

## March Newsletter

### Y6 and below Boys Badminton Tournament 2 March

9 boys went to Abbeydale Sports Club on Saturday afternoon, only 2 boys were actually in Y6 so most will get an additional opportunity to play next term. As always they all played with commitment and enthusiasm. I was also impressed with the range of shots they played, especially as the tournament progressed. In the doubles everyone played 3 matches in their pools and the top 16 teams were then entered into the knock out stages. Matthew R and Oliver E, both Y5, did extremely well to reach the quarter finals and Alfie and Frank (the two Y6's) got to the final - and won! Very well done boys, although they did have some really close matches along the way winning 15-14 at least twice! Along with the other boys, these two were then persuaded to enter the singles where Alfie reached the quarters and Frank the semis. Well done to all the players and I hope to see them in action in May.

### Y3 and 4 Hot Shots Basketball 4 March

10 children from Y3 and 4 travelled to All Saints Sports Centre - Goals after school to play Basketball. Originally there should have been 12 teams but only 8 were actually there, which is a shame as this meant only 3 matches instead of 5 for the team. It was a great experience for them all to be in full match situations which is quite different to playing against each other at school! Everyone worked really hard and I could see a big improvement in their play with each match. Unfortunately, we did not manage to win any games but I'm proud of the effort they made to attack and defend effectively. Eve E and Amelia were spotted as having some potential and have been offered a free taster session 😊

If any children are interested in trying, or taking up, basketball, there are sessions at All Saints on Thursdays from 5-6pm. Everyone is welcome from age 8-11, no experience necessary, no booking necessary, all coaches are DBS checked and each session costs £3.50. Why not give it a go!

### Y5 and 6 Bouldering Finals 8 March

6 children qualified for the finals - 3 in Y5 and 3 in Y6 - Oliver, Arbella, Matthew W, Jack W, Lizzie and Suzanna. The organiser said 51 schools and 601 children took part in the first round so these 6 had already done great things in even progressing to the finals day! Each

team were able to attempt 12 different routes (or problems, using their terminology). We were lucky in that we managed to have a go at all the problems. All of our climbers scored more points than the previous round, even though all the problems were more difficult. Jack got a team spot prize for his tenacity and determination, especially on problem 7. 3 of our climbers Matthew, Oliver and Lizzie scored 110 points each out of a possible 120 and had to compete in a climb off where Oliver achieved an individual 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Overall, we were 5<sup>th</sup> in the schools competition. We were very proud of the whole team. Thank you to Ms Field for her organising and encouragement and to the many parents (or grandparents) who helped to walk down with the children and stayed to watch and support during the competition.

### **Y6 and below Girls Badminton Tournament 9 March**

For various reasons we only had one competitor participating, Laila, from 6H. She really excelled herself and progressed to the semi-finals for the singles. Well done to her, and thank you to her Mum, who was there to support. Excellent play Laila, especially your service.

### **Y3-6 Girls Swimming Gala 13 March**

This was our first invitation to a gala organised by SGHS and held at Heeley Pool. 18 girls represented Dobcroft, which unfortunately was not a full team. Next year I hope we will have more swimmers and be able to swim in every event. There were 3 other teams present and the quality of swimming was very good. It was a bit of a rush to get everyone ready and to have a short warm up in the pool before the first races. Thank you to Mrs Diacon for her invaluable help during the afternoon. The girls all swam their hearts out and were very supportive of each other. We also had lots of parents, and other relatives, spectating - thank you for taking the time to support the girls. Because the Y4's were unable to participate, a particular well done to Izzy and Maddy for swimming in Y4 races whilst only being in Y3! Also well done to Sophie who won the Y3 breaststroke, her sister Emily who won the Y6 breaststroke and to Annabel who won both her individual races in freestyle and backstroke. In the final results we came 3<sup>rd</sup> which is absolutely incredible considering we weren't able to do all the races. So proud of these girls - we'll do even better next year so keep practising!

### **Y6 Netball tournament 16 March**

Unfortunately the tournament was cancelled due to bad weather and cannot be re-scheduled



## South Yorkshire Games Gymnastics Finals 22 March

What a day our team of 5 had at the EIS. The opening ceremony was great fun with all 4 teams marching in wearing their green/purple/red/yellow representative t-shirts. We were very lucky to have 5 Paralympic athletes in attendance to motivate the children and later on to give out medals. The girls also asked some of them to sign their t-shirts! There was a lovely group performance by the children from Aston Fence and some brilliant Punjabi Bhangra-type dancers and musicians who played the teams in, but who also did a fabulous performance and got everyone in the audience on their feet and joining in! After that was the serious business of getting ready for the gymnastics with warm up vaults and floor exercises before the actual competition. The girls did so well to keep their composure and all of them rose to the occasion and performed brilliantly in front of the judges. They should be very proud of themselves. A huge thank you to Chloe Crookes for preparing the girls, and taking the time to be there for the whole competition.

## Champions League Finals - 5 boys, 6 boys and 5/6 girls

This season we are very fortunate to have overall winner's competitions for all 3 leagues (last year there were none) and a great big well done to all the players as we have qualified in all 3! They will take place during next term - dates below.

**Update on football talent spotting** - Noah and Will F from Y5 are doing a 6 week training course/trial with SUFC after being spotted during one of our tournaments. Killian and George, also Y5, are still waiting to hear.

**Exciting news** - Last year, Ellis S, who was then Y6, took part (very successfully) in the outdoor athletics race walking for our school. He started to take more of an interest in the sport and went along to some free coaching that was on offer. His mother informed me recently that Ellis is now the U13 National Race Walking Champion! We are so proud of him and it just goes to show that if you are interested in something and work hard at it you can achieve great things.

## Dates for your diary

- 24 April Y4 Network Games at EIS
- 30 April Y5 Football Finals at Middlewood Rovers
- 1 May Y6 Football Finals at Don Valley
- 2 May Y5/6 Girls Football Finals at Springs
- 7 May Y3/4 Hockey Tournament at Abbeydale
- 11 May Y5 and below boys and girls Badminton at Abbeydale
- 16 May Y3-6 boys and girls team Orienteering at Westfield
- 22 May AquaFest final at Aldwick
- 23 May Y4 football tournament at Concord
- 23 May Inter Schools Gala at Ponds Forge (evening)
- 4 June Y5/6 Athletics at Woodbourn Road
- 6 June Y6 girls friendly football at Gym Plus v Westbourne
- 20 June Y5/6 Athletics Finals at Woodbourn road
- 21 June Sports Day
- 25 June Y6 Netball Finals at Ponds Forge
- 5 July South Yorkshire Games at Sports Park SHU

**PLEA** - it's that time of year when I need to ask parents of children who have been in ANY teams (especially Y6's) to please have a look at home and send in any items of sports uniform - any football kit, netball shirts (white and purple) and skorts plus the old cross country vests. **THANK YOU**

