



Autumn 2019

Saint Martin de Porres Catholic Primary School

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"Through Jesus we achieve our very best."

SPORTS ZONE NEWSLETTER edition 1

The purpose of the "Sports Zone" Newsletter is to keep you informed and updated with everything active that is going on at St Martin's

Another academic year has started and within the last 7 and a half weeks, we have celebrated a lot of sporting success.



GIRLS FOOTBALL

For the first time in 5 years, St Martin's has an established Girls' Football team. The girls (some who have never represented the school before), within the last half-term, have gone from strength to strength.

They have entered two competitions, which schools from across South Birmingham are invited to, and have been unbeaten throughout both competitions. The girls who have competed have shown great togetherness, determination and skill to get so far in such a short space of time. We are very proud of their achievements this half-term.

On Friday 27th September, they became South Birmingham 7-a-side Champions beating St Bernard's in the final.



If your child is picked to play in a sporting fixture it is essential we

have **A SIGNED CONSENT FORM** in order for them to be taken off the school premises to participate. This is for safeguarding purposes and without one, sadly your child would be unable to participate.

BOYS FOOTBALL



The Boys' Football team have shown great endeavour and commitment in playing and representing St Martin's. Although results haven't been great, the boys who have played have shown amazing sportsmanship and teamwork. We are a brand-new team this year, with many new children stepping up and representing the school, and we are proud of the commitment they make to representing St Martin's. I hope this continues in the matches we have to look forward to.

Date for your diary:

Saturday 1st February 2020

Castle Vale Stadium

ALL BIRMINGHAM GIRLS 7 A SIDE

GRAND FINAL

Our Girls' team have qualified for. More details will be sent out after Christmas regarding this event, but it would be fantastic if we are able to represent South Birmingham in this competition, so please put this date in your diaries.



This half term has been very busy with several sporting events taking place.

It is vital we get all sports kits washed and back into school ASAP in order for all children to be able to wear a sports kit when representing St Martins. Thank you to all parents who are doing this on a regular basis.



Our sporting fixtures rely very heavily on parental assistance with transport.

Without this help, these events simply wouldn't be able to go ahead, and I am very grateful for all the assistance I have received this half term. Even if you are able to just take your own child to the event, it still helps immensely.

Thank you to all parents & other family members who come to support our sporting teams, both myself and the children really do appreciate it.



Year 5/6 Hockey

On Monday 7th October, our Year 5/6 Hockey team competed in the School Games Hockey competition. We were unbeaten throughout the group stages and beat Woodthorpe in the final with a sudden death goal.

The children demonstrated great teamwork and commitment throughout this competition, and we are very proud of their success. They will now go forward to the grand final which will be held in March next year.

PE is a National Curriculum requirement and with so much in the media nowadays about inactive children and the impact it has on their lives, **it is essential every child participates in PE**. If your child feels unwell or has an injury which will stop them from participating, please make sure their class teacher is made aware of this or a message is left at the school office.

A lot of our sporting success comes from learning and gaining valuable skills and knowledge during PE Lessons.

As a school we have to be seen as being inclusive when we enter/play different sporting fixtures. A lot of the competitions nowadays specify certain rules we have to abide by and which centre around equal opportunities for all involved. "There is no fun had sitting on a bench for most of the match doing nothing"!

The Football/Netball Leagues now have introduced age limits so only Year 5/6 children can compete in a team. Bishop Challoner events specify certain number of girls/boys and year groups who can participate. As a school, we have to abide by these if we choose to enter them.

For safeguarding reasons, we are only allowed to take a specific number of children off site at one time, and with ever increasing numbers attending my after-school clubs, it is virtually impossible for all children to participate in **ALL** competitions in every team. We try my best to include all children who would like the opportunity to represent the school, but sadly sometimes this is just impossible.

Our After School Clubs are run half-termly, some every week or alternate weeks. This simply is to fit as many clubs into the half-term as possible. Our clubs are run alongside attending all the sporting fixtures we commit to as a school and therefore it is sometimes impossible to run a club every night or to target all children throughout the school. This half-term's clubs have been run for Year 5/6 children only, and while some of these will continue, I have introduced clubs for Year 3/4 after the half-term break and, after Christmas, a Key Stage 1 club will be run. It is important that, as a school, we give all our children throughout the academic year, the opportunity to be physically active and gain valuable life skills through sport.