Welcome to the Autumn edition of the North Stoke School Sport Partnership newsletter celebrating featuring articles, news items by staff and students from the 49 schools in North Stoke and celebrating the outstanding progress being made by raising participation levels in traditional and alternative sporting activities.

**Competition to design the North Stoke School Sport Partnership logo**

Forty entries were received as the competition took place during the Key Stage 2 and 3 sports leader training camps involving sports leaders from 14 schools in the summer term at Stanley Head OEC.

The winners were Lauren Glover (7), James Mountford (8), Katie Malbon (8) from Birches Head and Nathan Haweswood St Margaret Ward (9) who each receive a £10 sports kit voucher.

**National School Sport Week in North Stoke School Sport Partnership!**

All 6769 High schools students and some 2,500 Primary students from schools in the North Stoke School Sport Partnership were directly involved in the activities planned during the 2010 National School Sport Week (NSSW), pledging to have a go in sporting activities and to have fun and to raise awareness of the 7 Olympic and Paralympic values.

Preparation for the multitude of activities and events that took place started months before with all High schools appointing 6 to 8 NSSW leaders each to operate in their school and across their cluster of schools. These leaders worked with their School Sport Coordinators and PE departments to complete an action plan which was then submitted to the PDM. Each school then received a preparatory visit and an extensive press release was compiled for radio and press coverage during the week.

International gymnast Craig Heap agreed to visit the SSP for two days and completed no less than ten inspirational visits to Primary and High schools; sharing his journey to Commonwealth, European and Olympic glory. Councillor Hazel Lyth, Stoke on Trent City Council portfolio holder for Health and Social Care attended Craig’s visit to New Ford Primary School and commented that: “it was so inspirational and moving, the children absolutely loved it and so did I. This is a real example of what we should be doing more of in Stoke-on-Trent!”

The SSP also managed to organise local paralympic athlete Ian Marsden to complete three visits and Stoke national sprinter Alex Nelson called in to three schools during the week. Lord Mayor of Stoke on Trent Denver Tolley spoke to children from many schools about how NSSW linked perfectly to the 2010 Festival of Sport in Stoke which is celebrating 100 years of the confederation of the six towns in raising the profile of the PE and sport participation and the benefits of a healthy lifestyle for young people in the city.

The SSP were delighted by the response of Lloyds TSB (NSSW sponsors) to the activity programme set up as branch managers and their assistants from Burslem, Hanley Tunstall and Stoke all got out to make appearances at the city wide TOP Link festival involving 320 Primary students being led by 72 senior sports leaders, a Bikeability and Basketball session, an indoor rowing competition and an alternative sports day. Staff we think were inspired by the student and staff enthusiasm and played a vital role themselves in raising profile and celebrating success, including handing out certificates to winning individuals and teams.

Much of the support and preparation for the week came from Stoke 2012 coordinator Vanessa Darlington who was able to link schools to other cultural events and to encourage more of them to register onto the Get Set 2012 website and to input their good news stories.

Other events on during the week included two major Dance festivals, your Sport intra competition sports, a hooping world record attempt, sports leaders led key stage 1 agility festivals, a cycle to school ride and Stoke City FC’s Premier League 4 Sport Volleyball coaching session to name but a few.

From an Olympic torch relay by 3 staff and 15 High students being warmly received by 750 Primary children in 8 schools, to cluster school Olympic days, to alternative “have a go” PE lessons, to NSSW leaders assemblies and senior management presentations; this year’s NSSW has been an outstanding success in raising the profile of sport across all North Stoke to staff, councillors, sponsors, elite athletes and crucially more students. Monday 27th June 2011; bring it on!

Staff and students at Birches Head welcome back former student and International athlete Alex Nelson during NSSW Sports Day

James Brindley sports leaders preparing to deliver a Key Stage 1 agility festival

Newford Primary School Nursery greeting the visit of the Olympic Torch Relay

From this Autumn newsletter onwards we will be featuring extracts of text and images in Arial or Times 10. Font size has been increased to 12. A layout has been designed to make the newsletter easier to read.

www.stokessps.org
Stoke on Trent College - Challenge South Africa Sports Coaching

In partnership with Stoke on Trent City Council Youth Services & The Sir Stanley Matthews Foundation. A trip of a lifetime...

