

## DASC at Middlesbrough Junior Christmas Gala 13 December 2009

DASC was represented by 9 girls and 6 boys from B, C and D2 squads at the popular Junior Christmas Meet held on 13 December 2009 at the Neptune Centre, Middlesbrough. 9 year olds could compete in 50m of each stroke and 100m IM, 10 and 11 year olds in 100m of each stroke and 100m IM. Out of a total of 48 swims, DASC swimmers produced a grand total of 16 Personal Bests as well as first attempts at another 11 events.

**Charlotte Devin, Caitlin Kell, Ethan Hindson, William Smith, Anton Vassilounis and Danny Walker** all competed in their first gala and will have learnt a lot from their first experience of swimming against other clubs in the area. Charlotte swam PBs in all 3 of her events, and William in both of his events. Caitlin, Ethan, Anton and Danny all tried several events for the first time and have set themselves standards to aim at in their next gala.

Amongst our 10 year olds, **Edward Day** produced a PB in 100m Freestyle, Lauren **Sanderson** swam PBs in 100m Backstroke and Freestyle and **Samantha Hawkes** swam four 100m events for the first time. 11 year old **Victoria Pinner** managed 2 PBs, one of them with a good Breaststroke swim.

Our young and fast improving group of 9 year olds rounded off a very busy term of competitive swimming with yet more great performances. **Richard Murray** swam in all 5 events open to him, further improving his Backstroke time and gaining two 6<sup>th</sup> places. **Alana Prior and Jade Cook** also swam in all 5 events, continuing their friendly rivalry between themselves as well as competing against other clubs in a very determined manner. Alana did 2 PBs and her best placing was 5<sup>th</sup> in the Breaststroke event. Jade's best swim was a PB in Backstroke where she came 4<sup>th</sup>. **Alice Eynon** swam in 4 events, not quite managing a PB this time, but gaining valuable experience and practice at competing in galas.

The two main DASC highlights from this gala were:

- Two fantastic team performances by our 9 year-old girls relay team of Hannah Briggs, Jade Cook, Alice Eynon and Alana Prior to come 2<sup>nd</sup> in both Freestyle and Medley relays. This bodes very well for their performances as a team next year in the Diddy League.
- Two excellent PB swims from 9 year old **Hannah Briggs**, who achieved her first N&D qualifying time in 50m Butterfly and narrowly missing the time on 50m Freestyle.

The complete gala results can be found on the Middlesbrough ASC website.