

We find ourselves half way through the school year and once again there is lots to report in this latest edition of our sports newsletter. January can typically be a quiet time with the weather often curtailing fixtures and competitions and this year has been particularly bad with the continuous wet weather putting our field out of action for a number of weeks. However, uptake for our extra curricular clubs remains exceptionally high and this is particularly pleasing given that there is an equally impressive arts and music offer in place. We have nearly 400 children attending one of our staff run extra curricular sports clubs and many more that take up the offer provided by our external providers.

Furthermore, this half term, an additional 67 children have represented the school in a competition or festival for the first time making it a total of 428 who have done so in this academic year. These are really impressive figures and I would like to congratulate all these pupils. You have conducted yourselves exceptionally well and I continue to be impressed with the passion, effort and commitment you display. I hope you have all enjoyed the opportunities on offer.

If you've not yet had the opportunity to take part in a competition or festival, there are lots more planned for the remainder of the year so we hope you will want to get involved.

RUNNING CLUB - MARATHON CHALLENGE

I am pleased to share the medal design for this year's challenge. Some pupils are already very close to achieving their marathon distance and we will start awarding these medals in achievement assemblies before Easter. Remember, that you need to attend our running club 18 times during the year in order to have run the distance of a marathon.



PTA FUNDING - THANK YOU!

We would like to say a big thank you to the PTA who have recently provided the school with funds to overhaul our PE equipment, replacing balls and other worn out equipment. This will make a significant difference to our curriculum and extra curricular provision, further enhancing opportunities for all pupils. They have also provided funds to replace some of our school football kits which we will look to have in place for the beginning of next season. Thank you!

NETBALL UPDATE

Our year 6 teams have continued with their league program, playing St Ann's Heath in an A team and B team fixture. The first team to play was the A team. It was a scrappy and quick game with lots of scoring opportunities for both sides. The team played courageously against a tough defense and were unlucky to come away with the score ending 5-2 to St Ann's Heath. Well done to the following children who took part: Abby, Penelope, Cece, Jaxon, Emily, Isla and Georgia. The second match to be played was a friendly. Having never played together before, the team played brilliantly. They showed great resilience and held their own during a tough game. The final score ended in a 2-2 draw. Well done to the following children: Emily, Rosa, Maddie, Freya, Edie, Annabel and Izzy.

The year 5 and year 6 teams have further league games and the annual netball rally before the season comes to a close at the end of this term. Well done to all the girls and boys who attend training each week - your dedication is much appreciated and valued.

BORDER LEAGUE CROSS COUNTRY

At the beginning of February, the third cross country fixture of the season took place at Merrist Wood in Woking. It was a beautiful morning but the conditions underfoot couldn't be more contrasting with a lot of mud! We had about 60 children running overall and once again they represented the school superbly with some gritty and determined performances, overcoming the tricky conditions superbly. The results from the weekend can be viewed by [clicking here](#). There were some very impressive top 10 finishes which included.

- Under 9s Girls - Chloe 5th
- Under 9s Boys - Rowan 4th
- Under 11s Boys - Sebbi 4th, Freddie 7th and Joshua 8th

In the team event, we once again dominated the Under 11s boys event, finishing in 1st place for the third race running. We also managed 3rd place in the under 11s girls, 5th place in the under 9s boys and 3rd place in the under 9s girls. Congratulations to everyone who took part.





SURREY SCHOOLS CROSS COUNTRY

Back in January, 18 Cleves athletes took part in the Surrey Schools Cross Country competition in Reigate. All that took part ran strongly with many finishing inside or around the top 20 and receiving opportunities to attend the Surrey Athletics development day during half term. This was a considerable and significant achievement given that in many of the races there were over 120 athletes taking part from schools from right across Surrey. It clearly demonstrates the strength and talent of our runners at Cleves and is testament to their hard work and commitment to running.

