



Headteacher's Newsletter

Sport Edition

Brownhills Ormiston Academy - A Sport School

Dear families, friends and our wider community,

In a week where we have welcomed more families than ever before to our Open Evening, I wanted to take the opportunity to talk about something that I believe is vitally important to our school and our continued journey of excellence. At Brownhills, success comes in many forms, and one example of this is sport.

I want prospective and current Brownhills pupils to know that we are a sport school and that I am deliberately investing significant time and resources to developing sport at our academy.

We are so fortunate to have superb sporting facilities with a large swimming pool, our brand new Multi-Use Games Arena known as 'The Arena', enormous playing fields, and both a Sports Hall and Gym.

But more importantly than that, we have the most superb PE department, led by our inspirational Head of Sport, Mrs P Moore and our second in PE, Mr N James. As we move into a new era of sport at Brownhills where we are deliberately increasing our focus on Netball, Rugby, Basketball and Rounders, my newsletter to our community also focuses on sport.

We want Brownhills students to be sports people. That doesn't mean that everybody has to achieve excellence on the sporting field, but it means that we want to provide the very best opportunities for every student to experience the power of sport and how it can enrich and shape your lives.

We have spoken to students and members of staff this week about their sporting journey, which I am delighted to share with you this week. As well as the obvious benefits to health and fitness, sport has so much to offer, as you will hear from members of our fabulous community in this newsletter.



A Message From Mrs P Moore



I started playing netball at primary school and went on to have trials for a Netball Club. I continued playing throughout secondary school and sixth form, before joining an adult team. This year, I've joined a Back to Netball league, and I'm enjoying being back on court! My favourite positions are centre and wing attack.

That's one of the wonderful things about sport: it can remain part of your life long after you leave school. I want our students to experience the friendships, enjoyment and sense of belonging that come from representing Brownhills. Netball is a brilliant way to improve your fitness, enjoy competition and challenge yourself. Playing against strong, experienced teams pushes you to improve and teaches you to keep going when things are difficult. Whether you've played before or are completely new to the game, come along and be part of our school's sporting community.

This is such an exciting time to be Head of Sport at Brownhills. I can't wait to see you all getting involved!



Archie - Year 10 Rugby Player

I love rugby. So much of my life revolves around it, and I've met some of my best friends through playing. It feels like a release: once you're on the pitch, you can put everything into the game. I play for Walsall RFC, which has massively improved my skills, and anyone is welcome to get involved. Every team I've played in, at school or outside it, has had that sense of togetherness and fun. I love the contact, too! I'm really excited about where rugby at Brownhills is going, and I can't wait to wear the new kit.



Mr A Reed - Year 7 Rugby Coach

Sport has shaped my entire life. I've played four sports at a high level, made some of my closest friends and built a career around something I love. It has taught me about leadership and given me skills that I've used throughout my working life.

For me, rugby offers something particularly special. The resilience you develop as a team, the discipline it demands and the importance of handling both victory and defeat with grace are invaluable lessons. That's why our Year 7 rugby squad is so exciting. There is real quality and enormous potential in this group, and I'm looking forward to seeing them develop through future fixtures and competitions.

Freya - Year 9 Netballer

I love netball and the opportunities I've had through being on the team. The best part is working together: everyone has a job to do, and on court we really fight for each other. It brings us together, and I've made my best friends through sport and music.

Miss Chapman has been such an inspirational coach for me. She's helped me improve my defending so much, and now she's helping me become a better attacker by teaching me to drive into space to get the ball. It feels really good when something you've worked on in training comes together in a game.



Mrs J Mitchell - Year 10 Netball Coach

I'm still best friends with the girls I played netball with at school, which says so much about the lasting friendships sport can create. I also had the opportunity to go to Barbados on a netball tour which was an experience I'll never forget and would never have had without sport.

What I love about netball is the balance between individual and team responsibility. Everyone on court has to play their part for the team to succeed, and that creates a wonderful sense of togetherness. I'm so excited to be working with our amazing Year 10 team and helping them make their own memories through sport.



Mr N James - 2nd in PE

As the team manager of a local rugby club, it was incredibly inspiring to see the enthusiasm, commitment and passion shown by the boys who attended our school rugby club last Thursday. Their energy and eagerness to get involved highlighted the positive impact rugby can have on young people.

Rugby gives students an opportunity to challenge themselves, support one another and discover what they can achieve together. Every player has a contribution to make, and that brings a real sense of responsibility and belonging. It's exciting to see that enthusiasm at Brownhills, and I'm looking forward to watching our players develop their skills, confidence and pride in representing the academy.



