Co-ordinator’s report

As I moved around a number of our teams during the week it is obvious that some of our students are lacking in some basic kicking and marking skills. Several of the coaches and myself spent time working with individual players and although they were short sessions it was clear to see the improvement these players made in their skills. I would encourage students, coaches and parents to spend as much time as possible on these basic skill areas.

While a number of our junior teams had good wins at the weekend our senior teams were well beaten by a much stronger and talented Trinity College.

On the positive side it was fantastic to see the turn out for our 2ndXVIII which has been one of our major objectives this year in terms of fielding a regular team. We in fact had more players than required and I thank our students for the response to our requests for support.

Andy Miller
Football Co-ordinator

Thank you to all organised and contributed to afternoon tea again last weekend. The wonderful spread was commented upon by our visitors who were very appreciative for a hot cup and something to eat!

Coaches:
1st XVIII
Barrie Bryan 0409 865 205
2nd XVIII
Paul Bahr 0412 324 861
Year 8/9
Nathan Risatano 0466 242 949
Justin Bollenhagen
0432 797 546
Year 6/7
Barrie Bryan 0409 865 205
Year 5
Rocco Canino 0412 021 173
Year 4
Tom Laity 0458 588 154
Harry Lumsden 0412 947 747
Year 3
Jarrod Lienert
Year 2

RESULTS – Round 4
1st XVIII lost TC: 34-148
2nd XVIII lost TC: 31-112
Year 8/9 - BYE
Year 6/7 lost PAC: 0-85
Year 5 def Burnside: 69-46
Year 4 def CBC: 64-33
Year 3 lost Burnside: 37-46
Year 2 def CBC: 54-20

Check out the Football page of the School website
Congratulations to Samuel Bleby-Williams who played his first First XVIII game for 2016 and to Charlie Rowe who made his First XVIII debut in this game!

Trinity started the match strongly and immediately had us all under pressure; I was very pleased with the way the Pulteney players then steadied, finished the quarter strongly and managed to score 2 goals (both kicked by Jarrod Miller who marked strongly and kicked accurately).

By half-time we had lost the hard-working Jack White to a shoulder injury and Liam Geddes-Ryan was struggling with a hip injury; Trinity had established their ascendancy and we certainly had a big job in front of us.

During the long break I stressed the importance of maintaining discipline, of ‘keeping it together’ and of ensuring we continue to do our very best...of course, we also had to improve in a number of areas including our decision making when going forward, and on working harder defensively to try to make goal-scoring more difficult for Trinity.

Jarrod Miller kicked his third goal in the third quarter but we were not able to match Trinity who were too strong in all areas and continued to build upon their lead.

At ¾ time we decided to continue attacking in a bid to help us better prepare for tough games ahead, rather than to push everyone behind the ball to restrict the damage.

Although outclassed, the Pulteney players continued to work hard and were eventually ‘rewarded’ when Josh Wills took a spectacular mark and kicked a goal.

In the rooms after the game we spoke about Trinity’s strengths; we admitted we felt embarrassed by the score line, but in terms of learning for the future, also looked at the positives to come out of the game; these included:

- the strong performances of Josh Wills and Ben Adams – clearly our two best players in this game who were able to perform admirably against very strong opposition
- the commitment to the task of Zac Sipek and Angus Lumsden – both of these players battled hard all day and were very good players for us
- Jarrod Miller – despite being frustrated by being double and triple ‘teamed’ for most of the match, Jarrod kept presenting, took some strong marks and gave us some ‘hope’ in the forward line

When a team is thrashed like this it is easy (and quite common) for the team to become an ‘undisciplined rabble’ with players bickering amongst each other, arguing with umpires, being sent off etc.

The Pulteney First XVIII Team is to be congratulated for maintaining composure, positive behaviour and for finishing the game off as strongly as possible.

Whilst it was a tough day for all of us, I thank the players for their efforts and for maintaining discipline; that alone will help us to win games of Football in 2016.

Best Players: Josh Wills, Ben Adams, Zac Sipek, Angus Lumsden, Jarrod Miller

Goal-Kickers: Jarrod Miller 3, Josh Wills 1

Barrie Bryan
Coach
Outstanding – That is the only way I can describe our start to game. Our tackling pressure, thirst for the contest and our desire to compete was first class. I am so very proud of every member of the team.