We still have one more Border League Cross Country race on the 2nd March in Reigate and the District Schools Cross Country competition at Notre Dame at the end of March so if you child would like to get involved, please drop me an email - csmith@cleves.co.uk

TAG RUGBY FESTIVAL

Back in January saw the first of the tag rugby tournaments hosted by Cleves. In separate competitions both the Girls and the Boys teams faced off against three other local schools. The level of skill and commitment from both teams was a real reflection of the energy that we see every week at training. I am delighted to report that at the end of the competition both teams were victorious - taking home the silverware. Many thanks to Martin and Ian, who came in to coach the Girls, and to Mr Smith in organising the event. We certainly look forward to the next round. Mr Thomas

Squads:

Andrew, Austin, Eli, Ethan, Jacob, James, Kristian, Max, Otto, Timothy

Abi, CeCe, Ella-Rose, Elodie, Erin, Georgia, Louise, Maddie, Matilda, Thaleia



DODGEBALL COMPETITION

Early February saw the Elmbridge and Runnymede dodgeball festival take place. This was hosted and led by Cleves which saw us enter two teams into the competition. It was a great afternoon of dodgeball with the values of honesty and respect clearly upheld by all the schools that took part. The Cleves teams did really well finishing in 1st and 2nd place out of the 7 schools competing to be crowned district champions. This is the first time we have ever won this competition so well done to everyone who took part. To finish both first and second was quite an achievement.

Then, only this week, we entered a team into the East Surrey dodgeball competition held at East Surrey College in Redhill. This provided a full day of competition for the 10 pupils chosen to take part. It was a day of missed opportunities as having won their first game comprehensively, we then went on to compete really strongly but just couldn't close out the sets. They ended up finishing 4th in their group but had a great time and learnt a lot about dodgeball and the tactics required.

Well done everyone who has played dodgeball for the school this year. It's been great fun!



SPORTSHALL ATHLETICS

As you may have read in our recent weekly newsletter our Year 6 Sportshall Athletics team achieved considerable success in the district competition at Cleves. This is now a competition we have won for the last 14 years but this year was probably our biggest and most comprehensive victory of them all. It is fair to say they deserve the success, given they have attended training at Cleves every Thursday morning before school since the end of October. The team now progresses to the Surrey county finals at the Guildford Spectrum in April. This will indeed be a much tougher competition so the team is continuing to train hard.

There is also another sportshall competition at Cleves at the end of this month which Cleves are hosting as part of the WWHSP Sports Partnership. This gives the opportunity for all the pupils who have attended the morning club to take part in a competition and this group of children have

been training equally hard to prepare. I look forward to sharing their success in the next newsletter.



FOOTBALL MATCH REPORTS

The poor weather has really affected our planned football fixtures for this term with the field in a poor condition. We have however managed some games and the staff members who look after these teams have written a short summary of their achievements. The girls haven't played this half term but have a full schedule of fixtures next half term.

Year 4 Indoor Football Festival

Last Monday saw us host the local Year 4 Indoor Football Festival at Cleves which was attended by Grovelands, Holy Family, Ongar Place, Walton Oak and St James. The five a side format saw everyone play 6 minute games against everyone else with all participants taking away a medal at the end of the afternoon. The Cleves boys played some excellent football winning three games, drawing once and losing a very close encounter against Holy Family in the final game of the day. Well done to everyone who took part.



Year 5 A Team Boys Football (Mr Smith)

What a fantastic season the Cleves Year 5 A team are having so far! This half term has seen them play in just two competitive matches mainly due to the poor weather and dark evenings. Both games were cup competitions with an away trip to Royal Russell in the Surrey County cup and a home game against Manorcroft in the Year 5/6 League Cup.

The trip to Royal Russell was always going to be a difficult fixture to navigate. We started the game brilliantly and got our noses in front with a great strike from Jack L. Royal Russell hit back though and a lack of focus and concentration saw us concede three goals in a matter of five minutes. The second half continued to be an even contest but we couldn't quite manage to get ourselves back in the game and it finished 5 v 2 to our opponents with the hosts last goal a thing of real brilliance. Well done to the boys who played, there was lots of learning to be taken from the game.

A couple of weeks later, we played Manorcroft in the league cup. The cup competition is open to both years 5 and 6 so we knew there was the likelihood that we would come across a number of Year 6s and it would be a tough game. It certainly didn't disappoint with both teams having great chances and neither team dominating possession. Cleves certainly played the best football with a number of fine attacking moves whilst our opponents were strong, physical and difficult to break down. The game was decided by a single goal just before half time, when Jack L crashed a free kick against the post but Cedar was on hand to lift the ball over the goalkeeper. Well done boys - a semi final match awaits.

Year 5/6 B Team Boys Football (Mr Smith)

The Year 5/6 B team have also been in league and cup action this half term.

