



2023-24
ISSUE 1
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2023 British Schools Score Champions!

On Saturday 14th October, the British Schools Score Championships took place at Martinshaw Woods in Leicestershire. It was a sun filled day with plenty to celebrate for Hunter's Bar.

The rules of the competition are you have 45 minutes to get as many points as you can, you are not allowed to go on the course before your start time, have a whistle and a compass and, most importantly, have fun. Seven pupils from HBJ went to take part, with Ben Anderson, Esther Savage and Alex French winning gold in their categories and Sam Crossland getting third. Theo and Alec also took part and contributed in our school winning the Primacy School Boys award. People from all around England

took part: including pupils from Norwich, Leicester and Nottingham.

Ben Anderson - Y5 Boys Winner

Esther Savage - Y6 Girls Winner

Alex French - Y6 Boys Winner (Sam Crossland 3rd Place)

Primacy School Boys - Winners

Full results can be found here:

<https://www.cix.co.uk/~nep/bscore23/index.htm>

No rest for the wicket!

Mr Adebola was bowled over hearing the news in early September (sorry we couldn't help ourselves)...about a more than solid trophy haul from two of our talented Year 6 cricketers.

Toby picked up an award for "Most Improved Player" whilst Milo took home "Bowler of the Season".

Well done boys!



Y3 Tennis Festival

On Tuesday 7th November 30 of our year 3 pupils went across to the Hallamshire Tennis & Squash Club to take part in a Tennis Skills Festival hosted by Points Learning Network. A great day with lots of fun activities for all our pupils to take part in.



Did you know... Children who have a healthy, nutritious breakfast have been found to have improved reading, writing & maths results, and have better levels of concentration & behaviour.

Breakfast has many health benefits for us all, including: Providing energy, Improving brain function, Helping maintain a healthy weight, Reducing the risk of diabetes, heart disease & high blood pressure. Find out more here:

[Eat Smart Sheffield - Parents & Carers Newsletter](#) / [Newsletter Autumn 2023](#)



HBJ Football Update

Y3/4 Tournament

- On Monday 16th October some of our Y3/4 footballers travelled to SGP Graves to take part in the B/C tournament. Both teams won their respective groups (6 groups in total) on pitch 5 & 6 - with HBJ 1 winning 2 and drawing 1 and HBJ 2 winning all their 3 games - and were put into the same pool (Pool 1! out of 4) for the final group games (along with Carfield and Woodseats). HBJ 1 finished 1st in Pool 1 whilst HBJ 2 finished 4th in Pool 1.
- Well done to all the players who participated.



Y6 ESFA Mixed League

- On Monday 16th October our Y5/6 Team went to play games against Lydgate, Greystones and Westways in round one of the ESFA cup. After 6 games (winning 3, drawing 1 and losing 2) we finished second in the group to the Round Winners Lydgate (who won all their games). We wish them the best of luck in the next round.



Y3/4 Girls—Graves Football Tournament

- On Tuesday 21st November 19 Y3/4 Girls went to play in a Football tournament at St. Georges Park Graves. Mr. Shepherd's team (girls who have had some experience of playing) drew 2 and won 3 with "Clean Sheet Poppy" between the sticks only conceding one goal in a 1-1 draw with Mundella.

Mr Adebola's team (girls with no experience of playing competitive games) lost 2, drew 1 and won 2 games. The first game they lost to an experienced Brunswick side 3-0 (who had two girls who play academy football!). They played them again in a friendly at the end and lost 3-0 again but the vast improvement of tackling and trying to play forward was remarkable in only 5 games!



Olive and Maya Mc were given girls of the day but all the girls were a credit to the school!



Football vs Dobcroft

On Tuesday 19th December our Y5 boys team (including two Y4 players given the experience to play up) went to Umix to take part in a friendly game against two Dobcroft teams. In the first game HBJ came back from 1-0 down to go in at half-time 1-1, and went on to win 4-1. In the second game after going in at half time 0-0, HBJ came away with a 2-0 win. Thank you to Dobcroft for two great games of football and we look forward to seeing them for further games in the New Year.

