

Independent Schools Netball Cup U19's Round 1 Colfe's 'v' Surbiton High School

By Alice Foster

A very lethargic senior netball team arrived at Surbiton High School, unsure of what to expect from the opposition.

After a slow start from both sides, it became clear that we were up against a difficult side with a very good goal shooter and goal defence. Despite some brilliant centre court play by Imogen King, our inability to convert left us four goals down at half time. With the score at 14-10 to the home team, our heads definitely dropped.

However, with some encouraging words from Mrs Rayes, the mood picked up and we became determined to go home with the win. In the second half, everyone really stepped up their game, with Millie Sherran on fire as goal shooter and Issy Robson

and Dela Glevey making some great interceptions at defence. We suddenly found ourselves back in it at the end of the third quarter. The game was tight going into the last quarter, however this didn't seem to affect the confidence we had built up.

We played some brilliant netball in the last quarter and really made it count. All our hard work paid off, as we came home with a win of 32-28. I'm so proud of the whole team and a special mention to year 11 pupil Rochelle KcKay-Price who proved herself amongst the older girls! Thank you to Mrs Rayes and Miss Holder for umpiring. Hopefully our good form will continue into the next round against Portsmouth Grammar!

Player of the match: Dela Glevey



Goal Shooter Millie Sherran prepares to score.

GS	Millie Sherran
GA	Sammy Clinton/Alice Foster
WA	Lauren Ellis/Rochelle McKay -Pryce
C	Imogen King
WD	Phoebe Roth
GD	Dela Glevey
GK	Issy Robson

Second XV in glorious defeat Colfes 15 Skinners 38

By Charlie Davis

Colfe's 2XV fell to an unlucky defeat against Skinners, putting in arguably their best performance of the season so far. Colfe's dominated the first twenty minutes of the game with the pack, led by Charlie Davis, outplaying their opponents in every area of the pitch, most notably the line out where Skinners failed to win any of their own ball in the first half thanks to Ross Marshall's excellent jumping.

For all their good work however the 2's only managed to put 3 points on the board in this period from a Sam Pinnock penalty and were made to pay when the referee awarded Skinners a dubious try against the run of play. A spirited fight back however saw Colfe's go in to half time with 12-7 lead, all the points being kicked by Sam Pinnock.

Sadly tackling let the 2's down in the second half as Skinners ran in a number of

undeserved tries to gain a rather flattering lead. Colfe's managed to pick up just 3 more points in the second half, again from the boot of Sam Pinnock, although Max Dunmore staked his claim to be 2nd team kicker with an unlucky drop kick attempt late on. The 2's shouldn't be too disheartened by this scoreline as they outplayed their opposition for large spells during the game but ultimately let themselves down through lack of fitness and concentration.

Inside this issue:

<i>Debating the Green Belt</i>	2
<i>Colfe's Jazz Night</i>	2
<i>First XV match report against John Fisher</i>	3
<i>Preparing for Antigone</i>	4

Special points of interest:

- Please note that there are Parents' Evenings for Sixth Form students immediately after half-term.
- Year 13 Parents' Evening is on the 10th November from 5 to 7pm.
- Year 12 Parents' Evening is on 17th November from 5 to 7pm.
- For Year 13 students, half-term is a good time to sort through your AS folders for exams you are retaking in January. You need to ensure that the folders are properly sorted and any extra notes have been completed.
- There will be mock exams for the AS retakes in the middle of next half-term and it is important to prepare for these.

Debating Debates

Building on the green belt

By Paul-R Shehadeh

Two of the Sixth Form's brightest and best sat opposite each other, the atmosphere tangibly tense, like two stags ready to lock horns, or Muhammad Ali looking in the mirror, or two debaters ready to debate. By the way, the motion was something like whether we should build on Greenbelt land or not; Jamie and Mr Dunsmore would argue yes, Charlie and Mr Crowe would argue no. The crowd (about thirty people spread around the whole theatre) was in a frenzy (the year sevens were chatting) so much so that Alex had to call the room to order rather sternly.

Mr Dunsmore and Jamie Cox sat behind one table with Mr Crowe and Charlie Whittaker sitting behind the other. Every debate requires a chairman (or chairwoman -- calm down!) and as Mr Dunsmore, who usually fills this role, was taking part already, Alex Hill volunteered. I should say now, this being a sixth form magazine, I won't be covering the teachers' contributions to the debates in as much detail, this way my 'reports' will be shorter and more directly relevant to you.

Jamie, clearing his throat as his three minutes began, paced confidently up and down the stage, delivering his points clearly, then explaining them as much with words as with gesticulations. He seemed to deal with points of information (interruptions by the opposing team) well, taking care to consider objections fully in his brief rebuttal of them without losing his train of thought. Alex had to bang his makeshift gable once or twice, signalling Jamie had used his time fully.

