**Much Woolton Catholic Primary School**

**Sporting Achievement Report 2018-2019**

We have had a fantastic year and our most successful to date! We have entered a record number of competitions and had many first places. This year we have had our own fulltime L.S.S.P. coach, Mr. Hathaway. The impact of having a full time coach has played an integral role in our success and has enhanced the delivery of P.E. lessons. Mr. Hathaway has also provided ongoing C.P.D. for staff and provided a number of after school clubs and training sessions in the lead up to competitions.

**Cross Country**

This year we have been very successful in cross country with both some old faces and a few new ones. The children have trained hard, giving 100% and this has shown in their placement in the results table at each race, improving every time. 2 of our children due to their excellent results were invited to be part of the Liverpool Primary Schools representative team at the British Athletics Cross Country Challenge event at Sefton Park – both placing well against the other Merseyside boroughs. Overall this year we have done very well in all competitions, with runners finishing every week in the top 5 and most finishing in the top 30. The boys team finished 3rd and the girls finished 7th overall in their league groups for the season.

**Football**

*LFC and LSSP Year 2 Boys Football*

We selected a small group of boys who then travelled to the Liverpool Football Club Academy for the morning where they competed against other schools in a 6 aside competition. The boys where a credit to the school throughout the morning having shown respect to the opposition but also to their referees. The Year 2 boys demonstrated determination throughout the event which helped us win the competition! As a result we then received an invitation from LFC AND LSSP to compete against two other schools that had won their competition to determine the overall best team in Liverpool. Unfortunately the boys finished 3rd meaning they are the 3rd best Year 2 Boys football team in Liverpool! Towards the end of the year the school unexpectedly received another invitation from LFC to this time compete in a competition which had schools coming from different areas in the North West. Again the boy’s unfortunately fell short from winning the competition, but can be very proud to have reached that stage gaining plenty of experience in preparation for Year 3!

*Everton Premier League Schools Tournament*

Both football teams have enjoyed success in this academic year. The girls have represented the school at a number of fixtures and tournaments. Highlights include the team making it to the quarter-finals of the EFC tournament and finishing third in the LSSP tournament. The real highlight for the year, and perhaps most impressive, has been the number of girls participating in the team and the all-around enthusiasm for playing football.

The boy's team have enjoyed an outstanding season. They finished second in their heat for the LSSP tournament making it through to the city finals. In LSFA primary league, the boys have gone all season undefeated, finishing the season with a near-perfect record of 9 wins and 1 draw. As a result, the team progressed to the city finals and won the LSFA league cup; beating Rice Lane in a thrilling final which finished 2 - 1 to Much Woolton. In addition to this, the boys progressed to LSFA, LSSP and LFC Foundation finals night. Unfortunately, they failed to progress from their group. However, qualifying for the tournament was a huge achievement as it highlighted Much Woolton as one of the 6 best school teams in the city.

**Athletics**

What an amazing year in athletics, this has been the most successful year so far with us finishing not only the Merit for both the boys and girls at the LDCSA Athletics but also with both the boys and girls teams placing 3rd in the Large Schools group. This is such an amazing achievement bearing in mind some of the schools we are up against are 4 form intake. I couldn’t be prouder of all of the children involved. We came away with a record number of 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners this year. The Champion of Champions Athletics went the same way and although we didn’t place overall, we did end up with an amazing number of medals for 1st, 2nd and 3rd.

All of the children behaved excellently and competed like true athletes, such a credit to the school and themselves.

**Netball**

Netball Club took place on Tuesday and this year we had 30 Year 5 and 6 attending each session. The Year 6 team reached the semi-final of the Catholic Schools Cup. They won the Liverpool Large School League Title. We were also able to acquire 9 tickets to the Netball World Cup taking place at the M&S Bank Arena.

**High Five Netball**

Two teams of Year 6 boys and girls entered the High 5 Netball Competition. The children played fantastically and played each other in the final. The B Team being victorious.

Both teams moved on to the City Finals. They faced each other in the semi finals with the A Team being victorious this time. The A team went on to win the competition and were crowned City Champions. From the High 5 Netball City Finals both teams made the Merseyside Youth Games representing Liverpool. The A Team made the semi Finals losing to a golden goal. The B Team finished 6th out of 15 teams.

