



### Up coming courses

#### High Quality Assessment in PE

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March, 9.00-3.00pm  
Caryford Community Hall, Ansford

#### Early Years- Start to Play training

(Pre-school & Foundation)

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March, 14.30-17.30pm

Norton-Sub-Hamdon Primary School

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2.00 – 6.00pm

Huish Episcopi Primary School

#### FA Beginners Guide to Futsal

(Upper Ks2- Lower Ks3)

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March, 13.30-16.30pm

Frome Leisure Centre

#### TOP Activity

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March, 1.30-5pm

Tone Partnership

Visit [www.tsspartnership.co.uk](http://www.tsspartnership.co.uk)

For more information or to book a place please visit our website: [www.sesomersetssco.co.uk](http://www.sesomersetssco.co.uk)

### Welcome to new Assistant PDM

January is always a time for exciting plans for the coming year and there is always plenty to look forward to. Many of you will be aware that Emma Mattocks, our Assistant PDM will be taking Maternity leave from February Half term to have twins; we wish her all the very best with her two imminent arrivals!

Replacing Emma was never going to be an easy task and we feel very lucky to have been able to secure the services of Karen Arnold, who lives locally and knows the area very well. Karen runs her own consultancy business and has worked within SSPs since 2000 as a tutor and in a variety of project development roles associated with Step into Sport and Girls Active. She will be working for three days a week from February through until Christmas and will be responsible for maintaining and developing Emma's work programme around Step into Sport and leadership, swimming and assessment transition; I am sure everyone will make her feel very welcome. She will be using Emma's contact details throughout so there is no need to change numbers or addresses.



**Rob Treacher (Partnership Development Manager)**

### Activity Survey

Very shortly we will be launching this year's **online Activity Survey** for all schools. A key aim is obviously to gauge activity levels in children and evaluate our work. However there are many wider benefits: the results from your pupils responses will allow easier completion of the National Survey which we must complete during the summer, SEF forms can draw upon results to support statements, and the new Healthy Schools Plus programme which requires schools to gather evidence to justify interventions can make use of results which no other school will have access to. Please could I ask that you support your pupils in the completion of this survey so that everybody can benefit. Many thanks  
**Rob Treacher**



### Early-Years Start to Play



The Start to Play programme is aimed at engaging with children between 0-5 years old. The programme is supported by a number of fun resources to encourage play and physical activity opportunities for young children, their parents, guardians and carers. The training workshop introduces its principles, demonstrates a range of activities based on ideas from the books and activity cards. The programme supports the key outcomes and goals in the framework for the new Early Years Foundation Stage standards and guidance. Through play, the principles in the guidance can be achieved: personal, social and emotional development; communication; language and literacy; problem solving reasoning and numeracy; understanding of the world; physical and creative development. The Partnership is running two Early Years- Start to Play training courses for staff on 9<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> March. For more information and to book you place please visit our website. More information can also be found on the Youth Sports Trust website [www.youthsporttrust.org](http://www.youthsporttrust.org)



### Virtual Athletics

Virtual Athletics aims to improve participation in athletics by allowing groups of children to compete against each other in running, throwing, jumping and agility events. It can be run on any site and aims to eliminate the problems faced by schools in remote rural or inner city locations or who have transport difficulties. The league is run using an online scoring system. Schools enter teams onto the system and their scores for each event as they are completed. The scores are used to determine the team position in relation to other school teams (inter school competition) or in relation to other teams in the same school (intra school competition). The competition design is flexible so events can be undertaken in curriculum time, during lunchtime or as part of an after school club.

National leagues are run throughout the year:

**Primary (6-12yrs):** 5 events, 1 x throw, 1 x jump, 1 x run and 2 others

**Secondary (12 & 13yrs):** 4 specific events, 10 x 10m shuttle runs, standing triple jump, standing vertical jump and shot putt.



The points awarded on the system use the Shine Awards and pupils will receive the appropriate award for their age range according to the points they have achieved. Registration is free with a Shine Awards activation key. For more information visit our website or the Virtual athletics website [www.virtualathleticsleague.co.uk](http://www.virtualathleticsleague.co.uk)



### Alternative Activities – Dance Mats

Through funding from the Big Lottery, Partnership schools have been given the opportunity to use dance mats to encourage participation as an alternative activity. Two schools that have had great success with the dance mats are Swanmead Middle School and Buckers Mead Secondary.

