

SPORTS REPORT

DANE COURT GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Table Tennis Triumph

This term the Dane Court U13 Girls Table Tennis Team become county champions. Out of the 3 teams that travelled to the Medway Park Sports Centre, Gillingham the Dane Court U13 Girls team took pride of place by returning to Thanet as county champions. In a 7 team tournament Dane Court reached the final by winning all three group games; both Pent Valley teams were defeated 8-0 while Highworth were beaten 7-1. In the final Bennett Memorial School, Tunbridge Wells were dispatched by the confident Dane Court girls 7-1.

The U13 Boys team also did very well to win their group by defeating both Hayesbrook, and St. John's 7-1 before falling to 2 strong sides in the Semi Final group, Tunbridge Wells and the Howard School. Hopefully this experience will inspire all 4 boys Will Barker, Bruno Canham, Len Edwards and James Scott to do even better in next year's competition when they will still be eligible to play as U13's as they are all at present in Year 7.

The Under 15 Boys team narrowly failed to win their group after a 5-3 loss to Skinners of Tunbridge Wells but they recovered to defeat St. John's B 8-0 which should encourage Harry Brown, Ed Baker, Ethan Bexley and Mason King to continue to work hard and improve further in preparation for future tournaments.



The U13s: a fantastic performance by the Katie Perkins Tayla Bailey, Catherine Banks, and Annabel

Basketball Champions

The U13 and U15 boys basketball teams played with great spirit and improving skill to both win their respective competitions held at the Ursuline school in November. The year eights comfortably won all of their games with all of the squad performing their duties well. The year ten boys had closer games but with superb performances from Daniel Adams, Lewis Doyle and Sam Williams in particular came out on top, again, unbeaten.

A note from Mr Wallace:

The end of another term and another fantastic year, when I look back over the year it is incredible how much has happened in the sporting life of the school both in lessons, the house system and the extra-curricular programme. Well done this term to those who competed and often won in the Thanet Tournaments in Futsal, Handball and Badminton, we now look forward to once again representing our area in this year's East Kent Games.

A thank you in particular to those Senior Boys and Girls who have played their final matches for the school football teams. The boys have a Kent Cup Quarter Final to look forward to in the New year but I wanted to take this chance to thank you all for seven years representing this school in such exemplary fashion, not just in football but in every other competition as well, you have set a superb example to those that have followed you and exemplify what we see every day in the sporting life of our school...

"Never give up, never give in, and when the upper hand is ours, may we have the ability to handle the win with the same dignity that we absorbed the loss." - Doug Williams, NFL, Superbowl winning quarterback

We hope you and all your families have a safe holiday, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from Dane Court's PE Department!

Boys Report

ON THE BRINK OF CUP SUCCESS

On a freezing Saturday in early December our year seven boys travelled to Sittingbourne to take on their fourth round opponents, Borden Grammar. From the start the boys played intelligent and determined football and controlled the game for the mostpart. However, a host of chances were either spurned or excellently saved by the home side's keeper and it was a surprise when with their first attack Borden sneaked the opening goal. Our opponents took heart from this and the game became more even, although the greater number of chances were still being created by Dane Court. Eventually skipper Archie Cotton expertly turned a dangerous cross into the net to level the scores just before half time. After the break the bigger and more athletic hosts were expected to take a firmer grip upon the match but the more skilful and controlled Dane Court side had other ideas and dominated proceedings. Further goals from Cameron Beck and David Woodgate proved decisive although Borden netted just prior to the final whistle to make the score closer than the game had been. Messieurs White, Wallace and Towe were rightly proud of the conduct, the performance and the result which helped to thaw our freezing feet. We now look forward to a home game in the Quarter Final on Saturday 24th January.

Whole Hated Performance

Jon Hart is an up and coming squash superstar. Already well respected in Kent, he is now making a name for himself Nationally, not only as a junior but competing amongst adults. This Year 8 champion most recently competed in the Open Squash Championships in Sittingbourne, defeating four adults to finish runner up of the tournament. Look out for future success that we are sure to come Jon's way, well done!

Sensational Season

The boy's U-19 team are having a successful year of football, being the first senior team that Dane Court has entered into the East Kent Premier Division. With a poor 3-2 defeat at the hands of Rainham Mark Grammar school in their first match together, the boys knew they had to up their game for their second fixture of the season. They got their first win against the Queen Elizabeth School at home on the 17th September, winning 3-2 in a closely fought game. The pick of the bunch of the goals came from Alfie Foster with a left footed drive from outside the box. After a short struggle for form, the boys then scored eight goals in two games to prove their high status in the Kent football hierarchy. After a couple of unfortunate postponements due to opposition travel complications and poor weather, Dane Court finished in ninth place ahead of QES, Dover Grammar School, Rochester Maths and Howard.

