



EBC SPORT

LT25 SPORTS NEWS



A jam-packed term saw a great deal of hard work keeping fixtures running with the challenges the weather can bring. A big thanks, as ever, to those running our sports and the grounds team for enabling us to be out playing and training in those dark months.

Please read about the amazing sport and achievements which took place during the Lent term with seasons and national competitions coming to the business end of the sporting year.

As well as house sport there was also the cricket tour to South Africa in February plus the multi-sport (swimming, netball, girls cricket and basketball) tour to Dubai at Easter.

Mike Harrison
Director of Sport

Netball



The netball term started well with block fixtures at the against Cranleigh, Wimbledon Girls School, Mayfield and Ardingly. We had a mixture of wins and losses, and all fixtures have gone ahead, as the weather played ball this year.

All year groups took part in county SISNA tournaments with the 1st VII making it to the semi-finals of the Plate. The U16A squad made it to the final of the Bowl but missed out on the trophy in the last few plays, and the U14s made it to the plate final too, losing to a tough Seaford College side. Huge congratulations to the U15A team winning the Plate, beating Brighton College in the Final, for the first silverware for a College netball team for some time. A timely victory as we approach 50 years of netball at the College. With fixtures against Lancing and Christ's Hospital in a triangular followed by Hurstpierpoint, Benenden and Cranbrook in the second half of term there was much to celebrate in the 15 teams and 141 girls who played this year.

Lisa Price, Director of Netball





The boys 1st XI were unbeaten in the block fixtures with convincing wins over Hurst, Ardingly, Cranbrook, Seaford and Caterham and only lost in the last 16 of the ISHC to the eventual winners Whitgift and narrowly in the last 16 of the EHA Tier 2 cup to SJWMC 5-6 after being 1-4 down at half time. The team played an exciting style of hockey and scored 86 goals in 15 matches throughout the season including the Bath Festival. Sam Bordass beat his own Top Goal Scorers record, set last year of 31 goals with a season's tally of 33 goals in 15 matches. The second XI won 4 and lost 3 matches and the 3rd XI winning three from four games. The U15As developed well as a team and were never over-run in any game they played. They had a good run in the U15ISHC plate, losing to a talented RGS Guildford side in the quarter finals. The U14As season's stats do not do them justice as they were edged out in many tight games and will turn over those results in the years to come, I am sure.

This year both the boys and girls played at the end of season Bath Festival. The girls won three from four games with excellent wins against Millfield Development XI, Kirkham Grammar and Lord Wandsworth College. The younger players gained a huge amount of experience from playing at 1st XI level. The boys won both games on the Saturday, Seaford College and The Hall Cross Academy and lost both on Sunday including a thrilling 2-3 v Lord Wandsworth in the morning and against a quality Tier 1 Solihull in the afternoon.

Congratulations to the nine Eastbourne College girls who represented Eastbourne Hockey Club at Nottingham in the U16 club finals day. The girls won 5-0 against W orth and 7-1 versus East Grinstead.

