

12th November 2011

Leeds Schools FA U11 4 Gainsborough FA U11 2

A bright sunny morning at St Theresa's, Crossgates saw Leeds City Boys U11's edge out Gainsborough with a fine 4-2 victory.

The Leeds boys were keen to put on a good performance after being on the receiving end of a Mr Rossiter 'hair-dryer' at mid-week training and they did not disappoint against a dangerous Gainsborough side.

A slightly nervous start saw Gainsborough have plenty of possession without threatening Jacob Murray's goal. Leeds soon settled down though and the midfield of Ben Harley, Liam Swift, Finlay Auty and Callum Eddleston started to dominate proceedings.

Josh Crosland and Aaron Kane were linking well and working hard up front and the first goal when it came was well deserved. A bouncing ball in the box fell to deadly marksman Josh Crosland who hooked it into the bottom corner with his left foot.

Leeds continued to pile the pressure on the visitors' defence and the second came from the right boot of the impressive Liam Swift who hit a screamer high into the roof of the net from the edge of the box following an attempted clearance by the Gainsborough defence.

The visitors immediately hit back to get back into the game and made it 2-1 as a long ball hit over the top past the Leeds defence left the Gainsborough striker through on goal and his cool finish beat Jacob Murray at the near post.

Leeds kept pressing forward towards half time and their reward came just before the half-time whistle as Josh Crosland was brought down in the box and stepped up himself to smash home the resultant penalty.

The second half introduced substitutes Joe Fitzpatrick, Harry Resendez, Oscar Jackson, Goal-keeper Luke Dellar and newcomer to the team Dylan Broadbent and whilst they were still settling in Gainsborough struck again to take the score to 3-2. This time the goal came when a strong run and cross from the right flank was parried away by Luke Dellar but unfortunately for Leeds the ball fell to a Gainsborough striker who had time to tuck the ball away with ease.

Leeds were soon back in control of the game as Callum Eddleston hit a low shot through a crowd of players in the box following a goal-mouth scramble. The Gainsborough keeper got a strong hand to it but only succeeded in edging the ball into the bottom corner.

Leeds were playing some nice football, particularly down the left wing with Callum Eddleston, Dylan Broadbent and Joe Fitzpatrick linking well but Gainsborough were still a big threat going forward.

The Leeds defence, marshalled superbly throughout by skipper Nathan Brady and supported expertly by Harry Resendez, Jacob Bues, Max Ross and Aaron Clegg throughout the game, had to be strong to see out the game but disaster almost struck with minutes to go as Ben Harley got into a tangle in the box with the Gainsborough forward and appeared to attempt a 'wheelbarrow' manoeuvre to get him out of the penalty area. The referee had no hesitation in pointing to the spot and a nail-biting end to the game was only narrowly averted as the penalty was fired wide of the goal to Luke Dellar's left.

A let-off for Leeds who had time for one more chance on goal as a superb ball from Joe Fitzpatrick found Dylan Broadbent free in the box. A sublime first touch from the midfielder set up a chance to mark a fine debut with a goal but his fierce shot just grazed the cross-bar and the game ended 4-2 to the home side.

A deserved victory in the end for the Leeds boys who will be hoping the win goes some way to diffusing the hairdryer at training this week!