

April 2019

24 April Y4 Network Games at EIS

30 children from Y4 travelled by coach to the EIS on Wednesday 24 April. As always, I am aware of how privileged we are to have, and be allowed to use, such a wonderful facility. The children were divided into 3 teams, so we had the Dashers, Dazzlers and Daredevils! There were 12 activities altogether which everyone participated in. The activities were quite diverse, ranging from non-stop running around the indoor athletics track, to javelin throw, long jump, basketball dribbling and an obstacle race. There were also some fun activities involving skipping and cricket fielding/batting. The children were a credit to the school with their behaviour, sportsmanship and endeavour. They should be very proud of themselves and our overall 3rd place. Thank you everyone and a special thank you to Mrs Burgan and Mr Thake who helped with the teams.

Football League Winners Finals

As you can imagine, many, many schools play football across the city so schools are divided into geographical leagues of about 6 teams with the winners of each league getting together for a final tournament. Last season, unfortunately, there were no overall winners' tournaments. This season I am happy to say that not only the Y6 boys, but also Y5 and Y5/6 girls leagues were rewarded with a Champions Finals tournament and Dobcroft qualified in all 3! In itself, that is a fabulous achievement. In fact, Dobcroft has won the Y5 and 6 boys leagues for the last 3 seasons!

The Y5 boys started us off on Tuesday 30 April at Middlewood Rovers ground. We played 3 matches in our group to go through to the semi-finals undefeated, but 2nd on goal difference. This meant that our semi-final was against the winners of the other group. We conceded a goal early in the match but the boys remained calm and kept playing great football which was rewarded with a goal scored by Joe. At full time we went into penalties - stressful for everyone! I have to say, these boys have nerves of steel and with some great goals and some amazing goalkeeping from Will we were into the final! We had to play Gleadless - who we had already drawn 0-0 with in the earlier rounds. They were a strong team but we played better than before and created a few chances and tested the 'keeper. Unfortunately, very late in the game they scored from a corner and we didn't have time to come back at them. All the boys played with great skill, sportmanship and mature teamwork, well done to everyone - runners up in the whole of Sheffield is no mean feat 😊

The Y5/6 girls went next on Wednesday 1 May at Springs Academy. Due to injury, we only had 7 players so they were all very busy! Mr White accompanied the team and was most impressed by Alex and Rauan in defence. Marshalled by captain, Martha, the team worked

hard to create and make the most of all their chances but were a little intimidated by the size of some of the opposition, so didn't make it through the group stages. Well done to all the players and a special thank you to Mrs Shahin who had to hire a car to get her daughter to the tournament - that's dedication and it is really appreciated. Well done girls - you have had a great season - runners up in the group stage of the Girls Cup, winners of the 5 a side futsal at EIS and League winners.

Thursday 2 May saw the Y6 boys playing in their final at the Olympic Legacy Park. There were 13 teams divided into 3 groups. We were in a group of 3 so each team played each other twice and only the winners went through. A tentative and nervous start on what turned out to be quite small pitches for Y6 7 a side, so all teams had to adapt slightly - goalkeepers don't usually get so many scoring opportunities! We had Oughtibridge and Gleadless in our group and after playing them once we had won both games 1-0. This gave us a bit of breathing room and everyone could focus more on their football and relax a little. We won the 2nd round of matches 2-0 and 2-1. Goal scorers were James, Oliver, Joshua, Dominic and Sam. This meant we were through to the semi-finals where we faced Brunswick. Of course, every team at the finals is a strong team and Brunswick were no exception. Corners seem to have been our downfall this week and we conceded a goal, followed by another to unfortunately lose 0-2. I know the boys were disappointed but they have been together - except for Mal, new this year - for 2 seasons, winning their leagues 2 years in a row and this being joint 2nd at the Boys Cup. Well done to all our players and good luck for the future.

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The U11 Sheffield Boys team are competing in the National 7 a side Finals tomorrow (4 May) in Birmingham. Unfortunately, Oliver is not available, but would have been included, so GOOD LUCK to James and the team.

This has been a great season for the boys as apart from the above they have also won the Archie Clarke Shield and were runners up in the West Yorkshire Cup. Well done to the team ☺ and we'll look out for both James and Oli in the future.