

Sports News

2023-2024



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Term: Winter

Another year of sporting success, student involvement and new opportunities.

District Badminton Champions



It was with great pleasure that we took four teams to the first district round of the National Schools Badminton Championship held at Cambourne Village College on Friday 17 November. There were some excellent players present, many of whom were already representing their counties outside of school. All our students had some excellent matches and really enjoyed the experience. With such a fantastic display evident, it was with great pride that both our KS3 and KS4 girls' teams won their events and will now



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go through to represent Cambridgeshire in the next round in 2024. Our girls are very excited by this and are now keen to practise further in preparation for this event.

Best of luck girls!

Success for Girls Teams

Our girls' football teams have had an excellent run in the ESFA Schools football competition. We only enter teams into this tournament after success in the previous year, so it is exciting to see how well our students can do in this national football competition.



First Round

Under 15s

Soham's U15 girls started the English Schools FA Cup in style with a 3-0 win over Chesterton. This was a hard-fought game with the score slightly flattering Soham Village College. However, the difference was that Soham's U15s made their chances count. Evie continued her goal scoring from last season with the opening goal in the first half. Then there was a mesmerising run from Soham's captain Scarlett from her central defensive position, dribbling past several Chesterton players before shooting and scoring to make it 2-0. This all but sealed the result. Chesterton had chances, but they couldn't breach Soham's defence and, with the arrival of Molly, it was soon 3-0 when she converted a cross with a delightful header.

Under 14s

Our U14 girls started their English Schools FA Cup with a hard-fought win against a very physical side from Stephen Perse. Soham controlled parts of the game and went 1-0 up early in the second half, but Stephen Perse replied almost

immediately. Soham then took control of the game and it was soon 2-1, but as the first half drew to a close Soham could not hold on to the lead and the first half ended all square at 2-2. Soham started the second half well and again took the lead, but Stephen Perse continued to be a threat. Then, a great run in behind gave Niamh a shot on target. After rounding one defender, and from an acute angle, Niamh slotted the ball home to make it 4-2. This looked to have sealed the result, but again Stephen Perse had other ideas and, with a long ball to the right, their player controlled the ball and lofted it over Soham's GK to nestle in the back of the net. This made it a shaky last eight minutes, but Soham held on.

Second Round

Under 16s

The U16s had their first game together as a team against Swavesey at home and it was a very nervy start, with Swavesey starting the much brighter side and going in at half time 2-0 up. However, in the second half, Soham's U16s started to play much better and Isla put through to Evie to pull it back to 2-1. Soham showed their resilience and soon started to play to their full potential. It wasn't long before Isla found the net to make it 2-2, and soon after found the net again to make it 3-2. Although this wasn't a convincing win, it showed the U16s have the potential to come from behind and grind out a result.

Under 15s

The U15s went away to Northgate Academy near Ipswich in the ESFA second round. Northgate were the Suffolk County Cup holders and so this was going to be a test for our U15 District Cup holders. The first half was a very tight affair, with neither team dominating play or making many chances. However, just before half time, Izzy managed to find a way through for Soham to go 1-0 up.

The second half became far more open, with Northgate looking for the equaliser. However, this gave Evie the chance to latch onto a cross in a crowded penalty box, giving her a shot on goal. She buried this in the right-hand corner. Northgate then pulled one back almost immediately and came close to equalising with a well taken freekick. This was defended by Soham's captain (Scarlett), who managed to clear the ball off the line, beating the goalkeeper. Soham then started to dominate play and substitute Molly netted another goal to make it 3-1. It then became one-way traffic with Evie getting a fourth and Molly getting a fifth to win the game 5-1.

Under 14s

The U14 team travelled away to Thomas Gainsborough in Sudbury, Suffolk. This was a very one-sided affair with the U14s dominating play and we netting two goals in the first half. Soham continued to dominate in the second half and again netted a hat trick. Thomas Gainsborough managed to pull back a consolation goal, but the

game was pretty much over at 5-1 and could easily have been close to double figures.

