



EBC SPORT

MT 24 SPORTS NEWS

FIRST HALF

We have enjoyed a most extraordinary first half of the Michaelmas term, from the pre-season hockey tour and rugby festival to the 150+ Saturday, mid-week and cup fixtures across 13 sports in a pretty breathless seven-and-a-half weeks with a further five sports preparing for fixtures in the terms ahead too. Whether it has been a friendly match or the performance level cup fixture, we have already seen 450+ pupils competing for the College, which is so pleasing to see.

My thanks as always to the directors and heads of sports getting us underway in August and all the staff for their unwavering support, effort and time in giving our pupils a wonderful experience and plenty of memories made.

An extra special celebration took place with the 125th rugby season events including the 1st XV vs CLFS (photo above) on a Friday night under a blazing sunset before the Old Eastbournians played 'one more game' on College Field against the Wooden Spoon Society in a Saturday spectacle in the sun.

There are some great stories and reports plus house results to read in this issue and my thanks to everyone who has contributed. Let's hope the second half is as exciting as the first.

Mike Harrison
Director of Sport



HOCKEY

The girls hockey season has been exceptionally dynamic, featuring over 50 fixtures across 12 teams this half term. This success stems from a robust and extensive pre-season preparation in Breda, Holland, for the U14 and U16 squads, alongside the Nottingham Hockey Festival for the 1st XI.

The 1st XI advanced to the third round of the ISHC U19 Cup after a thrilling 4-3 victory over Reigate Grammar, following a tense 2-2 draw that was decided by penalty strokes. The 1st XI lost the third round match to Bede's 1-3 in a closely fought game. Additionally, the team progressed to the second round of the EHA National Cup after a narrow 1-0 win against Hurst but fell short to a talented Ardingly team. Their competitive spirit has resulted in impressive wins against Cranbrook and Roedean too. They played Brighton College, Hurst, Ardingly and Bede's for a chance to qualify for the regional indoor hockey finals and will play Woldingham School in the second round plate match next.

The U15As have also made it to the second round of the National Cup, securing a 1-0 victory over Brighton, but fell short after a challenging fixture against St George's, Weybridge. The girls will now wait to see who they face in the Plate Competition. However, this loss does not diminish the victories against Cranbrook and Roedean. Although the U14s narrowly lost to Hurst in their national cup match, they have enjoyed competitive fixtures against Roedean, Cranbrook, and Brighton, with a match against Ardingly to conclude the half term. Progress is evident within the 2nd XI with an excellent 1-1 draw v Ardingly last week. The U15B, and U14B teams, who have a full programme of upcoming matches after half term, have competed well too.

The boys indoor hockey season has started in an impressive manner. The U16s are Sussex Indoor Champions after a 4-0 over Hurst and then a thrilling 5-3 victory over Bede's School in the final. Similarly, the U18 boys beat Ardingly, Lancing and Seaford College to be crowned U18 Sussex Indoor Champions with both age groups now progressing through to the South Regional Play-Offs at St George's Weybridge.

We extend our congratulations to Bertie Cook (Y11), Rosie Hill (Y11), Jack Jordan (Y10), Will Fellows (Y11) Emma Valks (11), Tobias Bristow (Y10), Serena Patel (10) and Jessie Holgate (10) who are through to the next phase of the East Grinstead Hockey Club England Talent Pathway squad, best of luck to them all as they progress through the year with an aim of being at Nottingham next summer.

Rob Hill
Director of Hockey OLY



RUGBY

The rugby season started in the gorgeous post-summer sun that graced our pitches and led to some exciting rugby being played by all teams across all year groups

The 1st XV, captained by Freddie Jones, have seen wins over Sutton Valence, Cranbrook, Kings Canterbury and City of London Freeman's. With two tight games against The Judd and Hurst, which fell on the opposition side this time. On the first weekend of half term the 1st XV also won the Eltham College Festival winning each of the tight group games by a score and the same in the final too.

