

The 2012 London Olympic Games were the inspiration behind Edmondsley Primary School's Healthy School Project and it was this that enabled the school to win *The Journal's **Healthy School Award*** and School of the Year Award.

The Olympic Games was used to enhance learning in virtually every area of the curriculum during this year.

We very much wanted children to participate in as much high quality Physical Activity as possible during the year; we also wanted them to learn about the variety of sports available and to meet athletes who are currently aspiring towards their own Olympic Dream and the hard work that that entails.

Furthermore, we wanted the children to learn about other countries, cultures and values from around the world. In other words we wanted the children to experience as much as possible from our Olympic Work.

As a school we hoped to encourage children to strive to produce their best work at all times by rewarding children who produce individual pieces of outstanding work and those who work hard every day. So an Olympic Record Booklet was created for each child in the school.

The Booklet had five different categories, signified by the Olympic Rings. They have been used to represent the areas of Literacy, Numeracy, Foundation Subjects, Community and Physical Activity. Each child has to attain 5 awards in each area. When this was accomplished they were awarded a certificate. At the end of the school year those children who gained 5 certificates were awarded a Gold Medal, those who gained 4 certificates will be awarded a Silver Medal and those who gain 3 or less certificates will be awarded a Bronze Medal. In this way every child had something to work towards and was able achieve something worthwhile.

We launched Edmondsley's Olympic Project with a competition to design our own Olympic Logo. A design brief was agreed: it had to incorporate one of the Olympic Game's Logos, but also elements of Edmondsley Primary School itself. It was very difficult to choose a winner but eventually Charlotte's, from Year 6, was judged to have created a Logo that met all the required elements but was also original and stylish



When the project began Year 2 children, gave an assembly detailing to the school everything that was planned for the year. Each child researched a Olympic Gold Medal Athlete and created a Power Point presentation page that became part of the presentation shown at the assembly.

One of the most moving parts of the Power Point Presentation was a short film showing the achievements of those athletes who are disabled and the children in our school are very aware that the Olympic Games also include the Paralympic Games.



This is where we chose to begin our curriculum work. We asked our SSCo (School Sport Coordinator) Liaison teacher to come into school and coach each class in a Paralympic Sport. He, together with Olympic Bronze Ambassadors from our local secondary school, came into school each week and delivered a session on Volleyball. It was very successful and the teacher went onto coach children in other primary schools in the area. On Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May, Year 3 & 4 children represented the school in the Paralympic Sports Festival arranged for those children.



The children went on to discuss the Paralympic values with each other and their teacher and each class produced thought provoking work on the Paralympic Values of **determination, inspiration, courage and equality**.

We wanted children to be aware of the training, passion and desire that goes towards the making of an Olympic Gold Medallist. In March a Great Britain Athlete, Will Fletcher, who is a World Champion Rower, came into school and presented an assembly on his life as an athlete and his desire to one day participate in the Olympic Games. He brought his vast collection of medals and impressed the children enormously. Most importantly of all he impressed upon the children how hard he had to work, every day of his life, so that he could achieve his Olympic Dream.



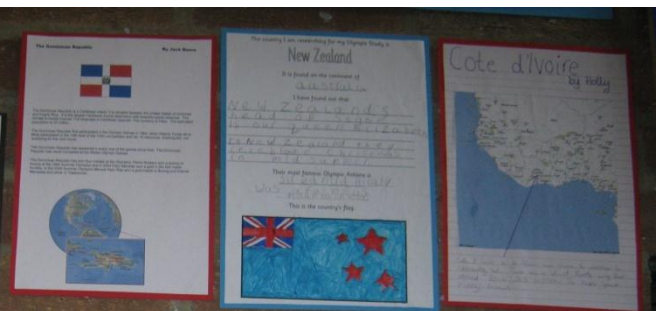
In June, another Great Britain Athlete, this time a Long Jumper visited the school to talk to the children about his life as an athlete and his hopes of being chosen to represent Great Britain at the London 2012 Olympic Games. He will also spent some time coaching our Key Stage 2 children.

In March we held our annual Decorated Easter Egg Competition, which we hold to raised money to sponsor the education of an Ethiopian boy. We had a special Olympiegg category.





We wanted to involve our whole school community in our Olympic Project and one of the ways we chose to do this was to ask them to get involved in the work the children do. Over the Easter holidays the children were each given a participating country to research. The results were amazing and the quality of the work was outstanding. The work was been displayed on our World Wall and as part of our large Olympic Display Wall in the Hall.





It was also important that the children worked on the Olympic Games as part of the curriculum and one example of this was a Year 2 project, carried out as part of a Literacy unit on Information Text. The children researched information using the Internet and downloaded pictures to use on posters about The Olympic Games. The posters inform the reader about the history of the Games, the athletes, the opening ceremonies that have taken place over the years and famous athletes.

As May arrived we felt it was time to work on the values of the Olympic Games themselves. ***Excellence, Friendship & Respect.*** During curriculum time the children produced work using ICT, Literacy & Art. But, once again it was the discussion the children had together about those values and what they stand for that proved valuable.

Our Olympic Project continued until the end of the academic year. We held a Mexico Day in June. Mexico is the country that Edmondsley Primary School followed in the run up to the Games. During that day the children will researched many aspects of that country, including its food and athletes. The

Key Stage 1 children and teachers dressed up as Mexicans and a dance teacher will be teaching the children the Salsa.

Year 5 & 6 children also took part in a scheme called RoboSport inspired by the Olympic Games. Engineers worked with the children to help them design and produce a sports robot.

Our Nursery School children were keen participants in the Olympic Project and have used the Union Flag and Olympic Rings to inspire their art work.



At the end of term we held an exhibition to show the parents of our children all the work the children have done on the Olympic Games. We also held a special Celebration Assembly when parents whose children achieved a Gold Medal during the Olympic Project were invited to watch their child receive that medal. ***The Olympic Project*** enabled us to thoroughly embed the already established ethos of our school. The health, happiness and fulfilment of our children have been enhanced through everything the **Project** has enabled us to do.

Now we hope to build on the achievements of **The Olympic Project** in the future. We intend to continue all of the successful projects that we have begun, including *Change4Life*, *A Chance to Shine*, and having visitors into school that will inspire the children to greater things.