



SUNDERLAND SAMBA NEWSLETTER

BARNES PARK SCHOOL PROJECT.

Sunderland Samba had a fantastic time at the annual Schools and Family Event at Barnes Park. We welcomed pupils from schools across Sunderland for a fun-filled day of African drumming, football, and new songs.

On Saturday, our tent opened to families, offering hands-on drumming sessions alongside football matches and lively chess games. It was a joyful celebration of culture, sport, and community, bringing people of all ages together through music, play, and shared experiences. We can't wait for next year!



NATIONAL CHRISTIAN FOOTBALL FESTIVAL 2025

Sunderland Samba took two teams – the First Team and U21s – to the NCCFF tournament in Shropshire from July 11–13.

It was a weekend filled with football, faith, fun, and friendship. Both teams progressed from the group stage, with the First Team finishing 2nd and going on to reach the final, where they finished as runners-up. 1st team goalkeeper Patrick won goalkeeper of the tournament.

The U21s secured 5th place overall. Off the pitch, Samba won the Saturday night quiz, and one player was awarded the Shirt of the Tournament.

A fantastic weekend all round, connecting with others and proudly representing the club.



KENYA NEWS

Sylvia Otieno, who plays for Sunderland Samba women's team in Kenya, affectionately known as Lasty, made us proud by finishing as Top Scorer at the Africa Women's Cup with an impressive 20 goals. Representing Kenya, she led her team to the final, where they finished as runners-up after a hard-fought 4-2 loss to Uganda. The tournament wasn't just about football – it also highlighted important issues like homelessness and gender-based violence.

At Sunderland Samba FC, we celebrate Lasty's incredible talent and leadership on and off the pitch. Her dedication and passion continue to inspire us all. Congratulations, Lasty – your Samba family is proud of you!