



Pitsford School

THE PITSFORD POST

4th October 2019

Welcome

Hello Pitsford Parents and welcome to the last two weeks of this half-term. What busy, busy, busy bees we have all been these last few weeks. The two stand-out parts of our calendar were the 30th Anniversary Ball and the Open Day. The Ball was a roaring success: the Sports Hall was transformed into an ideal wedding reception venue or set for The Bachelor, there was an exquisite meal, the auctioneer (former rugby professional George Chuter) taught me what it was to be a charismatic and fun public speaker and plenty of money was raised for our Chapel refurbishment (almost half of what is needed!). At the end, as I stood at the edge of the dance floor (hoping someone would ask me to dance), I saw shapes being thrown which would not be out of place in the hot nite spots of Nice or Biarritz - you bunch of cool cats and kittens. Everyone I spoke to at the evening, or since, could not praise it enough and although I have claimed it was all my work, it really was our magnificent Parents' Association (Mrs Bennett, Burditt, Hartshorne, Haynes, Humphrey, Suter, and Wilton). Bravo and literally encore! The Open Day was also a smash and I must also stress the extraordinary job the PA did there (ably assisted by Mrs Pease McCauley and Williams) working the room, charming visiting families, answering questions. The students were green, lush and beautiful, the grounds were energetic and committed and the teachers bright as buttons (rearrange as appropriate). It was our biggest Open Day for years and we were all delighted, and I am pleased as Mr Punch to report to you how every prospective parent told me how charmed they were by the children who, I never tire of saying, are the school; the buildings are just a pretty shell. Long may that continue and I know what positive advocates of the school you parents are - thank you for your support and your homework for half-term will be to bring in three families each! Enjoy the weekend and speak to you soon!

Dr Walker

Pitsford School

Pitsford Hall

Moulton Lane

Northampton NN6 9AX

Telephone: 01604 880306

Email: office@pitsfordschool.com

www.pitsfordschool.com

Would you like to come and join the team at Pitsford School?

We are looking for a part-time mini bus driver to join our busy school! If you would like to find out more information about the role please contact Mrs Sherlock, the Bursar, on SSherlock@pitsfordschool.com or ring 01604 880306

Job Title: Mini Bus Driver

Salary: £8.21 per hour



Pitsford School

THE PPA PRESENT

Bonfire Night

SUNDAY 3rd NOVEMBER 2019 FROM 5.30pm

DRINKS

HOT DOGS

BURGERS

SPARKLERS

GLOWSTICKS

TUCKSHOP

PLEASE CONFIRM YOUR ATTENDANCE TO:

PPA@PITSFORDSCHOOL.COM

Pitsford School, Pitsford, Northamptonshire NN6 9AX

Kits and Squirrels Autumnal Walk



Kits and Squirrels enjoyed an Autumn maths walk around our fabulous grounds.



J3 Roman Bread Making

As part of their Roman topic, J3 welcomed the opportunity to bake Roman Bread. They had fun mixing the ingredients and then shaping their bread into rolls and plaits.





We have been so busy over the last few weeks that we have made a Junior School Collage for you to enjoy.

Pitsford School 30th Anniversary Ball



Welcome drinks on the lawn ...



*The dance floor was heating
—and great fun!*



*The tables looked
beautiful*



*Heads and Tails to win a diamond
pendant*



2019 RUGBY CAMPS

OCTOBER HALF TERM

FRANKLINS GARDENS

29th-31st October

3-DAY CAMP

£95

Includes visit from Saints players, Saints t-shirt,
Water bottle, Drawstring bag and camp passport

Contact 01604 599162 or

Community@northhamptonsaints.co.uk to book
SIBLING AND GROUP DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE

