

Girls' Hockey 1st XI

The 1st XI team had a fantastic season winning the Ulster Schools' Plate.

The team of fresh faces after a year's break in school competitions started the season off successfully with wins over Friends', Grosvenor and Sullivan. Cancellation of the Ulster Superleague meant the Belfast Telegraph Cup competition started early. With growing confidence and the team gelling well together, we started our Cup campaign against Strathearn. The first round of the Cup was a tough fight with both teams battling hard, but a superb play between Pippa Wilson and Amy Somerville put us ahead in the third quarter and the score remained sending us into the second round with a 1-0 win. For the next month the team worked extremely hard, aware that we would face a tough Armagh side in November. In spite of our best efforts in the second round of the Cup, Armagh Royal sealed the win in the third quarter leaving the score 0-3. The team showed great determination battling to the very end, but it wasn't to be and we were left very disappointed. Whilst the Cup run was cut short, we were determined to get something for all our hard work and quickly turned our attention to the Plate competition.

We welcomed Lurgan College to Havelock in December to begin our battle for the plate. After a slow start, Ellen Jack opened the scoring in the first quarter with a brilliant strike into the bottom corner, which helped the team get into the zone and hold possession for the rest of the game. One goal wasn't enough and in a well-worked short corner, the score was made 2-0 by Hannah Spence. The win boosted the team's confidence as we began training for the quarter-final of

the competition.

In the quarter final stage, we were drawn against long time rivals Belfast Royal Academy (who in the 2019/20 season beat us on run ins for a place in the Cup final). A strong desire to win and the added bonus of revenge, meant that we played the highest level of hockey we'd shown all season. From the start Ban girls controlled the game, rattling the Belfast side and forcing them to make mistakes with Pippa Wilson running rings round the



opposition's defence, firing in 2 goals in the first half. A period of pressure from BRA allowed them to snatch another goal, but we remained composed and the final whistle blew booking us a place in the semi-finals.

After cancellations due to covid cases we finally got our chance to fight for a place in the final against Sullivan at the end of February. Sullivan's pace from the whistle caught the team off guard and within minutes Sullivan opened the scoring with a penalty corner. However, we were not prepared

to be put out that easy and brilliant play across the pitch, lifted the level of hockey for the rest of the first quarter and into the second. Banbridge finally got our chance after numerous saves by the Sullivan keeper when Lucy Copes won a stroke, our youngest team member Abbi Harrison stepped up to take the first stroke of the season and to little surprise of the team she sent the ball soaring past the keeper. The second half of the game was all to fight for with the score 1-1, although we had finally settled and Sullivan

didn't see much of the ball. Going into the final quarter we were confident we could win without run ins and that we did. In the opening minutes a perfectly executed penalty corner saw Amy Somerville send the ball into the bottom corner; we kept pressure on Sullivan defence for the rest of the game and were very pleased to be on our way to the final with a 2-1 win.

Exactly two weeks later we travelled to Playball Stormont in the hope of coming home with gold medals and the plate in our hands. For the second



time in our competitive season we faced Strathearn, after beating them in the first round of the Cup. Eager to get ahead early, we put immediate pressure on the opposition and halfway through the first quarter Hannah Spence slotted the ball in at the post putting the team one up after a penalty corner. Only minutes later Pippa Wilson added another to the tally in a second short corner, so entering the second quarter we were 2-0 up. Strathearn didn't drop their heads and by the final whistle the score was drawn 2-2 sending the game to penalty run ins. Ruby Wilson, Ellen Jack, Pippa Wilson, Abbi Harrison and Hannah Spence all stepped up to take the run ins. Katie McCullough made some brilliant saves and after the first round of run ins, both sides had scored

3. Moving into sudden death, all 5 Ban girls scored beating Strathearn with a final score of 10-9. Lifting the plate was very satisfying and a testament of all the hard work and early Saturday mornings throughout the season. I could not be prouder of all the team accomplished this season and have thoroughly enjoyed my time on the 1st XI. The upper sixths (Lauren Hanna, Emily Mathers, Emma McPolin, Amy Somerville, Hannah Spence) wish the team the best of luck next season, and we are looking forward to supporting you from the sideline.

We could not have done it without our coach Neil Madeley, who always believed in us even when things weren't going to plan and gave up so much time throughout the season to

help us develop not only a team, but as individual players. A huge thank you also goes to assistant coach Hannah Buchanan, a former 1st XI captain, who coached, encouraged and motivated using her experience from previous years of school hockey throughout the season. The team would also like to extend thanks to Mrs Todd for organising girls' hockey matches for all teams and Mr McLoughlin for his continued sideline support.

Team:

Katie McCullough, Natalie Hale, Lauren Hanna, Hannah Spence, Emily Mathers, Abbi Harrison, Pippa Wilson, Ellen Jack, Amy Somerville, Lucy Copes, Ruby Wilson, Emma McPolin, Charlotte Waugh, Rebekah Baker, Lara Jameson, Leah Rodgers.



