



Cornwall
Cricket



CHANCE TO SHINE
Spreading the power of cricket

CASE STUDY: **DOBWALLS PRIMARY** **SCHOOL AND CHANCE** **TO SHINE**

JULY 2019



Dobwalls C P School is a rural school in the heart of Cornwall with a strong farming community. In 2019 it received the National Schools Programme, Chance to Shine (C2S) programme from Cornwall Cricket Board. Previously the school had focused on traditional sports such as cross country and football, with cricket rarely featuring at all.

As a result of the C2S lessons, the children in Years 1 and 2 learnt the basic skills as well as the respect and values associated not only with cricket but also with life in general. Positive behaviour and effort were recognised and rewarded, and this fed off to the whole class.

Yr. 2 teacher Naomi Thomas: *“The children loved the cricket sessions and I found that their general behaviour in the following lessons was so much better. What I also noticed was an increase in the amount and quality of writing they produced. Another powerful aspect that the sessions helped with was teamwork and never giving up. The class really benefited from working in small groups, taking turns, and encouraging one another.”*

Mary Hatherley, Yr. 1 teacher, said:

“I was really impressed by how some of my pupils who struggle to sit and listen responded to these sessions. They made huge progress in challenging themselves to get better.”



Dobwalls also got into the spirit of the Cricket World Cup 2019 and held a festival using their Yr. 5 sports leaders to organise the event. Head teacher Tim Gray: *“That afternoon was absolutely fantastic, with over eighty children engaged in active sessions based on cricket. It has definitely had a positive ripple effect within the school.”* The event received excellent publicity, with a full-page article in the local press and many people commenting on its impact.

The link between KS2 and KS1 further brought the school together, and lunchtimes have been altered with some of the Yr. 5 leaders organising 20-minute cricket focused activities.

As a result of NSP the school has invested in Kwik cricket sets for class use, and for the first time ever, an after-school club was established. This proved extremely popular with both boys and girls and ran for the entire summer term. Parents were complimentary, and one said that their daughter loved Fridays because the club was on! Another consequence was that some children attended summer holiday activities at their local cricket club.

PE Co-ordinator Oli Jones: *“Some children before the C2S input would not have known what cricket was. Now they all know and love it and are so keen to play more! Staff like myself have learnt many skills and now feel confident enough to teach cricket. We greatly value the support from coaches like Mustafa Shaikh and Cornwall Cricket, who gave us ideas that will continue to be built on for the future.”*

Dexter in Y2 summed it up perfectly: *“I enjoyed all the throwing and catching activities, and Mr Shaikh made it a lot of fun, and I got to improve my skills, and it made me happy!”*





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