AGES 6 – 16, BOOK NOW AT
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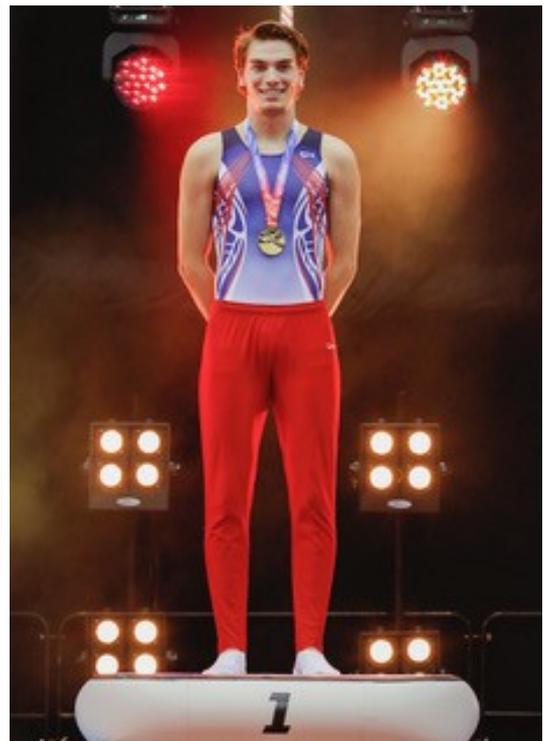


Gold for Ross Tait!

Former pupil Ross Tait joined Pitsford School in 2008 in Year 4 and carried all the way the Senior School until he left in 2016 to pursue his dream of full time trampoline gymnastics at Northampton Trampoline Gymnastics Club (<https://www.ntga.co.uk/>).

The British Championships 2019 is the pinnacle domestic competition for trampoline gymnastics. It took place at The Arena, Birmingham from 28-29th September with the country's very best competing for the coveted crowns.

Leading by example as the most experienced member, nineteen-year-old Ross produced a career best performance to become British Champion in the 17-21 Male category. Having joined NTGA at six-years-old Ross registered an impressive qualification round placing him 2nd and he managed to improve on his performance in the final to win the gold medal with a total of 156.275. Well done Ross, what a superb achievement!



Favours Half Term Holiday Club

FAVOURS HOLIDAY CLUB

OCTOBER HALF TERM

Contact: holidayclub@favoursdaynursery.co.uk



Dates	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1 28th OCT - 1st NOV	DIWALI Clay Lanterns Rangoli Decorations Coloured Rice Patterns Vegetarian Snacks	HALLOWEEN Mask Making Balloon Lanterns Broomstick Decs	AUTUMN Pumpkin Decorating & Carving Shortbread Shapes Leaf Printing	HALLOWEEN FANCY DRESS Facepainting Gory Gloop Party Games FILM - PM	BONFIRE NIGHT Bonfire Biscuits Decorations Artwork Toasted Marshmallows

Please note that involvement in the above planned activities are entirely through the child's choice and is NOT compulsory.

AVAILABLE EVERY DAY:

Board games, books, hama beads, loom bands, art & crafts, baking, football, ball games
Outdoor activities are always available as we make use of Pitsford Schools beautiful grounds

Please DON'T FORGET your water bottles and packed lunch
AM and PM snacks will be provided by us.



J5 Trip to Rockingham Castle by Lucas

On 23rd September, my class went on a school trip to Rockingham Castle because my topic is about the Middle Ages.

Firstly, we took a look at the brickwork of the outside wall. Some parts of the wall were herringbone brickwork. Herringbone brickwork is when the bricks are on their sides.



Secondly, we admired the portcullis. Just next to the portcullis, were three holes in the roof which our tour guide, Mrs Healey, told us were used for pouring hot oil to stun their enemies.

Next, we went inside the castle and looked at the servants' quarters and a small model of medieval Rockingham.



After that, we walked along a cobbled path and stood at the front of the laundry building. The laundry lady never got much sleep because she had to keep a big fire going twenty-four seven to keep all the clothes dry. We saw a flanker tower which is where the soldiers took look out. This was also part of the bailey.

Then, we entered the Great Hall. There were stags' heads on the wall, and at least a dozen portraits. We put on helmets like we were ready for war. These helmets were made when the English civil war was happening.

Afterwards, we went into the kitchen and looked at the Norman pretend food which was on the table. Just before we left, Bradley hit the gong and made everyone jump.

