

Monday 9 July Lord Grey Academy hosted its annual SPOTY ceremony. This event praises and commends the outstanding effort, resilience and talent of our finest sports performers. It was a fantastic evening filled with pride, gratitude and success for all of the nominees, and a night that our students, parents and staff will remember.

The ceremony was kick started by the wonderful special guest, Team GB Paralympic High Jumper Johnathan Broom-Edwards. Johnathan gave a very powerful and motivating introductory speech about all the challenges and obstacles that he encountered on the way to his success within his colourful sporting career.

Football Player of the Year (Boys)

Year 7 - Fletcher Ballarin

Year 8 - Jacob Anderson

Year 9 - Lewis Harvey

Year 10 - Jack Smith.

A special mention to all the other nominees: Logan Mead, George Southwell-McKenzie, Mohammed Mahbub, Nathan Kaye, Paolo Romeo, Bailey Martin, Joe Turkington and Kian Bennett. Well done you should all be exceptionally proud.

Football Player of the Year (Girls)

Year 7 - Scarlett Hobbs

Year 8 - Remi Martin

Year 9 - Dannii Warren

Huge congratulations the nominees in this category: Amanda Gwashure, Princess Mafuta, Erin Rolfe, Darcy Guy, Celine Ray and Karri Pender. It was a tremendous season for all the girls this year, filled with some outstanding performances from each team. Great job ladies!

Netball

Miss Webb and Mrs Dunn took to the stage to grace us with their presentation. Netball is arguably the crown jewel Lord Grey sport. With consistent dominance and might against every single team all of our year groups face, tournament win after tournament win and overall wonder, elegance and skill on the court, we seem to improve each year and continue to dominate and stand head and shoulders above the competition.

Year 7 Player of the Year - Jessica Lawrence, **Year 8 Player of the Year** - Charlie Sellars, **Year 9 Player of the Year** - Rosiane Mavuela and the **Upper School Player of the Year**- Megan Southwell. Congratulations girls! Another special shout out has to go to the nominees: Blessing Iyamu, Tait Hanley, Remi Martin, Lily Morgan, Dannii Warren, Ruth Raposo, Ellie Shaw and Katie Mallaghan. Another amazing season girls, we are all incredibly proud of you, well done!

Basketball

A sensational season of Basketball took place at Lord Grey this year. All of the teams put in some stunning performances at the Milton Keynes tournaments, as well as a collection of some convincing and comfortable wins in individual fixtures. The future of Lord Grey Basketball definitely looks bright for our youngsters. The Lower School Basketball MVP was awarded to Shakiranth Premakumar, and the Upper School Basketball MVP was awarded to

Nathan Lopez. Great effort this season boys, well deserved accolades for you both. Congratulations to the other nominees within this category also; Luke Gray, Nathan Kaye, Branden Calape, Jamie Chandler and Hilton Edokpolo. Well done boys!

Rugby

This year's Rugby season at Lord Grey was a great one. Each and every one of our teams showed tremendous skill and determination on the pitch, and as a result, they came away with some brilliant results and performances. Year 7 Player of the Year award went to Mason Curtis, Luke Forbes was named Year 8 Player of the Year and CJ Ilozor was awarded the Year 9 Player of the Year. Well done to all of the other nominees: Jayden McKee, Aidan Dana, Thomas Scott, Harry Saunders, Jake Howkins and Harrison Fisher. Outstanding season boys, the spirit and resilience you showed against some tough opponents this year is something to be immensely proud of.

Girls Rugby this year at Lord Grey was truly spectacular for the Year 7s, the interest and uptake in Rugby from girls this year was amazing, the number of girls taking part and wanting to participate within that year group was mind blowing and something that Miss Hussey and the Wellbeing Faculty were exceptionally proud of. There were some awesome performances on display for us this year, and hopefully this will continue. The Year 7 Player of the Year was awarded to Princess Mafuta, well done Princess! Special congratulations as well to the two other nominees; Amanda Gwashure and Jessica Lawrence. You were all amazing this year girls, really well done.

