

SPRING 2022

Gryphon



'Walk to Kyiv'
Duke of Edinburgh & Ten Tors Training
Environmental Youth Award
Sporting success

SCHOOLS ACHIEVING SUCCESS TOGETHER
SAST
SHERBORNE AREA SCHOOLS' TRUST

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**The
Gryphon
School**

2.

WELCOME

As I sit at home, having tested positive for Covid a couple of days ago, I am reminded that it is exactly two years ago that the first lockdown began. In many ways that seems a very short time ago, but in other ways it seems quite literally a lifetime. More recently the events in the Ukraine have brought to mind how fortunate we are to live in peace in a country unthreatened by its neighbours.

Throughout these past two years the community of The Gryphon School has pulled together to meet every challenge. The students and staff have drawn strength from each other being determined to make the best out of every situation so that we all have the chance to live life in its fullness. This month the school raised well over £2000 in the Miles for Ukraine day which was a fantastic testimony to the team that organised the events.

Our students are always willing to go the extra mile to support each other and to make the world around them a better place. Congratulations to the Eco committee on their recent awards and to the Diversity Committee for taking on prejudice wherever they identify it.

It has been wonderful to see so many fixtures, trips and visits this term. Each event has enriched the lives of those taking part and the summer term promises even more opportunities.

Easter is a wonderful season of hope and renewal; the tragedy of Good Friday overcome by the joy of Easter Sunday. I hope that you enjoy reading about our hopefulness and celebration in this edition of @Gryphon.



Nicki Edwards - Headteacher



Year 7 Geography

Our amazing Year 7 students have been creating board games in geography based around rural-urban migration in Kenya and exploring the push and pull factors causing this movement. The students with the best board games put them on display for Headteacher Nicki Edwards to see, and they were awarded with Headteacher commendations for their brilliant work.

Farewell to Sarah Darlington

At the end of this term we are very sad to be saying goodbye to Sarah Darlington who has been our SENDCO for eight and a half years. Sarah has been a wonderful leader of our SEND team and has made a huge difference to the lives of many students and their families as she has made sure that excellent provision has been in place to support learning across the school. We wish Sarah all the best in her retirement as she spends time with her grandchildren, working in her garden and venturing out on her sea kayak! From the Summer Term Bethan West will be our full time SENDCO. Bethan has been job sharing the role with Sarah this academic year so she has learned from the best and will carry on Sarah's excellent work.





Environmental Youth Award

The students in Eco Club have proudly rebranded themselves as The Gryphon School Eco Committee as they work towards gaining an Green Flag Award from Eco Schools. And they have been busy! Lewis D, Ran W and Flora D represented the team at the, Sherborne Town Council Environmental Committee and were enthused by opportunities to work more widely in the community and to access expertise in improving recycling and working towards being a carbon neutral school. The Eco Committee and some Challenge Plus students attended a Sherborne Literary Society event and listened to the fascinating natural navigation skills if Tristan Gooley, the author of the recently published 'The Secret World of Weather'. In addition, the school has been awarded a Bath and West Environmental Youth Award for their outstanding eco efforts. They will now be filming a 10 minute short to be displayed at the Bath and West Show.



Challenge Plus

This year applications were taken for students to take part in the Challenge plus program. This series of sessions is designed to stretch and challenge the thinking of the academically more able pupils from Years 7 through to 10. This term the challenge plus students have taken part in three separate sessions. They have been learning about the mysteries of Einstein's theories and how our brains can be pushed harder through exercise-induced stimulation. The students have worked exceptionally well together and have been pushed well outside of their academic comfort zones. Importantly they have had fun while doing this!

3.

Students 'Walk to Kyiv' to Raise Money

The whole Gryphon community has been shocked and saddened by the Russian invasion of Ukraine and we felt it important that both staff and students felt they were involved in something to support the people directly affected by the war. Friday 18th March was already a designated non-uniform day, so we decided to use the whole day to raise awareness and funds for both Comic Relief and the British Red Cross Ukraine appeal.

during either a lesson or tutor time, and collectively we walked the distance a refugee fleeing Ukraine may travel to arrive in Sherborne. Students were asked to bring in at least a £1 donation for the non-uniform and walk and were given the option to choose where they would like their money to go.