The 2nd XV enjoyed a strong win over Sutton Valence, and two incredibly tight defeats but superb fixtures against Kings Canterbury and Cranbrook losing by just two and three points respectively in the dying seconds of both games

The U16As have started the season well with a convincing win over Cranbrook and a nail-biter against Hurst where they lost out by two points

The U15As national vase has started with a very strong performance against Christ's Hospital, they will face Cardinal Newman next. The 15Bs have played well as a team and are consistently improving

The U14s have enjoyed their first season playing 15-a-side rugby with wins across the As and Bs. Oliver Twynning started the season scoring a remarkable six tries in a win over Sutton Valence in the A team. The As also played in a newly revamped Sussex Schools festival where they won two of their three matches finishing second in the group.

Congratulations to Oliver Twynning (Y9), Jack Jordan (Y10), Will Mdean (Y10) and Tommy Llewellyn (Y10) for their involvement in the U15 Harlequins DPP programme.

Overall, we have had 35 fixtures played this half term and over 120 boys playing. We look forward to block fixtures against W orth, Caterham, Christ's Hospital and Sevenoaks to end the 125th rugby season at the College.

Oliver Torri
Director of Rugby



SWIMMING

A hugely positive start to the year for the swim team as they performed well in the Schools Super League competition and are currently seeded third out of 32 schools. The senior boys medley and freestyle team won the regional round of the ESSA competition and have qualified for the national finals in Birmingham in November. They impressively qualified ninth in the freestyle nationally and thirteenth in the medley. The girls inter team also impressively qualified too in 14th place in the medley and 21st in the freestyle. We are very excited to see how they get on as one of the best 24 schools and teams in the country.

In half term we saw the 24-hour swimathon taking place to raise money for the Blue Sky Bursaries Appeal and the tour to Dubai. In addition to this amazing effort, swimming a distance across the English Channel and back, there were swimmers competing in the counties and then south east regionals too. Congrats to them and all the success they are enjoying from the hard work and commitment in training. The national relay finals in Birmingham are up next.

COUNTIES

Nate - in 100 FC and in 50 FC

Matt - in 200 IM, in 50 and 100 FLY, in 100 FC, 100 IM

Amelie - in 200 FC and 50 brst, in 100 IM.

Hattie - in 50 and 100 FLY, 200 IM and 50 FC, in 100 and 200 FC, in 50 Brst.

Stan - in 200 BK, in 100 and 50 BK and 200 FC, in 100 FC.

Josh won: 100 and 200 Brst and 400 IM

James - in 100 FC and 100 FLY, in 50 fly.

SOUTH EAST REGIONALS

Nate won medal in Junior (under 17) 50m FC

Charlie had an amazing heat swim coming in first.

Hattie made a final of top 16 100m FLY and qualified for the English Nationals in Sheffield next month.

Jess Simmonds
Head of Swimming



GOLF

A first outing for the golf team saw Eastbourne take on Hurst at REGC. Aman Shah and Charl Spies led the way, with a great drive. Charl made his debut and despite blowing away a few cobwebs, the opposition played fine golf and won on the back 9 in worsening weather. A melie Knight also made her debut alongside Sasa Duffilova, playing well but again the weather scuppered efforts and the match finished early going into the back 9. Will Rennie and Ollie Bearcroft flew around the front 9 and despite taking the lead Hurst managed a 3&2 win in some heavy rain.

The team then played Brighton in the HMC Swifts league taking some points away with an impressive win from Freddie Russell and Sam Bordass with a 9&7 win. This was followed up by Ardingly away at Haywards Heath GC in equally appalling conditions with soaking fairways and water logged bunkers. The team battled hard but Ardingly were steady and took victory but not without drama in match three with Sam Bordass and Freddy Powis taking the match to the 18th green when Ardingly managed to chip in off the green to take the win.

In the team of three ISGA matchplay vs Bede's, Will took it to the 18th, Ollie took it to the 17th and Aman deep into the course too, but came up second on this occasion and they now enter the plate in both HMC and ISGA competitions

The team then also played in the West Sussex Invitational with some of the best schools in the South East and nationally. A super effort from the team playing on one of the top 30 courses in the country and for the first time. The Smarden Bell was played at Reigate GC this year, and despite not picking up any silverware on this occasion compared to previous years, the experience was hugely valuable.