Charlie chose not to measure out his speech with bold strides as Jamie had done, instead, as the three minutes elapsed, his shirt, by slow degrees, became more and more un-tucked until the Head Boy stood with his shirt completely un-tucked. While this obviously commanded my full attention, the audience, more focused on his words, seemed enthralled by Charlie's level-headed exploration of the benefits of preserving Greenbelts and the threat posed to SSSIs (Sites of special scientific interest) and our quality of life by encroachments upon them. He too managed to effectively counter points of information, retaining the essential focus on his own argument and spoke

for the full three minutes.

The result of the vote was, astonishingly to my mind, that the motion was carried, that is to say that people decided that building on Greenbelt land and damaging the environment in the process, was right! Needless to say, both teams did extremely well and I enjoyed the experience very much.

I know this was the first debate I attended this year, but I couldn't help but think it might have been better with more sixth formers in the audience who might contribute to the atmosphere as well as to the debate, posing questions to the speakers to address at the end. If you like the idea of taking part in an upcoming debate, feel free to find Mr Dunsmore to register your interest. On the flipside, if reading this has put you off debating, it is worth mentioning that debates vary tremendously according to the topic and the style of each speaker.

"The result of the vote was, astonishingly to my mind, that the motion was carried, that is to say that people decided that building on Greenbelt land and damaging the environment in the process, was right!"



Debates take place in the Beardwood Hall



Cecily Watts singing with the swing band.

Jazz Night heralded a success

By Simon Everett

On the 6th of October, Colfe's presented it's very first 'Jazz Night' concert to attending parents and teachers. The evening took a more relaxed approach to putting on a concert, with the audience sat around tables with wine and snacks to accompany the performances. These included numbers by the Swing Band, the

Barbershop Group and a collaboration of teachers and students which credited themselves with the name 'Dixieland Band'. Solo performances were also featured as part of the night. These included Samuel Barnett on the saxophone, Florence Yilma giving a vocal performance, Jacob Bullard playing the piano and Oliver Bowring playing a piano

accompaniment for Cecily Watts on vocals. Cecily also sung a few songs with the swing band in the evening.

Overall, the Jazz Night was a great success, and thanks to this I am sure many will agree that we all look forward to having another one.

Colfe's beat John Fisher in Rugby's World War 3

Written by William Nathanielz Grist, Morgan Thomas Diss & Thomas George Joseph Chapman

On a crisp Saturday morning, the Colfe's army readied themselves for the war ahead against the mighty John Fisher, great in all assets of the field, but lacked awareness in the forwards and the backs. Verbal bullets were fired left, right and centre from each member of both squadrons whilst in the depths of the Colfeian trenches they conjured up a plan which was sure to succeed in this epic battle.

"We shall defend our try line, whatever the cost may be we shall fight in the scrums, we shall fight in the lineouts, we shall fight on the field, we shall fight in the backs; we shall never surrender."

That inspirational team talk coming from fly-half Morgan Diss, at times an enigma yet nevertheless an exceptional player. Almost as exceptional as Quade Cooper himself. Will 'Grizzle' Grist, another true contender for first team corporal of the year after breaking tackles like he breaks

hearts. Tom 'happy chappy' Chapman sure to impress against John Fisher as he had given up his precious Wednesday afternoons for the teams sake; true commitment shown. Setting up tries for fun, great compatibility was present in the half-back roles. Playing off each other like woody and buzz, Morgan and Tom were leading this team to victory.

To the sound of the trumpet we marched on strong.

The whistle had been blown, the first end to this epic battle the scoreline read 15-3 to the notorious Colfeians, known for Henry 'Hotspice' Harvey's triumphant legs in the scrum going off like bazookas. Unfortunately his partner in crime George 'treaders' Treadwell didn't tread-so-well in the game before and was carrying a war wound. Nevertheless the Colfe's scrum was in top nick and we regularly stole their balls.

The second half commenced and it was the backs time to shine. Lethal Grizzle sin binned for a late tackle meant we were down to 14 men.

The ball was passed down the line faster than a bullet coming from a colt 45 pistol. Lines were cut from the likes of Banks, Collett and Graham. Like England in WW2, they were small in population but got the job done. The back three (the nasty trio as we like to call them) were absolutely ravishing, they were explosive in the tackle like field mines and scored a couple tries.

We all knew the time was nigh. Colfe's fitness was a lot like graffiti; bad. This is something that needs to be improved with great haste, if we are going to be able to challenge the likes of Eltham. No doubt it will.

