

Sporting Achievement 2015/16

Welcome to our annual sporting achievement report and, once again another active year with Much Woolton Catholic Primary School!

Extra Curricular Sports

Mrs Pace : This year the cross country team have displayed fantastic commitment to training and brilliant behaviour when competing. We have trained in all weathers every Monday night! Our races have taken us all over the city and we have seen steady improvement in the children's stamina and positioning in each race. Aimee Strange has consistently finished in the top twenty against other schools in the city. All the Year 5 and 6 team have finished well against other schools. We have been competing against our own personal best and the children have improved massively shaving seconds off their times each week. We have made running as fun as possible with relay races, sprints and timed laps. We've also enjoyed the occasional box of raisins. Well done to all in the cross country team this year!

Netball

Mrs Moorcroft: This year 23 girls (68% of girls in Year 6) joined netball after school, training weekly right through this academic year. Each and every girl who trained played in at least one competitive match and the stronger players competed regularly as we often entered two teams into competitions. We played friendly matches against various schools before joining the L.D.C.S.A. league and cup. In both competitions we had a mixed set of results and at the start we were often overwhelmed by the ferocity of other teams! Our resilience improved as the season went on but our original mindset prevented us from being placed in either competition.

The summer term brought a new kind of netball to our players, learning how to play Hi5 rather than traditional netball. At this point we had the opportunity to include boys but because of the large numbers of girls attending we decided to keep it as a girls only club. After a few sessions practice, we entered the L.S.S.P. Hi5 competition. Two teams competed in this tournament and gave it their all! One team managed a 5th position and the other team lost to St. Paschal Baylon in semi-final.

So, a season without any silverware but still successful in that each and every member of the squad was involved in competitive play.

Swimming

Year 5 attended Austin Rawlinson swimming baths from September through to April and then Year 3 onwards from April to June. Thanks to the expert coaches there and the continuity of the lessons, all four year group teachers witnessed a huge improvement in the development of the children's swimming technique and confidence. A big thank you to David and Karen, the swimming coaches.

Mrs Wilson: This year we attended the South School partnership Swimming Championships at Wavertree. The team consisted of boys and girls from year 5 and 6. Both teams finished second and qualified for the finals.

After a series of outstanding swims by all involved, both teams finished third overall. The children should be very proud of their achievements and it was an honour to see the teamwork and encouragement that contributed to their success.

Football

I took the Friday coaching session for Yrs 4, 5 and 6 after school for both girls and boys. Training takes place every Friday on the field opposite the school between 3-45 and 4-45, through this training the school teams are chosen.

The boy's school football team was successful again this year. They won eight from nine games played and drew the other making them League Champions once again. They were then invited to play in a Champion of Champions tournament against three other teams. They won their semi final 1-0 but unfortunately were beaten in the final 3-1. I believe to remain unbeaten from September 2015 to March 2016 was a tremendously consistent effort from the boys and I think that says a lot about their character and determination. Well done boys, a brilliant achievement!

Recently, more girls have been attending the football training. This enabled me to enter seven girls from years 4, 5 and 6 into a competition at Norman Pannell school where we won the competition!! The girls had never played together before and won seven games without conceding a goal! They then had to play a semi final which they won 1-0 then won the final 1-0. A tremendous achievement to go the entire competition without letting a goal in. Apart from one girl who is leaving, everyone else remains in the school for next year so I see no reason why we can't build on that success and form a new school team. Well done girls, I was extremely proud of all of your efforts.

Finally, some Year Five boys have been chosen to go forward for the Liverpool schoolboy trials. They are Leo Graham, Jack Butler, Henry Vlasman, Josh Larkin and Ryan Moran. We wish them all the best in this wonderful opportunity.

Mr Dade: I ran the Year 5 football team. They played some terrific football, with a fantastic attitude - They played six matches. The team won 3, drew two and lost one. This meant they finished third in the table, narrowly missing out on top spot by two points.

I also managed the Year 5 and Year 4 cup competitions this year. The Year 5 team lost to St Paschal Baylon in the Quarter-finals, however the Year Four team reached the final with some fantastic performances along the way, including a thrilling 3-2 win against Rudston in the semi-finals. In the final, they just came up a little short, losing to Corinthians.

Despite not winning a trophy this year, there has been many highlights with the children representing the school with a fantastic attitude and a wonderful battling mentality. This has also been a great opportunity for players who have not played before and have the amazing privilege to represent the school. In the football training after school, it has been an honour to see children of all ages wanting to play for the love of the game.

