



## National Finals at Stoke Mandaville Stadium.

On Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November we took 5 children from Dragons class to the Famous birthplace of The Paralympic Games at Stoke Mandaville, Aylesbury. The venue is always quite impressive with its state of the art gym, swimming pool and double sized sports hall, but we were attending the inaugural Panathlon National Primary Special Schools Final. We have attended a range of these events, but this is the first time that schools have come from all over the country. A total of nine schools attended from all over the country (including one from Hull!) and despite most school selecting their children from the older end of the Primary stages our younger children were not phased in the slightest by the acoustics of a large sports hall or even listening to adults and sports leaders whom they hadn't met before. The hall was set up with a variety of stations (Table Cricket, Skittles, Kurling, Bean Bag Throw to name a few) and we all had a turn at each station scoring points along the way. After lunch we had some races to complete while the organisers set to work adding up scores to see how we had all done. The final results placed us (the youngest and smallest team) a very respectable 7<sup>th</sup> out of the nine schools.

These events are so well organised, and the children are made to feel so comfortable in what was for many their first Competitive Sports Event. All the children came away with Medals and Certificates, having had a brilliant day. I certainly look forward to taking these and hopefully more children again in the future. Well done All!