Third Round

Under 14s

The U14s travelled to Spalding on 19 October for their third-round fixture. Soham were slow to get going and, against a very good team, this did not bode well. Soham just couldn't put together their usual flowing football. Soham's long-range shot did hit the cross bar, but we found ourselves going in at half time 2-0 down. A spirited second half saw us play much better and we did manage to pull a goal back, but it was all too late. Soham U14s can be proud of the way they played and will be back next year to try and progress further.

Under 16s

The U16s were convincingly beaten by a very good Debenham team on 9 November at home. It didn't help that Soham were missing some key players. The first half was very one-sided and Debenham managed to score five goals before the end of the half. Soham's second half was much better and they only conceded one goal, with Soham's Eloise pulling one back to make it 6-1. However, that's the end of the road for the U16s.

Under 15s

The U15s played their third round draw against Farlingaye on 14 November. This was a completely different story to the U14s and U16s, with Soham U15s dominating from the start. Unfortunately, Soham's leading scorer (Evie) was unavailable, so Soham relied on Molly and Zoe to lead the line. Neither players disappointed and both grabbed a goal. Although Farlingaye had some good players, they just couldn't breach the Soham defence and, with Scarlett back from injury, there was just no way through for the Farlingaye attack. Soham added two more goals to make it 4-0 at the break, with Scarlett bundling in a goal line scuffle and a terrific run and strike from Maddie which found the top right corner.

The second half was equally one sided and Isla, who had just come off the bench, added a fifth almost immediately. Molly grabbed the sixth and her second of the match to become Soham's leading scorer in the U15s.

Fourth Round

Our U15 boys managed to progress through to the fourth round where they unfortunately lost 4-3 to Hinchbrooke. A late goal and strong penalty shout went against us late on after a very strong second half. The goal scorers were Bobby and Max.

RUGBY SEASON

We've had an excellent start to our rugby season, with lots of local competitions and house competitions too.



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Ruby Riding to Success

Ruby (Year 11) has done incredibly well in her riding.

At the beginning of the year she competed two ponies at different levels and abilities under Pony Club, British Show Jumping & NSEA rules. After Manor Pearl (the unicorn pony) was sold, she has had to focus on her youngster (Mochulla Timmy). Ruby has had lots of lows with him but she has finally managed to turn things around. Before the summer, they competed at Norfolk Showground and qualified for 'Just for Schools' at Stoneleigh (representing Soham Village College). In August they came sixth at the National Championship out of more than 170 riders.



Recently she competed under NSEA at Forest Edge Arena and came third in her class, which qualified her to ride at NSEA National County Championships at Hickstead in May.

We wish Ruby the best of luck in the County Championship. Ruby follows a long tradition of Soham Village College riders.



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School Cross Country Records Broken

Congratulations to a Year 9 student for breaking the cross-country record, recording a time of 8:34. An honourable mention to the runner up who was awarded second place, who also beat the winning time of 8:41 set last year.

Our best runners also went forward to represent Soham Village College at the district cross country championships. It was a cold day but our students worked incredibly hard, with four students qualifying to represent Cambridge in the next round.



Running Award

Congratulations to one of our Year 10 students who recently received the award for most improved junior male runner at Ely Runners Club.

He joins a long list of successful runners who have received the award previously. We wish him the best of luck for the future, particularly with the athletics season coming up next year.



Scarlet Tie

We always welcome students who wish to share their successes, even if they do not always result in the reward of a scarlet tie. Soham Village College takes great pride in celebrating our students' achievements. A tie award is the mark of an ambassador for the school. It is a whole school reward, which is linked to a high level of achievement in your chosen field, whether that is music, drama, art or sport. It also considers their contribution to the College, the students' behaviour and uniform. A scarlet tie can be awarded in Years 10 and 11. However in Years 7, 8 and 9 we also offer a scarlet badge in recognition of a high level of sporting achievement.

For more information please see the school website or speak to Mr Clark in the PE Office.

Want to share your story? Contact us...

We would welcome any news, stories and pictures that can be used to celebrate the sporting success of our students

Mr Adam Clark - Director of PE

headofpe@soham-college.org.uk

Mr Richard Banister – Head of Key Stage 4 PE (Year 10 and 11)

rbanister@soham-college.org.uk

Mr Adam Kendall – Head of Key Stage 3 PE (Year 7, 8 and 9)

akendall@soham-college.org.uk