

# Fir Tree Primary School and Nursery

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## Sports Report

First half term of sport at Fir Tree It's been a busy 8 weeks of sport here at Fir Tree. Not only have many of our children attended after school clubs, but we've been busy competing in several local events. The first sporting fixture of the season on Monday 6th October started with our footballers in years 5&6 taking on Speenhamland. Our boys and girls teams both started the campaign with outstanding performances. The boys, led by captain Liam Hill, were narrowly beaten 0-2 in a game where the score line could have gone either way. Fir Tree were brilliant in keeping our visitors' chances to a minimum, however, Speenhamland were clinical with the chances they managed to carve out. Fir Tree were particularly unlucky on 3 occasions, where the woodwork prevented the ball from finding the net. In the game being played simultaneously, our girls demonstrated how well they can play together as a team. They were organised, disciplined and showed real maturity throughout the match, keeping a clean sheet. Captain Libby Yeo, set a fantastic example to the other girls in defence, which enabled Fir Tree to play with freedom. The game was a tough contest, as Speenhamland proved to be resilient. However, a late goal from Molly McGivern sealed victory for Fir Tree.

**Tuesday 7th October** saw our year 3&4 boys and girls also take on Speenhamland. Despite a valiant effort, Speenhamland came out on top in the boys match with a 0-3 victory. Fir Tree played some excellent football as a team, but were denied on several occasions by Speenhamland's goalkeeper, who was exceptional throughout. Speenhamland are currently one of the best sides in West Berkshire in this age group, with Swindon Town FC and Southampton FC Academy players in their squad. I'm very proud of our team and how we played against a very good side. On pitch 2, our lower junior girls produced an exciting performance in a game that was end to end and full of goals. Strikes from Tallulah Rix, Kaidee-Lee Reed and two from Jasmine Birmingham secured a 4-2 victory. Captain Ellie Herbert, provided security in defence, which allowed Rix and Reed to counter attack with pace, causing Speenhamland constant problems. A heroic debut in goal from Casey Finn also kept Fir Tree in the game on several occasions. Finn has now joined Rix, Reed and Herbert at Thatcham Town Ladies and Girls FC.

**Tuesday 14th October** saw us host the annual Excel-Group-Inter-Primary-Cross-Country event. The afternoon consisted of 4 schools taking part (Robert Sandilands, Shaw-cum-Donnington, Speenhamland and Fir Tree), competing in team relay races. The weather conditions were perfect for cross country, with the terrain consisting of uphill and downhill areas, as well as a series of bends. The competition showed excellent talent from all of the schools and superb entertainment for the spectators. Fir Tree were placed 3rd overall. Our Upper Junior girls' team (made up of Porcha and Megan C, Jayce CB, and Molly M), were gold medallists with an incredible team effort.

**Monday 20th October** was the second fixture of the season for our lower junior girls' team. This fixture was against a very tricky St Gabriels' side. Many of our girls were familiar with their opposition, as they play together in the same club team at the weekends. St Gabriels started the match very well, scoring two very good goals. Fir Tree had several chances, but were unable to find the net. In the second half Fir Tree bounced back with a strike from Tallulah Rix, and continued to dig deep, with Ellie Herbert leading the charge and setting another great example as captain. Unfortunately, tired legs led to a late final goal from St Gabriels, which was deserved over the course of the game. Final score 3-1.

**On Wednesday 22nd October**, 4 students in years 5&6 were rewarded for their outstanding effort and behaviour in school. Taylor Page, Abigail Bowers, Kyle Dyson and Kayleigh Birmingham were given the opportunity to take part in the Olympic/Paralympic Sport Festival at Park House School. Our students were able to try their hand at seated volleyball, boccia, archery and curling. 16 schools took part at the festival and all had a fantastic time trying sports that they'd never played before.

I'm very proud of our team of four, who each came away with a thoroughly deserved silver medal.

I'd like to say a huge well done to all of the students who have represented the school so far this term, and to all of those who are attending a sports club each week. You're all making excellent progress and I hope you are having lots of fun.

I'd also like to thank all the parents for your support at each of our sporting events, and to those of you who have made it to the fixtures away from home. Your support goes a long way and is truly appreciated by everyone here at the school. Finally, I'd like to thank you for your cooperation when school fixtures clash with club days, resulting in club cancellation. As a school, we are doing our best to prevent the cancellation of any weekly club, but we also have to ensure that our students are being provided with regular competition. We've plenty more to come next half term, with several dates in the diary.

**COME ON FIR TREE!!!**

Regards,

Mr Nobes

Sports Coordinator.