Miss Cummings: I ran the Year 1 and 2 football teams this year, along with the help of a parent, Mr Mather, who holds FIFA training badges. Year 1 competed in a tournament in ESLA which they won and were put through to a competition in Everton's Finch Farm representing the South of Liverpool. The children played against teams from across the North West. They were also invited to a training day at Liverpool's Football Academy, where one of the boys was scouted for a trial at the club. Throughout the year both the Year 1 and 2 football teams have also played a number of friendly matches against teams from other schools. All the boys have thoroughly enjoyed representing their school around Liverpool this year and parents have noted a change in their attitude towards school, with some boys becoming more confident and making new friends.

Wider opportunities

Miss Wilson : We have had another successful sporting year and we have competed in a record number of competitions this academic year: Yr 1 Football, KS1 Matball, KS1 Tennis, 5/6 Dodgeball x 2, 5/6 Basketball x2, 5/6 High 5 Netball x2, 5/6 Sportshall Athletics, 3/4 Quicksticks, KS2 Swimming Gala, 5/6 Waterpolo, Athletics, Cross Country, Football and Netball!

In addition, Year Five also took part in a cycling proficiency test which every child passed with flying colours!!!

We have yet again delivered a staggering number of extra-curricular activities including football, netball, Little League Sports, indoor athletics, dodgeball, basketball, Change 4 Life, Fencing and Cross Country to name a few!

100% of our Year 6 children leave this July being able to swim 25m. This is a fantastic achievement!

We have successfully trained 22 Young Leaders who have led different groups of children in sporting activities during break times. Younger children have also had the opportunity to build on their leadership skills at lunchtime with training from our Sports Coach, Mr. Pennington in our multi use games area.

Our Sporting year culminated with our Olympic Week, each year group chose a country to study and all pupils took part in our annual Sports Day which was again delivered by Little League Sports. We had a special visit from Erin McBride who is a current Paralympian. She spoke motivationally to the children during assembly and encouraged the children to work hard and follow their dreams. She went around all classes so that the children could see the medals she had won!

Alongside the recognition we received from Ofsted around Health & Wellbeing I'm delighted to inform you that we have been recognised for our commitment to sporting activity by achieving for the 3rd year on the run the Sainsbury's School Games Gold Kite Mark 2015-2016.

At the beginning of June, over eighty children represented the school at the **Liverpool District Catholic Schools Association Athletics** meetings, over two days, organized by our own Mr White. There were, as usual, some outstanding individual and team performances and once again, wonderful behaviour that epitomizes our school at it's very best.

Following on from this success, some children then took part in the City, Champion of Champions and again our children showed their ability. Special mention must go to Aimee Strange who became a Champion of Champions by winning the Y5 600m final. Millie Ann Youds came 2nd in the Y6 600 m. Leo Graham came 2nd in the Y5 75m. Amelie Moran came 2nd in the Y5 135m and the boys relay team who came 3rd and they were: Leo Graham, Ryan Moran, Henry Vlasman and Jack Butler. A tremendous achievement by all concerned, I'm sure you will agree.

Lunchtime activities

Recognition must go to all the **Young Leaders** who have worked so hard throughout the year helping younger children in all sorts of activities during the school break and lunch times. A big thank you to them for their consistency and support throughout the school year. I think this has been the best year for application, maturity and enthusiasm from boys and girls that I have ever known and I want to personally thank you for your efforts since the day you were chosen. Thank you!

Where would we be without our wonderful **dinner ladies** in the Infants and the Juniors? They work tirelessly with our young leaders to ensure that school lunch times are fun culminating in the now famous Friday afternoon **Golden Team Display** bands. Well done and thank you to all concerned!

Physical Education Curriculum

Mr Pennington: Firstly, I would like to say that it has been an absolute pleasure teaching physical education to the pupils of Much Woolton Catholic Primary this past academic year. The pupils are truly a

credit to their school by having an excellent attitude towards physical education which in turn increases the quality of their learning. All of the lessons have been delivered with the guidance of a well-planned curriculum which has allowed the pupils to develop their technical skills in a wide range of different sports. The pupils have not only experienced PE lessons which develop their practical skills in different sports, they have been developing transferable skills which can be taken and used outside of a sporting environment. For example, building self-confidence by achieving the lesson objectives in PE lessons, or developing their social skills by working as a team.

