

## U11 Match Reports - 2013/14



### **U11s MATCH REPORT: Sun 8th June: CYGFL Tournament**

The last event of the season is traditionally the CYGFL Tournament at Poppleton and this year it was bigger than ever, with the age groups split between morning and afternoon sessions. The U11's found themselves playing in the afternoon and were drawn in Group A. There were 5 tough games, and although results didn't go the girls' way, there was plenty of fun and excitement in the lovely sunshine.

**Team: Rose, Maeve, Wendy, Lucy, Jess, Emily, Isabella, Megan, Freya**

#### **vs Brayton Belles – Lost 1-0**

The tournament got off to an unlucky start as a fluke long range effort from Brayton found itself in the back of the BWR net. With only 10 minutes for a match it's really difficult to get back into a game once you go behind, but the girls battled really well and were unlucky not to get something from the game.

#### **vs Stamford Bridge – Lost 2-0**

An even game saw Stamford Bridge score 2 breakaway goals. The girls again played well and the game was a lot closer than the score line suggests.

#### **vs Fulford – Lost 4-0**

The third game was played on pitch 3, the largest of the 3 pitches used, and the girls found it difficult to cope with the fast attacking style of Fulford. With so much space on offer, strong and skilful opponents made the most of the conditions. The girls kept battling and never stopped trying and showed great team spirit throughout.

#### **vs Cleveland Juniors – Lost 1-0**

This was a close match against tough opposition and the girls nearly managed to keep a clean sheet but for a screaming shot right at the end that the Keeper had no chance with. Unlucky not to sneak a point.

#### **vs Poppleton – Drew 1-1 (Rose)**

The girls saved their best performance for the last game as they put on a great display to earn a well-deserved point. They went a goal down midway through the game but they didn't let their heads go down as they piled the pressure on the Poppleton goal, and got what they deserved just before the end with a thumping finish from Rose.

It was a tough tournament for the girls as results didn't go their way, but there were plenty of excellent performances from the team. Maeve was again the pick of the goalkeepers on the day with some great handling and kicking, and as an outfield player she ran her socks off and never stopped trying. Wendy was again superb in defence with strong tackling and a never say die attitude. Isabella was suffering from a virus and could only play the first 2 matches but she really played well and it was a big blow to lose such a great player to illness. Megan goes from strength to strength and played with energy and skill throughout. Emily ran herself into the ground and never stopped trying and competing. Freya was captain for the day, and the responsibility seemed to inspire her and she never stopped battling. Lucy is relatively new to competitive matches, but she didn't let that stop her from getting stuck in and trying her best. Jess battled hard and never stopped competing. Well done girls!

**Player of Tournament: Wendy. A great performance in defence from Wendy who personified the excellent spirit within the team by trying and battling for every single minute of every game. She was strong with her tackles and clever with her interceptions and pulled off numerous last-ditch saving tackles and blocks. An excellent display.**

#### **U11s MATCH REPORT: Sun 18th May: York RI Tournament**

With League action over for the season it was time for some Tournament Football with the end of season event at York RI. The weather was scorching down on the girls as they had to battle through 7 games in a round-robin format. BWR entered two teams, Reds (managed by Rob) and Blacks (managed by Andy) and they both played well but couldn't make it to the semi-finals. Sunshine, football and friends – a great end of season tournament for the girls.

## **Bishopthorpe White Rose – Reds Team**

**Team: Rose, Abbi, Maeve, India, Wendy, Lucy, Jess, Eva**

### **vs Brayton Belles – Drew 1-1 (Rose)**

The tournament got off to a great start with a 1-1 draw with a strong Brayton Belles side. Rose's goal stunned Brayton and it took them a long time to regain confidence and get back into the game. India's domination of the midfield held out until late within the second half when they scored an equaliser.

### **vs Rawcliffe – Lost 1-0**

The second game was one we should have won and we had many chances. Eva was the pick of the players, but there was nothing that she or Jess could do about the great cross and well-timed finish that saw Rawcliffe through as 1-0 winners.

### **vs York RI – Lost 4-0**

The third game was the toughest challenge of the lot, facing a strong R. I. team. In the first half Lucy made some great saves and although we were 4-0 down at half time she had the guts to take on the second half facing another barrage. In the second half Lucy kept a clean sheet to end the match with a small personal triumph.

### **vs BWR Blacks – Lost 1-0**

The fourth match was the battle with our own team mates from Bishopthorpe Blacks and we certainly played some great football as everyone enjoyed a chance to show off in front of the whole gang. Abbi was particularly impressive playing with determination and flair. There was only one way that the opposition would get a clean strike on goal and unfortunately the ref had no choice but to give a penalty. The final score, 1-0 to the Bishopthorpe Blacks.

### **vs Wigginton Lions – Drew 1-1 (Rose)**

The fifth game was against Wigginton Lions and it looked like the previous match had taken its toll on our confidence when they took an early lead. However, the girls knuckled down and salvaged a point after another well taken breakaway goal by Rose. Following the match we all trooped off for a break, but then realised that we had to play Wigginton Tigers straight away afterwards!

### **vs Wigginton Tigers – Lost 1-0**

This was Jess's best game showing that she had learnt the lessons from earlier in the morning and is developing a growing awareness of the game. However, by now the whole team were beginning to suffer in the hot conditions and we eventually lost by a single goal.

### **vs Stamford Bridge – Lost 3-0**

The final game saw the girls really struggling for form which makes me think we need to work off those ice creams with some fitness training at the start of next season! To be fair the opposition scored two lucky goals early on and under the blistering sun it seemed a long way back from there. Nevertheless, the girls never gave up and when Wendy came on at half time she really put in a shift for the team. We were unlucky in the end not to get a reply to Stamford Bridge's third goal.

**Player of Tournament: Maeve. Well done to Maeve, player of the tournament, who played very well in goal, but was outstanding in terms of ball carrying skills and in her determination to win the ball back.**

### **Bishopthorpe White Rose – Blacks Team**

**Team: Emily G, Annie, Isabella, Megan, Freya, Emily O, Amelia**

#### **vs Rawcliffe – Drew 0-0**

The Blacks got off to a slow start against newcomers Rawcliffe who crowded the ball and made it difficult for the girls to put any passes together. There were chances at both ends but a draw was probably a fair result.

#### **vs Brayton Belles – Drew 1-1 (Emily G)**

A superb early goal from Emily G put the girls into the lead as she rifled in a wonderful shot from distance. Brayton fought their way back into the match and equalised before half-time. The girls then had to battle to keep Brayton at bay and thoroughly deserved their point.

#### **vs Stamford Bridge – Drew 0-0**

The Blacks had to dig deep to contain a very good Stamford Bridge side. There were chances at both ends and Annie stood out with an excellent battling performance in defence.

#### **vs BWR Reds – Won 1-0 (Emily G – pen)**

The second game in back-to-back fixtures was the derby match with the Reds. A close game was decided by a penalty, and after a few discussions about who would take it, Captain Emily G pulled rank and successfully converted the penalty. A good win against highly motivated opposition.

#### **vs York RI – Lost 3-0**

League winners and Cup winners, York RI had gone through the season unbeaten and so it was always going to be a tough ask to get anything from the game. Three quick goals in the first half left the girls with an impossible job, but they rallied in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half and played with loads of passion and pride to keep a clean sheet.

### **vs Wigginton Lions – Lost 2-0**

The Blacks still had aspirations of a semi-final place, but were sunk by two breakaway goals in the second half. The girls played excellently and looked much the better side in the first half but started to run out of steam in the second and were punished by two well taken goals.

### **vs Wigginton Tigers – Drew 0-0**

It was another draw to end the campaign as the Blacks resolute defence but lack of goals forced another stalemate. Both sides had chances but the girls were really tiring by their 7<sup>th</sup> match and a draw was a fair result.

The goalkeeping duties were shared between the whole team, and everyone did well with some great saves and confident handling. Only conceding 6 goals in 7 games shows how well everyone did. Freya worked her socks off in every match, and was unlucky not to score on several occasions with some strong powerful runs. Annie was strong with her tackles and never gave up, marking, harrying, and making great forward runs. Isabella showed some great skills and awareness of space as she continually made forward runs and took on opposition defenders. Megan covered every blade of grass as she made storming runs and used her brilliant long throw to great effect. Emily O had a great debut as she tackled and chased all over the pitch, showing excellent technique and commitment. The other debutante, Amelia, also got off to a great start in BWR colours, as she never let her energy levels drop and she kept tackling and passing and running.

**Player of Tournament: Emily G. Emily captained the side really well and scored a great goal and put away a pressure penalty. Wherever she played on the pitch she gave 100% and never stopped running and trying all day.**

### **U11s MATCH REPORT: Sat 26th Apr: Away v Wigginton Grasshoppers**

The final League match of the season saw a first ever trip to the home of Wigginton Grasshoppers. It was the last chance of the season to take any points from one of the Top 5 teams in the League and the Girls put in a fantastic performance, drawing the match 2-2 after leading 1-0 and 2-1. The Friendly was a close affair with good chances at both ends, but the home side finished on top with a narrow 1-0 win. The weather was the only disappointment of the morning as the girls continued their impressive recent form and made it a great finish to the League campaign.

**U11s Team: Emily, Annie, Freya, Isabella, Megan, Eva, Maeve, India, Wendy, Abbi, Rose, Izzy**

**League Match: Drew 2-2 (Annie, Megan)**

**Friendly: Lost 1-0**

**Captain: Wendy**

**Player of the League Match: Annie. A superb display from Annie as she gave the opposition a master class in midfield play. Wigginton's No 8 was their stand-out player and Annie completely neutralised her with a performance full of determination and energy. Annie has had a great**

season and now she has added 'man-marking' to her midfield armoury. An outstanding performance.

**Player of the Friendly Match: Freya.** Freya put in an outstanding performance in goal in the Friendly match. All the goalkeepers on the day played well, with Maeve and Abbi making a string of brilliant saves, and Freya continued this with some fantastic ones of her own. Her handling was safe and confident, and her kicks from hand were excellent, but her shot stopping was real class, with the pick of the saves being a superb tip over from a screaming long-range shot. A wonderful display.

Match Report:

The match began with both teams taking time to settle and the opening exchanges were in midfield as the teams tried to assert control. An early goal was needed to calm nerves and Annie duly obliged. Picking up a loose ball on the edge of the area she fired in a speculative shot at goal and it squirmed between the Wigginton Keeper's legs and went in to make it 1-0. Wigginton hit back with a period of sustained pressure which really tested the BWR defence. Maeve pulled off successive fantastic saves, with one shot being turned onto a post with strong hands and excellent reflexes. Eventually the pressure paid off and a defensive mix-up from a Wigginton corner saw the ball narrowly creep over the line. Goal line technology could have saved us, but the attacking side were given the benefit of the doubt and it was back level at 1-1. The game then became more open as the girls stepped up their efforts in search of another goal. Emily made a barnstorming run down the wing before more pressure from the girls brought the goal of the game. Emily took one of her trademark corners, pinging it into the box with pace and height, and Megan arrived just perfectly to knock the ball in on the volley. A well-deserved lead and the girls were full of confidence as the exciting first half ended 2-1. With so many players to choose from, it was almost an entirely new team which took the field for the second half. Freya started the half brilliantly with a superb run and then an excellent shot which went just wide. Wigginton then started to show the form that's got them to 5<sup>th</sup> in the League in their very first season, and they piled on the pressure on the BWR goal. Heroic defending by the whole team was required to keep them at bay, and Maeve in goal pulled off a string of superb saves. Eventually though, Wigginton got the equaliser they deserved and it ended 2-2. A very good point against one of the League's top sides.

It was only the 3<sup>rd</sup> time this season that all the girls were available for the match, and it was more straightforward to split them so that they changed over at half-time. Starting the game, Maeve in goal put in another wonderful performance and made some great saves. Wendy and India at the back were really solid, with great tackling and some very timely interceptions. Megan and Annie in midfield were excellent and they never stopped running, tackling, pressing and trying. Up front, Emily and Rose were a handful for the Wigginton defence, as their movement and combination play were excellent. For the second half, Eva replaced Wendy in defence, Abbi and Isabella went into midfield and Freya and Izzy went up front. Eva defended heroically against the second half pressure from Wigginton and made some important tackles. Abbi and Isabella ran their socks off in midfield, and they were both able to make forward runs, taking the game to the opposition. Freya and Izzy worked tirelessly to find an opening and get the winning goal. They linked up really well with great movement and understanding of space and where their team mates were.

For the Friendly it was all change again, with Freya and Abbi being press ganged into being goal keeper for a half. Despite their reluctance they both produced fine displays in goal with excellent shot stopping and confident handling. BWR's best chance fell to Emily, but she was denied by a last gasp tackle before Wigginton scored the only goal of the game with an unstoppable shot. The girls tried their best to get an equaliser but it wasn't to be.

A hard-won point in an exciting game against one of the top teams means the girls should be really proud of their efforts. A great way to round off our League campaign. Well done girls!!

### **U11s MATCH REPORT: Sat 29th Mar: Away v Scarborough Ladies**

The overcast, grey and miserable weather couldn't dampen the girls' enthusiasm and commitment as they took on Scarborough Ladies in the penultimate League match of the season. The girls' excellent form of recent weeks continued as they put in a brilliant all-round performance to completely dominate a good Scarborough side, and won 4-0 with a hat-trick from Emily. The friendly turned in to a wild affair with 3 guest players from Scarborough making it a 10 a-side free for all. The girls came from a goal down to win 3-1 thanks to a hat-trick from Ella, one of the Scarborough 'guests', and all the girls from both sides had a great time. It was a long, but worthwhile trip, as the girls showed just how much they have improved over the season, with two excellent wins.