It was no coincidence that this start, resulted in us placing early scoreboard pressure on our opposition by kicking 2 early goals.

The second Quarter was more of the same great pressure and our desire to stay in the contest went up another level. As mentioned on the day I have never been part of a team that smothers as much as we do.

Every one of our 4 goals in the first half had 3 key characteristics;

**FAST** When we got the ball we got it forward as FAST as we could.

**AGGRESSIVE** We were AGGRESSIVE at ball always knocking it forward if we could not take possession. We did not let is past us. When the opposition had the ball we were AGGRESSIVE with our tackling to force them to turn the ball over.

**ATTACKING** We went long with our kicks and ATTACKED down the centre of the ground.

In short we Played: **FAST, AGGRESSIVE, ATTACKING FOOTBALL.**

This type of football is great to watch and even more fun to play. I know the players were enjoying because I had to pull a couple of players up for reminiscing about the game at half time.

The Third quarter did not go our way. We were outscored by 6 Goals. For this I take responsibility. The positional changes I made were not correct and upset the balance we had in the first half. Secondly I confused some players with messages that could have been clearer on how to approach certain aspects of the game.

The Fourth Quarter we did not have 4 of our best players available. The Script had been written and we were to go out onto the ground, be a token opposition while Trinity would kick 10 Goals with the wind.

Well that was not going to happen. As team we found the courage when exhausted to lift our tackling pressure to the level it was in the first quarter. We Harassed, Pressured, Remained in the contest for every minute of the last quarter and held our opposition to 1 Goal. **With all the odds against us we held them to 1 Goal. What A Fantastic Effort.**

As Always;

- As a group I believe in you, we are a better team than what you currently realise and this week we started to show this.
- As a team we focus on the things we can control
- The scoreboard does not measure our success; rather it is measured by our *Desire To Compete*. The scoreboard is turning in our favour.

Paul Bahr
Coach
Well done, Boys!

The score line suggests that we were soundly beaten by a superior team (which we were), but doesn’t reflect the spirit, effort, discipline and resilience of the Pulteney boys.

I was very pleased and proud of the way our boys battled the game out, tried to ‘run the ball’ and created genuine scoring opportunities in every quarter.

The largest number of scoring shots conceded in any one quarter was 6 and the most goals conceded in any one quarter, was 4.

Our ‘better’ players played well again this week, including Matt, Rory, Gabs, Seb, Austin, Patrick etc

I would like to highlight however, the improved performances of a number of other players

Jack – fantastic game! Played very well from the first quarter onwards and appears to be growing in confidence each week

Harry – played his best game for the season; was reliable in defence and read the ball well

Logan – developing into a very good player; disciplined to hold his position each week and as a result, takes a number of intercept marks

Alex – rucked well late in the match and took 2 very good marks

Charlie – another who played his best game for the season and demonstrated good kicking skills

A reminder again to all of the players and parents: we have 24 players in our squad and depending on availability, all players are selected to play every week (ie rather than rostering players ‘off’.

Each player will get at least three quarters of game-time every week!

(Occasionally, as was the case last week against Rostrevor, all players are able to play a full game).

Not only that, but as I told the players before the game, all players will play in at least 2 different positions each week to assist their development as flexible and multi-faceted footballers.

These are two of the pillars of my coaching philosophy for players of this age (and below):

i) fair and equal game time for all

ii) not ‘pigeon-holing’ any one player into any particular position

What we (coaches, players, parents etc) must also acknowledge is that our 24 Year 6/7 players reflect a very diverse range of abilities, experience and temperaments/ personalities/ characters.

This is not the AFL... it is important that all players are encouraged to develop at their own stage of ‘readiness’, but also to ensure we maintain an atmosphere of fun and enjoyment (regardless of the score) at training, on match-days and at home.

A number of us got a laugh today when Patrick Winter tried to kick the ball back (from behind the goals) to the umpire, following a PAC goal:

i) Patrick’s first kick hit the goal post and returned to its original starting point!
ii) Patrick’s second kick hit a tree and returned to its original starting point!

iii) Patrick’s third kick was successful in reaching the umpire!