Last but not least, we drew sketches of the front gate and I thought mine was decent.

I really enjoyed the day and I learnt a lot about history.



Of all the paths you travel, let some of them be dirt...



This trip is a bit of a favourite but the weather was not promising to be kind when we set off to our first port of call, Huntstanton. A break in the weather allowed us to get down on the beach and do some quality rock jumping on the rather unusual beach platform. We learned how the coastal defences are being used to protect Hunstanton from further erosion and then had obligatory ice-creams in the rain!

Luckily when we got to Burnham-Overy-Staithe the cloud lifted a little and we made our way along the wall that divides farmland from the salt marshes. We could understand how plant succession occurs in this environment and then later looked at dune succession. The dunes on this beach are exceptionally large and inviting to any self respecting Year 9 pupil and we couldn't resist finishing our trip with vigorous dune rolling and running!



Music Department Update from Mrs Gant

We are very proud that the Music Department has been nominated to be a 'Music Mark Member' by the Northamptonshire Music and Performing Arts Trust for the second year running. This is in recognition of our commitment to providing a high quality music education for all children and young people.

The first two lunchtime concerts of the year have included performances by GCSE and A-Level musicians. Beth P (cello), Matt W (alto sax) and Alexandra S (voice) kicked off the first concert of the year. Beth was joined by Year 11 musician Sam P (guitar) for a rendition of Never Enough from the Greatest Showman. Matt filled Pitsford Hall with Argentinian sounds with his performance of Kershaw's Tango 'Til You Drop. Alex provided the finale, singing Pulled from the Adams Family musical with great aplomb.

All of our music ensembles have begun rehearsing and we are very pleased with the increase in membership, particularly for Jazz Combo and Senior Choir. If any new pupils would like to join a music ensemble, please speak to Mrs Gant.

The Autumn Concert will take place on **Thursday 14th November** in the Chapel and will feature Senior School soloists.

Letters to performers will be sent out before half term. Tickets are free of charge.

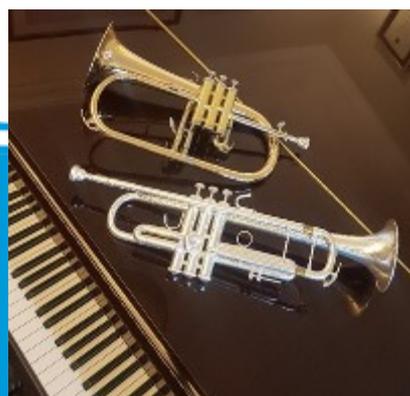
Date and venue change: The Christmas Concert, previously advertised as being on Thursday 12th December, has now moved to Friday 6th December, 7pm, in the Junior School Hall. This concert will feature the majority of the department's music ensembles, the debut performance from the Year 7 classroom choir as well as selected soloists. Tickets are free of charge and letters will be going home to all pupils involved the week after we return from half term.

The Senior School musical, Little Shop of Horrors, has been cast and rehearsals are now underway. Performances will be taking place in February and tickets will be on sale from December onwards. It promises to be a very exciting show!

Jake Hits The High Notes!

After a strong performance in summer auditions, Jake (Year 10) has been appointed as the Solo Flugel Horn player in Northamptonshire County's top flight Youth Brass Band (CYBB), under the direction of Brad Turnbull. Jake also continues his success on the trumpet, having been promoted to the County Training Wind Orchestra. Alongside this, Jake continues to play for the current National Youth Champion Brass Band, Youth Brass 2000, under the baton of Chris Jeans and Cathy Fountain. This year has already seen performances in Warwick and Preston Guildhall, not to mention a fabulous week long concert tour of Tuscany, along with a number of concerts closer to home including Market Harborough, Corby Cube and The Derngate. It promises to be a busy year ahead with 5 concerts and the Brass in Concert event in Gateshead all taking place before Christmas with 2020 dates already filling up. Jake has also been accepted to attend a series of brass workshops in the coming year at The Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester. Well done Jake!

