



PE Newsletter 5th-9th October

Year 8

Year 8 Football

After a successful county cup run last year reaching the semi-finals, Year 8 boys began their campaign at home to Ixworth and put in a tremendous display coming out 8-0 winners. The first half was a very even game despite leading at half timer 4-0. Finn t made two tremendous saves to keep a clean sheet, but Stowmarket showed clinical finishing on the counterattack to score 4 very well worked team goals. Second half and Stowmarket were up top and with changes, Stowmarket dominated and added more goals to the tally to make it a final score of 8-0. A very good display and a great team effort with Goals from Ezra B (5), Nico B, Oliver B and Teddy H. Next round sees Stowmarket up against county cup champions Benjamin Britten where Stowmarket will be looking for revenge after last year's semi-final defeat.

Mr Andrews

Year 9

Year 9 Boys Football

On Tuesday, our Year 9 boys kicked off their West Suffolk Cup campaign, hosted by Stowupland High School. After the heartbreak of narrowly missing out on progression through goal difference last year, the boys arrived full of determination, belief and a burning desire to go one step further this time around!

Game 1: Stowupland – 0-0

Our opening fixture saw us take on the hosts, Stowupland, and the boys wasted no time in making their intentions clear!

We started brilliantly, playing some fantastic, free-flowing football, with the midfield trio of Jake, Finley and Korey linking up superbly and creating opportunities for our attacking players, Lucas and Jake. The passing was sharp, the movement was excellent, and we looked dangerous every time we went forward. Unfortunately, despite our dominance, we just couldn't find that all-important finishing touch!

As the game progressed, Stowupland began to pile on the pressure, but our defence stood tall. Dylan and Jackson were outstanding at centre-back, putting in some crucial challenges and showing tremendous composure, while goalkeeper Dylan G provided a reassuring presence between the posts.

The boys dug deep, defended brilliantly and secured a hard-fought 0-0 draw to get our tournament underway.

Game 2: Thurston A – 0-1

Next up were Thurston A, and once again, the boys came flying out of the blocks!

We continued to play some excellent football, with Zac and Korey working tirelessly in midfield, winning challenges, controlling possession and driving the team forward.

Then came one of the moments of the tournament! Korey unleashed an absolute thunderbolt from around 25–30 yards out, leaving the goalkeeper beaten, only to see his incredible effort crash against the inside of the post and somehow stay out! Agonisingly close to what would have been a sensational goal!

Moments later, another golden opportunity fell our way. Jake F rose brilliantly to meet the ball with a powerful header, only to be denied by a fantastic reaction save from the Thurston goalkeeper. On another day, we could easily have been two goals ahead!

Unfortunately, as we entered the final ten minutes, injuries and players having to leave early began to take their toll. With tired legs and a depleted squad, Thurston capitalised and managed to break the deadlock.

Despite our best efforts to find an equaliser, the final whistle blew with Thurston taking a narrow 1-0 victory.

A frustrating result, particularly given the quality of our performance and the chances we had created!

Game 3: Thurston B – 1-2

Heading into our final fixture, the odds were firmly stacked against us. With injuries mounting and players having to depart, we were down to just ten players.

But if there is one thing this group of boys has in abundance, it is character, resilience and an incredible fighting spirit!

Despite being a player short, the boys produced another tremendous display, refusing to let their heads drop or allow the circumstances to dictate their performance.

Our defensive unit of Joe, Jackson, Dylan and Oscar was absolutely immense. Their determination, bravery and commitment were outstanding, not just in this match but throughout the entire tournament. Every tackle, interception and clearance demonstrated just how much representing the school meant to them.

Thurston B eventually took the lead, but our boys were far from finished!

Step forward, Korey!

After some brilliant individual skill and trickery, Korey worked his way into a shooting position before calmly slotting the ball home to bring us level at 1-1! A fantastic goal and a thoroughly deserved equaliser that gave the boys a huge lift!

With the game seemingly heading towards a draw, heartbreak struck once again. Virtually with the final kick of the match, Thurston B managed to snatch a winner, making it 2-1 and bringing our West Suffolk Cup journey to a cruel end.

Final Thoughts – Plenty to Be Proud Of!

Although we finished the tournament in third place, the final standings certainly did not reflect the quality of football, effort and determination shown by this group.

Across all three matches, the boys demonstrated excellent teamwork, some fantastic attacking football, outstanding defensive organisation and, most importantly, a never-say-die attitude.

On another day, a few chances go our way, a couple of shots find the back of the net, and we could be telling a very different story!

I could not be prouder of every single player who represented the school. Their attitude, commitment and willingness to battle for one another, even when the odds were against them, were a credit to themselves and the team.

There are so many positives to take away, and while the results were disappointing, the performances have given us plenty of confidence moving forward.

Our attention now turns to the County Cup, where we will look to build on these performances, take the lessons learned and come back even stronger!