Unfortunately for Patrick, those three kicks don’t count on the stats sheet!

Looking forward to seeing you all at school and to seeing most of you at training on Wednesday!

Best Players: Matt Adams, Rory O’Callaghan, Jack O’Connor, Gabriel Luksich, Seb Brett, Harry Oates, Logan Holman, Austin Brooks, Patrick Winter, Alex Candy, Charlie Pearson

Barrie Bryan
Coach

PGS 9:15 (69) Burnside 7:4 (46)

Our Pulteney Year 5's delivered a 'Friday Night Blockbuster' under lights at Victoria Park DEFEATING Burnside Primary 9.15. 69 to 7.4. 46.

Although we scored more behinds than goals, a great positive from the game was our ability to deliver entries into our forward 50 multiple times each quarter. I am very proud of the four quarter effort I asked our team to provide during the week which they did not disappoint in delivering.

It was pleasing to witness all players contribute in building momentum with smart football which brought out the best in our abilities while proving that we have improved in a lot of areas in the past few weeks.

All players showed their incredible talented football skills and I’m looking forward to helping improve and develop each of their attributes even further in the coming weeks.

I would like to thank Oliver S, Oliver H, Riley Mc and Owen B for showing great spirit and filling in for Burnside as they were down a player and for all players who were rotated off of the bench. This is a big part of teamwork which we all display week in week out and is another reason why this team is successful.

I would also like to thank the ongoing support from families at games who cheer our team on, and assist in helping with goal umpiring, setting up of equipment and providing oranges/snacks for the players. This is very much appreciated.

Looking forward to training on Tuesday.

Thanks also to Bill for coming to the game tonight and helping source goal posts (Which the other team forgot to provide) lifesaver!

Rocco Canino
Coach
PGS 9:10 (64) CBC 5:3 (33)

The weekend was clearly the most fun the boys have had all year. The first three quarters were a tight contested tussle between the two sides, and the scoreboard at 3QT had us just 3 points clear. Darcy Bryan had been his usual reliable self, the returning Elliot Inglis was on fire with run and carry out the midfield and Nicholas Restas was clean with his ball-handling out of the back pocket.

In the fourth quarter, however we produced our best football of the year (even eclipsing our win against Highgate in the lightning carnival last week). We applied pressure in the midfield and constantly supplied our forward line with quality deep entries. Jake Basheer was dominant up forward and we ran away with the game.

The CBC boys who filled in for us were fantastic as well and it was great to see them play in the correct spirit when asked to fill in for us. They even snuck a few goals on the board too! If we ever need to help the opposition fill a team, we would love to see the Pulteney boys follow this example and play with the same endeavour.

Tom Lainty & Harry Lumsden
Coaches

PGS 6:1 (37) Burnside 7:7 (46)

In our most pleasing game for the season, the PGS Year 3’s produced a great all round performance. The defenders improved their accountability to halt a potent Burnside forward line - the midfielders showed hunger for the ball and won their fair share of clearances - the forwards stuck to our ‘diamond’ structure well and made good use of our forward entries.

Our natural use of teamwork was visibly evident this week because of the teams ability to spread to space. Prior to the match, we discussed concentration throughout the whole match and constantly thinking about the game. It’s a huge positive that this aspect of our performance is improving each week.

An awesome effort, Well Done!

Best Players: Yong Hao Wang, Georgia Inglis, Thomas Schulze, Aidan Fitzpatrick, Kristian Gould.

Goal Kickers: Thomas Schulze 3, Alex Foster 1, Kristian Gould 1, Will Arbon 1.

Jarrod Lienert
Coach

Year 2: - PGS 9:10 (54) CBC 3:2 (20)

No report

OUR SONG
(to be sung with gusto)

We are the Navy Blues

We are the Old Dark Navy Blues

We’re the team that never lets you down

We’re the only team old Pulteney knows

With all the champions

We’ll keep our heads up

We’ll never give up

And they will know that they’ve been playing

Against the famous Old Dark Blues

(Sung to the tune of the Leslie Stuart song ‘Lily of Laguna’ – Carlton Football Club)

ALWAYS CHECK ‘SPORT THIS WEEK’ for the final word on game times and venues.