



**THE
OUTDOOR
CLASSROOM**

IMPACT REPORT ACADEMIC YEAR 22/23

OUR YEAR IN OUTDOOR LEARNING

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



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SUMMARY

Since launching **The Outdoor Classroom** in September 2019, we have overcome many challenges and obstacles, not least starting out just as a global pandemic was unfolding. In March 2020, UK schools closed which put a complete pause on our work and development. We were able to resume in September 2020, almost a year behind where we had hoped to be. Since returning we have made some **great progress** which has made 2022/23 our busiest and **most active academic year yet!**

During this year we have increased our membership, improved our network of SSPs, SGOs & Club contacts to have a wider reach across the UK. We have also seen a **massive increase in activity data** logged on the system and lots of new and creative ways schools are using **The Outdoor Classroom** to take a wide variety of subjects and topics outside of the classroom.

LISTENING TO FEEDBACK FROM OUR CUSTOMERS WE HAVE STARTED CREATING A PUBLIC LIBRARY FILLED WITH LESSON IDEAS CREATED BY A TEAM OF TEACHERS TO GIVE OUR SCHOOLS QUALITY CONTENT AND A HEAD START WITH SOME INSPIRATION ON HOW TO TAKE LEARNING OUTSIDE.

Our original system also started to show its age with elements becoming slow and outdated so we made the decision to **redo our entire platform** from scratch and build a new web app to make everything available on all devices, not just iPads.

This new system has **improved the customer experience** and usability which has encouraged teachers to make more use of it in their everyday teaching. It is also more beginner friendly with **prompts and an intuitive layout** to support anyone using it.

After successfully piloting a virtual league in Havering, with the support of **British Orienteering** and **The British Schools Orienteering Association**, in the Spring we delivered our first nationwide competition, **The Big League**.

The Big League had a fantastic response with lots of new schools signing up for a free trial in order to participate. The competition format meant that all schools, regardless of location, size of grounds or ability of pupils were able to take part, making it **a highly inclusive and an exciting competition**. In the final week of the competition we saw our **highest single day of activities** with 213km being logged in one day.

For us, the best way to measure our impact is by monitoring the **activity data** and sessions logged on our system.

OUR AIM IS TO FOLLOW AND EXCEED THE GOVERNMENT TARGETS FOR ACTIVE LEARNING BY ENCOURAGING SCHOOLS TO TAKE A PORTION OF ALL THEIR NORMAL LESSONS OUTSIDE OF THE CLASSROOM.

This level of activity is the **minimum pupils should receive** in order to enjoy a healthy and active education and we are very proud of our work and role in supporting pupils to lead healthier lives.

This is just the beginning of our journey and we have many more exciting new partnerships, developments, and features in the pipeline to keep pushing the boundaries of outdoor education and **breaking down barriers to an active education**.

ACTIVITY DATA SUMMARY

Throughout the academic year 2022-23 we saw a significant increase in physical activity in our schools using The Outdoor Classroom. Below is a summary of the data recorded, see how this compares to previous years in our annual comparison data table.