We have been overwhelmed by the generosity of both students and their families. It has been an absolute pleasure to hear stories of funds being raised using enterprise and ingenuity as well as selfless acts of kindness. In total we raised £2,259.85. Thank you so much for the support and engagement with the event.. all our thoughts are with those affected by the war, and we hope to continue to support those less fortunate than ourselves.

The distance from Sherborne to Kyiv is 1435 miles. To bring that into perspective, every member of the school community walked 1 mile

Community Hub Meeting

The Community Hub Meeting was a fantastic opportunity to discuss the key issues in our community and begin to understand local problems from different perspectives. We were joined by Juliet Pentolfe, Mayor Anne Hall, Jill Warburton and Sarah Rudd from Sherborne Town Council; Lizzie Whitbread from the Diocese; and Rev. Martin from the Abbey. Through discussion, it quickly became apparent that the generational divide in Sherborne was a large, contributing factor to many of the issues we see in the local area. Discussions began to formulate solutions with the combined opinions of both adults and students.

I thoroughly enjoyed the meeting, partly due to the free lunch provided, but also because it was amazing to see different age groups talking and working together to address key issues which face our community. There was a great atmosphere and some brilliant feedback from the discussions, which will help to make a positive change and begin to make the community a safer and more enjoyable place to be. It was interesting to see how both the young and, dare I say, older people in the community both shared similar criticism for dilemmas, despite their differing experiences in the town. This led to lively conversation around the room and a genuine confidence that all ages can work together. It filled me with satisfaction to see that the young voices of our community were not being ignored, but instead incorporated into mature discussion which has provided each of us with a great opportunity to grow and develop as young people.

It is an event I would like to see continue and grow in the future because I believe that it is a brilliant way to hear the voice of young people, but also for students to see how they can make a difference and give them the confidence to do so.

By Barney, Year 11





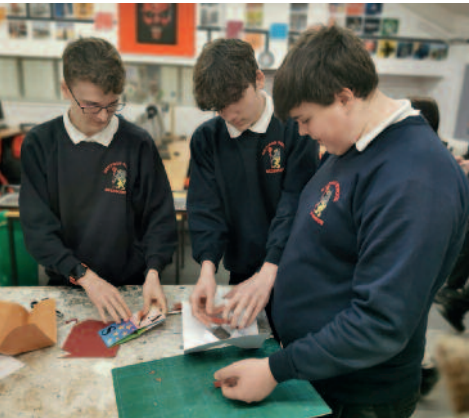
Art

Year 13 Art students worked diligently on their Personal Investigation final pieces during the previous academic years, encompassing their studies on anatomy, classical proportions and historical drawing/painting techniques to produce truly magnificent portraits and similar. Our



students also produced beautiful sketchbooks and many other large external works through their dedication and hours spent learning their craft. I am immensely proud of all the achievements across our year groups in art.

Mr J Malone, Art Department



3D Art and Design

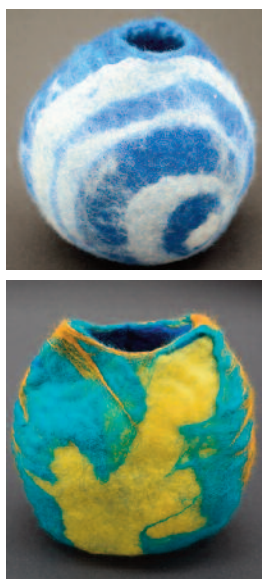
Year 10 are eagerly working away modelling their own version of lamps and coming up with some creative ideas. They are using a wide range of skills and techniques to arrive at thought provoking designs. The use of modelling foam helps them produce ideas reasonably quickly and allows them to develop their work, which can then be taken onto the next stage of producing the actual product.