[On stage, giving the winning performance with Youth Brass 2000 at the National Championship Finals - March 19]



Year 7 Sleepover

Only three weeks into the new term but we have been busy and it has been wonderful to welcome a cheerful, talented and adventurous new cohort into Year 7. Many have joined us from our own dear Junior School but even more from schools all over the county and neighbouring Leicestershire. Making friends and making memories is the Pitsford way and what better way to do this than with some quality bonding over a campfire followed by a 'sleepover' in the grounds of Pitsford Hall! A beautiful September evening made it even more special and we followed this with a 'team breakfast in the coffee-shop and a trip to Stanwick Lakes the next day.





OCTOBER HALF TERM SPORTS CLUBS

28TH OCTOBER - 1ST NOVEMBER

93% OF CUSTOMERS ON OUR SUMMER HOLIDAY CLUBS RATED THE COACHES AS VERY GOOD OR EXCELLENT



HOLIDAY SPORTS CLUBS

OPEN TO ALL YEAR 7 & PRIMARY SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN

88% OF CUSTOMERS ON OUR SUMMER HOLIDAY CLUBS RATED THE CLUBS & VENUES AS VERY GOOD OR EXCELLENT

ABINGTON PDC	REDWELL PRIMARY SCHOOL	<p>GET PREPARED EARLY AND BOOK ONTO OUR CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY CLUBS 23RD DECEMBER DETAILS OVERLEAF</p>
<p>MONDAY - FRIDAY</p> <p>Multisports or Dance & Gymnastics</p> <p>8.15am - 5pm</p> <p>Northampton, NN1 5JS</p>	<p>MONDAY - FRIDAY</p> <p>Multisports or Dance & Gymnastics</p> <p>8.15am - 4pm</p> <p>Wellingborough, NN8 5LQ</p>	
MONTSAYE COMMUNITY SPORTS CENTRE	SILVERSTONE PRIMARY SCHOOL	GUILSBOROUGH PRIMARY SCHOOL
<p>MONDAY - FRIDAY</p> <p>Multisports</p> <p>8.30am - 5pm</p> <p>Rothwell, NN14 6BB</p>	<p>MONDAY - WEDNESDAY</p> <p>Multisports & Gymnastics</p> <p>8.15am - 4pm</p> <p>Silverstone, NN2 6UB</p>	<p>MONDAY - WEDNESDAY</p> <p>Multisports & Gymnastics</p> <p>8.15am - 4pm</p> <p>Guilsborough, NN6 9BG</p>

BOOK NOW AT: WWW.PACESETTERONLINE.CO.UK/OCT2019

9.15 - 9.30 AM	EARLY DROP OFF	£4.50	
9.30 - 10.00 AM	REGISTRATION	£13	£21.50 FULL DAY (9.00 - 10.00)
10.00 - 10.30 AM	SPORTING ACTIVITIES	(9.00 - 10.30)	
10.30 - 11.00 AM	LUNCH		£28 EXTENDED DAY (8.15 - 17.00)
11.00 - 11.30 AM	SPORTING ACTIVITIES	£13	
11.30 - 12.00 PM	BACK UP & PICK UP	(12.45 - 13.00)	
12.00 - 12.30 PM	CHILL OUT & LATE PICK UP*	£4.50	

* Not available at all venues - see listings on the other side

GET PREPARED EARLY BOOK ONTO OUR CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY CLUBS

23RD DECEMBER

ABINGTON PDC	REDWELL PRIMARY SCHOOL	MONTSAYE COMMUNITY SPORTS CENTRE	SILVERSTONE PRIMARY SCHOOL
<p>Multisports or Dance & Gymnastics</p> <p>8.15am - 5pm</p> <p>Northampton, NN1 5JS</p>	<p>Multisports or Dance & Gymnastics</p> <p>8.15am - 4pm</p> <p>Wellingborough, NN8 5LQ</p>	<p>Multisports</p> <p>8.30am - 5pm</p> <p>Rothwell, NN14 6BB</p>	<p>Multisports & Gymnastics</p> <p>8.15am - 4pm</p> <p>Silverstone, NN2 6UB</p>

Eco Club Update by Mrs Whiting and Mrs Walker

Please continue to support the Air Ambulance by donating any unwanted clothes, shoes, coats and placing them in the Air Ambulance bin on the main drive. Also any old pens can now be recycled, please give them to someone who attends school or pass them to reception to be forwarded to Mrs Whiting.