| **3058**

**SESSIONS
COMPLETED**

| **89.7**

**DAYS OF
ACTIVITY**

| **5098**

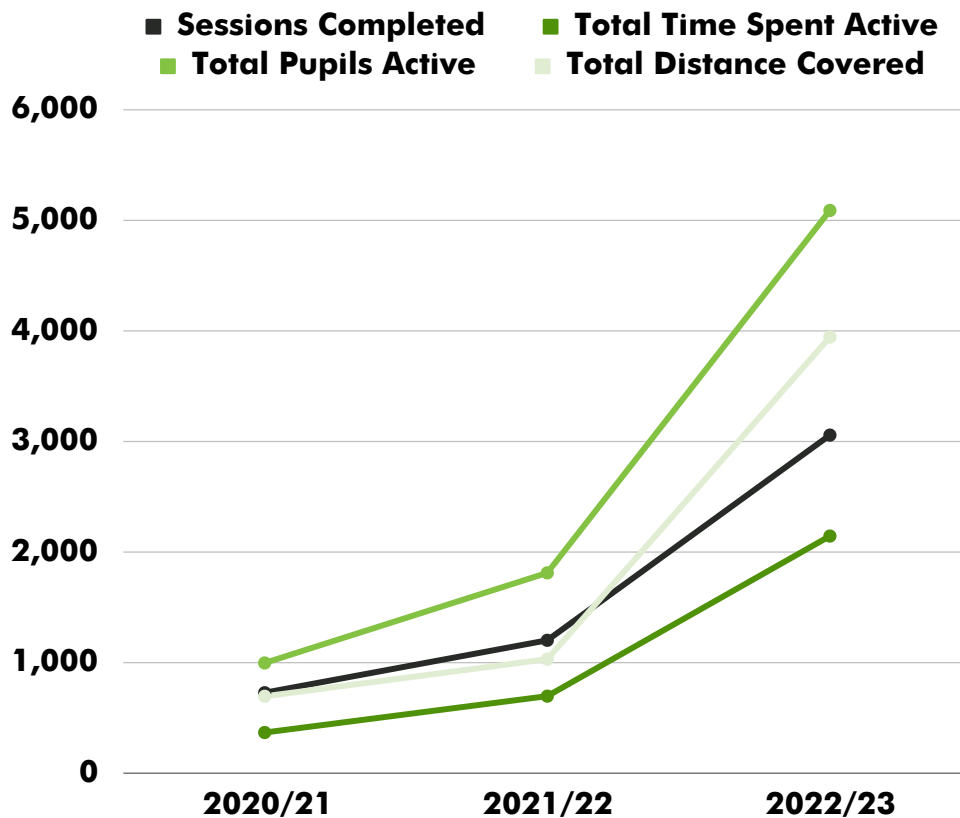
**PUPILS
ACTIVE**

| **3945**

**KILOMETRES
TRAVELLED**

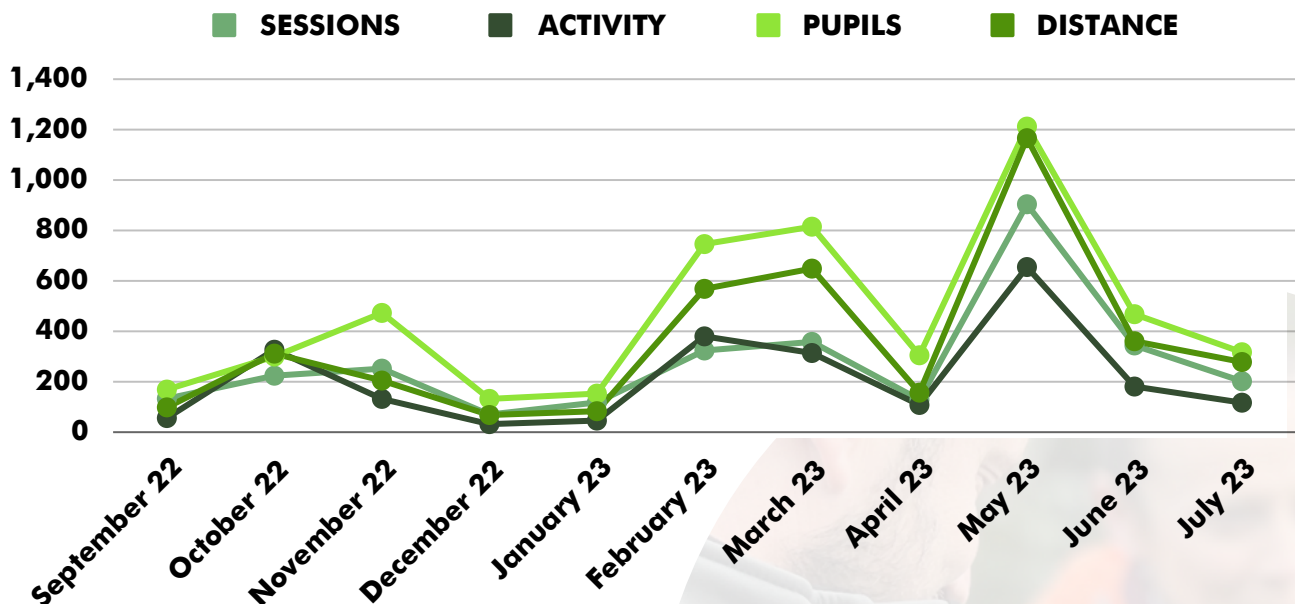
ANNUAL COMPARISON

	2022/23	2021/22	2020/21
Total sessions completed	3058	1202	728
Total time spent active	89d 9h 22m 56s	29d 1h 26m 52s	15d 8h 52m 44s
Total pupils active	5090	1812	997
Total distance covered	3944.99	1031.04	695.64



