

U9 MIXED FOOTBALL

The BSG Invitational Under 9 Football Tournament kicked off at 9am on Saturday 17th September. Open to all international schools in Guangzhou, it saw 8 teams compete for the top 3 place trophies and also one player from each team compete for their coaches player of the tournament.

With BSG only having had one training session in ASA so far, it was always going to be tough to prepare well for this tournament. However, it was also a great opportunity to see our Year 3 and Year 4 students in their first ever competitive school fixture.

With 4 BSG teams entered the depth of talent was spread across all 4 teams and this was evident from the results on the day. The opening match saw all BSG teams face each other. BSG1 beat BSG 3 - 0 whilst the BSG4 team beat BSG 2 - 0. Goals galore after the first match.

The remainder of the matches didn't go our way despite some very close matches. CLS edged BSG1 to a 1 -0 win against the run of play which their coach even admitted was lucky and then in the final game BSG2 missed a disputed penalty which then affected the overall outcomes of the fixtures.

Never the less the students who took part has a fantastic day and will come back stronger and motivated to do even better.

Despite their being no silverware to take back to Nanhu each team coach nominated a star player of the day. This was given to students who epitomised the core values that BSG encourages so much. Love of learning, commitment, respect, integrity or responsibility.

Well done to all players but special to the following players who were nominated the BSG Coaches Player.

BSG1 - Derek Tan

BSG2 - Fergus Wilson

BSG3 - Cooper Xu

BSG4 - Brandon Xu

The opportunities for primary students are growing year on year and this is just the first one of the year. We look forward to reporting on even more events in the future including more football, athletics, cross country, swimming and also next week for Year 5 and 6 Tee Ball.

U14 GIRLS FOOTBALL

13th September

The U14 Girls played their first match of the season this week away to AISG. Spirits were high with nerves and excitement with this being the first match. Both teams fought well with some excellent football and determination being displayed. Cici kept the defense in check with Rolan, Akimi and Laura all keeping the ball away from Lily who made some excellent saves. Rachel, Tiffany, King Fu, Joanna and Martina all worked tirelessly to move the ball up the pitch from defense to attack. Michelle and Annika worked exceptionally well up front with a breakthrough in the second half from Annika putting us on the lead 1-0. The team managed to maintain this lead for the match. We are looking forward to our next tournament on 23rd September.

After a row of weather effected training sessions the U14 Girls football team took on AISG in the first game of the GZ Cup. The team overcame many barriers in the first half with the team getting to grip with their formation and players in their key positions. The first half saw AISG using their strikers to break through our defense and use our weaknesses to score five goals. Sofia pulled one back with a fantastic strike.

In the second half the girls pulled themselves together as a team and started to use the space of the pitch. Pressure was applied to AISG and the defense also improved. The girls really worked well as a team and the score in the second half was 2-1 to AISG. This is a great place to start from and we will continue to build on, It will be great to have all the girls at training to be able to do this.





U14 BOYS FOOTBALL

14th September

On Thursday evening the U14A side travelled to AISG for their first fixture of the season.

The boys adapted to the grass surface quickly and adopted a "playing out from the back" style from the first whistle. As the term progresses hopefully this style will become more pleasing on the eye and help further educate the boys and girls of BSG.

With a young side starting, four Year 7s, the group did their best to combat the more powerful and older AISG players.

There were lapses from time to time and the score line of 1-5 flattered BSG slightly; however there were some positives given the energy, desire to work hard, to pass the right way and persevere in tough circumstances until the end. A special mention to Tommy Yan in goal who was inspired in limiting the score to what it was! In this transitional year, the aim for the squad is to progress their technical play and increase their game management knowledge and look to the tournament in October to try and win some silverware.

Playing their first competitive fixture together, The U14 Green Team put in a good performance despite sadly coming up short against a strong AISG side.

Determined to keep the ball on the ground, BSG played some attractive passing football, playing the ball out from the back and working the ball wide to exploit our obvious pace on each wing. In a first half where both teams had a handful of chances, unfortunately AISG were the only side to capitalize on theirs, and despite arguably playing the better football, BSG Green's found themselves 3-0 down at the break.

The second half was again an even affair, and this time the score line reflected it, with the half finishing 1-1 thanks to a great individual goal from Kence, cutting in off the left wing to fire a low shot past the AISG goalkeeper at the near post.

With many positives to take from the fixture, we look forward to combining both passing football and all 3 points in our next match!

U19 GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

6th September

Last Wednesday our U19 girls had their first game against AISG. The final result was not the best but it was a good way for our team to get experience playing with new faces. Our service was solid and very consistent with all but one serve making it perfect and the team spirit was great. AISG had a very strong service which our girls struggled to receive which reflected in the 3 - 0 loss. The BSG U19 team is a group of hard working girls that have been working a lot during their training sessions for the past two weeks. To come and play the strongest team in the league in the first game was a tough experience but ones that will certainly prepare them for later in the season.

