

Flourish Football Foundation

It was Mrs. Butterworth and Mrs. Aulsberry who formed the first after school football club for the Infants driven by their passion and knowledge of the beautiful game. Our first register in September 2017 had the names of thirteen children attending. Today, that number has risen to eighty, an increase of 615%.

Weekly Coaching Schedule:

Monday	year 5 & 6 combined
Tuesday	year 3 & 4 combined
Wednesday	year 1 & 2 combined
Thursday	year 2 & 3 combined (Lunsford)
Friday	year 1 & 2 combined (advanced squad)

Our coaching philosophy is based around the England DNA and the FA Four Corner Model. Every session is planned to ensure 70% ball rolling with individual and team challenges set to test the players ability to problem solve. Decision making forms a critical part of the practice, focussing on game related drills that incorporate the three principles of play: in possession, out of possession and transition. Preparation and detail are key to providing a session that is adapted for both age group and ability with the emphasis on player development.

The idea for an advanced squad from year 1 & 2 was fashioned by Mrs. Butterworth, Mrs. Aulsberry and Miss Smith who came up with the inspirational conception to coach the children during Golden Time on a Friday afternoon. This select group of players demonstrate a progressive knowledge and excellent game understanding.

We are always looking for ways to improve the Flourish Football Foundation, hence our decision to invite guest coaches to attend the school. There are two major benefits: firstly the children have the opportunity to learn from 'A' licence coaches and secondly, we can raise the profile of the school. To date Richard Brady from the English FA has been on site twice. Lee Suter from the Kent FA is due to make his second visit when he films the year 3 & 4 session on the 13 March.

The day before, Steve Butler (former Premiership Leicester City first team coach. Gillingham FC first team coach. Maidstone United, Gillingham FC, Watford FC striker) will put on a session for year 5 & 6.

Damian Matthew (former Charlton FC first team coach. Chelsea FC Foundation Head Coach. Crystal Palace midfielder. Celtic FC official scout. Now first team coach at Southend FC) will be attending a meeting in school today to discuss ways we can develop our football strategy for the future.

We are also currently in discussions involving district football representation and have met with Tony Birchard (Maidstone United FC Academy) to investigate the possibility of a combined community program to potentially open a pathway to showcase our players. In addition, we have agreed to discuss again a possible collaboration with K-Sports having spoken with Kris Browning (First Team Manager) and Graham Martin (former Maidstone United first team manager).

Mickey Hazard (former Spurs midfielder) emailed last Sunday complimenting us on our work and intimating he would be interested in getting involved at some stage in the near future.

Later in March, we are attending a conference chaired by Pete Sturgess who is the English FA Foundation Stage Head Coach and contributes daily to Hive Learning. As he specialises in our age group the evening will provide invaluable insight and information on how to improve our school based football.

Miss Cunningham (Head of Sport) is considering the possibility of the school hosting a mini soccer tournament, on the school grounds, towards the summer months. The recent poor weather has meant the cancellation of two fixtures against other schools but we expect the number of opportunities for players to play to increase. The Malling School has kindly offered us the use of their mini bus as some games will involve travelling.

During the autumn of last year Adam Makewell very kindly personally bought us a set of Samba mini goals and the Friends of Brookfield's donated a new strip for year 1 and 2, together with 11 new size 3 balls. Since then we have received a training kit contribution from SoccereliteFA and Castle Colts provided goal nets. In January the Friends of Brookfield's contributed a further £420 which paid for 15 new size 4 balls, a ball net and a set of 16 x 7 goals. Brookfield Multi-Sports have funded new 12 x 6 goals as well as bibs, cones, first aid resources, our Respect banner and tactics board. Our hub, the sports shed, was signed off last summer by Mrs. Woods.

Our vision for the future is to be widely recognised as a school football academy that develops technically gifted footballers who are confident on the ball, innovative, creative and excellent decision makers.

Coaching Team:

Mrs. Aulsberry	TA	Experience & Knowledge of school, local & district football
Mrs. Butterworth	HLTA	Experience & Knowledge of school, local & district football
Mrs. Jeffery		PE & Fitness Co-ordinator
Mr. Sikora	TA	30 years' experience of the game
Mr. Lungley	TA Trainee	(new) Level 2 FA Qualified Coach. Associate schoolboy @ Charlton FC & Gillingham FC. Maidstone United. Chatham Town. Maidstone Schools. Maidstone Representative. Football age 47. Grassroots local football coach and mentor.

We intend to keep you updated with team selection, match reports and further developments as they happen.

Kind regards

Tony Lungley

Flourish Football Foundation Lead Coach.