

# Torrington Aquathlon 2017



Southmead beat 15 other schools to take 3<sup>rd</sup> place in regional Aquathlon!

On Thursday 15th June almost 400 primary school children from 18 schools across the region took part in the Aquathlon held at Torrington swimming pool and football club. Southmead performed brilliantly, claiming team bronze, silver, and gold in different team races, while two children earned medals (bronze and gold) for their individual times.



At this event the children first swam between 75m (Year 3) and 200m (Year 6) in the pool, before running laps around the football club pitch, with the Year 5s and 6s adding a run around the Torrington 'Commons Course' (c.1230m) as well. The children in each race were split into different 'waves', so rather than competing against other children just in front or behind them, each child had to put in their very best time, as they were really racing against the times set by the other children across all waves in their race.



All the Southmead children tried their utmost as individuals (results are posted below), with Ellie Bradford (Year 3), Honey Cotton (Year 4), Henry Jones and Grace Parkin (Year 5), and Marisa Poole (Year 6) all securing first place in their wave. Four more children came in second-in-wave: Bence Radnoti and Poppy Williams (Year 4), Harry Hebbard and Macy Nicholls (Year 5). As well as first-in-wave, Honey's individual time (just 13 seconds behind the winner from Kingsacre) also earned her Bronze in the Year 4 girl's race. For Year 6, Marisa was 20 seconds ahead of the next fastest girl in her race, earning her a second individual 2017 Aquathlon Gold.



Southmead also achieved tremendously well as a team in the schools competition, with top-three positions for four out of our seven competing teams ... as well as an incredibly close 4<sup>th</sup> ... the top four Year 3 girls (Ellie Bradford, Isabel Hebard, Isla Nicholls, and Darcey Thomas) got a combined rank score of 60 points, just beaten into 4<sup>th</sup> place by Caen, on 59 points!

In turn, and with a combined rank score of 66, the top four girls from Year 5 (Grace Parkin, Macy Nicholls, Anais Oosthuysen, and Isabel Dobrowski) narrowly beat Sticklepath (on 67), to claim a brilliant Bronze. Maintaining their podium positions from the Ilfracombe Aquathlon, the top four boys from Year 3 (Reuben Rodwell, Tommy Ashton, Jago Beardshall, and Corey Hughes) and the top four girls from Year 6 (Marisa Poole, Lilian Clopet, Lexi Gerrard, and Molly Ogden) won a splendid second 2017 team Silver. But the top four boys from Year 5 (Henry Jones, Harry Hebard, Ed Cork, and Reuben Jones) all came in within the top twenty for their race, with Henry and Harry both in the top 10. As a result the team went on from their Silver at Ilfracombe to claim an outstanding team Gold at Torrington!



With brilliant times for individuals and teams across the board, Southmead once again secured an Aquathlon podium finish, claiming our second Bronze for the year. This was all down to the training, effort, encouragement, and team work put in by all members of the Southmead squad, so congratulations and a big well done to everybody who took part! 😊



Mrs Darby and I were supported by a tremendously helpful group of parents and we would like to thank all those who came along and helped our team participate on this large site, keeping them safe among all of the other competitors and adults: we really appreciated your cheerful help! A huge thank you to Sarah Nicholls, Jackie Guthrie, Jo Doré, Helen Speedy-Jones, and Lucy Jones. We couldn't do it without you!

Mr. Corney.