MONTHLY BREAKDOWN

	Sessions	Activity	Pupils	Distance
September 22	133	2d 8h 25m 20s	169	98.4
October 22	224	5d 20h 22m 25s	300	311.55
November 22	252	5d 12h 25m 26s	473	204.71
December 22	70	1d 8h 43m 14s	132	68.06
January 23	118	1d 22h 1m 10s	153	83.19
February 23	324	15d 20h 18m	746	568.44
March 23	358	13d 2h 27m	815	648.72
April 23	129	4d 12h 42m 30s	305	156.85
May 23	904	27d 7h 38m 14s	1212	1166.06
June 23	344	7d 13h 11m 25s	468	360.74
July 23	202	4d 21h 5m 54s	317	278.27



DATA HIGHLIGHTS

MOST ACTIVE DAY

Furthest distance travelled in one day (24/05)	231km
Most pupils active in one day (24/05)	314
Most sessions in one day (24/05)	156
Most time spent in one day (24/05)	6d 18h 16m

TEACHER TRAINING

New Orienteering courses created	1144
Teachers trained	762

CROSS CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Private media questions created	7329
Public media questions created	925
Media question answers provided	15797
Subjects/topics taught	78

WHOLE SCHOOL LEARNING

TEACHER TRAINING

The Outdoor Classroom was designed to support schools to take all their learning outdoors and specifically, give pupils a much more active education. But why should children have all the fun? Teachers need at least 30 hrs of CPD per year to meet the government guidelines but, because of **time, travel and budgetary constraints** this is seemingly more difficult.

With **The Outdoor Classroom**, teacher training can be customised, active and delivered at a time and day to suit individual staff. This year we have seen nearly **800 teachers using The Outdoor Classroom** for CPD, not just to learn how to use our system but for other subjects and themes too.

TEACHING STEM SUBJECTS

In the academic year 22/23, 689 Maths lessons were taught using **The Outdoor Classroom**, making it the most-taught subject for the year. Science also ranked as the third most-taught subject with 232 lessons being taught outdoors.

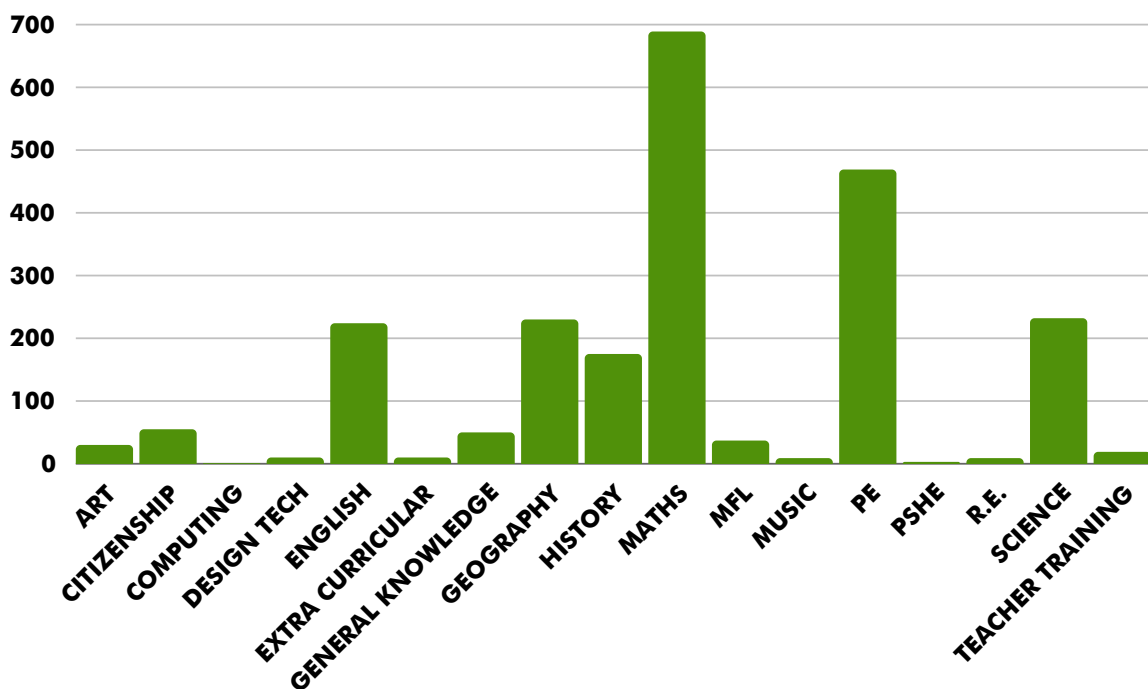
The data reporting shows significant increases in **STEM subjects** being taught in an outdoor setting. A large majority of the courses created for STEM subjects were used for **Formative Assessments** at the end of modules which helped gain a great understanding of pupils' attainment.

