



# St Edmund's Prep Tournament Reports 2018-2019



## U11 Football- ISFA Regional Qualifiers @ Chigwell School, 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2018

U11A-W3 D2 L1

The U11A Football team started off with a 0-0 draw against local rivals, **Duncombe**. Their next match was a thrilling 3-0 victory against group favourites **Chigwell** with a superb display of attacking football. Next came another impressive result, a 1-0 win against **Felsted** thanks to a late winner from our boys. A 0-0 draw against **Gate House** followed, before a 3-2 victory against **Woodford Green Prep** ensured top position in the group and a place in the semi finals. The U11A team were hitting top gear at just the right time, playing some outstanding football and winning matches comfortably. Having only conceded two goals in the group stages, they were also looking strong and well organised in defence. The four teams that qualified for the semi finals from the group stages were all impressive and so an exciting showdown was in prospect. Our semi final was against Heath Mount, who had a very strong team and had recorded some very impressive results of their own in the group stages. We went behind very early in the game, but spent the rest of the game attacking and trying to score an equaliser. Unfortunately for us, that goal didn't come and so we went out with our heads held high in the last four. Two games away from a place at the ISFA National Finals was disappointing but impressive in equal measure, especially as our team proved to be so strong.

## U11 Girls' Football- Bishops Stortford District Qualifiers @ Howe Green, 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2018

U11A-W2 D0 L0

The U11A Girls' Football team qualified as the Bishops Stortford District Representatives by winning both of their matches at the qualifying stage. They won their first match 1-0 against the hosts **Howe Green** and then won their second game 2-0 versus **Manor Fields**. The team looked very good in attack and did not concede a goal in either match.

## U11 Netball- Forest Netball Tournament @ Redbridge Sports Centre, 12<sup>th</sup> October, 2018

U10A-W5 D0 L3 (8<sup>th</sup> Place / 25)

The U10A netball team travelled to Redbridge Sports Centre to play in their annual U11 netball tournament. With our U11 team away in France on a residential trip, it was left to our U10 team to take their place. Playing a year up against older girls didn't stop our girls from recording a great 4-3 win in their first match against **Forest**. They then followed this up with a 6-0 win against **Chigwell 'B'**. Their winning streak was halted by **Theydon Bois** who won 3-1 against us, in a close match that was to prove costly in the end. However, the girls quickly regained their composure to win their final game 5-2 against **Coopersale**. With the group games finished, Forest qualified as Group C winners and we came in second place. This meant that we were placed with all of the other teams that had finished as runners-up in their groups. The first game in the second round was against **Berkhamsted Prep**, who proved too strong for us as they ran out 5-0 winners. However, our girls won their next two games 2-0 versus **Woodford Green**

**Prep** and 3-1 against **Mossford Green**. The final match ended in a 1-3 defeat to **Gate House**, although the fantastic results in the more competitive second round meant that overall our U10A netball team finished in 8<sup>th</sup> Place out of 25 teams. A superb result and the future looks bright for them.

#### **U10 Football- St Aubyn's Football Tournament @ St Aubyn's, 7<sup>th</sup> November, 2018**

**U10A-W2 D1 L1 (2<sup>nd</sup> Place / 8)**

The first match was played against **Loyola** in the group stages, it was a close match that ended goalless although we had the better chances to score. The next match in our group was against **Woodford Green Prep**, we scored to take the lead although the opposition scored to equalise towards the end of the match and it finished 1-1. Our final match was against **Bancrofts**, in a thrilling game we scored three great goals to their two and played some great football. The match finished 3-2 to St Edmund's Prep and this was enough to see us through as runners-up in our group to face the other group's winners, **Chigwell**. This semi-final match was a closely contest, with both sides playing attractive football. However, we managed to score the decisive goals and ran out as 2-0 winners. The final was against **Loyola**, who had secured some impressive results on their way. Loyola scored first, but **St Edmund's Prep** equalised near the end of the game to take the match into extra time. With penalties looming and the ball going from end to end, Loyola scored the winner in the closing moments of the game to win 1-2.