Panathlon Bowling

On Monday 2nd October Mrs Abdullah and Mrs McGregor took a group of our Year 3, 4 and 5 pupils to the Primary SEND Ten Pin Bowling Festival (once again in partnership with the wonderful Panathlon Foundation) at Hollywood Bowl, Valley Centertainment. The children got to enjoy being out of school in the afternoon with this inclusive tournament provided in line with one of the three categories of events (INSPIRE AND ENGAGE) as part the School Games and as a Sheffield Citywide network of SSP's. All inspire and Engage events have an emphasis on participation. The aim is to inspire participants to continue their physical activity journey and from the feedback all of our pupils enjoyed taking part in the bowling competition.



British Schools Orienteering Championships 2023

On Sunday 19th November our Orienteering team went to compete in the BSOC (British Schools Orienteering Championships) 2023 in Temple Newsam, Leeds. Eight children took part in the competition (with Alex F and Evan C unable to compete in the end). The B6 team came 2nd overall, and we were unable to field a G6 team due to a "gutted" Esther succumbing to a fall and hurting her back. Overall Hunters Bar came 3rd. The scorers for the school were: Mia Hart 4th G6, Alec Johnson and Sam Crossland- joint 5th B6, Ben Anderson 6th B5 and Siri W-7th, Toby A-12th, Jack H-I- -17th making up the rest of the team. A great effort from all!



Squash

On Wednesday 29th November the opportunity was given to our 5 Year 3/4 pupils to come and take part in the biannual Apex Squash & Racketball schools tournament sponsored again by Sarem at the Hallamshire Tennis & Squash Club. As has become custom we were joined on the day by Nethergreen Juniors and St. Wilfred's Catholic Primary School as well as new schools Carfield, Ecclesall and Greystones. A great afternoon for all 6 schools, with sportsmanship balancing out the competitive nature of the pupils. A fantastic afternoon and effort from our Y4 Squash players (all playing in their first competition) with two Y3 girls playing up (Sophie & Cora). All our scores were combined and we just lost out to Nethergreen who pipped us to take home the trophy, by a fine margin!

Thank you to Sarem, Jayne, Adam, Jason, Danny, Neil, & the rest of the Hallamshire Tennis & Squash Club team! As well as Nick Matthew, who came to sign balls, bags, shoes and everything else in sight for the pupils. It was very much appreciated and hopefully inspired some pupils to see what they can achieve. Finally, a thank you to all the parents who were able to come out and support us during the day as always, it's appreciated greatly.



Sports Hall Athletics

On Friday 10th November, our Sports Hall Athletics team went to compete at the English Institute of Sport [EIS] against Ecclesall, Mundella, Carfield and Greystones. Each of the selected children had to take part in 2 track events [including a relay] and 1 field event. After a thrilling event we finished joint first with Mundella which sent both schools through to the Points Area Finals. The finals took place a couple of weeks later on Friday 24th of November. This time we competed against Mundella, Dobcroft, Mosborough and Grenoside. Another morning session saw fierce competition (all teams being previous winners) with Hunter's Bar finishing in second place behind Dobcroft to go through to the Sheffield City Finals on Tuesday 16th January.



Thornbridge Residential

Thornbridge is a once in a life time experience, top of the list of things to do in Y6. We had a brilliant time there, enjoying every second of the challenging activities and we wish we could go again. When the coaches arrived, the classes were buzzing with excitement. J12 went from Wednesday to Friday and J11 and J10 went the following Monday to Wednesday. As soon as we arrived, we split up into our groups and got stuck into our first activities. Over the days that we were there we enjoyed activities such as canoeing and High ropes, but everyone's real attention was on the dorms. The accommodation was a nice place to relax after a busy day. The days were packed full of teamwork testing challenges, fun games and even evening activities.

Here are our favourite activities:

Canoeing, Thornbridge challenge, High ropes and the Night line.