The Key Stage 1 pupils have been developing their fundamental movement skills. Developing fundamental movement skills in physical education consists of building up the core skills needed to be able to take part in a wide range of sports. For example, agility, hand to eye coordination, speed, strength, balance, reaction time. Pupils can then naturally rely on these skills while performing in their sport.

The Key Stage 2 pupils have been developing their technical skills in a number of different sports. Each pupil has been working on developing skills in team games along with improving techniques used in multiple athletics events.

Years 6 have been developing their skills as young leaders within their PE lessons. Both years have taken to this challenge with ease and the results have been fantastic. The pupils in each year group were tasked with setting up the game, the captains would guide their team and each individual would contribute to raising the standard of the learning environment. All of the pupils would work hard to show respect for the opposing players and each other by demonstrating good sportsmanship, which also in turn increased the quality of the learning environment. Each pupil performed with distinction while given the extra responsibility during this learning period.

I also had the opportunity to deliver an afterschool clubs to Key stage 2 pupils which has been a great success. The club delivered was the government initiative called "Change 4 Life" which started in September and continued until the end of the summer term. The pupils were encouraged to develop games of their own and modify them to relate to different sports. The pupils were also encouraged to think about how to lead a healthy lifestyle.

Outdoor Educational Residential visits

At the start of the year children from Year Five spent an active and successful week at **Plas Caerdeon**, Barmouth!

Our staff had the privilege of watching children work together, encourage each other and overcome some real fears during these five days of furious, fast paced, non stop action! Canoeing, Rock climbing, Archery and the Zip Wire where just some of the activities available in an inspiring, exhilarating week. A big thank you to all the staff that attended and gave up their own time to make it such a successful and eventful week!

Skiing

This year we took our largest numbers to Alpe D'Huez as part of the Liverpool Primary Ski School Association. 29 children travelled along with Mrs Moorcroft and a last minute replacement in Mr Chamberlain as the school were expecting Ofsted so Mr White could not travel.

The children were true ambassadors for Much Woolton mixing well with children from all the other schools. The group gained lots of independence whilst they away organising themselves to be ready for their 2-hourly ski lessons twice a day.

The weather whilst we were there was snowy to say the least, great on the skis but difficult to see! It was also extremely cold but once wrapped up the children were fine, eager to ski regardless of the weather!

It's a demanding course physically, many children exhausted at the end of each day but definitely worth it when you see how much progress they make throughout the week. Some children cannot stay upright at the beginning of the week but by the end of the course they can all ski, turn and stop having visited a variety of runs and hopping on and off different lifts.

At the end of the week all children were presented with a certificate and badge depending on their level of proficiency after completing an assessment during their final morning of skiing. This was followed by the Primary Ski School Association's own awards. School awards were given for best technical skier; most improved skier and best pupil. It was hard to choose this year as so many children gave their all each and every day. Two of our children were also nominated for the 'Kelly Eastwood' trophy for standing out from the crowd amongst all the other schools, a wonderful achievement.

Another successful ski-course, making memories to last a lifetime in the best classroom in the world.

Kingswood, Colomendy

This year we took 53/55 children (96% of year group) to Colomendy for a 2-night, 3-day residential to participate in outdoor, adventurous activities. The visit to this centre helps us to fulfil the National Curriculum objective: to take part in outdoor and adventurous activity challenges both individually and within a team

A wonderful time was had by all and the programme we were given was certainly exhilarating! Activities such as Leap of Faith, 36 Swing and Jacob's Ladder challenged everyone, including the teachers! Another wonderful trip that allowed us to celebrate all our hard work in the run up to SATS; cement friendships whilst making new ones and creating wonderful unforgettable memories.

Breathlessly, we moved onto a whole school sports day on Friday 1st July. Each class took part in a variety of competitive activities. Funds raised by our School Council at our School Talent Show, helped to fund this event.

This year has seen 256 children taking part in extra curricular activities across the school. A fantastic achievement by all concerned.

And finally...

As you can see, a lot has been going on this year and if I have missed something then I can only apologize. It's an easy thing to do with so much going on!

Lastly, a big thank you to you, the parents, who have enthusiastically supported the children throughout the last year and ensured it has been yet another successful sporting year at Much Woolton! I'm sure it

will be another hectic year of sport in September and for the rest of the forthcoming academic year!
Thank you.

As this is my last year at the school I would like to say a big thank you to the parents and children who have worked with me in all aspects of P.E. and I would just like to say what a pleasure it has been to see children learn and grow and above all smile as they take part in the variety of sporting activities I have been involved in.

G.P. Finnegan. July 2016