



South East Somerset School Sports Partnership

www.sesomersetssco.co.uk

'Working towards 5 hours a week for all our Young People'

Newsletter

Spring 1: 2009

Training Dates

ASA Swimming Module 2

10th & 11th March

Sexeys School, Bruton

Street Style Self Defence

15th March

(contact Sedgemoor & Mendip SSP)

Yr 3/4 Mini Red Tennis Training for Teachers

16th March, 9.30 – 12.45

East Coker School Hall

ASA Swimming Module 1

25th March, 9.00 – 3.30

Sexey's School, Bruton

For more information or to book a place please visit our website: www.sesomersetssco.co.uk

Welcome

As always the year seems to be going extremely fast and we are already half way through! This term has seen an enormous amount of good work going on to support young people achieve the National aspiration of 5 hours PE Sport and Physical Activity per week; new training opportunities, links to new clubs, close collaboration with National Governing Bodies of Sport and the County Sport Partnership have all been taking place to help ensure that the right opportunities exist for the children in our Partnership.

We are keen to gain support from schools and parents wherever possible and your help in selling the power of PE and Sport in young people's lives is always much appreciated.

If you would like any further information on the work we do and the impact it can have please do not hesitate to call. 01963 34396

Lloyds TSB National School Sport Week



Lloyds TSB National School Sport Week is another great opportunity to promote the power and impact of sport in your school. This year the week is taking place between **28th June and 2nd July**. Free resources and information are available to help plan your event. To register please visit the following web site.

<http://www.schoolsportweek.org/>

Active Pupil Survey

Following the success of the previous Active Pupil Survey we will be running a similar project again this year. Nearly 7500 pupils responded last year giving us a fantastic idea of what is happening and what children would like to see provided in their area. The survey also gives schools lots of information which can help with completing **Self Evaluation Forms** and **Whole School Development Plans**. The survey will go live after February half term and links will be sent to all schools at that time. Please help us to help you by asking pupils to complete the online questionnaire. For more information contact Rob Treacher at Partnership Office. 01963 34396 or visit the partnership Web site in the new term.

Big Lottery Funding Opportunities

BIG LOTTERY INFORMATION UPDATE – Various funding opportunities available from £300 - £500,000 for more information go to www.biglotteryfund.org.uk

Advice Line: 0845 410 2030



Leaders Taking up the Challenge



The Leaders from Ansford School who attended the first Gifted and Talented Leadership Camp in July 2009 started their Somerset Leadership Academy journey on 17th December at Taunton School. There were 70 leaders from the three School Sport Partnerships in Somerset working together to develop their leadership skills during the day.

Also 65 new leaders from King Arthurs, Ansford, Bruton and Castle Cary Primary and Maiden Beech converged on Kings School in Bruton for the second Gifted and Talented Leadership Camp. Again another fantastic day with feedback from the leaders indicating they enjoyed taking on leadership roles, solving the challenges and working with new people. From the Camp a further group of leaders have been selected to join 100 leaders from across the County at the start of their Leadership Academy journey on 24th February.

The Academies are focusing on core/ generic leadership skills, such as teamwork, roles in a team, communication, planning and organising, rather than sports specific aspects. However the overall plan is that the leaders can then be deployed to support a variety of activities in and around their school life (festivals, OSHL etc) in order to practice their leadership skills. Comments from the day included: "I really enjoyed it and I have made some friends", "I think the Academy is really helpful", "It has helped me to become a much better leader" and "Really, really fun."



Cross Country at Lytes Cary

On 26th January around 150 primary school pupils from the Huish Episcopi area took part in a cross country at Lytes Cary National Trust Estate. This is a new venue for the cross country series and gave the children a taste of real cross country terrain. Sports Coordinator for the area, Sally Pitkin, was delighted with the turn out and the venue. "Cross Country in the South Somerset area is getting stronger each year and with the NT generously offering us their facilities, it can only go from strength to strength. It has given the children an idea of real cross country as many of our events are confined to the playing fields. The intention is that each primary school becomes responsible for organising and running a cross country event."

County Sports Hall Finals



Four of the strongest Sportshall teams that have been put together for some time, headed up to Bristol the weekend of 30th January to take on young athletes from Bristol and Gloucester.

Leaping off the back of the successful first ever County School Sportshall Championships, 56 young athletes from all over the County with strong contingents from Yeovil, Mendip and Taunton areas, made up the Somerset Saracens and Somerset Spartans, and came away with creditable performances both as individuals and as teams.

Since the athletes are all aged 10 or 11, this was for some, their first experience at competing at a County level; and no one disappointed. All athletes were required to run, jump and throw, demonstrating their all round athletic ability. In addition, they all showed great team spirit in the various hurdles, sprints and obstacle relay races.

In the Boys' events, Somerset Spartans scored 450 points, only 5 behind the winning team – Avon Crusaders. The Saracens team came a close 3rd with 400 points. The Girls from Somerset Spartans also came 2nd with 430 points, again losing to Avon Crusaders who scored 468. The Saracens Girls came 5th with 358 points.

Individual events were won by James Emerton and Alice Clarke in the Balance Test, Alistair Johnson in the Javelin, Thea Lumley and Carl Morgan in the Chest Push, Dan Wilde and Jessica Pait in the Target Throw, Lewis Blannin in the Speed Bounce, Sam Dove in the Standing Triple Jump, and Cameron Thompson in the Standing Long Jump.

Team manager Graham Norris said "We really were fortunate to have such great support from parents all over the County. It is quite a challenge coordinating young athletes from places as far apart as Minehead, Frome and Chard. But everyone showed great commitment and willingness to be involved. I am sure that we will see many of these young people at Somerset Athletics events in the future and am glad that some of them are already in local clubs".



High Fives Netball



The new focus on National Governing Body priorities is slowly beginning to take shape, but not without some controversy. It can be hard for long standing established players to adapt to the changes and new forms of the game, however a child-centred approach with the emphasis on widening participation and more appropriate forms of competition is at the heart of many of these changes.

So it was great to see some new converts to the High Five version of netball getting to grips with the adapted game. Put through their paces by the County Netball Development officer Rebecca Squire, 11 PLTs and members of staff from South East Somerset's Primary Schools braved the wintery elements at Maiden Beech Middle School to complete the 3 hour CPD course.

We hope to see some of these members of staff with their teams at the Partnership Finals at Maiden Beech school on Thursday 25th March, where the winning team will go on to the first ever County High Five final on 22nd April.



Strictly Comes to the Partnership



22 Teaching Staff and Teaching Assistants from 11 different Schools from across the Partnership came together to put on their dancing shoes for the first of three days of training.

Essentially Dance is a new initiative to teach ballroom and Latin American dance within schools' core physical education provision.



It is the first training package to be launched in the UK that will train only school staff to teach students of all ages - from Key Stages 1 - 5 - and of all abilities - beginner, intermediate and advanced.

The teachers, some of whom had never danced, will now take back the skills they have learnt from the four different dance styles; Cha Cha Cha, Waltz, Jive and Quickstep into schools and deliver sessions to pupils both during curriculum time and also as after school activities.

The Ballroom and Latin training is aimed at enabling schools to be able to provide something a little different for pupils to experience that they might not otherwise get the opportunity to do. You never know in the process we might also find some little Lilia Kopylova's or Darren Bennett's of the future.

Feedback from those attending was very positive.

'The dancing course last week was fantastic. Having never done anything like it before I was very apprehensive but enjoyed it lots'

Lynne (Berkley first school, Frome)

