

# TAG RUGBY Win for Wicklewood

On Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> April, our School sent two teams to Diss High School to compete in the South Norfolk schools tag rugby finals. One Year 6 team and one Year 5 team. Both teams had qualified for the finals by coming top of the cluster competition in early December.

The Year 6 team was made up of Hugo Pattison, Jake Richardson, William Pratt, Rufus Cross, George Martin, Anna Wayne, Tilly Butler and Sienna Long.

The Year 5 team was made up of Freddie Pattison, Harry Vincent, Joshua Hanser, Christopher Myhill, William Shenstone, Jake Gibson, Florrie Martin, Alyssa Money and Libby Ong.



Both teams travelled to Diss by coach with Mrs Smith and our team coach Mr Pattison. On the way, some of us felt nervous so our coach gave us some words of encouragement which made us all feel better and we were determined to do our best and to make our school proud.

It was a very hot and sunny day so we had to stay in the shade when we could and drink lots of water. Each team played five matches in their pool and both of our teams won all five of their pool games by at least two or three tries. All of us were working very well as a team by supporting each other, passing the ball and holding our defence. Despite the tight schedule we watched and supported each other when possible.

After lunch all of the teams gathered and it was announced that both Wicklewood teams had won their pools and had made it through to the semi-finals. We were thrilled and yet we were also nervous about the games ahead. In our semi-final the Year 6s played Dickleburgh and we beat them relatively easily but unfortunately our year 5s lost their semi-final to East Harling. We were so excited that we had made it through to the final but when we found out we were playing East Harling again we knew we had it in the bag. It was an intense match; East Harling had improved and they really wanted to win but we wanted it more! We held up our defence; most of us were diving for tags preventing them from scoring tries. Our attack was outstanding, we were piercing their line with ease offloading the ball into space then sprinting down the wing. Everyone was scoring tries. When the referee blew his whistle to end the game, we were all overwhelmed with our victory. We set out determined, with a desire to win. After training whenever we could, in the cold, rain, wind and snow!

I think my team played exceptionally throughout the whole competition and we learnt that if you train hard, you can achieve your goals. It has been an amazing and enjoyable experience, one that I will remember for the rest of my life and we are so proud to be the 2017/2018 South Norfolk schools tag rugby champions.

To the Year 5s: Tough luck this time, but if you train hard and play as a team you could be next year's champions, then you'll bring home the glory!

By Hugo Pattison (year 6).