In February 2010, 27 students from Stoke on Trent College took part in the ‘Challenge South Africa’ project and delivered sports coaching sessions in the deprived communities of Cape Town, South Africa.

The students completed a range of coaching sessions at Taftalh Primary School and Masabong High School, the sessions included structured coaching in athletics, cricket and football and Top Activity play sessions for the younger children.

Laura Shea, BTEC National Sports Science said “it was an excellent opportunity to gain new skills and coach in a completely different environment. The children were fantastic and participated in all activities with a high level of enthusiasm, it was a very rewarding experience”.

To find out more about the Challenge South Africa project, please contact Calvin Austin at Stoke on Trent College on 07785 113853.

Meet the team...

Stoke Sixth Form College Trampoline Squad

Phenomenal Success at the British Colleges National Championships!

A group of talented students from the City of Stoke-on-Trent Sixth Form College were all hard at work representing the college and the West Midlands - competing at the British Colleges National Championships at Loughborough University on the 10th, 11th and 12th April.

The Sixth Form College’s phenomenal volleyball teams have both excelled yet again, with the girls winning the national championship after beating their fierce rivals, Chichester College, and the boys finishing runners-up (both going one better than last year).

“The weekend was awesome!! We had such a fantastic time which made all of the training and hard work worthwhile. The girls really stepped up their game and the boys were 7IC who were awarded a trophy and House points for their efforts. Everyone staff and students had a fun day and an excellent sporting experience.”

Grove Junior’s Sports Day

The children of Grove Junior had a fantastic Sports Day at Northwood Stadium recently. Divided into 3 teams they competed against each other in competitive and fun events. Children and parents loudly encouraged their team members to victory. Amazingly, two of the three teams tied for first place!

Children, staff, sports coaches and parents were actively involved in the organisation of a great day.

Eight children were also selected to compete in the City inter-school Quad Kids athletics competition. These children represented Grove Junior and performed excellently!!

Ultimate Dodgeball Challenge at Forest Park Primary School

Forest Park are working to increase their intra school competition opportunities through ultimate dodgeball. 100 students from years 3, 4, 5 and 6 actively participated throughout the afternoon. Following a World Cup theme, students were divided up into 4 teams Cameroon, Italy, Spain and Brazil. Each team dressed in their teams colours and painted their faces. The students really enjoyed themselves cheering and shouting with excitement throughout. Sports leaders from Birches Head High School were also in attendance.

Birches Head Cluster

A Fitting Tribute to Mr Clark

Carmountside Primary School held their annual Sports Day at Birches Head High School at the end of the summer term. Organised by Birches Head Sports Leaders with year 7 participating in multi-skills based events and years 4,5 and 6 competing in track events. One sad aspect of the day was that this would be Mr Clark’s last activity as Primary Link Teacher for Carmountside. Mr Clark is retiring after a long career in which he has tirelessly worked to develop sport both within his own school and throughout the Hanley town area. He has been an active member of Hanley Sports Association and has organised numerous events over the years.

Senior Sports Leaders...

Platinum Ambassador

Senior Sports Leader

Young Ambassador

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Intra School Competition at Smallthorne

Throughout the last school year all of key stage two and year one classes have taken part in intra school competitions playing either in their house teams or against their own class mates. The local high school sports leaders from St Margaret Ward Cluster and the St Wilfrid’s children for taking part in lots of sporting activities this year including cross country, tag rugby and athletics to earn as many points as possible. The winning team this year was THE WHITE SHARKS!!!

Mill Hill Quick Sticks Report

By Nadia Mayo Year 5

Last March the girls’ hockey team from Mill Hill Primary School took part in a Quick sticks hockey competition at Holywood Sports College. We went with our teacher Mr. Austin and were encouraged to practice our skills and techniques. We are eagerly looking forward to competing in this tournament next year.