Batteries— it is really bad to throw batteries away - they are stuffed full of acid, lead, nickel, lithium, cadmium, alkaline, mercury and nickel metal hydride. If batteries are not disposed of in the correct manner they can leak toxic chemicals into the surrounding environment so please send any batteries in from home for our Eco Club and Mrs Whiting to dispose of safely.

Open Day gave the children another opportunity to promote our Eco message. Using recycled plastic bags, children from years 3-5 created sea creatures - the display giving the message of the effect of plastic upon our oceans. Thanks to J4 for making the plants and corals prior to Open Day. #LifelifegreenertomakeEarthcleaner





Guitar For Sale!

1 x quarter size acoustic guitar (77cm long) in good condition and includes some spare strings and a light-weight carry case with straps for carrying on your back. £15.

Please contact the office or Miss Grose if you would like more information.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

At the Macmillan coffee morning, the Eco-Committee took the opportunity to promote awareness of our Eco programme. The children had made flyers which they used to talk to people attending the coffee morning and raised a wonderful £275.93—well done to everyone involved!



Another welcome chance to say Live life cleaner to make Earth Greener.

Pilates at Pitsford School

All very welcome to attend this brand new
Body Control Pilates class with BCP teacher Lola Adekanmbi.

“Whether you’re looking to tone, strengthen and stretch your body, or relax and focus the mind – one Pilates class per week can make a huge difference. The class is there for you, so do come and try it out. ”

Wednesdays: 8.30-9.30am Junior School Hall
£8.50 per class, as per t&c’s

e-mail: natalie@pilatesbynatalie.co.uk
web : pilatesbynatalie.co.uk



BODY CONTROL
PILATES®

PPA Christmas Shopping Fayre

Calling all parents with businesses that would be interested in having a stall at the PPA Christmas shopping event in the Sports Hall on Friday 22nd November from 4pm–8pm. The cost is £20 per stall.

After the huge success of the first shopping night last year, the PPA have decided to hold the event again this year. If you have a business or know someone that might be interested please email the PPA on ppa@pitsfordschool.com.





Pitsford School

The PPA proudly present the

Christmas Shopping Evening

Friday 22nd November 4pm–8pm at
Pitsford School Sports Hall, NN6 9AD

Entrance by donation* and includes a mince pie
and a glass of prosecco or a hot drink

*all donations support the work of Pitsford School PPA

-Fabulous stalls to buy all of your Christmas gifts -

U12 v Bishop Stopford (Away) words by Mr Kefford

Wednesday 25th September

The U12's had their first away match against Bishop Stopford School, Kettering. The boys travelled in high spirits but started very slowly like last week. We played four quarters made up of ten minutes. The boys were blown away in the first quarter, 2 tries down and a lot of ball watching, I think they were still on the bus! The second quarter saw a few of the boys wake up. Led by captain Iolo R, and pack leader Ted R, who personally ended up with a brace of tries on the day! In the 3rd quarter the boys started to dominate the collisions and put some points on the board.

Pitsford saw Adriel B, Nathan A and Oliver S also cross the line in the third and fourth quarters giving Pitsford a 25-15 away win! An enjoyable and successful afternoon.

Final Score: 15-25 Win

Man of the match and most improved- George H

Year 8 v Oundle School B XV

Wednesday 25th September 2019

The team, buoyed by last week's performance travelled with optimism to Oundle to take on their second string.

The team started with a real energy and immediately Zak A got away for a charging run down the wing. After Oundle defended it well, Pitsford were awarded a penalty for an infringement and Captain Ben O led from the front to crash over the line giving Pitsford a 5-0 lead.

From the restart, Pitsford battled hard again with both sides evenly matched but the defensive pressure was getting the better of the attacks. Until a moment of individual brilliance from Joshua C saw him break from over 40 metres out beating several would-be defenders with an aggressive yet agile run to cross the whitewash for a 0-10 lead.

