WINTER NEWSLETTER - 2017

"ONWARDS AND UPWARDS"

These are exciting and vibrant times for our school. As the foundations for the new buildings on site are being laid, so a wave of new leadership opportunities provide the foundations for fresh drive and energy in the best interests of our wonderful students.

We are delighted that colleagues of the quality of Mr Carter, Mrs Hewerdine and Mr Inman are joining the senior leadership team to work alongside the highly experienced trio of Mrs Turner, Mr Wright and Mrs Lamming (over 35 years of senior leadership service between them at BCA).







Left to Right: Mr Carter, Mrs Herwerdine and Mr Inman

The Department for Education has approved the school's application to expand its capacity in response to demand for places. The school now has well over 1100 students on roll with another large intake of students planned for September 2018. The new building develops our capacity to respond to that demand. It will be completed by the summer of 2018. As always a construction period brings its short term difficulties and we apologise for the negative impact during this time.



In my letter to parents/carers last June I said this,

"When I began working at Branston I immediately recognised that it was a very special school and community and therefore having the opportunity to serve here as Principal for over ten years has been a huge privilege and honour."

That privilege and honour now passes to Mrs Turner. Alongside her personal vision, commitment and capabilities is that 'bedrock of able and dedicated colleagues' that I also paid tribute to in that communication home. A sincere thank-you for the support, trust and faith that I have been fortunate enough to experience here. And now, 'onwards and upwards' for this exceptional school.



Artist render of the new development.

"ALL THE WORLDS A STAGE, AND ALL THE MEN AND WOMEN MERELY PLAYERS"- SHAKESPEARE

The Shakespeare Schools Festival is the largest youth drama festival in the world. Along with many students, parents and supporters I had the privilege of seeing our students' performance of Measure for Measure last month at the Drill Hall in Lincoln. It was sublime; a truly brilliant production. We have high expectations of our students at BCA but it is safe to say that our cast excelled themselves, delivering an engaging, creative, witty and hugely enjoyable production under the first class direction of Mrs Davenport and Mrs Ebden. To all involved, in the words of the great man. "I can no other answer make but thanks, and ever thanks"



Cast - Measure for Measure

"ALL THE WORLDS A STAGE, AND ALL THE MEN AND WOMEN MERELY PLAYERS"- SHAKESPEARE - CONT.

I must also pay tribute to the elite achievement of our students on the sports fields too. BCA teams had the most success of any school across competitions in our area (Lincoln and Gainsborough). Particular acknowledgement to these teams:

Yr 11 Netball, Yr 9 Netball, Yr 9 Football who are all winners of the Lincoln and Gainsborough League.

We are not the largest school in these competitions and therefore any reasonable analysis recognises that such sustained success is due, in no small measure, to the outstanding commitment and coaching abilities of the staff involved.







Left to right: Y9 netball team, Y9 football team and the Y11 netball team

STOP PRESS

BCA teams came first and second in the regional finals of the 'Quadcopter Challenge' national Design and Engineering competition). The winning team will now represent the 'East' at the National Finals in Manchester next month. It was a very close competition, though truthfully only between our two teams who flew their Quadcopter remotely with extraordinary skill and precision. The impact of the design features our students had engineered (particularly the landing mechanisms) were apparent throughout the circuit 'challenges'. Many thanks to Mr Halliwell for 'making it happen' but first and last congratulations to these eight superb ambassadors for our school.

GOOD-BYES

Two long standing servants of the school are leaving this term. Mrs Campbell retires having worked at the academy (second stint!) since 2002 .as Vice Principal and previously Head of English. Mr Bowker has taught Maths and worked with colleagues in a training role since 2004, and he will continue to carry out those roles at another school from January. They have served the needs of literally thousands of students here and they take the very best wishes of those past and present into the next phase of their lives.



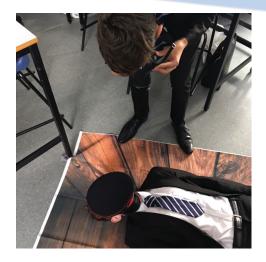
Rosa Karumazondo, Maisie Harrington, Shaira Lacia, Keane Everton



Damian Brooks, Thomas Woolner, Joe Soutar, Isaac Werling

CHRIS ENGLAND PHOTOGRAPHY MASTER CLASS

Year 10 Photographers had a fantastic day on 2nd October doing a Photography Master class led by the very talented Chris England of England's Finest Photography. Students learnt the Principles of Photography, how to use cameras, looked through Chris's vast range of award winning photos and experimented with backdrops and light boxes. Well done to all the Photographers and thanks again to Chris







FRENCH EXCHANGE - OCTOBER 2017

On Thursday 19th - Tuesday 24th October, we welcomed the return leg of the French exchange programme to Branston. Twenty of our Year 9 and Year 10 pupils opened their homes to their exchange partners, whom they had visited in France last Easter.