3D Art and Design Workshop

In February our students were very fortunate to have a paper engineering workshop with pop up book author Paul Stickland. Students learned of the mechanical and power of paper folding. Students experimented with cutting, angles and assembling lightweight card. The students were inspired with the creative and presentation process. So watch out next time you are thumbing through their 3D design books- something might jump out at you



Year 7 students have been learning how to wet felt in their textiles class. They had a splendid time investigating the properties of wool and went on to design and manufacture these lovely felt bowls inspired by the work of the artist Hundertwasser.



Textiles



The need to READ!

Prue Bendell, Head of English at The Gryphon School is leading a School Improvement Project across our Trust, looking at how we can foster a love of reading for Year 7 pupils, she tells us more below:

It's a truth universally acknowledged that children need to read in order to thrive, both academically and socially. Time and time again, scientific studies show that fluent reading skills are the golden ticket to success. Sadly, in a survey conducted in 2020, the National Literacy Trust discovered that only half of UK children say that they enjoy reading, the lowest level for 20 years. Since then, the disruption to society caused by the Covid pandemic has highlighted a widening gap between students who read for pleasure and those that do not.

So where do schools fit into this? Clearly, we play a vital role. Therefore, this term, a new cross-SAST project is being launched to look into reading for pleasure in Year 7. We are talking to a cross section of young people in all of our secondary schools, their parents, and the staff in each school, to find out what they think about reading. This will in turn lead to a more accurate picture of how we are currently supporting them across the whole curriculum. Our team of 'raising improvement champions' will be researching existing ways to improve students' attitude towards reading, plus new strategies used in other schools. By the end of the project, we hope to offer some solutions to help reluctant readers, and provide more support for parents and for staff teaching in all our schools.

Being more actively engaged and involved with what children are reading is going to be a clear way forward. If we can spend more time talking about reading as a routine part of the school day, it will become normalised, in the same way that it is in our primary schools. Teenagers have so many distractions in their daily lives, so it is even more important that we provide our students with opportunities to read during the school day. This may involve providing better spaces in which to read comfortably, or a supportive ear to listen to them read if necessary.

An early discovery from the student survey is that the broader the range of reading material a child has, the more likely they are to pick something up. Our school libraries are teeming with fiction books, non fiction travel writing, autobiographies, scientific books, newspapers, magazines and many more different forms of writing. Yet most students answering our survey only read fiction. There are some fantastic young adult non fiction books that will spark their curiosity about the world around them and open their eyes to new styles of writing. See some examples below!

- Almost American Girl by Robin Ha
- The 57 Bus: A True Story of Two Teenagers and the Crime That Changed Their Lives
- Women in Science by Rachel Ignatofsky

As we continue with this project, we will be sending updates about the results and actions being taken to improve reading for pleasure across SAST schools. In the meantime I will leave you with a quotation from Joseph Addison: "Reading is to the mind, what exercise is to the body." Reading empowers our young people; let's help them find that power.

By Prue Bendell, Head of English, The Gryphon School

DofE and Ten Tors



Rotary Youth Leaders Award

A group of four Gryphon students were fortunate to have been chosen to attend the RYLA course held on Dartmoor in February. The RYLA course is an intensive leadership experience funded by Sherborne Rotary Club, where students can develop their leadership skills and confidence whilst having fun and meeting other young people.

Despite some disruption caused by Storms Eunice and Franklin that week, the students enjoyed a full itinerary including physical activities as well as teamwork and development workshops.

Student Ben said "The course was amazing! Through the various tasks and lectures I feel like I've learnt so much about myself and the way I work. I've gained a new sense of self confidence which I never knew was in me. I think it's safe to say I've gained life-long friends and leadership skills that will have a positive impact on not just me, but anyone I will work with in the future.