Oundle immediately battled back and scored to half the deficit as their side, despite trailing in the score, were growing in confidence now putting together several progressive bits of play and increasing the quality of their tackling. 5-10.

Pitsford found themselves in some good territory and the team now making a concerted effort to improve their play with real ambition to recycle and spread the ball. It gave Amaël C, who needed little invitation, a chance to accelerate around the defence and power over in the corner 5-15.

Several Pitsford players were now putting in moments of individual brilliance with strong tackles and charging runs all over the pitch. Oundle again upped the pressure and relentlessly attacked the Pitsford try line as the half drew to a close. The Pitsford side defended their line at this point as though the game depended on it, determined not to let the opposition in. The resolute approach from the entire team eventually saw Oundle spill the ball on what looked like it a certain try for them just 5 metres from the Pitsford line. Unfortunately for Oundle it spilled into the hands of Lewis R's and he raced away some 95 metres up field to touch down against the run of play for a 5-20 half time lead.

Oundle started the half brightly and put the Pitsford team under even more pressure this time to successfully scoring to make it 10-20. It was a well worked try for them down the right hand side with for the first time some weak tackling coupled with some impressive running with the ball from Oundle.

The tension in the game really started to rise with both sides visibly growing in confidence but also the pressure that applied growing as well.

As the restart was sent up Monty C expertly gathered the ball and broke up field—with a very stern tackle being the only way to stop him. Soon the Pitsford passing and much some better rucking allowed Joshua C to almost carbon copy his first half try and again raced home from some 40 metres out: another very difficult finish produced from him. 10-25.

Not to be outdone it was Oundle's turn this time with a clean break and racing up field for what looked a certain try, but no.... Lennon S—who had been nothing short of magnificent all afternoon—had other ideas and chased with no sign of surrender all the way to the try line for a try saving tackle. Moments like these continued to spark the team with the team spirit erupting in the performance.

Eventually, continued Oundle pressure saw them score again for 15-25 scoreline and still time in the game. This try was followed by another in quick succession with some changes disorganising the team momentarily and a spirited Oundle capitalising on this, setting up a nail biting finish 20-25.

The pressure was now all too much for those of us spectating from the side, as the restart was struck the referee called "one minute to play". The atmosphere could be cut with a knife. The ball was sent up high and long from the kick off and seemed to soar through the air for what seemed an eternity, on descent it was spilled by Pitsford with Oundle pouncing on the bouncing ball and advancing towards the Pitsford line. A desperate and fraught Pitsford side now threw everything into stopping the opposition gaining a draw—this team wanted to win!

Their efforts, though all too frantic, infringing at the breakdown gave Oundle a penalty just meters out from the Pitsford line. The team lined up, a confident Oundle moved the ball into the advancing hands of their strongest runner, it looked a certain score until... out of nowhere Ethan M appeared looking larger than Courtney Lawes himself and in true Courtney style cut the oncoming attacker in half with a monstrous tackle! The side were both shocked and amazed by such a huge hit from Ethan and this moment has been etched into the entire team's memories for sure. The spilled ball was pressured and as the final whistle rang through everyone's ears, the side were clearly jubilant, a great game came to conclusion and the team took home many important lessons.

Austen Healey was in the tea hall, who the team could only presume had been booked to commentate on what turned out to be an epic and titanic clash.

Final Score 20-25 Win

Man of the match: Joshua C

U15 v Wellingborough (away)

Thursday 26th September

The Under 15s, after being too strong for the Wellingborough B team last year, had made the step up to compete against their 1st XV this season. The step unfortunately proved to be a step too far for the current squad. Nevertheless, the teams spirit wasn't broken and they continued to work tirelessly for the duration of the game. There were several scoring opportunities for the side but unfortunately errors saw them squandered as they failed to capitalise on the good field positions. This is a timely reminder that much more work is needed on the training paddock.

The side will also need to work on their defence with Wellingborough able to move the ball around them and, frustratingly, in a repeatedly similar fashion .

