

Forging Ahead

On November the 13th, six schools went to participate in the Forge School Sports Partnership Sainsbury's School Games for athletics for 1 and a half hours.

The six schools - Dore Primary, Woodseats, Lowfield, Ballifield, Totley Primary and Totley All Saints - all had a group of athletes, whom had been selected as the best athletes in Y6 and Y5. Joe from Dore Primary said before the start, "I'm feeling quite excited about the competition, but nervous as well. I think that our team's strength is probably running."

What are the Sainsbury's School Games?

The games are a set of competitions designed to "bring different schools together to celebrate sport," as some of the organisers of the event put it. As well as athletics, there are different sports including basketball, cricket and many others. The way that the athletics tournament is arranged slightly different to the others: in the others, the winners of the city competition go through to the regional finals but in athletics the top two teams from each of the four qualifying heats go through to play each other, then the top two out of them go to the city finals, and finally the top two of *those* to play in the regional finals (like South Yorkshire). The competition that I went to was a qualifying heat.



Instructions from Mr Barthrop, event organiser

The atmosphere during the event was absolutely intense. During the track events, which were races (sprint, hurdle, 4 by 1 lap obstacle relay) everybody, including the people doing the field events - speedbounce, seated throw, chest push and target throw - started screaming and cheering in what totalled a deafening cacophony (I like to think I was one of the loudest). In the end, Totley All Saints boys thrashed everybody in the track events, only once coming 2nd in a race; though, as George said, "It was annoying because of the closeness, but we're not really bothered."

All in all, it was a brilliant morning, and everyone showed good sportsman(or woman!)ship. Woodseats came sixth with 67 points, then Lowfield with 71, then with 100 points Ballifield. For bronze Totley Primary scored exactly 100, silver went to Totley All Saints with 123 points, and finally Dore Primary scraped a victory with 126 points. The next competition will be on the 27th of November, and will be for sure as (or more) exciting as this one. Good luck!

By Aaron

Dore Primary School