Additionally, we've seen our member schools utilising the changing weather to further pupils' understanding when teaching Science topics, from looking at how different temperatures affect the human body to studying parts of a flower.

POPULAR SUBJECTS

78 unique subjects or topics have been delivered using **The Outdoor Classroom**. Maths pulled way ahead with 689 lessons being taught through the app. Other lessons created included interesting topics such as **Women's History Month** and **Anti-Bullying Week!**

1	MATHS	689
2	P.E	469
3	SCIENCE	232
4	GEOGRAPHY	230
5	ENGLISH	224



SPOTLIGHT SESSIONS

BRINGING SPORT TO ALL SUBJECTS

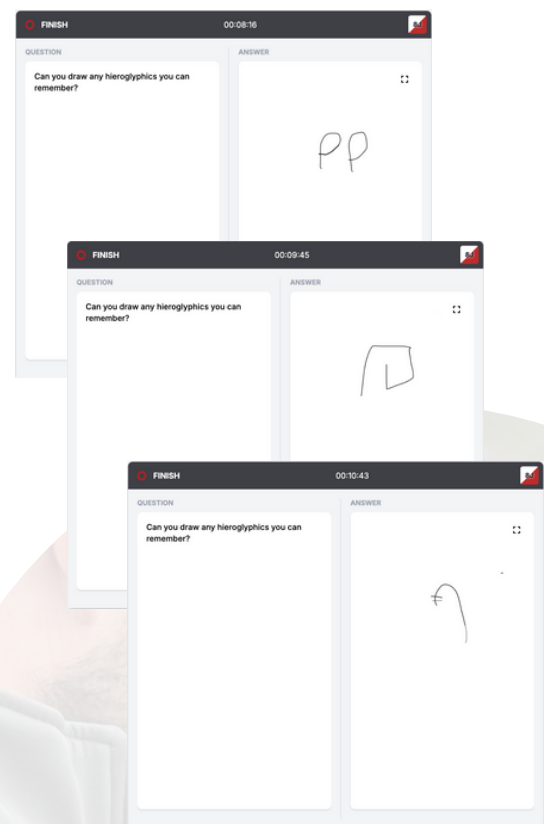
The **Outdoor Classroom** has helped to make so many subjects active, and help children to keep up their physical activity in small pockets of time that **would otherwise be spent sitting**.

Full lessons don't need to be taught with the app if tasks require closer teacher supervision. Even for a short 10 minute session during a lesson, pupils are able to **continue their learning outdoors**, being active and refreshing ready to return to the classroom.

ANCIENT EGYPT

Clapham Terrace Primary School created a series of courses for Year 3 and Year 4 for **Formative Assessment** during their Ancient Egypt module in History. One of these courses utilised the drawing response feature, asking pupils to **draw a hieroglyph** they could recall from previous lessons.

This is such an excellent example of creative ways the app can be used to review learning and **assess attainment**. Additionally, the course ran for a 10 minute period, during which each pupil travelled 0.4km minimum. A wonderful contribution to daily activity!