Rob Hill, Director of Hockey OLY



Swimming

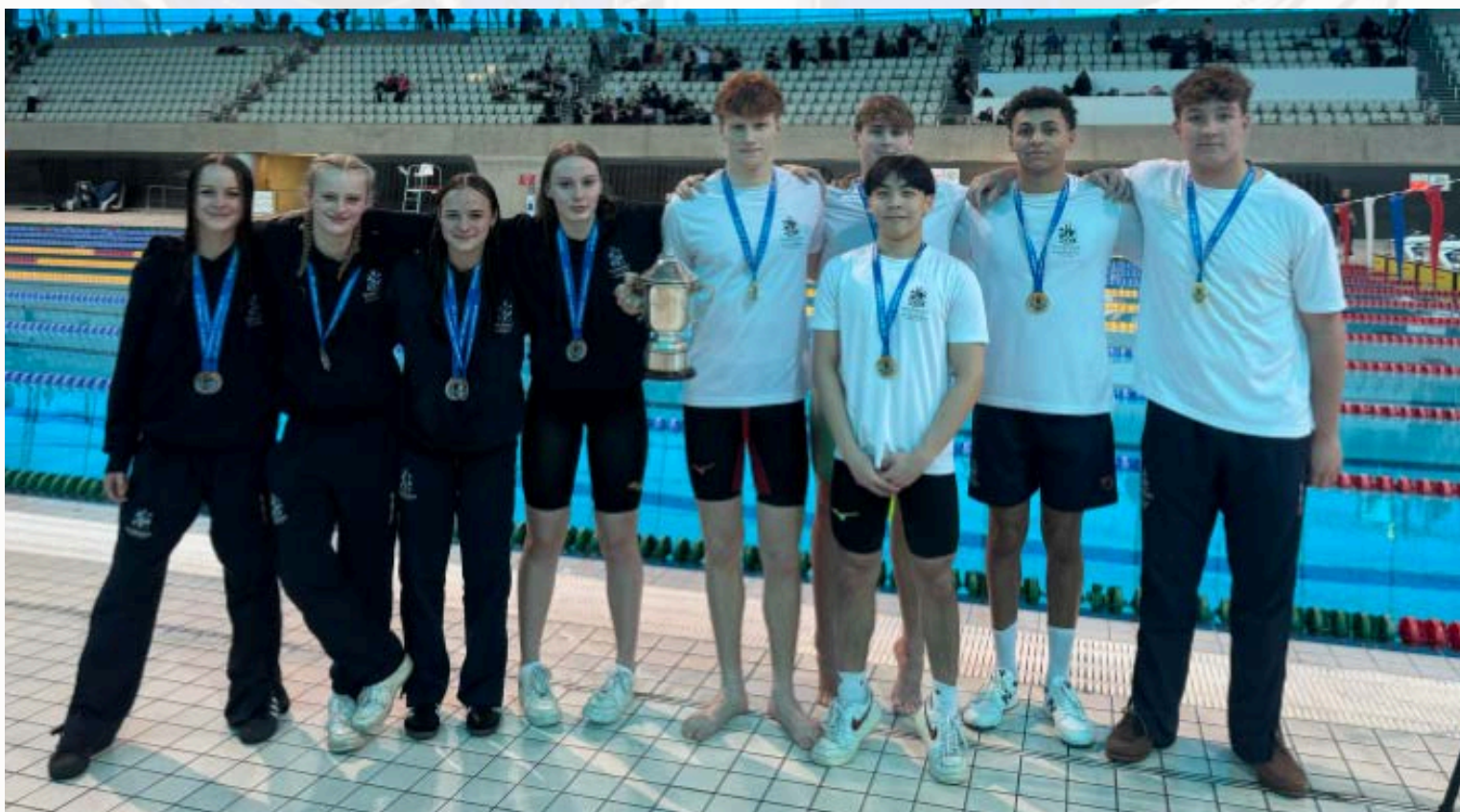
This term has been our most successful term of all time. Our senior boys swimming team made history at the Olympic Pool in London, achieving back-to-back double gold victories in the freestyle and medley competitions at the prestigious Bath Cup, the independent schools swimming relay nationals.

The Bath Cup's Aldenham Cup (freestyle) dates back to 1982, when Eastbourne College were the first-ever winners. With further victories in 2007, 2008 and now in 2024 and 2025, the College has won the cup five times, twice more than any other school. The Dunelm Cup (medley), introduced in 2002, has now been secured by Eastbourne College four times following wins in 2009, 2013 and consecutive victories in 2024 and 2025, more than any other school.

The boys' double triumph makes Eastbourne College only the second school in 40 years to win both trophies in the same year and back-to-back. Their victory was sealed in a thrilling medley final, won on the final touch, a remarkable display of determination and skill. The boys also set two new national record times in the process.

The girls team also delivered an outstanding performance, securing double silver in both their finals. This marks a significant improvement on last year's performance and highlights their rapid progress on the national stage, especially with a young team who will all return next year.

The success comes just weeks after the squad benefited from training sessions with four England and ex-Olympic swimmers and coaches, including a virtual session with Olympic coach Mel Marshall. Their input provided a timely confidence boost ahead of the team's outstanding performances.



Swimming

The swimmers then competed in the schools Super League Final held at the K2 in Crawley. Achieving third place against 32 schools was testament to months of hard work from the St Andrews and Eastbourne College swimmers. This was very much an outstanding team performance. The senior boys and intermediate girls also won gold in their respective age groups. Well done to all of the swimmers for their incredible efforts. Some of them now have the luxury of heading to Dubai on a training camp during the Easter holidays.

