

Primary school sport and physical activity programmes

2010 / 2011

Three primary school sport and physical activity programmes were delivered in the 2010 / 2011 academic year.

SPORTSHALL Athletics

30 schools participated on the project in winter 2010 and approximately 2,700 pupils benefited.

Of the 30 participating, 23 schools participated in an inter schools activity in January / February 2011. The feedback from schools was very positive - this is evidenced by the fact that a number now plan to purchase their own equipment stock and deliver the programme themselves.

The SPORTSHALL Athletics programme is also being delivered in other cities and counties through the intervention of FAST Kids entrepreneur, James Nolan.

World Marathon Relay Challenge

Following an invitation from the Amateur Athletics Association in the UK as a result of our work in delivering SPORTSHALL Athletics and similar programme based on the SPORTSHALL Athletics concept, Offaly Sports Partnership were invited to enter a team in the World Marathon Relay Challenge, known as the Internacional Maratón Simultáneo at the time.

The marathon relay is a shared running of a marathon by teams of 32 children in remote locations, changing a baton after every 200m. In the course of the run each team is trying to record a faster time than their competitors on the day. They also set themselves a target time to beat such as a world record, a national record or a local record.

25 primary schools had children participate in this child friendly project from which 80 primary school pupils were chosen to represent Offaly (and Ireland) in the international event which was being staged in a number of locations in Canada, the UK and Spain.

All Ireland SPORTSHALL Athletics

As a follow on to the various SPORTSHALL Athletics programmes being delivered countrywide, and following discussions with the Athletics Ireland and other sports partnerships, the inaugural All Ireland SPORTSHALL Athletics Festival was held in March. Seven counties and 343 pupils participated on the programme in Athlone Institute of Technology.

In support of the delivery of this programme, 30 students from Athlone IT were trained to assist in the delivery of the All Ireland SPORTSHALL Athletics Festival