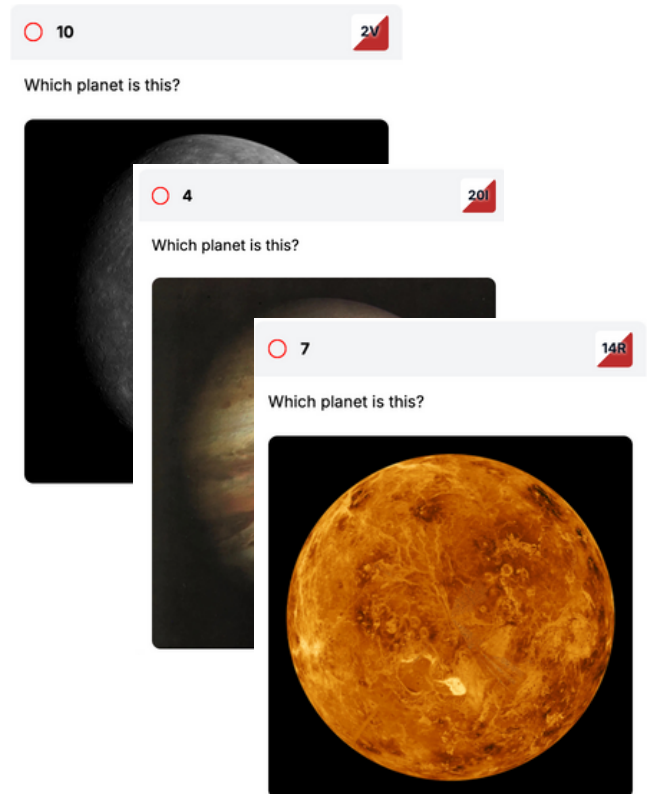
SPOTLIGHT SESSIONS

SCIENCE AND SPACE

Teachers at **Treales CE Primary School** planned a series lessons on the topic of **Space** for their Year 5 and Year 6 Science lessons using the app.

Challenges ranged from describing elements of our solar system to **identifying different planets** from visual prompts.

Creating **multiple courses for one topic** like this are excellent ways to offer differentiated challenges to pupils of different attainment levels, for example in mixed year group classes.



ASSEMBLIES

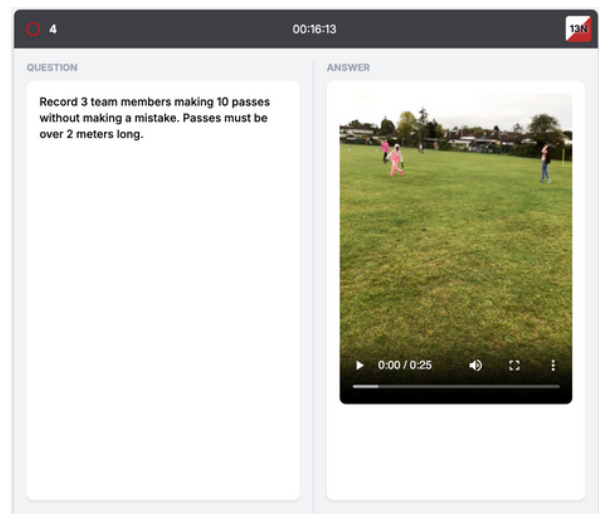
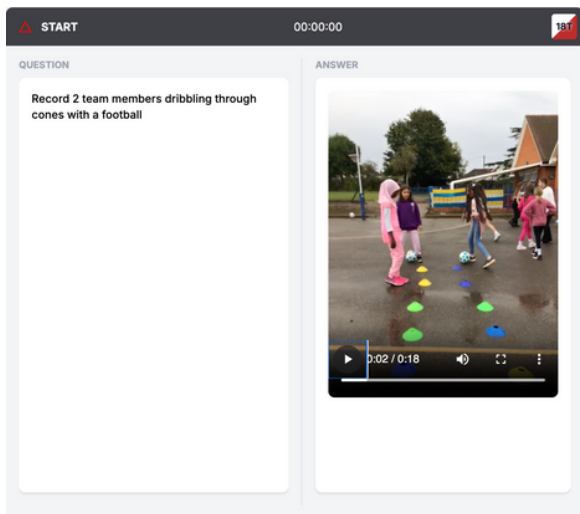
Woodlawn School used **The Outdoor Classroom** to deliver an assembly on Internet Safety to Year 8 and Year 9. This is the first time we'd seen an interactive assembly, and **we loved the breakaway** from the traditional sitting in silence to a lecture format!

