



Dear Parents,

I try to write a Sports Newsletter at least once a term. I hope to keep you informed about the sporting activities going on in school and in the wider school community.

Mid Sussex Active

Unfortunately, we were unable to find anyone to fill the role of NEARS Sports Co-ordinator which has meant that some NEARS competitions will not be held. However, all the local schools have joined Mid Sussex Active. This is a group that supports a network of primary and secondary schools to provide their pupils with greater opportunities to participate and compete in high quality PE and sport. We have signed up for a number of events with MSA and they are also going to support the NEARS schools when running events such as the cross country, football and netball tournaments. We do hope that this new venture will be successful and see a wide range of pupils participate in events outside of school, with children from a range of schools across Mid Sussex.

NEARS Cross Country Competition

A group of around twelve children met up with me during lunchtimes throughout September and October to train for this NEARS event. Particular thanks go to Oscar and India, who didn't quite make it to the main event but who provided a stiff challenge to those who did. The ten children who participated were Oenone, Matilda, Freda, Averil, Grace, George, Ben, Thomas, Eoin and Daniel. The runs around the field definitely paid off as the gruelling course at Horsted Keynes took its toll on those who were less prepared. We were delighted to win the overall team prize, showing that whilst we didn't have the fastest individual runners, as a team we all produced our absolute best resulting in the top score across all ten schools. A fantastic result.





Matilda, Oenone, George and Ben all qualified for the Mid Sussex Finals in January. They need to keep their fitness up over the next month, before a further testing run. Good luck!

Girls Get Active

On Friday 16th November, seven Year 5 and 6 girls went to The Triangle to participate in the MSA Girls Get Active afternoon. There were over 300 girls participating in a programme which included aerobics, zumba, a HIT experience and some mindfulness exercises. The girls had a great afternoon; they were full of enthusiasm and were quite worn out by the end of the two hours.



Sports Crew

This year's Sports Crew have made a fantastic start to the year. They have taken responsibility for keeping the PE shed tidy, for which I am truly grateful; started the Balcombe School Weekly Challenge; and run numerous activities in breaktimes and lunchtimes. They are off to some training with MSA at the end of the term, so we are hoping for some new ideas for the New Year.



Premier League Primary Stars Kit Scheme

I was encouraged to try to obtain some free kit via the Primary Stars Scheme. Earlier in the term I filled out a form explaining how obtaining kit for the school would help create a sense of identity and pride when participating in out of school sporting events. We were delighted to hear that we have been successful and that a full new kit will be arriving in school during the summer term.

Intra School Handball Competition

One of our aims this year is to provide more opportunities for competitive sport within school. With this in mind, twelve Year 6 pupils wanted to participate in the Handball Competition we ran on 28th November.

It was a very keenly fought round robin competition. The team made up of Emily, Molly, Tom DL and Eoin were the eventual victors scoring the final all important winning goal in the final seconds. Well done to everyone involved. It was a great session.





There was lots of interest from Year 5 pupils too but the weather was against us, so they will be first on the agenda in the upcoming term.

Taster of school lessons

During the term classes have played football, basketball, handball, benchball, dodgeball, netball and danced. Here is a snapshot of the activity.



We are looking forward to the next term and the new challenges that lie ahead. In the meantime I wish you all a very Happy Christmas and best wishes for 2019. Remember to keep active!

Lucy Dunsby