The week was packed with talks on psychology and tasks that really helped me to open my eyes to myself. This ranged from showing us the physical effect a negative mindset can have, to finding our personality colours, and the battle between our chimp and logical sides of our minds. All of which gave us a massive insight into our own personalities and behaviours. In just under a week, I was able to understand so much more about myself and realise some of my traits I used to see as negative are more of a feature; unique tools I can use to my advantage. I've gained a new sense of self confidence I never saw in myself before, and thanks to one person in particular, I no longer feel uncomfortable to voice my emotions. I've learnt that I must properly look after and respect myself so that I can look after others and give them that support that I've been so lucky to experience. I'm almost looking forward to standing up and talking in front of people again – I know it won't go perfectly but that doesn't phase me anymore. I just want to show off how much I've taken from this experience. As

cliché as it sounds, I'm proud of the person I've become.

I want to say a huge thank you to the leaders for pushing us and guiding us to get the most out of the week, and to the Rotarians for so kindly sponsoring us to do this amazing experience. Most of all though, thank you to the 22 other incredible candidates for making the centre such a safe and joyful place where I could finally find my voice. Words can't really express how appreciative I am".

Fellow attendee Ellie said: "I really enjoyed RYLA and found some confidence from being immersed in such a supportive environment, it allowed me to overcome some fears such as presenting and leading, of which I am very thankful for. The atmosphere and the people there, both the leaders and others I was with, allowed me to feel included and supported, so that I could come out of my shell and be more confident when performing the tasks set; and so, I feel that I've gained a lot from this experience, and I am very grateful to have gone on RYLA".



The Gryphon School DofE and Ten Tors programme continues at pace. Since our last report we have been busy training for the Ten Tors Challenge with six teams of students doing two day walks and their first overnight expedition on Dartmoor. The expedition was a great success especially as the weekend was crisp and clear making the views even more spectacular. During the late evening all the teams went out in the dark to practice navigating in poor visibility. The team with Mr Cooke holds the record at two and a half hours, returning at midnight. By the time we write again the Ten Tors Challenge will be over and we hope to report on our five teams' adventures, especially the 1960's team who are wearing original kit to mark the challenge's 60th



anniversary. We have been in contact with four people who were involved in the first Ten Tor's in 1960. They have shared their experiences with us, including that they generally did have tents, slept in blankets and ate tinned army rations.

The Bronze 2022 cohort spent three days in March doing first aid training with our new first aid trainer from Mini First Aid who appeared on Dragons Den a few years ago.

Gold and Silver groups continue to meet fortnightly to train and plan expeditions. The Gold are first out of the blocks with a training weekend this Easter in the Brecon Beacons.

6.

In Law this term...

This term, Year 12 and 13 A-Level Law students have been invited to take part in two virtual taster sessions on areas of law that form a large part of the assessed curriculum. These sessions; *True Crime* and *Can You Sue?* were delivered by The University of Law and offered a great insight into the opportunities they offer at a variety of campuses across the country. Students were actively encouraged to think about the importance of civil law in our legal system and why it is so important that our rights are protected not just in contracts but also in claims against others for negligence. We even got to debate the recent and popular intellectual property case of Colin the Caterpillar vs Cuthbert! In 'True Crime', students were invited to consider murder by proxy by looking at the case of Gypsy Rose Blanchard, miscarriages of justice and the chilling cold case of Jack the Ripper. Students were tasked with looking at evidence and deciding which suspect might have been the real 'Jack'. In addition to this, we are looking forward to welcoming solicitor, Maisie Priscott to deliver an informative session on Legal Personnel in April which will help our legal eagles understand the qualifications and experience needed to progress in the legal profession.



Nurture

Medusa

Hair like snakes
Head like a lizard
Eyes like grey stones
Nose like a snake
Mouth like a human
Lips like a semi-circle
Voice like a young ghost shrieking
Teeth like mammoth's tusks
Breath like manure
Ears like rocks
Neck like a rope
Body like a lizard
Heart like a horse
Arms like hose pipes
Hands like a fish flippers
Legs like wire
Feet like rugs
Toes like sea shells

This term in Year 8 we have been learning about different poetic devices such as alliteration, onomatopoeia, simile and metaphor. Here is a wonderful poem, written by Orina E, which uses simile to paint a vivid image of a monster from Greek mythology!