#### **U11+U9 Cross Country – Keble Cross Country Meeting @ Trent Park, 25<sup>th</sup> February, 2019**

**U11 Boys- 12th Place (/12) U11 Girls- 6<sup>th</sup> Place (/12) U9 Boys- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place (/13) U9 Girls- 6<sup>th</sup> Place (/13)**

On Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February, St Edmund's Prep took the Form 6 and Form 4 cross country team to Trent Park, Enfield to take part in the annual North London Prep Schools cross country event hosted by Keble Prep. It was a warm, sunny day and extremely pleasant for staff and spectators. First to run the muddy, uphill course was the Under 11 team. Boys and girls ran the same 2000 metre course together and finished in different tunnels to attain their placings. The girls team finished in sixth place overall as a team but unfortunately one of our boys fell half way around the course and badly injured his ankle. The other boys ran on and finished very well indeed in a strong field of competitors. The Under 9 team ran a shorter course of 1500 metres with great success. **Ethan-David Balogun** came 2<sup>nd</sup> overall and proudly received the silver medal. The U9 boys' team finished in second place overall as a team and the U9 girls' team in sixth place overall as a team. Great achievements all round.

#### **U11 Boys' Hockey- St Edmund's Prep Tournament @ St Edmund's Prep, 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2019**

**U11A- W2 D2 L1 (=5<sup>th</sup> Place / 8)**

**U11B- W0 D0 L4 (8<sup>th</sup> Place / 8)**

Our third annual U11 Boys' Hockey Tournament was held on a Friday for the first time this year, coinciding with the largest competition to date. The Cup Final was contested between two strong sides from **Heath Mount** and **Bancrofts**, with Bancrofts winning through in the end to claim their second successive winners' trophy. The Plate Final, for teams that had finished in third and fourth place in the groups, was played between **Heath Mount 'B'** and **St Edmund's Prep**. This game finished in a draw after both sides scored one out of three penalty strokes each.

Our U11A team's first game was against **Heath Mount**, although we were defending for most of the game St Edmund's Prep managed to hold on for a 0-0 draw. However, on the long corner countback decider rule our opponents were awarded the single bonus point win. The second match was against **St Edmund's Prep 'B'** and this finished in a 3-0 win for the 'A' team, in a match that was played in a friendly, yet competitive manner. The final match was against **Duncombe**, the way that the group had shaped up meant that our U11A team needed to win, draw or claim victory on the countback long corner rule in order to progress to the next round. The game was very close and with both sides earning early long corners the match looked like it would finish in a draw and St Edmund's Prep would progress. However, Duncombe scored a late goal to win 1-0, claim second place in the group and send St Edmund's Prep through to the Plate Competition. In the Plate Competition's Semi-Final, our team played and won 1-

0 against **Howe Green** to progress through to the final of this part of the competition. In the final, we played against **Heath Mount 'B'** and after scoring a good goal in the early stages our opposition equalised and then claimed a long corner to earn the same number that we had. This meant that the match went to penalty strokes and with both sides scoring one out of their three the umpires decided that both teams should share the spoils.

Our U11B team lost their three group games to **Duncombe** 0-4, **St Edmund's Prep 'A'** 0-3 and to **Heath Mount** 0-2. Their next match was in the Plate Semi Finals although they lost this game 1-2 to **Heath Mount 'B'**. However, the team gained valuable experience from playing in the tournament and their experience of match play will hold them in good stead for future hockey matches.

