

Autumn 1, 2024



The Sporty Squirrel!

For parents and carers who have not heard before, The Sporty Squirrel is our sporting newsletter. It brings you updates, information and celebration in all things sporting across the school. We are very excited to welcome all pupils back into school and to share with them many exciting sporting opportunities and events.

Mrs Sutton Sports Leader

Sporting Events

Each year we look for as many opportunities as possible to challenge our learners in sporting competition. This half-term we will be participating in the following events:-

September

Year 4 Football Festival
Olympic Celebration

October

Year 5 & 6 Cross Country Relays
Year 5 & 6 Table Tennis
Year 5 & 6 3G Football

November

Year 5 & 6 'Can Do' Festival
Year 3 & 4 3G Football
Year 5 & 6 Basketball
Year 5 & 6 Sportshall Athletics
Whole School Scootathon

Ringwood Junior School Sporting Rationale

At this stage in the term and with many families joining us for the first time, we are often asked about the allocation of club places, sporting selection and involvement in competitions and opportunities.

For this reason, we have decided to share with you how places for clubs are allocated and our rationale for selecting children to represent the school at external competitions.

Clubs

All teachers across the school run a club each term on a voluntary basis. The nature and health and safety implications of the club will determine how many children the club can accommodate. Once this information has been decided, the clubs letter and timetable is shared with parents via email for children to choose a club they may wish to join. You will then be asked to complete an online form which is returned to the office in order for places to be allocated, and this is done on a "first come, first served" basis. In order to provide opportunities for as many children as possible, we then limit each individual to a maximum of two clubs per term (unless uptake is very low for a given club). We are very proud that with staff goodwill we are able to continue to do this free-of-charge when many other schools have moved to a chargeable system.

Competitions

Currently, we have three levels of sporting involvement that are offered to the children. The first, **The School Games**, is the highest level of competition for a school and involves selecting teams to represent against other school teams from the New Forest. These can be aimed at well-practised children, whereas others are targeted at improving team work and communication and intended for children who do not often play competitive sport to take part in competitions outside of school. Children who need help with resilience are given further opportunities to do so. These places are awarded based on club participation with consideration to skill demonstration during PE lessons, sports day heat times and external club involvement (following the survey that is shared with parents), where appropriate.

The **second level**, whilst still competitive, is a more friendly focus that aims to provide a greater number of children with opportunities to compete and play, as a team, against other teams from the local area. Additionally, we are in the process of organising sporting experiences that broaden children's sporting awareness and provide the chance to try new things as well as develop and extend existing skills.

The **third level** is intra-house competition which takes place in many PE lessons and throughout the year with events such as Sports Day.

Spotlight on...YOU!



We love hearing about the incredible sports, activities, competitions and championships that you are a part of outside of school and so would like to invite you to share your child's proud achievements, as and when, they happen.

Maybe your child is player of the match this week or maybe they have won a competition in their chosen field of sport. Either way, we would love to be able to share more of your children's passions and achievements in The Sporty Squirrel.

Please send any photos and information that you are happy to share in our sports newsletter to the school email address: admin.office@ringwood-junior.hants.sch.uk for the attention of Mrs Sutton.

Uniform

All pupils must have their full PE kit in school every day as follows:

- Plain white t-shirt
- Black or navy shorts
- Sports trainers - if trainers are needed for activities outside of school please make sure they are back in school for your child's PE day
- White socks

During inclement weather, navy tracksuits (not fashion running leggings) may be worn for outdoor activities. We are also happy for children to wear gloves for sports where their hands are liable to get cold, but are not being used to develop a skill.

To ensure equality within our uniform policy and to prevent damage to expensive sportswear, we ask that white T-shirts and shorts are **without a logo** such as Adidas stripes or football badges. Shorts must be of a suitable length for varied, strenuous activity, and **should not be shorter than your child's mid-thigh**. Pupils who wear shorts that are deemed inappropriate will be asked to change into school kit.

May we also remind you that we follow the National Guidance from AfPE (The Association for PE) with regards to earrings and jewellery for Health & Safety reasons. This states that **all long hair should be tied back**. If hair is too short to be tied back, it should be clipped away from the face.

Jewellery should not be worn during PE lessons or other sport activities such as after school clubs. Please ensure all earrings are either removed at home on PE days or children are confident to remove these themselves; they will need to do this prior to the lesson. If your child's ears are newly pierced, please contact their class teacher to discuss their PE activities on an individual basis.



PE Days

Children will continue to change for PE in school. Please see below for your child's PE day:

Year 3 — Tuesday

Year 4 — Wednesday

Year 5 — Thursday

Year 6 — Friday