**U11s Team: Emily, Annie, Freya, Isabella, Megan, Eva, Maeve**

**League Match: Won 4-0 (Emily – 3, Freya)**

**Friendly: Won 3-1 (Ella (Scarborough) - 3)**

**Captain: Freya**

**Player of the League Match: Megan.** Megan continues to show what an excellent midfield player she is with yet another complete performance. Her tackling and interceptions were superb as she seemed to be everywhere at once. Megan continually ran from one side of the pitch to the other to take throw-ins which get longer game by game. Megan is quickly becoming the heartbeat of the team and this was another outstanding performance.

**Player of the Friendly Match: Maeve.** After keeping a superb clean sheet in the League match, Maeve then put in an excellent performance in defence in the Friendly match. Maeve tackled and hustled and intercepted and was generally everywhere on the pitch. She never stopped running and on a pitch with 20 players running and screaming, she stood out as a class player.

**Match Report:**

Even from the coin toss, BWR were impressive as Captain Freya decided to kick up hill in the first half so that when the opposition were tired in the second half, the girls could have the advantage of the slope. This tactical thinking was all her own work and shows just how much the girls are becoming tactically aware. The girls were switched on from the start and a fine Isabella run set the tone for the match as she left opposition players grasping at air as she raided forward. Emily had a good chance go wide before a fantastic kick from Maeve travelled the length of the pitch and Freya shot just wide. BWR continued to press for the opening goal and Freya had an excellent run and shot,

followed by Annie having a shot saved by the Scarborough keeper. Freya then had another shot after an excellent throw-in by Megan before a Freya run and shot was again saved by the Scarborough keeper. Scarborough were using the slope to their advantage and Eva and Isabella had to be alert to head off the opposition's counter attacks, and Maeve had to make a number of stops as the defence worked well as a unit to keep the Scarborough players at bay. At half-time it was 0-0 but BWR were the dominant force. The second half brought the advantage of the slope and an early goal settled BWR nerves. Excellent play from Annie, winning the ball on the edge of the Scarborough area, set up Emily who fired a superb shot into the opposition goal. 1-0, and thoroughly deserved. Freya continued to create chances for herself with brave, swashbuckling runs forward, and the Scarborough defence and keeper had their hands full to keep her at bay. After two close efforts of her own, Freya's heroics finally paid off for Emily as she set her strike partner up to score her second and put BWR 2-0 ahead. Then, finally, Freya got the goal her play deserved as a Megan throw-in found her in the area and Freya's unstoppable shot went in via a defender. An Emily run then found Freya whose shot went just wide. BWR dominance of the second half was then completed by a bizarre goal which completed Emily's hat-trick. The Scarborough keeper failed to hang on to a shot which rebounded off her arms. A Scarborough defender then tried to catch the ball but dropped it and the ball got stuck between the keeper's feet. Before the Referee could blow for a penalty, or the Keeper could reach down and pick the ball up, Emily kicked the ball into the net. 4-0 and a hat-trick for Emily!

The drama started the night before the match as a late drop-out due to illness meant an emergency call to Eva as a very late replacement. She didn't let it affect her performance at all as she didn't put a foot wrong in an excellent display. Eva has turned into one of the best defenders we have and she put in an assured performance, tackling, marking and battling throughout the match. Isabella was fantastic in defence, with her clever reading of the game, and her lightning pace, too much for the Scarborough attack. Isabella also found time and space to surge forward and launch attacks, and she put in a really impressive performance. Maeve again showed what an excellent keeper she is with another clean sheet. Her kicking from hand and handling skills were superb and she is now learning to command her area and give confidence to the team. The midfield pair of Annie and Megan were outstanding and were the engine room of the team. They both tackled and harried and hustled and kept up such a high level of energy that it was exhausting to watch. Up front, Freya and Emily were equally impressive and put in just about as perfect a performance as you could ask for. They linked well as a pair, creating chances for each other, as well as having plenty of attempts on goal themselves. With a bit more luck there could have been lots more goals which is encouraging for the future. The whole team, were impressive, making it so difficult to pick Player of the Match as a case could be made for any one of them to win it. The quality of the opposition, lack of subs and long away trip, made this an outstanding performance for which the girls should be really proud.

The friendly was probably the friendliest friendly the girls have seen all season. In order to give the hordes of Scarborough players a game, three of their players volunteered to play for BWR and make it 10 a-side. Mayhem ensued as the large number of players on a 7 a-side pitch made it a wild free for all. Things weren't helped by the constant screaming of some of the opposition players making it one of the strangest matches all season. BWR fell behind to a great long range strike to leave it 1-0 at half time, but the second half brought a hat-trick for Ella, one of the 'guest' Scarborough players, to make it 3-1 to BWR. Credit should go to Emily and Megan for volunteering to go in goal in the



friendly, and the difficulty we have in finding a goalkeeper for the friendly match just shows how indebted we are to Maeve for her performances in the League matches.

A wonderful morning's football, against great opposition, with every player contributing to a superb League win, and a great, fun, friendly. Well done girls!!

### **U11s MATCH REPORT: Sat 15th Mar: Home v Fulford**

The last home match of the season saw League high flyers Fulford visit Moor Lane. Lying 2<sup>nd</sup> in the League, Fulford have only lost twice all season and put 8 past the girls in the away match in October, so it was always going to be a tough ask to get something from the game. The excellent progress the girls have made over the season was evident as BWR lost 1-0 in a very close game. The Friendly was another tight affair with the girls getting a thoroughly deserved 1-1 draw. The girls can be really proud of their efforts in giving such a good side a really close game.

**U11s Team: Emily, Abbi, Annie, Freya, Rose, India, Isabella**

**League Match: Lost 1-0**

**Friendly: Drew 1-1 (Annie)**

**Captain: Abbi**

**Player of the League Match: Freya.** Starting the match in goal, Freya produced a string of superb saves as she stopped everything Fulford could throw at her. Her kicking was excellent as she turned defence into attack time and again. In the second half, Freya switched to striker and put in a fantastic performance, running and battling and never giving up. An excellent performance.

**Player of the Friendly Match: Abbi.** Abbi selflessly volunteered to go in goal for the first half and put in her usual excellent performance, but it was in the second half, playing in midfield that she really caught the eye. She tackled, pressed, intercepted, passed and challenged with lots of passion and intensity and really made a difference all over the pitch. An outstanding display.

**Match Report:**

The game started very even with BWR's good form of recent weeks carrying on into this match. The girls pressed the opposition with energy and enthusiasm and they never let Fulford settle. Emily had a good run on the Fulford goal, and the girls pressing game nearly forced a mistake from the Fulford defence as a wild clearance from one of their defenders went out for a corner. Slowly Fulford showed their class, and although they were never allowed to slip into their fluent passing game, they started to create chances. Freya had to be at her very best to deny the Fulford forwards with some great shot stopping, and the whole team had to defend well to prevent some close calls. At half-time it was 0-0 and the girls had fully deserved parity with tremendous energy and passion. The second half was just as close as the girls pressed all over the field, working hard to close down space and make life difficult for the opposition. Freya made some excellent forward runs and the girls created pressure on the Fulford goal to make it a very even contest. With 5 minutes to go, a swift breakaway from a BWR corner, ended with a Fulford striker firing home a fierce shot from inside the

area to break the girls' hearts. The girls tried hard to get the equaliser and a late free kick move from India and Rose looked promising but it wasn't to be and it ended 1-0.

Freya had a great game in goal, with some great saves and excellent kicking, and showed her versatility by having a superb game up front in the second half. In defence, India and Isabella carried on their excellent partnership from last week, with strong tackling and great interceptions. In midfield, Abbi and Annie ran themselves into the ground, and must have covered every blade of grass at least twice. Up front Rose and Emily combined well and created chances on goal and were a constant threat for the opposition.

The friendly saw Abbi in goal, Rose and Freya in defence, Isabella and Annie in midfield and Emily and India up front. India and Isabella both had good runs on goal, but it was Fulford who opened the scoring to leave it 1-0 at half-time. In the second half, Isabella bravely volunteered to go in goal and Freya swapped with India up front. Freya had a wonderful run and shot which smashed into the crossbar, before the girls finally got the goal they deserved with Abbi and Freya combining on the right, and Annie firing in the loose ball to make it 1-1.

It was another great team performance with the girls giving everything and they should be really proud. Well done girls!!

#### **U11s MATCH REPORT: Sat 8th Mar: Away v Goole Town**

It was time to dust off our passports and get our visas stamped as we crossed the border into East Yorkshire for our very first trip to Goole Town. After the traumatic match against them at the beginning of the season with swearing, head-butts and a trip to A&E, we approached the game with some apprehension, but the girls put in one of their best performances of the season as a rampant BWR ran out 4-1 winners. The friendly was actually lots more fun than was anticipated and the girls won the game easily 3-0, even allowing Goole to have an extra player. It was a physically tough morning of football, but the girls stood up to the intimidation and played excellent football and were deserved winners.

**U11s Team: Emily, Megan, Annie, Maeve, Freya, Rose, India, Isabella**

**League Match: Won 4-1 (Annie, Freya, Rose, Emily)**

**Friendly: Won 3-0 (India – 2, Emily)**

**Captain: India**

**Player of the League Match: Isabella.** Isabella was asked to play an unfamiliar defensive role to combat the fast counter attacking style Goole played so effectively last time. This she did with skill, intelligence and speed. It was a masterful performance as she used her fantastic speed and reading of the game to break up attacks and stop Goole getting anywhere near the BWR goal. Isabella also had the energy and commitment to push up into midfield when needed and also support the attack. An all-round outstanding performance.

**Player of the Friendly Match: Rose.** Rose exemplified the team spirit today. She gave 100% for the team, chasing, tackling, blocking and pressing. She was a constant threat playing up front in

**the League game and got a lovely goal, and then she played in defence in the Friendly, when no one else wanted to, and without complaint. Rose put in a superb performance, stopping any threat from Goole with skill and determination. An excellent display.**

#### Match Report:

With grey overcast skies and a biting wind, the omens were ominous for our first ever away match against Goole Town. The state of the pitch was a concern with patches of really long grass scattered around the playing surface and branches and dog walking debris littering the pitch. From the kick-off, BWR were the dominant force, launching attack after attack, but good goalkeeping and physical defending kept the score goalless. Emily, Freya and Rose all had shots on goal, before a series of poor goal kicks from the Goole Keeper presented Emily with numerous chances but they were either saved or went just wide. Rose had a chance which brought out another fine save by the home keeper and then Emily went close again. Finally, after almost 15 minutes of laying siege to the opposition goal, the breakthrough finally came. Rose and Emily both had shots blocked in a mad goalmouth scramble before Annie latched onto the loose ball and fired a fantastic shot into the roof of the net. 1-0 and the least the girls deserved. Goole built a reputation in the first match of being very tough and physical opponents and that continued in this match. There were plenty of shoulder barges and pushing, and Emily had to come off at one point after being pushed in the chest. This time though the girls were prepared and really stood up to the bullying tactics. They never shirked a challenge and competed for everything. For some inexplicable reason, the Referee insisted on playing 25 minutes each way, even after both sets of coaches told her it should only be 20 minutes at half-time. Thankfully this just meant more time for the girls to attack the Goole goal, but it was very bizarre as she was so adamant that she was right! At half-time it was still only 1-0, but the girls had played so well it could have been double figures. The second half started with more BWR attacks but this time the girls got the early goal to settle their nerves, and what a goal it was! Isabella made an interception in her own half and knocked the ball into our own corner flag on the right-hand side. Emily chased the ball down and brought it up the line where she passed to Megan. Megan picked up the pass, had a look up and played a lovely through ball to Freya, who ran on to the pass and knocked it in the goal. The best goal of the game, superb passing and movement, and a wonderful finish. The delighted away supporters went wild. More pressure followed with Freya, Megan and then Freya again all having shots on goal. Goole were restricted to counter attacks but the positional intelligence of India and the speed and awareness of Isabella meant any threat was quickly dealt with and made Maeve a virtual spectator. The third goal came eventually, with some more excellent attacking play. Isabella pushed forward and fed Freya who put in a lovely cross which Rose buried to make it 3-0. Emily, continuing her great form in front of goal, then made it four with a good finish from a Rose cross. Goole managed a late consolation goal but it didn't take anything away from a great performance from every player.

Maeve didn't have a lot to do in goal, but she was safe and reliable with her handling and she kept her concentration well during the long periods the ball was in the opposition half. Her kicking was excellent again and it really does take the pressure off the team. India and Isabella in defence were awesome. India made so many interceptions and clearances as the Goole defence cleared their lines and she just put it back into their area. Isabella gave the team the extra security at the back with her pace and intelligent distribution, and as a pair they were outstanding. Megan, Annie and Emily were all excellent in midfield. Annie never stopped running, box to box and back again. She got the all-

important opening goal and she never stopped tackling, pressing and battling for the whole match. Megan once again put in an outstanding performance with some lovely runs down the wing with the ball, and she always seemed to be the glue linking the defence to the attack, moving the ball and always looking for the intelligent pass. Emily continues to impress both in midfield and attack and she made it 5 goals in the last 4 League games. Her commitment and energy were outstanding and she never stopped battling despite being hurt. Rose and Freya were superb up front. They both got on the score sheet and they were a constant threat, with Freya battling and bull-doing her way through the Goole defence, and Rose using her excellent close control to create space. Freya also took a couple of nasty knocks early on but she never let it stop her competing and just highlighted how brave she is. One of the best team performances of the season and it was wonderful to watch.