SPOTLIGHT SESSIONS

GIRLS FOOTBALL

We were delighted to see **Harold Court Primary School's** plethora of Football courses both for P.E. lessons and for their Football Club. Thanks to **the success of The Lionesses**, there's a huge push on Girls Football finally being seen in schools. So to see **The Outdoor Classroom** being used to bolster this is brilliant.

The courses use a mixture of text, type and **video content with excellent modelling** of teachers exhibiting how to do warm ups in videos. Pupils equally film their teams in response to challenges like making accurate passes and dribbling.

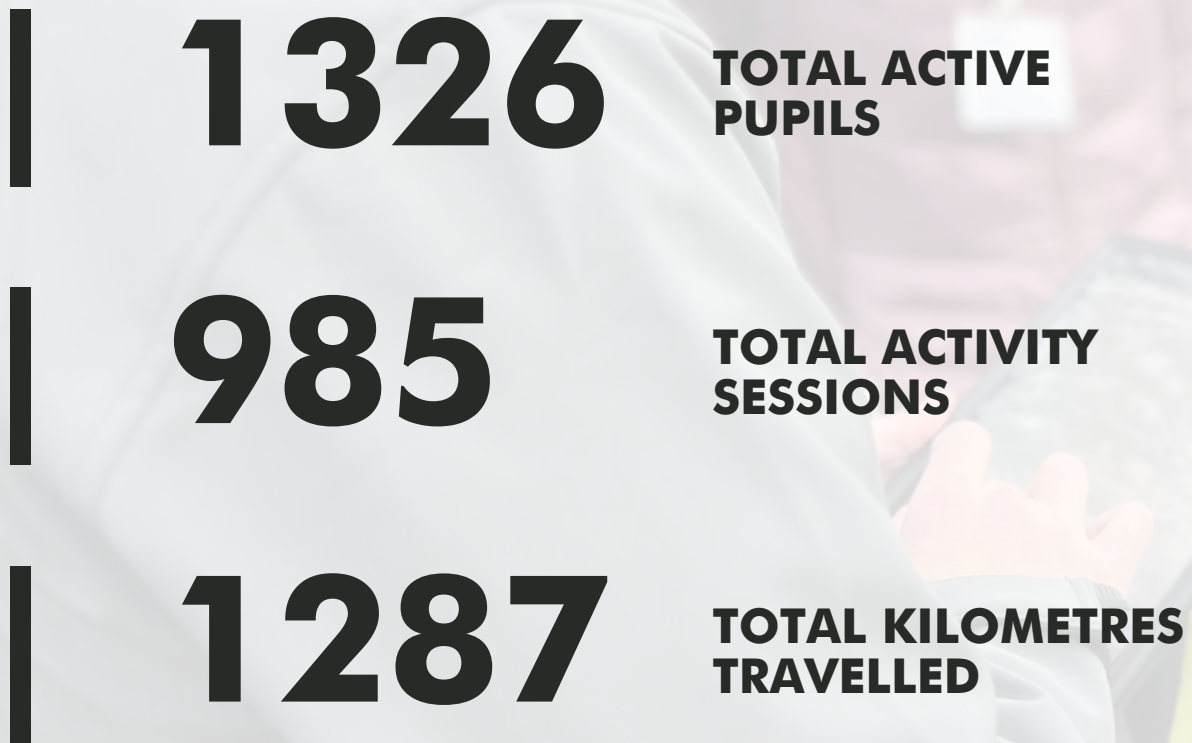


THE BIG LEAGUE

The Big League is our national competition between schools to increase pupils' physical activity and promote positive health and well-being, all while learning. The Big League 2023 ran in the Summer Term, in partnership with **British Orienteering** and **The British Schools Orienteering Association**.

For The Big League 2023 we were very fortunate to have the two most prominent bodies in UK Orienteering sponsor the league and provide us with some fabulous prizes for our schools. The British Schools Orienteering Association **generously donated the overall trophy** which will be engraved with the winning schools details each year as well as free entry to their national championships.

