

Copper Box Netball Tournament

By Sadie W

On Friday 27th April, the Netball squad travelled down to the Surrey Sports Park for one of the biggest netball tournaments in Surrey. Everyone had trained extremely hard and was hugely excited as our school had never played in it before. We all knew there would be some tough teams and we would be in for a lot of hard work. When we arrived the team and coaches went straight to the indoor match areas where Surrey Storm played!

In our pool were Goldsworth, Westwood and Kings Rochester. After warming up, we played our first game against Goldsworth. As we had played Goldsworth before, we knew them quite well. The match started and immediately our team pulled ahead. At half-term we were well ahead and brought in some substitutions. The rest of the match went well and we won although Goldsworth tried very hard and did well.

After that we had a break for a drink and team talk. Kings won their match and we realised they were the one to beat. Soon it was our turn again, this time against Westwood. They were a very good side but by half time we were ahead. A few changes were made and in the end we won quite comfortably, playing very well. We had another twenty minutes break before our next match against King's. We were already through to the main cup competition but wanted to win again. At half-time we were losing but putting up a good fight. They were an experienced side and not in the mood for losing but we wanted to win just as much. In the end we lost but had made them work harder than before. Even though we were through to the semi-finals we also knew that we would probably have to play them again. Our semi-final was against Coppthorne – a team from the other pool. The match started and everyone played really well. Coppthorne put up a good fight as they were a very strong side. At half-time we were ahead but not very convincingly. In the second half, we stepped up our game and in the end won to take us through to the final to play Kings again. This also meant we were through to the Copper Box. Everyone was so happy and excited. All our supporters were cheering us on. Everyone played well in a final push and we were all at the top of our game. In the end, they won but we were in a close second which was incredible.

The reason why our team is so great is down to the amazing Cardinal's coaches, Mr Coles and Miss Freed. They are our number one supporters, along with all the parents who came to cheer us on. This is just one of the netball team's huge achievements this year but one of the greatest. The Copperbox Olympic arena is next!

Team: Sadie, Alice, Laura, Freya, Marcie, Carys, Scarlett, Maja and Alyshea