

# Year 3 and 4 Hockey tournament – Match Report – 7<sup>th</sup>

## March 2018

Today, I had the privilege of taking 6 budding hockey players to a cluster tournament at Wollaston Secondary School. Mr Higginson came too, as he had been coaching them in the weeks leading up to the event.

The children were nervous and apprehensive, as they had only been playing hockey for a few weeks, and had never competed against another school before.

However, this did not show on the pitch. From start to finish, all 6 children gave every ounce of strength and energy they had. They sprinted up and down tirelessly, they went in for crunching tackles, they communicated well, they scored sublime goals and they defended with great courage. Consequently, they won all of their pool games and finished at the top of their group. Following this, they breezed through their semi-final, and were finally given 2 minutes to pause for a drinks break!

The children knew that the upcoming final would be their toughest contest yet, as they lined up against an ‘all boys’ Denton team. It was a real challenge and despite heroic defending, and the children quite literally putting their bodies on the line for their team, we narrowly lost 2-1, meaning that we finished 2<sup>nd</sup> out of 8 teams. Even though the children didn’t quite win the whole tournament, Mr Higginson and I were so very proud of them all. Their attitude and passion for the sport was second to none, and they represented their school in an honourable and enthusiastic manner. A special thank you goes to all of the supporters who turned out to encourage and cheer the children on. They could not have done this without you!

Well done to **Katie** and **Hazel-Mae** who defended with great bravery throughout, stopping goal scoring opportunities on many occasions.

Well done to **Hannah** for her brilliant movement and superb spatial awareness which helped the team to keep good shape throughout.

A big pat on the back goes to **Ronnie** and **Fenn**, who broke through the defence, time and time again, scoring some brilliant goals.

...And finally, a big congratulations goes to **Kye** who captained the team and won Irchester's player of the tournament award for his tireless effort, last ditch tackles and exceptional skill in all 5 of our games.

We can't wait to do it all again next week!

*Miss Fitch (PE co-ordinator and year 4 teacher)*