Badminton

Another season of excellent performances and results at the Milton Keynes tournaments, with our students displaying great sportsmanship and character. Badminton is something that we continue to improve at, and we certainly have some very skilled and promising players within our teams. The Lower School Female Player of the Year was awarded to Blessing Iyamu, the Lower School Male Player of the Year was awarded to Lukas Ray, the Upper School Female Player of the Year was awarded to Abigail Carter and the Upper School Male Player of the Year was awarded to Bailey Martin. Massive congratulations to other nominees as well: Jessica Lawrence, Remi Martin, Freddie Spiers, Brandon Pickett-Hill, Katie Rayner, Dannii Warren, Dominic Capel and Nathan Lopez. Great season you all played marvellously.

Cricket has become extremely popular recently at Lord Grey, especially with our lower school cohort. Lord Grey has had a wonderfully successful season this year, with lots of our players taking huge amounts of wickets, scoring endless amounts of runs and showing off their sublime fielding skills. We've had some fantastic results this season, with lots to look forward to from our cricketers heading into the future. Luca Woodgate was named the Year 7 Player of the Year, Luke Gray was awarded the Year 8 Player of the Year, Ollie Gill-Hammond was named the Year 9 Player of the Year and Michael Dorrington was named the Year 10 Player of the Year. The other nominees for cricket who also deserve a special mention are; Abid Miah, Shakiranth Premakumar, Freddie Smith, Adam Whitefoot, Bailey Martin, Ubayedul Haque, Sam Jones and Sameer Ali. Amazing effort and hard work this year boys, you all played superbly this season.

Miss McNiff and Miss Webb then took to the stage to present the winners of this year's Rounders awards. This season was yet another one of brilliance from all of our Rounders teams, with huge success at the Milton Keynes tournaments, with a few of our teams being crowned champions. As well as some very dominant and assertive victories from individual fixtures. Kamsi Onyeukwu was the recipient of the Year 7 Player of the Year, Remi Martin was awarded Year 8 Player of the Year, Rosiane Mavuela was named Year 9 Player of the Year and Maisie Rolfe was awarded Year 10 Player of the Year. Another special congratulations has to go out to the other nominees: Eva Sturdy, Courtney Campbell, Charlie Sellars, Courtney Williamson, Karri Pender, Jasmine Goodwin, Destiny Norman and Kimone Lynch. Well done girls, fantastic effort this year, we are all very proud!

Up next were the honours for this year's Cheerleading awards for the Lord Grey Knights Cheerleading squad, Miss McNiff remained on the stage to present these awards for her heavily illustrious and decorated team. The Lord Grey Knights Cheerleaders were on fire this year, show after show of incredible performances and acrobatics, the girls never failed to impress with their amazing arsenal of cheerleading skills. An outstanding year for these girls was capped off by an incredible performance at the National Schools Cheerleading Championships, held in Bournemouth. The team finished in second place overall! What an amazing culmination to what was a tremendous season for these girls, this terrific achievement is an even bigger testament to the team's undying competitiveness, dedication and natural talent. The school couldn't be more proud of you girls! Lower School Cheerleader of the Year was awarded to Charlotte Dorrington, Upper School Cheerleader of the Year was awarded to Andrea Kyte, Flyer of the Year was awarded to Alessia Allen and the Lord Grey Knights Overall Cheerleader of the Year was awarded to Eden Reeve. Special mention has to go out to the other nominees: Daniella Calzaghe, Sophie Worster, Sofia Lagioia, Amy Burdett, Rahema Hussain, Kacey Cummins and Brooke Foster. Well done girls!