The friendly was supposed to be 8 a-side, but Goole decided to play a ninth player. It didn't matter though as it was more of the same as the girls attacked remorselessly. The referee had also disappeared and the home coach thought it would be fine to play the friendly without one, so the away coaches supplied a referee! Freya had kindly volunteered to go in goal, Rose and Megan in defence, Annie, Maeve and Emily in midfield and India and Isabella as strikers. India made it 1-0 with a lovely finish, and then Emily made it 2-0. Emily then swapped with Freya in goal as they had made a pact at half-time to swap if Emily scored! India then got her second of the game to make it a comfortable 3-0 win.

It was a great team performance showing resilience and lots of class to overcome a tough team. Well done girls!!

### **U11s MATCH REPORT: Sat 1st Mar: Home v Stamford Bridge**

It was a lovely sunny morning which welcomed Stamford Bridge to Moor Lane for the penultimate home game of the season. After a thrilling 2-2 draw when we played them last time, it was always going to be close and so it turned out, with an exciting 1-1 draw meaning there was nothing between the teams this season. With all players on both sides playing in the friendly it was a crowded affair, but the girls ran out deserved 1-0 winners. Excellent opponents in two evenly matched games made for a great morning of football.

**U11s Team: Emily, Megan, Annie, Izzy, Maeve, Freya, Abbi, Eva, Rose, India, Isabella**

**League Match: Drew 1-1 (Emily)**

**Friendly: Won 1-0 (India)**

**Captain: Isabella**

**Player of the League Match: India.** India put in another superb defensive display and was the rock at the heart of the defence which we have come to rely on so much. Tackles, interceptions and brilliant clearances made life difficult for the opposition strikers, and India made a difference all over the pitch with her long throws and forward runs. India capped off a great morning by scoring the winner in the friendly. An excellent performance.

**Player of the Friendly Match: Eva.** Eva continues to impress with her performances this season as she gains in skill and confidence. She was really solid at the back, with great tackles and clearances, and she was often left on her own with multiple attackers bearing down on her and she never failed to make the vital tackle or interception. A superb display.

#### Match Report:

The game kicked-off in lovely sunshine and the opening exchanges were generally in midfield as both teams strived to impose themselves. BWR gradually took control and started to put pressure on the Stamford Bridge defence, but a quick breakaway by the away side brought them a goal against the run of play. The girls didn't let the setback get to them and they continued to press the opposition. A series of corners from Isabella put the Stamford Bridge defence in a panic and called for desperate defending, and Freya had a shot which hit the post. Eventually BWR made the pressure pay off as a through ball from India found Emily in the penalty area and she scrambled the ball home despite the brave efforts of the Stamford Bridge Keeper. That was 1-1 and the least the girls deserved. The second half was much the same pattern as the girls pushed for the winner but had to be careful of occasional Stamford Bridge counter attacks, with Eva having to do some fantastic last line of defence tackles on more than one occasion. Emily made a fantastic forward run and Izzy, Freya and Rose all had efforts on goal. Stamford Bridge nearly stole the game right at the end, but their shot went just wide as Maeve did everything she could to put the attacker off. The game finished 1-1 with the girls probably deserving more from the game, but happy with a point.

Maeve gave another confident display in goal, with safe handling and excellent kicking from the ground and especially from hand. Eva was excellent in defence with strong tackling and good long clearances. India was inspirational alongside her, so solid in the tackle and she showed great energy to push up to take throw-ins and support the attack, and then get back to do her defensive job too. The midfield were split into pairs with Annie and Isabella switching with Abbi and Megan. The emphasis in the team talk before the match was on being first to the ball and not letting the opposition rest. All the midfield players really took this to heart and they all put in energetic performances, running box to box and keeping pressure on the Stamford Bridge players at all times. Annie exemplified this high energy approach with lots of forward runs and then tracking back to help the defence. Isabella added her usual class to midfield with excellent passing and some lovely forward runs. Abbi added some much needed grit to midfield and she never gave up or stopped running and trying. Megan showed her determination, energy and skill with a complete midfield performance, supporting the attackers and helping out in defence. Up front there were two pairs of strikers with Izzy and Freya switching with Emily and Rose. Again, all the attackers were excellent in pressing the opposition players and not letting them settle. Time and again, they would press and intimidate the defender into making mistakes, winning throw-ins and corners out of nothing. Freya, playing with a sore foot, didn't let it affect her as she ran herself into the ground and was unlucky not to score with her best effort hitting the post. Izzy showed some lovely touches and her link up play with Freya, built on last week's partnership, was excellent. Emily was a constant threat in front of goal, and her corners are an excellent weapon for the team. Rose showed great control, holding the ball well and bringing other players into the game. She never stopped running and trying and exemplified the team spirit shown by all.

The friendly was a 10 a side game, with all players on both sides playing. Abbi kindly volunteered to go in goal, with a defence of Eva, Rose and Maeve, midfield of Emily, Megan and Annie, and Isabella and Freya as strikers, with India having a free role to wander where she was needed. With so many players on the pitch it was hard for anyone to find any space but the match followed the pattern of the first game with lots of BWR pressure and Stamford Bridge threatening on the counter attack. India got the only goal of the game in the first half with a close range effort. Freya, Isabella and India all had second half chances, and Eva had to be on her toes several times to thwart Stamford Bridge on the breakaway, but it finished a deserved 1-0 win.

It was two evenly matched teams, playing good football in the sunshine. Well done girls!!

### **U11s MATCH REPORT: Sat 22nd Feb: Away v Easingwold Town**

A combination of half-term commitments and injuries meant it was the Magnificent 7 who trekked into the wilds of North Yorkshire for our first ever visit to Easingwold Town. It was an exciting game which see-sawed back and forth with the girls being 3-1 up at one stage, and then 4-3 down with a minute to go, when Emily popped up to equalise to salvage a draw that felt like a win. I'm not sure I can cope with many more games like this! The friendly was a 6 a-side game that was a bit more comfortable for the girls, despite losing an early goal, they ran out 3-1 winners. Lots of goals and lots of excitement made for a great morning of football.

**U11s Team: Emily, Megan, Annie, Wendy, Izzy, Maeve, Freya**

**League Match: Drew 4-4 (Freya – 2, Emily - 2)**

**Friendly: Won 3-1 (Freya, Izzy – 2)**

**Captain: Izzy**

**Player of the League Match: Megan.** Megan put in a brilliant all-round midfield display. She tackled and covered in defence, harried and intercepted in midfield and supported the attack with intelligent runs and excellent passing. Megan seemed to be everywhere and she never stopped running from the first to the final whistle. A superb performance.

**Player of the Friendly Match: Izzy.** Izzy led the line superbly with intelligent running and great link up play with her fellow striker Freya. She constantly tracked back to help the team and she scored two great goals to win the match, both taken with deadly finishes. An excellent display.

**Match Report:**

The match started evenly with both sides having good possession and trying to test the opposition out. BWR fell behind when we were caught out by a quick throw-in and the Easingwold striker finished well from close range. The girls didn't let the early setback get to them and they equalised quickly with a long-range blast from Freya which gave the Easingwold keeper no chance. This turned in to the best period of the match for BWR as the girls pressed Easingwold back and played some really good football. Megan won a tackle in midfield and Freya picked up the loose ball and fed Emily who coolly slotted home to make it 2-1. It was nearly another goal a few minutes later as an

excellent Emily corner was met by Megan who put it agonisingly wide. Easingwold were still dangerous on the break and Wendy had to make an excellent block tackle to prevent the opposition getting back into the match. Soon after the girls got the goal their play deserved as Freya played a superb one-two with Izzy and she drilled the ball into the bottom corner of the net. That made it 3-1 and the girls were well worth the lead. On the stroke of half-time, Easingwold got themselves back in the game when a brave save from Maeve fell kindly for the opposition striker who slotted home from close-range. 3-2 at half-time, and a chance to catch our breath after a pulsating first half. The second half didn't go well for the girls as a defensive lapse let in Easingwold for the equaliser and then with 5 minutes to go Easingwold went in front with a long range effort that squirmed into the net. Once again the girls showed excellent team spirit and they started to press the opposition goal looking for the equaliser. Freya had an excellent chance which went just wide before Easingwold had a lightning breakaway which ended in a fierce shot which was superbly saved by Maeve. That would have been game over as by that time there was only a few minutes left. The girls continued to attack, looking for the equaliser, and then with only seconds to go, Emily picked up the ball just outside the Easingwold area and rifled a brilliant shot into the top corner. The crowd went wild and the draw felt like a win.

The team were magnificent (7) and played excellent football throughout. Maeve did exceptionally well with great saves, especially the one at the end, and brilliant kicking. Annie and Wendy worked really hard in defence against a really speedy and clinical attack. They tackled and marked and intercepted throughout the game and never stopped working for the team. Megan and Emily in midfield were excellent as they helped out in defence and also supported the attack. Megan's throw-ins were a constant attacking threat, and Emily's corners were always dangerous causing the opposition defence panic whenever she took one. Freya and Izzy were superb up front as they ran themselves into the ground chasing the ball and harrying defenders. Freya took her goals really well and the link up play between the pair was excellent. A great all-round team performance.

The friendly match was a 6 a side game as that's all the players Easingwold had left. Emily kindly offered to go in goal. Maeve was in defence, Annie and Megan in midfield and Freya and Izzy stayed in attack. Wendy was sub for the first half and Freya/Megan was sub for the second half. Easingwold took an early lead as Emily was beaten from close range before the girls equalised with one of the best passing moves of the morning. Annie played an intelligent pass to Izzy who passed to Freya, and Freya finished clinically to make it 1-1. The second-half was more one-sided as the girls put the pressure on and were rewarded with two lovely goals. First Maeve put in a superb tackle to set up Izzy who finished well, and then a through ball from the back found Izzy one on one with the keeper and she coolly slotted home. It finished 3-1 and the girls deserved the win.

The quality of the football was impressive, and the team spirit to come from behind twice to earn a point was brilliant. Well done girls!!

### **U11s MATCH REPORT: Sat 8th Feb: Home v Poppleton Tigers**

It was back to League action for the girls at a cold and breezy Moor Lane. The opposition were Poppleton Tigers who have been steadily improving in their first season of competition, and proved to be a sterner test than when we played them earlier in the season. Goals from Emily and Annie

secured a hard fought but deserved 2-0 win. The friendly followed the pattern of the league match with lots of BWR possession and the occasional Poppleton counter attack, but this time the goals wouldn't come and it ended 0-0. A confidence boosting League win after recent results and three valuable points.

**U11s Team : Emily, Abbi, Megan, India, Annie, Rose, Wendy, Eva, Izzy, Maeve**

**League Match: Won 2-0 (Emily, Annie)**

**Friendly : Drew 0-0**

**Captain : Emily**

**Player of the League Match: Emily.** The captain's armband again proved an inspiration as Emily put in a superb performance up front. Given the task of getting goals for the side she duly obliged with a lovely long range effort to open the scoring, and then followed that up with lots of shots on goal as BWR pressured the Poppleton goal. Her link up play with Rose and Izzy was excellent and she produced probably the pass of the day as she threaded a wonderful pass through to Annie to launch yet another attack. An excellent display.

**Player of the Friendly Match: Maeve.** Maeve ran her socks off in the Friendly and seemed to be everywhere on the pitch. She was hungry for the ball and her determined tackling and forceful runs really stood out on a crowded pitch. Her enthusiasm and willingness to do the hard work for the team were really impressive. A superb performance.

**Match Report:**

After beating the same opposition 6-0 earlier in the season, the girls might have been expecting an easy victory, but Poppleton had other ideas and are a much improved outfit with several new players and much more experience. BWR kicked off with the strong wind at their backs and immediately put the Poppleton goal under pressure with Rose and Emily both having good early chances. The girls were having the majority of the play but there was a constant threat of a counter attack and India and Eva had to be vigilant throughout. Finally, midway through the first half, Emily opened the scoring. Latching onto a loose ball in midfield, she fired a snap shot at goal and the ball flew in. The goal gave the girls confidence and the pressure increased on the Poppleton goal, with Emily in particular adopting a shoot on sight policy, but they just couldn't get the 2<sup>nd</sup> goal. The second half followed the pattern of the first with lots of BWR pressure but without getting that break in front of goal. Credit must also go to the Poppleton keeper who made several fine saves and was helped out by some heroic defending. Emily continued to impress up front as she came close with several efforts on goal, and Annie, pushing up from midfield, also made the goalkeeper work hard. Finally, when it looked like we were in for a nervy final few minutes at 1-0, Annie controlled an Emily corner and sent a screaming shot into the top corner of the net. The relief was palpable, and the goal was well deserved. There was still time for another Poppleton counter-attack, and only brave goalkeeping from Maeve kept the opposition from making the last few minutes more nerve-jangling than they should have been.

Maeve kindly volunteered to go in goal and was a spectator for much of the match, which wasn't much fun in the freezing wind. She had to make a couple of important saves from Poppleton



counter-attacks and made a crucial save towards the end. Her kicking was excellent and she kept alert and involved in the game throughout. In defence, India was brilliant as she tackled and intercepted and was brave and tenacious. She was ably assisted by Eva and Wendy who were excellent with their marking and tackling and work-rate. In midfield, Abbi, Megan and Annie worked really hard, winning the ball and then launching attack after attack. They never stopped running and when the play got stretched, and Poppleton threatened, they were always on hand to help out in defence. Up front, Emily, Rose and Izzy were excellent, passing, moving and shooting, and never giving up. They were also superb at chasing back when required and helping out the midfield and defence. An excellent display by the girls to get back to winning ways, and with a bit more luck in front of goal, it could have been much more comfortable.

