



Balcombe CE Primary School Sports Newsletter

Dear Parents

Whilst the weather has been cold, we have still been busy in school and in NEARS competitions during January and February. Lots of children have participated in a variety of sports and activities. The Junior classes have also been working on their fitness, competing in a fitness challenge.

Mid Sussex Active Cross Country Finals

On January 18th, six runners who had competed strongly in the NEARS cross country race participated in the Mid Sussex Finals in East Grinstead. They were running against the strongest 100 runners in the district. Every member of the team gave their all on a gruelling course and finished strongly despite heavy, tired limbs. Eva, Alice and Tom all finished around the top 25 positions. Well done to them all. Particular congratulations go to Anna C who finished the girls' race in 3rd place. She now goes on to compete in the County Finals in February. Good luck Anna!



NEARS Basketball Tournament

In January a squad of seven competed in the NEARS Basketball Tournament. The squad all played exceptionally well and participated in every match with rolling substitutions during 15 minute games. We played Twineham, Handcross, St Augustine's and St Mark's. Our match against St Mark's was the hardest of all. We narrowly won 5-4 due to some stout defensive work

by our team and Tom B in particular who marked their best player, who later was announced player of the tournament. With all four matches won it was announced that Balcombe were the winners of the tournament. Well done to all the squad.



Inter-team Basketball Competition

For those in Years 5 and 6 who enjoy playing basketball we had an inter-team competition held during Friday lunchtimes. Over thirty five children participated playing in the competition across two weeks. The winners of the competition were the Bats. Congratulations to Jamie, Annabel, Harvey, Isla, Libby, Sam, Tom B, Connor, Zara, Nathan, Daniel and Anna who all competed in the Bats teams.

NEARS Football League

During February the football team has been competing in the NEARS football league. The team has managed to start the new year strongly winning against Ardingly 2-1, Bolney 5-1 and Warninglid 5-2. This means the team have won five out of six matches in the league with three matches still to play. We are hoping to keep our winning streak going. Well done to Tom B, Sam, James, Sid, Nathan, Lourenco, Callum, Jonathan, Connor and Daniel.

NEARS Netball League

On Tuesday 14th February the netball squad played two matches against St Mark's, Staplefield and Bolney. The squad played extremely well, moving the ball around quickly and decisively and defending athletically. This meant that we won both games scoring a total of 46 goals and conceding none! A fantastic set of results. We are looking forward to our next set of matches in March.



Sporting Fridays

We are delighted to have Toby, from South Coast Sports, with us all day on a Friday. He has a busy day starting before the school day begins with Battle games and then going on to work with a variety of classes and smaller groups throughout the day. During lunchtimes he has helped run Handball and Basketball competitions, some football for Years 3 and 4 and is now working with Y4, 5 and 6 prepare for a girls' football tournament later in the year. He finishes off the day with an after school club which runs on a half termly basis and is organised around our NEARS tournaments. This club helps prepare the children who attend by ensuring they have a good grasp of the rules, skills and teamwork required to play well at these events. Much of his day is funded by our Sports Premium money and ensures that the children get high quality sports training.

Junior Fitness Challenge





Over the past half term, whilst the weather has been at its coldest, the Junior classes have been working in the hall on their fitness. Each child has been competing against themselves, carrying out a number of activities including skipping, the plank, bench dips, star jumps, burpees etc. These pictures of Mill class show how hard they have been working.

We are looking forward to the next half term which will hopefully bring some warmer weather. We will be competing in many NEARS events – football and netball leagues; football, netball and tag rugby tournaments and hoping to compete successfully in each one.

These are the dates, as we know them, at the moment:

Wednesday 1 st March	Football League Night Year 5/6	Triangle	4 – 4.30pm
Thursday 9 th March	Netball League Night Year 5/6	Triangle	4 – 5:00pm
Tuesday 14 th March	Football League Night Year 5/6	Triangle	4:30 – 5pm
Thursday 16 th March	Netball Tournament Year 5/6	Triangle	1 – 3:00pm
Monday 20 th March	Football Tournament Year 5/6	Triangle	1 – 3:00pm
Tuesday 28 th March	Football League Night Year 5/6	Triangle	4:00pm
Wk beg 27 th March	Tag Rugby Tournament Year 5/6	TBC	TBC
Thursday 6 th April	Girls' Football Tournament Years 4/5/6	Triangle	1 – 3:00pm

Best wishes

Lucy Dunsby