Mr Henry and Mrs Lambert were up next to announce the honours for Athletics. Our athletes this year had a very successful season, with some very pleasing jumps, throws and fast times on the track at this year's Athletics Championships held at Stantonbury Campus. Lord Grey is tremendously proud to have such wonderfully gifted athletes here, so a huge well done to you all. The Lower school male athlete of the year was awarded to Luke Howkins, the Lower school female athlete of the year was awarded to Tait Hanley, the Upper School Male Athlete of the Year was awarded to Logan Hendry and the Upper School Female Athlete of the Year was awarded to Matilda Revell. Well done to all the other Athletics nominees: Jayden McKee, Sam Kassi, Jessica Lawrence, Erin Rolfe, Harry Blake, Michael Dorrington, Naomi Howe and Eden Reeve. Congratulations guys, superb effort this year!

Mr Henry remained on the stage to present the awards for Softball next. Softball continues to be one of Lord Grey's strongest and most electrifying sports, with our Year 10 school team experiencing tonnes of success this year at county tournaments, taking on and beating a collection of tough and competitive opponents. A truly fantastic season filled with countless unforgettable results and performances from all of the players. Congratulations to Callum Wasden who was named Softball Player of the Year, after a brilliant year of excellent individual skill and leadership being put on display, well done Callum!

Congratulations must go out to the other nominees for Softball: Soron Cook, Sam Jones and Byron Rogers.

GLAM Squad is an initiative that was set up by the Wellbeing Faculty in order to promote and encourage increased female participation, in and outside of school. The GLAM Squad is a team of wonderful female students here, across all year groups who act as role models for other girls within the school who are seeking and aspiring to achieve success and fulfilment in sport. These girls have done an amazing job this year, and deserve all the credit in the world, because without them, the level of participation and interest that girls have towards sport here at Lord Grey would certainly not be what is today without this outstanding team of girls who really have set the bench mark and a gold standard for other girls in the school to follow. Their efforts cannot be commended enough, great job ladies! Congratulations to Ruth Raposo who was named GLAM Squad Role Model of the Year, well done Ruth! A special mention needs to go to the other GLAM Squad nominees too; Rosiane Mavuela and Eden Reeve.

Sports Leadership is something that Lord Grey prides itself heavily on, we are tremendously thrilled to have so many of our gifted upper school students taking up the role of a sports leader and a role model, setting unbelievably positive examples for our youngsters to follow. The Year 11 and Sixth Form leaders this year were fantastic; they organised and ran some very successful sporting events and activities both in and out of school. They worked exceptionally hard this year with regards to their exquisite coaching and teaching skills, passing on their advice and expertise onto the younger students, helping them to enhance and refine their sporting skills in order to reach their potential. All of our Sports Leaders should be immensely proud of the example they've set this year as well as the inspiration they have conveyed onto our younger students, you've been incredible and you should all be so proud of yourselves. The award for Upper School Male Leader of the Year went to Luke Johnson, Upper School Female Leader of the Year was awarded to Megan McConnell, Sixth Form Leader of the Year was awarded to Charlie Coleman and the overall Outstanding Leadership award was given to Jake Griffiths. Huge congratulations also needs to go out to the other nominees for Sports Leadership: Oliver Kaye, Ben Tock, Sam Sargent, Emily Discombe, Alysha Sandever and Mia Drewett. Well done to you all!

The penultimate award of the night was for Outstanding Contribution. This was awarded to a student who never fails to compete in fixtures for every sport, someone who is incredibly reliable and dedicated to her sports teams in and out of school, a student who constantly demonstrates excellent displays of skill, leadership, teamwork and sportsmanship and someone who is without a doubt one of the finest sporting role models we are lucky enough to have in the school. An enormous congratulations to **Jessica Lawrence** who was the winner of this award, and undoubtedly so. The effort and dedication you have shown us this year Jessica made you a no brainer for this prize, and one you should extraordinarily proud of. Well done Jessica!

