

## **Boys retain trophy but penalty heartbreak for girls**

On Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May, the Larmenier and Sacred Heart football teams travelled to Hurlingham Park, to participate in the Hammersmith and Fulham football festival. Both teams had won this tournament last year and this year's teams were hoping to equal that record.

The girl's tournament took place first and all was looking well after a convincing 3-0 victory over a strong St John's side. In the second group game Kenmont proved to be organised and it took Larmenier a while to break them down. Eventually the girls scored twice to run out 2-0 winners and ensured a top place finish in the group stage. In the semi-finals Sir John Lillie awaited and after a very tight game, with few chances, it came down to penalties. The Sir John Lillie goalkeeper proved to be a formidable force and the girls lost in sudden death. Sir John Lillie went on to win the tournament.

The boy's tournament got off to a cagey start as neither Larmenier or St John's really pressed each other in the first game which ended 0-0. In second group game the boys faced Holy Cross, a team they had beaten comfortably earlier this year. Despite this the boys found themselves 1-0 behind in the first minute after an amazing run and finish from the Holy Cross midfielder. Thanks to some great defending and goalkeeping the score stayed at 1-0 and Larmenier equalised near the death (1-1). In the final group game Larmenier were pitted against a Kenmont side that had 100% record. Larmenier had to win to go through. As they had done in their previous two games, Kenmont attacked with lots of speed and power but Larmenier stayed organised and kept the score level. As the game neared its end Larmenier got the one chance they'd been waiting for and took it to win 1-0 and finish 2<sup>nd</sup> in the group.

In the semi-finals awaited Sir John Lillie, the side that knocked the boys out of the Mayor's Cup on penalties. Both teams battled hard but could not find a way through and again these two sides would face a shoot-out. This time it was Larmenier who held their nerve and went through for a rematch with Kenmont.

The boys were much more confident now and played with no fear. They worked hard for each other in the final and deserved their 2-0 victory and championship medals.