

Priory School Sports Report

Tuesday 18th October 2011

Year 5 League Match Report- The Bay Primary 2 v 0 Priory School



Our first football match of the 2011/2012 season took us to Sandown to play The Bay Primary School in the Year 5's first ever league match in the new layout. Unfortunately due to this years league restrictions, we were not allowed to play any of our Year 4 players in the team this year, so we only had seven players available to play. This meant we had no subs so everybody had to play the whole game, as well as this The Bay had beaten their previous opponents 9-2 so the size of the game was evident. But despite this we were going to give it our all.

New players Charlie and Matt were playing their first games for the school, a big thank you to Charlie wanting to play in the team despite her not having played a competitive game of football before. We started match off with James and Kit in defence, Samuel and Dexter creating chances in midfield for Jack upfront with Charlie chasing the ball down. The first 5 minutes of the game were quite edgy with both teams trying to figure out each others game plan. The Bay did manage to work the ball into a couple of good positions but failed to deliver the killer ball with our defence looking strong. As the half went on we were forced to make some very good tackles as The Bay continued to push for a goal, James and Kit both making two excellent sliding challenges at the right moments. Our defence continued to look strong as we pressed the Bay attack away from our goal and carried on frustrating their attackers. Dexter and Samuel were chasing the ball down very successfully, alongside Charlie in midfield, and flying into tackles bravely, but we just couldn't get a break down the other end. Two long balls forward by Samuel that were chased down by Jack caused panic in The Bay defence but no clear cut chances came of it. The ball then broke to a Bay forward from a

throw in that put him through on goal, but with Kit racing back, he shot and forced Matt into a great double save and our defence stood strong again. Matt continued to make two more very good diving saves but we were never really in doubt to concede. James, who played put in a very impressive performance, kept making some great tackles alongside Kit and our compact formation was appearing to work. Until a very unfortunate own goal put us 1-0 down. The Bay had a goal kick after a promising Priory attack which went high into the air which Kit then attacked to head clear but the ball went backwards at an angle, and with Matt covering his near post, the ball went in despite his desperate dive. After such a good half we were a bit shell shocked at the goal and The Bay attacked in numbers to and score forcing good defensive blocks and last ditch tackles from Samuel, James and Kit. The Bay then scored their second goal. This came after their forward had the ball on the left wing and cut inside to shoot, but with the ball seeming to go wide James couldn't get out of the way and the ball hit him and the post to go in, very unlucky again! Despite this we went forward in search of a goal before half-time with Samuel and Dexter forcing saves from distance.



After a quick drink and a pep talk we were ready to go in the second half. We changed the formation slightly with James and Jack switching positions and going for a more attacking approach to the game. Early on we forced a number of corners and throw ins in the attacking third to put The Bay under pressure. With Jack and Kit winning tackles in defence and passing the ball forward we had the foundations to attack. Then, after Jack won two challenges in a row he hit a long ball forward which James chased before hitting a shot wide. Samuel then ran the ball down the left before cutting inside, but his shot was well blocked. We caused them problems throughout the second half with our long goal kicks which they couldn't cope with well and we came very close several times to creating good chances. By attacking we left gaps at the back and it took two fantastic double blocks from Samuel and Kit, by the face and body, to stop two would have been goals! It was then James who made a great last ditch challenge before Matt tipped a powerful shot over the bar, a top save. But the ball failed to land in the right place for us in the attacking third and the final whistle went.

A great game of football and one of the best defensive performances I have seen to date. This game was a very good reflection of how much we have improved in the last year, The Bay are a very good side and to come away with such a positive performance and a narrow lose is a credit to our improvement and our small Year 5 team. We never gave up in the match and the team always put in 100% effort which is always great to watch as coach. With The Bay winning their previous game 9-2, it shows that we have a good chance to do well in the league and we should look forward to our next game with hopes of getting a good result. Well done to Charlie in her first appearance for the school, as well James and Kit for their fantastic defensive performance. Credit should also go to Dexter and Jack for their impressive and improved performance. Finally, a big well done to Matt on his debut who pulled off several fine saves to keep us in the match, and to captain Samuel who again put his body on the line for the team and lead them from start to finish as well as putting in quality performance.

Check out more of the pictures from the game below. Check back over half-term to see how the Year 6 team get on in their Cup match against Shanklin C of E Primary.

Mr J Collings

Junior School Football Coach



