Sports' Report
Year 4 Girls - Neon Netball festival - Thorngrove School - 23rd January, 2026

This was our first occasion at the Neon Netball Festival – kindly hosted by Thorngrove School. Especially for Year 3/4 girls, this was a fun afternoon of netball. It was a Neon theme, so all were dressed in netball kit, plus hot pink socks and scrunchies. The hairdressers had been busy with all hair neatly plaited. Out team were given cheerleading pom poms and face painted. An excellent start to the afternoon.

It was a round robin event and we had 6 matches against 3 other schools. Matches were quick 4 a side games and played across the netball court, with all girls allowed to play anywhere – so no set positions. As a festival of fun, no scores were taken and the Thorngrove coaches offered coaching points throughout the games. This was a great experience for those new to netball matches.

First match v one of the Falkland teams. The 4 girls got stuck in straight away and passed the ball around the court and headed towards their goal. We were very impressed as goal after goal went in, thanks to some excellent shooting – 3-0 to us. Next was Hungerford and a closer game. However, we rose to the challenge and again accurate passing and shooting ensured another win, 2-1. Here our defence was strong to ensure we kept possession and held on to win.
Following this we played another Falkland team, Hermitage and another Hungerford team. We won all three, 3-1, 4-1 and 4-1, maintaining our unbeaten run. Goals came from all girls, who now had their eye-in and passing and defence were going well. Finally, we played another Hermitage team and as tiredness crept in passes went astray and tight marking was less evident. It ended with a 3-0 loss.

So, Neon medals all round and a hearty match tea, plus delicious refreshments for the parents. All girls were tired but delighted to play so well at their first tournament. As coaches we were very impressed with their play and it gave us an idea of how we match up against other Year 4s. Areas to work on, but a very successful afternoon of netball.

Thanks to Mrs Reeves who was there to help and the parents for their support.
Mrs Banks
For Brightwalton Sport.