Pitsford did manage to work a period of parity with Wellingborough removing their strongest two players and start to thrive in the game, with Praveen V and Oliver T making progressive and dangerous breaks. This was short lived though with Wellingborough returning the top two and their impact immediately apparent.

A steep learning curve for the team and one I hope they positively react to strive to further improve.

Final Score: 57-0

Man of the Match: Monte M

Pitsford 1st XV v Bloxham 3rd XV (Away)

Tuesday 1st October

After a tough week on the training paddock the team were eager to get into the much anticipated Bloxham fixture. The two sides always seem to match up well and the bouts have produced some absolute corkers in recent years. This was to be no different.

Like the weather forecast, it didn't look too positive for Pitsford with some last minute squad changes and re-shuffling.

After an extremely short warm up the side jumped into action with some excellent tackling. Soon they were on the attack as Vlad C made an incisive carry forward into the Bloxham defence, Josh N then followed this up by stepping away from would be tacklers, one of several strong runs from the full back. The ball was recycled and fed to Tyler S who broke upfield. Alex R was on hand in support and a great passage of play was completed with Alex under the posts and it was duly converted by Olly W (who is yet to miss for the school this year).

It was 7-0 Pitsford. Then the heavens opened with biblical style rain streaming from the skies. Dressed as I was, in shorts and a light top, I provided clear evidence to the team as to why wearing the correct kit is important! This rain didn't let up and strangely enough it didn't dampen the game, it somewhat enhanced it.

Bloxham were now keen to bite back and so upped their game, with some big tackles coming in. Both sides, despite the weather, played an expansive style of Rugby. There were a few knock on's but the changes of possession just enhanced the excitement of the game. Bloxham now broke away and scored to make it 7-7. Undaunted, Pitsford fired straight back with some excellent team play and the again dangerous Alex R was on hand to cross for his second. Olly W again converting taking the score to 14-7.

Just before the stroke of half time Bloxham were camped in the Pitsford 22. Pitsford valiantly tried to repel the waves of Bloxham attacks whilst the rain hammered down in the defenders faces. Finally Bloxham caught a break as a tackle was slipped. It would have been a certain try if it hadn't been for Ben V, who appeared from out of nowhere, to deny the would be Bloxham scorer.

Pitsford tried to break but Bloxham would just return again, now applying relentless pressure to the Pitsford line at every opportunity. Eventually the strong pressure broke the defence and Bloxham dived over to take the score to 14-14 at half time.

The half time talk was about more of the same. The level of play and commitment in such conditions was remarkable and this game was clearly going to be about the desire to bring it home. The second half saw a complete team effort with hit after hit flying in and several breaks from the team, but both sides seemed to just repel the attacks back from the danger point each time. With both teams so evenly matched the result could've rolled either way.

Both sides could be commended for creating a great rugby spectacle. The game in the end was split by a great cross field kick, unstoppable as the Bloxham attack put it over the top and as the player slid through the now waterlogged grass his slide took him the 5 or more metres he needed to cross the Pitsford line. It was a well taken score and befitting of winning the match.

We could ask no more from the Pitsford players who, in atrocious conditions, were simply marvellous.

Final Score: Bloxham 19- Pitsford 14

Man of the Match: Olly W.

Year 7 v Bloxham

Thursday 3rd October

The U12's next game was against Bloxham. The boys started the game with a lot of confidence, scoring early and showing signs of continued improvement. Bloxham however had some big strong boys who started to dominate the collisions and contact area, and soon the score line favoured them. Led by James, lolo and Ted we soon found ourselves in an arm wrestler for possession and territory. The score swung back and forth, with some great individual efforts from Adriel, Oliver, Ted and lolo. In the end the boys just did enough. Winning 30-25.

Final Score: 30-25

Man of the match- Oliver S- who showed some great footwork throughout

Year 8 v Bloxham (Home)

Thursday 3rd October 2019

Year 8 were flying high from last week's win and with a great training session under their belt were enthusiastically looking forward to turning around what was a heavy defeat in the corresponding fixture with Bloxham last year.

