



Meldrum Network Cricket Festival

Pupils from 5 Meldrum network schools came together for a “Kwik Cricket” festival, hosted at the Methlick Cricket Club grounds on Friday 27th May 2011. The rainy weather thankfully stayed away that morning and this allowed all pupils and teachers to enjoy a morning of cricket games in a festival atmosphere.

The schools opted in to the cricket programme, which meant that their P6 classes (P4-7 in small schools) received 4 weeks of cricket training to develop their skills before the big day. The coaching was provided by volunteers from Methlick Cricket Club and Gordonians Cricket Club.

The schools involved were Old Rayne, Rayne North, Pitmedden, Udney Green and Methlick Schools. Barthol Chapel and Tarves Schools were also involved in the coaching but unfortunately could not make the festival. Each school now has a member of staff who is trained to deliver cricket and the schools involved will have an equipment bag to keep at the school. This allows the coaching to continue within schools now that the block of coaching is ended.

The pupils showed a marked improvement in the skills over the 4 weeks of coached sessions. Their behaviour at the festival was commendable; the pupils showed respect for the umpires and their opposing team. The winning team, based on behaviour, games won and points scored, was Rayne North School. They will travel to Aberdeen to take part in the Aberdeen City and Shire tournament held at Monnofield on the 8th June.

The aim of the taster sessions, organised by Meldrum Active Schools Coordinator, Erica Jones, is to generate interest in the sport. The pupils involved are encouraged to join the after school club sessions, held at Methlick Cricket Club Grounds on a Tuesday evening, from 6.30 – 8pm. The club is open to all P4-7 pupils. If you would like more information on this or any other activity in your area please email Erica.jones@aberdeenshire.gov.uk or call 07917267222.