The Moorpark Junior School Fun Run

Report by Year 6 Mill student

As a school we decided to hold a fun run to raise money for children’s cancer charities. The event was held in Bunsmore Park on the 15th June. The whole school ran including some of the teachers! The weather was glorious, there was a bit of a breeze which made it ideal for running. We walked down to the park and then started off at the start. Mrs Penny told us that if we felt like we could do it we could run round the circuit twice. That was two kilometres. I decided that definitely going to be me! The Claxton went and we were off.

I was at first but then I came to do the second lap my legs were on fire and my legs felt really tired. I was determined though and I got round.

It was a great day. Parents came to watch and cheer us on and Mrs Boyd said she was really proud of us for doing the two circuits. She didn’t think we could! We managed to raise £240 pounds for the Donna Louise Trust.

NSSW at St Margaret Ward National School Sport Week

Students from St Margaret Ward celebrated National School Sport Week with a host of exciting events.

The main focus of the week for a school’s perspective was raising awareness of the Paralympic Games. PE Teachers from School introduced new Olympic Sports but tried to make students think about what it would be like to be an athlete or partially sighted whilst being an Olympic Athlete. Students took part in sprinting events with one eye covered and also in volley ball.

Later in the week our 6th Form Sports Leaders delivered Power Point presentations to Year 7 students to raise awareness of Olympic values.

We already have plans underway for next year and we hope to make it even bigger success.

Mr Pearson (School Sport Co-ordinator)

Cycling Revolution at Ball Green

Ball Green students and staff have really taken to cycling this year with 5 new sheds being built, staff cycling to school and over 60 students cycling every morning. Jamie-Leigh Bell from Year 4 reports on the raft of the Extreme BMX Track team to the school.

Cycling is fun and great exercise. You can exercise yourself on the Extreme BMX Track. Cycling is enjoyable for all the family; it is a way to bring you closer. There is a History to every bike; the Penny Farthing was first created in France. A Historian came to our school to showcase this wonderful creation and we each had a turn on this antique. I felt as tall as a tree when I eventually sat on it, after some difficulty.

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By Emily Preece Year 5

Greenways Penalty Shoot Out

Debbie Slack Y1 teacher

In June, Year 1 from Greenways Primary School took part in a Penalty Shoot out to help raise money for Stoke City Football Club and our school – Greenways Primary. We got to dress up in sporty clothes and we had the opportunity to have football themed face paints. Then we went out onto the field and shot goals at the goalies. One of them was Pottermus the club’s mascot. All the money we raised from sponsors went to Stoke City and our school. Overall it was great fun and we learnt some new football skills too!

Milton Cheerleading Performance

By Emily Preece Year 5

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On Wednesday 30th June 2010 Milton Primary School Cheeredleaders paid a visit to The Rep Theatre in preparation for our dance show that night. The Wednesdays before the show we had been practicing with the two sports leaders from Holywood High School, Holly Twice and Amelia Ellis. Our routine was very energetic and entertaining to take part in and we wish to let everyone who helped us get to the position, of being able to perform in front of everyone else, know that they gave us a once in a lifetime opportunity.

The first time we arrived at The Rep theatre in the morning for the rehearsal we were feeling very nervous as we were going to practice in front of all the other performers from Holywood Lane. During the morning, the Milton Primary School Dance Club, who were only Year 1 and 2, joined us for their rehearsal of ‘Everybody In Love by JLS.

Once we were all wearing the cheerleading uniform we looked so amazing! Our outfit was a short netball skirt, navy blue vest top, which then had the Milton Primary School badge printed on the front, white socks and white pumps. The event was raising awareness of the Paralympic Games. PE teachers from school ran including some of the teachers! The weather was glorious, there was a bit of a breeze which made it ideal for running. We walked down to the park and then started off at the start. Mrs Penny told us that if we felt like we could do it we could run round the circuit twice. That was two kilometres. I decided that definitely going to be me! The Claxton went and we were off.

