

Under 13 Girls ISA Hockey Tournament, London – 20/21 November 2019

We all arrived at school on Wednesday morning excited and ready to go!

Soon we set off for London. We had a great, *unexpected* tour of London, as Miss Ross accidentally took a wrong turn and we saw some famous landmarks and sights as a result!

Shortly we arrived at the Olympic Park Stadium, which is currently West Ham United's Stadium. After a detailed tour of the stadium with a visual experience and a chance to run on the actual 2012 warm up track, we then went on to explore the Olympic Aquatics Centre. After such a long day we were hungry and filled our stomachs at Pizza Express.



After that we set off for the YHA Lee Valley Hostel, where we tried to get a great night's sleep, excited about the day ahead of us.

The next morning we had a wide variety of breakfast choices including tuna pasta! With dreary eyes and smiling face as we set off at the Lee Valley Hockey Centre, ready to play in the National ISA Hockey tournament.



Our first match went surprisingly well when we drew 2-2. It was a great start to the day. We then won the next match 2-0, which gave us more confidence for the next match which we won 4-0! Unfortunately we lost 2-1 in the next match against Princethorpe College, but our previous performances meant that we qualified for the next round!



The afternoon matches soon commenced after a quick lunch break. We headed out to the freezing cold of the stadium pitch where the Great Britain and England teams play their home games.

We played well in our first game against a strong school from the South and were able to stop them from scoring but,

unfortunately, came down to penalty flicks which we have never done before. Our goalie, Ruby, managed to save all but one of the flicks and performed extremely well, but we weren't able to score, which meant that the other team were through to the final and we would be battling it out for third place.



Again, after a tough game where we went 1 goal behind, we kept pushing until the end and equalised with 2 minutes to go. Unfortunately, the game came down to penalty flicks again. Tilly managed to score and Ruby did amazingly well again, but it went to sudden-death and the other team scored to take victory, leaving us in fourth place overall, which we are extremely pleased and proud about. We had such a good time and it was amazing to play on the Olympic pitch.

We are already excited for our next trip away, and want to thank the whole squad and school staff for making this such a special experience.