**Water Polo**

Another new sport to us this year was water polo in which we lacked experience and practice! We selected a team of 8 who gelled as a team instantly! They demonstrated every single school value and were a credit to our school! With their behaviour, passion, teamwork and their determination towards an unfamiliar sport not to mention their self-belief they really did display something special. Not only did they compete but they also won the whole competition dominating from the beginning right through to the final where they were comfortable winners in the end! We were invited to attend the Water Polo City Finals in which the only practice they had was from the first competition and yet again the children where a massive credit to themselves and our school, they competed and finished runners up. By finishing in the top two we were once again invited to the Merseyside School Games in Water Polo but unfortunately due to an issue at the Aquatics Centre, Merseyside School Games Water Polo had to be cancelled, which was a very disappointing time due to the confidence the team was had from the previous two competitions.

Later on in the school year we entered a year 3 and 4 team into Water Polo where they followed in the footsteps of the year 5 and 6 and we won the whole competition! As they were a younger age they didn’t have any progression into any other Water Polo competitions but have gained experience for the future when they need to take the next step.

**School Swimming Gala**

The school entered both a boys and girls team into the annual School Swimming Gala. It was one of the proudest and most enjoyable competitions of the year due to the children that were selected in both the boys and girls group. Within the boys team it was a mixture of year 5 and 6 and in the girl’s team was a mixture of year 4, 5 and 6. All the swimmers had experience outside of school in galas where they represented their local swimming teams. The boys swimming team was very successful in winning all but three races out of the 11 races. As the girls had a younger team they took a bit of time to settle into their races before becoming confident. The boys finished the competition in 1st place with the girls finishing a respectful 4th. As the boys won their competition they had been invited back to the next competition where the reward was who ever won it, would represent Liverpool in Merseyside School Games Swimming Gala. Again the boys where fantastic throughout and won the majority of their individual races and finishing 2nd in the relay races. When the scores were calculated the school had finished 1st again which meant the school now represented Liverpool in the Merseyside School Games. With this huge achievement the school was massively proud of the boys for reaching this stage, they tried their hardest and competed with dedication and passion all the way throughout and left the Merseyside School Games with a silver medal around their necks as they had finished 2nd in the competition. We are really proud the way the boys conducted themselves in the Merseyside School Games Swimming Gala and felt it would be undeserved if the boys had left the competition without a medal, but that was never in doubt!

**Quicksticks**

Similar to other competitions we had entered two separate teams into the Quicksticks Hockey, but this time decided to enter a year 5 team and a year 6 team. Both teams had experience of watching the sport and a small experience of playing it in school. They did a fantastic job and both teams reached the semi-finals in which the year 6’s were successful and reached the final but the year 5 team unfortunately fell just short and got knocked out at the semi-final round. With the support from the year 5’s, the year 6’s then went on to win the whole competition on penalties in which they then progressed to the city finals. The year 5’s then had an opportunity to compete for a 3rd place playoff which if they won their game then they also got to play in the city finals. The year 5’s carried on their good job up to the semi-finals and won their 3rd place playoff meaning the school had both teams in the city finals. In the city finals the teams tried their hardest but they were competing against schools and players that play at a higher level not only in school but outside of school and both teams where unfortunately knocked out of the competition in the group stage! We left however feeling extremely proud of the progress of both teams especially the Year 5’s for the experience they have gained for next year.

**Dance**

This year saw Miss Ralston form the KS1 Dance Troupe who performed at two Christmas events with LSSP and St. Julies Catholic High School. Being the only KS1 children at one of the events both teachers and pupils from other schools were impressed by their level of performance and dance ability. The children continued to work hard in the Spring Term and were entered into the annual LSSP Dance Competition. The children were judged on their performance, musicality, skill and level of difficulty. The troupe scored 140 points out of a possible 150, winning the overall competition! In the summer term the KS1 dance club was opened to other children so that they could also enjoy dance and learn a new skill. This year the KS2 Dance Troupe was also entered into the same competition. The troupe was led by a Year 6 pupil who with Miss Ralston’s help choreographed and taught the dance to 11 of her peers. The troupe came 7th out of a possible 19. All of the children worked hard and enjoyed the experience of competing. All of the Performing Arts groups collaborated in the Summer Term to put on a spectacular show called a ‘Night at the Musicals’ for their families, friends and teachers to enjoy and they raised a substantial amount of money for Alder Hey by selling tickets for their performances!