**Swanmead** pupils across all year groups but in particular year 5 & 6 pupils spent last half term dancing the afternoons away on the dance mats. Pupils were given the opportunity to develop and show off their moves during break times and after school. The dance mats were met with a huge amount of enthusiasm and attendance at the after school club was excellent. Even the staff felt compelled to strut their stuff but more often than not coming second best to the pupils.



**Bucklers Mead** used the dance mats to create a new intra school competition. Open to all year groups, pupils formed teams of 4. The events ran over lunchtime and teams competed over a 16-minute dance routine. Winners from each heat went through to the grand final. The winning team was given exclusive use of the dance mats for a 1 hour after school session with their friends. Once again the staff couldn't resist and a staff competition was held. Year group tutors competed against each other, some in fancy dress. Extra points were awarded for number of participants, SMT and support staff involvement. This great event has now led to Bucklers being successfully in their bid for 'Awards for All' funding which will allow them to buy their own set of dance mats!

### Central Venue League Basketball

This term saw the central venue leagues switch to basketball. After successful fixtures the finals were set to be a high standard and they did not disappoint. Both finals were held at Yeovil College. The Year 9 event turned out to be a straight final between Bucklers Mead and Sexeys school which led to the match reverting to a traditional 4 quarter format, which tested the fitness of some of the students.

A closely fought game ended in Buckers Mead's favour with a score of 42-25. The year 11 finals started with a number of excellent matches however the results saw the last match as the tournament decider, and the fast pace throughout the match showed both teams' determination to win. Wadham however dominated the rebounds both in defence and in attack and looked very organised in all aspects of their game. Leading 11-5 at the half way stage, they managed to restrict Ansford's score to just 9 and finally won the Year 11 event, beating Ansford 28-9.



### Somerset PLT Conference

Despite the wintery conditions 100 PLT's from the 3 sport partnerships across Somerset attended the first annual PLT Conference at the Canalside in Bridgwater. The focus of the conference was based on finding alternative ways to meet the '5 hour offer outcomes'. It provided PLT's with the opportunity to explore and discuss alternative activities, alternative delivery styles and alternative deliverers. The day consisted of key note speeches, networking sessions and a range of practical workshops. These sessions included how to develop effective community links, developing intra-school competition and using leadership students as alternative deliverers. PLTs also got to try activities such as Wii, ultimate Frisbee, skipping and mountain biking.



### Website Developments

This term has seen great developments on the website. Our aim for the site is for it to provide all members of the Partnership with information on training, new developments, contacts and resources whilst also acting as a tool to promote the good work the Partnership schools are doing. New additions to the website include intra school competition and leadership pages with downloadable resources. The homepage has a new look with key events and information. Please visit the website to check out all the new changes. If you have an article you would like added to the website please email Sue in the Partnership office. [SMJames@educ.somerset.gov.uk](mailto:SMJames@educ.somerset.gov.uk)



### Intra School Competition

Intra-school competition is for many young people the perfect outlet for skills and knowledge they gain from physical education. It is also an opportunity to play and have fun with their friends and achieve something worthwhile. Engaging in intra-school competition will make a substantial contribution to a young person's school life and their five-hour physical offer.

#### The vision for intra-school competition

*By 2011, establish a vibrant and modern intra-school competition programme driven and delivered by young people as leaders and officials, which focuses on engagement and enjoyment by all, through a social or recreational experience with a minimum of 25% taking part regularly during a school year.*

#### The Website and resources:

This term sees new additions to the website. Pages for intra school competition have been created with information and downloadable resources to help both primary and secondary schools develop and run events to meet the target above.

#### Resources include:

**Primary:** Tri-Golf, skipping challenges, FUNS skills challenge, orienteering/ fun run and Virtual Athletics.

**Secondary:** yoUR Sport pack with lots of alternative game ideas, Virtual Athletics, dance mats and Golf Xtreme.



Tri-Golf festival



yoUR Sport game card