

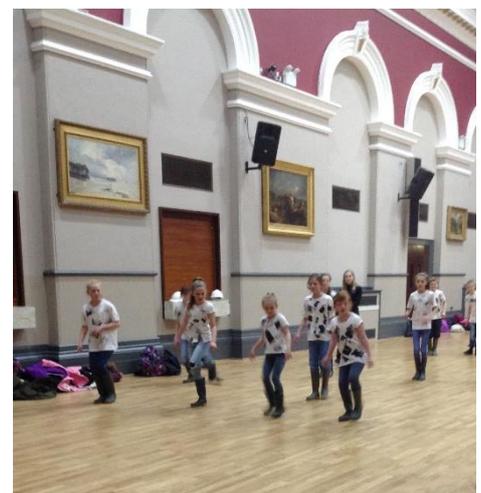
West Park Academy Sports Newsletter September 2015 - July 2016



We believe in offering every child the opportunity to participate in sport, as well as a variety of excellent units of work focussing on a range of sports activities. We participate in the 'Healthy Darlington – eat well, move more, live longer' gold package which enables us to access many more opportunities from high quality coaches. We also take part in many inter-school 'Sainsbury's Games' competitions and always try to get a wide range of pupils involved.

Please look at the wonderful achievements from all children throughout the school year.

This school year has been a successful year for sport. All staff would like to say a huge well done to every child!



Autumn Term



Key Steps Gymnastics Competition

West Park had huge success at this year's gymnastics competition. Fifteen children from Year 2 to Year 6 competed in the Key Step 1, 2 and 3 categories which they had prepared for during an afterschool club that ran prior to the competition. All the children did tremendously well, exceeding all expectations, demonstrated great team work and performed to a very high standard.

An extra special well done goes to **Scott Campbell** for achieving 1st place, **Leah Smith** for also coming 1st place and **Leah Storey** who came 3rd. All 3 children went on to compete in the finals where Scott won a gold medal, **Leah Smith** came home with a silver medal and **Leah Storey** came in a fantastic 5th place!

Cross Country Club

Cross Country Club had been run by Mrs Black, Mrs Heron, Mr Eeles and Mrs Ash prior to the competition.

Cross Country Competition

25 children from West Park took part in the Darlington Schools Cross Country competition. All the children represented the school and themselves fantastically and the spirit in which everyone supported and encouraged all the participants was tremendous. The children showed serious grit and determination when running distances of up to 2500m.

We are extremely proud of all the children's efforts and this year we had another 2 children qualify for the Tees Valley Finals. This year those children were **Brooke Gibbon** who came 9th in the Year 5 girl's race and **Tia Clapham** who came 2nd in the Year 3/4 girl's race. A huge well done to them both!

Tag Rugby

On 13th October, 10 Year 6 children attended the Tag Rugby competition at Mowden Park. The whole year group had received coaching from Mr Hillary during their PE sessions and West Park came 5th overall in the competition.

Mr Richards, Miss Robertson and Mr Appleby then started a Tag Rugby Club on a Friday after school. Children from Year 5 & 6 were offered the chance to attend. The children learnt so much whilst attending the club. They worked on teamwork and using every player and we have seen some massive improvements in the children's game.

Sportshall Athletics

Before Christmas, 20 Year 6 children went to the Dolphin Centre to compete in a Sportshall Athletics competition. The children received coaching from Mr Hillary to prepare for this. They all did extremely well and managed to come second in their group, meaning they went on to the Darlington Schools final. In the final, which took place on 7th January, there were 8 schools who were competing for top place, with over 200 children taking part.

There were a range of races/activities such as: relay races, vertical jump, chest push, speed bounce, long jump, triple jump, javelin and obstacle courses. They succeeded in coming 2nd out of 8 schools who competed.

Well done to all competing children: **Ella Castle, Olivia Heeley, Isobel Duffy, Millie Moss-Wilkin, Kasey Farr, Evie Rickinson, Hollie Millward, Anya Regan, Tamara Todd, Scott Campbell, Christian Metcalfe, Bartosz Zurkiewicz, Elliott Dummett, Jake Miller, Harry Parker, Ben Buckley, Ricky Shergill, Nathan Hunter, Adam Qureshi and Jorge Martin.**

Spring Term



Darlington Basketball Tournament

On Monday 11th January, 8 children from Year 5/6 competed in a Basketball Tournament against 8 other schools from Darlington. The competition was really fun and exciting. The schools were split into two groups and WPA played against four other schools. The children won two games, drew one and unfortunately lost our last game.

WPA ended up in a 'shoot out' for our final place in the competition. Overall, West Park Academy came 4th out of 9 teams. A great achievement!

Huge well done to the representing team: **Olivia Heeley, Jorge Martin, Ricky Shergill, Ella Castle, Scott Campbell, Jack Gibson, Oye Bentil and Dominic Stacey.**

Darlington Dance Festival

The Dance Festival this year took a slightly different format as it was held at the Dolphin Centre as oppose to the Civic Theatre. The children took part in workshops throughout the day and experienced a variety of dance genres as well as having time to rehearse.

