

St Bridget's & County / Country Chess News

Recent Chess Activities & Achievements

St Bridget's U11 and U8 squads have been competing in Wirral Schools U11 and U9 Leagues. Both are about mid-table facing older opposition

Country Chess Trials

Maddie Kinson and Heather Marshall have been invited to trials for the England Girls squad in London

County Matches involving St Bridget's children

Last week the U9 Wirral squad obtained Bronze medals in the Northern Counties tournament, beating much larger and historically stronger counties including Yorkshire. As usual Nottingham were clear winners but Wirral were only 1 result from Cheshire's silver medal position after 36 games....no mean feat given Wirral and Cheshire compete over the same players at U9 level!

Wirral go through to the National finals on 26th April. STB Players (boards) were Advait Bavekatte (4) George Creasy (6) Vadim Bosc (9) Alex Waring (13)R. In the final it is likely we will play boards 3 and 4 at least despite the age difference

This week the U11 Cheshire squad including Tom Winston (U10) on board 14 also achieved Bronze medals in their Northern Counties tournament and also progress to the National Finals

CONGRATULATIONS to Tom, Advait, George, Vadim and Alex on their Bronze Medals

Hoylake & Great Meols Chess Club (£5) "St Bridget's Veterans"

StB's team coach (John Hanson) encountered Cheshire U11 board 1 Riya Yesudian in H&GM vs Chester D team adult match...." I gave him a chance , honestly I did, but then he forced me into a draw"

EPSCA National Schools (£500)

Both StB U9 and U11 squads are already in the National semi-finals in June at Prestatyn Pontins after bronze medal positions in the qualifiers 12 Families will attend

New Barclaycard International Competition (Free)

We have entered the Barclaycard "SayYes2Chess" international competition across eight countries with 7500 children so far signed up. Games will be **on-line only** in the IT suite, with a test run vs St Mary's Bramley on 24th March (St Mary's are 1/3 sponsors of the English Chess Federation who govern all UK chess!.) Finals are all expenses paid London

CONTACT DETAILS: John Hanson 07900 812099, john.michael.hanson@gmail.com

St Bridget's Club Membership

Membership has reached over **50** again with many new starters from Year 1 and 2, so I have had to return to the arrangements below for lunchtimes: The "levels" are estimated from the ability to answer questions on the "chesskids.com" website (or printed copies I will be distributing to the newer members).

Beginners www.chesskids.com skill levels 1 - 2 **Thu Lunch 12:30-13:15 Atrium**

Improvers www.chesskids.com skill levels 3 - 4 **Mon Lunch 12:30-13:15 CLASS 11**

Advanced www.chesskids.com skill levels 4 - 6+ **Fri Lunch 12:30-13:15 Atrium**

Afterschool Chess Club 3.30-5pm (& pickup arrangements)

Parents/carers are requested to go to the **back of the infant playground for pick-up just outside Room 11 (not 12 this year) and sign out on the Register**. We're finding we can't escort children to the office at different times and safety issues arise. 5pm finish, please call 07900 812099 John Hanson if delays occur. **(£1 per session, or £10 per term**

ALL welcome, though beginners may struggle to get a game. Last year we received kind donations, often repeats from the same few people, but we didn't quite cover costs of the awards at year end, so we've introduced a small fee to help and saving for more equipment.

Individual News

The School's Largest Chess Trophy "Ray Phillips Trophy" for best child coach of other children is up for grabs with several early contenders, Alex Waring, Vadim Bosc....

Other Opportunities

Ladymount School Tuesdays

Matt Battersby runs a club for U9 or U11, matches or training on Tuesdays from 4.30 at LadyMount (pre-school) for £2 per session – contact Matt via John Hanson

Internal Competitions

As last year we have a League Ladder & Swiss-Style Cup for all at St Bridgets, about to restart in earnest

Other

I encourage use of <http://www.chess.com> "explorer" function in particular for games and the [chesskid/chesskids.com](http://www.chesskid.com) training videos. The Barclaycard software may prove to be helpful as well, and more directly links us up with other schools via the IT Suite

For further information parents can contact **John Hanson**

Web sites: www.chesskid.com, www.chesskids.com, www.chess.com