

HMC Chess Tournament 16/11/2011

The RGS took 9 teams of four players down to QEGS at Wakefield on Wednesday to take part in the annual Head Masters Conference Schools Chess Tournament. The tournament was organised by Richard Thompson of QEGS and controlled by ECF Arbiter, Julian Clissold, to both of whom we are very grateful.

At Under-9 the RGS A team took the lead early on and never looked like losing it. For the team captain, James Moreby scored 6/6; Louis Sergant also scored 6; Liam Hide scored 5 and William Hampton 4. The teams' total of 21/24 won the trophy with ease, beating the QEGS A team into second place. A total of 15½ enabled the RGS C team (Elliot Sheriff 2; Megan Cottee 2½; Aaryan Dharmadhikari 5; William Squires 6!) to take 3rd place. RGS D team – all from year 3 – finished on 13/24. This was a great effort by Rohan Rawat 3; Anish Krishnan 2; Rebecca Gill 4 and Bobby Green 4, and it bodes well for next years' teams. RGS B team (Raiyan Haq 2; Tharun Suresh 4; Fred Hault 2; Elliot Watson 4) were possibly a bit disappointed in their result, but still finished on half marks.



Shock, horror in the first round of the Under-11 tournament when the Yarm A team took the lead in the competition as RGS A team dropped a point to their own C team (Joe Dalton being well beaten by Rory Fraser). The A team didn't like this and won every other game thereafter, finishing on 23/24. There were 100% scores from Zheming Zhang, Anthony Lai and William Wilkinson, whilst Joe redeemed himself with 5/6. Rory went on to win all his 6 games for the C team; Manav Gupta won 5/6, Abel Harvie-Clark and Alex Cheng, both 3½ enabled the RGS C team

to take second place with 18/24. The year 5 RGS B team (Keshav Krishnan 4½; Eashan Ragbir 2½; Arif Alam 3½; Nathan Byatt 5) came third. Shriram Geethanath, 3/6, captained RGS D team for whom Hamish Burnett scored 4, Chidera Obonna 2½ and Thomas Pascall 2. The RGS E team was one man short when one of the players missed the bus. Dan Clarke 4½, Faizan Ahmed 2 and William Green 4 fought hard to finish on 10½/18.

I was very pleased with how all the players performed throughout the day. I am most grateful to the parents, Mrs Krishnan, Mrs Ahmed and Matthew Gill, without whose help the day would not have gone so well and I would not have found things so enjoyable.

HMC TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Under-9

1. RGS Newcastle A	21
2. QEGS Wakefield A	16½
3. RGS Newcastle C	15½
3. QEGS Wakefield B	13½
5. RGS Newcastle D	13
6. Yarm	12½
7. RGS Newcastle B	12
8. Bootham York	11
9. GSAL Leeds A	10
10. Lyndhurst	8
11. GSAL Leeds B	7
12 St Olave's York	4

Under-11

1. RGS Newcastle A	23
2. RGS Newcastle C	18
3. RGS Newcastle B	15½
4. Yarm A	14½
5= QEGS Wakefield A	13
5= QEGS Wakefield B	13
7. Yarm B	12½
8. Lyndhurst	12
9= RGS Newcastle D	11½
9= St Olave's York	11½
11= Ashville Harrogate	10½
11= RGS Newcastle E	10½
13. GSAL Leeds A	8½
14. GSAL Leeds B	7
15. Bootham York A	6½
16. Bootham York B	4½



Not all the RGS kids played chess all the time (photo-James Moreby)