Netball - Year 5/6 Stingers 5 a side tournament January 2026

On Tuesday 20th January, the Year 5/6 netball team travelled by minibus to Park House for the annual 5 a side netball tournament. This tournament features versatility with all players rotating positions following a strict schedule every half match. In this way all experience a game situation playing in a different, maybe unfamiliar position - so all shoot, all defend and all play midcourt.

There were 12 schools and Brightwalton were placed in the mini league of 4 mostly small to medium sized schools. We played Burghclere, Robert Sandilands and Hermitage A.

First match was against Burghclere. We started fast and accurately and scored 2 goals. This took the opposition by surprise as we continued to move the ball seamlessly around the court. Shooting was difficult in windy conditions, but we battled extremely well to ensure they did not score. At half time we rotated positions and whilst Burghclere improved, we rose to the challenge and the match finished 2-0.

The second match was against Robert Sandilands (B team?) and we dominated play over both rotations with all our players enjoying their new positions. The match finished 4-0 to us. The wind again played a part as our shots drifted wide, however it didn't matter as we already had a good lead.

The final match was against our local rivals Hermitage A. We knew that this would be for the gold medal to top our league. Spurred on, all players were totally focussed and committed. It was very close, but we took the lead early on. The play went from end to end as both teams gained and lost possession, but they scored so 1-1. After half time and our next rotation, we held on and due to our amazing defensive play we retained a draw.

The results went to goal difference, and we were delighted to hear we won our league – so gold medals all round. An excellent afternoon of netball and all players showed huge levels of commitment and determination, which was well rewarded.

Many thanks to my helpers Mrs Reeves and Mrs O'Meara and to the parents for picking up late.

Mrs Banks
For Brightwalton Sport.