#### **U11 Girls' Football- St Edmund's Prep Tournament @ St Edmund's Prep, 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2019**

U11A- W2 D1 L1 (**3<sup>rd</sup> Place / 9**)

U11B- W1 D1 L2 (**8<sup>th</sup> Place / 9**)

On Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2019 St Edmund's Prep held their annual Under 11 Girls 7-a-side Football Tournament. Nine teams from eight different schools were entered and played two games in three groups. Our first match was against **Howe Green** and during the game the ball hit the post and crossbar, but sadly just would not go in the goal. It finished as a goalless draw but our first point and clean sheet on the results board. The second match was against **St Francis' College** and St Edmund's Prep scored a penalty to win the game 1-0. Four points saw us to top of our group and into the next round of matches in the cup competition. The cup semi final was against **St Aubyn's** who had scored lots of goals up to that point and won all of their previous matches. We were unlucky not to score during the game and held St Aubyn's to a goalless draw in normal time. This meant penalties but unfortunately for us St Aubyn's won by two goals to one. The final match was played against **Duncombe** and the girls finished on a high with a win on penalties to secure third place overall. The U11B team drew their first match against **Woodford Green Prep** before losing to **Duncombe** 0-2. They then played a match against **St Joseph's In The Park**, which was narrowly lost 0-1. This placed them in a 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> Place Playoff game against **Woodford Green Prep** again and after the game went to penalties, St Edmund's prep U11B won 2-1 on spot kicks.

#### **U10 Netball- Belmont Netball Tournament @ Belmont, 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2019**

U10A- W8 D0 L0 (**1<sup>st</sup> Place / 20**)

On Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March, our U10A netball team travelled to Belmont Prep in Mill Hill for their annual netball tournament. This is always one of the most eagerly anticipated tournaments of the year, with some of the largest schools from the Hertfordshire, Essex and Central London areas competing for the winners' trophy. Our first game was against a very strong side from **Stormont**. Our girls started strongly and went into an early four goal lead, before the opposition claimed three goals back towards the end. However, St Edmund's Prep managed to hold on for a 4-3 win. The next match **St Hilda's**, where we ran out as 2-1 winners. The third match of our group was against **Devonshire House**, our momentum continued to build and this game ended in a 3-0 win for St Edmund's Prep. Our final match was against **Heath Mount** and despite going behind to an early goal, we managed to win 4-2. By winning all four of our group games, we finished top of our group and qualified for Group 1 in the final stages of the competition against the other schools that had finished top and the best two runners-up places.

The first game in the next round was against **Stormont**. Our girls knew that their opponents would be desperate to win after their first round defeat, but they managed to put in a gritty and determined performance to win 2-1 in an extremely close game. The next match was against **South Hampstead High School**, this was to prove our closest game of the whole tournament. Trailing by a goal in the final few minutes, our team managed to score three quick goals towards the very end as this match finished 4-2 to St Edmund's Prep. A match against **St Benedict's** followed, and by this stage we were playing incredibly well and looking full of confidence. This eye-catching match finished 8-0 to St Edmund's Prep. The final game was against **Berkhamsted Prep**, an opponent who are known to be consistently strong throughout the age groups. Our girls went one goal behind, but showed incredible resilience and character to come back into the game and win 4-1.

After winning eight out of eight games, our talented U10 netball side were crowned as the tournament winners. A fantastic achievement and thoroughly deserved.

#### **U11 Netball- Bancrofts Netball Tournament @ West Grove, 6<sup>th</sup> March, 2019**

##### **U11A- W6 D0 L2 (3<sup>rd</sup> Place / 24)**

The U11A netball team were in high spirits as they travelled to Bancrofts for their highly competitive, annual U11 netball tournament. St Edmund's Prep were placed in a very difficult opening group, including two schools that had won many of the previous years' competitions, knowing that they had to make the top two places to go through to the quarter finals. The first match was against a very good team from **Ursuline Prep**, with the game tied 2-2 at half time the opposition came out strongly in the second half and we lost the first match 2-5. However, the girls show tremendous character and determination to win their next four matches in a row. They won 11-0 against **Chigwell** and 14-0 versus **Oaklands** in their next two games. This was followed by an impressive 6-2 victory against **Bancroft's** and a superb 7-0 win against a strong team from **Brentwood**. To progress through a group in second place, joint on points with first, was a fantastic achievement in itself considering the standard of opposition that our team had faced in the First Round.

