



Dear parents,

Whilst it has been a slightly shorter term, with some inclement weather, there seem to have been just as many sporting activities being held.

NEARS Basketball Tournament

The term started off with a Basketball Tournament held at Worth School. We were very fortunate to have some coaching from the Worth staff before holding a small tournament for the NEARS teams. We played a hard-fought match against Handcross to start with which we narrowly lost 4-2. As the tournament progressed we gained confidence and began to find a better rhythm when shooting which enabled us to score more. We went on to win against Twineham and St Mark's. We were very pleased with our final second position.

Football

The football squad have enjoyed playing and improving their performances this term. From a slightly precarious start at the beginning of the academic year they have tightened up their defence and enjoyed playing in more fixed roles. It is impossible for us to have any practice at school due to the state of the field so they do extremely well in difficult circumstances. Our first matches in January saw us draw 2-2 with Handcross before losing to St Giles.

We competed in the NEARS Football tournament in March at Warden Park. This was definitely the highlight of the year. We played extremely well drawing one match and winning two. This meant we qualified for the semi finals. We played strongly against St Augustine's beating them, leading us to the final against Bolney. Unfortunately, this was a game too far and we were defeated. The squad thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon despite the torrential rain, hence the rather damp looking squad photo....



Tag Rugby

The NEARS tournament was held at Warden Park. Nine local schools competed. We started extremely well scoring five tries in both matches against St Augustine's and St Peter's. As a result we won our group and went into the winners group against the other two top teams. In a hard fought game against Albourne the final score was 5-4 to Albourne. The match was very close as we had one try disallowed and were about to score when the final whistle was blown. We then played Bolney, which was another close game. Bolney won 3-2. This meant that we came third overall, a very good final result as the results against Albourne and Bolney were so close.



Netball

The netball squad have had a very successful year. They completed the league in February unbeaten, which meant that they won the league for the third year running. They scored an impressive 45 goals in the season, with only 8 goals scored against them. As they played against eight other schools between October and February this was a super result. Here is the winning squad with the league trophy.



As winners of the league we were invited to play in the Mid Sussex Finals. This has been postponed due to heavy rain but a new date will be scheduled after the Year 6 SATs and we will let you know how we get on.

In the NEARS Tournament we played strongly again but couldn't quite live up to our usual high standards. We finished the afternoon in a very creditable third position.

Fitness

After the Christmas holidays we regularly hold a fitness challenge for the Junior classes. This sees them compete against themselves each week to improve their general fitness by completing a number of different challenges – burpees, press ups, bench presses, skipping etc. This year every child committed to the challenge wholeheartedly, which made the job of awarding the fitness challenge cup to each class really difficult.

The winners were:

Forest - George and Freda

Spring - Molly and Thomas D

Mill - Teddy and Millie

Recognition for effort went to:

Forest - James and Tori

Spring - Alice and Averil

Mill - Ollie and Alex



Skipping

After our successful skipping session in February the playground has been full of enthusiastic skippers. We aim to keep this up after the Easter holiday with further skipping challenges so keep practising over the Easter holidays.



Cross Country

Back in January Larry, Callum, Poppy and Zara all went to East Grinstead to run in the Mid Sussex cross country finals. It was a tough and muddy course and they all ran well in a really strong field of cross country enthusiasts. Well done to all four of them for their super efforts on the day.

Dates for next term

NEARS will have a new Sports Co-ordinator in the Summer Term. When we have finalised dates I will send them out on a separate email.

Best wishes
Lucy Dunsby