Whilst they were with us, the French students, along with their English partners, took part in a busy programme of activities, showing them both our history and culture as well as having fun!

After a welcome from the English students, they began by experiencing a Shakespeare performance on their arrival at BCA on the Thursday, followed by attending some lessons in school; exploring Lincoln Castle; taking in Lincoln on an open-top bus tour; enjoying traditional British fish and chips; and hearing about Lincoln's spooky goings-on during the Ghost Walk around the Bailgate and Uphill area on the Friday.

Saturday was another busy day, this time in York, where the students heard some of the more gruesome history of the city at The Yok Dungeons; enjoyed a short city tour; visited The York Chocolate Story; and took part in a chocolate workshop.

After a family day on the Sunday, we completed our activities on the Monday of half term with a fun morning of bowling and lazer tag at Ancaster; a tour of our beautiful cathedral; and, finally, some shopping time in Lincoln.

Our students and their families were fabulous hosts and we thank them very much for making this exchange such a positive experience. It was a teary farewell, for both students and parents, on the morning we had to say "Bon voyage!" as the French contingent headed home.



COMPUTING

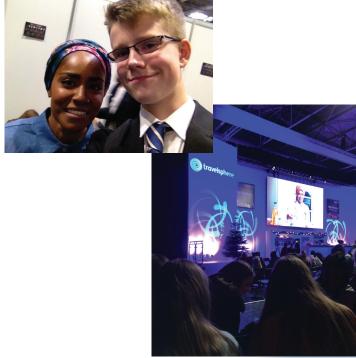
We would like to congratulate our trainee teacher Mr Bailey for successfully completing a full term of Computing teaching. We wish him a restful Christmas and welcome him back after February half term.

D Holford

FOOD

On Friday 1st December 2017 45 Upper school/Sixth form Food Students went on a visit to the Good Food Show at the NEC in Birmingham. The students got the chance to taste various food samples, watch a number of cooking demonstrations and to look at a range of new food products. Hopefully this will give them inspiration and ideas for their food lessons in the following months. They also got the chance to watch last years winner of the Great British Bake Off Nadiya Hussain live in the Big Kitchen.

J Woods



DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

The Design Technology Department continues, this year, to offer qualifying students the opportunity to join the prestigious Engineering Education Scheme. The six month EES programme links teams of Year 12 students with a local company to work on real, scientific, engineering and technological problems.

During their six-month project phase Lily Brocklehurst, Seb Oles, James Yates and Elliott Vinter will be encouraged to show industrial enterprise, creativity and innovation whilst gaining extensive experience of problem-solving, team-working and project management. Key life skills are developed within the context of the world of work.

The EES can bring multiple benefits to companies from cost effective project solutions (many EES teams have saved companies tens and even hundreds of thousands of pounds) to the opportunity for high quality professional development of the organisation's engineers and scientists.

This year the Branston Academy team has partnered with Dynex Semiconductor, Lincoln and one of their engineers. Dynex is an international manufacturer of power semiconductor components and the students are currently working to develop a system which will be used to conduct long term tests of newly developed components. The students are currently meeting their link engineer every week and developing their project in their spare time. In January the team will spend 2 days in Loughborough University and will be provided with access to the facilities of the Engineering in School to further develop their prototype. In April teams from all over the region meet in Solihull to present a formal engineering report to a panel of expert judges.

Mr Halliwell



MFL DEPARTMENT - PRESENT AND UP COMING EVENTS:

Yr 10 French and Spanish intervention sessions are now in progress on Monday and Wednesday lunch times.

Yr 8 and Yr 9 keep an eye on an upcoming day trip to Boulogne this year. This trip has proved to be very popular in the past and it is always over-subscribed.

Yr 8 and Yr 10 trip to Olé Olé for a Spanish language immersion experience coming up soon. This will be on first come first served basis. Again another very popular trip where students put their language learning skills to test in real life situation.