Congratulations to A melie as well who has had an amazing first season playing golf

Competed in 9 out of 14 Junior Opens Top 3 finishes in 5 out of the 9 W on Sussex Spring Meeting
W on Ifield Junior Open W on The Royal Eastbourne Junior Comp W on Sussex Girls Champs for her handicap
W on the Sussex Order of Merit - Nett

Alex Roberts
Head of Golf



EQUESTRIAN

INVITATIONAL - FELBRIDGE

Mathilda Kikrman (Y9) achieved two super results in the 60cm with a clear round and tenth from 26 riders followed by second place in the 70cm class, which was brilliant and just under a second off first place. A great achievement to have qualified for the grassroots national championships

Megan Lillicrap and Darcy Dumas (both Y11) had super days as well. Darcy had a lovely clear in the 90-95 to finish eleventh from a big class of 48 with Megan a great round but just one unlucky pole down in the 90/95 finished a very creditable twenty eighth.

In the 1m-1.05m class both girls rode brilliant rounds and went clear. Megan came 11th (just outside the ribbons) and Darcy 14th in a big section of thirty. Really excellent results in big classes and a brilliant effort by everyone involved including staff and supporters



SUNSHINE TOUR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP HICKSTEAD

Mathilda also competed in the sunshine tour national championships over four days at the famous Hickstead showground with hundreds of competitors who all have to qualify across the country to be able to enter. She rode fantastically all weekend and became national champion in two of her classes, pony club pony and best rider for 13 years and over. She also rode two super clear rounds in her show jumping classes taking seventh out of sixty in the 65cm class and eleventh in the 60cm class. A brilliant achievement over a very long and busy weekend.

Clem Scott-Smith
Head of Equestrian

AQUATHLON, BIATHLON & TRIATHLON

The amazing inter-house **aquathlon** took place on our wonderful seafront with the biggest number of competitors to date: over 120. With the whole school out to support there is no doubt that many more will compete in it next year. See the results in the house sports results section.



We hosted the regional **biathlon** qualifying event with six other schools attending. Our pupils who competed have now been added to the national rankings and those who have qualified will find out in the new year and be invited to the national finals in Bath in March 2025. Well done to all who competed.

Y9 Boys

1st – James Fisher

Y10 Boys

2nd – Jack Jordan

Y11 Boys

1st – Elliot Hibbert

2nd – Will Fellows

3rd – Harry Jordan

Y12 & 13 Boys

1st – Lucas Gorrill

2nd – Nate Cahill

3rd – Charlie Evans-Shepard

Y9 Girls

1st – Poppy Ward

2nd – Lottie Hecks

3rd – Georgie Gribble

Y10 Girls

1st – Isabelle Gorrill

2nd – Isola Crawford

3rd – Hattie Stone

Y12&13 Girls

1st – Poppy Campion



Lucas Gorrill (Y12) took place in the Eton eliminator super series **triathlon** followed by the School Games National Finals where he placed a brilliant 16th and 15th respectively. In the final event of the British Triathlon Super Series, Lucas achieved a ninth place in the Mallory Park Grand Final. After the six events, he was placed 13th nationally in Youth A. Like most triathletes, winter is for cross country and training for next season's triathlon events



TENNIS

This half term has seen continuous daily practice on the tennis courts. The top squad in games and activity players plus those receiving individual coaching, have been working hard on their game over the past two months.

A few performance players have been competing on the GB Tour and in ITF and LTA regional events. At the top of the school, there are players applying for tennis scholarships to US Universities.

The winter schools competition for senior girls and boys starts in November when both teams will be aiming to win their group and qualify for the knockout stages in the new year with the girls defending the South East regional title.

Simon Gent
Head of Tennis



BASKETBALL

The basketball squad have started the league season very well with a win against a much taller and larger Bede's side, 65-62. An impressive team performance and excellent individual performances from some new faces. A win against St Richard's too. Further fixtures to come against Brighton and Haywards Heath Sixth Form and Bede's again.