The quarter final was against **Oakfields**, who had won their group. Our girls started strongly and won this match 7-1 to progress into the semi finals. This match was played against a very strong **Roche School** team and despite a battling performance our U11A netball team lost out 2-5 in the end. However, they picked themselves back up to win the 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Place Playoff against **Ursuline Prep**, 3-1. The girls won bronze medals for finishing third in a very tough competition where the standard of play was particularly high this year. A great achievement, well done girls!

#### **U10+U11 Rugby- Heath Mount Quadrangular @ Heath Mount, 6<sup>th</sup> March, 2019**

##### **(U10A) W0 D0 L3 (U11A) W1 D0 L2**

The U10A rugby team played against some very good sides at the Heath Mount Triangular. In the end they lost to **Manor Lodge** 0-5, lost to **Keble** 3-6 and lost to **Heath Mount** 0-3. The U11A rugby team fared a little better and although they lost their first match to **Manor Lodge** 0-5, they won their next game against **Keble** 7-0. The final match ended in a 0-3 loss to **Heath Mount**.

#### **U8 Hi-5 Netball- Edge Grove Hi-5 Netball Tournament @ Edge Grove, 7<sup>th</sup> March, 2019**

##### **U8A- W3 D1 L1 (2<sup>nd</sup> Place / 6)**

##### **U8B- W0 D1 L4 (5<sup>th</sup> Place / 6)**

The U8 Hi-5 netball squad played some excellent netball, rotating positions and each taking it in turns to shoot, defend and play centre court.

The U8A team won their matches 2-1 against **St Albans**, 2-1 against **Westbrook Hay** and 2-1 against **Berkhamsted**. They drew 0-0 against **Edge Grove** but were unlucky not to score as the team who were attacking for the majority of the match. The match against **Heath Mount** ended in a 0-2 loss and our opponents went on to win the rest of their games. The U8A team finished in second place, a great achievement for their first tournament together.

The U8B team also played with great spirit and determination. They didn't quite manage to win a game, but they scored a goal and earned a superb draw in one of their matches. The games were all very close, losing 1-2 to **Berkhamsted**, 0-1 to **Heath Mount**, 0-1 to **Edge Grove** and 0-3 to **St Albans**. Their last match against **Westbrook Hay** ended 0-0 in a great end-to-end game.

## U9 Hockey – Felsted Hockey Tournament @ Felsted, 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2019

### U9A- W4 D1 L0 (1<sup>st</sup> Place / 6)

On Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March, our U9A hockey team made the journey to Felsted for their annual hockey tournament. This tournament is always one that we thoroughly look forward to, not least for the lovely lunch that is provided on arrival. Our group contained several schools whose tradition for hockey is notoriously strong, from afar afield as Surrey and Cambridge, and the hosts themselves. Our first game was against **Kings College Prep**. We scored seconds after the first push back and then defended resolutely. That said, we did have several chances to score again afterwards, but the game was extremely close and it finished 1-0 to St Edmund's Prep. Little did we know at the time, but this result was to prove crucial as Kings College went on to win all of their remaining games. Our next match finished in a comfortable 3-0 win against **Howe Green**. The next game was against **Felsted 'B'**, with our girls looking very strong as they finished the game with four goals, winning 4-0. **Barnardiston Hall** were our next opponents and they started the match very well. Our opposition scored shortly after the first push back although we scored to level soon afterwards. St Edmund's Prep broke through to score and go into the lead but **Barnardiston Hall** scored one more right at the end. The game finished 2-2, with our opponents from this game leading the group on goals scored. Going into our final game against **Felsted A**, we knew that we had to win and hope that a draw would be the best that Barnardiston Hall would achieve in their last match. Our girls started really strongly, but by halfway through the game we had attacked almost relentlessly, hit the post twice, narrowly missed a few other chances and still not managed to score. However, our girls showed amazing determination to score four goals in quick succession shortly after the mid-way point to secure a 4-0 victory. Barnardiston Hall lost to Kings College and so with four wins, one draw and fourteen goals scored St Edmund's Prep finished in first place. The girls were very excited to receive their winners' medals and fully deserved them for playing so well as a team and showing such focus and perseverance in their performances.

