



The successful squad from last session.



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Barnhill gymnasts needing a lift

BARNHILL Primary School Gymnastic Team has enjoyed considerable success during their first year of existence, writes Stuart Johnstone. However, they are missing one thing that could help them to elevate their performances even further.

Despite winning in both their categories at the Dundee Schools Championship last year, and performing well in the subsequent Scottish Championships, the team does not have their own springboard with which to train while they are using the vault. Instead they rely on the goodwill of St John's Primary, who have allowed Barnhill to borrow theirs.

Currently made up of eight girls, the team is set to expand during the next academic year to 16 members and are currently hard at work preparing for the next Dundee championship.

Head teacher Bruce Johnston said, "We have been fortunate to be able to borrow St John's springboard.

"Although having vault apparatus like a springboard is not a requirement for primary PE education, having our own equipment would not only benefit the team, it would also be useful to all of our pupils."

Assistant gymnastic coach Mandy Kilcullen added, "The springboard is an essential part of the girl's training routine. Without it, performing on the vault would be almost impossible.

"The PTA at Barnhill has been very supportive and helpful and we were able to get eight leotards. However, with the size of the team doubling, we now need another eight and that, too, is vital to our future progress."