



ST JOHN'S
SCHOOL
LEATHERHEAD

RUGBY CLUB RESULTS – SPRING 2009

V Epsom College (Away) – 17 January 2009

Team	Score	Result
A XV	WON	8 - 7
B XV	WON	45 - 15

This was an excellent achievement – with both teams beating Epsom College away from home.

The A XV did not quite hit their straps in attack but defended courageously, with the second half defence being particularly impressive. St John's clearly had the greater desire and after a scoreless first half, scored the first points from a Josh Pickering penalty. The forwards were becoming more dominant and began breaking through the Epsom defence. This allowed greater attacking opportunities for the St John's backline. With 10 minutes remaining, against the run of play, Epsom scored a converted try. The St John's boys then showed real character and battled back, regaining the momentum. With 5 minutes left Tom Hamilton gathered a chip by Pickering to score. The St John's players then held firm to record a famous victory over a strong Epsom College side.

The B XV totally outclassed their opponents in all areas of the game. They played an expansive style of rugby which paid off with some excellent tries being scored in the process. The support play was first class, with Jack Dupay particularly dominant. This forward platform led to quick ball for the backs, who then cut the Epsom backline to shreds.

V St Bede's, Hailsham – 24 January 2009

Team	Score	Result
A XV	WON	27 - 0

A very encouraging performance. The defence held firm and a number of good chances were created in attack. Despite the slippery conditions the St John's boys played a fast game with some good off loading. Braden Ridgway scored 2 very impressive tries and the whole team played with spirit and commitment. Much credit must go to Charlie Swabey, who captained the side well.

V Worth– 31 January 2009

Team	Score	Result
A/B XV	WON	17 - 12

A game of attrition! Neither team managed much fluency during the afternoon, however, St John's scored a couple of good tries, through Killian Wilson and Freddie Woods. Unfortunately some defensive lapses allowed Worth back into the game. In the second half St John's showed far greater intensity and a well worked move allowed Braden Ridgway to score the winning try.

This was not the most proficient display by a St John's side, however the character and determination shown by the players to grind out a win was very encouraging.

v Epsom College – 28 February 2009

Team	Score	Result
A XV	WON	18 - 15

This was a good contest between 2 evenly matched teams. St John's dominated possession and territory early on, but could not finish off a number of chances. Then with the last play of the first half Epsom scored a converted try against the run of play.

Almost immediately in the second half St John's kicked a penalty (Elliot Davies). Epsom then scored a second try to make it 3 -12. With 8 minutes left St John's scored an excellent try; some good hands leading to a storming run and score by Ricardo Fawdry, converted by Davies. St John's had their tails up and further pressure allowed Greg Clark to slot an impressive drop goal (13-12) with 4 minutes left. However Epsom kicked a penalty in the last minute to regain the lead (13-15). Elliot Davies then managed to find touch right on the Epsom line from the restart. With the last play of the game St John's regained possession and some storming drives by the forwards finally led to Ed McIlroy sneaking over for the winning score.

This was an excellent comeback and showed the resilience and character within the team.

v Boxhill – Saturday 7 March 2009

Team	Score	Result
A XV	WON	37 - 0

This was a very open game of rugby with St John's finding good attacking form. The off loading and support play were impressive and but for some simple handling errors the score could have been even bigger.

The pick of the tries was a turnover in the St John's half, followed by strong runs and offloads, and swift hands by the backs resulting in a try in the corner by George Brain. St John's defended well to ensure a clean sheet, despite some late pressure by Boxhill.