

OATLANDS JUNIOR SCHOOL

Summer Term – Sports Newsletter



We have had a very busy and successful summer term to wrap up the school year! Best of luck to our fantastic Year 6s in their new schools (make sure to get involved with lots of clubs!). Thank you so much to parents/carers who have come along to support and coach teams. - Miss Bakes

Y4/5 Girls' Football Tournament – Harrogate Ladies College – 17/04/2024

In April, two Year 4/5 girls teams competed in Harrogate Ladies College's 7-a-side football tournament. Both teams played brilliantly and worked so well as a team, and those who were newer to football made big improvements over the morning. Team 1 won all of their matches and finished first. Team 2 weren't far behind, finishing 3rd after a very close penalty shoot-out. Miss Bakes was really impressed with their sportsmanship and skill!



Y4/5/6 Girls' Football Tournament – Sporting Influence – 30/04/2024

Next, we took two mixed Year 4/5/6 teams to Rossett Sports Centre to compete in Sporting Influence's girls' football tournament. Following a few girls' football tournaments this year, the experiences the girls have had previously evidently had made huge improvements to both teams' passing, formation and teamwork. Because of this, Team 1 finished 1st and Team 2 finished 3rd. Well done girls!



Y3/4 Mixed Football Tournament – Miss Bakes's Red Kite Tournament – 15/05/24

In May, Miss Bakes organised a Year 3/4 mixed football tournament with local Red Kite Schools. Oatlands Junior School, Saltergate, Coppice Valley, Rossett Acre competed. We had two mixed teams for Oatlands. Both teams played so well, with lots of wins and a couple of draws, and were very evenly matched as they finished joint second!



Y3/4 Mixed Hockey Tournament – Harrogate Hockey Club – 21/05/2024

Next, Miss Bakes took Grace, Bobbie, James and Ismaeel to Harrogate Hockey Club to compete against 9 other schools in a Year 3/4 hockey tournament. Miss Bakes was so impressed with the team's dedication and energy; it was a very busy day for these 4 children as they had no subs and no rest games in the round robin! They worked their socks off and displayed some very impressive passing, tackling, dribbling and goal keeping. Their sportsmanship and knowledge of rules was excellent – despite their afterschool hockey club, and lessons in PE, happening before Christmas. We are unsure of our standing as only 1st place was announced, but the team did well and improved a lot over the afternoon.



Y5/6 Girls' Cricket Tournament – Yorkshire Cricket Board – 06/06/2024

In June, we took 10 Year 5/6 girls to Pannal Cricket Club to compete in the first round of the Yorkshire Cricket Board's Y5/6 girls' tournament. We competed against other local schools around the Harrogate area. The team was a mix of club players and children who had a bit of experience of cricket, so a cricket tournament was a new experience for some of our players. Throughout the morning, the girls showed outstanding focus, teamwork, sportsmanship and skills all morning. Bowling and batting improved over the morning, with more 4s and 6s being hit as the tournament progressed. Because of this, the girls finished second overall and were very proud (rightly so!) of their performance.



Y5/6 Red Kite Olympics – 07/06/2024

The next day, 6 children competed in the Red Kite Olympics. Teams needed to be an even split of Year 5s and 6s, and boys and girls. Fletcher, Wilf and Jack represented Year 5 and the boys. May, Charlotte and Smiiti represented Year 6 and the girls. The morning began with a rounders tournament. There were 2 pools; we won every game in our pool with some very impressive batting and teamwork on the field. We then played the winner of the other pool in the final and won that too, which put us in the lead out of 10 schools in the morning. The afternoon was made up of athletics events: running races and tug of war. Our performances in the running races were fantastic – notably Smiiti winning two 100m races back to back and Fletcher coming 1st then 2nd in 50m – and secured our lead for the final event: tug of war. Tug of war was a tricky one and we adapted our tactics to beat our last 2 opponents. The two wins at tug of war were vital to lead us to victory for the first ever Red Kite Olympics after an impressive performance in rounders and athletics!



Y6 Mixed Tag Rugby Festival – Harrogate Rugby Club – 28/06/2024

The last sporting event of June was Harrogate Rugby Club's Year 6 tag rugby festival. Unfortunately, we haven't received the photo from Harrogate Rugby Club of the team. However, despite the rain, it was a fantastic afternoon for our 2 teams. We brought 2 teams of 9. As it was a festival, there were no winners or placements, but the teams played very well. They picked up tactics and the rules very quickly. There were excellent fast runs made by lots of players to score plenty of tries and everyone got stuck in with defending. Team 1 had all wins and draws, Team A had wins, draws and 1 loss.

Y5/6 Boys Yorkshire Cricket Champions – 01/07/2024

Finally, we had the boys' Yorkshire Cricket final on Monday 1st July. This was following the boys' success in earlier rounds; finishing 1st in the Harrogate Area final at Pannal Cricket Club on run difference, and 2nd in the North Yorkshire final at Richmond School.

In the final, the team's unwavering positive attitude and exceptional performance led them to win every single game in the tournament. From the very first match, the young cricketers demonstrated remarkable sportsmanship, resilience, and camaraderie. Their positive mindset, both on and off the field, set the tone for their success. Whether batting, bowling, or fielding, they exemplified the spirit of fair play and determination.

Team captain, Freddie, praised the boys, commenting on their hard-work and strength of character, no matter how challenging the opponents.

The final match, held at the picturesque Hunslet Nelson Cricket Ground, was a nail-biter. Facing a formidable team from Kirkburton Middle School, Huddersfield, the boys rallied together, chasing down the target with precision. Cheers erupted from the parents as the winning runs were scored, and the boys lifted the championship trophy high.

Mrs Estelle Scarth has praised the team, saying, *"We are immensely proud of our Year 5 and 6 cricketers who represented Oatlands Junior School so brilliantly throughout the local and county competitions. To reach the Yorkshire final was an achievement in itself, but to be crowned champions of Yorkshire cricket is fantastic and shows just how much sporting talent we have at Oatlands Junior School. Huge congratulations to the team and also to their parents, who were top class supporters all the way. A special mention to Miss Fran Bakes who has coached the team and taken them to each fixture, come rain or shine. We are all very proud of you and know that we have future cricket stars in the making - well done!"*

Mr Sheriff said, *"This is a terrific achievement for a team that have shown a huge commitment to each other and the school in taking part in this prestigious competition. The belief that they have shown in their own abilities and of the team members is an inspiration to all the young people across our trust whatever their endeavour."*

Miss Bakes is delighted for the boys and so proud of their achievement. They have faced and overcome challenges throughout the tournament, emerging a stronger and resilient team to win the final. Their challenges in earlier rounds, and learning from these, allowed them to come back in the final and beat the teams they'd previously lost to. Their positive attitudes, self-belief, sportsmanship, and skill were outstanding.