## U9 Netball – St Edmund's Prep Netball Tournament @ St Edmund's Prep, 12<sup>th</sup> March, 2019

### U9A- W5 D0 L0 (1<sup>st</sup> Place / 8)

### U9B- W0 D0 L5 (8<sup>th</sup> Place / 8)

On Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March, St Edmund's Prep hosted their first annual U9 netball tournament. As Storm Gareth gathered pace outside, the tournament moved into the Butler Hall in the warm and dry. The first game in Group 2 for St Edmund's Prep 'B' was against **Heath Mount**, although this match ended in a 0-4 win for Heath Mount our girls played very well and linked play with some good passing at times. The next match was against **Bancroft's** and the game finished 0-6 to the opposition. The final match of the first stage was against **St Joseph's In The Park** and our team put together more of their own attacks and were unlucky not to score a goal as the match finished 2-0. The St Edmund's Prep 'B' team finished the group stage in fourth place and so their next opponents in the plate semi final were Duncombe.

In the plate semi final against **Duncombe**, the match was evenly poised at 1-1 heading into the last few moments before Duncombe scored two goals just before the end to win 1-3. In the plate competition's 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Place Playoff, **Forest** managed to win a close match against St Edmund's Prep 'B' 1-0.

The first game for St Edmund's Prep A was against **Forest**. Our girls started well and won the opening game of the tournament 6-0. The next game was against **Duncombe**, our team were playing some very slick netball at this stage and every shot seemed to go in. The game finished 9-0 to St Edmund's Prep. The final match in the first stage was against **St Aubyn's** to decide who finished top of Group 1. The game was played at a fast pace, St Edmund's Prep went into a 3-1 lead but St Aubyn's scored again near the end. The scores stayed the same until the final bell with St Edmund's Prep winning 3-2 and claiming top spot in their group.

The semi final of the cup competition paired St Edmund's Prep with **Bancroft's**. St Edmund's Prep played very well and finished the game with a 4-0 victory to take the through to the final. The Cup Final was against **Heath Mount**, a team who had also looked very impressive on their way to the final. Both teams scored near the start of the match, but St Edmund's Prep then raced away with four further goals to win the match 5-1 and claim the winners'

## **U11 Football – Woodford Green Prep 5-A-Side Tournament @ Woodford Green Prep, 13<sup>th</sup> March, 2019**

**U11A- W3 D0 L3 (6<sup>th</sup> Place / 12)**

St Edmund's Prep played in a 5-a-side football tournament at Woodford Green Prep. The matches were played on a hard court, which enabled a fast style of 'street football' to be played. The U11A team won their first game against **Woodford Green Prep 'B'** 2-0, before losing to the eventual winners, **Loyola**, 0-1. The boys then went on to win 3-0 against **Chigwell** and 5-0 against **Daiglen**. Unfortunately, as we lost our final game 0-2 against **Normanhurst**, we were placed in the 5/6<sup>th</sup> Place Playoff against the team that also finished third in the other group, **Woodford Green Prep 'A'**. This match finished 1-2 to the hosts and meant that our team finished in sixth place overall out of twelve teams.

## **U11 Netball – St Francis' College Netball Tournament @ St Francis' College, 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2019**

**U11A- W2 D0 L1 (2<sup>nd</sup> Place / 4 )**

**U11B- W0 D0 L4 (5<sup>th</sup> Place / 5 )**

On Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March, our U11A and B netball teams travelled to St Francis' College in Letchworth to play in their annual netball tournament. Several teams had dropped out in the days leading up to the tournament and so it was a smaller competition than usual. The first match was against **St Joseph's In The Park** and this finished with a 14-6 win for St Edmund's Prep. A tough match followed against **Heath Mount**, a team that our girls had won against by a single goal earlier in the term. However, this time our opponents got off the mark quickly with two early goals. Our girls clawed back level, but then Heath Mount regained their lead and went into half-time winning by five goals. The second half was very close indeed, but Heath Mount maintained their advantage to condemn us to a 11-15 defeat. The final match was played against **The Perse**, an opponent that we had not encountered on the netball courts for many years. This was an excellent game played by two very good teams, but ended with a 9-5 victory for St Edmund's Prep. Two wins out of their three games was enough for the girls to claim second place and earn themselves silver medals at the presentation ceremony.