Final score 29-6 when Alex Graham stepped up in the second half with a leg like an elephants trunk, powerfully whacking the ball through the posts. It was a well deserved win. Going in the underdogs, coming out the over dogs. Hopefully we can bring this team togetherness and winning mentality into the next battle. As a wise man (Henry 'hotspice' Harvey) once said "Smash 'em!" and that's exactly what we did.



First XV centre Will Grist was sin-binned for an illegal tackle

"The ball was passed down the line faster than a bullet coming from a Colt 45 pistol."

Colfe's students have curry on Brick Lane

By Ellie Hall (Yr 13)

Last Wednesday Geography and History students took a trip to Spitalfields in the East End to look at gentrification and the regeneration of Spitalfields Market.

It began with a curry on Brick Lane followed by game of 'Spot the Hipster'. We looked at how the area had evolved

from the French Huguenots in the 1700's, Jewish Immigrants in the 1800's, the Bangladeshi community in the 1900's to an expensive area for designers, artists and musicians now.

Geography students then looked at the how the architecture and atmosphere change from the inner city to Spitalfields as well as

conducting environmental quality surveys, drawing field sketches and interviewing locals to understand their view of Norman Fosters regeneration of the Market. History visited Cable Street to look at the memorial to the Battle of Cable Street..



Spitalfields Market in the East End.



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NUT representative Helmut Heib takes the microphone at the Blackheath Bluecoats consultation. (courtesy of greenwich.co.uk)

Reporting on the closure of Blackheath Bluecoats

By Matt Robson (GYPC)

On Monday the 17th I (along with Mr Drury) attended a meeting at Blackheath Bluecoat School. This meeting was a consultation with the public about the Council's proposal to close the school. The director of children's services, Gillian Palmer, laid out that the school had been consistently under capacity for the past five years, and this year it was only 50% full. As schools are allocated funding on the number of students they have, the school had a serious budget deficit of £1.5 million this year. Obviously, this was unsustainable and the council had warned the school that if they did not increase the number of students attending they would be facing closure.

The plan for closure included allowances for students currently in years 10 and 12, so they would be able to finish their exams. Ms Palmer repeatedly stated that no final decision had been made and this meeting would influence the decision yet most members of the audience had decided in their minds that the school would close. The audience was heated from the very start, and repeatedly let their emotions cloud their minds –stating facts that simply weren't true. The school could have been saved if more students joined, but in the wider community it has a very negative reputation, both for results and behaviour. Only 48% of pupils achieve 5A*s to Cs, which is admittedly a marked improvement (up 30% on 2006) but still below the national average and

government target. After an hour or so of questioning by irate students and parents, the man sitting in front of me, suddenly stood up, walked onto the stage –grabbing the microphone from Ms Palmer- and told the council if they weren't prepared to withdraw the proposal there and then that they should "get their stuff and get out." The council promptly left, and they were joined by a number of others, including me. I later found that the man was in fact Helmut Heib, a representative of the National Union of Teachers. It seems to me that any hope of saving the school has now been lost by his actions. Although this is unfortunate for the students, it seems the best option for the community as a whole.

Preparing for Antigone

By Rory Powrie

'Antigone', a play written by Sophocles in 5th century BC Athens, is one of the great European, classical tragedies. It is the story of a young woman ruled by her conscience and driven by her desire to bury her brother Polyneices; Creon, an overbearing king, who wants to bring peace and stability to his nation, and Haemon, his son, tormented by conflicting loyalties. Rehearsing such a play that deals with state control, civil disobedience and family loyalties requires much discussion and thought, and our schedule for rehearsals is quite extensive. Although the play is from antiquity, it's themes were right up to date when first performed.

It has been about seven weeks since the rigorous auditions

that lasted over a period of about three days. Once Mr. Stuart had his cast together we immediately started to bring the words to life and off the paper. We gradually took it scene-by-scene, working our way through the piece. Rehearsals are now in full flow and we have begun to run through the entire play, mostly scriptless.

I have found my role as the head of the Greek chorus particularly challenging. I am required to remain onstage most of the time, reacting to every detailed bit of dialogue and every moment of emotion. Like the rest of the cast, it has been important for me to find time outside my studies to learn lines and rehearse. Managing this balance with work hasn't always been easy, it has tested me to organise my time and motivate myself for

each task. This challenge is by no means impossible and through a unity within our cast we have pushed forward to reach the stage we are at. Mr Stewart, Mr Corstorphine and Amanda have helped us through with their guidance at every step.

Now that the set is taking shape, tickets are on sale and the play is coming together we are entering possibly our most crucial stage. Solid rehearsal time is needed during half term, leading us into a week of dress-runs, by which time the performance week will be upon us. We hope to give a memorable performance to the school and Mr Russell. As an actor I also want to give my all in return for the teachers who have been so integral to the process in making this possible.

