

## RUGBY LEAGUE

### Year 6 – 20 – 8 win

Another strong display from the Year 6 team saw victory of St Edmund's College 20 – 8. Aggression in defence was a key contributor to the score line as the boys were able to keep their opponent in their own half for most of the match – leaving opportunity for attacking kick returns from Harry McAuliffe to set the team up in great attacking position. This was the case for most of the match which gave opportunity for players such as Max Caughley, Phelix Meehan, and Riley Hansel scoring, as well as Jakson Cook scoring a length of field intercept try. Player of the match went to Harrison Barden for his damaging defence and leadership throughout.

### Year 7 – 18 – 6 win

A very different playing environment this week. From dense fog at Iona College last Saturday to clear blue skies this morning at Padua College playing fields at Banyo.

How good is Brisbane!

Will the conditions impact on how the game would be played or the boys perform?

From kick-off, the answer was a yes. It became clear very quickly that the boys were somewhat chilled and were thinking of spending a day at the beach rather than competing in a game of Rugby League.

St Edmund's scored first with a quality movement down our left side. The try was converted and we found ourselves six points to nil after only five minutes.

A direct chat ensued behind the try line targeting our mindset, suggesting that the last five minutes did not occur and we needed to move forward.

To the boys' credit, they lifted and powered on scoring the next 18 points unanswered.

This result was achieved by the outstanding efforts of our forwards. **Archie Searle** (Left Prop), **Will Slater** (Right Prop) back fresh from representative duties, **Benji Blaszczyk** (Left Sec Row) **Thomas Collins** (Right Sec Row) and Captain **Jonah Wilde** (Lock) tore into Eddie's middle consistently making impressive post-contact metres.

Dummy-half and Hooker **Jude Dearling**, first receivers **Sam Head** (Half-back) and **Jed Cole** (Five-Eighth) provided quality ball allowing our backs **Will Bagnall** (Right Centre) and **Sid Roberts** (Left Centre) to create space for our wingers to perform.

Right Winger **Ewan Wood** was near untouchable as he mesmerised Eddie's with his evasive skills and hard running of the ball. Quiet achiever **Will Easter** (Left Winger) was again rock solid. Starting Fullback **Taj Cook** positional play was excellent. Fullback is the most challenging position on the field which requires an extensive skill set. Which very few boys at age 12/13 have. **Taj**- you have that skill set.

The interchange bench again delivered. Mr Versatile **Archie Barrett** (Prop), Mr Energy **Ari Higginbotham** (Sec Row), Mr Give Me the Ball **Oliver Searles** (Prop) Mr Lucky Hat **Finn Manahan** (Hooker) Mr I Just Need to Run **Rhyan Pears** and Mr Hand-Ball **Lucas Cottam** (Fullback) all contributed. **Lucas** hit the scoreboard with two tries.

**Code-skills crossover** witnessed something that I had never seen before in a junior Rugby League game. A deft AFL handpass from the fullback to his winger-substituting the handball for a swing/spiral rugby pass. **Lucas Cottam** to **Rhyan Pears** - effective and unpredictable.