The NGB, British Orienteering provided a **signed GB kit** and an awe inspiring video message from **world champion Megan Carter-Davies**. Below are some highlights of the data recorded during The Big League.



THE BIG LEAGUE RESULTS

Every school account has a private **Leaderboards Page** where results from Orienteering activities or Cross Country Competitions can be viewed and recorded. During The Big League, **live results** are also displayed so schools can track their progress throughout the competition. Below are the final results.

1	SPRINGWELL SCHOOL	496
2	HALLSVILLE PRIMARY SCHOOL	489
3	INGLEWOOD JUNIOR SCHOOL	489
4	HAROLD COURT PRIMARY SCHOOL	484
5	HOLY TRINITY C OF E PRIMARY	480

DISTANCE COVERED

1	Springwell School	561.88 Km
2	Hallsville Primary School	190.11 Km
3	Inglewood Junior School	139.02 Km
4	Harold Court Primary School	121.05 Km
5	Holy Trinity C of E Primary School	37.47 Km

ACTIVITY TIME

1	Springwell School	12d 1h 14m
2	Inglewood Junior School	3d 22h 41m
3	Hallsville Primary School	3d 12h 24m
4	Harold Court Primary School	3d 8h 54m
5	Nelmes Primary School	1d 8h 37m

PUPIL PARTICIPATION

1	Springwell School	63%
2	Inglewood Junior School	59%
3	Harold Court Primary School	42%
4	Hallsville Primary School	34%
4	Woodlands Great Warley	34%

SESSIONS

1	Springwell School	270
2	Hallsville Primary School	259
3	Holy Trinity C of E Primary School	75
4	Inglewood Junior School	68
5	Harold Court Primary School	60

FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS

SYSTEM REBUILD

This year **we have rebuilt our entire system** from the ground up, deploying brand-new technologies to make everything faster and more efficient. This has enabled us to introduce new features such as **a new course planner** module with intuitive design and functionality, and an improved review system to save teachers time after the session.

We have also **redesigned our media libraries** with easier navigation and clearer identification of content.

We're excited to announce that as of 2024, **a free version** of The Outdoor Classroom will be available to all UK schools to increase physical activity!

PARTNERSHIP WITH BRITISH ORIENTEERING

Thanks to The Outdoor Classroom **creating new and innovative opportunities for orienteering** to reach a wider audience, British Orienteering have agreed to work alongside us in partnership to share resources and jointly deliver their **Find Your Way Project** to continue to grow participation in the sport.

We are delighted and honoured to be recognised in this way for the work that we are doing and we are excited to move into 2024 with lots of new projects on the cards.



A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

I've been delighted to watch the progress our member schools have made over the academic year, and to see even more schools coming on board this year than the last. With this year's newest academic requirements, the needs of learners and the way they are able to absorb information is changing and we are starting to see a positive shift in how education and sports is being delivered more inclusively.

Further plans and initiatives like the Get Active Strategy and OSF Funding have really been able to drive home the importance of sport as a part of a young person's development, and it's really exciting to see that recognition and responses to the calls for more opportunities for our young people.

The Big League is an incredible example of this. The 2023 league was our first of its kind, and although we'd tested the software rigorously, we were still unsure how strong the response would be. I couldn't have imagined the response that we got! We had schools signing up for our free trial specifically to take part, some of our member schools absolutely obliterated their PB scores during the league and took so many of their lessons outside I could hardly believe the numbers at first.

A particular highlight for me was when I got to present the prizes to the winners, Springwell School in West London. A whole assembly was dedicated to their immense efforts with all staff and governors in attendance. It was such a privilege to congratulate the pupils myself. On the big screen the pupils saw a live-track of our GB team athletes competing at the World Champs in Switzerland. Then, as a special prize for the school, GB athlete, Megan Carter-Davies had recorded a personal video message of congratulations for the school and the wide-eyed look of awe and inspiration on the faces of the crowd was a very special moment and one I will remember for a long time to come.

It's been a truly groundbreaking year, and I'm very excited to see what comes next.

Josh Jenner

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