The St Edmund's Prep U11B team played in the plate competition against some very good sides and, although they did not manage a win, the team played with great enthusiasm and determination. The U11B team lost their games to **The Perse 'B'** 1-8, **Duncombe** 1-5, **Heath Mount 'B'** 0-8 and **St Francis' College 'B'** 0-6.

## **U9 Football – Forest Football Tournament @ Forest School, 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2019**

**U9A- W5 D1 L0 (1<sup>st</sup> Place / 7)**

On Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March, St Edmund's Prep travelled to Forest School to play in their annual 7-a-side football tournament. The first match was against **St Aubyn's** and after falling behind to a goal within the first minute the boys recovered to score three goals and win the game 3-1. The next match ended in a 3-0 win for us against **Woodford Green Prep**. After a good start and having scored lots of goals and playing some exciting, attacking football our next match was against **Chigwell**. The opposition were strong defensively and got lots of players behind the ball, it was a challenge that our team couldn't quite solve during the game as it finished goalless. The opposition goalkeeper did make a lot of superb saves too! St Edmund's Prep faced **Avon House** in their next match and this time they were able to find the back of the net, scoring five times in a 5-0 victory. **Forest** were our next opponents but despite several attempts at goal and attacking for almost the entire match, the game looked like it would end goalless. However, a wonder strike from long range in the dying moments secured a 1-0 win for St Edmund's Prep. The final match was against **Loyola** and our opponents again looked to get lots of their players behind the ball and make it difficult for us to score. A goal scored directly from a free kick towards the end of the game was enough to win it for our talented U9A team. The St Edmund's Prep U9A team won the tournament with a record of 5 wins and 1 draw, having scored 12 goals and only conceding 1.

## U11+U9 Cross Country – Woodford Green Prep Cross Country Meeting @ Woodford Cricket Club, 20<sup>th</sup> March, 2019

**U11 Boys-** 5<sup>th</sup> Place (/8)      **U11 Girls-** 3<sup>rd</sup> Place (/7)   **U9 Boys-** =1<sup>st</sup> Place (/8)   **U9 Girls-** 1<sup>st</sup> Place (/7)

On Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March, St Edmund's Prep took their Form 6 and Form 4 cross country team to Woodford Green Prep to take part in their annual cross country event. The U11 competitors ran a 1400 metre course. The U11 girls team finished in third place overall as a team and **Daisy Hallam** finished in seventh place. The U11 boys team, made up of Form 5 runners, finished in 5<sup>th</sup> place overall, although **Ronnie Seagroatt** ran outstandingly well from the start and finished in first place. The U9 team ran a shorter course of 1200 metres with the U9 girls finishing in first place overall and the U9 boys finishing joint top with Forest. **Ethan-David Balogun** came 3<sup>rd</sup> in the U9 boys race, whilst other top ten placings included **James Devonald Smith** in 6<sup>th</sup> Place and **Ruben Bishop** in 7<sup>th</sup> Place. A strong team performance by the U9 girls saw **Amelia Rumalean** finish in 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, **Rebecca Sambridge** follow close behind in 3<sup>rd</sup> Place and **Amber Bonnett-Powell** take the 8<sup>th</sup> Place position.

A superb result overall that included one individual gold medal for **Ronnie Seagroatt**, one individual silver medal for **Amelia Rumalean** and two individual bronze medals for **Rebecca Sambridge** and **Ethan-David Balogun**. The team positions were also very impressive, with our U9 boys and girls finishing in first place and the U11 girls finishing in third place.

## U9 Netball- Edge Grove Netball Tournament @ Edge Grove, 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2019

U9A- W6 D0 L0 (1<sup>st</sup> Place / 7)

U9B- W0 D1 L5 (=6<sup>th</sup> Place / 7)

The U9A&B netball squad travelled to Aldenham Village to play in the annual Edge Grove Netball Tournament to represent St Edmund's Prep for the first time.

