

27.06.2016

#### Basketball:

Last Wednesday night our boys Junior A Basketball team played against the Aquinas boys Junior A. The boys played well throughout the game with some strong defence keeping Aquinas to 18 points in the game. The offense started slow but progressed throughout the game. The boys took the points with a 69-18 win. Outstanding performances throughout the game from Beau Joss and Henare Richards.

#### Hockey:

In the final of the division 1 Secondary Schools local Hockey competition our Otumoetai 1<sup>st</sup> XI was up against a strong Bethlehem College 1<sup>st</sup> XI. Bethlehem started the game extremely well finding the back of the net within the first 10 minutes and maintained a high level of pressure throughout the entire first half. After being down 0-4 at the break the Otumoetai boys re-grouped, ready to come out a better team in the second half. Coming into the second half the boys looked and played as if they were determined to close the gap made in the first half. Our boys picked up an early goal which raised the confidence in the team and a second goal came not long after with a break from deep in the Otumoetai defence to bring the score to 4-2.

We were unlucky to have our 3<sup>rd</sup> goal disallowed as the whistle had been blown for a penalty before the ball crossed the line. Unfortunately, the boys were unable to capitalise off the penalty. The final act of the game saw a one on one with the BC keeper, who in an all or nothing move charged to the top of the D and secure a very good clearance to keep the game at 2-2. Our boys and girls 1<sup>st</sup> XI teams now start their Midlands Secondary Schools Competition which is their main build up to their National tournaments.

#### Netball:

After two weeks of grading at the start of the season, the Junior 1 netball team settled into Division 5 in the Friday night Collegiate competition with other top junior teams from Bethlehem College, Aquinas, Mount College, Te Puke and Papamoa.

First opponents in the Preliminary rounds was Mount College. After a shaky start which saw us down 5-12 at the end of the first quarter we fought back strongly to finish with a close loss of 26-29, which netted us a bonus point.

Next up was Aquinas who gave us a close battle up until half time when changes throughout the court were made by us and we surged ahead to take the game 34-27.

Te Puke was our next challenge and they came on strongly in the first half, taking us into the break at 12-15. Our defensive end kicked in and restricted their goals in the second half and our shooters settled into their task and we ended with a final score of 30-22.

Working our way through the pool play we came up against Papamoa in game 4, who had been struggling up to that point. We got a good lead early on with good combinations throughout the court and, although slipping in the second quarter where Papamoa took the opportunity to pull back a good amount of goals, we rallied in the second half to win convincingly with 40-24. This put us firmly into second overall in our grade.

The final pool play game in the Preliminary rounds saw us face off against Bethlehem College, who had been our first grading game opponents. With a little knowledge of what was in store, we started with good intentions but just couldn't adjust to the strong defence they presented, tying the score at 6-6 at the end of the first quarter. Due to positional changes in the second quarter we struggled to get the links going through court and went into the half time break down 11-16.

With positions restored to their normal status, we fought back very strongly at the defensive end and at the third break had closed the gap to 19-20. Further minor adjustments in the last quarter saw things settle very nicely for us and we pushed ahead to finish at a respectable 33-22 which put us at the top of Division 5.

This week sees us take on the second placed team in Division 4 which will be a good test of how well our combinations are working for us half way through the season and will allow us to identify areas we need to develop.