



CROYDON SCHOOL TO REPRESENT LONDON AND THE SOUTH EAST

IN NATIONAL NETBALL FINALS

The under 16 netball team at Coloma are eyeing up the National Netball title. The netball squad will be representing London and the South East in the National Netball Finals in March 2017. On Sunday, 29th January, they represented Surrey at the London and South East regional finals where the top eight teams in the region battled it out to represent London and the South East at the National Finals later this year.

Coloma started well with a strong win against St Paul's Girls' School, West London, with flying interceptions from Madeline Lindsay and Rosie Gray keeping their shooters at bay. In the second game, Coloma came up against Harris Academy, Rainham and the excellent shooting from Anna Gray and Simone Eligon resulted in a faultless performance from Coloma to notch up another win. Next up were Godolphin and Latymer School, Hammersmith, who have a formidable reputation as a netball school. Rachel Harris, Niamh Singleton and Selena Ashlee were fearless in the midcourt and this, along with some fantastic turnovers from Emily O'Donoghue and Captain Rosie Gray, resulted in a thrilling 11-10 win for Coloma.

Coloma went on to secure further wins against Emanuel School and The Coopers' Company and Coburn School and, although suffered a nail-bitingly close defeat against Tonbridge Grammar, had qualified with ease for the National Finals. The Coloma team now go on to compete against the top schools in the country in a bid to be crowned National champions.

Coloma has recently been ranked in School Sports Magazine as the number one all girls' comprehensive school for sport in the country for the second year running, another fantastic achievement. Miss Smith, their coach and Head of PE, commented, "I am so proud. Not only is this group of girls incredibly talented, they are also very hard-working. The girls organise their own friendly evening games against local adult club teams and regularly attend weekly 7.30am training sessions (even during their mock examination week!). They

deserve all the success and luck for the final stage. I also extend a big thanks to the Coloma PE team and pupils' parents, grandparents and siblings who provide unfailing support and endless flapjacks and coffee for the nervous coach!".

The girls are now making their final preparations for the National Finals which will be held at Welwyn Garden City on Saturday, 18th March.