Jess Simmonds, Head of Swimming



Football

The football season ended on a high with a significant number of victories against Kings Canterbury and Worth. The firsts, thirds and fourths won their final games but mention must be made to the firsts for their change in fortunes midway through the season, starting with a well-deserved draw away to a very strong Cranleigh, meaning the firsts have not lost against them for over three years. Recognition must go to the thirds who completely dominated their final fixtures and becoming a formidable unit who found the back of the net with every shot. The team comprised mostly Pennell boys who would later go on to win the inter-house football. The final mention and most notable achievement must go to the fourths remaining unbeaten throughout the season. Well done to all the players who played for the club.

Nik Clark, Head of Football



Rugby

A great set of fifteen-a-side fixtures with a win against Reeds at Horsham rugby club playing under the floodlights. The next match saw the side return to Horsham to take on a very strong Simon Langton side where we lost out by two points in a tight game followed by a trip along the coast to Brighton who came out best by a single point. The final game was a success under the lights in Dartford facing Hayes in the driving rain. It was great to see so many U16s make their first team debut alongside the senior players signing off for the College. The second half of term saw attention turn to sevens training, five weeks of preparation for the U16s side and 1st VII. The U14s have made some great progress in their activities session too.

Rosslyn Park 7s

U14 - 2W , 1L

U16 - 1W , 2L

1st VII

EBC 34 - 14 Dame Allens

EBC 36 - 7 Colyton

EBC 40 - 0 Coleg Gwent

EBC 12 - 28 Lord Wandsworth

Oliver Torri, Director of Rugby



Cross Country

Big congratulations to all those who ran in the Sussex Schools Cross Country Championships

- Junior Girls - Millie G, Bea C and Georgie Gr all finished in the top 100 out of 336 runners
- Junior Boys - James F and Ethan F finished in the top 100 out of 334 runners
- Inter Girls - B-Belle G finished 38th out of 154 runners
- Inter Boys - Jack J finished 51st out of 235 runners
- Senior Girls - Daisy B finished 21st missing out by one place in qualifying for the South East Schools Inter Cross Country Championships
- Senior Boys - Lucas G, who finished an incredible third, automatically qualified for the National Schools Championships in March.



Tennis

The U18 girls team best Bedes 5-1 in the County Final of the LTA Winter Schools Cup and then went on to retain the regional title with victories against Peter Symonds and St Alban's in the finals.

The performance squad training carries on every day and players are working hard. Gaby P-E continues to compete on the ITF Junior Circuit and has played in Belgium and Poland recently. Daisy B and Emma G have received tennis scholarship offers from USA Universities and are set to join the large number of tennis playing Eastbournians in America on Scholarships, over 12 at the latest count.

In the Easter holidays there was another excellent week of tennis at Tunbridge Wells junior LTA tournament. This was the eight year of Eastbourne College sponsorship for this tournament and great to see so many current pupils and future pupils involved.

We are looking forward to the start of the tennis season in the summer term with the senior boys and girls competing in the county tournaments and national cup runs. County cups for U14 and U15s too along with our strong block-fixture programme.

Simon Gent, Head of Tennis





Cricket

Congratulations to the following selected on to the Sussex CCC pathway, Charl S (U16), Thomas V R(U16), Georgie P (EEP & U18), Jasmine B (U18) and Jack J(U15).

Basketball

The first half of the Lent term welcomed competitive fixtures against The North School, Cardinal Newman and Brighton College with a strong win over Brighton College (70-49).

Alongside team play, development players have worked hard and enjoyed the process of learning the game while growing their skill-set.

Luke Flanagan, Head of Basketball



Fives



A strong showing at the School Girls National Fives competition with several impressive performances across different age groups. In the U18 category, Nelly B-S won the singles plate, while Izzie S and Sophie F claimed the doubles plate. Daisy B was a runner-up in the main singles competition, and along with Daisy D, she finished as runner-up in the doubles after a strong run to the final. In the U14 category, Aless K made it to the singles final, officially finishing as runner-up. Although Aless and Stuti V were knocked out early in the doubles. The team represented the College with admirable effort and sportsmanship throughout the event.