13th September

The U19 girls had their second Volleyball fixture last Wednesday. Again, our service was very consistent and we were much better at receiving. The first set saw a rusty BSG not looking at the best and resulted in us going down 25-13. The second set the girls were very concentrated, focused and motivated and won 25-21. Although we lost the third set the girls fought back and we won the fourth set 26-24, which took us to a 5th set that we lost 15-11. It was a very close game and although we lost 3-2 to a very strong and experienced team. This results certainly shows massive improvement from the previous game and gives much hope at the tournament later in the season as well as the remaining fixtures.

16th September

Last Saturday the U19 girls had the opportunity to get a bit more of practise on a PRC exchange tournament at UISG. We played against UISG, QSI and ISD. We experimented different positions, different players and also most of the girls dared to try overarm service even though they were not very confident. Although we lost the 3 games the girls have learned something from it and they all had a lot of fun. Lets see if this shows in Wednesdays game against ISD.

20th September

On Wednesday the U19 girls went to the International School of Dongguan (ISD) to pull off their first victory in this league. Having lost to them on Saturday at the exchange attempting some new tactics - it seemed the experience provide very positive and the girls won this game to put them back in contention for a trophy in the league. In the first set the BSG girls were a bit nervous about the fact that there was not a lot of space around the volleyball court and just a short space to serve. Not ideal conditions but one they soon got used too. Although we were behind for a while, the girls fought back and won the set for 25-19. On the second set girls had a very positive attitude and a great service so we won that set without much pressure for 25=17. The third set was a bit different, BSG girls lost their concentration, they were not communicating when defending and also missed a lot of services which made us lose the set for 19-25. We got to the fourth set and the girls were determined to win (25-18), they didn't make many mistakes and they were very

good at serving again. This was a very positive game, not just because we won but, the girls were very focused and have grown as a team.



U19 BOYS VOLLEYBALL

6th September

This was the first volleyball game of the season for our U19 boys and expectations were high against AISG who are consistently strong in the local division. The starting 6 (Shaun, Steven, Peter, Dylan, C.J., Neil) made a nervous start but then did well on the receiving to ensure that scores were always close. It was only at 17 points when tiredness and the extra weeks of training kicked in that AISG were able to kill off the game.

Second set saw our boys much more confident and they led the score board for the whole set up to 23-22, where AISG manage to get 3 consecutive serves and won the 2nd set. Last set of the match, started with BSG boys showing great commitment in defense and which resulted in a 5 point lead forcing AISG to request a time-out. Mid set AISG manage to take the lead and they won 25-16, but our boys fought for every point and gave a good battle for the match.

13th September

The U19 Boys Volleyball team visited Utahloy for another important match in the GISAC League. The boys started with great attitude and manage to get a 7 point lead right from the beginning, but that lead was lost by half way of the set and it was a tight back and forward game however Utahloy managed to win two in a row to edge the win (25-23). In the 2nd set the history repeated itself until the last few points, Utahloy were leading 24-23 and with a sensational save by Dylan and a great point by Neil, levelled the game and with a strong finish managed to win the set (26-24). The next 2 sets were again very even but frustratingly Utahloy manage to get their nose in front take the match. A 3-1 win with a lot of good points of note as well as some very complementary remarks from the opposition's coach saying he is looking forward to our next match. Lets hope next time its in our favour.....

16th September

We took 9 students for some extra volleyball games at the PRC exchange at UISG. This was not originally on the calendar but when the invite came up we saw a great learning opportunity for our students. 4 matches were played against other international schools and we ended up with a 2 wins and 2 loses under the lead of team captain, Daniel Lee (setter). With a team largely made up of Year 10 this was an achievement in itself and will reflect in future matches and years no doubt.

In the first game against UISG, they won some points against the host team. At the beginning they were struggling on their positioning, but they adapted themselves shortly as the match got going. Despite showing some good skill in receiving they were dominated by the more experienced and stronger USIG boys. In the second match against QSI, another notoriously strong team, they boys couldn't find a rhythm and lost 2-0 in the end. In the last two games against ZIS and GNIS, our B Team both won by 2:1 with great efforts. Every player played in their positions and got a full understanding of serving and serve-receiving strategies through these two

long lasting games. Well done to all involved. Throughout these four matches, Henk is the MVP without the question. Hope they will be much better in next volleyball day!

20th September

The U19 boys volleyball team faced ISD on Wednesday looking for the first victory of the season. The starting 6 (Neil, Dylan, Henk, Hue, Peter, CJ and Ross – libero) made a nervous start. A few basic mistakes gave the set to the ISD with a final score of 19-25. The second set saw more errors and mistakes up until to the end of the set when the boys pulled a great comeback to take the win on the last nervous deuce (27-25). The 3rd set saw a totally different attitude with the squad much more relaxed and playing with a smile on their faces. This attitude led them to an easy win (25-17) in this set and an even easier win on the last set (25-15). Adam and Shaun also contributed on the last 2 sets and helped the team achieve the first victory of the season.