

Cumbria Schools Primary Championships Hackthorpe New Wood 29th June 2016

As I write this report, the sun is shining and there isn't even an indication of what it was like 6 hours ago! The forecast was for a band of rain to come over the Penrith area from 10 o'clock until 1 o'clock. The rain duly arrived and everyone got very wet! Amazingly morale was extremely high amongst competitors and helpers! There were smiles before, during and after competitive runs. The Village Hall was our event centre and it was a godsend. Everyone could shelter from the rain before their runs and could change into dry clothes (those who remembered to bring them!)

Team and individual results have been posted with the results. However there were some really good runs posted on the courses that Gerry Garvey from BL had planned, that were at the higher end of difficulty for White and Yellow standard. The Year 5 Boys and Girls courses only had 2 mispunches out of 35 entries, which is most impressive. Congratulations to Marcus Chappell and Thea Hackett both from Hayton Primary school who won their respective Year 5 classes. A special word of mention should go to Heidi Batey who came second in Girls Year 5 very close behind the winner of the class.

Year 6 Boys class was won by Theo Coates from Borrowdale School (incidentally Theo was the Boys Primary winner in the WCOC Schools league) with Finn Mayhew (Boys Primary winner in the BL Schools league from Hayton School) coming second. Alexa Weymouth (Hunter Hall) won the Girls Year 6 class and was some two minutes ahead of her nearest competitor (Alexa was overall Girls winner in this year's BL Schools league). The Year 6 courses were at the harder end of the Yellow course scale, as evidenced by the number of mispunches, 11 out of 46 entries. What was particularly heartening was how many competitors in these classes completed these challenging courses with clear runs.

Team Trophy went to Hayton School for the second year running beating Holy Family School by the slim margin of 5 points. Congratulations to all of their runners.

Having the Primary Championships on a school day has been a success, and one that I would imagine would be repeated in future years. Numbers could have been even greater than the 81 recorded at this event, if the children from West Cumbria had been able to come. I understand that many were involved in new intake days for their chosen Secondary School. Finally I would like to thank all of the helpers, the School staff and Parents who turned out on such a wet day to make the event so enjoyable for competitors and helpers alike.

John Roelich (Organiser)