Luke Flanagan, Head of Basketball
Ian Berry, Head Coach

CRICKET

Some cricket success with a win for Crowhurst CC in the T20 club county U18 final, congratulations to Vincent Martin, Freddie Russell and Henry Hollands who were all a part of this team.

Huge congratulations to Charl Spies (Y11), Tom Van Rensburg (Y11) for selection in to the Sussex U16 squad; Jack Jordan (Y10) in the U15 squad; and Georgie Pedley in the Sussex EPP and U18 squad after recent trials

Matilda Callaghan
Director of Cricket



SQUASH

The team has been improving rapidly since the start of term. Training sessions have been competitive and fun. Our first outing against Brighton College was a great effort, narrowly losing 3-2.

We have also competed well against a strong Hurst team at home and helping to produce a great fixture despite losing. We look forward to more fixtures against Brighton, Lancing and more in the second half of the term.

Joe Wells
MC of Squash



FOOTBALL

The Michaelmas footballers have had enjoyed success in the ISFA competitions. Drawn against Tonbridge in the cup was never going to be easy. The team defended extremely well for the first half and were denied by some excellent keeping by the opposition keeper, however, lacking some key players, fatigue crept in and Tonbridge proved to be too strong. In the Bowl competition however, our talisman and captain Noah Titterton-Manos returned to put six goals past Frensham Heights to ensure our progression into round two where we have a home fixture against Kew House School, London.

Nik Clark
Head of Football

NETBALL

The 1st VII and U16A VII both competed in the county round of the National Schools competition, with both teams playing some fantastic netball over the course of the day. The U16A team just missed out on qualifying for the quarter finals, and the 1st VII had a number of closely contested games within their round robin group of eleven. The girls playing in the adult netball league each week are hugely enjoying their experience and many girls are continuing the pre-season programme in readiness for January and the full season.

Lisa Price
Director of Netball



BAD MINTON

A busy and exciting few weeks of badminton, with 40 pupils now on court during games and, making the most of our amazing sports hall, great to see so many playing. A total of four matches involving our A and B boys, mixed and girls teams have been played against Tonbridge (home and away), Sevenoaks and Roedean, with the latter fixture being our first ever all-girls match. Although results have not yet gone our way, great progress has been made, as shown by our most recent overall 8-10 loss to Tonbridge, who are fielding a strong A-team this year; our Bs won their matches 5-3 to get us closer to the overall draw. We have also enjoyed an excellent staff v mainly B team match, with pupils just being pipped 16-15. Well played staff! In other news, we are also very pleased to have appointed Calvin Chen (Y13) as team captain and Sunny Wong (Y13) as vice-captain. With these two leading by example on the court and in the fledgling training sessions run by them during the Friday games slot. Also worthy of reporting is that Calvin has beaten all the number 1 opposition players in friendly singles matches after the main doubles events, which is no mean feat. After half term, we look forward to hosting Sevenoaks, Roedean, Ardingly and Lancing.

Tim Clark
Head of Badminton



OE cricket news

Some news you may not have seen at the end of the cricket season in September:

Congratulations to Harry Finch (left, Craig) who won player of the year for Kent CCC; Tom Hinley (middle, Wargrave) who has signed a professional contract with Worcestershire CCC; Joe Pocklington (right, on bench middle right, Craig) who captained Leeds & Bradford UCCE to the final at Lord's and played against Tom, playing for Loughborough UCCE, in the semi-final. All three of them were the Peter Bibby cricket scholar at the College too.

Sussex CCC OEs Oliver Carter (Craig) and Daniel Ibrahim (Reeves) enjoyed another season as Sussex became Div 2 Champions and will be preparing once again for next year. Emmanuel Bawa (Gonville) also played in the Zimbabwe national club T20 finals



Congratulations to Tawanda Muyeye (Gonville) who scored an incredible double century for Kent CCC against Worcestershire CCC in the county championship.

