

# Sports News



**Red Rose  
Spring 1 & 2  
2026**



Joshua taking centre stage at the SSP Dance Festival.

## Schools Sports Partnership (SSP) Festivals

We use some of our sports budget to buy into our local Schools Sports Partnership. They provide a range of festivals, competitions and special events throughout the year alongside training and curriculum support for staff.

### Dance Festival

- We took part in the SSP **Dance Festival at Durham Gala Theatre**

with nearly 50 children performing on stage to an audience of 500 including family and friends.

- Y3/4 danced to Harry Potter and Y5/6 performed a dance to the theme of Pirates of Caribbean, kindly coached by Mrs Jennings.



Back stage nerves and excitement!



The children had a great time dancing on the big stage in front of their friends and family.



A **big thank you** to parents and friends who helped source the costumes to help make the children look the part on stage as well as coming to watch.



- Children across KS2 have all learnt and performed these dances as part of their curriculum delivery. Some classes performed in front of others while some recorded and shared their dance with their class teachers. This forms part of our intra sporting events programme.
- KS1 have had their dancing shoes on as well performing a circus dance during PE lessons.

### SSP Competitions- Tag Rugby

This year we were only able to take 1 team of 9 Y5/6s to compete in a **Tag Rugby** Competition. It was an incredibly cold day which makes throwing and catching even harder. Well done to all the athletes for a fantastic effort in difficult conditions.

### County Swimming Finals

Congratulations to our KS2 swimmers who won the recent County Gala. They were representing Chester le Street as well as our school. Everyone swam their very best and we couldn't be prouder. Notable performances include: **Rudi** in Y3, who had the fastest time in his race as well as beating the age group ahead; **Sadie** and **Henry** were

the fastest out of both heats for Backstroke and Front Crawl respectively.

Swimming at this level takes a lot of time and dedication but once learnt you have a skill for life. We are fortunate to have several local clubs that children can join if they would like to swim more, including Chester le Street ASC, Derwentside ASC, Durham ASC and Birtley ASC (non- competitive/ life saving).



## County Cross Country Finals

Third time lucky for this event to finally go ahead. All 4 of our Key Stage 2 teams qualified and represented Chester Le Street against the other areas of Durham. We're so proud of all our runners as well as those who couldn't make it due to illness. A big shout out to Rory who came in 2nd battling for first right up to the line. Other top 20 finishers included Henry 7th, Lola 16th and Jude 18th.



## Other SSP Festivals

Darren came into school to deliver a session of **archery** to some of the KS2 children.



Apollo and Armstrong Y3s attended a **Games** sports festival where they had taster sessions playing mini versions of basketball, netball and tag rugby.

## Yoga in EYFS and Y1

Early Years have had the opportunity to be coached by Beth in the skills of Yoga. Developing balance and agility is essential to our physical development but Beth also teaches our children how to be calm and relax. Y1 has been following the Yoga lessons as well, expertly guided by Mrs Jennings.

Y5 and 6 have also been taking part in some yoga lessons as part of PE. As the busy summer term approaches we hope the skills of focus and remaining calm prove useful.

## We're going on a Bear Hunt ...

Early Years attended the SSP festival based around the book 'We're going on a Bear Hunt' by Michael Rosen. They even had to brave a snow storm before coming across a bear.



## Tag Rugby festival

Year 5 class brushed up on some Tag Rugby at a festival. Refreshing their dodging, passing and catching skills. Unfortunately, they couldn't dodge the weather which took a stormy turn cutting short their play time.



## Cross Country Local League

Well done to all the Y5/6 runners who took up the invitation to represent the school at the local Cross Country League over 3 Saturdays. Well done and we're very proud of **Beth, Lucy W, Erin S, Anna W, Anna B, Daisy Henry P, Finn, Daniel, Jude, Eli, Ellis, Hayden, Ronan and Woody!** Below are a few photos from the last race at Rickleton. Apologies for not capturing everyone- some were too fast for the camera!



They all ran confidently with Henry P winning every race and leading the boys team to retain the team trophy again. Lucy W led the girls team to a brilliant 3rd place finish.



