

Cross Country 2003/4



Cross Country Report 2003 / 4

The season opened with the Inter House XC Competition, a good pointer to future team members and an opportunity for all to participate and score points for their house. The results (first three only) were.

U13 Girls 1st Eliza Baker, 2nd Charlie Mursell, 3rd Claudia Weston

U13 Boys 1st Will Wheeler, 2nd Chris Goldsack, 3rd Stu Flint

U11 Girls 1st Harriette Blackstone, 2nd Pascale Hughes, 3rd Kirsten Mair

U11 Boys 1st Calum Marris, 2nd Pat Wadsworth, 3rd Tom Harvey

U 9 Girls 1st Lilian Hazael, 2nd Helena Cameron, 3rd Charlotte Thompson

U 9 Boys 1st James Wardle, 2nd Rob Harvey, 3rd Alex Pugh.

The Inter House trophy was won by Saxton.

The senior teams were soon put to test in the preliminary round of the English Schools Cup but both made it through to the Regional Round held at Vinehall. Regrettably neither team managed to qualify for the National Finals, even with home advantage.



Girls Under 9 team

The girls U9 and U11 teams went to Derwent Lodge and came 2nd overall. Lilian Hazael was the best of the Vinehall runners on the day coming 3rd in her race.

At DPS we competed in the final running of the Brenchley Relays and the boys' team came a magnificent 2nd whilst the girls were 7th.

At Sevenoaks Prep all teams were represented. The results and finishers in the top ten were..

U 9 Girls Team 5th

U 9 Boys Team 6th

U11 Girls Team 4th

U11 Boys Team 5th Calum Marris was 5th

U13 Girls Team 4th Eliza Baker was 10th

U13 Boys Team 2nd Will Wheeler 4th, Stuart Flint 6th, Chris Goldsack 9th

Overall the boys were 4th and the girls came a great 2nd place !

Whilst it was pleasing to see so many runners representing the school our points totals were so large that we were never in the chase for the overall trophy, one we have won several times in the past. The winning total for boys was 252, we scored 579! Although the girls were 2nd our total was 550 compared to the winners total of 258!

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The Junior Knowle Run at Sevenoaks was a real test of character and stamina. The U13 boys team finished 10th out of 28 teams Stuart Flint was 6th. But for a massive "stitch" for Will Wheeler we would have contested a medal place! Shame!

The U13 girls were only ONE POINT from third place finishing 4th out of 28 teams, with all of the scoring runners finishing in the top 40!

For the Bracken Cup at Yardley Court the boys teams lined up but with only Chris Goldsack claiming a top 10 place (he was 10th) we were never going to challenge for the overall trophy. As at Sevenoaks our points totals were massive compared to the winners. U9 VH= 257 (winners = 50) U11 VH = 210 (Winners = 64) U13 VH = 144 (Winners = 32) Overall VH = 611 to get 4th place. Winning total = 162 !!!

I KNOW its not just about the winning and taking part is just as important but...after the success of recent years I don't feel like turning up just to make up the numbers. We have reached a certain standard and if we cannot maintain then perhaps its time to pull out the plug. 8S discuss in a essay of 2000 words!

At Claremont we had the chance to end the season with some glory. Here are the results.

U9 Girls Lilian Hazael was 6th. Team = 5th
U9 Boys No top ten finishers. Team were 3rd.
U11 Girls Harriette Blackstone was 7th. Team = 3rd
U11 Boys Pat Wadsworth was 10th. Team = 2nd
U13 Girls Georgie Mair 5th, Eliza Baker 10th. Team = 3rd
U13 Boys Stuart Flint 8th. Team = 5th
Overall Girls 3rd and Boys 3rd.

So what for next year...we intend to enter the English Schools Cup and see how we progress. There will be an inter House Competition and, CE Mocks allowing, we will enter the National Prep Schools Competition. As for the other competitions.....we will have to wait and see.

Congratulations to those who won their colours this season.

NJ Butcher