



## Balcombe CE Primary School Sports Newsletter

Dear parents

A final sports newsletter for this term to keep you up to date with the various sporting activities and successes that the children have been taking part in.

### **Y3/4 Netball Festival**

At the end of October a group of children from Years 3 and 4 attended a netball festival held at The Triangle. It was an afternoon of great fun with the focus on developing key skills and learning how to play a simple game of High 5 netball. The whole group: Edwin, Alice, Isobel, Alex, Zara, Hope, Annabel, Eoin and Poppy all gained confidence from the experience and enjoyed taking part with other schools in some informal matches which introduced some High 5 rules. I am looking forward to seeing the group develop their skills over the next few years.

### **Y3/4 Football Festival**

At the beginning of November another group of children from Y3 and 4 participated in a football festival held at The Triangle. The afternoon consisted of a tournament against other small schools. The competition was pretty evenly matched and our squad - Oliver, Ben, Tom, Bettina, Daniel, Lourenco, Daniel, Rebecca and Callum played extremely well. The team drew in a number of games, winning and losing their final two matches resulting in a joint sixth place in the league. The squad all enjoyed the opportunity to play against other schools, which will serve them well as they enter upper juniors.

### **NEARS Cross Country competition**

On the 9<sup>th</sup> November a team of runners competed in the NEARS cross country running competition held at St Giles' in Horsted Keynes. All the children that competed had been running in the lunchtime club held at school. The girls' team consisted of Anna, Bella, Eva, Anna and Ebony. The whole team ran extremely well with four members of the team going forward to the next round of competition in January. Overall the girls' team came first. The boys' team consisted of Connor, Joe, Sam, Sid and Tom. They also ran extremely well with three members of the team going forward to the next round of the competition. The boys' team came third. With these excellent placings the whole school team came first in the overall competition. All the children who took part enjoyed the challenging – and muddy course - and were delighted with their winners' trophy.

I must thank the mums who organised the running club during Monday lunchtimes. Their dedication and enthusiasm was the key reason the group ran so well. I would like to thank Rachel Bishop, Michelle Record, Denise Vickerstaff, Mel Whybrow and Jo Fitzsimmons for their ongoing support.



### **Football league night**

The football squad continued to play well during their second session of football league matches. The squad beat Twineham 4-1 in a game that showed their improving use of space but lost narrowly 0-1 to St Peter's during a game in which they dominated possession but were unable to convert their chances. Joe, Harvey, Connor, Joe, Tom, Sid, Daniel, Nathan, Harry and James all played well across the two matches.

### **Netball league night**

Unfortunately the second set of netball league matches had to be cancelled due to bad weather. As soon as the fixture has been re-scheduled I will let you know.

### **Sports Crew Year 3 fitness trail**

Again the weather meant that the trail organised by the Sports Crew had to be postponed. We hope to reschedule this as soon as possible.

### **Handball festival**

On the 9<sup>th</sup> December a group of children who had attended handball club went to Warden Park for a NEARS Handball Festival. During the afternoon the group – Nathan, Josh, Olivia, Lucy, Anna, Ben, Tom and Daniel enjoyed working with some Y7 – 9 students from Warden Park on their handball skills before participating in a mini league against other NEARs schools. We competed in some hard matches against Blackthorns (who were invited as an extra team) and Handcross which we narrowly lost – both teams went on to take first and second place overall. We then beat Twineham and St Peter's. The whole squad participated extremely well and the improvement in their use of space and quick passing was evident as the afternoon progressed. We finished in a creditable fourth place overall.



### Mill class

Once a fortnight I have been working with a group from Mill class. We have made use of the new lacrosse sets in school. The children have really enjoyed challenging themselves learning a game with a new set of skills. The photographs below show a snapshot of a lesson.



There are lots of events lined up for next term including a basketball tournament, multi-skills session for Year 2, gymnastics festival, football and netball league matches and a tag rugby tournament. I have attached the dates below. I am looking forward to a busy term of sport.

Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January	Basketball Tournament Years 4/5/6	Worth School	2:15 – 4:30pm
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> January	Multi Skills Year 2	Triangle	9:30 – 11:30am
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> January	Multi Skills Year 2	Triangle	1:30 – 3:30pm
Tues. 9 <sup>th</sup> February	Gymnastics Festival Years 3/4/5/6	Handcross Primary	1:30 – 3:00pm
Tues. 23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb.	3 <sup>rd</sup> Football League Night	Triangle	4:00 – 5:00pm
Thurs. 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	3 <sup>rd</sup> Netball League Night	Triangle	4:00 – 5:00pm
Mon. 7 <sup>th</sup> March	Tag Rugby Tournament Years 4/5/6	Burgess Hill Rugby Club	1:15 – 3:15pm
Wed. 9 <sup>th</sup> March	4 <sup>th</sup> Football League Night	Triangle	4:00 – 5:00pm
Tues. 15 <sup>th</sup> March	Netball Tournament Years 4/5/6	Triangle	1:00 – 3:00pm
Thurs. 17 <sup>th</sup> March	Inclusion Festival Years 3/4	Twineham	Morning
Mon. 21 <sup>st</sup> March	Football Tournament Years 4/5/6	Triangle	1:00 – 3:00pm

Wishing you all a very happy Christmas

Lucy Dunsby