Simon Beal, Head of Fives

Badminton

There has been plenty of quality badminton action this term, with girls, boys and mixed teams gaining excellent experience and achieving some very pleasing results. Great to see a convincing win early in the term for the U18 mixed team v Hurst (21-2) followed by a more testing but hard-fought 8-16 loss to Lancing College, with both matches played in fine, competitive spirit. A good deal of action followed after mid-term break, with the U18 boys beating Hurst 14-5 in a return match, followed by a 16-5 win against Ardingly College. The girls U18 team beat Mayfield 13-5 before a more bruising encounter with Roedean but all contests have been enjoyable and well fought. Overall, there is plenty of good progress in skills development, with up to almost 4 hours per week on court for the most enthusiastic players, who also take advantage of the Saturday morning optional session.

At the close of the badminton fixture season we are grateful to all players who stepped up for team duties, and wish all leavers good luck in their future sporting endeavours. A special mention for our outstanding individual player of the year, Calvin (Team Captain) and also to Sunny (Vice Captain) and Esther (Girls Captain), for leading by example on court. More to look forward to, with inter house badminton next term. Well done to all.

Tim Clark, Head of Badminton



Equestrian



The Lent term brought with it a flurry of competitions for our equestrian teams

Mathilda K (Y9) competed at the NSEA grassroots championship at Felbridge, coming 6th in the 70cm and 7th in the 60cm in big classes

Alice D-T, Yr 5 St Andrews- competed at two local completions, winning first place in her two classes (60/70cm) at Golden Cross and winning gold in the 70cm class at Crockstead.

She has also been out and competed at local British Showjumping for schools events, in her most recent event she was second in her 60cm and fourth in the 70cm.

Our riders performed incredibly well at a local inter branch event, representing the East Sussex branch.

Mathilda K and Freya W were placed second with a team second in the 60cm class with two double clears Milly P (Y7, St Andrews) was placed team third with a double clear.

In the 70cm Freya W and Mathilda K were team second and in the 80cm class Darcie W (Y7, St Andrews) rode a double clear for first place. An amazing few weekends of results for our equestrian team. Our teams have all ridden at a very good standard all term and looking the part too.

Our senior girls competed in the NSEA arena eventing at Petley Wood. Meg L jumped a great round to come fourth and qualified for the National eventers challenge at Hickstead at the end of May.

We wish our senior riders lots of luck as they enter their GCSE and A-level exams, we hope to see them out competing again soon.

Clem Scott-Smith, Head of Equestrian

Fencing

A small group of fencers continues to train regularly. A fixture against Worth was drawn with both teams fencing well; the A team losing their match and the B team winning theirs.

Abigail Ball, Head of Fencing



Squash

The girls have been enjoying squash and improving as the term progresses. A competitive fixture with Brighton College enabled the girls to show their skills as well as in the girls inter-house competition too. Boys house squash was also a great event for all involved.

Joe Wells, Head of Squash

Sailing

The sailing team entered our first ever National Schools Sailing Association regatta at Chew Valley lake in Bristol. Overall, we came third in the silver fleet which was a huge achievement given this was their first team racing event which is tactically very different from the fleet racing they are used to. They learnt a huge amount and are excited about further opportunities to compete on the National circuit.

Robyn Cooke, Head of Sailing



Simon Green Cup for Endeavour

The Simon Green Cup is awarded termly. With normally one or two winners in each term there is often no recognition for pupils who have been shortlisted or recommended by staff for the award. This term, for their endeavour in sport, the following pupils should be recognised for showing the characteristics required to be shortlisted and should be very proud of what they have achieved:

Sergio V – tennis

James S – football

Amelie H – swimming

Sam B – hockey

The College boys and girls swim team

The winners of the Simon Green Cup this term were picked by our director of sport, Mr Harrison, and they have completely epitomised what the Cup is about.



Charlie E-S and Izzy S

Charlie E-S has captained the boys swim team in the most successful swimming season ever at the College. The hours of training before and after school led to him being part of the double gold winning team at the national Bath Cup including new national records. In addition, the whole swim team won the overall team bronze in the Super League plus the senior boys with another gold. His endeavour over the last two years since he arrived at the College have been so impressive and all the staff who work with him have seen just how much he has given of himself and to others. He is a modest and supportive captain and always wants to give of his best and is a role model in so many ways to those around him. His endeavour over a sustained period of time has been obvious and he is a very deserving joint winner of the award this term.

