

*Excellence Together, Learning through Faith.*



**ST.MARY'S C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL  
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## **SCHOOL SPORTS NEWSLETTER Summer 2019**

Dear Parents,

This year has been another excellent year for Sport at St Mary's, with children from all year groups participating in a wide range of sports and activities, as you can see below!

### **PE apprentice**

We have been very fortunate to be joined this year by our sports apprentice, Miss Gill. Miss Gill has brought enthusiasm and knowledge to our sports curriculum and we are delighted to be able to announce that she will be continuing her apprenticeship with us next year. Miss Gill will be taking on increasing responsibility for our sports and PE offer in the future, with a view to increasing the range of sporting activities available for all age groups.

### **Game On / PE lessons**

Game On have continued to provide exciting PE lessons to all year groups, including Cricket, SAQ, Netball, Tennis, Football and Athletics, giving the children a variety of sports to try out. In addition, our teaching staff have continued to provide a wide range of dance and gymnastics opportunities, including country dancing, line dancing and maypole dancing throughout the year.

### **Football**

We have once again been able to run both an A and B football team this year, who have played around 15 matches between them both home and away. We are delighted to report that our A team won the district plate competition, beating a large number of very good teams and winning the final by a huge margin!

In addition, Game One continue to provide opportunities for our Year 3 and 4 children to participate in football clubs, while Ross and Andy's Soccer Skills continues to be a very popular after school club, providing footballing opportunities for Year 1 to 4.

## **Netball**

We took part in more netball matches than ever before, and are continuing to see great improvement in the ability levels of our netball squad year-on-year, with both the A and B teams competing with excellent character and skill.

## **Cross country**

We have had cross country runners from Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 participating in both local and district competitions, with children finishing in podium positions, and qualifying for both county and national cross country events.

## **Mini-Olympics and Sports Fayres**

Years 1 and 2 competed in the mini-olympics and sports fayre competitions. The children did extremely well and represented the school with pride and good sportsmanship.

## **Athletics**

Game On have provided the Key Stage 2 children with the opportunity to participate in a wide range of after-school athletics activities. Children from Years 5 and 6 competed with great spirit and enthusiasm in the District Athletics at Jarman Park running track, finishing in a creditable fourth place.

## **Rugby**

Year 5 took part in the tag rugby festival in Kings Langley. They competed brilliantly, winning most of their matches.

## **Bronze Ambassadors**

We have once again sent our Year 6 pupils on Bronze Ambassador sports leader training, and those children have organised the school's intra-class benchball tournament and have taken responsibility for leading the Skip 2 Be Fit competition.

## **Play leaders**

For the first time, we have sent our Year 6 children on playleader training, to learn how to lead fun and energetic playtime games with the younger children. This has been a great success, leading to a lot more physical activity taking place at breaktimes.

## **Swimming**

We sent a team to participate in the ESSA swimming gala in March. Our swimmers performed brilliantly, reaching the finals of the competition. Additionally, we continue to provide swimming lessons for all Year 3 and 4 pupils.

### **Extra-curricular activities and clubs**

Game On have continued to offer a wide range of extra-curricular provision. Through autumn and spring term, they offered football for Y3 and Y4 on Monday lunchtimes, football for Y5 and 6 after school on Mondays, and netball for Y4 to Y6 on Thursdays after school. For the summer term, they have provided athletics clubs for Y3 & 4, rounders for Year 5 & 6, and summer sports for years 2 to 4, plus tennis for years 4 to 6.

Ross and Andy's Soccer training also continues to be popular, as does our excellent running club. Visits from Urban Strides have raised awareness of dance, and we have continued to offer street dance, cheerleading clubs, and Boogaloo Boogies. Finally, we have continued "The Daily Mile" to get children involved in daily exercise to improve pupil fitness.

### **Community mini-bus**

In order to ensure that we are able to send our children to participate in the maximum number of sports competitions in future, we have now bought into the services of the Herts Community Minibus scheme. This excellent service provides minibus hire at a fraction of the cost of traditional coach hire, and we hope this will allow us to send children to participate in an even greater number of sporting competitions next year!

Kind regards,

Mr Potter & Miss Gill