

ATHLETICS EDITION 2024



This half term has seen a positive increase in athletic development with children in Year 1 to Year 6 competing in various competitions to put their newly improved athletic movement into a competitive environment to challenge their determination and resilience under pressure! This special edition includes articles for several events that have taken place recently to include the Summer Event, Year 5 & Year 6 Field Event Finals and the Prep Sports Day.

To conclude, short reports for the East Athletics

Championship and the Years 3 – 6 District Athletics complete the Athletics themed edition!

There are so many photos that have been taken over the last few weeks from all the events. We're working through them, and they will be avaliable on our Flickr, <u>linked here</u>, during the summer for you to enjoy.

Mr Baird



EYFS & KS1 Summer Event 2024

On a bright and sunny day, the atmosphere was exciting as children, parents, and teachers gathered for the much-anticipated Summer Event, building on the wonderful tradition developed by Mrs Audas. The event was packed with activities showcasing the children's physical development while ensuring everyone had a fantastic time.

Our youngest participants from Foundation kicked off the day with their sprint races. Their enthusiasm was infectious, and their determination awas impressive as they sped down the track to the crowd's cheers. Going first is never easy, but they handled it brilliantly, setting a high bar for the rest of the afternoon.

Following our youngest cohort, the Reception children took to the track. They equally provided great energy and excitement, with some racers looking so fast it seemed they might zoom right past the finish line! The crowd's cheers grew louder, adding to the thrill of all the races.

A delightful interlude came with two charming Year 2 Maypole performances. The children displayed excellent rhythm and coordination, weaving intricate patterns around the pole. Their performance was a testament to their ability to stay in sync with the music, creating a wonderful spectacle for everyone in attendance.

Next, it was time for the Year 1 and Year 2 children, eagerly waiting their turn, to get onto the track and put their speed to the test. Their races were fiercely competitive yet every child had a smile on their face whilst giving their best. Some finishes were so close that multiple staff members had to determine the winners at the line carefully!

Life is a wonderful thing, correct? Well, the Year 1 children certainly did a great job of sharing the heartwarming message to the crowd! Their wonderful singing spread a positive and uplifting message, perfectly setting the stage for the upcoming obstacle relays.

Foundation Stage returned to the track for the Teddy Bears' Picnic Race. Teams of four had to set up and pack away a picnic, including a blanket, plate, food, and, of course, a teddy bear. The race was full of smiles and excitement, with no teddy bears harmed in the process! Reception children were next with a race that tested their balancing skills and speed. They had to balance a bean bag for half the track before dropping it, then don a hoop and sprint to the finish. While some hoops hilariously became optional, the children's efforts were commendable and fun-filled.

Before the Year 1 and Year 2 obstacle races, Year 2 line dancers took to the track with a dazzling performance of Beyonce's 'Texas Hold'em.' Their energetic dance moves brought a feel-good factor to the event, making it feel like summer had truly arrived, with the song likely to be a hit at many summer BBQs.

As the races neared completion, Year 1 and Year 2 children took to the track for the exciting obstacle races. These races, featuring shuttles with bean bags, egg and spoon challenges for Year 1, and hurdles plus bean bag balancing for Year 2, were full of unpredictable drama. Early leads didn't always guarantee a win, keeping everyone on the edge of their seats

An Olympic-themed song performed by the Reception class and a fiercely contested Year 1/2 relay race brought a fitting close to the main schedule, especially with the Paris Olympics just weeks away. These segments showcased togetherness and teamwork, embodied through the lyrics of the 'Rings of the Olympics' song and the collaborative effort seen in the relay race. By this point, every child had given their all, putting on such a spectacular afternoon of sport.

Even though the main event had concluded, the fun was far from over! The youngest spectators eagerly joined the Toddlers & Young Siblings races, delighting the crowd as they bravely took to the track amidst loud cheers.

The highlight, however, was the Parent & Spectator race. Over 100 parents and spectators participated in more than 10 heats (yes, more than 10!), much to the children's delight. Although no official placings were given, many adults proudly walked away with stickers awarded for their participation.

Thanks must be extended to all the staff involved in the day, especially Mrs Treadway, who left no stone unturned in organising logistics. A massive thank you to the parents and spectators for attending and creating the special atmosphere that few other schools can replicate. Finally, well done to all the children for their fantastic efforts!



Year 5 & Year 6 Field Event Finals

Before the Prep Sports Day, children worked hard in their lessons, refining basic movement skills, sprinting techniques, and pacing strategies for middle-distance events. A week before, a select group of Year 6 (and some Year 5) children competed in the Field Event Finals, after qualifying through performances within lessons.

The high jump competitions for both boys and girls were very equal, with children battling away for the smallest of margins. In the boys event, 2nd place was shared by Finley L and Hugo W with Alex L and Henry D sharing victory! For the girls, Teccla managed to get the edge over Evie S who both finished in 1st and 2nd place, respectively.

The long jump was improved this year with multiple children competing for the honours. Henry D, Teddy V and Daniel A (Year 5) competed fiercely with consistent jumps but it was Daniel A who came out on top with an impressive result as a Year 5 pupil. The girls' competition was also one of the most exciting events of the day with the leaderboard changing frequently between Molly B, Teccla A and Evie S. After completing all the jumps, Molly B & Teccla A shared the highest distance and shared the girls' title!

The final event was the Vortex throw in which the Year 5 boys dominated their event. Although Archie N put up a very respectable and the best Year 6 score, George M and Ralph H threw rockets into space! Winning the boys event was Ralph H with a throw just short of 40m! In the girls events, Ria M put her fantastic cricketing skills together to win the girls competition by an impressive margin.

