

JULY 2019



SAINT JOHN'S

# SAINT JOHN'S SPORTS GAZETTE

We hope that you enjoy reading about some of the highlights from the sporting life of Saint John's in 2018/19.

## SPORTS DAY



*David and Chiara lift the trophy for Wilson*

Cheers echoed around the cricket ground when **Wilson** claimed the Trophy this year with an impressive 103 points! Jenner's double win in the Year 6 long distance races meant that they caught up with Holst to finish joint second (94 points each) and Dowty came fourth with a very respectable 74 points.

Congratulations to Rosa, who won the Year 6 girls' long distance race in 1 minute 22 seconds, and to Simon, who claimed gold in the boys' race in 1 minute 16 seconds.

Thank you very much to all the parents and governors who helped this year. As always, we are indebted to the PTFA for providing refreshments & gazebos, and to Cheltenham Cricket Club for allowing us to use their facilities.

We were incredibly lucky as the competition fell on one of the scarce dry days during a very rainy June!

Despite the changeable weather, a huge number of supporters came to cheer on the children which gave the event a great atmosphere. The amount of effort put in by the children was outstanding and they were a credit to the school.



*Simon and Rosa claimed gold*



*Year 3 enjoy their stick and ball race.*



*A very close Year 2 sprint!*



## **FOOTBALL**

Our football team has been a pleasure to watch this year – their enthusiasm and team spirit has been wonderful to see. With the majority of the team coming from Year 5, victories have been harder to come by against teams mainly drawn from Year 6, but every game has been competitive and some wonderful goals have been scored. Simon, Philip and James from Y6 have given the team a superb spine and we will miss them next season.

Highlight of the season was a last-minute winner against Lakeside; defending a corner, with the opposition keeper up in our box, a swift break started by Theo (our striker, pressed into service as a centre-half) ended with Simon firing home from a tight angle.



Our girls also did very well this year. They entered the Girls Football Tournament, competing against 20 local schools, and topped their group to qualify for the finals event! Congratulations to all the girls involved in the football team this year.

Thank you to Mr Allison and Mr Brown for giving up their time to run the football throughout the year.

## **NETBALL**

Our school netball team had their best season yet! We welcomed some new talent from Year 5 and also opened up the club to Year 4 in the Spring. The team worked hard throughout the winter in preparation for the end of season tournaments. The hard work paid off when our team became silver medallists in the Cheltenham and Tewkesbury High Five Netball competition.



There were thirteen schools competing which makes this an even more impressive achievement!

Our second competition gave our Year 4s their first opportunity to compete as our Year 5s were on a trip — making us the youngest team at the event. The team made huge progress throughout the tournament and we look forward to continuing to watch them grow next year. Thank you to Mrs Kimber for giving up her time to run the netball throughout the year.



## **TAG RUGBY**

We entered two Tag Rugby tournaments this year. Our first tournament took place during the first week of term on the fantastic new artificial grass pitch at Cheltenham Tigers. It was a glorious day, which made a change from the usual rugby weather, and a great start to the sporting year!



In contrast, umbrellas were definitely needed for Year 5 & 6 in their tournament later in the year. The team didn't let this dampen their spirits and threw themselves into the game, showing great offensive and defensive skills throughout the tournament.

We look forward to seeing how they perform in the Year 5/6 Tag Rugby tournaments next year.

## **HOCKEY**

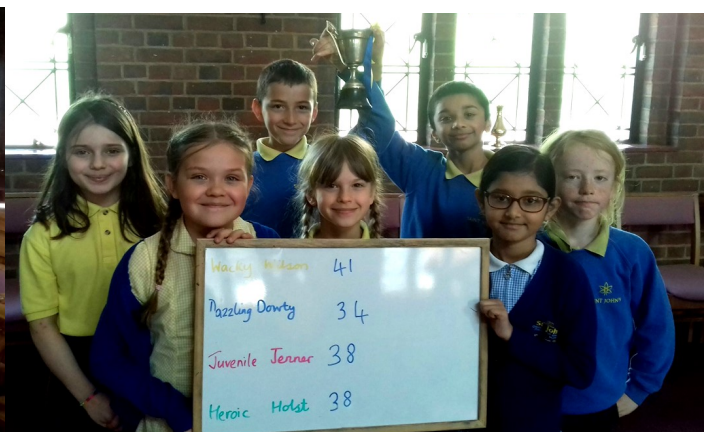
Our Year 5/6 hockey team competed in a Quicksticks tournament, held at Pate's. James and Simon (who competed last year) were joined by Grace and Rosa to create a very skilful team. This was a fantastic opportunity for them to build on the skills they had learnt in PE lessons and to experience the difference that playing on AstroTurf makes to the pace of the game.