Girls' Hockey: 2nd XI

Tara McCambley 2nd XI Captain

All in all the 2nd XI girls had an excellent season of hockey, starting off the season strong with a friendly win against Grosvenor Grammar followed by two draws against strong sides, Ballyclare and Sullivan Upper. The next two matches of the season saw the girls secure a 1-0 win against Dromore High School's 1st XI and a 2-0 loss against Wallace High, setting them up nicely for the commencement of the McDowell Cup competition. In the first round of the Cup the girls once again met Grosvenor Grammar, beating them 4-0 and securing a place in the next round.

In the next round of the Cup the girls met Portadown College where they were narrowly beaten 1-0 for a place in the quarter final, bumping them into the quarter final of the McDowell Cup shield. After a well deserved Christmas break the girls were back and raring to go for the McDowell quarter final against Royal School Dungannon,



where a penalty corner goal won them the match in the final quarter of the game, allowing them to progress into the semi final of the shield. In the semi final the girls met Strathearn, hoping for a place in the final. Unfortunately Strathearn narrowly beat us, bringing the strong season to an unfortunate ending.

A big thank you definitely goes to our

two amazing coaches, Miss Anderson and Mrs Todd. They were so supportive and have given up a lot of their time to ensure that we have been as successful as possible.

Thank you to everyone on the team for making the 2021/22 season great fun and definitely one to remember!

Girls' Hockey: 2ndXI(B)

Joy Mawson (Captain)

The 2nd XI(B) season started with a lot of enthusiasm and energy as everyone was excited to be back at hockey after a rough couple of years with COVID. We started off strong with a great team and progressed swiftly through the league, however our victories were cut short when we played Ballymena. They were a strong side and both teams played well, however the score line was not enough to keep us in the league. This was disappointing as Banbridge definitely deserved a win.

After being dropped from the league morale was still high and everyone continued as a team, playing friendly and putting lots of effort into practice. Overall it was a great and fun season for the 2nd XI B team.



Girls' Hockey

Girls' Hockey: 3rd XI

Megan McPolin (Captain)

After having a break from playing due to the COVID restrictions, the 3XI hockey team was happy to get back to some normality with training and matches. The season wasn't as long and successful as we hoped it would be when we lost our cup game to Ballymena Academy away, at the start of the season. The game started even with good runs and opportunities being made by Grace Hamilton and Emma O'Neill. Despite a gutsy effort from our defence, Ballymena came through strong and got their goals. However

the team spirits still ran high as everyone still participated in training for a bit of fun and friendly matches that continued throughout the season, letting us play good hockey without the pressure of the cup, never letting our loss bring down our motivation to play.

The 3rds had a good year finding their confidence again after losing the cup and began working well together practising essential skills for the season ahead, with coaches Miss McCullough and Mrs Sally

always making training intense and challenging but enjoyable.



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Girls' Hockey

Girls' Hockey: U14a

Zara McCormick

My name is Zara McCormick and I was the captain of the under 14 A team last season and I'm going to tell you how we dominated through our season.

We started our season off strong, winning many matches which had opened up a space for our team in the junior cup. For our first match we travelled to Strabane. While we were nervous, we were still excited for the match and those nerves were soon gone as we worked well as a team and ended up winning 5-0! We continued to play Saturday morning matches some of them being Sullivan Upper, Grovenor, KJHS and Armagh Royal. As well as that, we played a good friendly against Sullivan. We met them again in our 2nd round of the cup and we came out on top winning an excellent 2-1. Later on in our cup we played Royal School Dungannon and as we normally did, we put all of our passion, hard work and determination into our match to come out on top once



again winning an amazing 4-1! All smiles were on display on the bus back. We had now made it to the ¼ final against Methodist college Belfast. MCB got a few early chances making their score go up, we still fought and worked together but in the end MCB beat us to it, even

though both teams played brilliantly.

I am very proud of the team and with the progress we have made, but we couldn't have done it without the help of our coaches Mrs Todd, Mr Bingham and Mr Campbell.



Girls' Hockey

Girls' Hockey: U14b

After missing a year of hockey the U14bs quickly got back to training as a team. Throughout the year each member of the team has grown to become a better and quicker player. We have made progress as a team and improved our hockey and professionalism on and off the pitch.

Our first match was away against Victoria College, Belfast. We started off strong with Zoe, Katherine, Carly and Grace as forwards. For the most part the match was played in the middle with neither side able to break through. Our strong defence team consisting of Sophia, Amy and Cady kept the ball clear from the net. The second half proved to be tricky with Victoria scoring an early goal; our determination did not fade however and we kept our heads up. Within the final minutes of the game we got a breakthrough Victoria's defence with Katherine scoring a goal, finalising the game to a 1-1 draw. This demonstrates the determination we had as a team.