The side remain in the Kent Cup and are currently due to play Hayes at home on Saturday 17th January in the quarter final. They look to go far in this cup and have the potential to win it if performances stay at the same level as they did in the league in the latter part of the campaign. This was a good season for the sixth form side who were competing at the highest level of East Kent league football whilst never having played as a unit before. The side predominately comprised of year 12 players but one of the best players of the season was Josh Castle from year 13. Castle was top scorer, despite missing many games due to injury, and also scored the goal of the season in a 5-2 thrashing against Howard; he will be greatly missed in the senior side next year. The team look onwards and upwards to next season's league and will have a strong side due to the high percentage of year 12 players currently in the squad and a strong year 11 year group, who we hope will bring great additions to the side. All in all, another good league season of football for the Dane Court Sixth form team who gelled brilliantly and displayed some picturesque football throughout the 12 games they've played.

ATHLETE IN FOCUS

ROBYN MOON



Age: 13

House: Sorrento

Favorite Sport:
Swimming

Sporting Hero: Rebecca
Adlington

Sporting Highlights:

Robyn Moon represented the Kent County Team for the annual National Inter County Competition in Sheffield this October.

This is a prestigious event where swimmers compete against the best teams from Scotland, Wales and England. We'd also like to congratulate Robyn on being awarded county colours!

Message From Mr Towe...

“Sport is fun, play sport, have fun

Girls Report

Kicking off the Kent Cup

It has been another brilliant football season, for the Dane Court Girls with all the teams progressing beyond the first two rounds of the Kent Cup. We would like to congratulate our U14 girls for reaching the semi-finals of the Kent Cup and would like to wish them luck against Rainham on the 24th January!

Smashing to Victory!

Our U14 and U16 girls badminton teams smashed their way to become District Champions in the East Kent Schools competition! The pathway to victory was not easy, the girls had to defeat all the Thanet and Sandwich schools but after some tense matches, the two teams were crowned the victors!

Futsal Success

Dane Court recently put out teams to represent the school in futsal, a new and exciting game of indoor football, requiring more skill and agility. The U16 girls fought courageously but were narrowly beaten into second place, coming runner up in their tournament. The U14 girls have made it through into the finals in February at Medway Park, Gillingham, we wish them all the best! We'd also like to congratulate the year seven girls team on their first time representing the school, they show much promise for the future.

A Note From Miss Christensen

So Christmas is nearly upon us and also the completion of my first term at Dane Court. From the moment I arrived here, I have been made to feel so welcome by the staff and students. The atmosphere here is really something special, and it is so rewarding to work somewhere that the students are so keen to learn and approach all activities with enthusiasm. The time and effort put into fixtures and extracurricular activities by the PE staff at this school is truly immense, and it is inspiring to see such motivation from a dedicated team of staff and students. I hope to continue to enjoy working here for so time to come!

NUMBERS

Number of hours spent tidying Mr Towe's desk

5

Teams reaching the Kent Cup Quarter Final

7

Days 'til the Rugby World Cup

273

Hammertime



Lewis Hamilton: The 2008 and 2014 Formula 1 World Champion and 2014 BBC Sports Personality of the Year

The athlete in focus this term is the British double world champion, Lewis Hamilton. Hamilton has recently become the 2014 Formula 1 world champion, and the BBC Sports Personality of the Year. During the 19 race season, Hamilton won 11 of the races, as well as finishing on the podium an additional 5 times. Along with the Driver's Championship, Hamilton, aided by team mate Nico Rosberg, helped win the Constructor's Championship for Mercedes AMG F1. Hamilton was involved with a season-long titanic battle with Rosberg, Hamilton only coming out on top in the last race in Abu Dhabi. Overall, Hamilton showed great determination to come back from all his DNFs and setbacks, and worked hard to combine talent with long hours of training to take the greatest prize in Motorsport.



ENGLAND VS AUSTRALIA

On the 29th November a group of Dane Court rugby fanatics travelled to Twickenham to watch England take on the Wallabies. The England side went into the weekend with a huge amount of expectation resting on their shoulders, but they did not disappoint. Ben Morgan scored two tries much to the delight of the Dane Court students. The upcoming superstar, George Ford, kicked over two conversions and four penalties, giving the English side a victory of 26-17. Overall, it was a brilliant afternoon, the Dane Court rugby players came away full of inspiration leading into the rugby season.



**Coming Soon..
Rugby Grammar
School League
starts**

UNSUNG HERO-Luke Breach

Luke has literally 'stepped into the breach' filling the goalkeepers berth for the U16 side and has produced some excellent displays to help the side reach the latter stages of both county cup competitions. Luke is also a very talented golfer having represented the school in a number of county competitions.