## **HOUSE COMPETITIONS**

We have had various inter-house competitions this year. One of our favourites was our 'Highbury Series', which was held during SATs week. Every class threw themselves into the competition, showing great respect and fair play throughout, so the event was enjoyed by all. Congratulations to Dowty who were the overall winners, winning three out of the four competitions!

Thank you to Mr Allison who spent a lot of his own time creating such a fun competition.





## **ATHLETICS**

We have entered two athletics competitions this year: Quad Kids and the Cheltenham & District Inter-Schools Athletics Championships.



Our Year 4 team were praised for their determination during the Quad Kids event and there were some outstanding individual performances in the standing long jump, vortex throw and 50m sprint! At the District Athletics, three of our children narrowly missed the finals by coming 4th in their respective heats.



## **CRICKET**

Unfortunately, the majority of our cricket tournaments were rained off this year, however, we did manage to compete in the Indoor Non-Stop cricket. Our children were recognised for showing great sportsmanship and awarded Move More's coveted bands for passion and respect.



## **MULTI-SKILLS**

We entered several Reception/KS1 Multi-Skills tournaments this year and also held our own Multi-Skills club after school.



The children who attended these events had the opportunity to mix with children from other local schools and they all shone due to their fantastic attitude. We are looking forward to seeing their new skills in our sporting events next year!



## **PANATHLON**

Our Panathlon team did exceptionally well again this year. They managed to keep up their reputation as a formidable team by once again bringing home medals—this time bronze! Their certificate joins our growing collection in the trophy cabinet.

We are looking forward to seeing how the team gets on next year!







## **ARCHERY**

Year 6 pupils tried their hand at a new sport for most of them when they competed in an archery competition at Balcarras School. They received specialist coaching from Archery GB coaches before coming together as a team in the final competition. They were obviously naturals at the sport as they came second overall with a team score of 773 points!

**Congratulations to our silver medallists!**

## **ROUNDERS**

Year 4 competed against lots of local schools in a rounders tournament, hosted by St Edwards Preparatory School. As the tournament progressed, their tactical game improved and they scored an impressive number of rounders in their final game! They worked incredibly well as a team and were praised by the organisers for their sportsmanship and determination.



## **TRI-GOLF**

Year 3 competed in a new festival for Saint John's, Tri-golf, which was held at Brickhampton Court Golf Complex. The children worked their way around several activity stations which challenged them to achieve their personal best through a variety of golf specific skills. Although they found this tricky at first, Year 3 kept trying and Mr Allison definitely saw a huge improvement by the end of the festival.



## **INDOOR KURLING**

A team of Year 4 children competed in another new competition this year, indoor kurling. This game required a huge amount of concentration and focus, along with spectacular teamwork to ensure that maximum points were scored! The children who attended really enjoyed the event and it is definitely a sport which we would be keen to take part in again next year.







## **SWIMMING**

We took part in the Cheltenham College Aquathlon for the first time this year. Our mixed team of Year 5 & 6 had to swim 6 lengths of their pool (150m) followed by a 1km run around the grounds. Congratulations to Florence who was the winner from the Saint John's entries with a time of 11 minutes and 25 seconds - a very impressive time for such a challenging event! We are keen to enter this again next year and look forward to seeing if any of our new Year 5s will be up for the challenge.

A group of Year 5 children took part in the Heidi's Heroes swimming scheme and all made fantastic progress. Every child who attended earned a Rainbow Distance Badge and was rewarded with a free pair of goggles for all their hard work! We look forward to seeing their progress in their swimming lessons over the next year.



## **CHELTENHAM COLLEGE**

Our Year 2s have enjoyed having their PE lessons on Friday afternoons at Cheltenham College this year. They have played Hockey, Netball, Tag Rugby and Cricket.



Young leaders from Cheltenham College have also run several events for our children including a multi-sports morning for Year 4, a netball experience session for Year 3 and regular coaching for Year 5 in football and cricket.

## **PLAY LEADERS**

A group of Year 4 and 5 children have been trained up at Play Leaders. They have been responsible for running fun games during lunch time and have been a great addition to the playground. We have been really impressed with their creativity when running these games in a packed playground! We would like to thank them for all their hard work this year and we look forward to them continuing in their role next year.