We have had many tough matches this season against Wallace H.S, Kilkeel, Friends', Methody, Markethill, Tandragee and Armagh Royal. Each match has challenged our skill, determination and our ability to work as a team. Despite the fact some of our matches were played on gravel, we never gave up. We've had wins against Killicommaine JHS and Dromore HS, with goals from both Zoe and Shruti.

Zoe Acheson and Katerine McConnell have proved their skill, both being our top goal scorers this year. Sarah Liggett, Carly Fong and Shruti Suresh have worked hard in midfield keeping the ball moving, keeping it away from opponents and pushing forward.



Grace Monroe, Anna Russell, Leah Malcolmson and Kezia Hylands have worked tirelessly to get the ball towards the circle and into the opponent's net. Our defence team consisting of Sophia Brown, Amy Porter, Olivia McDowell and Cady Mcfarlane all have strived to keep the ball away from the net, proving to be strong and vital members of the team. Ellie Walker as Goalkeeper this season has played extremely well, saving many goals and being the eyes of the pitch.

Many thanks to the following squad members for their dedication and hard work towards training every afternoon and matches:

Ellie Walker
Amy Porter
Sarah Liggett
Sophia Brown
Katherine McConnell
Grace Monroe
Carly Fong (Captain)
Shruti Suresh
Cady Mcfarlane
Leah Malcolmson
Kezia Hylands

Zoe Acheson
Olivia McDowell
Anna Russell

I would also like to thank Dr Dobson and Mr Campbell for all their efforts influencing the way we play, keeping our fitness and skill up every week at training (even though none of us enjoyed it after a long day at school!) and helping us improve to become better and more skilful hockey players.



Girls' Hockey: U13a

Sophie Tate - U13a Captain

On Saturday 11th September the U13a team played their first match against Grosvenor Grammar School. We had a lot of dominance during the game and secured a 7 nil win. This was a great start to our season and gave us plenty of motivation to go into our next match against Methody CB when once again we found the goal and won 6 nil. After more Saturday morning matches, we faced Royal School Armagh on 4th December who were strong and defended well to have a nil all result.

2022 started with LJHS and we once again found ourselves dominating despite a few attacks from the Lurgan side and we won 2 nil. In the return fixture to Methody, we had to defend well against some fast attacks however with a lot of determination we won 5 nil. KJHS was one of last fixtures, and this was probably our most challenging yet; with the scoreline line of 1 nil going into the last few minutes we dug deep and managed to score with seconds to go winning the match 2 1.

Throughout the season we have all



progressed well as individuals and a team, overall we scored 28 goals, conceded 6, and in terms of matches we won 7, drew 1 and lost 3.

Many thanks to my team and to coaches throughout the year !

Team:

Ellie Walker
Charlotte Betts
Tara Kennedy
Clara Lewis

Kizzy Gley
Martha Malcomson
Charlotte Best
Grace McConville
Ella Marshall
Alyssa Somerville
Mya Jess
Sophie Tate(c)
Ruby Johnston (vc)
Katie Maginnis
Ciara Aiken
Emma Stewart
Allegra Muldrew

Girls' Hockey: U13b

This year the U13B team were ready to go from day one – but had a bit of a later start due to the COVID 19 pandemic, which put hockey on hold.

Despite this the team did not disappoint, and at the end of the season of eight matches we had four wins, three draws and only one loss.

On the 18th September we had our first

match against Victoria College. We got going and soon found that we were up against a strong team but by the end of the first half Lucy Farrell had scored a goal! The match finished 2 – 1 to Banbridge Academy – our second goal being scored by Allegra Muldrew.

The following week was played against Wallace High School and a hat trick from Martha Malcolmson secured a

great victory.

The next two matches left us with yet another win against Kilkeel High School and a draw against Dromore High School. We met Dromore High School again after Christmas and after losing possession a countless number of times and having to defend 13 short corners, we left with our first and only defeat.

Girls' Hockey

Girls' Hockey: U12

Last year many girls attended after school hockey, and so we had four different teams. Every single team got to play a match, no matter what level the players were at. The A team and B team competed in the Mid Ulster league, and the A team ended up in an amazing 2nd place!

We played 5 matches and scored a total of 13 goals, including an outstanding 6-0 against Killicomaine. In October, we had a halloween tournament, where everyone got to play in a team with their friends and dress up. Everyone really enjoyed themselves.

Those in C and D teams hosted Wallace High School in April in two good matches.

To finish off the season we had a Domino's pizza party!

A big thank you to our amazing coaches: Mrs Todd, Mrs Leslie and Mrs Sally, for teaching us great skills and making the hockey season fun for everyone.



The U12 team was as follows:

- Hannah Carswell
- Nancy McCusker
- Casey Cousins
- Harriett McClelland
- Sophie Little
- Abi Cherry
- Katie Leslie
- Evie Hobson
- Hannah Topping
- Maddison Wilson
- Kirsty Fisher
- Rachel Pollock
- Kirsty Fong
- Caitlyn Topping
- Rebecca McAnulty