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Mr Pearson (School Sport Co-ordinator)
Brownhills and James Brindley Cluster

James Brindley nominated four Sports Leaders to support National Sports week. On Monday 24th May we went to Hanley Park. We played lots of Games, one of the games we played was hide and seek, we had lots of fun. Fitzy’s favourite game was hide and seek because he was always found last. Melanie was the first person to find me.

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All the children, in Year 1 at The Willows Primary School, took ‘Street’ dance classes. The children learned a dance routine, which were put together to make a short school dance. Parents of all the Year 1 children were invited to watch a short dance show, performed by the children.

All the children thoroughly enjoyed the classes and the parents have expressed the joy they have felt at being able to watch their children perform.

Some of the children have been inspired to continue with ‘Street’ dance classes outside of school.

Year 1 Dance Class at The Willows Primary School

Brownhills Dance Leaders

Dance Leaders from Brownhills performed at The Turf. CSA winning a dance that they have been delivering in cluster primary schools and all was part of a Dance festival put on in March 2010 by Miss Swancott and the Leaders. Leaders are; Chelsea Fitliz, Emily Manning, Hannah Gibson, Carly Forid, Miss Swancott, Lasa Finalke, Bethany Simpson, Courtney Fitliz, Mrs Garrity

St Johns Tennis and Playground Report

St John’s Tennis

On the 28th of June, 8 children from St Johns went to Fenton Manor to take part in a tennis competition. There were 4 different schools competing against each other. At the beginning of the day we had to go to practice against each other. After that, all 3 schools arrived and then we began the competition. First of all the boys from the 4 different schools competed against each other, and then the girls did.

Anna’s favourite part of the day was when she won a prize. Peter enjoys the whole day. Kyle enjoyed the whole day. Our least favourite part of the day was when we lost.

The playground leading job is wonderful, because I love helping and playing with them. It also gives the smaller children a chance to learn how to play together with out arguing. Altogether there are 6 year 6s doing the job and they all love it. Sometimes we play football and other days we play tag, duck duck goose and race! When it rains we go inside and read a class book or watch DVDs. At the last time we watched High Kingdom we watch other DVDs too.

By David Levy, Peter Hain and Daniel Johnson

St Jeromes Primary School

Sports Day at Harpersfield Primary School

Sports day at Harpersfield was really different this year and was taken back to old school traditional. Teachers and parents all thought it was a good change and a fantastic change it was! We decided to make a real day of it and thankfully the weather was on our side! Our Foundation Stage and Key Stage one sports day was in the morning with children excelling at the sack race, skipping race and clothes shuffle race! Next we had our KS2 sports day introducing the 400m race for our Year 6’s. After that we invited parents to stay for a last ever get going event where we had a whole school family lunch on the pitch. ‘All that could be heard was laughter’ Yvonne Jeffries Head of Governors.

In the afternoon parents and students all enjoyed the afternoon of sports, classes learned and competed in marathons, cricket, athletics and golfing activities, with parents and teacher’s getting as engrossed and competitive as the children! We had a fantastic day and really look forward to developing and enhancing our sports day next year!

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By David Levy, Peter Hain and Daniel Johnson

Thistle Hough Cluster

Etruscan Primary School’s Virtual Skiing Competition

6 children in Year 4 took part in a skipping competition against others, but virtually. They had to do 8 different skipping challenges in 30 seconds per challenge. They completed them as a class to make it more fun.

Habib and Hussain said this:

We enjoyed the competition because before the competition even started, we didn’t know how of the skipping tricks and we liked working hard to learn them. The star jumps were our favourite and the jumping in pairs was the least favourite. We would love to do it again, and maybe even learn some new tricks! We’d like to set up a skipping club or playgroup. We can be the skipping teachers!

Cluster Agility Competition

Competition Manager Richard Adams set up a timetable of inter-school sports competitions for primary schools. The first one was hosted by Thistle Hough High School back in November and took the form of an agility competition for year 3 & 4 from the Thistle Hough and St Peter’s clusters. Competitors took part in 8 events in teams of 4 consisting of 2 boys and 2 girls.

