

## U13s Go Out of Cup with Heads Held High

It was the quarter-finals of the League Cup on Saturday as the girls travelled to York RI. Last minute illness meant the girls were a player down, but the York RI coach kindly agreed to play 6 a-side. Two early goals put the girls under pressure but they rallied magnificently and held their own for the rest of the match as they battled the League leaders all over the pitch. The girls played some wonderful football and should be immensely proud of their performance.

**Team: Freya, Emily G, Isabella, Rose, Amelia, Annie**

**Captain: Emily G**

**Cup Match: Lost 2-0**



**POM League: This was a superb performance from this player as she showed not only what a skilful player she is, but her strength and determination too. Outnumbered in midfield, she ran herself into the ground, pressing, tackling and making lung busting runs up field. She never stopped running or trying to play good football for the whole match and she epitomised the spirit of the team.**

### Match Report

The girls were under pressure from the start as York RI, unbeaten all season, tried to impose themselves on the game. A powerful drive from the edge of the area made it 1-0 after only three minutes and that was followed a couple of minutes later as another powerful shot was deflected in to make it 2-0. To their credit, the girls didn't let their heads go down as they dug in and refused to go

down without a fight. Freya was excellent in goal. Given no chance with either of the goals she didn't let that affect her as she produced some fantastic saves. Her handling was clean and confident, with total command of her penalty area, and her kicking was powerful and well directed. Emily G was employed as a sweeper and she was a commanding presence at the back. Her reading of the game was excellent and she tackled and intercepted with strength and intelligence. Amelia had another superb game in defence. She was strong and brave with her challenges and she never stopped running and trying for the whole match. Her distribution from the back was excellent and she played the simple pass when she could but cleared into touch when she couldn't. Rose started in a defensive position but intelligently pushed forward when she could. Her corners were excellent and the girls were unlucky not to score from one of them. She ran herself into the ground trying to do her defensive job but also provide more numbers in midfield and pose a threat up front. In midfield, Annie never stopped running as she tried to help the defence and also create a threat up front. Her determination and stamina were outstanding, and she showed both skill and authority with her passing. Isabella was a constant threat for the York RI defence, with her pace and skill she kept them on their toes for the whole game and was really unlucky not to get a goal, indeed she had the best of

the first half chances, having a fine solo effort and then shooting wide after great work by Annie. Rose finished the half with two good chances of her own as she had a good long range effort and then put in a superb cross but no one could get into the box to be on the end of it. The half finished 2-0 to York RI but the girls had been competitive throughout and not let the home side have it all their own way.

At half-time there were echoes of the last game against RI when, at 2-0 down at half time, the girls let in seven second half goals. The girls were determined not to let that happen again. The half started with the expected early pressure from the home side but the girls quickly got into their stride. Isabella had an excellent shot across goal and then went close with a shot on the volley. Rose had a shot go wide before Isabella forced the keeper to make a save. Annie and Emily G intelligently swapped positions in the last 10 minutes as the girls looked to see if they could get a result. Emily G had an excellent shot which had to be tipped over the bar by the Keeper, and Annie looked strong and assured at the back. As the girls pushed forward more it created more room for York RI, and Freya had to be at her best to make a superb save. Emily G had a fine run down the wing where she won a corner and Isabella had a late chance but it just wasn't BWR's day in front of goal. In the final moments, Freya had to be brave to block a certain goal with a point-blank save followed by being clattered by the York RI attacker. It finished 2-0 to the hosts but the girls had played superbly, with 100% effort and determination throughout. Well done girls!