

WELLESLEY HOUSE NEWS

THE WELLESLIAN

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Subject: Cricket

Date:: JUNE 2022

Last over thriller sees pupils triumph!



There was no chance that an early threat of rain would save the Parents from the embarrassment that would doubtless be inflicted on them by Xandy's men. No doubt hoping to finish the game well before opening time, Xandy opted to field, and had the Parents in quick trouble when Matthew Solley ran himself out in order to avoid the potential humiliation of dismissal by his son. However, accomplished batting by Jonathan Brown (20) and hard hitting from Matthew Spanton(21) drove Archie out of the attack before Thomas Spanton induced an edge from Jonathan which was well taken by Hector. With William proving far too quick for

Matthew, the Parents' middle order disintegrated: Rio Goddard produced a vicious delivery that was too much for his father, Stas achieved a second run out and then cleaned up Stuart Carrs (despite this being his first ever game of cricket, he showed clear potential for next year's fixture); Jorge and Xandy then ensured that the Headmaster and 1st XI Coach would be forced to bat when Jorge produced a ball that was too good for Hector's Godfather, and when Xandy had the satisfaction of catching his father off Jorge, the 100 runs scored so far were well short of challenging score. Some confident stroke-play from Gavin supported nervously by Tim (clearly worried by Stas' pace), enabled the Parents to finish on a barely respectable 129-9.

The 1st XI's reply mirrored the first innings when Thomas Spanton played a shot he would rather forget against Jonathan Brown, whose bowling was then played with ease by Archie (33) and Xandy (19). Their classy stand of 61 reflected the innocuous standard of the bowling, so as to give the Parents a chance, they were retired. Hector came and went,



hopefully horribly embarrassed by his shot against his coach, Stas mixed sound defence with aggressive swipes, then Luis removed his surrogate son (Jorge) and Thomas Solley in consecutive balls. It should be noted here that although sadly we didn't see Matthew Solley bowl, he can claim responsibility for his son's dismissal - Thomas should never listen to dad's advice about batting again! Beltran stoutly blocked the hat-trick ball, but then lost concentration against the senior Spanton. Stas was then bowled by the Headmaster and all were on the edge of their seats for the eagerly anticipated confrontation between the Franklins. Sadly, this failed to materialise as



William fell to Robert Goddard, leaving the home side's innings in complete disarray with 26 still needed for victory. Despite calm batting by Rio (13*) and Reuben (24*), 8 runs were still needed at the start of the final over, and it was odds-on a rare parental victory, especially with the ball in the hands of the experienced Gavin. However, showing a total lack of respect for authority, Reuben smashed him for a one bounce four for the narrowest of victories. Surely this was cricket at its best, and yes, those of the right vintage would have made it in plenty of time to drown their sorrows!

