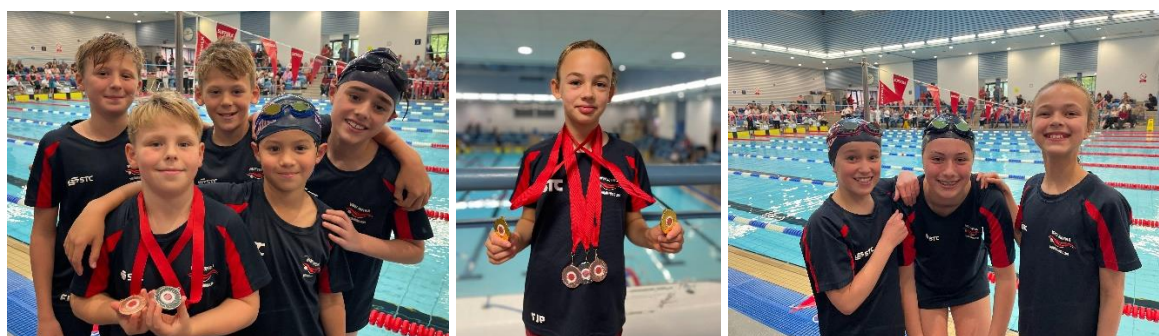


Thirty-nine WSSC swimmers aged from 10 to 16 years represented the Club at the Swim England Suffolk County David Robinson Development Meet 2024 at Crown Pools, Ipswich over the weekend of 26 -27 October. It was a first big meet for some of the younger swimmers and many new personal best performances were posted along with the 17 gold, 21 silver and 19 bronze medals won.

Brooke Copping (14) enjoyed a weekend to remember, winning four gold (400m and 100m freestyle, 100m and 200m butterfly) and three silver (200m freestyle, 200m backstroke, 100m IM) medals in a fabulous display of endurance and versatility, with younger sister Mia (12) also taking a gold medal in the 200m breaststroke. The Stewart sisters – Ella (15) and Erin (13) - were also on podium-making form with Ella taking the gold in the 400m freestyle and 200m butterfly and bronze in the 200m freestyle, with Erin claiming silver in the 400m freestyle event.

The breaststroke events brought a bounty of medals for WSSC; in addition to Mia Copping's gold in the 200m, Samuel Blackwell (16) claimed gold, with silvers to Abigail McWattie (13) and Thea Pendleton (10) and a bronze to Harry Ibbotson (16) over the eight-length distance. The 100m race saw four WSSC first place finishes with George Everett (15), Richard Levell (14), Theo Fisher (10) and Thea Pendleton (10) setting the fastest times in their respective categories, with a well-earned second place for Samuel Blackwell (16) and third place for Abigail McWattie (13). The two-length 50m sprint in the same stroke saw a silver medal go to George Everett and bronzes for Samuel Blackwell and Sebastian Wickes (11).



The 50m backstroke saw gold medals for Oliver Ellard (10) and Freddie Jordan (11), with super silver medal finishes for Oliver Creasy (12) and Emiel Korstanje (16) in the 200m and for Oliver Ellard and Thomas Williams (16) in the 100m event; Tom Philips (15) claimed bronze in the 100m as did Isabelle Vella (10) in a fabulous race.

Older brother Isaac Vella (12) produced a classy 400m freestyle to finish in second place over this distance in his age group, with Samuel Blackwell and Abigail McWattie each claiming third place in their respective classes. Emiel Korstanje, Richard Levell, and Thea Rees (10) all achieved silver medals in the 100m freestyle and Oliver Ellard added a bronze to his medal collection in the same event. Jude Brown (11) won a brilliant bronze in the 200m freestyle. The freestyle sprint over 50m is always hotly contested and the competition didn't disappoint on this front; WSSC athletes Theo Fisher (10), Felix Brown (11) and Richard Levell (14) all took silver in this fast and furious event, with Jude Brown adding another bronze to his collection. Ella Plumb (10) also impressed with a third-place finish.

Additional butterfly medals were won by Felix Brown (gold over 100m), silver for Albert Widdicks (12) and bronzes for Millie Page (11) and Thea Pendleton (10) over 50m. Thea proved her talent over all four strokes, claiming gold in the 200m IM as well as bronze in the 100m event. There were silver and bronze medals for George Everett and Emiel Korstanje in the 200m IM, with a

glorious gold for Richard Levell in the 100m in his age class, with bronze-winning finishes for Thomas Williams and Theo Fisher.

Huge congratulations to all of the swimmers who took part and thanks to their parents, supporters and of course, the vital volunteers and officials.