Back in January we hosted Burhill which was a hugely entertaining game. Burhill opened the scoring but the Cleves boys battled back to eventually win 3 v 1. This means they remain undefeated in the league with fixtures against Lyne and Longcross and St Paul's remaining. Well done to everyone who played, particularly those who represented the school for the first time.

This week, the Year 5 B team played their league cup game against Ongar Place. It was another very close game which saw Cleves take a well deserved lead in the first half following a great strike by Thomas Davey. The second half saw both teams have further chances but it was Ongar Place who scored twice to secure the win and progress to the next round of the cup. Well done to the boys who played, for many it was their first ever competitive fixture and they represented the school proudly.

Year 6 A Team Boys Football (Mr Mulea)

After an unusually quiet January for the Year 6 boys A Team, the team have continued on showing fantastic team performances across all competitions. Our Spring Term fixtures kicked off with a very exciting second round day out at Wimbledon's training ground to compete in the Wimbledon EFL competition. After several top performances and brilliant team goals, we topped the group and eventually went onto the final. After a closely contested game, our run in this competition ended. Our only league fixture in this Spring half term saw the Cleves boys play against Walton Oak. The boys were fired up and dominated them from start to finish, in what turned out to be one of our highest scoring games of the year so far. Soon after this fixture, the boys were back in action in another follow up tournament, this time at Dorking for the next round of the Surrey County competition. Once again, the team showed fantastic determination and

teamwork to top the group and push themselves all the way into the final. Similar to our Wimbledon experience, the boys pushed as hard as they could and just couldn't get over the line and felt short at the final stage of extra time. The boys have truly shown fantastic effort and teamwork that has taken them far in all competitions. Each and everyone of them should be extremely proud of their efforts and have put us in a great position for the rest of the footballing season with the league, league cup and the Chelsea competition all to play for.

Well done boys!



Mr Mulea and I have been really impressed with all the pupils that have represented the school in football this year - a massive 107 in total. Well done to you all!

WWHSP PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

With Cleves taking the lead on the Walton, Weybridge and Hersham Sports Partnership, we have continued to host, organise and lead a number of sporting festivals this half term. This includes a year 4 mini olympics competition which 4W took part in. Recently, Cleves led on putting together a sportshall athletics team

which included more able pupils from the majority of the WWHSP schools. They went on to compete against Surrey Athletic Clubs (not schools) on Sunday 12th January in a hugely enjoyable afternoon of competition. I am delighted to report that both the boys and girls team were overall winners. This is the first time we managed to win both the boys and girls competition and is a fantastic achievement.



WWHSP

Walton, Weybridge, Hersham Sports Partnership



What's more, I am delighted to share that CeCe, Emily, Antonina, Timothy and Kristian have been selected to represent Surrey in the regional sportshall competition taking place at Burgess Hill at the beginning of half term. Once again, I will share how they get on in the next sports newsletter.

There are many more WWHSP competitions and festivals planned for the second half of this term including a B team football festival, year 2 and 3 mini olympics, a year 3/4 girls football festival and sportshall athletics competitions for years 3/4 and 5/6

STATE SCHOOL SUPERSTAR CRICKETER

Recently, the Twenty20 Cricket Academy launched their search for a State School Superstar cricketer in Surrey via their social media @T20CricketCo.

This is open to boys and girls in school years 4-6, where they are looking for players who have natural ability to show in their phase 1 assessments.

These will be followed up by a Phase 2 net session and then a final match play phase over the summer.



Entries are open at <https://www.twenty20cricketcompany.com/state-school-superstar> and close at the end of February.

Players must be at a cricket club and not in county pathways or currently part of our T20 Community Cricket Academy.

Initial assessments will take place in the Easter holidays at Ripley Cricket Club, and the winning boy and girl will be awarded a free place in the T20 Community Cricket Academy for 2025-26, worth over £1,200 for each player with bursaries for any runners-up of a sufficient standard.

There are also prizes for the winning boy and girl's school.

LIVE SPORTING EVENTS

Just a reminder, at Cleves, we would like to keep a record of occasions when children at Cleves get to watch a live sporting event. If your child is lucky enough to see a game or competition of any sport, please can I ask you to complete the following form so we can keep a record. Please [click here](#) to complete the form.

This rounds up a very busy start to 2025. Congratulations to everyone who has been involved and we look forward to reporting on all the events that take place for the remainder of the school year.

Mr Smith

Sports Coach