

# STEPGATES SPORTS NEWS

Autumn 2024

It has been another positive start to the academic year for Sports at Stepgates!

## Physical Education at Stepgates

This term, the children have been able to further develop their skills across a range of disciplines. In Nursery, Reception, and Year 1 the children have been focusing on the fundamentals of PE and basic gymnastic skills, whilst in Years 2 and the Juniors, the children have been able to access our swimming pool for their weekly swimming lessons, alongside team building, outdoor adventurous activities, dance and yoga. We look forward to the Spring Term, where the children will be working on: gymnastics, ball skills, sending and receiving, basketball, badminton, hockey and fitness across the various year groups.

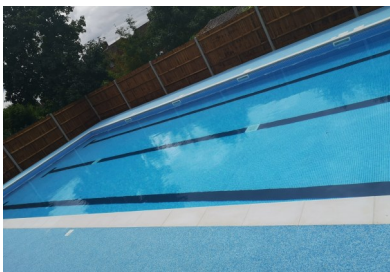
## Clubs at Stepgates

All of the clubs offered during the Autumn Term have been greatly enjoyed by many of our children and looking ahead, we hope to begin to offer even more sporting activities and opportunities in the near future. Football Squad continues to be popular with our Year 5 and 6 children and we have been able to establish teams for both year groups. In the new year, we will continue to offer football training, with further league and friendly fixtures scheduled all through the Spring Term. Interest in Dance Crew has been particularly high so far this year, with a mixture of new and experienced dancers taking part. Additionally, we will be running an Athletics Club, aiming to support children to develop a range of skills through games and training opportunities. Athletics will not be directly linked to District Sports, but will support children to develop the necessary skills, with the view that they may be selected. Additional training and trials for District Sports will take place during school time, offering an opportunity to children who show a strength and interest in athletics, but are unable to attend Athletics Club.

## Swim Squad

Awful weather curtailed much of the swimming this autumn, however the swim squad managed to attend several sessions before school on Friday mornings. Membership is by invitation, recognising our more able swimmers in Years 5 and 6. These sessions prepare swimmers for the Spring Term competitions, which require careful preparation. All squad members worked extremely hard.

Well done!  
Ms Doyle



## News and celebrations



We are very fortunate to have been granted some funding for new PE equipment. These funds have enabled us to purchase some additional gym mats for the hall, as well as resources to support and enhance the teaching of gymnastics in school. We are also very excited to have two new ActivAll boards in school, which are designed to inspire children to get involved in physical activity and aims to make PE inclusive and accessible for all.

We can't wait to make fantastic use of them!

## Thank you!

As always, thank you all for continuing to support sport at Stepgates. We look forward to sharing and celebrating more fantastic sporting achievements with you in the Spring Term.

# Football News



We are yet to begin our competitive season, with league fixtures organised in the new year. However, we have enjoyed local friendlies and a Year 6 tournament at Royal Holloway. For some children, our training sessions on a Thursday evening have been the first time they have played football. For others, they have enjoyed returning to training, continuing to develop their skills and having fun playing each other in our Stepgates mini league.

If you think you would like to take up football, or just come along to training to see what it's all about, please let Miss Aira or Mr Williams know. We are always happy to welcome and capture the interest of new players!

Below is a table of our results so far:

Stepgates Team	Opponent	Score	Result
Boys Year 6 Tournament at Royal Holloway	Various schools		Placed third in our group.
Year 5	Lyne and Longcross	Postponed	
Year 6	Lyne and Longcross		

## Year 6 ERPSSA Football Tournament

On Thursday 14th November 2024, Stepgates Community School played a football tournament at Royal Holloway. In our first match, we played against St James School. The score ended at 0-0 but we played well and had a lot of chances. We went on to draw 0-0 for the remaining three matches. After all of our matches we went to see if we went through but unfortunately we didn't go through to the next stage but finished third in our group. Afterwards we organised a 'friendly' match against another school who we beat. We all had a brilliant day and were happy about the performance we put on.

Written by Oliver B and John E (Year 6)



Year 6 Team



Year 5 Team

# DANCE NEWS



On Thursday 12th December, Dance Crew had their first performance opportunity of the year. Dancing to 'Holiday' by Megan Trainor, they led the rest of the Juniors in their Christmas Concert with a festive opening dance number. For some, this was their first ever performance in front of an audience and they all look forward to the year ahead, where there will be many more opportunities to perform within our local community.