

Welcome to the Banchory Network Newsletter: Term Two

Term two is upon us and with it, the long, dark nights and bad weather. Unfortunately the weather has already impacted on Active Schools events: the P2-P3 football festival scheduled for the last week of term one had to be postponed due to the weather warnings! We hope to run this in term three, near to Easter time. Thankfully, the majority of term two's events and clubs are run inside!

October Holiday Programme:

The October holiday programme took place on the first three days of the October school holidays. The S1-S3 football event had lower numbers turn up than hoped, but the two P4-P7 Sports Days were well attended, with all six primaries represented.

The three days of activities were supported by six senior pupils from Banchory and Cults Academies, who volunteered their time to help lead activities and sports with the children.



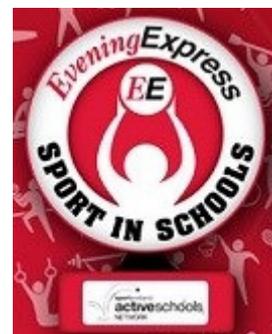
Extra-curricular clubs don't just take place after school. Pictured above are some P4-P7 pupils at Drumoak School at one of their Morning Multi-Sport sessions before the school day starts!

Sport In Schools token collection:

During last term, many of you were cutting out and collecting tokens for the Evening Express "Sport In Schools" competition. A total of £15,000 was up for grabs between Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire Active Schools.

By the end, Aberdeenshire schools collected 49,679 tokens, giving Aberdeenshire schools a grand total of £7,142.

This is approximately 45% of the total collected between city and shire. Given that the Evening Express sales between city and shire is 30-70 in favour of Aberdeen, we have punched well above our weight! A big thank you for your help – I look forward to investing the Banchory share of this into local school sports and welcome any suggestions you may have!



Play Leaders Award:

Primary 7 pupils from the six cluster schools, along with some prefects, are receiving their leadership training this term.

Training looks at developing these pupil's confidence and ability to lead safe, fun and well-organised playground games. The training will cover four aspects of playground leadership, such as effectively organising younger pupils to ensure that games are fair, fun and safe. Pupils will receive a mix of theory and practical throughout, as well as opportunities to practice leading activities in smaller groups. There will be chance for peer evaluation and support throughout the process and pupils will be assessed at the end of the programme.

Upon completion of the programme, pupils will receive a certificate and Play Leaders badge, and will be taking an active role in planning and leading lunch-time sports and activities in the playground for younger pupils. This is a great opportunity for them to develop as confident individuals and responsible citizens!

Further ahead, there is also potential for Play Leaders to plan specific sports break-times for younger pupils.

New clubs starting in Term Two:

Academy:

S1-S3 Girls Basketball
S1-S4 Girls Running

Banchory:

P6-P7 Netball
P5-P6 Hockey

Hill of Banchory:

P1-P7 Tennis

Drumoak:

P4-P7 Morning Multi-Sports

Cluster:

P2-P5 Golf

Please check the Active Schools website for more details about days, times, availability and costs. Details of ongoing clubs can also be found there.

Training opportunities:

During term two, Active Schools volunteer coaches and helpers have had the opportunity to attend coach-education courses and training, to help them deliver quality sports coaching sessions. In all of these instances, Active Schools have been able to pay for part or all of their training costs.

Various volunteers have received the following training this term: Netball Leaders Award; Netball Getting Started Award; Boccia Leaders Award; Junior Jog Scotland Award; UKCC Level 1 Basketball; Positive Coaching Scotland Double Goal Coach Award. It is great that volunteers are so willing to help out. Offering and supporting them through further training is just one way Active Schools can say a big thank you to our willing Banchory schools volunteers!

School Sport Award

The **sportscotland** School Sport Award accredits schools that continuously improve physical education and school sport, within and out with the curriculum and strengthen sporting links between the school and local community. The awards will recognise a school's achievement in putting quality physical education and school sport at the heart of a school's planning, practice and ethos.

The Award will focus on six core areas across physical education and school sport that schools should offer to all children and young people; and three core areas to ensure the people and places that support physical education and school sport are the best that they can be.

Banchory Academy is the first school in Aberdeenshire to apply for this award!

Senior management, Active Schools and Young Ambassadors are already gathering

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SCHOOL SPORT
AWARD

evidence for the first stage of the process: self-assessment. This will allow Banchory Academy to highlight any areas of physical education and school sport which may need improvement throughout the year, as they aim to be the first Aberdeenshire school to achieve the Gold award.

The Award was launched in June 2014, following the successful pilot in Argyll and Bute, North Lanarkshire and West Lothian.

If you would like more information on how you can be involved, please get in touch:

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