

04.07.16

Basketball:

The OTC Junior A girls Basketball team fought a great game on Wednesday night against the Mount Maunganui College junior A. The girls played extremely well and were deserving of the solid victory they came away with. Although the girls came away with the win, it was not easy. It was a tough, physical game in which both teams came out and played to win. New to the team, year 9 player Danella Clark stepped up and played a fantastic defensive game, shutting down the opposition and snatching plenty of rebounds. Courtney Bennett, Emma Hegarty and Antonia Ballantyne attacked the basket well, allowing the team to play strongly together and come away with the win.

The OTC Junior A Boys Basketball team had a blinder last week against Trident High School Junior A boys. After going down 46-87 in the previous game they played and not having two of their starting players the boys were up for a huge battle. The boys started extremely strong and in the break after the first quarter the OTC boys were up by 25 points. The last three quarters were extremely physical and the match became much closer. In the 4th quarter Trident clawed their way back to a 1-point buffer with less than a minute to go. Sam Heslop and Henare Richards performed extremely well stealing the ball and making important free throws on two separate occasions helped with the boy's success in scrapping through the game to win by 1 point 60-59.

Netball:

After finishing top of Division 5 in the preliminary rounds, the Junior 1 Netball team was moved up into Division 4 and played second ranked Te Whare Kura M1 in the first of the championship rounds.

A strong start saw us take an early lead of 12-7 at the end of the first quarter with good connections between shooters Grace Blissett and Alex Tomson and the mid court players, Lucy Schuler and Makaylah Rae. Shooting was consistent throughout most of the game and at the other end of the court the defensive pairing of Sarah Ensor and Danella Clark restricted the opposition to just 14 goals over the next three quarters of the game. At times we were put under pressure but regrouped and came back strongly. With a total team effort throughout the game, we finished with a score of 36-21, giving us a good start to the championship rounds. The girls put in a massive effort, showing the talent throughout the team to take on a second ranked team in the entire division above what the girls were playing in. This week the girls take on Aquinas Premier 2 in a game that is going to show a good indication of where the girls are against some senior premier teams.