Stem/Careers session with the REME

On Friday 11th February we had Corporal Daniel Cannon and his colleague from the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (REME) team, come in and work with forty Year 10 students, to deliver an interactive STEM activity involving a mini bloodhound car.

The Bloodhound Project enables the students to design, build, test and analyse their very own self-built air-powered rocket car. The team briefed the students about project management and let them work in small teams to develop their own project which resembles the Bloodhound Car, a car which broke the land speed record. It was a great project with lots of STEM engagement whilst having some science-based fun.



The session focussed on maths, problem solving, and resource allocation. Finally, the students tested the cars that they designed. Well done to all the students involved, there were some great examples of designs, creative engineering solutions and some very fast cars. Sometimes they went so fast there was little of the car left when it finally stopped!

Career opportunities and apprenticeships within REME were also mentioned as REME's role is to maintain, repair and manufacture equipment and to keep the Army's aircraft, tanks, vehicles and weapons in good working order.

McLaren Car and Engineer Visit

On Monday 17th January 2022 a selection of students from the Sixth Form and some from Dr Otto's Challenge+ group who are interested in engineering, headed down to Sherborne Abbey Primary for a visit by female McLaren engineers who also brought a McLaren car to show. It was great to look at the 765LT – especially as it was a prototype so really cutting edge! Apparently, it was worth £500,000 so we were very careful around it. Some students enjoyed the opportunity to sit in it to try it on for size.

The session involved a presentation from the McLaren engineers, Molly Naldrett and Ella Podmore, followed by going outside to use the car as a learning/focus opportunity for our students in terms of STEM awareness and career opportunities in this area of engineering.

Both Molly and Ella explained their own career paths and the opportunities that an interest in STEM and Engineering can open for students. They were also able to remind the students that the UK is at the cutting edge of global automotive innovation with many exciting and cutting-edge careers available which they talked about.

You can read more about this area of UK engineering excellent at www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-motorsport-industry-in-pole-position-for-f1s-70th-anniversary



Sixth Form

You can now follow The Gryphon Sixth Form on Instagram @gryphonsixthform



Looking to the future

At this stage in Year 12 we are encouraging students to consider the paths they want to follow when they get to the end of Year 13, and to support this we have partnered with Exeter University. In February they came in to talk to our students about what university is – not as straightforward as you might imagine, and how to go about applying, and the potential advantages to think through when considering your next steps. It was a really good way of starting to explore what those next steps are and what students should be considering.

After Easter we are going to be visiting a UCAS convention featuring universities from all over the country, so that students can start to find out about specific universities and courses that are of interest to them. For those students thinking of "Early entry" applications, such as medicine, veterinary science, dentistry and places at Oxford and Cambridge, we have been working closely with Sherborne Boys and Girls Schools, Leweston, and Gillingham, so that students can gain

access to the Thinkers Group. Students meet regularly and discuss important, controversial and interesting topics to help build up their analytical and evaluative skills. A benefit of the pandemic, means that we have been able to access more online lectures and online support sessions for students thinking about applying for higher education. Students on the Oxbridge Programme also attended two seminars from Downing College over the last fortnight and received an introduction to student life and how to narrow down their college choices when they are applying to Oxford or Cambridge later this year. Students participating in the HE+ programme will be attending their first face-to-face conference in April and will be able to meet with others from around Somerset. This is going to be an excellent opportunity for students who are the first in their families to attend university and develop some key skills such as teamwork, leadership, and critical thinking.



Having just sent off 131 university applications we are delighted that our superb sixth formers are already receiving some fantastic offers from around the country for a range of subjects. As part of this over the last couple of weeks four of our Year 13 students have been offered places at Oxford and Cambridge.

Lucy J to study Classics at Oxford, Josh S to study Philosophy, Politics and Economics at Oxford, Bella W to study Law at Oxford and Katie C to study History and Russian at Cambridge.