First canoeing, this was by far one of the best activities there. Our whole class was buzzing when they heard it was one of our activities. Mrs. Maycock's group was first to get into the water and later her boat capsized. Isla and Laila (the two students who were in the canoe as well as Mrs. Maycock) say that this was largely because a fellow boat rammed them. Leo, the person who was whole heartedly responsible for the capsized, says he 'just wanted to ram someone else's boat'. He has still not apologised!



The high ropes are the famous thing to do when you go to Thornbridge, and they didn't disappoint. The high ropes are a group of two activities, cargo net and sky ropes. First up, cargo net, this was a fun scramble to the top of a high, rope net. It was challenging and fun. It didn't seem too high and there was an astounding view from the top. If you wanted to take it a notch higher, and I mean this literally, you could stand on the wooden beam that topped the net.



The sky ropes were, in comparison, quite a bit harder than the cargo net. This was about a 7ft obstacle course. We wore harnesses so we knew we would be safe, this was used to the advantage of many. We didn't just do it normally, we did it with blindfolds, carrying buckets of water, even without using our arms or legs! One part of the course, the leap of faith, was a squealer. Of course, that was before we realised that it was just a step! The loops of hanging rope were a pain to get across as we had to stretch along and all we can say is thank goodness for harnesses.



The Night line was a blindfolded expedition through the woods. This was challenging because we could only trust the rope and the word of those in front of us, which, in some cases wasn't reliable. One of these times was when a teacher was mistaken for a tree. It didn't help that certain other teachers (whose names I won't mention) made funny noises and threw sticks at the innocent children. It was a blast!

The Thornbridge challenge was a set of activities (such as the snake pit pictured right) that we earned stars for completing. All of the stars we got added up to get us a final key/clue. Two groups' clue were parts of a map and the third was a number. The completed map led us to a box and the number was the code to open it. We used teamwork and the reward was a big packet of sweets for the class! It got its name well as it was a very challenging event indeed.



In conclusion, Thornbridge was a once in a lifetime experience that challenged us, made fun of teachers and cemented friendships.



Primary School Sports Personality of the Year

Effie was awarded with the Sports Personality of the Year award at the Sheffield Federation For School Sports 129th Awards Presentation on Thursday December 14th 2023. It was a night celebrating all that is excellent in school sport throughout Sheffield.

Effie is someone who has continued to develop personally and influence others around her as she has moved through Hunter's Bar Junior School.

Even though her first year here at HBJ was impacted by the pandemic (as well as all her sporting endeavours outside school) she has really become part of the sporting thread of Hunters Bar Juniors. Her main sport is Football where she captains the girls Y5/6 team but is also a vital part of the Boys Y5/6 team. She plays Football for Evo U11s (on Saturdays) and Porter U11s (on Sundays) and is the only female player for both of these boys football teams. As well as this she swims confidently and horse rides when time allows. She has represented the school in a variety of sports. At the time of writing this she has joined other Y6 pupils to pick a Sports Hall Athletics team based on the data we collected from testing in our PE lessons - in which she will also be participating.

In April (2023) Effie along with 4 other girls took part in the "Sheffield Primary Girls Football Coach Academy" at EIS. The girls were all nominated by their Y5 teachers at the time as pupils who would benefit greatly from external leadership training. The leadership training consisted of theory and practical elements with the ultimate aim being to provide young leaders with their first steps into football leadership and for them to return to school to deliver Girls Euro based activities to peers. Effie took this in her stride and along with Mr Hewson (one of our TA3s) has implemented a rota system for Football, Basketball and Netball activities on our school M.U.G.A ensuring all years and pupils get a chance to participate and have fun.

A polite and conscientious girl Effie has taken her positive attitude to Hunter's Bar Infant school pupils. Along with three other girls (some of which also took part in the Sheffield Primary Girls Football Coach Academy) she has taken on a leadership role running lunchtime sessions for pupils in the infant school. Giving up their Monday lunchtimes, they have taken fun activities and games to play, helping to maintain the relationship between the two schools and also develop the confidence and skills of the infant pupils. This started directly after her training in April 2023 and has also continued during this academic year. This ability has also been noticed by her coaches at Evo Soccer who have asked her to help with the Soccer Eds (younger age group) training when she is rarely not involved in matches on Saturdays.