Sixteen Year 6's from West Park took part in this year's festival. Twelve children danced and four children accompanied them on the drums. Year 6 had been studying apartheid and the conditions of black miners. They worked together with Debbie from The D Project to tell the story of how Gumboots was created –when mine workers began to express themselves by making rhythms and beats with their bodies, gumboots and chains. The children worked solidly on their performance and their dedication to the dance was remarkable. The organisers of the festival specifically commented on the superb quality of the children and their dance.

Annual Darlington Schools Swimming Gala

Our children performed extremely well competing in Butterfly, freestyle, breast stroke and back stroke. Many of whom had never competed in a swimming event before, but all pupils fought back the nerves and showed a remarkable level of skill.

An extra special mention goes to our Year 5 and Year 6 boys relay team who picked up bronze medals, **Evan Reeves** who won gold in the breast stroke and silver in the back stroke, which saw him go on to compete in the Tees Valley Final.

Sainsbury's School Games Year 3 Mini Tennis

8 children from Year 3 competed in the Sainsbury's School Games Mini Tennis Competition.

Prior to the competition, the children had been gathering and developing their tennis skills within PE with Mr Douglas. These eight children were then selected to go forward and compete.

We are delighted that our team won their cluster and were through to the Darlington finals in which they achieved 5th place. Well done!

Year 4 Girls Football

WPA Year 4 girls were excited to compete in this fun event. The day consisted of some skill based workshops as well as a mini tournament. The girls received coaching from the Martin Gray team prior to the event and were incredibly pleased with their 2nd place position in the tournament.

Tees Valley Sporting Event

Five children took part in the Tees Valley Table Top Sports Event. Games included table cricket, polybat, skittles and other activities such as Boccia, tee ball and goal ball. Children taking part thoroughly enjoyed their day and this opportunity.





Summer Term

Year 6 Girls Cricket Competition

Eight girls from Year 6 completely out shone pretty much every school who competed that day!

Their level of skill and sportsmanship was second to none as they won all their matches apart from 1. The girls came 2nd overall and were so proud to come home with a silver medal.

Well done to all competing children: **Anya Regan, Kasey Farr, Millie Moss-Wilkin, Tamara Todd, Olivia Heeley, Isabelle Duffy, Ella Castle, Olivia Lamb.**

Year 2 Quadkids Start Competition

Year 2 took part in the Quadkids Start Competition. 340 children from 11 schools across Darlington took part in this competition which involved the children running, sprinting, jumping and throwing.

They showed remarkable skill throughout the day and came in 5th out of 15 schools.

Year 3 Darlington Schools Quadkids Competition

15 children competed in the Year 3 Quadkids where some of them had the opportunity to experience an event like this for the very first time. No medals were won but these children experienced a superb day of competitive sport.

Year 6 Boys Cricket Competition

10 boys competed in this year's Kwik cricket where they were given the chance to put into play all the skills they'd been practising with Mr Hillary. They performed extremely well winning 4 matches out of 6 which resulted in them achieving 5th place out of 12 schools.

Year 4 Darlington Community Games

Thursday 7th July, Year 4 had the opportunity to take part in the annual Community Games held at Eastbourne Sports Complex. The day had a 'Spirit of the Games' theme and children were encouraged to think about how they could show good sportsmanship. The children took part in the cricket, tag rugby, tri golf, boccia, new age kurling and street swords events. After a difficult start, the cricket team did particularly well and went on to win all 4 of the matches they played.

Athletics – Track and Field Event

Tuesday 7th June, 22 children from Year 5 & Year 6 were selected to compete in the Annual Athletics Competition where they exceeded all expectations! Through sheer grit and determination, they came away with 6 gold medals and 1 bronze medal.

Oye Bentil was awarded with a gold medal for an outstanding performance in the long jump. **Ella Castle** achieved a bronze medal for her efforts in the triple jump. Our Year 6 Boys Relay team had us all on our feet cheering as they galloped home to win the gold medal. A massive well done to the team!

We are immensely proud of all the children who competed as they showed superb team spirit throughout the day.



Year 5 Mixed Cricket

2 teams of 10 children took part in Year 5 Cricket. They were split into 2 groups and had a fantastic day! Team 1 came 2nd overall and Team 2 came 4th. Well done to everyone who took part!

Boys Football

Big well done to the Boys Football team who have shown excellent team spirit and determination throughout the year. The team received coaching from Mr Douglas and Martin Gray football coaches and took part in various matches during the year and achieved 4th in their group at the Football Town Cup at Longfield Academy.



Netball

Well done to the Netball team who attended Netball club with Miss Coates throughout the year and took part in various matches which resulted in them coming 2nd in their league. A fantastic result. This shows hard work and dedication pays off!