The friendly was a 10 v 10 game, which meant very little room on the pitch, but it gave all the girls a game. Izzy volunteered to go in goal, and Wendy, Eva and Maeve all wanted to play in defence. Annie, Abbi, Emily and Megan all wanted to play midfield, and that left India and Rose up front. Izzy made an excellent save to keep Poppleton out, and India had 2 great chances to score, including one with almost the last kick of the game, but it wasn't to be and the game ended 0-0.

It was great to see the girls get a much needed, and well deserved, win and they should be really proud of their efforts. Well done girls!!

#### **U11s MATCH REPORT: Sat 1st Feb: Home v York RI (League Cup Preliminary Round)**

After 2 heavy defeats in the League, the last team we wanted to get drawn against in the Cup was League high-flyers York RI. So it was inevitable really that we should get drawn against them in the League Cup Preliminary Round. This was a repeat of last season's Cup draw, but there was no chance of a dramatic 0-0 draw and then some heroic penalties, this year's York RI team are almost a different set of players and it ended 7-0. The girls played really well and battled to the final whistle but it was really difficult against the Academy standard players of the opposition. The friendly fixture was a tighter affair with the girls battling hard, but York RI managed a late goal to win 1-0. York RI are by far the best team in the League and it's no disgrace losing against such opposition, and the girls did themselves proud with their spirited performance.

**U11s Team : Emily, Abbi, Megan, India, Freya, Annie, Rose, Wendy, Isabella**

**Cup Match: Lost 7-0**

**Friendly : Lost 1-0**

**Captain : Annie**

**Player of the Cup Match: Megan.** Megan played with enthusiasm and commitment and battled from start to finish. She made some excellent forward runs and showed lovely skills, beating players and then bringing her teammates into the game. Megan showed what a great midfield player she is becoming with box to box runs and energy and determination that never stopped.

**Player of the Friendly Match: Abbi.** Abbi was restored to Goalkeeper for the friendly and had a great first half, making a great save to keep BWR in the game. Her handling was good and her goal kicks are improving with every game. In the second half she stretched her legs in midfield and put

**in an excellent performance where she never stopped running and trying, and she typified the outstanding spirit within the team.**

#### **Match Report:**

The team was set up to defend, but York RI have been a different class this season and so it was a hopeless cause. The girls battled really hard and no one can question their determination, effort and commitment, but York RI scored with regularity and it was to the girl's credit that they never let their heads drop. Freya had volunteered to go in goal and gave a wonderful performance with some magnificent saves, the best of which was probably the tipping of a fierce shot onto the post. Freya's handling and bravery were excellent and her kicks from hand and off the ground were superb. A great effort from Freya who wasn't to blame for any of the goals. In defence were India, Abbi and Emily and they were really tested against the best attack in the League. They tackled and marked and ran themselves into the ground. Playing defensive midfield was Annie, who was Captain for the day. Annie worked really hard all over the pitch, tackling, marking, making forward runs and then racing back to help out the defence. In midfield were Wendy and Megan, alternating with Isabella and Rose, and both pairs worked really hard to cut down the opposition space and relieve pressure on the defence. Wendy made some telling tackles and interceptions and never stopped trying. Megan made some excellent forward runs and contributed to the team all over the field. Isabella battled hard and tried to open up play with some lovely runs down the wing and some great passing. Rose showed strength and commitment and she tackled and challenged all over the pitch.

The friendly was a 6-a-side game. Abbi kindly volunteered to go in goal in the first half and Megan played keeper in the second. Both played well and Abbi made a stunning save from a fierce shot to keep BWR in the game. India and Annie played defence and they looked strong and determined and played well together. Megan and Isabella played midfield and it was a good combination of speed and skill in the middle of the park as they defended well and also launched some great attacks. Rose played on her own up front and worked really hard to hold the ball up and bring the midfield into the attacks. It was a good performance by the girls with Isabella, Rose and Abbi having shots on goal. A late goal by York RI made it a narrow 1-0 loss but the girls played well and deserved something from the game.

Lots for the team to be proud of, and hopefully easier games to come. Well done girls!!

#### **U11s MATCH REPORT: Sat 18th Jan: Home v Copmanthorpe**

It was the turn of local rivals Copmanthorpe to visit Moor Lane on Saturday and it was another exciting game and an excellent team performance. A last gasp equaliser got the draw the girls deserved, and the closeness of the teams was underlined by a nil-nil score line in the friendly. A thoroughly entertaining, if nerve jangling, morning of quality football from the girls.

**U11s Team : Maeve, Emily, Eva, Abbi, Megan, India, Freya, Annie, Rose**

**League Match: Drew 1-1 (Annie)**

**Friendly : Drew 0-0**

## **Captain : Rose**

**Player of the League Match: India.** India was a rock in defence as she tackled bravely, intercepted intelligently and cleared the ball with confidence. Against tough opponents, India was brave and strong and never gave up despite suffering numerous knocks. Her long throw was a really effective weapon and she started numerous attacks from defence with her clearances and her passing out from the back. An excellent performance.

**Player of the Friendly Match: Rose.** Rose volunteered to play in defence but ended up playing a defensive midfield position which really suited her. Playing just in front of the back two, she read the play brilliantly and stopped attack after attack with strong tackling and clever interceptions. She protected the defence and launched attacks with great link up play. A great display from the captain of the day.

## **Match Report:**

The game started with lots of BWR possession and pressure on the Copmanthorpe goal. The girls put together some lovely passages of play, none better than an early flowing move that saw the ball passed quickly from one end of the pitch to the other, resulting in Freya's shot being saved. The Copmanthorpe threat was mainly from breakaways as BWR pressed and pressed for the opening goal. One such counter attack resulted in Abbi having to make a great save from a fierce Copmanthorpe shot. Abbi had to be on her toes again as she had to make another fine save from a Copmanthorpe cross, but the girls had the lion's share of possession and the play was mainly in the Copmanthorpe half. BWR were eventually punished for not turning their territorial advantage into goals as Copmanthorpe broke quickly and their forward took a shot just inside the area which went in off the post giving Abbi no chance. The goal came just before half-time and gave the girls no time to get back into the game before the break. The pattern of the second-half was exactly the same as the first as BWR mounted attack after attack but had to be careful of counter attacks from a strong and fast Copmanthorpe team. The last five minutes of the match saw incredible pressure on the Copmanthorpe goal as Emily sent in corner after corner, and Freya, Rose and India all had chances at goal. Then, with just seconds to go, Annie controlled a corner from Emily, turned superbly in the area and fired in a shot which flew into the net, sending the home crowd wild. There was barely time to restart the match as the girls celebrated a draw which felt like a win.

There were excellent performances all over the pitch. Abbi, in goal, didn't have too much to do, but had to keep her concentration and made some crucial saves as Copmanthorpe threatened on the breakaway. In defence, Eva and India were excellent again with strong tackling and confident clearances and are developing a real partnership at the back. In midfield, a new strategy of rolling subs was used, as Megan and Maeve, and Emily and Annie, were swapped on and off to provide fresh legs for the whole match. Megan made some great runs, and her energy and enthusiasm meant she never stopped running from one end of the pitch to the other. Maeve continued her fine form from last week and ran her socks off, putting in 100% effort again. Emily had probably her best game back since she broke her foot, with some lovely runs down the wing and some strong tackling in the middle of the park. Annie also worked hard, tackling fiercely and going on some excellent runs down the wing. Up front, Rose and Freya worked very hard against some really tough opponents, and they used all their skills to create opportunities for the team. Rose showed some excellent skills to bring her team mates into the game, and Freya battled bravely with some

determined runs and great link-up play. It was a game of courage too as the girls took more than their fair share of footballs in the face. First Eva took a clearance in the mouth, then Maeve took a shot full in the face and then Annie was knocked over by a fierce shot which caught her in the face too. Thankfully all the girls were OK to carry on and no serious harm was done!

The friendly was another close affair, with chances for both teams and more excellent play. It was a 9 vs 9 game as both teams fielded all their available players. Maeve once again volunteered to go in goal, and she showed what an excellent keeper she is with some fine saves. In defence Eva and Freya were protected by Rose playing just in front of the back two. In midfield, Emily, Abbi and Annie, and in attack, Megan and India. India had an early chance at goal, before Maeve had to make a sharp save. Megan made a lovely run and shot that went into the side netting, but there was no separating the sides in the first half. After the break, another attempt from India went wide and Abbi had a good shot saved, but the game ended all square for another draw.

The girls played really well, against a good Copmanthorpe side, and draws in both games was probably a fair result, and the least their excellent play deserved. Well done girls!

#### **U11s MATCH REPORT: Sat 11th Jan: Away v Brooklyn**

The first League match of 2014 brought a trip to sunny but cold Malton, to take on Brooklyn. An exciting game saw BWR take the lead only for Brooklyn to equalise just on the stroke of half-time and then win the match with two quick goals in the second-half to make it 3-1. The girls played really well and matched Brooklyn in every department. The friendly was a hard fought affair as both Abbi and Emily had to limp off but the girls battled on and won 2-0. Two fine performances from the girls as they continue to show improvements in all areas.

**U11s Team : Maeve, Isabella, Emily, Eva, Abbi, Megan, India, Wendy, Freya**

**League Match: Lost 3-1 (Freya)**

**Friendly : Won 2-0 (Freya, India)**

**Captain : Isabella**

**Player of the League Match: Maeve.** A superb performance from Maeve as she ran herself into the ground and covered every blade of grass. She tackled and chased at the back, harried and hounded in midfield, and used her pace and energy to support the attack. Maeve epitomised the spirit of the team as she put in 100% effort into her performance.

**Player of the Friendly Match: Freya.** Freya was in full swashbuckling mode as she took the fight to the opposition with lots of brave tackling and chasing, and some excellent forward runs. She scored an excellent goal, to add to the one in the League match, and she never stopped running and trying, and her determination and energy were an inspiration to the team.

**Match Report:**

The match started very evenly with both teams competing well for the ball, and chances at both ends without any real alarms for either keeper. The initial deadlock was broken mid-way through

the half as a throw in from India was latched onto by Freya who dispatched the ball into the corner of the goal. This sparked Brooklyn into life and they started to mount a serious challenge on goal, but the defence held firm and Abbi's handling in goal was safe and confident. The pressure brought opportunities to hit Brooklyn on the break, and Freya came close with a lovely run and shot. Just before half-time, some indecision on the edge of the area allowed Brooklyn to get back into the game as their striker hit an unstoppable shot into the top corner of the net.

The second half saw the girls playing up hill, against the wind and with the sun in their eyes, but they didn't let that stop them from mounting serious pressure on the Brooklyn goal. The breakthrough the girls deserved looked like it had come when Freya forced her way into the box only to be brutally taken out by the Brooklyn keeper. Penalty! Freya bravely stepped up to take it but the mountain of a keeper saved the penalty and this gave Brooklyn renewed enthusiasm. It was then their turn to pile the pressure on as they first hit the BWR post, and then scored two quick goals. A handball in the box brought a penalty for Brooklyn which was superbly saved by Abbi, before Brooklyn hit the post again just before the end.

It was another excellent performance from Abbi in goal as she continues to improve in all areas. Her handling was safe and confident and she made a superb penalty save near the end of the match. In defence, India had another great game with strong tackling and clearances and she gave a really commanding performance. Eva is probably the most improved player this season and she didn't miss a tackle or clearance all game. Maeve was nominally down as a defensive midfielder but ended up playing everywhere as she had a superb game all over the pitch. Emily and Isabella ran their socks off in midfield, tackling and covering and then supporting the attacks when they could. Freya up front was immense as she battled the Brooklyn defence with skill and courage. Megan and Wendy came on in the second half and fitted in seamlessly. Megan continued to show what an impressive talent she is with lots of intelligent passing and clever play. Wendy was excellent in defence with some crucial tackles and last ditch clearances.

The Friendly match started as a 9 v 9 game with Maeve in goal, Wendy, Freya and Eva in defence, Megan, Abbi and Isabella in midfield and Emily and India up front. Injuries to Emily (knee) and Abbi (foot) meant the team finished with only 7 players, but the performance was excellent and it didn't seem to matter that the opposition had extra players. India opened the scoring with a fine shot after good work by Freya and Abbi, and then Freya secured the win with a fine goal for herself. Maeve was excellent in goal and made some fine saves including a really brave one at the feet of a Brooklyn striker. It finished 2-0 and the girls deserved the win.

An excellent performance by the girls in an exciting morning of football. Penalties, goals, great saves, brave tackling, super passing and great team spirit, the games had it all. Brooklyn are a top 5 side and the girls made them work really hard for their win, so lots to be proud of. Well done girls!

### **U11s MATCH REPORT: Sat 14th Dec: Home v Brayton Belles**

A cold but dry Saturday morning saw second placed Brayton Belles as the visitors for the last League match of 2013. Injuries and illness again played a part, but the girls played really well with some lovely passing moves, and were the better side for large parts of the match. Unfortunately a couple of defensive mistakes were punished by a strong Brayton side and they won 2-0. The girls played

well again in the Friendly, but just couldn't find the goal they deserved and it ended 0-0. A fine performance from the girls which should give them confidence for the second half of the season.