**Skiing**

This year was our 6th year of skiing and we took 23 children (16 boys and 7 girls) to Le Corbier, in the French Alps, a resort we had been to in 2018. 6 of the 23 were return-skiers with 17 beginners. Mrs Moorcroft and Miss Ralston accompanied the group as part of Liverpool Primary Ski School Association. Just as in other years, the children were true ambassadors for Much Woolton mixing well with children from all the other schools. We travelled with children from St. Nicholas', St Paschal Baylon, Our Lady and St. Swithin and New Park. The group gained lots of independence whilst they away organising themselves to be ready for their 2-hourly ski lessons twice a day. It’s a demanding course physically, many children (and staff) 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. This year we had 3 children who had skied for 3 years consecutively (Years 4, 5 and 6) and are now really competent, proficient skiers. The learning that takes place during this week is immense and good evidence to support the saying, not all classrooms have four walls! 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. Next year we have our largest skiing numbers yet! This course is now offered at St. Ambrose so it will become a joint trip. We have 36 signed up from Much Woolton and 14 from St Ambrose. Mrs Moorcroft will lead over both schools with Miss Ralston, Mr Hogg and Mr Simpson accompanying from our school. Another successful ski-course, making memories to last a lifetime in the best classroom in the world.

**Dodgeball**

This year we entered the Year 5/6 Dodgeball through LSSP. Going into the unknown having never played or competed in a Dodgeball tournament since the beginning of their school time, the players competed against other schools in which they turned out victorious by winning their group heat. By winning the group heat the year 5/6 team was invited to take part in the LSSP City Finals where they again did the unexpected and won the whole competition even though they’d only had a small amount of experience and training! Having already won the LSSP City Finals Dodgeball Competition, we were then invited to represent Liverpool in the Merseyside School Games. Unfortunately the team fell short in the Merseyside Youth Games and finished in a very respectful 6th place out of all the teams in the Merseyside area. This was a big achievement for us and the team were a credit to the school.

**After School Clubs**

This year we have continued to deliver a wide variety of sporting extra curricular activities including Judo, Archery, Football, Netball, Cross Country, Dance to name a few! Our Change 4 Life Club has had a great impact upon the pupils that took part last year. As our school is accredited for Children’s University all of our extra curricular activities count towards the hours required to successfully graduate the programme and this year over 120 children graduated!

**Change 4 Life Club**

Change 4 Life has gone on from the 3rd week of the School year all the way to the 2nd to last week of the School Year that is around 30 to 40 hours of extra activity in sport for the children that have attended! From the beginning to the end the number of children has nearly doubled meaning having to get extra members of staff to help support the club! The Change 4 Life initiative is aimed at engaging children into taking part in more sport and having an understanding of how sport and nutrition can help their lifestyle and school work. The excitement and numbers we receive each Tuesday tells us how the children are dedicated to the club and enjoy turning up each week looking forward to what is happening the next week as soon as the club has finished for that week. It began as a structured afterschool club where we tried to plant the idea of how important exercise and nutrition is to everyday life and then slowly progressed into giving the children more of the responsibility in what activity or exercise they would like to do. Reason for this was to show us what activities or exercises the less active children enjoy and also it showed how creative they can be knowing that they can set or play these activities outside of school when they want too meaning more exercise. Change 4 Life is open to all ages across the school, this has developed peoples responsibilities for example the year 6’s would support the year 1’s in activities and the year 1’s would look up to the older children as role models which made all the KS2 children have a better discipline and behaviour as they were being looked up to.

**Trampoline Festival**

Year 3 were invited to a festival at Liverpool Trampoline Park in Speke. Places were limited and awarded to the 6 children with 100% attendance all year! They had a fantastic time and were a credit to our school!

**Sporting Achievement Assembly**

We culminated our fantastic year with an Achiever Assembly to celebrate our successes. We gave out over 85 certificates! Two pupils were awarded ‘Athletes of the Year’ too and are proud holders of our Much Woolton trophies!

**School Games Day 2019**

Another very successful School Games/Sports Day was held on our school field which delivered by L.S.S.P. and supported by Young Leaders from Calderstones and St. Juile’s High Schools. The young leaders from both schools were a credit to their schools and themselves and were an inspiration to our current young leaders and aspiring year 5s! The children competed in their house teams with the winning team being Harrison!

**School Games Award 2018-20**

In recognition of our dedication to school sport we were awarded the School Games PLATINUM Mark in July for the first time which we hold for 2 years!

**Thank-you!**

None of the above would have been possible without the dedication of our school staff at Much Woolton who have given up a lot of their free time to train, deliver and support our pupils in reaching their potential.

Our thanks also go to Liverpool School Sports Partnership for their services to our school along with their staff who delivered Balance Ability to our EYFS children to help them learn how to ride a bike. We would like to thank Yoga Bear for their lessons across the school this year along with Jessica from L.S.S.P. who has delivered Power Ability sessions across KS2.

We are extremely grateful to Lancashire Cricket for the resources and opportunities they have offered to our school this year and hope to maintain this link next year too!



Miss Wilson

Health & Wellbeing Lead