Prep Sports Day 2024

The sun was blazing, and the heat was intense, but nothing could dampen the spirits of our KS2 children as Sports Day 2024 kicked off. The energy was palpable as everyone gathered on the field, ready for a day filled with athleticism and camaraderie. House Pens had banners waving in the breeze and the sea of colour from the House t-shirts made for a healthy dose of competitive spirit!

The day started with the middle-distance races for Year 3 and Year 4 students with their 600m race, showcasing determination and resilience in what is a tough event to be in let alone to start the event! Not to be outdone, Year 5 and Year 6 children took to the track for their challenging 800m race. Despite the hot weather, these students displayed incredible stamina and strategy, with a few thrilling sprint finishes that had everyone on their feet.

Next, it was time for the sprints. With the heat changing the schedule, the Year 3 children started with their 60m sprints, followed by the Year 4s. Both year groups set a high standard of competitiveness and determination with every participant giving their best effort! After allowing the middle distance runners to recover, the Year 5 & Year 6 sprints took place over 80m distances where children performed so well and delivered thrilling races

Before lunch, we were able to complete all relays in an attempt to beat the peak height of the temperature for the day. To kick start, a selected group of Years 5 & 6 children participated in the 4x100m relay, with smooth handovers and spirited team competition. In the girls' race, Heseltine won by quite some margin with Brimley winning in the boys' race. The following relays came with a twist... hurdles! Teams of racers were lined up in their 'House lane' at the start line. The challenge was to complete one leg of hurdles as quickly as possible before setting off the next runner, who had to wait until their house flag was raised at the finish line before starting! Impressively, the spread of winners in each Year group led to a fair share of points added to the overall total.

After a morning of intense competition, the Year 3 and 4 students enjoyed their lunch at the track, while the older students headed back to the prep for a well-deserved break. The entire school gathered again for the afternoon session, starting with the guest appearance of our Year 1 & Year 2 children who were to complete their races. Similar to that of the Summer Event, they ran their hearts out and earned well-deserved 'high 5s' as they returned to their seating area.



The straight line relays followed with the cloud cover calming temperatures and the normal schedule back on track. As crowds watched on, all Year 3 to Year 6 relays were contested in such a high spirit with an infectious level of competitiveness! Similar to the hurdle relay, the spread of winners across the Year groups provided scores that made the overall points ever so close in the Top 3!

Before points were tallied, the final event was the Year 6 Tug of War. All six houses provided a thrilling and intense battle of strength and strategy, with children giving it their all after a long day of competition. After knockout rounds and semi-finals, Tasker came out victorious with celebrations clearly showing how much this traditional event means to them.

The event concluded with presentations, where trophies were awarded, and achievements celebrated along with a commendation for the effort and spirit that the day produced by all involved. The event culminated in the announcement of the House Champions! Brimley emerged victorious, the first time one of the new Houses has won the occasion, amassing the highest points total. Every student from Year 3 to 6 played a role in this achievement, resulting in excited and well-deserved celebrations.

The final standings were:

- 1. Brimley
- 2. Quennell
- 3. Bayman
- 4. Heseltine
- 5. Tasker
- 6. Lawrence

The success of Sports Day was made possible by the collective effort of many individuals. We extend our heartfelt thanks to the PE team for their meticulous planning, the grounds team for their preparation, the catering team for ensuring smooth meal service, and our dedicated porters for their logistical support.

Special thanks to the Friends of Brentwood School for providing refreshments and the ongoing support of our sports programme. A huge thanks must be extended to all parents and spectators who provided a fantastic atmosphere whilst also battling warm weather conditions!

Finally, the determination and spirit displayed by our young athletes highlighted the inspiring and unifying power of sports. Thank you and well done to all involved!



East Region Athletics

On Friday 7th June, our team of athletes travelled to Bedford International Stadium to compete in the East Region qualifiers. Over 50 schools were in attendance in a competition that involved Year 6 – 8 pupils vying for qualification to Nationals in their respective age categories. The team was competitive and gained invaluable experience from the day where multiple children could have qualified had their performances in lessons transferred to the competition. That in itself was a great learning curve and one that will help the team in future. We are delighted to say that Molly B (6BD) followed up on last year's 3rd place in 1500m to finish 2nd, receiving an invitation to the National Schools Athletes, which takes place in Birmingham on the 3rd July. Well done to all the children involved!

KS2 (Year 3 - Year 6) District Athletics

At the end of the final full week of the academic year, 37 children from Year 3 to Year 6 joined forces to compete for the prestigious District Athletics title.

After strong performances in all the track heats, almost every runner qualified from their heats into the finals, which was a very impressive way to begin the morning. In the midst of the excitement on the track, we also had Year 5 & Year 6 children juggling their races whilst also putting in strong performances to build points for our team in high jump, long jump and the vortex throw.

As scores were close, the spirit of the team really kicked into gear as everything was down to the relays! In a unique situation where Year 3 to Year 6 children were brought together as a team, regardless of age, all the children shouted and cheered at the top of their voices in support of every child involved. It was this support that may just have made the difference, not only did our Year 6 boys and girls win their 4x100m relays, our Year 3 & Year 5 boys and girls came away with victories to give Brentwood the best possible chance of winning.

The results were tense as no one had an inclination as to how close the points were amongst all 7 schools involved. As the organiser got to the 1st and 2nd positions, she made us aware of a 3 point difference... After a tense pause, Brentwood School were announced as District Athletics Champions for 2024 and received the trophy!

There are many individual performances to celebrate and all 37 children could genuinely be mentioned for their efforts and so it feels appropriate to praise the collective group in this article. Congratulations and well done to the whole squad as they all played a crucial role and contributed valuable points.

And that's it...have a great summer and roll on September 2024

