

## **Aberdeenshire Primary Quaich 2009 Report & Results.**

The Aberdeenshire heat of the National Primary Schools Badminton Quaich competition took place at Portlethen Academy on Saturday 17 February. Over 70 children representing 5 schools, Arduthie, Dunnottar, Mill O' Forest, all Stonehaven, and Milltimber, Peterculter and newcomers Newburgh Mathers made up the eight teams that would compete for the privilege of representing the North East at the National Finals to be held in Wishaw on 21 February, 2008. As always the spectators were treated to some fantastic performances from all of the children involved. The format of the day meant that after the eight teams competed in two pools of four, the top two teams from each pool would occupy the four semi-final places while the bottom 2 teams would play off to decide final placings. This format allowed all teams to be involved for the duration of the competition ensuring continued entertainment at all levels. Relative newcomers, Newburgh Mathers, impressed everyone with their enthusiasm and sportsmanship and we hope this will be the first of many tournaments for them. They were joined in the bottom section by Arduthie 2, Dunnottar and Mill O' Forest 2. Some very close encounters ensued with great determination and enjoyment being the order of the day. The two semi-finals saw Arduthie against local rivals Mill O' Forest and similarly close neighbours Milltimber played Peterculter. The children all showed great skill and determination with Mill O' Forest and Milltimber earning their place in the final and what a final it was. A very close first match, boys singles, between Mark Leith and Ross Powell saw Mark under pressure all the way but eventual winner 15-12, to take the lead for Mill O'Forest. Age and experience in the girl's singles saw Kaitlin Andrew defeat Milltimbers' Kiera Dalton 15 – 7, but only after some very close and exciting rallies. The boy's doubles between Milltimbers Rowen Mackie & Steaphan Connell and Mill O' Forest's Cameron Pyper & Matthew Duguid once again entertained the spectators however the Mill O' forest duo proved too strong winning 15-5. The following matches, girls doubles between Milltimber's Jess Quantrill & Nicole Robertson and Mill O' Forest's Eilidh Craigen & Holly Thomson and mixed doubles between Milltimber's Emma Cliffe & Jamie Donnachie and Mill O' Forest's Mollie McVey & Jack Murray were both very closely contested with superb displays of skill and teamwork. Milltimber were victors in both matches, 15-10 and 15-13 respectively but the Mill O' Forest team had done enough to lift the title for the third year in a row winning the tie 3-2. Thanks and appreciation as always must go to the many coaches, parents and most importantly the children who made the tournament once again a great success.

Thanks to Annette Leith for taking some excellent photos of the competing teams. A complimentary framed copy of each school team will be sent to each school with an order form should any parents/guardians or children wish to order their own copy.