



THE YC SPORTS PAGE

Tevet/Shevat 5771
January 2011



U14 Girls' Football

Mr D Raymen

In the first week back at school, a mixture of Year 8 and Year 9 girls travelled to Sir Frederic Osborn school to compete in the first of their league fixtures. Due to injury and unavailability it was an inexperienced team that took the field, many of them playing in their first competitive football match. Despite this, a spirited performance from all ensured a well contested match, with Yavneh eventually just losing out to the more experienced opposition.

Year Seven Girls' Football

Mr D Raymen

The Year 7 girls' football team have been practising hard since early September and have now completed two league fixtures. The first of these, against Chancellors, was closely fought; the score standing at 3-3 as the final quarter of the match began. Unfortunately tiredness began to show for the Yavneh team who had worked so hard and they were just edged out in the final period.

A creditable performance from all players however, many of whom were competing in their first five-a-side match. Dame Alice Owens School provided Yavneh's second opposition, and despite them taking an early lead YC fought back well with two fantastic goals from Jade Leyens to close the gap. However Owen's proved just too strong over the duration of the match, although the Yavneh girls gave 100% effort and played well right up to the final whistle. The team will undoubtedly have learned from these experiences and will be able to build on them in the coming weeks.

Year 7 Football Success

Mr D Raymen

The Year 7 football team began 2011 with a well deserved win. They played a Hertswood team of mixed A and B players on a fantastic 3G all weather pitch. Yavneh began the game with huge confidence and played some excellent football. They passed and moved the ball well and were rewarded with an early goal from Josh Spivack. Yavneh continued to pressure the ball all over the pitch, not giving the Hertswood players time to settle into the game. The pressure took its toll and Yavneh struck twice more before half time with another goal from Josh Spivack and Zack Green.

In the second half, roles were reversed. Hertswood looked more confident and were quicker to the ball. Yavneh began to lose some shape and conceded an unnerving goal. After a nervous opening to the second half, Yavneh settled their nerves and fought well to secure their first victory. Josh Stern added a fourth goal to seal the win and dash Hertswood's hopes of a comeback.

Special mention to Eden Davis who captained the side for the first time. He played extremely well and deserves the credit for excellent effort. Also a credit has been awarded to Ben Rosen who played out of position at left back and in my opinion was the man of the match with an excellent display in attack and defence. Well done to all the boys who played.



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Maccabi Football Tournament

Mr D Raymen

Teams from Year 7, 8 and 9 travelled to Mill Hill in January to compete in the Maccabi five-a-side football tournament. The Year 9 team were unlucky to just lose out in the first match to Hasmonean High School and were then unfortunate to come up against strong opposition from both Immanuel and JFS. The Year 8 team fared better, recording two convincing wins and finishing in second place overall. For Year 7, a slow start didn't reflect their true ability, however they made up for this in later games recording a win and a draw to finish third overall.

Year 8 District 5 a-side success

Mr D Raymen

The Yavneh Year 8 boys' 5 a-side team took on their first challenge of the New Year by competing with the teams from the Mid-Herts District. The boys' faced a tough format of back to back games but showed excellent levels of fitness and determination throughout. After a tournament of fantastic goals and wonderful pieces of individual skill, the Yavneh team managed to record 2 wins, 2 draws and 2 losses in a very closely contested tournament. There are 9 teams in the Mid-Herts District and the boys should be very pleased with their 4th place finish. Well done to all of the pupils involved!

Year 7 Basketball tournament

Mr D Raymen

The inexperienced Year 7 boys' basketball team took to the court at Mount Grace School, Potters Bar for their first taste of competitive basketball at the District Tournament.

Despite being noticeably smaller than most of the opposing teams, the boys utilised their speed and quick passing to outwit their opponents and create numerous shooting opportunities. After playing 5 tiring games, the boys managed to record 2 wins, 2 draws and 1 loss to finish a respectable 3rd out of 6. The boys played tremendously well and exceeded everyone's expectations with such a successful result. More games have been scheduled and I have no doubt that with more time and training, the Year 7 team will continue to improve and experience even more success. Well done to all of the pupils involved.

Year 8 on form in the District Cup

After success in the 5 a-side tournament, the Year 8 boys' football team turned their attention back to the 11 a-side game and their District Cup fixture with Onslow who are undefeated in all of their fixtures this season. The miserable weather was forgotten as the Yavneh team battled well in a feisty and aggressive encounter and found a breakthrough inside 15 minutes with a wonderfully worked team goal. However, minutes later the school from Hatfield were back on level terms after the Yavneh defence failed to clear a routine cross.

After, a stern team talk and attacking substitutions, the Yavneh boys started the second half full of energy and put Onslow under serious pressure with wave after wave of attacking football. As the referee's stopwatch ticked ever closer to the end of the match it looked as though all of the Yavneh pressure was going to be unrewarded. However, some excellent passing and movement created an opportunity for a clean strike at goal that ended with the ball nestling into the corner of the Onslow net. The boys celebrated their well deserved goal and fought well to hang on for a crucial win.

If the Year 8 team can win their final 2 games of the season, they will be the first Yavneh team ever to qualify for the quarter finals of the prestigious District Cup. The boys should be hugely proud of a fantastic achievement and focus on going one step further by qualifying for the next stage of the competition.