

U11 Blackpool Football Tour 2021

On Friday 16th July, a week after the school year had finished, the U11 Football team met in Blackpool to play in their annual football tournament. The whole area had been taken over by football teams and the atmosphere was fantastic. The local hotels had been booked out to accommodate football teams from all over the North of England and their families. Our first night was inevitably spent on the Pier, with the boys enjoying the arcades and all of the bright lights along the promenade.



On Saturday morning, we were up early and made our way to the pitches by minibus. The boys were excited and couldn't wait to get on to the pitches. As a school team, we had played 7-a-side but as this was a club competition we had to make the step up in number to 9-a-side. With such a talented group of boys, surely this wouldn't be a problem? We started strongly with a fantastic 3-1 win against **Wyke Wanderers**. This was followed by an 8-0 victory against **St Patrick's Gold** and then a 2-0 win against **Walshaw Allstars**. First day...undefeated!

On Sunday morning St Edmund's Prep U11A completed their group games by winning 10-1 versus **St Anne's** and then 2-1 against a very good **Rutherford Swifts** side. These final group game results meant that we finished the groups stages unbeaten with a very strong goal difference. We were then given a quarter final tie against **Walton Vale**. This team were very well organised and a young Everton academy defender who captained their side was very impressive indeed. The match went into half-time goalless but after a small tweak to our formation we came out for the second half strongly and won 2-0. This meant we were in the semi-finals against a team we'd been keeping an eye on, **Prescott Cables**. They had won their group and most of their games by double figures! They were the tournament favourites at the halfway stage and had won their local league and several tours previously. The match didn't start well, we gave away a penalty in the opening moments... but they missed. The game was then end-to-end and not many chances went either way. However, we had one chance and took it. A fabulous goal to send us through to the final and the whole team were elated! We won the final 3-0 against **Discoveries**. By then, we were unstoppable!



What a way to end for this talented bunch of footballers, their final record from Form 3 to 6 was:

Played 38- Won 35 Drew 1 Lost 2