The U9B team played against some tough teams and their matches were a lot closer than some of the scores suggested. The first game was against **Manor Lodge**, who had entered their A team in the Plate Competition, and this game was lost 0-6. A superb 1-1 draw in a very exciting, end-to-end game against **Edge Grove 'B'** was in between losses to **Kingshott 'B'** 0-4, **St Albans 'B'** 1-7, **Heath Mount 'B'** 0-4, and **Berkhamsted 'B'** 0-2. The U9B team gained some valuable experience by playing in such a competitive tournament and they are a very enthusiastic group of players.

The first game for St Edmund's Prep U9A was against **Westbrook Hay** and this finished in an 8-0 win. Our next opponents were **Kingshott**, a team that we'd recently played against. The game was goalless until near the end, although Kingshott had a chance to score that didn't go in before St Edmund's Prep recovered to score four goals in very quick succession and win 4-0. The next match was against **Edge Grove**, a tricky opposition who had a lot of very tall players in their team. St Edmund's Prep needed to change their route of attack with high balls into the circle suddenly becoming a less attractive option. However, the girls were able to win 4-0 in the end. A 3-1 victory against **St Albans** followed, before the U9A team won 2-0 against a resilient team from **Heath Mount**. The final match was against **Berkhamsted Prep**, whose tight marking presented a challenge for our girls to work with extra endeavor in order to create space and break free from their markers. They won this game 2-0 in the end to finish the tournament having won all six of their games, scoring twenty three goals and only conceding once.

## U9 Football Tour- ESF Festival of Football, Butlins @ Skegness, 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> May, 2019

U9A Boys- W7 D0 L1 (3<sup>rd</sup> Place / 24)

U9A Girls- W0 D1 L4 (5<sup>th</sup> Place / 6)

On Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May, our Under 9 Boys and Girls football teams departed by coach from St Edmund's Prep to Butlins in Skegness for their football tour. After a long journey, we arrived at Butlins and unpacked our suitcases. The first stop was the swimming pool, with lots of slides and rapids to enjoy. The day ended with an evening meal and a trip to the arcades.

On Saturday morning, the girls' matches were first as the team set off to their pitches. The weather was quite unpleasant and it didn't stop raining from the moment we arrived. The first match was against **Newcastle Benfield**, it started off quite evenly but the opposition scored two goals as we lost the first one, 0-2. The next match was against **Washington Juniors** and after one goal from either side the game looked like it was going to end all square, but the other team scored right near the end and we lost this match 1-2. The final match of the morning was against **Boldon Girls** who had one star player who was spectacularly good. This player scored many goals and although we scored one of our own in this match we lost 1-6 in the end.

The boys played their matches on Saturday afternoon, in slightly better weather conditions. Their first match ended in a 6-0 victory against **303 Polish Soccer**, in a game where we executed an exciting team strategy with an adventurous sweeper keeper. Our next match finished 1-0 to us against a very good team called **Green Towers**, who almost scored at the end to equalise during a nail-biting second half. The third match was against **Burnt Hill Devils**, this finished with a 2-0 win with a goal in each half. The final match of the day ended with a 3-1 victory against **Repton Casuals**. The boys completed the day with a maximum 12 points and 4 wins from 4 games.

On Sunday, the girls played two further matches. The first was against the eventual winners, **Asfordbury Amateurs** where we lost 0-4. However, St Edmund's Prep saved their best for last with a super 1-1 draw against **Thorne Colliery**, in a match that included a penalty save and a last-minute equaliser from the opposition. The U9 girls played some great football overall and scored a few good goals.

