1 and could have made it 3-2 with 5 minutes to go though it wasn't to be and so Taunton School held on for a 3-1 win.

MOM – Sammy Pratt

On Saturday the 1st and 2nd team travelled away to Clifton College.

**CLIFTON COLLEGE 1- TAUNTON SCHOOL 5
(GOAL SCORER: SAMMY PRATT X2, BRODY PEART X2, JACOB HOCKEY)**

You can only beat the team in front of you (a pretty good one in the form of Clifton) so it was a little surprising that in the end this game turned into a little bit of a walk in the park (it certainly wasn't a bore draw). Taunton dominated the possession to begin with though went behind (against the run of play) when Clifton sprung our offside trap with a well-executed long ball over the top (no rustiness there); the ball nested in the corner and there wasn't much that Ed Kerslake could do about it apart from pick the ball out of the Taunton net. After that Taunton's wide players (Sammy Pratt and Henry Woodward) had their full backs on toast so much so that Taunton soon equalised when a ball put into the mixer resulted in a melee in the box only for the rebound to be hoovered up by Sammy Pratt's. A stone wall penalty made in two (Brody Peart the scorer) while a wonderful sweeping move made in 3 (Brody the scorer again with a delightful top bins finish). The fourth goal resulted when Jacob Hockey picked the centre back's pocket and calmly slotted it over the keeper whilst the fifth and final goal resulted from something out of nothing though Sammy Pratt enjoyed 'nutmegging' the keeper for his brace. Overall, the Taunton 1st team is building momentum ahead of a busier fixture list after the half term break.

Man of the match was Max Soon for a dominant and steely display in the centre of the park though honourable mentions are afforded to Callum Hendy for being the rock at the back and to Kai Smith for his performance as a rampaging full back.

**TAUNTON 2ND TEAM 4 - CLIFTON 2ND TEAM 1
(GOAL SCORERS: ALEX YANOVSKIY X2, KEVIN LORENSTEN-BRIGHT, JOSH SIBANDA-JENKINS)**

On a cold and damp Saturday the second team made their way to Clifton College, Bristol, for their third game of the season. The team were hoping to avoid defeat and maintain an unbeaten run going back to December 2019. It was an exciting game of two halves with a tight first 35 minutes followed by a second half whereby it could have been a cricket score.

Three minutes in and Alex Yanovskiy struck after breaking the back line due to some typical schoolboy defending. He was left in acres of space and utilised his pace before calmly slotting home with another cultured right foot finish. It was a great time to score and not only built confidence but also settled the team down. After a few great passages of play, the team managed to take a few further strikes with both Kevin and George going close from range.

In the 25th minute the game needed another goal as TS starting allowing Clifton back into the game and Josh knocked the ball over the line after a curling cross was left hanging in the air. It was exactly what was needed and it sparked the game back into life. After a half-time break TS started as we left off and again forced good saves from the Clifton keeper before Ashley and Dan fell into the offside trap and the Clifton number 9 finished with aplomb past the oncoming Dimi. Despite this setback, TS lifted their heads and went again and, for the rest of the game, peppered the Clifton goal before Alex Yanovskiy scored his second goal of the game. A great ball over the top was met by Alex who simply side footed past the keeper leaving him in no mans land. The game was then put to bed in the closing minutes when Kevin scored a neat side foot after great interplay between Alex, Jacob and himself. Overall it was well—deserved and the boys played extremely well.

MOM – Harry Kent

Matt Reed, Head of Football