

All through PE & Sport News

What a term it's been so far with so many fixtures and major events taking place. For many events, this is the first time since 2019 and it has been so good to see students avail of the opportunities and experiences missed by so many over the past couple of years. As an All through school we have competed in many sports across District and County competitions alongside our thriving sports leadership programme. Recently we hosted our Secondary sports day which was a huge success and for the first time included our sixth form across all events, both morning and afternoon and we were provided with great weather conditions and a great community atmosphere, more to come later on this. We also look forward to our Primary Sports Day which takes place Tuesday 19th July.

Year 5 win District Primary Athletics

We had 36 children in Year 5 and 6 taking part in District Athletics on Wednesday 22nd June. This is the first athletics competition in over 2 years and it was a great experience for all children involved. The children all did amazingly taking part in sprints, relays, 600m, javelin, long jump and shot. We had so many individual performances with children receiving a medal if they came 1st or 2nd in any of the events. We were proud of all the children that took part and delighted that our Year 5 children came 1st out of 8 schools that took part! What an achievement and well done to all children that took part.



LVSSA Secondary District Athletics Championships



On Thursday over 80 Simon Balle students from Year 7-12 competed at the District Athletics Championships at Wodson Park. There were so many excellent performances yesterday with so many students achieving top 3 finishes. However the overall Female District performance of the day went to Emily W (Y7) who equalled the Minor Hurdles record finishing first in 11.8 secs. Alex G (Y12) was awarded Simon Balle athlete of the day, as he won the Senior boys 200m, finished second in the Long Jump and anchored the relay team to first place. Alongside the winning senior boys relay team, Alex G above and Emily W in the Hurdles we also had the following individual District Champions;

- Sarah B (Y12) - Senior Girls Long Jump
- Jay C (Y12) - Senior Boys 400m
- Sam P (Y12) - Senior Boys Javelin
- Jacob A (Y10) - Inter Boys Pole Vault
- Daniel D (Y10) - Inter Boys Discus
- Sylvie S (Y7) - Minor Girls 1500m
- Aiden D (Y7) - Minor Girls Javelin
- Elizabeth K (Y9) - Junior Girls Hurdles
- Emily W (Y7) - Minor Girls Long Jump
- William Mason (Y9) - Junior Boys 300m

However the Overall team performance of the day went to the combined Year 8/9 team who won the overall District Championships. Congratulations to all who represented Simon Balle on a truly successful day.

Calypso Cricket

In mid-June we had six teams participate at the Calypso Cricket tournaments held by Sele School where students competed against a wide range of schools from across the county in a short format of cricket. Matches were played 6-a-side with just 5 overs meaning that players had to bat with purpose to put runs on the board. There were some fantastic skills on display and our Year 8 & 10 boys teams both won the Calypso Cricket Shield - a wonderful

achievement. The year 7 team made it to the cup final but narrowly lost to broxbourne and came runners up out of the ten teams that attended.



Primary County Cricket

Our Year 5 and Year 6 cricket team took part in the Hertford and Ware Dynamo Cricket tournament winning the whole competition! This then meant that they went on to represent Hertford and Ware at the County finals competition on Monday 20th June. The boys did brilliantly winning 3 out of the 4 of their matches in the heats and as a result they went through to the playoffs for third and fourth place. We are delighted that the boys came 4th out of the whole County which is an incredible achievement! Well done to all the boys that took part!



Chance to Shine Cricket

We entered an U13 and an U15 girls team into the Chance to Shine 8-a-side tournament which took place at St Margaretsbury Cricket Club. It was the first time some of our students have played cricket with both teams performing brilliantly and developing good game awareness throughout the day. The U13 team had a mixed bag of results in their pool, but unfortunately did not qualify for the finals. The U15 team had closely contested pool games, winning against Herts and Essex by 1 run to secure a place in the final. The girls played some excellent cricket against a strong Beaumont side and ended up as runners up. Well done to all girls involved.