Please note that it is now a necessary part of each language lesson to have a bilingual dictionary for every lesson. Please ensure that your child has one with him/her. French dictionaries can be purchased from Mrs Card in S8.

P Card

TERM DATES

TERM 3

Thursday 04/01/18 to Friday 09/02/18 Half Term: Monday 12/02/18 to Friday 16/02/18

TERM 4

Monday 19/02/18 to Thursday 29/03/18 Bank Holiday: Friday 30/03/18 and Monday 02/04/18 Easter Break: Friday 30/03/18 to Friday 13/04/18

TERM 5

Monday 16/04/18 to Friday 25/05/18
Bank Holiday: Monday 7th May 2018
Half Term: Monday 28/05/18 to Friday 01/06/18

TERM 6

Monday 04/06/18 to Friday 20/07/18 Wednesday 04/07/18- STAFF ONLY

UNIFORM UPDATE

The new academy skirt, which is a requirement from September 2018, is now in stock at Uniform Direct.

PLEASE NOTE!

This is the last newsletter you will receive in print. All future newsletters will be sent by email and will also be available on our website.



PE NEWSLETTER (WINTER 2017) BOYS FOOTBALL

YEAR 7

'A' Team

County Cup

Branston 3-2 Louth Grammar School (J Carlisle, J Adegboyega, H Somers-Wells)

LEAGUE

Branston 2-3 William Farr (W Davies, S Ritchie) Branston 7-0 LCHS (J Hammerton, W Davies, M Clarke 2, J Adegboyega,

'B' Team - Friendlies

Branston v Lincoln Castle 4 games played: 2-0 ; 2-2 ; 1-3 ; 7-7

REPORT

Overall it has been a very positive start for the Yr 7's. With over 50 attending the initial trials it proved very difficult to whittle it down to a manageable squad, so much so that we now have 'A' and 'B' teams. I eventually did whittle it down and we travelled to W Farr in our first game. Unfortunately we were like rabbits in the headlights for the first 15 minutes and we found ourselves 3 nil down against a strong W Farr team. After finally settling we began to play some decent attacking football and got ourselves back into the game at half time at 3-1. A further goal brought us to within striking distance but unfortunately we could not secure the equaliser and lost 3-2.

LCHS, again away, came next and we simply blew them way with some fantastic football. Led by the excellent Will Day & Charlie Stenson at the back, LCHS could not live with us and to be fair 7 nil flattered them. The team played some lovely stuff behind inventive midfield work from Jack Adeboyega, non-stop work from our wide men Joe Hammerton, & Harry Donner and strong leading of the line by Maitiu Clarke and Will Davies.

We then took on Louth Grammar School in the second round of the County Cup, after a first round bye. The game started with a first as behind a strong wind, our goalkeeper, Jack Carlisle, scored from his own area as the opposition goalkeeper completely misjudged the kick. However Louth battled back and the game became a real seesaw affair. Louth equalised, Jack Adeboyega restored our lead, they equalised again before Harry Somers-Wells popped up at the back post to earn us a great win and a quarter-final spot.

I have been really pleased by the attitude and effort of the squad so far. What has been even more pleasing has been the fact that we still have 30+ at training, which is fantastic. Every player knows that they have a chance to play if they train and show they are good enough and every player knows they will be dropped if they do not train.

The large persistent numbers has led to the development of a 'B' team, who had their first game against Lincoln Castle. I took the chance to take 21 boys to this game and we played 2 x 10-a-side matches in appalling weather facing horizontal sleet. The boys were fantastic, never complaining and playing some great football. We shared the 4 games played and now over 30 boys have played for the school in the first term. A fantastic achievement.

I hope the boys will keep coming as it is great to see so many boys coming on a Monday lunchtime.

