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Dear Parent / Carer

Sporting News

This letter is intended to bring you up to date with recent sports events and to inform you about the sports programme for the remainder of the Summer Term. We had a busy Spring Term, with a large number of our children representing the school in a variety of sporting fixtures. In fact we have enjoyed numerous successes in the Spring Term and first half of the Summer Term.

Cross Country

We have had another successful cross country season, with many individual and team medals being won. The last meet was held at Gayhurst School, a new venue for this season; the course was a challenging one and a slightly longer distance for the older pupils. This venue will host the first meet of the new season for 2018-2019. Some of our strongest runners from Years 5 and 6 also entered the Buckinghamshire Schools Cross Country Championships at Cottesloe School in Wing. I am proud to report that the 3 boys that entered the County competition came in the top 50 in a field of nearly 140 runners. Two of the entrants qualified to represent the County in a national competition, held in Loughborough. Following the competition at Cottesloe School, I received the results of all the race categories and many of our ex-pupils are still enjoying great success in their cross country careers.

On 18 May we held our annual school cross country 'Fun Runs' on East Common in Gerrards Cross. The family races were held in the morning, with children, parents and siblings running together. Approximately 100 families participated in the family races. This event continues to grow in popularity every year and it is lovely to see so many of our children participating in a sporting event with their parents. In the afternoon, all the children in Years 1-6 ran the 1km course through the woods. Once again, we were lucky with the weather and the sun shone, the event was a great success.

Netball

The girls' netball teams have enjoyed a successful season. The teams have played in numerous matches against local schools. Both the A team and the B team participated in an area tournament held at Burnham Grammar School, the A team won the tournament and have now qualified to represent South Bucks in the county finals on 5 July.

Football

Once again this year, all of our school football teams have enjoyed a fantastic season and have reached new heights, winning all seven of the district competitions that we entered and we have also enjoyed huge success at regional and national level.

The Year 5 boys completed a convincing and memorable double, winning both their District Cup competition and six-a-side cup. Many of this team have been regulars in our Year 6 team this year, and we are looking forward to seeing what this talented group of players can achieve next season.

The Year 6 boys won the ESFA District Finals tournament to reach the County Finals, where they won a nail-biting penalty shoot-out 8-7 to qualify for the South East Regional Finals. Representing Buckinghamshire in Greenwich, they played superbly and missed out on qualification for the National Finals by the narrowest of margins in a three way penalty shoot-out. A great season concluded for them by completing the league and cup double.

Our girls' team raised their own bar from last season and have been outstanding all season long. Having won the County Finals in November, they travelled to Greenwich in March with unfinished business, having finished third twelve months earlier. A series of clinical performances ensured victory as SE Champions and booked a place at the National Finals with the best schools in England.

These took place at the Ricoh Arena in Coventry in May and the girls had a brilliant day, eventually finishing as runners up to a very strong team from Northumberland. This secured their place as the second best girls' football team in England, a magnificent achievement in every respect and one which everybody involved in should be hugely proud. In the District competitions, the team was equally dominant and completed the league and cup double for the third successive year. The squad are now looking forward to 5 July, where they will compete in the School Games County Finals.

On 25 May, Mr Arnold and I took 53 girls from Years 3, 4 and 5 to a football training session with the Wildcats – an FA girls' football association. This organisation is specifically interested in encouraging girls to play football and join local clubs. The girls had a great afternoon being trained by female FA coaches and then played some matches against another local school. We hope that some of the girls will be inspired to start a sporting career in football and that this will be a springboard to continuing our success with the girls' football team at school.

Mr Arnold and I would like to pass on our thanks to parents and carers for your fantastic support in transporting children, attending matches and, not least, washing and returning school football kit! Without your commitment, none of what we achieve is possible and your help is always very much appreciated.

Cricket

Boys' and girls' cricket teams from Years 5 and 6 are due to participate in a Quik Cricket Competition to be held at Burnham Cricket Club later this month.

County Finals

Following the success of our swimming team at a gala in January, the boys' team have been invited to represent the district at the county finals to be held at Stoke Mandeville Stadium in July. Our girls' football team and the netball team have also all qualified to represent Souths Bucks at the same competition. We are entering teams from Years 3, 4 and 5 into the qualifying rounds for tennis later this month.

Curriculum Physical Education Lessons

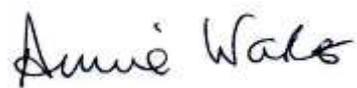
The children are currently participating in a summer sporting programme of athletics, cricket, rounders and swimming. We continue to benefit from the support of outside professionals during the summer term. Mrs Lucy Godfrey continues to team teach with all Key Stage 2 staff in their Games lessons. As last year, we have participated in a Bucks County Council cricket programme called 'A Chance to Shine'. Years 3 and 5 enjoyed cricket lessons with Malcolm Roberts, a cricket coach in the first half of the summer term. We opened our swimming pool the week before the half term holiday and have employed Mrs Julie Matthews, a qualified swimming teacher and lifeguard; she will be supporting the teaching of swimming this year. I would like to thank all the parents who have kindly volunteered to help during swimming sessions.

Extra-Curricular PE

We continue to offer a wide variety of extra-curricular sports for those children with seemingly boundless energy! Current sports on offer are: a lunchtime athletics club run by Mrs Godfrey; an after school athletics club run by myself, Mrs Godfrey, Mrs Sheaf and Mr Lewis; football clubs run by First Soccer for children in Year 1 through to Year 6; hockey for Years 3-6; gymnastics; and after school golf run by the Wexham Park Golf Centre.

Finally, we hope you enjoyed our KS1 Sports Day last week and look forward to seeing you at 11am on Friday 22 June for KS2 Sports Day.

Yours faithfully



Annie Ware
PE Subject Leader