

Schoolkids catch sporting fever

Health bug a big hit promoting healthy exercise

By Daniel Darlington
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A HEALTH bug has swept through Royal Borough schools aimed at encouraging pupils to get active and excited about sport and exercise.

Children in primary and secondary schools took part in a range of fun extra-curricular sporting activities last week under the supervision of qualified gym instructors from the borough.

The scheme, which is linked to the borough's Sports Bug Fortnight, has been launched to give youngsters an incentive to join sports clubs and lead a more active lifestyle.

Schools who took part in the scheme last week included Wessex Primary School in Cox Green, Alexander First School in Kenneally Road, Windsor, and St Edward's Middle School in Parsonage Lane, Windsor.

"The kids have absolutely loved it," said Paula Lansley, PE co-ordinator at Alexander First School.

"It is the second year the school has got involved and we have done a range of different sports.

"On Monday we experimented with indoor hockey which was a lot of fun."

Coaches from the borough gave pupils small taster sessions in a range of sports including tennis, cricket, rounders, athletics and football.

They were also handed advice on where to find sports clubs and exercise groups.

During Sports Bug Fortnight, which runs until May 22, sports clubs across the borough will open their



FANCY FOOTWORK: Ten-year-olds Louie Weaving, George Walton and Harry Billingsley-Dadd from St Edward's Middle School in Windsor take part in the borough's sporting initiative. Ref:103099-1

doors to the public, giving children an opportunity to see what is on offer.

The borough scheme is run in partnership with various leisure centres, the school sports partnership,

Ascot Sportslink Group and voluntary sports clubs in the borough.

"It was really exciting for the pupils who took part," said Erin Bushell, a teacher at Wessex Primary School.

"The coaches were

really motivated and excited and that was passed on to the pupils.

"Overall I felt it was extremely beneficial."

Go to www.rbwm.gov.uk and type in sbug for a full timetable of activities.



SWEEPING SHOT: Firoza Amin plays cricket at Wessex Primary School. Ref:103100-3



BACK HEEL: Matthew Sheeham, 11, during the coaching session at St Edward's Middle School in Windsor. Ref:103099-2



SKATE OFF: Children at Alexander First School get the chance to play some indoor hockey on Monday. Ref:103084-2



CATCH: Ben Mulley takes part in activities at Wessex Primary School in Cox Green. Ref:103100-1

Events on Saturday, May 9:

■ Windsor Leisure Centre, Windsor – 10am-2pm. Call Jo Mackrell on 01753 778577

■ Magnet Leisure Centre, Maidenhead – 10am-2pm. Contact Lee Ovens on 01628 685333

■ Charters Leisure Centre, Ascot –

10am-2pm. Contact 01344 628686

■ Cox Green Leisure Centre, Maidenhead – 10am-4pm. Contact Deen Pocock on 01628 777518

Events on Sunday, May 17:

■ Woodlands Park Village Centre, Maidenhead – 2-6pm. Contact Kim Truelove on 07765 254895

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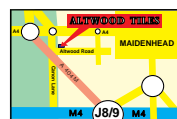
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