Izzie S has played 1st team netball for three years from Year 11. She has shown dedication, commitment, and led by example. She was a standout player in Year 11 and it was a tremendous feat to gain a place in the first team so young. In her final year at the College, she has captained the team to victory against our local Sussex rivals and been part of some defeats too but she does so with grace and style. Even when she dives for an interception (and is the one most likely to end up on the floor such is her commitment) she does it in style. She is a role model to others and not only has her netball been a strength but she has competed in fives this term too and qualified for the national finals before securing the doubles plate title last term's Simon Green award winner Sophie Fellows. Within sport she has shown impressive commitment and endeavour having played over 130 fixtures in four years across six sports. She is a very worthy and deserving winner of this prestigious award this term.

Sporting Highlights...

Congratulations to the following pupils who qualified for the National Schools Biathlon Championships at Bath University in March. James F (Y 9), B-Belle G (Y10), Hattie S (Y10), Iso P-L (Y10), Isola C (Y10), Nate C (Y12), Lucas G (Y12) and Charlie E-S (Y13). At the national finals James F and Nate C finished an impressive fifth and seventh respectively. James was also only just a few points off third in a close finish. Huge congratulations to them and to the girls team who won a silver medal. A great performance at our first ever showing at these championships. A big thanks to Lilly Willman for setting this all up and giving the pupils the opportunity to qualify in our pool and on College Field and taking them to the finals.



Big congratulations to Jack J (Y10) who was not only been selected for one, but three sporting performance pathways! Jack has been training with Harlequins Rugby DPP, Sussex Cricket Performance Pathway and the England Hockey Talent Pathway Academy at East Grinstead Hockey Club.

Big congratulations to Izzie D (Y10), who has recently competed in the European Circuit in Slovakia. Izzie also took the title as U16 Sussex Champion and won her Sussex colours, along with being selected for the GB U17 team.



Sporting Highlights...

Lucas G (Y12) has also qualified for the Championships, supported by British Athletics, held at Wallaton Park in Nottingham after securing 3rd place in the Inter Counties Qualifier in Bexhill! Lucas races again in March.



Lucas then travelled to Nottingham University to take part in the first discipline of the Performance Assessments Weekend as part of British Triathlons National Super Series. His goal was to better a 4m40s swim over 400m and was pleased to come away with a personal best of 3m33s. This placed him 14th for the Sunday bike/run, 33 seconds behind the 1st place. Despite strong crosswinds on the runway at RAF Cottesmore, Lucas was able to work to the front of the pack quickly before breaking away with a group of 4 riders, tackling the 10km course together. As the bike came close to the end, Lucas came in to second transition in the lead, which he was able to hold throughout the full 5km run, finishing with a 25 second lead over second place.

His intention for the weekend was just to implement the 5-6 months block of training, the weekly 20-25km of swimming, 100-150km of riding and 3 running blocks a week to the best of his abilities. 1st place was the result.

Eastbourne College is the only school in the country affiliated to a British Triathlon affiliated club, Team Bodyworks, providing not only the facilities to nurture Triathletes but also staff to support their development, ensuring the delivery of a rounded education whilst encouraging elite athletes on their chosen pathway.

Next stop, Llanelli on 10 May



HOUSE RESULTS

LT 25 STANDINGS



Basketball	Fives	Football	Netball	Squash
1. Watt	1. Blackwater	1. Watt	1. Blackwater	1. Watt
2. Blackwater	2. Watt	2. Nugent	2. Watt	2. Nugent
3. Nugent	3. Nugent	3. School	3. Nugent	3. Blackwater
4. School	4. School	4. Blackwater	4. School	& School

Blackwater- 82pts

Watt- 81pts

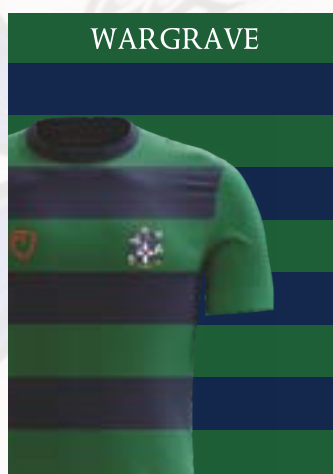
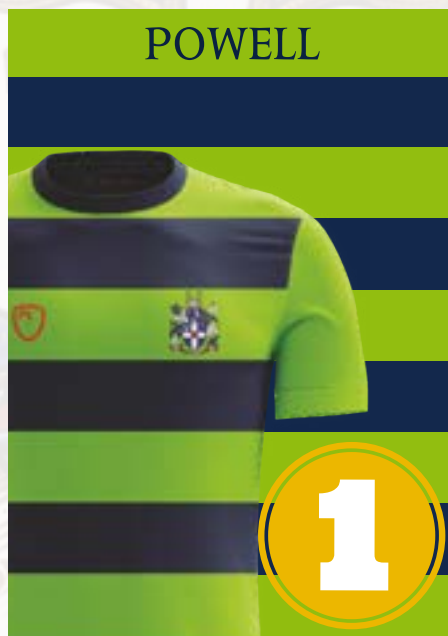
Nugent- 57pts