William - Year 7 Rugby Player

I love sport, especially rugby! I really enjoy the contact, and I can't wait until we start playing full contact soon. Rugby helps me get fitter, but it also just makes me feel good. I'm always happy when I'm out on the sports field, playing and being part of a team. I'm really excited for our first matches at Brownhills. We've got a brilliant squad, and I want us to show other schools what we can do. It will be great to put all our practice into a proper match and work together to try to win.

Lacey - Year 9 Netballer

I love the competitive side of sport, especially netball. We all want to win, and working towards that together really brings us closer. When you're playing, you can forget about everything else and focus on what you need to do for your teammates.

"I also play football for Coventry, which has taught me so much about the power of sport. I want to push myself to play at the highest level I can. I can't wait for the new netball dresses, competitions and sports trips. There's so much to look forward to, and I think Brownhills is going to be an incredible school for sport."



Miss J Greenhough - Year 11 Netball Coach

Participating in sport from a young age has helped me develop my confidence and ability to work as team significantly. Sport gives you the mindset of resilience and hard work which can translate to all areas of life and work, and being in a team allowed me to work with a range of different people and personalities from a young age. Sport gives all students leadership and coaching opportunities, which has always helped me have confidence and the ability to communicate well. Sport has so many benefits and I would encourage every student to do at least one!



Mr J McGlynn - Deputy Headteacher

Playing sport from a young age gave me opportunities to visit different places, have fun and make friends for life. Some of my happiest memories are of playing school sport with my best friends: training together each week, competing against other schools and learning to support one another. We worked hard, enjoyed our successes and shared the disappointment of losing.

I was proud to represent my school in football, basketball, rugby, athletics and Gaelic football. Joining local clubs to continue playing football and Gaelic football helped me make new friends and strengthen friendships with classmates who joined alongside me.

At Brownhills, we deliberately provide opportunities to play sport every day because we want our students to experience those same benefits. Through sport, they can develop teamwork, leadership, discipline and resilience. We want them to aim high, compete with determination and treat teammates and opponents with respect, whatever the result.

Brownhills is a sports school, where we work hard and play hard. Whether students are experienced competitors or trying something for the first time, we want them to get involved, feel part of our community and be proud to represent their school.

Upcoming Competitions

As well as rugby, netball, basketball and rounders, we will also be competing in the following sports:

**Swimming - Badminton - Handball - Gymnastics - Football
Athletics - Table Tennis - Cricket - Gaelic Football**



Your Chance To Get Involved

You asked, we listened! In response to student voice, girls' football will take place on the arena every Monday lunchtime. Bring your trainers and join in!

We have also launched the BOA Park Run, giving every student the opportunity to be active, challenge themselves and have fun. Whether you're a regular runner, enjoy a steady jog, or prefer to walk and chat with friends, everyone is welcome.

There are plenty of other opportunities to get active, develop your skills and represent Team Brownhills:

Day	Lunch	After School
Monday	Girls Football (All Years) <i>The Arena</i>	Basketball (All Years) <i>Sports Hall</i>
	Basketball (All Years) <i>The Courtyard</i>	BOA Park Run (All Years) <i>Field</i>
Tuesday	Football (KS3) <i>The Arena</i>	
	Cheerleading (KS3) <i>Gym</i>	
	Basketball (All Years) <i>The Courtyard</i>	
Wednesday	Football (All Years) <i>The Arena</i>	
	Basketball (All Years) <i>The Courtyard</i>	
Thursday	Football (KS4) <i>The Arena</i>	Rugby (All Years) <i>Field</i>
	Cheerleading (KS4) <i>Gym</i>	Netball (All Years) <i>The Arena</i>
	Basketball (All Years) <i>The Courtyard</i>	
Friday	BOA Park Run (All Years) <i>Field</i>	
	Basketball (All Years) <i>The Courtyard</i>	

All sessions are free, and there's no need to sign up. Come along, bring your enthusiasm and be part of the team!

I am incredibly excited for this sporting journey we are on at Brownhills. We have the most superb team of coaches and sportspeople leading our young people and excellent young sports stars in the making. I firmly believe that success in sport and the arts has an enormous impact on success in all aspects of life. I cannot wait to see what we achieve together and I am looking forward to seeing you all at training this week, making it count.

With very best wishes,
Mr R T Doodson
 Headteacher

