



St Matthew's Primary School

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2.7.15

Dear Parents / Carers,

SPORTS UPDATE

Sports Clubs at St.Matthew's

During this school year we have offered **24 different Sports clubs** for children across the school. Hopefully your child has attended one or more of our clubs. Some of our clubs are run by school staff and others with other carefully chosen partners, including Premier sport, Kinnerz Sport, CG Sports and Sunshine Dance. A big thank you to all school staff and our outside coaches for providing these clubs this year.

I am currently planning our programme of sports clubs for the next school year, when we will continue to offer a wide range of different sports and fitness clubs, introducing some new sports as well.

The sports clubs we have offered this year :

Multi Skills, Cheerleading, Short Tennis, Autumn Sports, Tag Rugby, Maypole, Netball, Yoga, Boys Football, Girls Football, Badminton, Quick Sticks Hockey, Cross Country, Team sports, Mini Red Tennis, Rackets, Gymnastics, Athletics, Kwik Cricket, Dance and Tri-Golf.

We have also had a range of **Taster Sports Events** this year including Football, American Flag Football, Tennis and Korfbal.

Club End Dates

The following clubs have now finished for this term: Cheerleading, Maypole, Y1 Tennis, Badminton clubs.

These clubs end on these dates:

Y3/4 Tennis club: ends MONDAY 20th JULY
Y3 Gym club: ends TUESDAY 14th JULY
Y5/6 Rackets club: ends TUESDAY 21st JULY
KS2 Athletics club: ends WEDNESDAY 15th JULY
Premier Sport club: ends MONDAY 20th JULY
Y3/4 Cricket club: ends THURSDAY 9th JULY (note: this is a week earlier than notified)
Y5/6 Cricket club: ends THURSDAY 9th JULY (note: this is a week earlier than notified)
RECEPTION multi skills club: ends FRIDAY 10th JULY (no club on 17/7 due to extravaganza)

Y5/6 TRI-GOLF club: ends FRIDAY 10th JULY
KS1 & KS2 Dance clubs: end THURSDAY 9th JULY

New sports Noticeboard

If you haven't yet discovered our **new sports noticeboard**, it is situated in the corridor outside our sports hall. It contains details of the current terms clubs, photographs of a range of clubs and reports and photos of our sporting successes this year.

Intra-class competitions

This year we have introduced **termly intra-class competitions**, where the children in each year group have competitive matches/activities with the other classes in their year groups, at the end of a unit of PE. These have been very popular with the children and have given them a stepping stone into some of our clubs, teams and competitions against other schools.

Inter-School Competitions

This year we have had great sporting successes in some of the competitions we have entered, through the **Cambridge School sports Partnership** and the **Parkside Federation events**.

St. Matthew's won the Team Y5/6 Cambridge Cross Country Championships this year and had other notable individual results; our **Y5/6 boys Football team won the Boys A league championship** this year and were runners up in the Champions League finals; Our **Y5/6 tag Rugby team reached the regional Finals and achieved runners up spot**. Our Girls football teams, Netball team, Kwik Cricket teams and Quick Sticks Hockey teams all performed superbly in the Cambridge events they took part in.

Parkside Federation Sports Festivals

Each year group (Y1-5) has taken part in one or more Sports Festivals this year, competing in events with other local schools, organised by Parkside Federation Sports Leaders. Year 1 took part in a Tennis Festival, Year 2,3 & 4 have had two Sports Festivals on Parker's Piece and year 5 have had one festival.

Cambridge Youth Sport Games 2015

Mrs. Isaac/Mr.Evans' Year 4 class recently took part in The **Year 3 & 4 Youth Sport Games** on Coldhams' Common, taking part in a range of competitive games and also some taster sports, such as **Sitting Volleyball, Goalball and Ultimate Frisbee**.