Events were: Speed Bounce, Target Throw, High Stepper, Standing Long Jump, Cheek Pass, Virtual Jump, Shuttle Run and Jacobs Ladder. Congratulations to the top girl performer from St John’s and top boy Jacob Douglas from St Luke’s, St Luke’s and St John’s then went through to the Partnership Finals where St Luke’s finished in a brilliant 1st place and St John’s in a great 2nd place. A big thank you to the following leaders who assisted with the event: Sam Healey, Zen Healey, Claudia Forister, Ryan Rocha, Laura Taylor, Grace Lambert and Alex Coyle.

By David Levy, Peter Hain and Daniel Johnson

Brownhills Maths & Computing College

National School Sport at Brownhills was a really enjoyable week, with all pupils in the school having the opportunity to experience new sports and activities. Throughout the week activities organised included: an agile festival for all boys PE classes on Monday 28th June, whilst this was taking place all Girls PE classes were delivered by Birmingham Balleli Basketball team and coaching staff. Throughout the rest of the week a Bikeability programme was offered to Year 7 pupils, this involved training pupils how to control their bike safely and then how to ride safely on the roads. Birmingham Balleli also delivered a day of coaching to all Boys PE classes whilst the Girls PE classes were participating in a workshop.

Staff & Pupils were fortunate enough to receive a visit from The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress on Wednesday 30th June: Craig Heap Olympic Gymnast also visited the school and joined in with Bikeability programme and some of the basketball drills.

The Dreams and Teams leaders for 2010.

Sophie Hollick with primary school children during a Martial Arts session at South Kibera Primary.

Head of Governors

Contributions from Y6 children, Miss Smy and Yvonne Jeffries – children! We had a fantastic day and really look forward to teachers getting as engrossed and competitive as the sport, classes teamed up and competed in rounders, afternoons parents stayed and enjoyed our afternoon of ‘family’ picnic on the field: “All that could be heard was our Year 6’s. After the races we invited parents to stay for our ‘on safari’ at the fabulous Masai Mara. The relationship between Holden Lane and Jamhuri High School in Kenya continues to go from strength to strength with 2 successful visits to Brownhills and James Brindley Cluster.
Club Focus-Maddogs
Martial Arts Club

Dan Beeston age 10 from Sneyd Green Primary School. One of the first Maddogs scholarship students wins WAKO European title in Croatia 2009/2010. The Maddogs work with the SSP to provide new students the chance to join the club through a scholarship scheme. Dan is one of many successes of this venture.

Ten year olds Lorna Greatbatch, Dane Beeston from Sneyd Green Primary, Korben Ward from Christ Church Primary, Jasmine Green from Packmoor Primary School win bronze in team event at WAKO Europeans in Croatia. Both Dan, Lorna and Jasmine were Maddogs Scholarship students.

Leadership from Stoke on Trent College delivering Volleyball sessions with Stoke City FC Mascot Pottermus at Northwood Arena for National School Sports Week 2010 in partnership with Stoke City FC’s Premier League 4 Sport Project

Pupils at St Peters RC Primary School playing Volleyball during NSSWP 2010 with Pottermus as part of Stoke City FC’s Premier League 4 Sport project.

Stoke City Football Club Premier League 4 Sport Volleymatched session led by coordinator Dawn Bracegirdle at Sneyd Green Primary School during National School Sport Week 2010.

Leaders from Stoke on Trent College delivering Volleyball sessions with Stoke City FC Mascot Pottermus at Northwood Arena for National School Sports Week 2010 in partnership with Stoke City FC’s Premier League 4 Sport Project

Leadership Camp KS3
Canoeing Training at the Leadership Camp KS2
Parachute games at KS2
First aid training at the KS3 Stoke College Camp

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NSSSP Leadership Academy in action!

North Stoke School Sport Partnership
Address: Holden Lane Sports College, Milton Road, Sneyd Green, Stoke on Trent ST1 6LG Tel: 01782 234 449 (Ext: 244)

www.stokessps.org