**U11s Team : Maeve, Isabella, Emily, Eva, Abbi, Rose, Megan, India**

**League Match: Lost 2-0**

**Friendly : Drew 0-0**

**Captain : India**

**Player of the League Match: India.** A captain's performance from India at the back as she tackled and intercepted and battled from the first minute to the last. India read the play really well, and her timing was excellent as she used her strength and skill to disrupt the Brayton attacks. A fantastic defensive display.

**Player of the Friendly Match: Megan.** Megan covered every blade of grass in a superb display of skill, pace and energy. With excellent runs down the wing, beating defenders with some lovely skills and running box-to-box with incredible enthusiasm, Megan showed what a brilliant player she is. An inspirational performance.

Match Report:

With only a squad of 8 available players there was little room for any last minute fitness problems, but luck wasn't with us again. Isabella's injured toe meant she could only play a few minutes of the League match before she had to hobble off and be replaced by super sub Eva, and Abbi looked very ill throughout the match but bravely carried on in goal as there were no more subs! Abbi deserves great credit for her performance, despite being poorly she made a number of really important saves, and had no chance with either goal. She is a shining example of the excellent commitment within the team. India and Eva formed the defensive line tasked with keeping Brayton at bay, and they played really well, both individually and as a partnership. They were strong in the tackle, made excellent clearances and communicated well together. In midfield, Maeve, Megan and Emily ran themselves into the ground as they chased, tackled, intercepted and challenged like their life depended on it. There was no lack of commitment or energy from the BWR midfield and they put together some lovely passing moves. Up front, Rose held on to the ball excellently and used her skills to bring in the BWR midfield into play. She was always a threat and gave the Brayton defence plenty to think about.

The game started with lots of BWR pressure, and Rose had an excellent long range effort go just wide. Emily had a fine run down the left which ended with a cross shot that just needed a touch in, but eluded everyone, before Maeve put in some fine work and set up a shooting opportunity for Rose but the shot went wide. Then, against the run of play, Brayton opened the scoring to go 1-0 ahead. The setback didn't affect the girls and they came back harder, as they put together a lovely team move, with excellent passing that ended with a Megan shot that went just wide. Brayton made it 2-0 just before half-time when their star player pounced on a loose ball and hit a superb strike which no one could have saved. At half-time it was 2-0 which was harsh on the girls after they had played so well. In the second half the pattern continued as BWR again had the better of the play, with some lovely passing moves, but Brayton were always a threat on the break. Maeve had a

fine run down the wing, but her shot was blocked as the girls continued to play the better football. The pressure started forcing corners and Emily put in some great balls, one nearly being sliced into her own net by a Brayton defender. Emily then had an excellent run and shot which was saved by the keeper, and then Megan got in on the act and had an attempt at goal. Brayton were always a threat on the break and Abbi had to make some superb saves to keep BWR in the game. Rose had an excellent shot late on, and then India took a free-kick, after Emily had been fouled outside the box, but that went just wide. Maeve then had a final chance in the last seconds of the match but couldn't get that elusive goal. It was a superb footballing display from the girls, against an excellent Brayton side, and but for a bit of luck in front of goal, they could have got something from the match.

Abbi was too ill to continue for the Friendly, but Isabella felt confident she could step up and battle through the pain, so we at least had 7 players! Maeve volunteered to go in goal, Eva and India in defence, Isabella and Megan in midfield and Rose and Emily up front. Unfortunately, Brayton had taken their star player off, but then put her in goal, and she continued to have a fantastic game as she saved everything the girls threw at her. BWR had the majority of the play, and continued to put together some quality passing moves, but even when they breached the Brayton defence they couldn't get past the Brayton Keeper. It ended 0-0 and a draw was probably a fair result, but it would have been nice for the girls to get at least one goal after all their attempts.

It was a fine performance from the girls, given that Brayton are second in the League and we had to cope with last minute illness and injury, so the girls should be very proud of themselves. Well done girls!

### **U11s MATCH REPORT: Sat 7th Dec: Away v York RI**

Saturday saw BWR visit York RI for the return leg of the mid season double header. After last week's heroics, hopes were high of a good showing, but last minute withdrawals due to illness meant it was always going to be tough. As it turned out, a high-flying York RI side were at the top of their game, tough, fast and clinical in front of goal, as they won 13-0. The girls finished with some pride restored as they won the friendly 3-1, with a lovely hat-trick from Freya, including a penalty. A tough morning for the girls, but they battled to the final whistle and never gave up.

**U11s Team : Annie, Isabella, Emily, Freya, Wendy, Abbi, Izzy**

**League Match: Lost 13-0**

**Friendly : Won 3-1 (Freya -3, 1 Pen)**

**Captain : Isabella**

**Player of the League Match: Wendy. Wendy exemplified the spirit and commitment shown by the team. She never stopped battling, with tackles and interceptions and clearances, one after the other as the York RI forwards pressed in on goal. A tough and committed performance from a player growing in confidence with every game.**

**Player of the Friendly Match: Abbi. Abbi had a wonderful game in the Friendly. Playing in midfield, she passed with skill and vision, and set up the first goal for Freya. She put in an incredible effort getting from box to box and did brilliantly to put the disappointment of the League match behind her.**

#### Match Report:

There were three late withdrawals from the squad as a flu/sickness bug took its toll. That left just 7 players to take on the mighty York RI. Abbi was in goal again and produced an excellent performance with countless saves and superb handling. She had no chance with any of the goals and the opposition coach commented on what a great goalkeeping display it was. In defence were Isabella and Freya and they both worked so hard as wave after wave of attacks were launched against the BWR goal. Isabella used her pace and skill to track the York RI forwards, and Freya tackled and intercepted with incredible energy. In a new defensive midfield role, Wendy played brilliantly and really tried hard to disrupt the opposition attacks. Annie and Emily completed the midfield trio and they ran their socks off as they chased the York RI forwards all over the pitch. They had a really difficult job, against a particularly talented team, but they battled and never gave up. Up front, Izzy did the hard yards as she chased the clearances, with little help or support, and she did a magnificent job trying to keep the York RI defenders occupied. The girls played well and didn't deserve to lose by such a margin, but everything York RI did, worked, and they used the smaller pitch and their long throw expert, to great effect. York RI showed what a talented side they are and seemed to be first to each loose ball, and win every 50/50 tackle. It was a learning experience for the girls which will hopefully spur them on for the rest of the season.

The friendly gave the girls a chance to enjoy their football as York RI gave their ex-academy players a rest and allowed their other players a chance of some pitch time. Emily volunteered to go in goal, Wendy and Annie in defence, Abbi and Isabella in midfield and Freya in attack. BWR started on the offensive and Freya had several shots which were either saved or went just wide. Abbi started to take control in the middle of the park with some excellent passing and Isabella was torturing the York RI defence with her mazy running down the wings. Eventually the goal came and it was a lovely through ball from Abbi which was latched onto by Freya and she calmly slotted the ball home. It was then Isabella's turn to be the provider as her through ball found Freya but this time her shot was saved. Another excellent BWR attack ended with Freya beating the goalkeeper with a super shot, only to see a York RI defender save it with her hands. Penalty! Our first of the season. Freya took charge and coolly dispatched the penalty into the top corner for 2-0. York RI briefly got back into the game with a close range effort that gave Emily no chance to make it 2-1, but the defence stayed strong with Annie and Wendy protecting the goal well, and Emily showing some confident handling. Freya made the game safe with a wonderful finish to an excellent cross from Isabella, to complete her hat-trick. The game finished 3-1 and it was a well-deserved victory.

It was a tough morning for the girls but they never stopped trying and never let their heads drop. Well done girls!

**U11s MATCH REPORT: Sat 30th Nov: Home v York RI**



It was a crisp, cold but thankfully dry morning at Moor Lane as the League high-flyers York RI paid a visit. Undefeated so far this season, the visitors boasted a number of ex-academy girls in their team and so it was always going to be a tough ask for BWR to get something from the game. The girls battled brilliantly but went down 5-2. York RI played some development team players in the friendly, but the girls played really well and notched up an emphatic 5-0 win.

**U11s Team : Annie, Isabella, Emily, Freya, Megan, Maeve , Eva, Wendy, Rose, India, Abbi, Izzy**

**League Match: Lost 5-2 (Izzy, Annie)**

**Friendly : Won 5-0 (Emily, Freya -2, Isabella -2)**

**Captain : Megan**

**Player of the League Match: Izzy.** Izzy had an excellent game up front, which wasn't an easy position to play in a game like this as the girls had to soak up an awful lot of pressure and so there wasn't much support for her. Her goal was a wonderful solo effort which showed speed, determination and skill, and gave the whole side a boost. A great performance.

**Player of the Friendly Match: Freya.** Freya scored 2 goals and could have had more, in a really superb performance. She ran herself into the ground with her chasing and pressuring and it was really inspiring to watch. Freya had also volunteered to go in goal during the League match after Abbi had been injured and made some fantastic saves. It shows what an excellent team player she is.

**Match Report:**

York RI, with 9 wins and 1 draw so far this season, had only conceded 3 goals in those 10 games, so it was no surprise that they were on the attack from the start. Abbi was in goal and again she showed great handling and shot stopping ability. Her kicking was intelligent as she generally found BWR players in space, and she inspired confidence in the defence with her command of the area. Playing regularly in goal will build her confidence and there are excellent early signs of this happening. The defence of Megan and India were at full stretch from the first whistle and they worked really hard with their tackles and marking, and they defended heroically. Sitting just in front of the back two was Eva playing a defensive midfield role and she took to it with great skill as she moved all over the field helping out the defence where she was needed. In midfield were Freya and Emily, and they ran so hard and made so many tackles and challenges that they had to have a breather half-way through the half, and Annie and Isabella came on to continue their excellent work. Ploughing a lonely furrow up front was Rose who managed to get a snapshot away as the girls mounted a breakaway after the early pressure had eased. Just as Abbi had made a super save to deny the visitors a goal, York RI scored with a fizzing shot that spun wickedly across the penalty area. That brought another period of sustained pressure as York RI threw everything at BWR. First they hit the post, then they went 2-0 up with a long shot from a very tight angle, then they hit the post again, before Abbi had to make another fine save. Isabella managed a fine run up the wing to relieve the pressure a little before York RI hit the post again from a free-kick.

Half-time brought a chance to use the rest of the players in the team with Abbi staying in goal. In defence was Maeve and Megan. Midfield was Emily, Freya and Wendy, with Izzy up front. The second half didn't start well as York RI made it 3-0 with a shot from inside the area, which brought a hand injury to Abbi who had to come off. Freya kindly volunteered to go in goal and she carried on the excellent work of Abbi with some top-class saves, including tipping the ball over the bar after a fierce long range effort. Then came the BWR moment of the match as Izzy danced through the York RI midfield and defence and calmly slotted the ball into the goal for 3-1. It was an excellent goal and really gave everyone a lift. York RI made it 4-1 when they worked a two against one situation in the penalty area and gave Freya no chance with the finish. Freya then made two excellent saves and Izzy made another fantastic run before York RI made it 5-1 when some tired defending let the visitors have a free shot on goal. There was time for Izzy and Isabella to combine superbly on the left hand side and set up Annie for a cool side foot finish into the top corner. It was a really good, well-worked goal and the girls really deserved it. Maeve defended superbly with great running and tackling. Wendy had another excellent game in midfield as she made some telling tackles and interceptions and really protected the defence in her defensive midfield role. Emily, Freya, Annie and Isabella really worked their socks off in midfield and covered every inch of grass and must have tackled every York RI player 10 times each. Up front Izzy had a special game as her pace and skill caused the York RI defence problems they haven't had all season. It ended 5-2 but the girls should be really proud of their performance against such a good side.

The friendly saw York RI play some development players in their side, but still found room for one of their first teamers in goal and BWR kept her busy for the whole match. Freya stayed in goal for the first half, with a defence of Eva, Rose and Wendy, midfield of Abbi and Annie, and Emily up front. The girls opened the scoring early with an Abbi through ball feeding Emily who calmly steadied herself before smashing the ball home. York RI came close to equalising before Emily repaid the favour by crossing for Abbi but a last ditch tackle stopped her from scoring. Freya had to make another excellent save, and then Annie put Emily through on goal but her effort was saved. In the second half it was all change again in an attempt to give all players equal pitch time. Maeve kindly volunteered to go in goal again, Izzy and Emily in defence, a midfield of Isabella, India and Megan, and Freya up front. BWR were immediately on the attack with good work from Freya creating an opening for Isabella to go close. Freya made it 2-0 after good work from India and Megan, and then she added a third as Megan again was the provider. Freya then nearly got a hat-trick as her shot went just wide. Isabella added a fourth with a simple tap in after neat work from Freya, and then she got a fifth with a cross shot which squirmed under the keeper. It ended 5-0 which was just rewards for how well all the girls had played.

Against top notch opposition, the girls held their own and played really well. Let's hope for more of the same next week as we play the return fixture at York RI. Well done Girls!!

### **U11s MATCH REPORT: Sat 23rd Nov: Home v Wigginton Grasshoppers**

Saturday saw the visit of high-flying League newcomers, Wigginton Grasshoppers, who taught the girls a lesson in clinical finishing with a 4-0 win. Some pride was restored in an exciting friendly as the girls snatched a tight 1-0 win.