School- 46pts



HOUSE RESULTS

BOYS HOUSE RESULTS - LT25 STANDINGS



Basketball	Fives	Hockey	Football	Squash	Water Polo
1. Pennell	1. Craig	1. Craig	1. Reeves	1. Powell	1. Powell
2. Gonville	2. Gonville	2. Wargrave	2. Powell	2. Craig	2. Pennell
3. Reeves	3. Powell	2. Reeves	3. Pennell	2. Pennell	3. Gonville
4. Craig	4. Pennell	4. Gonville	3. Wargrave	2. Reeves	3. Craig
5. Powell	5. Reeves	5. Powell	5. Craig	5. Wargrave	5. Reeves
6. Wargrave	6. Wargrave	6. Pennell	6. Gonville	6. Gonville	6. Wargrave



Full Colours

Rugby

Al W
Jasper S
Seb P
Barley O'C

Hockey

Izzy S
Daisy D
Nelly B-S
Tiggy T

Half Colours

Hockey

Rosie H
Bertie C
Emilia D
Millie D-H
Anya R
Jasmine B
Hannah D
Martha L
Evie G
Mary K-B
Ella B

Squash

Alfie L

Equestrian

Lola W

South Africa Cricket Tour



It was an incredible experience for all the boys, not only from a cricketing perspective but also from the perspective of a lifetime opportunity which will live long in all of our memories I'm sure. It was great to play some competitive cricket against some high-quality schools, playing at some beautiful grounds around the Cape Town area. Our Year 11s also gained some valuable experience in the senior team prior to the season starting in April. Some highlights included safari, table mountain and touring a township which included experiencing real South African culture with members of the community singing and drumming local music for us. All thanks go out to all of the teachers who organised everything for us, particularly Miss Callaghan.

Paddy C (1st XI captain)

We had an unforgettable tour to Cape Town during the February half term. Both teams embraced a packed schedule, playing plenty of cricket while immersing themselves in South African culture. The visits to the Safari, Slave Lodge, and Langa Township were truly memorable, with the boys gaining valuable insights, especially during a traditional African lunch and drumming session in a Sheila's home within the township. The cricket proved to be a great challenge, and it was fantastic to see both teams make significant progress from the first game to the fourth. Now that we're back, I can't wait for the summer season to begin. A huge well done to everyone who took part. Their company was fantastic, and they showed real character, especially when our journey home turned into an unexpected world tour.

Matilda Callaghan, Director of Cricket



Dubai Multi-Sport Tour



The College's first-ever multi-sport tour of basketball, swimming, girls cricket and netball travelled to Dubai with 35 pupils and six staff. An incredible time was enjoyed by all with training sessions, matches and experiences which have created memories for life. The swim team enjoyed a great week of 50m pool training in preparation for the regional qualifiers the weekend after the tour but also served as a great reward for a stellar year in the pool. Basketball and netball enjoyed training and matches during the week at world-class facilities and wonderful hospitality from everyone they met. In addition, the netball team enjoyed a training session with Hurricane's netball coaches at the Seven's ground, the basketball team with Beyond Basketball Academy, the girls cricket team with Nottingham Blaze professional players and coaches at Abu Dhabi Sports City, and the swim team in the Trojan Sports pool complex. As well the sport side of the trip, the touring party enjoyed visiting the Dubai Mall and Burj Khalifa, the world's biggest mall and tallest building, the local Souks, the world's largest mosque, a desert Safari, a water park and Ferrari World. So many memorable moments and friendships made on this hugely successful multi-sport trip. A huge thank you to the pupils for being true Eastbournian ambassadors and looking out for each other. An even bigger thank you to the staff on all our sporting trips and tours in the UK and abroad because, without them, these memories and adventures cannot go ahead. My personal thanks in Dubai to Ian Berry, Jess Simmonds, Dan Wright, Lisa Price and Matilda Callaghan.

Mike Harrison, Director of Sport



