

Staffordshire U14 Boys Hockey Champions

The Friary became U14 Boys County Hockey Champions in January 2009, a first in the schools' history. They now go forward to represent Staffordshire in the Midlands Cup.

Boys hockey was introduced when we became a Specialist Arts & Sports College in September 2006. U13, U14, U15 and the Senior XI have played fixtures and entered tournaments very successfully. A developing school/club link has been established with Lichfield Hockey Club and the school now uses the clubs' astro turf facility half a mile down the road. There is a Hockey Club on a Tuesday night and girls and boys teams use the astro pitch for home matches. Club coaches have helped with curricular and extra curricular work and so a great opportunity for the pupils who want to play hockey has been established.

To become County Champions the Friary beat Queen Mary's Grammar School in Walsall, 5-2 in their first match. Queen Mary's had beaten Painsley High School, Friary's next opponents, so Painsley conceded that match. Friary then played Holden Lane Sports College in Stoke and won 2-1, with goals from Robbie Gleeson and Peter Newton. If Friary could beat Newcastle Under Lyme School they would become County Champions for the first time in the sport of hockey. By half time Friary had accumulated a 4-0 lead with a hat trick from Robbie Gleeson and one goal from Peter Newton. Newcastle replied early in the second half putting Friary under pressure, but a Jack Fielding finish extended the lead again. Newcastle responded again to make it 5-2. Robbie Gleeson scored again before setting up Jo Bailey and then scored his fifth goal before he provided a simple tap in for Sean Pates. Final score 9-2 and County Champions - Fantastic.

Friary squad: -

Robbie Gleeson (captain), Josh Roughley, Dan Wood, Adam Geldard Williams, David Cook, Kieran Maudsley, Ed Lambert, Matt Geldard Williams, Sid Carpenter, Jack Fielding, Peter Newton, Sean Pates and Jo Bailey.

