



Queen Mary's Grammar School

Headmaster: R J Langton, M A

Queen Mary's Grammar School – Rugby Round Up

September 2023:

Hello and welcome to a new monthly feature for the Queen Mary's rugby program – our Rugby round up; it will feature results, fixture updates and stand out performers from the previous month. As our rugby fixture card changes the boys are getting more exposure to higher level opposition and their development over the first month of the season has been great to see. Long may it continue!

We started the season with a pre-season block vs Denstone College with our U13 and 14 A's having their first home games of the season, whilst our U15 A's travelled over to Uttoxeter with their first away game of the season. The U15 A's were met by experienced opposition who dominated in the set piece and eventually lost 32-12, there were some positives however with B. Omoleye scoring two great tries, including a length of the pitch wonder try. At home there were mixed results with the U14 A's losing 59-0 and the U13 A's recording a brilliant 70-5 win to show that last season's county cup win was no fluke. Notable performances from the U13 game came from T. Olyanika who scored a try on his A team debut, and two try E. Gini who is turning into a powerful and intelligent forward.

Following this pre-season weekend we started our first full fixture block of the season, with fixtures against Haberdashers Abraham Darby. This first week was the first time all of our teams played this season and we ended the week with a record of **(W:3, D:1, L:2)**. The first win of the week came in the 1st XV's first game of the season where they ended up as 43-26 winners in a high scoring affair. Even though they had to withstand heavy pressure from a talented Abraham Darby backline, QM played some great rugby with B. Fellows running the show from 10 with some great try's and a great performance from the boot. The U13 A's recorded their second win of the season with a 35-10 win away from home in some tough weather conditions whilst the U12 A's (many of whom played their first game of rugby) ran away 70-20 winners, notable performances coming from J. Birt and C. Agbasoga.



Next up was a block against a whole range of schools, with the pick of the ties being a National Cup First Round tie vs Solihull School for the U14 A's which unfortunately finished 34-17 to Solihull. Elsewhere, there were wins for the 2nd XV against KE Birmingham, the U13 B's vs Derby Grammar School and the U13 A's continued their fine form with a 65-20 win over KE Lichfield. There were also some tough losses for the U14 and U12 A's vs KE Lichfield but it gave the boys the opportunity to play against tough opposition once again and allowed them to see what they need to work on in order to reach those levels for fixtures later in the season.

The month finished with a block against our local rivals Bishop Vesey. The week started off with a double header for the U14's, with the A team running out 36-12 winners which gave them their first win of the season. A returning D. Akanihu with a great performance from Inside centre being the pick of the performances and being the difference maker between the two teams.

Elsewhere, there was a win for the 1st XV who returned to winning ways with a 40-19 win, playing some free flowing rugby but also putting in a top defensive performance against a powerful Vesey team. This was followed up by the U13 A's and B's who produced a winning double (55-10 and 55-0 respectively). The most exciting part of the week was seeing our Year 7's putting out four teams meaning over 60 boys represented the school in their first games of rugby.

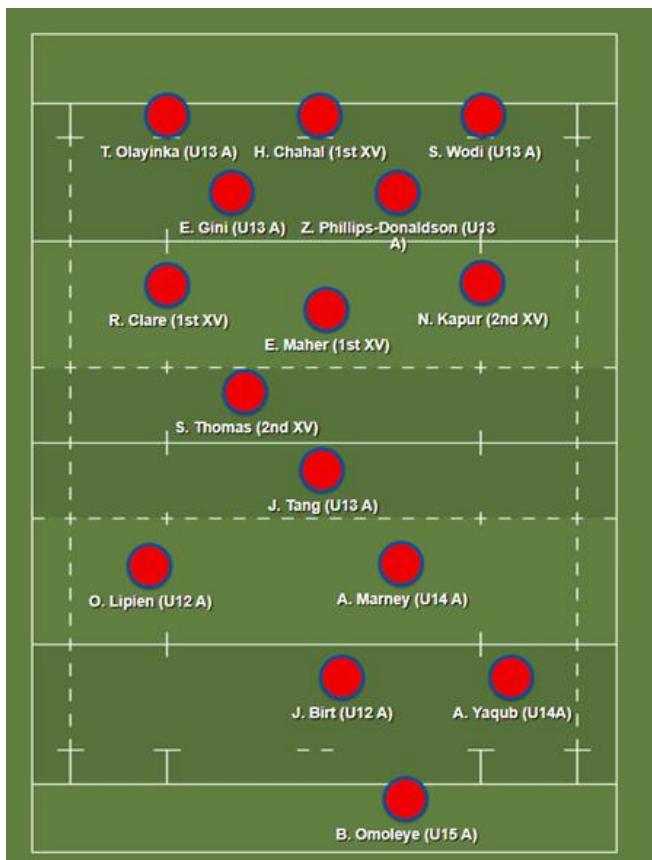
Team of the month:

This year we are starting a new tradition for the Queen Mary's rugby program which is the team of the month you may have seen over on X @QMGS Rugby. The places in the team are given to boys who have performed to the best of their ability's and who have been a CREDIT to the school when representing their team in fixtures.

R. Clare – Started the Senior XV season in a new position following on from two years at full back. He has slotted in to his new role at flanker with ease, with some great tackles and ball carrying performances in his first few games for the XV

E. Gini – A strong powerful forward with a great ability to carry the ball over the gain line. He gets better with every game as he learns the tactical side of the game. A player to look out for in the future.

Congratulations to all of the boys who were selected!



QMGS 1st XV Kit Sample

Future Sport Project:

As part of the Future Sport Project at Queen Mary's Grammar School we are looking for individuals or businesses to sponsor our 1st XV kit for next season. If you are interested in sponsoring the team and playing your part in creating a lasting legacy for sport at the school please visit: FutureSport@QMGS – [Queen Mary's Club \(qmclub.org\)](http://Queen Mary's Club (qmclub.org)) or you can email a.ryley@QMGS.merciantrust.org.uk for more information.





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Local Rugby Clubs:

If your son has enjoyed rugby at school and would like to pursue it outside of school, please see below links and contact's for Rugby clubs in the area. If you have any more questions please email Mr Ryley.

Handsworth RUFC:

Facebook – Handsworth Junior Rugby



HRUFC
Junior Rugby
Boys Taster Session

WHEN: Sunday 19th November
TIME: 10:15 - 11:30
YEAR GROUPS: Year 7-11
WHERE TO FIND US: Handsworth
RUFC, Walsall. WS5 3JP.
WHAT TO BRING: Boots/Trainers &
Water Bottle

*For more information message our
Facebook Page 'Handsworth Junior Rugby'*

f @ t

Walsall RFC - @WalsallRFC

<https://walsallrugbyclub.rfu.club/>
walsallrfc@gmail.com

Veseyans RFC - @VeseyansRugby

<https://www.veseyansrugby.co.uk/>
info@veseyansrugby.co.uk

For latest updates on QMGS Rugby please follow **@QmgsRugby** on X. It has been a successful first month for all of our teams and as we start to look towards the future the development of the players is only going to get stronger. Keep your eyes out for our next results update in October.

A. Ryley

Head of Rugby

Queen Mary's Grammar School

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