Congratulations to College Director of Cricket Matilda Callaghan for cleaning up at the annual Essex CCC awards evening. With her performances over the summer she won batter of the year, player of the year and players' player.



OE rugby news



Piers O'Connor (Gonville) made a move over the Irish sea from Bristol Bears to Connacht. We wish Piers all the best for the season ahead.

Congratulations to Louis Fisher (Reeves) who made his debut for Ireland students rugby league team against Scotland at Castle Douglas. A tight game with Scotland coming out the victors. Well done, Louis.



Great to see two recent OE rugby players, Will Daniels (Gonville) and Wilf Batham-Reed (Powell) playing together for Newcastle University 2nd XV.

RUGBY 125

Some pictures of the OE rugby match celebrating 125 years of rugby at the College. A full report can be found by clicking this link: [ES RUGBY 125 REPORT](#)



STEEPLECHASE 2024

It was fantastic to see a record number of pupils running and participating in the 2024 event with 538 pupils taking part in the six different races including staff runners and thirty St Andrews Prep pupils running too.

My huge thanks to the 60+ staff marshals who helped line the route across the Downs and seafront for this iconic inter-house event. Whether taking part or contributing to the team event, it is an event for everyone to be involved in. We are hoping next year we will see even more involved much like the aquathlon. Congratulations to the winners of the team event as well as individual winners and medallists. Also, well done to the two houses for winning a house reward for having the largest percentage of runners finishing the race before the cut off time, a new event this year.

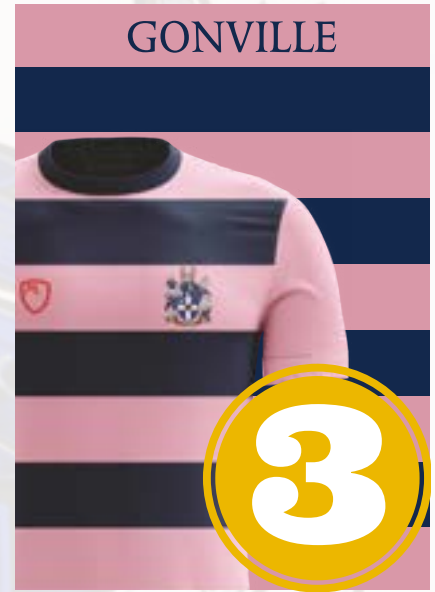
Mike Harrison
Director of Sport



STEEPLECHASE

KING OF THE HILL BOYS TEAM OVERALL RESULT

Lucas Gorrill
(Reeves Y12)



Junior Boys

1. Craig
2. Reeves
3. Powell
4. Pennell
5. Wargrave
6. Gonville

Intermediate Boys

1. Gonville
2. Wargrave
3. Craig
4. Reeves
5. Powell
6. Pennell

Senior Boys

1. Reeves
2. Craig
3. Gonville
4. Powell
5. Wargrave
6. Pennell



[Steeplechase results link 2024](#)