**U11s Team : Annie, Isabella, Emily, Freya, Megan, Maeve, Eva, Wendy, Rose**

**League Match: Lost 4-0**

**Friendly : Won 1-0 (Freya)**

**Captain : Emily**

**Player of the League Match: Maeve.** Maeve started the match with a wonderful solo run down the wing, and her performance built from there. Her passing and tackling were excellent and she never stopped running and trying her best for the whole match. Maeve also deserves a special mention for yet again volunteering to go in goal, not only at half-time in the League match, but also for the Friendly where she kept a clean sheet and had a wonderful game.

**Player of the Friendly Match: Eva.** Eva played in her favourite defensive position for the friendly and she had an excellent game with strong tackling and some really positive clearances. Eva has added strength and determination to her play and it really stood out as she played a huge part in the clean sheet which created the platform for the win.

**Match Report:**

Wigginton, sitting 3rd in the League, were always going to be tough opponents and they showed their class from the start as they piled on the pressure in the opening 5 minutes. BWR withstood that early pressure well with some excellent goalkeeping and defending. Megan made her debut in goal and looked comfortable with some good clearances with her feet and some excellent reaction saves. In defence were Annie and Emily who tackled and covered well using their speed and awareness to great effect. They really had to put a shift in to weather the early storm against a lively Wigginton forward line who were fast and strong. Just as it seemed the early pressure was easing, Wigginton ran through the middle with a swift attack and gave Megan no chance with a clinical finish. The girls immediately tried to get back into the game with some great attacking play. First, Maeve operating on the right of midfield, made a fantastic run down the wing and finished it with an excellent cross which had to be scrambled away by the opposition defence, and then Freya, who was playing central midfield, had two excellent efforts on goal. Isabella, playing on the left of midfield after an early injury to Eva, made some lovely runs down the left but always seemed to have at least 3 defenders around her. Rose was playing up front as a lone striker and she worked her socks off, chasing down through balls and trying to get onto crosses in the box. Almost against the run of play, Wigginton got a second just before half-time with another clinical finish, and there was only enough time for another Freya effort on goal before the Referee blew for the interval.

The second half brought a change of goalkeeper as Freya replaced Megan, and Wendy came on for her League debut. The half didn't start well as a Wigginton forward was on hand to put away the rebound after Freya had made a fine save. The girls never let their heads go down as they continued to work and create chances, with Megan going close from a well-worked corner. Wendy had slotted seamlessly into the team, especially as she is inexperienced at playing in midfield and she battled hard with some excellent challenges and clearances. An unfortunate fourth goal was a little flattering for Wigginton as they scored from long range, but again the girls came back at them creating lots of pressure and playing the better, passing, football. The move of the game came late on as Emily passed out of defence to Isabella, who used her pace to speed down the wing and cross

the ball into Rose who helped it on to Megan, who came agonisingly close to the goal the girls deserved. The girls battled to the final whistle, but Wigginton held firm and it finished 4-0 to the visitors. The score line was flattering as BWR had plenty of chances to score, but clinical finishing by Wigginton was the difference on the day.

The Friendly was a much more even affair as Wigginton played their star player, who had scored a hat-trick during the League match, in goal. Maeve volunteered to go in goal for BWR, and Eva and Wendy played in defence. A midfield of Annie, Megan and Isabella, and Freya up front, completed the team. This was an exciting game with chances at both ends and all the girls playing really well. Freya was excellent up front and really battled hard to create chances, with the midfield trio putting in the hard yards to support her. The defensive pairing of Wendy and Eva were really solid at the back and Maeve had an excellent game in goal with really safe handling and great kicking from hand and off the floor. At half-time, Emily and Rose came on in midfield, replacing Annie and Megan. The deadlock was finally broken as Freya scored a brilliant individual goal as she took the ball on a solo run onto the area and, after her initial shot was saved by the keeper, followed up to force the ball home. It was a determined run that brought Freya and the team a deserved goal. Wigginton produced one final chance as one of their forwards went on a mazy run and went round everyone before Isabella raced back to clear off the line as the equaliser looked certain. It was a brilliant effort from the girls and they deserved their win.

The girls played well and created lots of chances and should be proud of the way they played. Well done Girls!!

#### **U11s MATCH REPORT: Sat 16th Nov: Away v Stamford Bridge**

A really exciting game between two evenly matched teams produced a thrilling 2-2 draw. The girls were 1-0 up and then 2-1 up before Stamford Bridge equalised with just a few minutes to go. All round heroics from the Magnificent Seven who put everything on the line in a highly competitive match. Just to prove there wasn't much between the teams, the Friendly finished 0-0.

**U11s Team: Annie, Isabella, Emily, Abbi, Freya, Megan, India**

**League Match: Drew 2-2 (Emily - 2)**

**Friendly: Drew 0-0**

**Captain: Freya**

**Player of the League Match: Emily.** Emily opened her goal scoring account for the season with two second-half goals which were just rewards for an outstanding all-round performance which saw her play every position over the two games. Starting in midfield she showed some excellent skills on the left-hand side and then a half-time switch to striker brought her goals, one of which was an incredible lob over the goalkeeper, and capped a superb performance.

**Player of the Friendly Match: Freya.** Freya started the friendly in goal and she showed just how good she is between the sticks with a confident display. In the second half she played striker and showed some wonderful touches, beating defenders with ease and creating numerous chances.

**With her brave dribbling and tackling, built on her wonderful defensive performance in the league game, Freya was outstanding.**

Match Report:

The match started with BWR playing uphill, against the wind, and this caused Stamford Bridge to have the better of the opening exchanges as the girls got to grips with the conditions. Excellent defending from Freya and India, brilliantly supported by the midfield of Annie, Emily and Megan, held firm and protected Abbi in goal, who continued her superb form of last week with safe handling and confident kicking. Once BWR had weathered the initial storm, they started to mount some attacks of their own with Isabella, playing as the lone striker, coming close with a lovely run and shot which was only just wide. Stamford Bridge continued to use the slope and wind to their advantage, and India made a vital clearance inside her penalty area to stop the opposition from scoring. Freya was outstanding in defence too, with superb clearances and tackles, and great calling, leading by example as Captain. The half finished with India finding Isabella with a great clearance and Isabella shooting just wide, and it was nil-nil at the break.

The second-half saw a tactical change as Emily swapped with Isabella in attack (the coach would like to take credit but it was the girls' idea!) and it brought an early reward. Emily was quick to react as the Stamford Bridge keeper got in to difficulties handling a long ball forward from India, and she finished from close range to open the scoring. The Stamford Bridge keeper was having to work really hard against some sustained pressure and Megan was the next to get forward. She was really brave to charge down a clearance and have a shot at goal which was well saved. Almost against the run of play, Stamford Bridge equalised but the girls never let their heads go down and both Emily and Isabella both went close with good chances before the goal of the game made it 2-1 to BWR. A poor clearance by the Stamford Bridge keeper was pounced on by Emily who then lobbed the keeper from 20 yards out. Soon after, Annie, who had played another fantastic game in midfield, had a great chance to make the game safe as she bulldozed her way into the area but the opposition keeper made an outstanding save. With only minutes to go, Stamford Bridge equalised again when their star player hit a wonderful shot giving Abbi no chance to stop it. The game ended with more BWR pressure but there was just no time left to get the winner. An exciting game ended all square.

For the friendly, Freya gave Abbi a break in goal, Emily and Megan played defence, Abbi and Annie in midfield and Isabella and India in attack. The girls put in another fantastic performance as they continued to battle and play good football. Understandably, with no substitutes, the girls were getting tired, and most of them carrying knocks from the first game, but they bravely carried on and gave it everything. For the second half, Emily went in goal, with Annie and Megan in defence, Abbi and India in midfield and Isabella and Freya up front. Freya was particularly impressive in the striking role, linking up well with Isabella and India joining from midfield. BWR had the best of the second half but neither side could break the deadlock and it ended nil-nil.

The girls played really well with heroics all over the pitch. These were two evenly matched sides, but the girls had the edge throughout and can be proud of their efforts. Well done Girls!!

**U11s MATCH REPORT: Sat 9th Nov: Home v Scarborough Ladies**

A fantastic performance from the girls, in a really exciting game, as they braved rain, wind and freezing temperatures to record a 1-0 win against Scarborough Ladies, one of the form teams from last season. A late goal by Scarborough meant disappointment in the Friendly but another 3 points from the League match was just rewards for heroics all over the pitch.

**U11s Team: Annie, Isabella, Emily, Abbi, Maeve, Megan, India, Wendy**

**League Match: Won 1-0 (Megan)**

**Friendly: Lost 1-0**

**Captain: Abbi**

**Player of the League Match: Abbi.** Due to a knee injury, Abbi volunteered to go in goal and it turned out to be a blessing in disguise as she turned in one of the best goalkeeping performances of the season. Abbi's safe handling in really wet, unhelpful, conditions was really impressive, and her kicking from both hand and off the floor was excellent. What really stood out though were the superb saves late in the second half as Scarborough stepped up the pressure to get an equaliser. Abbi made two really excellent saves late on, and her impressive performance gave the whole team confidence.

**Player of the Friendly Match: Annie.** Annie covered every blade of grass in another impressive performance. Her willingness to do the hard yards, box to box, really stood out as she tackled, passed, attacked and defended with so much energy and enthusiasm.

**Match Report:**

The conditions were dreadful at Moor Lane as a nasty storm brought rain, wind and cold temperatures to the game against Scarborough Ladies. Due to School events BWR were short on players, but a magnificent seven turned out in the freezing rain and gave a fantastic performance. Some early pressure by BWR brought shots at goal from India, who was playing up front on her own, before Scarborough applied some pressure of their own, bringing some smart handling from Abbi, who had volunteered to go in goal due to her knee injury last week. The sides were very evenly matched as play switched from one end to the other. The defensive pairing of Annie and Emily was impressive as they used their excellent pace and ball skills to protect the BWR goal. The only goal of the game came midway through the first half as the girls moved the ball quickly through midfield and it came to Isabella on the right wing. She sped down the wing with the opposition defender trailing in her wake and put in a lovely cross for Megan to sweep into the net as she arrived from midfield. It was a fantastic move and was a worthy winner. The midfield three of Megan, Isabella and Maeve were superb throughout as they ran and ran, and with no substitutes, they had to keep going for the whole match. India was playing up front and she had some excellent opportunities in front of goal. A sustained period of pressure before half-time saw the Scarborough goalkeeper produce some excellent saves as first India, then Maeve, and then India again fired in shots at her. The girls were really unlucky not to extend their lead before the break.

In the second half, Scarborough came back into the match and the game got really exciting as play was end to end. Abbi stayed firm in the BWR goal, and the defence and midfield worked really hard to keep Scarborough from scoring. Even with the pressure on the girls, they still managed to hit

Scarborough on the break, and some excellent play from Megan produced some chances at goal for India. As the game got into the final 5 minutes, the pressure increased, and Abbi produced some wonderful saves, pushing a shot round the post and smothering the ball on a couple of occasions as Scarborough forwards bared down on her goal. The girls withstood the final attacks to get 3 valuable points and complete an excellent performance against a really good side.

For the friendly, India had to go, but was replaced by Wendy who had rushed from the music event so that we had a full team. Abbi wanted to stay in goal, so Wendy was joined in defence by Maeve. Annie and Megan played midfield and Isabella and Emily played up front. This was another exciting game as both sides had chances but BWR had the best of the early play. Emily went close with some snap shots at goal, and Isabella once again impressed down the wing. Annie and Megan were excellent in midfield and showed no signs that they had already played a full game with no break. Wendy and Maeve looked really strong in defence, with Wendy adapting to the pace of the match really quickly and producing some great tackles and clearances. The only goal of the game came late in the second half as a poor clearance allowed the ball to be fed through to a Scarborough player who poked home from close range. There was very little time to get the goal back and it finished 1-0 to the visitors, which was harsh on the girls as they had played so well.

As the game finished, the sun came out, and the disappointment of the friendly was quickly forgotten as the girls had worked so hard, and played so well, against a top Scarborough side. Well done Girls!!

#### **U11s MATCH REPORT: Sat 26th Oct: Away v Copmanthorpe**

It was back to winning ways for the girls on Saturday as they took on an under-strength Copmanthorpe side at Askham Bryan College. In a battling performance, the girls won 6-0 but the score line didn't really reflect how close the game was and how well the girls needed to play to win. The Friendly was another keenly fought match but the girls ran out 5-0 winners to make it a great start to half-term!

**U11s Team: Freya, Rose, Annie, Isabella, Emily, Abbi, Maeve, Megan, Izzy, Eva**

**League Match: Won 6-0 (Izzy - 2, Isabella - 2, Freya - 2)**

**Friendly: Won 5-0 (Rose - 2, Isabella - 3)**

**Captain: Emily**

**Player of the League Match: Eva.** It was a wonderful performance in goal which earned Eva the trophy. A safe pair of hands throughout the game as she saved, caught and blocked everything that came her way. Eva's intelligent distribution from the back with both throws and kicks were really impressive and she tackled the job, which no one wants to do, with confidence and enthusiasm.