To receive these offers at such prestigious universities is a testament to their hard work and ability. We look forward to receiving more fantastic offers for our students over the next few months.

Extended Project Qualification

Our Year 13 students have just added their finishing touches to their Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) and delivered their presentations. Just under 30 students have submitted their projects, where students get to choose a topic that is of real interest to them, and they then complete extensive research on the topic and come to their own analysis and conclusion. Each student has a mentor as part of this process to discuss with them their idea and their progress during the project. This year we have had some fantastic projects ranging from "Does the caste system undermine democracy in India?", to "Will obesity make the NHS bankrupt?"

Students write a 5,000-word investigation into their chosen project, and then complete a presentation on their findings. It is a qualification which is well respected by universities because it helps build the skills that students need when they study at undergraduate level. This year we have had some fantastic pieces of work, and I am sure that they can look forward to some excellent marks.





INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENTS:

Congratulations to Lucy C and Neve M who have again been selected to represent Bath NPL. This is a fantastic achievement and takes lots of determination and drive to get selected. Both girls are regularly playing for the netball competition squad which is chosen on a week by week basis based on training performance. We are all very proud of both girls – definitely two talented performers to watch out for in the future. Lily Y continues to amaze us by representing Dorset in under 14's Football. She travelled to Kent for a match this year, dominating in defence and having a fabulous game! Elijah T is one of our Sixth Form rugby players who was selected to play for Dorset and Wilts under 18's this term. He had an amazing game at fly half helping his team to a fantastic win. Holly G and Hannah B have been working hard this year on their cross country running, which has been rewarded with top finishing spots at several competitions this year. Both girls ran amazing races in the Dorset Schools Cross country in Bournemouth, with both being selected for the Dorset Schools team. To top this off, both girls went on to be selected to represent Dorset at the English Schools Cross Country Championships in Kent. Unfortunately Holly could not attend this event, but Hannah had an amazing run, coming 19th out of 278 Year 12's and 13's. We are very proud of what they have achieved this year at a regional and national level and can't wait to see what the new cross-country year brings.

FOOTBALL:

As always, boys' football has been a popular club this year, with record numbers of boys training each week. This was no exception for our newest footballers in Year 7, who regularly have 50+ at training, showing us their skills and developing as a team. The boys have had lots of fixtures, with highlights being the annual Gillingham tournament for all years. We have been very impressed with all our football players and wish them luck in their final fixtures this year. The Sixth Form footballers enjoyed a double-header vs Huish School, always very competitive and very close fixtures. Unfortunately, on both occasions despite playing very well over long periods and taking the lead, Huish just about had the better of things and came away with victories. Notable excellent and influential

performances were seen from the likes of Toby E, Spencer C and Harry L, with Captain Freddie HP leading the way in terms of commitment to the cause. With more fixtures to come, things are looking promising. At the annual Gillingham 6-a-side tournament, hopes were high for the boys with two strong teams entered. Both battled hard and displayed some great one and two touch football. Unfortunately as ever with this tournament, chances not taken come back to haunt you and we ended with both teams falling at the group stage, the A Team agonisingly being knocked out on goal difference. A run of fixtures after half term presents a challenge that these boys should rightly look forward to, and with a talented squad the hope is they can be very successful.

GIRLS FOOTBALL:

As always girls' football has been another popular club. After missing out on competing the last couple of years due to Covid, they have played in a few national competitions, showing off their determination and resilience on the pitch. A few highlights have been our U13s who are in the county semi-finals and school games county finals, our U16s are into the county semi-finals, and a massive shout out to our U15s who made it to the last 16 in the country! Good luck to all the girls taking part in the county semi-finals.