STEEPLECHASE

BOYS PARTICIPATION RESULT

Percentage of runners in each house finishing before cut off time

REEVES



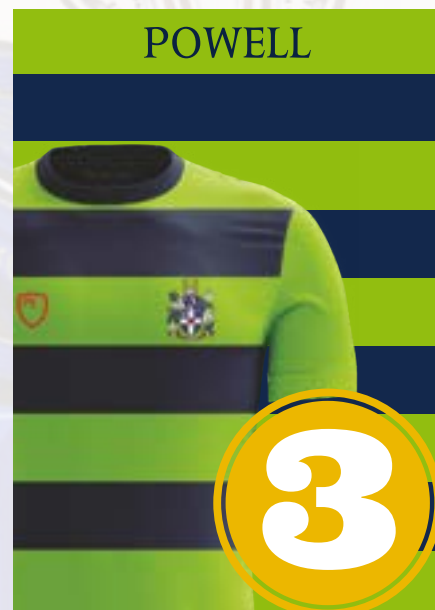
87.7%

GONVILLE



88.1%

POWELL



86.2%

CRAIG



80.9%

PENNELL



77.4%

WARGRAVE



74.6%

CUT OFF TIMES

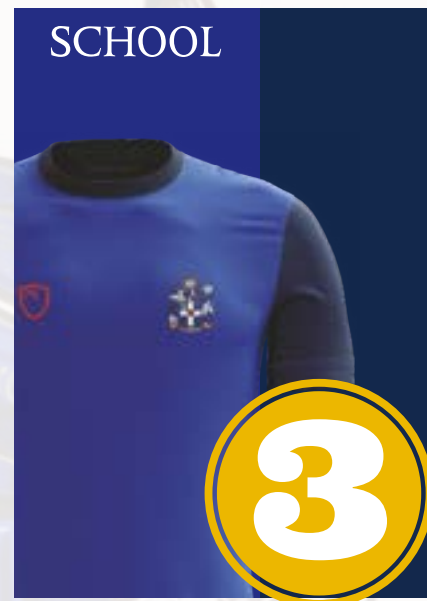
Y9 B (3.6k) – 30 mins

Inter B (5k) – 40 mins

Sen B (7k) – 55 mins

STEEPLECHASE

GIRLS TEAM OVERALL RESULT



Junior Girls

1. Watt
2. School
3. Blackwater
4. Nugent

Intermediate Girls

1. Blackwater
2. Watt
3. Nugent
4. School

Senior Girls

1. Watt
2. School
3. Nugent
4. Blackwater



QUEEN OF THE HILL

Bertie Cooke
(Nugent Y11)

[Steeplechase results link 2024](#)

STEEPLECHASE

GIRLS PARTICIPATION RESULT

Percentage of runners in each house finishing before cut-off time



HOUSE RESULTS

BOYS HOUSE RUGBY



Year 9

1. Gonville
2. Reeves
3. Craig
4. Pennell
5. Wargrave
6. Powell

Year 10

1. Wargrave
2. Craig
3. Pennell
4. Powell
5. Gonville
6. Reeves

Year 11

1. Wargrave
2. Craig
3. Reeves
4. Powell
5. Gonville
6. Pennell

Year 12/13

1. Reeves
2. Powell
3. Pennell
4. Craig
5. Wargrave
6. Gonville



AQUATHLON

BOYS RESULTS

Year 9

- 1 James Fisher 00:17:41
- 2 Henry Cooke 00:19:07
- 3 William Lambert 00:20:55

Year 10

- 1 Jack Jordan 00:17:49
- 2 Herbert Phillips 00:20:23
- 3 Ethan Simmonds 00:20:40