High Level Coaching at St.Matthew's

This year many of our children have benefitted from high level sports coaching from CSSP coaches: our **Year 1 classes** have received **Tennis coaching** from Neil O'Donohue; **Year 2** have had **Multi sports coaching** from Steve Taylor; **Year 3** classes have had **Gymnastics coaching** from Viktoria Markovics; Year 5 have had **Cricket coaching** from Steve Taylor; **Year 6** have had **Tag Rugby** and **Quicksticks Hockey** coaching from Neil O'Donohue and **Tri- Golf coaching** from Girton Golf Club professional, Dean Saunders.

Sports Day 2015

Last Thursday, all of our children took part in our **School Sports Days on Parker's Piece**. Over the course of the day **over 600 children** took part, including our Nursery children who had a taste of the day. It was wonderful to see so many of you there on the day to cheer on the children. It was a fantastic day of fun activities and some closely fought competitive races in a stunning setting. A massive thank you to all of you who came to help with setting up on the day, we really couldn't do it without your help. We have some brilliant photographs of the day, some of which will be in this week's newsletter and a selection will be on our **school website** soon. I will be putting some on our sports noticeboard next week as well.

Community Club links

We have developed links with a number of outside school community sports clubs, across a range of sports, so if your child is interested in joining a club or team for a particular sport, please see Mr. Collard or Mr. Wellington or visit the **Cambridge School Sports Partnership Website**: <http://www.cambridgessp.com/clubs.php> which has a comprehensive list of local clubs, with contact details.

Young Sports Leaders

This year we have trained **35 of our Year 5 & 6 children to be Young Sports Leaders**. They have been doing a fantastic job, planning and leading sporting activities for our younger children, during lunchtimes. Thank you to our PTA, who have purchased the wonderful red sports leader T shirts. The Young Leaders also did a brilliant job in helping our younger children at our morning sports day this year. In September, we will be offering our new year 5 pupils the opportunity to apply to be a Young Sports Leader. Please contact Mr. Wellington for further details: mwellington@stmatthews.cambs.sch.uk

Swimming at Parkside Pools

This year we have once again been able to send **all of our children, in Years 1-6, for swimming lessons at Parkside Pools**, for a whole term. We have always shown a massive commitment into providing lessons for our children, above and beyond the minimum required. **We are the only school in the city who offer children below Year 3 swimming lessons on a regular basis**. We are also funding **three swimming teachers** at Parkside for every class lesson, to enable your children to be taught in small groups, suitable to their individual needs. By starting swimming lessons in Year 1 we are seeing a big increase in the number of our children who meet the National Curriculum target of being able to swim at least 25m by the end of Year 6. Our commitment to swimming is really providing our children with the best possible opportunity to learn to swim, develop different strokes and for our more competent swimmers, to develop deep water skills and water safety skills. Due to our commitment to swimming, we have successfully applied for grants from the City Council to support the school in meeting the additional costs of providing three swimming teachers for every class, rather than the standard two.

School Sports Council

We are currently in the process of establishing our first **St. Matthew's School Sports Council**, led by our **Bronze Sports Ambassadors** (Keir Harper and Serena Blackwood). This council will meet regularly to help organise and plan sporting events and activities across the school. This will give our children the chance to shape and develop our sporting provision, and ensure that our children

across the school have a clear means of discussing sport related matters. The Sports Council will have their own noticeboard to inform pupils of upcoming events, match reports, minutes from meetings and future discussion items.

I hope your child has enjoyed the sports opportunities we have offered them this year, both in our Curriculum PE lessons, extra-curricular clubs, sports festivals and competitions, sports day, competitive matches, Intra-class competitions or by being a Sports Leader.

If you have any **comments, feedback or questions regarding any aspect of PE or Sport at St. Matthew's please contact me by email.** If you have any suggestions for new clubs you or your children would like us to offer please let me know and if you can offer coaching expertise in a sport and would like to discuss this further please contact me.

Thank you to everyone who has supported us this year in enabling us to deliver our most comprehensive range of sporting opportunities for our children.

Yours sincerely,

Mick Collard

School Sports co-ordinator

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