

The Second Adam Cole Foundation/Southwark Tigers Rugby Camp 16th-18th August 2013

Friday 16th-Sunday 18th August saw Uppingham School host the second Adam Cole Foundation/Southwark Tigers Rugby Camp. The Adam Cole Foundation is a charity with strong Uppingham links which seeks to help under-privileged children through sport. Southwark Tigers was the first inner city junior rugby club in England and they play and train in inner-city London near the Old Kent Road.

On Friday afternoon, 24 Southwark Tigers arrived to stay in Fircroft. Their ages ranged from 7 to 15 years old and they were met by the nine helpers from Uppingham School's sixth form. After a hearty and healthy lunch, the Southwark Tigers went off to train on the Leicester, with sessions on tackling, passing and attack play all led by the Uppingham pupils. That evening the Tigers were treated to a bbq, cooked to perfection by George Jackson.



All were up bright and early on Saturday morning for a stadium tour of Welford Road, home of Leicester Tigers. The tour was given by Martin Corry MBE, former Leicester Tigers captain, England captain and veteran of two British Lions tours. We were given an insight into what it is like to play professional rugby, as well as being shown inside the changing rooms and allowed to hold the premiership trophy. Martin Corry's key advice for success was 'education' and 'attitude' and everyone left Welford Road suitably inspired.



Later that afternoon, the children swam at the USSC, played table tennis and 5-a-side, before heading back to Fircroft to prepare for camping out overnight in Redgate. The Uppingham helpers lit the camp fire and gave the Tigers guidance on setting up their bashas. However, it was rather a long night and a number of the campers were still awake in the early hours! Extra sausages and marshmallows seemed to do the trick though, and even Mr Prior finally got to sleep at 3am.



By Sunday morning, the Southwark Tigers and the Uppingham helpers knew each other really well. This meant that the final rugby session was a very successful one, and it included line-out lifting, 'run the gauntlet', and a final all-ages game of touch rugby. After lunch, it was time to say goodbye to the Southwark Tigers who headed off back to London. While the Southwark Tigers and Uppingham School pupils may come from different backgrounds, the weekend saw them getting on famously and bond over rugby as well as shared values of respect and enjoyment of sport. The next stage of the partnership is for the Uppingham pupils to visit the Southwark Tigers on their home turf in London!