At the end of the 2022/23 academic year Effie along with a friend helped Mr. Adebola write a proposal to make football more inclusive to our female pupils. Through this application Hunter's Bar Juniors were successful in winning a girls football kit with the inclusion of Nike hijabs through the Premier League Primary Stars initiative! They not only helped in writing the proposal considering pupils from a Muslim background who are now coming into the age where they may be following the teachings of the Quran but also in picking and designing the kit keeping in with our Primary school colours of Blue and Green, which were approved by the headteacher Mr. Watson.

As a result of this, in this academic year, Effie along with the other girls who are assisting in the infant school, have written another proposal to develop the uniform for our Play Leaders. They have researched shirts from Kitlocker and presented this information to Mr. Watson. The idea was well received and discussions have taken place from this to have Andy Staley (Points Learning Network) come into school to help further develop the Leadership training the Play Leaders receive.

Her latest endeavour has seen her using her links at Evo and Porter to collect old football kits and boots for Kit Aid (a charity set up by, Derrick Williams MBE). The charity recycles peoples once loved football kits and distributes them to underprivileged children and adults in some of the world's poorest countries. Effie's collection and contribution has just been sent off to Africa (November 2023) and was well received by the charity and I'm sure will be loved by the children and adults it's going to benefit.

A shy and quiet girl Effie has at times struggled academically in the classroom but her sporting ability is something that has always shone through. Within this her confidence in herself continues to develop and she is someone who has helped in developing the confidence of other pupils either through her new found leadership skills, her caring attitude towards others or through her ability in sporting situations highlighting her importance to the sporting teams of Hunter's Bar.





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Sports news and information

We continually update our [school sports page](#) on the Hunter's Bar Juniors website.

Pupils write about the sporting events we participate in and this information is available on the sports page (Hyper-linked above) or you can click the picture below to go directly to our school games website.



Swimming

A fantastic year for Mariana (pictured with Zara below) and her achievements in swimming.

In October she swam in the Yorkshire Swimming Champs and came away with 2 silver medals and 3 bronzes in her age group. She also achieved a top 10 finish in all of her races!

These results have put her into the top 10 or 20 nationally (!!) for some of her events and whilst she will now be going up to the next age group we are sure she will keep on pushing herself to compete at the highest level.



Sheffield Diving

On Monday 11th September Georgia Davenport (Ex GB diver) came into school to deliver an England Diving Talent Programme 'Little Rippers 'Talent Search' at school.

Members of the Sheffield Diving elite coaching team have delivered a fun physical education lesson, based around fundamental diving movements. Over 2000 pupils from Primary Schools across the City took part in the sessions throughout February 2023. The sessions seek to identify pupils with the potential to reach a high standard in the Olympic sport of spring-board and platform diving.

This session was done with our three Y3 classes and two of our Y4 Classes. 22% (33 out of the 150 pupils present) were chosen to advance to stage 2. This is a fantastic achievement considering the thousands of athletically talented pupils tested to date. Their results indicate that they are in the top 10% for various characteristics that elite level athletes possess (strength, flexibility, power, speed and coordination).



Wildcats Recognition

After our first Wildcats Centre in 2019 - in conjunction with Sheffield United Community Foundation ending due to the Pandemic, Wildcats was brought back to HBJ in 2021 with girls from the Juniors and Infants making up the cohort. Wildcats is an initiative launched by The FA designed to inspire girls aged 5-11 to be involved in football and Wildcat centres provide girls with regular opportunities to play football and take part in organised sessions in a fun and engaging environment. For this reason it was fantastic that our Wildcat's centre at HBJ was recognised for its hard work in helping to give girls the opportunity to play and to be signposted to local teams (and other wildcats centres) in the Barclays Girls Football School Partnership Annual Conference in October 2023.