SQUAD

Will Day ©, Charlie Stenson (vc), Jack Carlisle, Charlie Foster, Joe Hammerton, Ben Foot, Maitau Davies, Will Davies, Dylan Hearn, Jack Adeboyega, Harry Somers-Wells,

Josh McGowan, Luke McGill, Sam Ritchie, H Everington, Seb O'May, Lewis Hyde, Kieran Lloyd, Harry Donner, Fraser McCrory, Oli Aiken, Cam Metclafe, Daniel Staples, Bowen Jones, Charlie Bramwell, Jenson Hughes, Sam Gibbons, Tyler Newman, Tom Whitehead, Nathanial Coombs, Joe Storey, Max Conville, Jonny Ebden, James Newton-Allinson

YEAR 8

RESULTS

Branston 7-0 Lincoln Castle Branston 4-2 LSST

COUNTY CUP

Branston W/O NK

Branston 1-2 Priory Ruskin

REPORT

After last year so near but yet so far end to the season, where we lost both the League & the County Cup final in our last 2 games, the Yr 8's came into this season with something to prove. The move to 11-a-side allowed me to slot in 2 full backs and switch to a 4-3-3 system. Our first game was away at Lincoln Castle and we played very well, moving the ball quickly and working hard in attack and defence. Goals came freely and we cruised to a 7 nil victory. Next up were last years league winners in LSST. This was always going to be the crunch game and we played as well as we ever had. Every single player was superb and we played some excellent team football, mixing up our game and really having a go at the LSST boys. Our movement was excellent and we hassled and harried the LSST boys throughout the game. We thoroughly deserved our 4-2 win.

We 2 league wins under our belt, we set about County cup duties and went through the first round when NK forfeited. Priory Ruskin were next at home but unfortunately a different Year 8 team turned up. To put it simply, we were dreadful. Only our 2 GK's, Ryan Hewitt and Lewis Townhill, came out of the match with any credit. We could not pass, we could not shot and we could barely defend. Priory Ruskin led 2 nil before a late penalty gave us hope. We nearly scraped a draw in a last minute scramble but it would have been completely undeserved and we lost 2-1.

Despite that defeat it has been a positive start to the season. Perhaps best of all has been seeing over 30 boys come to training every week. This has pleased me so much that I have managed to get 3 'B' team fixtures after Xmas as a reward to their excellent attendance. Well done.

SQUAD

'A'

Callum Thomas ©, Ryan Hewitt, George Wallhead, Rhys Firth, Euan Sullivan, Louis Greenwood, Lewis Turnbull, Daniel Wilson, Kyle Kennealey, Harvey Cook, Tom Baker, Finlay Turnbull, Finlay Davis, Reilly Sugden,

'B'

Jovi Staines ©, Callum Pickard, Connor Barlow, Daniel Stamford, Francis Keyworth, Tom Richmond, Leon Therabon, Ben Stafford, Reuben Sansoa-Twells, Brogan Woodham, Ellis Harden, Owen Batchelor, George Bridge, George Maginess, Freddie Spander, Lucas Johnson, Ryan Leithead, Kallum Starbuck, James Barr, Tom Kirk-Melton

RESULTS LEAGUE

William Farr 3-1 Branston (AJ Cook) LCHS 2-4 Branston (AJ Cook, Callum Thomas, Harry Mason (2))

COUNTY CUP

Round 1: NK 0-5 Branston (AJ Cook, Harry Shaw, Euan Sullivan, Harry Mason & Jack Hutton)

Round 2; QEGS 3-0 Horncastle (Harry Mason, Nojus Janutis, AJ Cook

REPORT

On paper the year 9 team is one of the best in the school, but as we all know matches are not won on paper. Injury and illness has not helped at all this season, to emphasise this point our captain is yet to play for the Academy this season. Away at William Farr we were missing 5 of our 'regular' side and went down to a good side by three goals to one. In a battle away against LCHS four players were missing but we managed a 4-2 victory. So to be still in with a fair chance of winning the league and retaining the title for a third year in a row when the season restarts in February is pleasing.

The county cup something we are aiming to do well in this year and at almost full strength we brushed aside a combative NK side by five goals to nil. At the time of writing we are due to play QEGS Horncastle in the last 16 where I would hope to progress into the quarter final.

SQUAD

Harrison Ainslie, Elliot King, Oliver Moorland, Connor Thorley, Jedd Gilbert, Jack Hutton, Tyler Taylor ©, Harry Mason, Nojus Janutis, Freddie Baker AJ Cook, Jake Lines, Harry Shaw, Alex Fillingham, McKenzie Greene, Callum Thomas (Y8), Euan Sullivan (Y8) & Lewis Townhill (Y8)

RESULTS LEAGUE

LCA 0-4 Branston (Lewis Banner (2) Ben Harker & Cael Isaac)

LSST 4-2 Branston (Lewis Banner & Michael Adeboyega)

QEHS 4-3 Branston (Cael Isaac & AJ Cook (2))