A massive well done to every player involved. Keep your heads held high, boys. You did yourselves proud!

We regroup. We refocus. We go again!

WSW & TPC

Year 8 Netball



The year 8s had a great start to their netball season at the western area tournament this week at TCC. Both teams went straight into games and gave the oppositions a challenge from the start. Team A played TGS and won 5-2 with Joss working hard at centre intercepting lots and being a great link player. Their second game against King Edwards and with such strong defence from Alys and Eloise stopped any opposition goals and final score 6 -0. The final game was the strongest with great shooting from Immy and Sophia and final score of 9-1. Both Ada and Charlotte provided great support on the wing. The second team won their first game with a brilliant score of 6-1, with Roux and Mila working brilliantly together in the D. The second game showed a stronger opposition and even with Hollie and Martha's outstanding defence the score ended a very low 1 -2. The final game showed the strongest battle with fantatsic team work from all the girls ending up with a half time score of 5-2 against the home side.

Year 10

Year 10 Boys Football

It was into the lion's den for the Year 10 boys' football team, who travelled to Stowupland for their quarter-final tournament and a shot at bragging rights in the football hotbed that is Mid-Suffolk. The nervousness on the minibus wasn't only due to Mr Popham's driving; lose here and the cup run was over before it had begun.

Our first game was THE rivalry – Stowupland, a team full of friends and club colleagues; enemies for 30 minutes. It was a tightly contested, tense, hard-fought battle, everything you'd expect from teams separated by mere miles. Aras, with pace to burn, kept finding space behind their marauding right-back but couldn't apply the finishing touch. Cody, bullish in midfield, struck the woodwork with a thunderous effort. Appeals were made to the referee – Mr Swann – as to whether it had bounced down over the line. Without VAR, we'll never know. It finished 0-0, neither team happy, but with two more games to come, there was no time to dwell.

Our second game was against Thurston's A team, and it started dramatically, with a clear penalty appeal following fantastic centre-forward play from Jak turned down. A moment of petulance in the face of the referee's decision brought a change on the left wing, as Ben stepped into an unfamiliar role. With only 30-minute games, could he adapt in such a short space of time?

Two goals later and he was pushing for a starting place on the wing. Like a modern-day John O'Shea, not only had he reinvented himself, but he'd done so with aplomb!

Another total shutout from a mean defence and vocal captain Kyron ensured we went into the final game level on points with Stowupland, but one goal ahead on goal difference.

Thurston B presented a different challenge, given the context of the table, and spectators had half an eye on Stowupland's game. Aras, now playing up front, initially settled nerves with a smart finish to make it 1-0 and put us three points clear at the top of the table. Cody once again faced down his newest adversary, the crossbar, and once again the crossbar came out victorious.

A roar from the other pitch told us Stowupland had scored. Now going through on goal difference alone – we needed more goals to be safe.

Up stepped Cody. This time eschewing power for deft feet, he dribbled through a densely packed box to finish stylishly into the corner and finally win out against the goalframe. Now it was up to our defence to maintain our clean sheet and ensure progress. Caleb, imperious at the back and intelligent with his distribution, was doing a great impression of Philipp

Lahm. The centre back pairing ensured chances were kept to a minimum and Kyron, his role not limited to mere goalkeeper, ensured focus didn't slip.

It finished 2-0. We hadn't conceded a single goal, and we were through on goal difference.

Lion's den? More like a kitten shelter.

Bragging rights secured.

Year 10 Girls Futsal



The Year 10 girls represented Stowmarket High School at the West Suffolk Futsal Tournament on Tuesday, finishing **third overall** after a series of closely contested matches.

The team faced some really tight games against **Hartismere** and **Debenham**, showing excellent determination, teamwork and resilience throughout the tournament.

Player of the Tournament was **Lillie Fountain**, who was solid in defence throughout and consistently made some important challenges and interceptions to help the team.

A special mention must also go to **Lylah**, who did a fantastic job in goal and made some excellent saves throughout the tournament.

Upcoming Fixtures:

Monday 12th October -

- Year 8 Boys football @ Thuston (3:10-6:00pm) L.Andrews
- Year 10 Boys Football @ SHS (3:10pm-5:00pm) W.Swann/ T. Popham-Cooper

Tuesday 13th October -

- Year 7 Boys Football @ SHS (3:10-4:45pm) D.Wise
- Year 7 girls Netball @ County Upper (3:10-5:45m) G.Whitfield
- Sports Leaders @ SHS (3:30-5:30pm) W.Hopkin-Jones

Wednesday 14th October-

- Year 8 Girls Football @ SHS vs MCC (3:10-4:45pm) J.Howland
- Year 11 Boys Football @ Stowupland (3:10pm-6:00pm) T.West

Thursday 15th October -

- Year 7 Girls Football @ SHS vs County Upper (3:10pm-4:45pm) G.Whitfield
- All Years Cross Country @ RHS (12:00pm-3:30pm) T.West.