

VIDEO CAPTURES THE SPIRIT OF THE GAMES

The 2013 Northumberland School Games video is now available online and really captures the spirit of last year's Level 3 events. With action shots of the competitions, coverage of the cultural component, and interviews with participants, leaders and special guests it truly captures all angles of the Games. Please use the video to promote the Northumberland School Games to pupils and parents. To view the short video visit <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xQV-GdkBs6A>



2014 PLANS ARE TAKING SHAPE

Over the Autumn term the competition and event groups have been busy planning the 2014 Northumberland School Games, which are taking place on the 25th and 26th June in Cramlington. All of the events, age groups and rules have been finalised. These are available from your SGO who will also be able to give details of the local level 2 qualifying events. The timetable and programme of events has also been set. This should help you to plan for the event and decide which events to enter. Remember, each pupil can participate in only one event on each day.

DAY 1

- Y7/8 Volleyball
- Y3/4 Gymnastics
- Y9/10 Trampoline
- Y6 & Y8 Netball
- Y4, 5/6, 7/8 & Y10 Football
- Y3/4 Tri Golf
- Para Games

DAY 2

- Y4 Tennis
- Y8 Handball
- Y5 & Y6 Hockey
- Y3/4, Y5/6 & Y8 Rugby
- Y9 & Y10 Rounders
- Y3/4 & Y5/6 Athletics
- Y8 & Y9 Basketball

TIMETABLE

- 10:00 – 10:30 Arrival & registration (*Concordia*)
- 10:30 – 11:05 Opening ceremony (*Concordia*)
- 11:10 – 11:25 Parade of Athletes (*Concordia to Sporting Club*)
- 11:30 – 14:15 Competitions & medal ceremonies (*Concordia & Sporting Club*)
- 14:15 – 14:30 Assemble & depart (*Sporting Club*)

COMPETITION TIME! DESIGN YOUR AREA FLAG



The Cultural element of the Northumberland School Games is very important as is developing cross-curricular links. Pupils participating in the 2014 Northumberland School Games will take part in a parade of athletes from Concordia to Sporting Club. Following the opening ceremony each day the 6 area teams, accompanied by their Team Mascot, will be led out by specially chosen flag bearers.

Pupils now have the chance to design the flag for their area team, which will then be professionally produced

on a large scale. The flag designs must include the area name (not the school name) and one or more of the School Games Values. Designs can either be hand drawn or computer designed and should be submitted on a piece of A4 paper along with a written explanation of what the design is and what it represents. Each school should select one winning entry and submit this to their School Games Organiser, before Friday 28th March.

Cross-Curricular links may be with art and design or within IT for producing the designs; links to history and the miners' parades and flags, as well as local history, landmarks, and notable figures who might feature on the flags. Similarities can be drawn with the Olympic & Paralympic Opening Ceremonies or the 2014 Commonwealth Games. This could be an ideal activity within tutor time, as an opportunity to explore the School Games Values and how they might be applied to whole school life.

DETERMINATION HONESTY PASSION RESPECT SELF-BELIEF TEAMWORK

2014 SCHOOL GAMES KITEMARK CRITERIA SET

The 2013/14 Sainsbury's School Games Kitemark criteria is now available to download from www.yourschoolgames.com. The kitemark rewards schools for their commitment to and the development of competition, school sport and physical education.

If you would like to find out how other schools achieved the kitemark and how they worked towards meeting the criteria, there are 12 case studies also on the School Games website.

The Sainsbury's School Games Kitemark is assessed against bronze, silver and gold criteria, and is an annual award which must be reapplied for every year. The application window will be open later on this academic year, schools will be notified of the exact date in January 2014.

Please speak to your School Games Organiser for help assessing which level you are currently at, and what strategies you could use to meet the new criteria.



NORTHUMBERLAND YOUNG AMBASSADORS



On Tuesday 26th November over 20 Y9 and Y10 students from the county took part in the North East England Young Ambassadors Conference at Northumbria University. They enjoyed sessions on the qualities needed to be a Young Ambassador (YA), planning events, negotiating and running meetings. They will now support a range of events back in their local areas - all based around encouraging their peers to take part in more sport as performers, leaders and officials. If you'd like to know more, or perhaps use the YAs in your school please get in touch with your SGO.

Picture: Young Ambassadors with Olympic Gymnast Craig Heap who supported the N.E Young Ambassador Conference.

FOCUS ON LEVEL 2

ASHINGTON & AMBLE



Olympic gymnast Craig Heap was on hand to announce the Football winners.

The Ashington and Amble Year 4, 5 and 6 Football competitions have now been decided after some closely fought competitions involving nearly 200 players! All of these competitions were organised, coached, run and officiated by Year 11 students from Ashington High School. Congratulations to our winners who were:

Year 4 – Wansbeck First School

Year 5/6 Girls – St. Benedict's Middle School

Year 5 Boys – Northumberland Church of England Academy

NCEA and St. Benedict's seem to be on something of a winning run at the moment as it was these two schools which also took the honours in the Year 7/8 Boys and Girls Volleyball.