COUNTY CUP

Round 1: QE Horncastle 0 9- Branston (George Whelpton 6, Lewis Banner, Cael Isaac & Ben Harker)

Round 2: LCHS - Branston (Monday 11th December 2017)

REPORT

The year 10 lads were excellent last season and deserved to finish in the top 3 of the league. This season however has been literally a tale of 2 halves. Lincoln Castle were despatched 4-0 and despite looking a bit rusty, hope was there for another good season. Unfortunately in the next two games we forgot how to defend in the first half and against both LSST and QEHS were 0-4 down at halftime. Character is something I believe these lads have developed over the last couple of years and despite the games being gone, in terms of a victory, they didn't fall apart and actually played some really good football in the second half and brought some respectability to both score lines (2-4 and 3-4). The league will be a bridge to far this year but I would hope with 2 good wins at the end of the season we can at least hope for a top half finish

The County Cup gave us a chance to practice defending in the first half. QEGS Horncastle were the opponents and for the first time this season we looked like a team who were comfortable with a football. George Whelpton scored 5 in the first half (6 in the match) to put us 5-0 up at the break. The second half was a display of good passing football and retaining the ball. There will be more difficult games to come but you can only beat what is in front of you and we comprehensively did that. LCHS away before Christmas is our reward in the last 16 and I would hope for a quarter final place after Christmas.

SQUAD

Liam Powell, Josh Bellamy, Olly Landry, Michael Adeboyega, Ben McKee, George Whelpton, Leo Priestley, Ben Harker, Luke Garner, Cael Isaac, Lewis Banner, Corben Metcalfe, Ciaran Taylor, Kieran Downes, Tom Fletcher, William Foottit, Harrison Ainslie (Y9) AJ Cook (Y9)

RESULTS

Branston 5 - 0 Lincoln Castle Branston 3 - 2 LCHS

To Play: William Farr QEHS, Gainsborough LSST

REPORT

Just 2 games this term for the Yr 11's as they play the final season of football at the school. After last year's rather up and down season, the team were determined to go out showing their best and so far they have started the season very well. Lincoln Castle were up first and we dominated from start to finish, playing some confident football. A superb Ethan Thompson strike and a deft Christian Bucknell finish were the highlight of a 5nil victory. A much tougher challenge followed against a strong and powerful; LCHS side. It was a tight game and we never really got into our stride but we kept going throughout but were being held 2 all, through 2 goals from Jack Foot, until Will Jackson gave us victory within the last few minutes. 3 tougher challenges await after Xmas but it has still been a great start.

SQUAD

L Deaton©, D Lindsey(v/c), B Whitehouse, C Hullay, W Jackson, J Foot, C Bucknell, E Thompson, J Thompson, J Moore, A Meldrum, D Hilton, K Pacey, M Adeboyega (Yr

GIRLS

NETBALL YEAR 7

RESULTS:

Branston 18 - 3 William Farr Branston 15 - 0 LCHS

REPORT

The year 7 girls have started their school netball careers with great enthusiasm. During the first term they trained 3 times a week in preparation for their league matches. I was delighted by the amount of girls that signed up to play and the commitment that they have showed towards playing and improving. Their first match was away against William Farr School. We were unsure of what to expect but I had been very impressed with the girls in training. The team made a fantastic start and proved that training pays off as they gelled together very well on court. Their passing and moving was excellent for a team that had only been working together for a month. The defence did not have much to contend with in the first half as the attack dominated the game. Captain Leah Kennealey, Libby Christopher and Eleanor Applewhite fed the ball nicely into Paige Ellis who played GS in the first half. The defence had a little bit more to do in the second half as William Farr began to string together a few passes. The cool head of vice-captain Lucy Adams in defence made sure that we stayed well on top and Lily Keenan came into the game more by making some fantastic interceptions. They continued to dominate throughout the match and their first win was never in doubt. They cruised to a comfortable 18-3 victory.

Our second match was against LCHS a week later. An excited, yet calm group of netballers were completely ready for this game. A few changes were made to the team to allow more girls to experience playing for BCA. Again, our commitment to training showed immediately as we got into our stride from the first whistle. The girls again, raced to a winning score of 15-0 in the 3rd quarter. A difference of 15 goals is the cut off point so that a complete whitewash doesn't occur. The girls were thrilled with their second win of the season. Things slow down a little now until league matches resume in February. We will however, continue to train throughout the winter months as it is our more difficult rivals of QEHS and LSST who we have still got to face. Well done for a great start.

