

We start training at Surfleet on the floodlit all weather pitches on the 7th October, please make sure that the correct trainers and jogging bottoms are worn. Also send our 'athletes' with water please, not juice which when spilled can stain the surface. We also need to ensure that no chewing gum is left on the playing area, so please ask your young Don to leave all gum etc at home.

MANAGER'S REPORTS:

Chris Soccer skills: Our 'Soccer Skills' club for boys and girls aged 4 to 8 will be starting soon. Lots of fun and great coaching from Chris, for more details call him on 07773173715!

Paul U7's: We're going to play in the Peterborough League as James did last year and really looking forward to it!

James U8's: Great start to the season with good team performances in first two games. The boys have improved greatly since starting as a team just 12 months ago keep it up guys. We're still looking to sign two more players this season to strengthen the squad.

Alan U9's: Following a successful pre-season, in which a narrow defeat against Holbeach was followed by wins against Pinchbeck, Bourne Town and a further win and draw against two separate Deeping Rangers sides, the U9's Mid Lincs "A" League campaign has got off to a solid enough start. A draw against Claytons was followed by a 5-0 away win over Wyberton and more recently consecutive defeats against two of the leagues "big hitters" in St Helens and East Coast. However, last weekend's 3-0 defeat in Skegness saw the host's run really close and with a bit more luck we could have come away with at least a point. What this game proved - perhaps including to ourselves - was that on their day and if they all pull together as a team, the U9's can be a match for anyone in this league. It will be a tough season, but the team are quite capable of competing well and performing strongly in the games ahead - over to you, boys!! The current U9's squad is : Charlie Rodgers, Callum Green, Aaron Clarke, Jacob Drew, Thomas Langford, Mason Shores, Luke Hood, Tyler McKendrick, Hayden Dugdale, David Lowe and Michael Baxter. Signing on paperwork pending : Ryan Templeman. Each have played their part in the games to date and additional "friendlies" are also being played to keep everyone involved as fully as possible. We are always on the lookout for new players and if we can build on the current numbers we may even be able to field two U10'S sides next season -anyone interested in joining in should contact Alan Hood on 07810 446298. Thanks as ever go to Chris Page for providing quality coaching and also to Paul Langford for the same and his increasing involvement and assistance at training and on match days. Thanks also to everyone who helps with money collection, putting up/taking down goals, etc, etc and for supporting the team - all very much appreciated.

Ceri, Dick & Marie U10's: The season has kicked off, and the team are finding their feet. With two wins and two defeats this season the title could be any one's, although it's early days and the hard work has to continue. A new temporary manager has come in to help the team for 6 weeks and the parents & supporters but most of all the team are adapting really well. Lot's of effort is needed but as temporary manager the team are more than capable of stepping up a gear, learn and strive to achieve more in the year ahead. I would like to say thank you to everyone within the Un10's for their support and understanding whilst the team and I continue until Anthony's (Dick) return in November. Thank you all. Ceri Castle.

Chris U13's: Following the departure of a few player from last season the U13's have made a good start with 2 wins out of 4 games. The league is going to be another close competition, as last year but one the lads are looking forward to.

Andy U14: This is our first season in the A League for several years and we always knew that it was going to be difficult! However we have been fortunate enough to be able to strengthen the team with additional players who have fitted in well with the team. As far as results are concerned we have played 3 league games having won 2 and lost one. The wins came against Fishtoft which was first game of the season and saw us win 3-2 in very wet conditions away from home. The following week we travelled away to last year's league winners Sleaford and expected a very difficult game which it was, but we came away with a 3-1 win. The first home game of the season was against local team Boston Town and I think we went into the match slightly over confident following our good start, allowed Boston too much time on the ball and we were duly beaten 3-1! But as I said to the boys afterwards there, are no poor teams in this league and we need to perform every week to get results. This season has seen us enter the County Cup for the first time and we played local team Wyberton against whom we always have a competitive game. This match no different! After going in at half-time 2-0, up we allowed Wyberton back into the game in the end and came off at full-time at 2-2 sending the game into extra time. Despite the second half going in Wyberton's favour we performed totally different in extra time and scored 4 goals in 20 minutes to end up going through to the next round 6-2 winners. On the whole a thoroughly pleasing start to the season and I have nothing but praise for the boys and look forward to seeing how we compete over the forthcoming month which, looking at the fixture sheet, appears to be challenging to say the least. Well done boys!

Phil U14's : It has not been the kind of start to the season that I would have hoped for. The team needs to have more urgency about them, and believe in themselves as individuals as well as a team. On a whole the team is more than capable of achieving more, at times their play is pleasing to see, however stepping off the gas needs to be changed to stepping onto the gas to produce the performances they are all capable of. Training is on Saturday mornings 9.30 till 11.30 at the home ground. Phil Castle.

Steve U16's: The U16's have strengthened and enlarged the squad for this season with the signing of 3 players. The season started well with a 6-0 win over Welton, unfortunately since then its been ups and downs. Narrow defeats 3-2 against North Lindum Hawks and Kirkstead after being 2-0 up were extremely disappointing compared the highs of wins of 5-1, and 4-3 over Louth and Caythorpe. The league results are already showing that the 13 team league is going to throw up lots of surprises and this division is going to be very open. It's entirely up to the lads whether we finish at the top! It's so true that you only get out of this game what you are prepared to put in, and already some players need to ask themselves if they can try harder. We have 16 players signed on and we will use them all, already we have commitments and injuries disrupting the selections so 16 may well prove to be the right number. What we do have is a sense of responsibility in the team, players have been honest about injuries and it seems the whole team takes the responsibility for defeat.....novel but marvellous TEAM spirit. Jordan has decided that loud music is the answer.....he's to young to remember the crazy gang at Wimbeldon, but hey it worked last week and so we must carry it on. This week we have the County Cup, we have the furthest tie away at Portis Boys FC, Cleethorpes! It's one to enjoy as even in my wildest dreams we've never won the cup...but then a certain crazy gang did undo the mighty Liverpool.

John U18's: Three games in and three defeats. The good news is that each performance has seen an improvement and given that almost half the players are new it will probably take another 2 or 3 games before the team starts to settle. Enthusiasm and desire is there and hopefully a winning performance is just around the corner.

Min Old Dons: Got a good squad but had a mixed start to our season in the premier league, better stuff to come from us I think!

Mark Old Dons Res: Well we are 4 games into the new season and we have maximum points an impressive turn-around from the last two seasons. The lads are putting in some great performances this year, and even though we have quite a few new players they are gelling well together. We now have to keep the momentum going and if we do we can look forward to a successful season.