The game kicked off with Pitsford immediately on the attack and the efforts of training clearly visible with the team consciously trying to move the ball down the line in attack. There was a clear and marked improvement in their approach but the opposition pressured their efforts well and Pitsford failed to go forward with the ball.

Bloxham in contrast, and with some very strong individual players, at the first opportunity moved the ball well and their strong runners managed to execute moving the ball forward as the Pitsford team hadn't managed previously. This allowed them to run in two tries in fairly quick succession.

Pitsford were tackling well and forcing good play from Bloxham which to their credit they rose to. The game slipped a little further from them, now five tries down. Pitsford, showing some strong character, put together some excellent phases of play demonstrating strong rucking skills. This took them up to the Bloxham line where they finished the half, attacking fiercely. A little too excited at the sight of the line they made some mistakes just 5 metres out and failed to convert their pressure.

Pitsford again rallied in the second half and their spirit was visible in their approach with the tackling strong, even overly strong on occasion, as adjudged by a very officious referee. Several breaks took Pitsford inches from the Bloxham line and a score for the side would've been just dessert for what was an amazing effort—alas it wasn't to be. Pitsford again finished the second half determinedly attacking the Bloxham line just short of crossing.

Bloxham were more than worthy winners but the performance from Pitsford showed improvement and good steps in the right direction. On to Loughborough next week.

Final Score: 0-45,

Man of the Match: Angus M (an excellent game in both defence and attack)

Netball Round Up

In what has been a full calendar of fixtures and tournaments here are some of the match reports from the girls..

U12's Netball

19th September

Opposition: Moulton

On the 19th September, we visited Moulton School for a netball match. Pitsford had the first centre. Pitsford had the upper hand in the first half with a few mishaps with footwork. Moulton were persistent. In the second half, with some changes to the team, Moulton came fighting back. In this half, they scored four times. Both teams had some trouble with space and marking. Pitsford lost 5-6 but for their first match of the year, it was an incredible start.

Man of the Match: Tinzy R

U14s Netball

19th September

Opposition: Welland Park

2 weeks ago we played our 1st match of the season against Welland Park, although a bit rusty we played well as a team. At half time we led 12-6, we allowed them to score 3 times in the final quarter. The final score was 13-9 to us and we have lots to work on this season. Goals scored by Libby and Cara.

The player of the match was Connal S.

U15s Netball

19th September

Opposition: Welland Park

On 19th September, the U15 girls played their first netball match of the year against Welland Park. The girls played very well and the addition of 3 new players on the team meant that they were all given the opportunity to play in different positions if they wanted to. Most of the girls played at least one quarter and those who didn't were cheering them on from the side lines. It was a very fast paced match and by half time Pitsford were winning 4 -2. They managed to keep this lead and stopped Welland from scoring any points in the second half. The final score was 6- 2 to Pitsford.

The player of the match was Adele C

U14's Netball

26th September

Opposition: Malcolm Arnold

Last week we played our second match of this season at Malcolm Arnold. A closely fought match with both sides very evenly matched. Some harsh decisions by the umpire allowed the opposition to sneak a win. Final score 16-14 to Malcolm Academy. Goals scored by Libby, Izzy and Cara.

Player of the match was Cara R.

U13's

2nd October

Opposition: Northampton International Academy

After what was a competitive game in a very hot gym (!), we won 3-1. The Pitsford side played well against NIA.

U12's

3rd October

Opposition: Moulton School

On 3rd October all of the Year 7 girls went to Moulton School to compete in a netball tournament against Moulton, Sponne, Campion, Guilsborough and Parker E-ACT Academy. All of the teams played exceptionally well. The overall winners were Sponne with Pitsford coming a close 2nd! We all had a lot of fun playing in the matches even though the weather was a bit chilly and Hannah had a bloody knee. One of our highlights from the tournament was both of the Pitsford teams playing versus each other because we all knew each others techniques and it was funny to see everyone laughing. Lily's highlight was wearing Emma's jumper because she as absolutely freezing! Thank you to Mrs Chacks for taking us on this tournament and putting the effort in to help us get the practice and the organisation to get there and go!