Although only the first 3 runners count towards our team score it was definitely a team effort which we celebrated together.

<http://www.clsschools.co.uk> results of local schools' leagues for XC and football.



## Other School News

- Across school we are continuing to work towards our 60 minutes of recommended daily activity with active playtimes and daily mile movement breaks.
- During PE lessons, KS1 and KS2 have been polishing our football skills, and improving our agility and coordination. Everyone is looking forward to the better weather and being able to play on the field at break times.
- This term we have finally seen some dry weather and even some sunshine! KS2 have been orienteering using both physical and mental skill to follow a route and

## In the Summer Term

We're looking forward to competing and taking part in the following events:

- Y1 Disney festival

- Y5 Netball league
- Y1 SSP Bike ability

## Inspired? Join a club!

Below are just a selection of some of the local clubs that I know children go to presently or have done in the past. We don't have any formal links with these clubs so it is up to parents to research and assess if they are appropriate for your child.

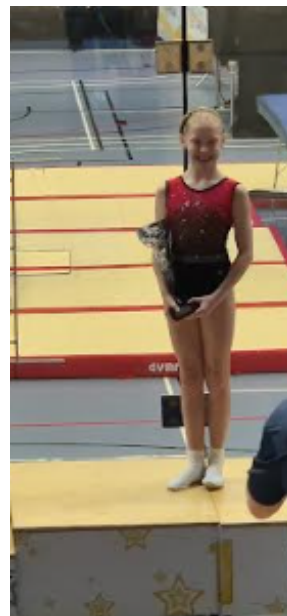
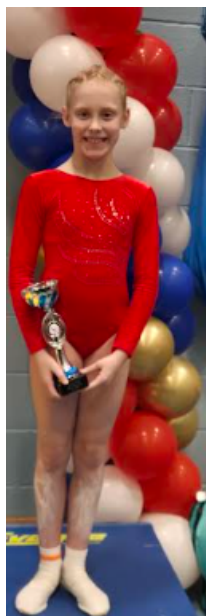
- Dance- Euphoria- dance fitness, Dance Asylum
- Musical theatre- Caos musical theatre group
- Gymnastics- South Durham gymnastics, Lumley gymnastics, Northern Hope and Deerness Gymnastics (Acro)
- Football- Hilda Park, Chester le Street and Waldrige- mixed.
- Girls football- Amazons
- Rugby- Durham, Houghton le Spring and Consett.
- Swimming- Chester le Street ASC, Durham ASC, Derwentside ASC and Birtley swimming club
- Athletics- Chester le Street AC, Durham AC, Phoenix Flyers and Birtley AC.
- Park Run is a great way of keeping fit. Every Sunday, 9am at Riverside Park, Chester le Street. To register for free go to [www.parkrun.org.uk/riverside-juniors/](http://www.parkrun.org.uk/riverside-juniors/)

## Our Sporting Stars!



Well done, Octavia for winning the Northern Under 8s Triathlon. She completed a 500m, 2 minute swim and a bean bag throw. She was also the fastest runner and best shot (bean bag throw).

Madeleine has recently had some great success in her artistic swimming (synchronised swimming). She was invited for trials for the county squad 12 and under and managed to secure a place beating many swimmers 2-3 years older than herself. She then went on to pass her 3rd grading which also resulted in her qualifying for the National Age Group competition in Gloucester.



Isla came 2nd in the BSGA Northern Zonal School Trampoline Competition representing our school and area.

This led to competing in the Nationals held in Derby and... Isla is now the Elite Y1-6 National Champion for trampolining. We're all so proud of you, Isla. Well done!



More speedy running from Lucy who brought back a Gold medal from a race in Essex where she represented Durham in the Boys and Girls clubs in a cross country race.

She helped Durham win the gold medal as well. Excellent running, Lucy!

## What sports do you enjoy?

Keep us updated with your activities and certificates to share in our celebration assembly.

We are a SILVER Rights Respecting School.



**Article 24**  
*The right to health.*

**Article 27**  
*The right to a good standard of living.*

**Article 29**  
*Education must develop children's personality, talents and abilities.*