Mr Mort then returned to the stage to deliver and announce the final award of the ceremony; the much anticipated Overall Lord Grey Academy Sports Personality of the Year Award. The winner of the award is voted for on the night by the parents, students and staff in attendance, and this year the voting was as close as it could get, with two splendid

nominees for the award. The two nominees for this year's award couldn't have been more deserving of being considered for this prestigious prize. Maisie Rolfe and George Rose were the nominees, and truly embody and epitomise the definition and criteria for this honour. Since Year 7, Maisie and George have been outstanding role models, with unparalleled characteristics and traits that quite frankly set them apart from their peers. With regards to their sporting involvement both Maisie and George have an inextinguishable fire inside them that is the nucleus of their incredible competitiveness, discipline, composure, talent and drive to succeed in whatever it is they set out to do. Maisie is an incredibly talented Cheerleader, whose talents and skills have earned her national recognition and praise, competing at major competitions and winning gleaming silver-wear that just simply reflects the unmatched nature of her talents and abilities. Outside of her Cheerleading prowess, Maisie represents Lord Grey in every sport and is the beating heart of most of her year group's squads, showing amazing leadership, teamwork and motivation to win. George is a fantastically gifted Footballer for the Milton Keynes Dons. George has put his superb talents on show this season against fearsome opposition such as Manchester United and even the mighty Real Madrid. We hope that one day George will be wearing the three lions on his chest, with the captains arm band on, bringing it home for England. Like Maisie, George has represented Lord Grey in every sport and is a wonderfully well rounded athlete. George and Maisie aren't just role models in the field of sport and PE at Lord Grey, they are also brilliant students to have in a classroom, and excel just as much academically as they do when they are competing in their respective sports teams. George and Maisie are both an absolute pleasure to teach and it has been a privilege for everyone here at Lord Grey to watch Maisie and George grow and blossom into the amazing students they have become today. Hopefully Maisie and George continue to inspire and motivate the next generation of Lord Grey sports stars, and have without a doubt left a remarkable legacy for all of our students here to follow and appreciate.

Unfortunately, there could only be one winner of this illustrious honour; congratulations to **Maisie Rolfe** who was awarded **The Overall Lord Grey Academy Sports Personality of the Year 2018**. We can't express enough how proud we all are of you Maisie, you are a true class act and couldn't have been more worthy of walking away with this honour. On behalf of everyone here at Lord Grey, well done Maisie! Special mention to George Rose, who came up just three votes shy of Maisie, you've been a superstar over the past five years George, and we are all incredibly proud of everything you've accomplished here at Lord Grey, we wish you the best of luck as you embark on your next chapter in your football Journey, well done George!

Finally, the Head of the Wellbeing faculty, Mrs May headed back onto the stage to deliver one last thank you speech as the evening ceremony came to a close. Mrs May expressed her gratitude to the wonderful special guest we had that evening; Johnathan Broom-Edwards for his inspiring introduction and star striking presence for the students. Mrs May also took time to express her thanks and appreciation towards the outstanding Wellbeing faculty for their undying hard work, year in and year out, sublime teaching and providing infinite opportunities for our students to find confidence, warmth and fulfilment in sport, which really is the beauty of Physical Education, and for the organisation and execution of a thrilling awards ceremony. And one last thank you from Mrs May was directed towards, arguably the most important people in the room; the incredible students of Lord Grey

Academy. Without your persistent desire and keen nature for learning, your resilience and motivation to succeed and reach the top and wonderful character and persona that we as staff cannot get enough of, none of this would have been possible. You students are the backbone and beating heart of the school, and to see you all praised and commended for sporting success was the most rewarding and satisfying element of the evening. A huge thank you to all of the parents, students and staff who were in attendance for the ceremony, it really was an unbelievable of evening celebrating the amazing sporting success that our brilliant students have brought upon the school. Well done to all the winners and nominees on the night, you should all be extremely proud of yourselves! What an amazing culmination to what was yet another outstanding year at Lord Grey.