BLYTH & BEDLINGTON



St Bede's Primary winning football team

On a cold and windy day at the Hirst Welfare Soccer facility, 81 girls from 5 schools competed for the honour of representing the Blyth & Bedlington School Games region at this year's county finals. The games in the Year 5/6 competition were very close and at the end only 1 point separated the eventual winners St Bede's RC Primary from the runners up, Meadowdale Academy. In the year 7/8 competition the standard of football was very good with the eventual winners, St Benet Biscop RC High School having a healthy 4 point lead over the runners up, Meadowdale Academy. As usual, the referees were 'Young Leaders' from Bedlington High School, but with a difference, they were all GIRLS. This was the first time we have experimented with girl's refereeing football and it was the first time for many of the girls. The year 10 students did a fantastic job and there were many positive comments from the staff accompanying the school teams,

CRAMLINGTON & SEATON VALLEY



Whytrig Middle School Boys' and Girls' Football Winners

All of the Key Stage 2 Football level 2 qualifying events were held in the autumn term. Astley High School hosted the Y4 competition, where the School Games Values came to life. Teamwork was in abundance, pupils were honest and didn't appeal for decisions. There was great respect for the match referees who were Astley High School pupils. Passion for football was clear to see, skill level was high and there were some closely contested games. Most impressive was the determination showed by teams who did not win many matches but did not give up and kept smiling throughout. The eventual winners were Seaton Sluice First School. Sporting Club Cramlington Hosted the Y5 Boys and the Y5/6 Girls competitions, which again saw pupils playing to an excellent standard, and demonstrating great sportsmanship. Whytrig Middle School were victorious in both competitions, and are proud to have now qualified for the Northumberland School games Finals in June. Good Luck to all the teams!

MORPETH & PONTELAND



Morpeth & Ponteland Level 2 Quicksticks Hockey

Year 5 & Year 6 teams from across the Morpeth & Ponteland Partnership competed in the level 2 Quicksticks competition at Richard Coates Middle School. Year 8 Young Sports Leaders from RCMS ran the competition which resulted in Newminster Middle School winning the Y5 competition and Ponteland Middle School winning the Y6 competition. The competition was fierce with some great goals scored, the winning schools are now looking forward to competing at the county games in June.

FOCUS ON LEVEL 2

FOCUS ON LEVEL 2 CONT..

NORTH NORTHUMBERLAND

The Y7/8 and Y5/6 Girl's football competition was held on a wet and windy Friday afternoon in October on Berwick Academy School fields. Although the playing surface was good, the uncomfortable weather conditions meant the holding of the competition was in serious doubt. However all the schools were determined to go ahead and the quality of the competition proved this was the correct decision.

The Y5/6 tournament was contested by teams from Berwick Middle School, Tweedmouth Middle School, Lindisfarne Middle School and Seahouses Middle School. In a string of well contested round robin games Berwick Middle School won all their fixtures were crowned winners.

The Y7/8 tournament was contested by teams from Berwick Middle School, Lindisfarne Middle School, St Pauls Middle School Alnwick, Seahouses Middle and two teams from Tweedmouth Middle School. The quality of football from all teams was of the highest standard and the result of the competition was decided until the final round of games. Eventually the strong performances from the girls from Seahouses Middle School saw them win the competition

Special mention must be given to the Berwick Academy football leaders, who refereed all the games to the highest order and made the tournament an enjoyable experience for all the players. Congratulations to both

TYNEDALE

The indoor Sportshall Athletics competition was dominated by Ovingham Middle school. They will represent Tynedale at Under 11, 12 and 13 boys and girls at the Level 3 event in January. Special mention to Haydon Bridge who supplied leaders for the event and who also finished runners up in years 7 & 8 boys and girls.

The Level 2 football was organised through Tynedale Schools FA. Tynedale's winning schools that progress to next summer's finals are:

Yr 5 boys = Bellingham Middle
Yr 7 boys = Hexham Middle

Yr 5&6 girls = Ovingham Middle
Yr 7&8 girls = St Joseph's Middle

Five schools from Tynedale competed in the County Indoor Rowing championships. Three rowers from Corbridge Middle, three from Haydon Bridge and fourteen from Queen Elizabeth will now represent Northumberland in the regional finals next year.

Well done to all of our successful pupils!

PROJECT ABILITY

The number one aim of Project Ability is to have more young disabled pupils taking part in competitive sport. Project Ability is delivered as part of the School Games, and includes:

- bespoke training, developed by the Youth Sports Trust to provide local advice and guidance to School Games Organisers and schools through the Project Ability Lead
- the establishment and implementation of even more local competitive opportunities for young disabled people, this includes come and try festivals; and
- the development of school club activities.(especially Multi Sports Disability Clubs)

Schools can use the inclusive formats developed by the YST in their School Games intra and inter-school competition (Levels 1 and 2) Disability events are included within the Level 3 county event.

Schools whose pupils need more substantial or significant help can utilise the TOP Sportsability resource, available free from the Youth Sport Trust. Your SGO has received training and resources to support the programme.

If you would like further information or would like to become part of the Project Ability network please contact James Ellison- Project Ability Lead Northumberland.

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