The first game on Sunday morning was against a team called **Astley and Tyldesley**, who were challenging for top spot in the group. However, we scored two excellent goals to win the game 2-0 and secure qualification to the next round with one game spare. The final match was against **Peterborough Black** and St Edmund's Prep won 1-0 in a fiery contest to win the group and finish on a maximum of 18 points with 6 wins from 6 games and only one goal conceded. The quarter final was against **Tibshelf Knights**, an early goal was enough to secure a 1-0 win and a place in the semi-finals. Our match in the last four was against **Stafford Atletico**, who scored an early goal from a well worked set piece routine. Their team pressed relentlessly and it was difficult for us to gain any momentum going forward. The opposition scored a late goal on the counter attack as we streamed forward looking for an equaliser. In the end we lost 0-2, with our opponents going on to win the competition. However, the U9 boys team were magnificent all tournament, winning 7 out of 8 games and only conceding three goals all tournament. A semi-final place was a superb achievement against some elite teams that included many pre-academy players.

The weekend was rounded off with an exciting presentation where the girls and boys met football legends **Kevin Keegan** and **Faye White**. Once the fireworks, ticker tape explosions and music had stopped each player was handed a trophy for their achievements across the weekend.

## **U11 Football Tour- ESF Festival of Football, Butlins @ Minehead, 3<sup>rd</sup> -5<sup>th</sup> May, 2019**

U11A Boys- W2 D0 L4

U11A Girls- W1 D1 L4

On Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May, our Under 11 Boys and Girls football teams travelled south to Bognor Regis to play in the annual ESF Festival of Football at Butlins. Upon arrival, the players unpacked and then headed off to swim. After plummeting down slides and splashing through outdoor rapids, it was time for dinner and then off to the arcades.

On Saturday morning, the girls set off for their matches with the boys coming along to support their first match. The first match ended in a 0-1 defeat to **Oakwood Youth FC**, with their goal coming after a neat finish from a corner. The next match was a very close game, it finished 1-2 to **Bognor Regis Town** and although this match was lost it was very even right up until the last minute. The third match ended in a 0-1 loss to **Portchester** in another very close game. However, the last game of the day finished with a fantastic 2-0 victory against **Stourbridge Juniors**, with two superbly taken goals and a great performance to match.

The boys played their matches slightly later on Saturday afternoon. They started off with a 0-5 defeat to a strong **Protec** side, before securing a 2-0 win against **Abingdon Dragons**. The second goal, scored by our captain, was from a spectacular long range free kick that won a special award later on in the tournament... The third match was against

**Fleetdown United**, this team played very well and although we battled hard our team lost 0-3 in the end. The final match of the day was perhaps the most exciting though, in a very close game against **Dudley Town Athletic** we won a penalty in the dying moments. To loud cheers from our supporters, we scored to win the match 1-0.

On Sunday, the girls played two further matches. The first was against a really strong **Hitchin Belles** side and although we battled bravely we lost 0-3 in the end. However, the final match was enthralling! In an exciting end-to-end contest our girls finished their tournament with a 0-0 draw against **Eastleigh FC**. The U11A girls team played really well and grew in strength as a team as the tournament progressed. To win one and draw one game was a very good achievement against some established club sides. The boys rounded off their tournament on Sunday morning with two matches against two very strong teams. They lost both games 0-4 against **Billericay Town** and **Orsett Park Royals**, with Billericay Town going on to win the tournament. There were several standout moments for the boys' team and they played well to win two games. The defending was resolute at times and there were some exciting attacking plays too.

The weekend was rounded off with an exciting presentation. Once the fireworks, ticker tape explosions and music had stopped each player was handed a trophy for their achievements over the weekend. Congratulations to **George Storey-Braun** for winning the **Golden Ball Award** for his '*goal of the tournament*'.

#### **U11 Rugby and Hockey- Matches v Saint Jean, St Edmund's College, 7<sup>th</sup> May, 2019**

On Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May, St Edmund's Prep welcomed **Saint Jean**, a French school from Douay, to visit us for the day. A sports programme was organised for Under 11 hockey and rugby matches between both schools. Our U11 A, B and C boys' rugby teams all won their games, whilst our U11A girls' rugby team were also victorious. In hockey, our U11B boys' hockey team won, along with our U11A, B and C girls' hockey teams. There were trophies for each sport and St Edmund's won the boys' rugby, girls' rugby and girls' hockey overall. Whilst, the Saint Jean boys' hockey team took home the trophy for that sport.