NETBALL:

The Year 7 netball squad have played fantastically this term. There have been over 28 girls playing in fixtures regularly which is amazing. All the girls have shown great skill, determination and resilience in every game, resulting in them making it through to the finals. We wish all the girls good luck for their final netball games this year. The Year 8 netball squad have also been working hard this year, playing in lots of fixtures and trying out a variety of positions on the court. This has allowed them to demonstrate great versatility and appreciation for other players in the team. After lots of games and a mixture of results, we are waiting to hear if the girls have made it through to finals or not. We have our fingers and toes crossed for them! Year 9 Netballers have started the season brilliantly with 3 wins and 1 very narrow loss to a very good Westfield side. It has been great to see some new faces representing the

school and we wish them luck as they move on to the area finals in the later part of this half term. It has been amazing to see so many Year 10 girls wanting to play netball this year. With an ever-changing team, they have shown amazing resilience, teamwork and a few girls coming out as strong leaders. Highlights include competitive games with Westfield, Huish and championing the North Dorset tournament! The Year 11 netball team had their last finals of their time at Gryphon. The girls have missed 2 years of netball due to Covid, so wanted to come back this year and stamp their mark on the league. With a few players missing, the girls pulled together with the help of a few Year 10's and played their socks off. They played seven other schools, coming away with 2nd place after 5 wins, a draw and a loss. We are super proud of all our Year 11 netballers and look forward to seeing what their final Rounders season looks like. The Sixth Form Netball team have continued their winning ways and played their final few games of the season. All the girls have shown great leadership and commitment to play in fixtures as well as complete their studies. Our final game of the season was a friendly against Sherborne Girls School. It was a well contested game, with lots of versatility play and accurate shooting. If you are interested in playing netball outside of school, please head over to Yeovil Netball Club's website or Facebook page, where you can find out what's going on and how to join in. www.yeovilnetballclub.co.uk

YEAR 8 AND 10 DODGEBALL TOURNAMENT:

2 squads of Dodgeballers took part in a 4-school competition at Gillingham, with enjoyment and teamwork being the key goals. Both the Year 8 and Year 10 teams finished in second place, only marginally missing out on the top spot! The boys all worked incredibly well together, and it is fair to say they had a brilliant time and performed admirably!

GIRLS CRICKET:

Girls cricket has shown real promise coming into the indoor season. The U15's played a nail-biting game versus Gillingham ending in a super over and narrowly missing out and then heading to Parkstone for a triangular that really helped develop those skills! Shout out to the girls who were playing for the first time and smashed it. The U13's were victorious in their first game and will

one more coming up before we head out into the sun, good luck to them!

HANDBALL:

On Thursday 10th March we had the most epic day at Leaf Academy competing in the U13 and U15 girls and boys handball County tournament. Our U13 girls and boys came 2nd overall after only an hour of coaching afterschool. Our U15 boys battled through the heats but were unfortunate not to make the semi-finals and our U15 girls fought off all of their oppositions and won the whole competition. Our U13s and U15 girls have qualified for the Nationals in a couple of weeks. Bring on the next round!

GIRLS RUGBY:

Girls' rugby has gone from strength to strength this year and has attracted lots of new players. The girls have had several fixtures, building on the work they have been doing in training with Mr Burleigh and Mrs Switzer. They have had a mixed set of results, but we are excited to see where these girls go in the rugby world next year.

SPORTS LEADERS:

Our Level 2 Sports Leaders have been busy completing paperwork, learning new leadership skills and putting these into action at our Primary School and in-house tournaments. They are currently planning for our annual Sports Leader Festival where all students will lead for 30 minutes in a sport of their choice before officiating a tournament. Miss Williams, Miss Cross and Mr Burleigh have been super impressed with the leaders this year, especially with their commitment to the course.

BASKETBALL:

Basketball is another sport that has really taken off this year. There have been great numbers turning up to practice each week and several fixtures been played since the Christmas holiday. A highlight of the year so far has been a training day in Taunton, where our Year 9 boys impressed the team at Richard Huish College and were invited to weekly training sessions. We are already looking for more games ready for the 2022-23 season.

INSTAGRAM:

To keep up to date with all Gryphon PE news, please follow us on Instagram: [@gryphonschsport](https://www.instagram.com/gryphonschsport)