A TEAM SQUAD

Leah Kennealey ©, Lucy Adams (V-C), Paige Ellis, Eleanore Applewhite, Libby Christopher, Lily Keenan, Charlotte Barr, Shannon Alexander, Abigail Fish, Emma Green, Freya Byers

YEAR 8

RESULTS:

Branston 15 LCA 0
Branston 9 Priory LSST 7

REPORT

The year 8 team have made a strong start to their 2017-18 season. The first match of the season against LCA saw the girls take a confident victory to ease them into their campaign. When faced with playing their second match without their GA, the squad kept their nerve against a competitive Priory LSST team to claim their second win. The outstanding commitment of the squad enables them to grow in strength, with talented players becoming more comfortable playing as one unit. With their momentum building, it feels like this season may come down to their biggest rivalry match against QEHS in March. But if any girls can handle the pressure, it's these Branston girls.

Squad

Isobel Dixon (Cpt.), Erin Shasby, Millie Nicholls, Emily Hamilton-Smith, Freya Laughton, Naomi Kirkby, Kaitlin Martin, Megan Yates, Leah Kennealey, Eleanor Applewhite, Lucy Adams

YEAR 9

RESULTS:

Branston 15 LCHS 0
Branston 22 Will Farr 6
Branston 22 QEHS 3

REPORT:

The year 9 netball team are continuing to develop into a united squad, with all players not only understanding their role within the team but becoming tuned into how each other play. This is turning them into a force to be reckoned with amongst local schools. As clearly seen from the results, these girls have smashed the first half of their season with three solid victories.

Not only have they taken the local league by storm, the girls also claimed the title of DISTRICT CHAMPIONS at the tournament in October. The county tournament was challenging, with the squad having to alter positions due to a starting player being out with injury. The girls battled hard with the upmost perseverance, finishing 8th overall. The girls should be exceptionally proud of their achievements this season, and, being the conscientious squad they are, are already aiming for the u16s county tournament in 2019.

SQUAD

Laura Hall (Cpt.), Erin Shasby, Leah Bayne, Olivia Carter, Freya Atkinson, Shania Lacia, Bryana Atkin-Snell, Abbie Green, Ruby Whitworth, Hollie Myers-Hemmingway, Libby Tatton, Isobel Dixon, Naomi Kirkby

YEAR 11

RESULTS: LEAGUE CHAMPIONS

Branston 17 - 1 Lincoln Castle Academy

Branston 18 - 3 William Farr Branston 31 - 32 LSST

Branston 19 - 4 LCHS Branston 27 - 15 QEHS

REPORT

The year 11 girls have had their best season ever this year. Despite losing many lunchtimes for intervention we still managed to get in some effective training.

First game of the season we took on Lincoln Castle Academy and called the game at half time as we were 17-1 up. When a goal difference of 15 is recorded the game is called (ie that team have won) and the team winning swap positions around and restart the game. William Farr came next and we were convincing winners 18-3 and the game was called in the third quarter. We then took on LSST. We knew this was going to be a really tough game. It was end to end stuff up to half time. We lost our way a little in the third guarter and were 27-21 down. However the girls rallied and played some of the best netball I have seen them play in the final quarter. Unfortunately time beat us and we lost by 1 goal 31-32. The high score of the match indicates what a great game it was. Christ Hospital next but didn't prove too much of a challenge and again the game was called at half time as we were 19-4 up. The final game of the season as against out nemesis Queen Elizabeth Grammar School, Gainsborough. Up to this point we had never beaten them before. After the first guarter we were down 6-7. My talk to the girls during the break was to the point to say the least. The girls then really switched on and played some really great netball. We came out victorious winning 27-15. A fantastic result which made all the hard work over the last five years' worth it.

The girls finished joint top of the league which is an amazing performance as in previous years they have come third.

It has been a pleasure to train the girls for the last two years following on from the hard work that Miss Southall put in, in years 8 & 9. Their dedication and commitment to training has been excellent.

SQUAD:

Hannah McConville (Captain), Grace Boden, Emma Oliver, Katy Flintham, India Cowling, Ashley McLuckie, Orissa Sansoa-Twell, Limara Wardle, Amber Pickard (Yr 10), Katie Christopher (Yr 10), Charlotte O'May (Yr 10), Isla Sullivan(Yr 10)



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