



BANCHORY PRIMARIES INTER-SCHOOLS ORIENTEERING FESTIVAL

Over 140 primary school children from Banchory Primary School, Hill of Banchory, Durris and Strachan enjoyed a festival of orienteering at Crathes on Wednesday 18 June 2008, thanks to the combined efforts of Mar Orienteering Club, Grampian Orienteers, and Aberdeenshire Active Schools. The festival was the culmination of an orienteering project organised by Active Schools Coordinator, Kate Robertson.

Active Schools gave each class a number of introductory sessions within the school grounds, then the class teachers did further lessons to practise techniques. The Festival comprised a “Score” event, in which participants visit as many controls as possible in a fixed time. In pairs, the children had 45 minutes to choose their route and find their way to their chosen controls. Scores were carefully calculated so the larger schools didn’t have any advantage, and eventually Banchory Primary School emerged as the winning school, despite the first and second placed pairs being from Strachan School.

The trophy, kindly donated by Mar Orienteering Club and the Deeside Trophy Centre in Banchory, was presented to the winning school by Kate Robertson.

Kate Robertson said she hopes that the pupils who have taken part in this project will encourage their families to also try orienteering and take part in the various community events happening across Aberdeenshire this summer.