Year 11

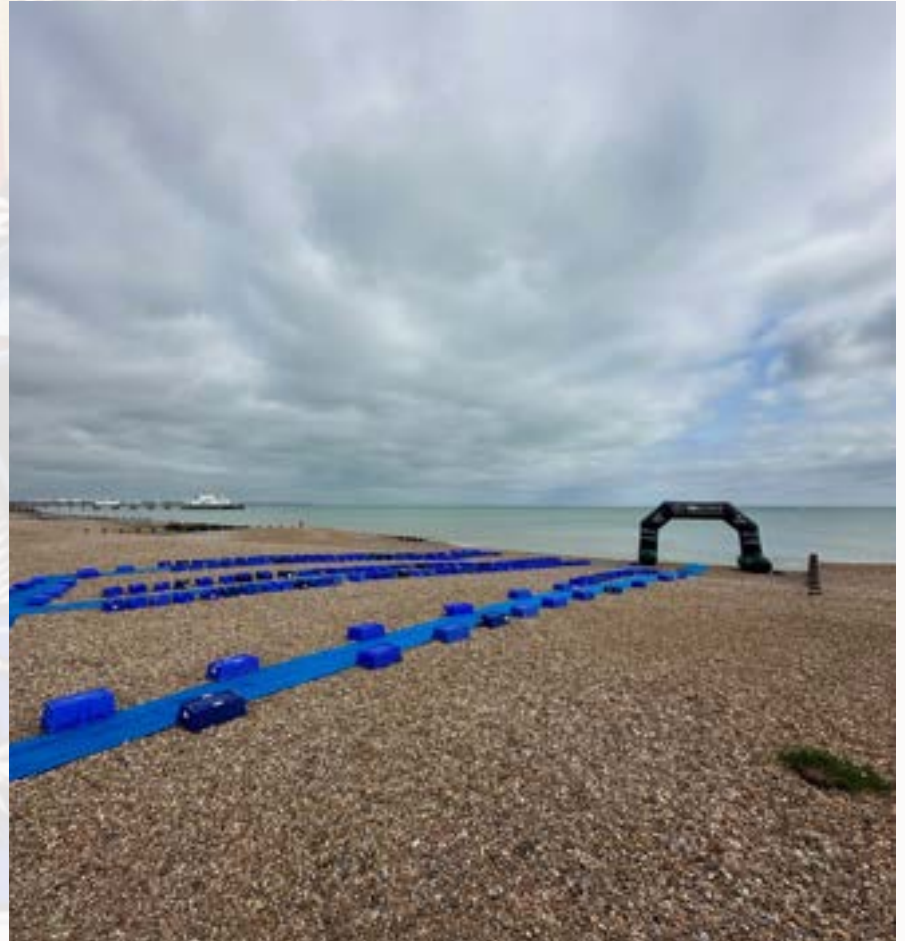
- 1 William Fellows 00:17:18
- 2 Harry Jordan 00:19:15
- 3 Elliot Hibbert 00:19:35

Year 12

- 1 Nate Cahill 00:16:07
- 2 Jack Hylands 00:20:26

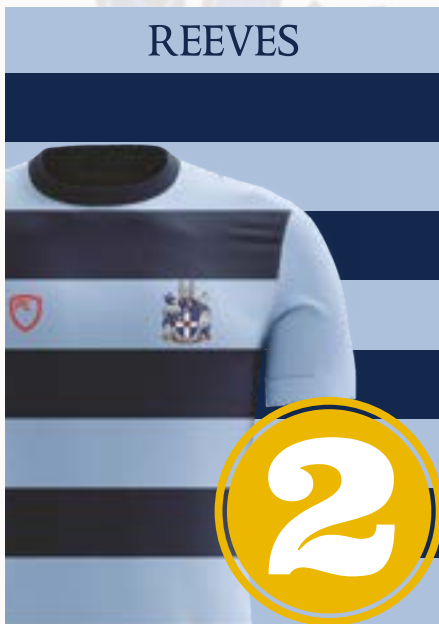
Year 13

- 1 Charlie Evans-Shephard 00:17:09
- 2 Sam Bordass 00:18:19
- 3 Barnaby Revill 00:18:21



HOUSE RESULTS

AQUATHLON



Year 9&10

1. Craig
2. Gonville
3. Powell
4. Reeves
5. Pennell
6. W argrave

Year 11

1. Reeves
2. Pennell
3. W argrave
4. Gonville
5. Craig
6. Powell

Year 12&13

1. Powell
2. Gonville
3. W argrave
4. Reeves
5. Craig
6. Pennell

Overall

1. Gonville
2. Reeves
3. Powell
4. Craig
5. W argrave
6. Pennell



AQUATHLON

GIRLS RESULTS

Year 9

- 1 Isabelle Gorrill 00:18:50
- 2 Hattie Stone 00:21:05

Year 10

- 1 Lottie Hecks 00:22:33
- 2 Georgina Gribble 00:23:20
- 3 Poppy Ward 00:25:45

Year 11

- 1 Bertie Cooke 00:20:28
- 2 Emma Valks 00:23:26
- 3 Isla Heath 00:28:05

Year 12

- 1 Poppy Champion 00:19:35
- 2 Olivia Wilson 00:23:01
- 3 Emilia Dixon 00:24:25

Year 13

- 1 Sophie Fellows 00:21:19
- 2 Tiggy Tutt 00:25:42
- 3 Martha Lillicrap 00:26:18



HOUSE RESULTS

AQUATHLON