**Player of the Friendly Match: Rose.** Rose was a constant threat up front for the whole match, scoring 2 goals and providing assists for 2 more goals. Rose's close control and deadly finishing

**were excellent and she has now started to hold up the ball and link up play really well, adding yet more skills to her strikers armoury.**

#### Match Report:

The match started in some persistent drizzle but that didn't dampen the girls attitude as they started with lots of confidence and enthusiasm. The opening exchanges were mainly in midfield as both teams battled for supremacy and the contest was quite physical as Copmanthorpe showed their strength and commitment. BWR opened the scoring with a lovely passing move, Megan breaking up play in midfield, threading an intelligent pass to Isabella who crossed for Izzy to finish from close range. From the kick-off it was two as the ball broke to Izzy again who finished confidently. Copmanthorpe came back into it with some strong running, but Emily and Abbi were strong at the back with excellent tackles and interceptions, with Megan and Annie in midfield working really hard to protect them. Almost against the run of play, BWR added a third goal. Megan, intercepting the ball in midfield, passed the ball forward to Isabella who shot powerfully from outside the area and the ball squirmed under the Keeper. Copmanthorpe again pressed the BWR goal, but Eva was a safe pair of hands, and the team held firm under pressure and at half-time it was still 3-0. For the second half, Maeve and Rose came on in defence and Freya came on in midfield and the change was seamless as the team kept up the high level of performance from the first half. Copmanthorpe kept the pressure up and it was an entertaining game as play moved from one end to the other. Izzy had a great chance but it went just wide before Isabella added a fourth as she latched on to a poor goal kick to score with a great shot. Izzy had another chance after great work from Freya to set her up before she put in a great cross from Isabella to fire just wide. Then came the move of the match as a delightful flick from Freya found Isabella in space, she picked out Annie whose shot went just wide. Freya, who was popping up everywhere, then hit the post before she finally got her goal. She fired a powerful shot across the area which deflected off a defender into the net. Freya then grabbed her second as she fired in from the left into the bottom right hand corner giving the keeper no chance. Megan went close with a good effort before Emily forced a fine save from the Keeper late on. It ended 6-0 but Copmanthorpe played much better than the score line suggests and the girls had to work really hard for their victory.

Eva played really well in goal and was a safe pair of hands throughout. She was well protected by Emily and Abbi in defence. Emily, well on the road to recovery after her broken foot, was really brave with tackles and interceptions and she battled hard against a strong Copmanthorpe forward line. Abbi was carrying an injury sustained playing for the School the day before, but despite this, she put in an excellent performance and really dug deep to put in the tackles and blocks and protect the goal. Rose and Maeve, who played defence in the second-half, also played really well. Rose was excellent with her tackles and defensive clearances, and Maeve put in the hard yards chasing down attackers and tackling and intercepting. It was also great to see the team work between the partnerships with great communication between the girls. The midfield of Annie, Megan and then Freya was superb as they covered every blade of grass, moving from defence to attack and then back again. It was a physically tough game for the girls but they battled really well, perhaps with the experience of previous games helping them. The forward line of Isabella and Izzy were brilliant with 2 goals each and some great link up play and passing. An excellent team display!



For the Friendly, Abbi was injured and Izzy had to leave early, so Freya kindly volunteered to play for Copmanthorpe so that everybody could play and the sides were even. Megan bravely volunteered to go in goal and give Eva a break, so Eva and Annie played defence, Emily and Maeve in midfield and Isabella and Rose up front. The game quickly settled into the same pattern as the League game with entertaining play at both ends but BWR finishing their chances. Freya played brilliantly against us, carrying on from where she left off in the previous game, with great runs and excellent link up play. She should take great credit for volunteering in the first place, and then playing with so much enthusiasm. Rose opened the scoring with a rebound after a shot from Isabella and great work from Annie. Rose then repaid the favour as her shot was saved and Isabella put the rebound away, this time after great work from Emily in midfield. In the second half, Isabella got the third after Rose and Emily combined well, and then Rose got a fourth after a long goal kick from Emily. A convincing win was then cemented by Isabella scoring a fifth, and completing her hat-trick! Copmanthorpe, with Freya's help, were really good, and again the score line doesn't reflect how well they played.

It turned into a convincing win and the girls played really well with some excellent passing moves and great finishing. Well done girls!!

#### **U11s MATCH REPORT: Sat 19th Oct: Away v Fulford**

It was a tough day for the girls as they took on an in-form Fulford side who turned out to be deadly in front of goal. The girls battled bravely but lost the League match 8-0 and the friendly 2-0. Despite the score line, which flattered the hosts, it was a good performance and we were unfortunate to meet such a good side playing so well.

**U11s Team : Freya, Rose, Annie, Isabella, Emily, Abbi, Maeve, India, Megan, Izzy, Eva, Caitlin, Wendy**

**League Match: Lost 8-0**

**Friendly: Lost 2-0**

**Captain: Megan**

**Player of the League Match: Megan.** It was the first time Megan has played in defence and she took to it with lots of skill and enthusiasm. Her reading of the play was excellent, with strong tackling and excellent clearances. She also found time to get forward and support the strikers and seemed to be everywhere at once. A true captain's performance.

**Player of the Friendly Match: Wendy.** This was Wendy's first ever competitive game and she played really well. She recovered from a nasty blow in the face to put in an excellent display in defence. Strong tackling and some great clearances showed real potential, and she never stopped running and trying. A super debut!

**Match Report:**

The match started with lots of pressure on the BWR goal as Fulford started strongly. The girls defended well and for the first 10 minutes held their own with some swift breakaways to keep the

Fulford defenders on their toes. Fulford are an excellent footballing side with lots of good passing and movement off the ball, and it eventually paid off as they went in front midway through the first half. The girls didn't let their heads drop and they kept battling as Fulford went back on the offensive. It looked like we would make it to half-time only one goal behind, but Fulford scored two quick goals just before the break to make it 3-0. It was 4-0 early in the 2nd half before BWR had their best spell of the match. The girls managed to break out of their half and put Fulford under some pressure as first India and then Freya went close. Just as the pressure looked like it might pay off, Fulford showed their class as they mounted a quick breakaway to score a fifth. They added a sixth from a tight angle and then a seventh from a penalty after a handball in the area. Fulford made it 8-0 near the end. Emily and India both had long range shots on goal to try to get a consolation goal, but it just wasn't our day.

Caitlin had no chance with any of the goals and the score line could have been in double figures if she hadn't pulled off a couple of excellent saves near the end. Caitlin's handling was really safe and her use of throws to distribute the ball is really improving. Isabella and Megan started in defence for the first time together and looked a really good partnership. They are both strong and skilful players who really stood their ground against the Fulford attack. Abbi and Annie started in midfield and they both put in a really strong performance with lots of tackling and helping out in defence. Rose and Izzy started up front and they saw very little of the ball but they worked really hard to track back and help out in midfield and defence. Freya and Emily came on in midfield in the first half and battled well. Freya was nursing an injury sustained in the warm up but bravely got stuck and they both tried really hard to win the midfield battle. Eva, Maeve and India came on in the second half and worked really hard. Eva played in defence and made some timely clearances. Maeve was in midfield and ran her socks off to cover the defence, and India played up front to try to create some chances and she showed some lovely skills.

The friendly was an 8 a side game and Wendy joined the squad for this one and put in an excellent debut performance. Emily kindly volunteered to go in goal and made some fine saves, including a goal-line save where she clawed the ball back from the line as the Fulford striker started to celebrate. Wendy, Abbi and Maeve played in defence, Rose and Isabella in midfield and Izzy and Freya up front. This game was much more even with both sides having pressure on goal. Fulford broke the deadlock when they put away a rebound after a fine save from Emily. They doubled their lead with a swift breakaway goal before half time. In the second half we swapped the players around to give everyone equal pitch time and it was a defence of Wendy, Eva and Maeve, midfield of Rose and Isabella, and an attack of Izzy and Freya. The girls battled hard and continued to match Fulford with some excellent defending and some sustained pressure in attack, with Annie having a couple of really good chances and India also having shots at goal from long range. The match finished 2-0 but it felt like a victory as the girls had done so well against such a good side.

It was a brave effort from the girls against an excellent side and they should be really proud that they kept going and kept trying right up to the final whistle. Well done girls!

**U11s MATCH REPORT: Sat 12th Oct: Home v Goole Town**

Another new team to the league, Goole Town, were the visitors to a rainy and windswept Moor Lane on Saturday and it turned into a bit of a battle as the girls lost the league game 5-3 and the friendly 4-3 in a blizzard of goals and injuries.

**U11s Team: Freya, Rose, Annie, Isabella, Emily, Abbi, Maeve, India, Megan, Izzy, Eva**

**League Match: Lost 5-3 (Izzy - 2, Megan)**

**Friendly: Lost 4-3 (Izzy - 2, Isabella)**

**Captain: Annie**

**Player of the League Match: Annie.** A captain's performance from Annie as she led from the front and covered every blade of grass. She worked so hard in all areas, tackling in midfield, pushing forward to create attacks on goal and then racing back the whole length of the pitch to make saving tackles and interceptions in front of her own goal. An inspirational display.

**Player of the Friendly Match: Maeve.** This was a really brave performance from Maeve as she volunteered to go in goal, not just once for the League match, but also for the friendly match. When no one else would step up and volunteer she readily put the team before herself and volunteered again.

Match Report:

It was a strange start to the match as BWR initially laid siege to the opposition goal with several goalmouth scrambles and half-chances, the best being a shot just over the bar from Isabella. Then, suddenly we were 1-0 down as the Goole No 9 broke away, raced past our defence and fired home. From the restart BWR went on the attack again, with more goalmouth action, including a lovely passing move resulting in India firing wide, before the same thing happened again as the Goole No 9 put away an identical breakaway goal to the first. With all the possession and chances we were 2-0 down! The Goole No 9 then put away a third to complete a fine hat-trick. The girls finally made all the possession pay off when Izzy fired home from close range after a lovely pass from Megan. Goole made it 4-1 just when it looked like we were making a comeback before Izzy fired home again after a long throw from India to give the girls hope. The referee blew for half-time just after the restart and it was 4-2 at the break. The 2nd half was much more even with chances at both ends and after all the first half goals it was strange that the 2nd half remained goalless for so long. Eventually a goal was scored, and it was Megan, making her League debut, who put the ball away with a fine shot from the edge of the area after a fine passing move from the girls. At 4-3 it looked like we could get something from the game, but then, as was the pattern of the game, a breakaway goal was scored by Goole to restore their 2 goal advantage and that's the way it stayed.

Unfortunately the opposition were very aggressive causing several injuries, including a nasty finger injury for India, a head butt on Freya, a kick on the ankle for Isabella and a smack on the wrist for Rose. At one point the sidelines looked like a bad night at A&E!

It was Maeve's turn to go in goal and she was incredibly brave throughout as the Goole No 9 gave her little chance with any of the goals. Maeve's kicking from the ground was excellent and she really grew into the role as the game went on. Abbi and Eva started in defence and tackled and

intercepted really well. Annie and Isabella were excellent in midfield as they pressed high up the field but also got back to help the defence. Freya and India started in attack and worked really hard to create chances and get the goals. Izzy, Rose and Megan started on the bench but were soon in the action as all the injuries took their toll. Izzy came on and scored another 2 goals and could have had more. Megan came on in midfield and looked really good again, setting up one goal and scoring another. Rose came on in the second half and had several excellent chances to score and she was a constant threat in the opposition box.

In the friendly, BWR got an early 2-0 lead as first Izzy from close range, and then Isabella with a brilliant effort from well outside the area, scored. It looked very comfortable for the girls until Goole pulled one back and then equalised before half-time. In the 2nd half, Emily got her first run out as she recovers from her broken foot. Izzy scored again, her 4th of the day, to make it 3-2 but then Goole equalised again. At 3-3 it looked like the girls could press for a winner but then with almost the last kick of the game, Goole scored and it was 4-3 to the visitors. A remarkable and thrilling game which swung both ways and which the girls were unlucky to lose.

A tough day for the girls as some uncompromising play by the visitors took its toll, but they should be proud as they never stopped battling and they were never intimidated. Well done girls!!

### **U11s MATCH REPORT: Sat 5th Oct: Away v Poppleton Tigers**

It was our first league encounter with Poppleton Tigers and it brought our biggest League win, 6-0 and our first ever back-to-back league victories, after the fine showing against Easingwold last week. A great morning was finished off in style with a 3-0 win in the Friendly.

**U11s Team: Freya, Rose, Annie, Isabella, Caitlin, Abbi, Maeve, India, Megan**

**League Match: Won 6-0 (India - 3, Isabella, Rose, Annie)**

**Friendly: Won 3-0 (Rose - 2, India)**

**Captain: Isabella**

**Player of the League Match: India.** Another hat-trick hero, after Izzy last week, as India showed what a great eye for goal she has. Playing in defence, India had a great game with her usual strong tackling and interceptions, but she was also excellent coming forward, especially for set-plays. India's first half hat-trick really settled the teams' nerves and provided the security for the team to relax and play. An excellent performance, capped off by another goal in the Friendly.

**Player of the Friendly Match: Megan.** This was Megan's debut for BWR and she was excellent throughout. Her energy and enthusiasm really shone through as she tackled and made intelligent runs into space. A couple of long range efforts at goal were not too far off and showed she has the confidence to play further forward. An assist on a goal from India capped an impressive debut.

**Match Report:**

It was a fine sunny morning and ideal conditions for football. The opening play was mainly in the Poppleton half, and indeed the Poppleton goal area, as BWR put enormous pressure on the

opposition goal. It looked like the mass defending from Poppleton was going to frustrate the girls as chances came and went and Poppleton's tactic of getting all 7 players behind the ball forced BWR to shoot from further and further away, with India, Freya and Annie all shooting from long range. Eventually the deadlock was broken. A corner from Isabella wasn't cleared properly and India was on hand to fire home from close range. After so much pressure without any reward, the goal was a relief and it gave the girls confidence. A second quickly followed, with another Isabella corner being met perfectly by India at the near post. India's hat-trick was complete when she pounced on a poor goal-kick and fired a shot through the Keeper's legs and into the net. A brilliant few minutes bringing three well-deserved goals.

