



# Soccer

## Third XI football

End-of-season reports for Prep school third teams tend to laud the heart and determination of each of the squad members as they make great strides through a testing season. This is one of those reports. Few could argue that the team was packed with talent and speed - indeed, there were few natural ball players - but the boys were able to register a few memorable wins and a number of very close calls against the much larger prep schools. Although the defeats of Marlborough House and Newlands bolstered the 'goals for' aggregate, the narrow losses against Holmewood House and Ashdown House proved to the boys that both self-confidence and the enjoyment of playing go a long way in driving a team forward. And it was as a team that the boys played; there were very few instances of individuals wanting to prove themselves (except, possibly, Jan Scharnetsky's occasional dribbles across the midfield). Players of note included the eternally grubby Ben Huntington-Rainey, whose surprisingly effective goal-keeping drew comparisons with a recently fed leopard falling out of a tree. Sam Gilbert, the players' man of the season, made startling progress and he will, undoubtedly, continue to impress next season. Jan's goals ranged from outrageous (it was really a cross, wasn't it?) to outstanding. Overall, however, the season was, for all of the boys, successful and, most importantly, enjoyable.

KD



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