District Pentathlon



The Simon Balle teams had a fantastic day at the District Pentathlon Champs. Within a team of 4, each student had to compete in all 5 events including: hurdles, 800m, shot put, high jump and long jump. Our athletes performed brilliantly throughout the day with all 3 teams placing - Year 7 girls 3rd, Y8/9 girls 3rd and Y9 boys 1st. Individually, our athletes did very well showing their all-round talent. Emily W in year 7 and Ollie P in Year 9 placed as second individuals and Charlie R in year 9 won the competition. What a fantastic achievement.

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County Athletics League

Congratulations to the U15 Boys Athletics team who qualified for the Herts Athletics plate final on Monday. The boys finished 8th out of 25 schools in their division showing incredible consistency over the past 8 weeks of county competition. The U15 girls performed incredibly over the league and were unlucky to finish just outside qualification in 9th place. The U13 girls showed some fantastic potential finishing 10th and the U13 boys finished 15th.

Herts School Athletics Championships



The prestigious Herts Schools athletics championships took place earlier this month at Jarman Park. Congratulations to Emily W who won the U13 hurdles in a closely contested race, holding her nerve to become County champion. Emily also finished 3rd in the Long Jump. Naomi P in Year 8 ran a strong race in the 100m however just missed out on a place in the final. In one of the final events of the day Sylvie S (Year 7) ran the 1500m against a very high caliber field. From lap 1 she held onto third place all the way to the finish, finishing 3rd in a time of 5mins 36secs. Well done to all athletes who competed as it is no mean feat to be selected for these events.

Secondary Sports Day



On Monday 20th June our secondary Sports day took place and what a day it was. The day was split into morning and afternoon sessions. In the morning Year 7 - 10 & 12 students took part in the following activities;

- Tug-o-war
- Volleyball
- Long and triple Jump
- Javelin
- Shot Putt
- 800m
- 200m/300m

The atmosphere was fantastic and we were blessed with great weather conditions. One of the highlights of the morning was the phenomenal turn out over the 800m where on average we had 20+ competitors in each race with some pretty impressive performances.



In the afternoon we were treated to a sprint festival where the performances were of a very high standard as students prepared for the upcoming District Athletics Championships. The events that took place were;

- 60m
- 120m
- 4 x 60m Relay

All sprint events took place on the astro which led to an extremely high standard and was pleasing to see such a great turn out from our Year 12 students. Throughout the day Beane and Ashbourne were fighting it out between themselves and going into the afternoon events, there was only one point between these houses, however congratulations to Beane who won by only 18 points. The results are as follows below;

1. Beane - 300
2. Ashbourne - 282
3. Rib - 273
4. Lea - 270
5. Mimram - 256
6. New - 235

Thank you to all staff who supported the event to make it a memorable day.

Y7-10 District Cricket update



Congratulations to the Year 8 Cricket team above, who qualified for the District semi finals. On the way to the semi-finals, they beat Goffs School, Sele and Broxbourne. This match will take place against either JWS or Chauncy School over the next couple of weeks.

Year 8 District Rounders Tournament

On Tuesday 29th the year 8s competed in the district rounders tournament. Simon Balle were the only school to enter two teams, which demonstrates the fantastic participation and commitment the year 8s show to extra curricular. It was a great afternoon of rounders and the teams built up momentum over the duration of the tournament. Both teams demonstrated excellent sportsmanship and teamwork throughout the event. The A team came 3rd in the competition. Ruby B was the player of the tournament for the A team scoring at least a rounder per game. Annie B was the player of the tournament for the B team for catching numerous people out. Well done everyone.



Sports Presentation evening - Friday 8th July

We now look forward to our annual Sports Presentation evening which takes place on Friday 8th July from 6pm in the school hall. The PSA will be providing refreshments on the day, so you will have the opportunity to purchase drinks and snacks from 6pm onwards, with the awards beginning at 6.30pm. Those invited should now have received a letter. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact Mr Brennan at brennand@simonballe.herts.sch.uk