The second half began just as the first half had, with lots of BWR pressure on the opposition goal and the Poppleton defenders and goalkeeper having to work really hard to keep BWR out. The girls grew in confidence with the security of the 3-0 half time lead and it was only a matter of time before BWR added to the total. A fine passing move ended with Annie finding Isabella in space and she fired home from close range. Rose got on the score sheet as she deflected a shot from Freya into the net and then Annie capped off another excellent midfield display as she fired home after good work from India to set her up.

Caitlin kept another clean sheet in goal and is growing in confidence with every game. It makes so much difference to have a keeper who wants to go in goal. Poppleton had some chances on the break and Caitlin had to stay alert, but when she was needed she was there to make the save and her kicking and distribution are getting better with every game. India, Maeve and Abbi were Caitlin's defensive shield and they all worked really well as a team, alternating defensive duties with helping the attack. The clean sheet is also down to the defence keeping their concentration even when the majority of play was in the opposition half. The midfield duo of Annie and Isabella were magnificent. Isabella's runs down the wing, crossing and corners were superb, and a constant threat for the opposition to worry about. Annie's tireless running was excellent and she seemed to be everywhere and thoroughly deserved her goal. Up front Rose and Freya really worked hard for the team. They were often surrounded by the whole of the Poppleton team, and space was at a real premium, but they kept working, and kept trying and they never gave up. It was a magnificent team display and the girls should be really proud.

For the Friendly match the team was re-enforced with the arrival of Megan on debut. She slotted into midfield easily and looked like she'd been playing there all season. It was an 8 a-side game, with Annie and Abbi joining Megan in midfield, Caitlin and Maeve in defence and India and Rose upfront. Freya kindly volunteered to go in goal and spent the majority of the match looking on as the girls continued their impressive display from the league match. Good work by India and Abbi fed the ball through to Rose who scored the opener, and then Megan touched the ball through to India to make it two. The second half saw Isabella replace Annie in midfield and she was in the action straight away as she closed down a poor goal-kick and combined with India to get the ball to Rose who slotted the ball into the net for her 2nd of the match and 3rd of the day. There were some excellent long range efforts from the girls late on as Megan and India both tried their luck from long range but it ended 3-0 to BWR.

Another excellent performance from the girls. Well done!!

### **U11s MATCH REPORT: Sat 28th Sept: Home v Easingwold Town**

A visit from League newcomers Easingwold Town brought our first League goals of the season and our first win. The girls put in a fantastic performance in the League match to win 4-0, with Izzy getting a hat-trick, and then finished it off with a fine performance in the Friendly, drawing 1-1 which flattered the visitors.

**U11s Team: Freya, Rose, Emily, Annie, Isabella, Eva, Izzy, Caitlin**

**League Match: Won 4-0 (Izzy -3, Rose)**

**Friendly: Drew 1-1 (Freya)**

**Captain: Rose**

**Player of the League Match: Izzy.** Hat-trick hero Izzy had an excellent game. Playing up front she scored three fine goals and could have had more. She was a constant threat with her speed and quick feet, and every time she got the ball it looked like she would score. Izzy's link up play and awareness of her team mates is improving with every game and she showed what a goal machine she will become with an impressive performance.

**Player of the Friendly Match: Caitlin.** This was Caitlin's first game of the season, but you wouldn't have noticed any lack of match practice as she simply carried on from her superb defensive performances of last season. After keeping a clean sheet in the League match, Caitlin followed that up with an impressive defensive performance in the Friendly. Her awareness and anticipation in defence were excellent with some terrific clearances and strong tackles.

Match Report:

The girls started the game really strongly, pressing Easingwold back into the final third and not letting the opposition settle. The opening goal came after only a couple of minutes, with a poor Easingwold throw being pounced on by Izzy and slotted into the net. The early goal gave the girls lots of confidence and they continued to dominate with most of the play being in the Easingwold half. A second goal came midway through the first-half when a lovely through ball from Annie was neatly finished by Izzy, and it was a deserved reward for some excellent play by the girls. Caitlin made an impressive debut in goal with some fine saves late on in the first half as Easingwold tried to get back into the game. Her handling was good and her throws out were intelligent, restarting play quickly and allowing the team to move the ball out of defence with confidence. In defence, Eva and Freya were outstanding. Eva had her best game yet with confident clearances and strong tackling. She was usually the last line of defence and she always either cleared the ball up field to a team mate or put the ball in to touch to be safe. Freya showed what an all round talent she is with a great defensive performance. She worked really well in partnership with Eva, pushing forward when she could and then working really hard to get back and defend. The midfield pair of Annie and Isabella covered every blade of grass in an excellent display. Annie's running, forward to help the strikers, and then back to help the defence was truly impressive. She never stopped and was the epitome of a box to box midfielder. Isabella put in another strong performance as she showed what a talented player she is. She made some lovely runs down the wing and often attracted 4 opposition players to

try to stop her. Isabella put in some excellent corners and was unlucky not to get on the score sheet herself with some long range efforts at goal.

The second- half started as the first had begun, with tremendous pressure on the Easingwold goal. Izzy soon completed a well deserved hat-trick as she fired in from a tight angle from a Freya through ball. The girls were unlucky not to get more goals with Rose in particular coming close on a number of occasions, including hitting the post with a lovely shot inside the area. Rose finally got her goal in the last minute when she shot home from a tight angle after a corner from Izzy. This capped an excellent performance up front from Rose as she showed great link up play and a coolness in the box that are the trademarks of a top striker. A special mention for Emily who was carrying an injury but provided cover as sub in case we had any injuries, and played the last few minutes. This was a super all round team performance and a well-deserved 4-0 win.

The Friendly match saw Eva in goal, Rose and Caitlin in defence, Emily and Annie in midfield and Freya and Isabella up front. The game started as the League match had ended with lots of attacking play from BWR but unfortunately all the luck had been used up and some mass defending from Easingwold meant the first half was goalless. In the second half Emily replaced Eva in goal and was immediately in the action. Against the run of play, Easingwold won a free-kick on the edge of the area. The kick was fiercely struck and ended in the back of the net. The girls showed great resilience to strike back almost straight away, with Freya firing in an unstoppable shot from a tight angle. BWR then mounted a sustained assault on the Easingwold goal, but the winner wouldn't come.

A wonderful morning of football with our first goals in the League, the first win in the League and our first points. Well done Girls!!

### **U11s MATCH REPORT: Sat 14th Sept: Home v Brooklyn**

Our first home game of the season saw the visit of new team to the league, Brooklyn, who hail from Malton. The League match was an even game but Brooklyn's superior organisation and finishing saw them win 2-0. In the Friendly we scored our first goals of the season as Isabella bagged a brace in a tight 2-1 victory.

**U11s Team: Freya, Rose, Emily, Annie, Isabella, Eva, Maeve, India, Abbi**

**League Match: Lost 2-0**

**Friendly: Won 2-1**

**Captain: India**

**Player of the League Match: Freya. As usual, Freya gave 100% commitment playing up-front and then in defence. She was especially impressive in defence in the 2nd half, where nothing got past her and she seemed to be everywhere. Freya's determination and commitment to the cause are an inspiration to the team.**

**Player of the Friendly Match: Abbi. An impressive performance from Abbi in midfield as she ran her socks off, tackling, chasing and then trying to launch attacks. Her commitment and attitude were faultless.**

Match Report:

Both teams appeared quite even as they traded attacks in the first ten minutes. Brooklyn were well organised and had some quality players and they slowly increased the pressure as the half went on. BWR withstood these attacks initially but eventually the breakthrough came as BWR began to tire late in the 1st half. A lovely cross from the right found an unmarked attacker who produced a crisp shot into the net. A second quickly followed before half-time, but the girls didn't let their heads go down and they kept trying. In the 2nd half it was just as even with chances for both sides, including a penalty for handball against Eva, but luckily the penalty was hit wide. It finished 2-0 and there were lots of positive signs that the team is going in the right direction.

Abbi was the latest 'volunteer' to go in goal, and got to try the teams brand new gloves with extra finger protection. She made lots of brave saves, throwing herself in the way of attackers, and she had no chance with either goal. Abbi's kicks from the floor and from her hands were excellent and she looked very assured. She should also be given lots of credit for the missed penalty as she definitely put the opposition striker off.

India and Maeve started in defence and looked a very solid unit, with tackles and clearances to good effect. In the 2nd half they moved up front and created chances for the team as we pressed for a comeback goal.

Annie and Emily started in midfield and looked an excellent combination, very strong and energetic, with lots of pace and good communication. In the 2nd half they got to play up front and they caused lots of problems for the opposition defence with their pace and movement.

Freya and Isabella started up front and they looked a good partnership with some strong running and passing moves. In the 2nd half they moved into defence and kept a clean sheet with some determined tackling and brave defending.

Rose and Eva started on the bench but both came on half-way through the 1st half, Rose playing up front and Eva slotting into defence. Eva looked strong at the back with some excellent clearances, and Rose added class to the attack, holding the ball up well and looking to pass when she could.

The Friendly match saw Freya go in goal, India and Eva in defence, Abbi and Maeve in midfield and Annie and Rose up front. The 1st half was very even with chances at both ends and at half-time it was 0-0. In the 2nd half, Emily came on in midfield and Isabella came on up front, and BWR soon took the lead. A lovely run on the right by Isabella ended with a shot come cross which deflected off their keeper into the goal. A slightly fortunate goal, but well-deserved, and our first of the season. A second soon followed, with Emily and Abbi combining well on the right, and Isabella finishing off the move for her second goal. Brooklyn pulled one back to make it a nervous last few minutes but we held out to get our first win of the season.

A well organised opposition took their chances but lots to be encouraged about in a good performance. Well done girls!



### **U11s MATCH REPORT: Sat 7th Sept: Away v Brayton Belles**

It was always going to be a tough fixture, away to Brayton Belles, but getting that as our very first game of the season made it extra tough, and so it turned out with a 4-0 loss in the League game and a 1-0 loss in the Friendly. A battling performance but Brayton were just too good on the day.

**U11s Team: Freya, Rose, Emily, Annie, Izzy, Isabella, Eva, Maeve, India**

**League Match: Lost 4-0**

**Friendly: Lost 1-0**

**Captain: Freya**

**Player of the League Match: Annie.** This was an excellent performance from Annie as she never stopped running, in both midfield and in defence, for the whole of the match. Annie's strong tackling, great passing and superb reading of the game, against a very good Brayton side, really stood out.

**Player of the Friendly Match: Isabella.** Another super performance from Isabella, this time in defence. Isabella seemed to be everywhere at the back, tackling, intercepting and stopping attacks before they got anywhere near our goal.

Match Report:

The first Under 11s match of the season was a visit to Brayton Belles' new home at Selby College. A new season brought a new formation, and it seemed to be working as BWR held a strong Brayton side for the first 10 mins in a fairly even passage of play. That all changed once we conceded an unfortunate opening goal where a hopeful cross deflected off Freya and beat India at the near post. The goal came as a blow after such a positive opening, and that, coupled with our lack of match fitness, led to 2 more goals for Brayton before half-time. The playing time for U11's is now 20 mins each way, and that didn't help our general fitness levels either. Isabella came close to getting one back with a mazy run down the wing which resulted in a shot from a tight angle which flew over the bar, but we finished the half 3-0 down. We regrouped at half-time and the girls came back strongly, with the play quite even, and Rose had a shot which flew just wide, and Annie also had a good effort at goal. Brayton proved how clinical they are in front of goal, with another one in the second half, but we battled well to keep the goal tally down and provide a threat at the other end.

The goalkeeping position is a problem, with no regular volunteer, so it was India's turn to take the gloves this week. She made lots of saves and her kicking from the ground and from hand was excellent. None of the goals were her fault and she should be really proud of her performance. After picking up an injury to her fingers in the second half India was replaced by Freya who also kept well and showed what a natural keeper she is.

Starting in defence were Emily and Freya and they did really well. One of the aims for this season is to let the girls try as many different positions as they can, and neither girl looked out of place at the back. There were lots of tackling and interceptions and they both put in 100% effort as they had to withstand wave upon wave of Brayton attacks in the first half.

It was a new look midfield, with Eva playing a defensive role just in front of the defence, and Annie pushing into a more attacking position. Eva looked really comfortable in her role and made lots of tackles and really protected the defence. Annie had a great game and really put the miles in with lots of forward runs and also helping out in defence.

Up front were Izzy and Isabella, and they didn't get many chances at goal, with Isabella's effort which flew over the bar being the best. They both put in 100% and took it in turns to track back to help, and hang around up field to give the Brayton defence something to think about.

Maeve and Rose started as subs but came on in midfield midway through the 1st half so that every player got equal pitch time. Maeve took the defensive midfield position and used her speed and skill to tackle and disrupt the Brayton attacks. Rose took the more advanced position and used her great close control to try to create opportunities, but also found herself having to help out in defence.

The friendly match saw Freya stay in goal, with Isabella and Eva playing defence, Emily and Annie in midfield and Rose and Maeve up front. India was still injured for the first half but came on as striker in the second. This was a much more even match with chances at both ends, with Annie, Rose and Emily all having good attempts. It was decided by an excellent goal from Brayton's best player where she went past the defence with a neat side step and hit an unstoppable shot past Freya. BWR pushed hard for an equaliser but luck wasn't on our side.

It was a good battling performance from the girls, with effort and team spirit high, and lots of positives to be taken into our next match. Well done girls!