

Saturday 17th February U11 LEEDS YELLOWS v DONCASTER

After a run of six consecutive defeats the Yellows were itching to get back on track albeit against Doncaster which had a 100% win record. The team started the game on the front foot and took the game to Doncaster with crisp passing, strong tackling and robust play all over the pitch. After an unfortunate injury to Oli Keddie, Riley Wilkinson joined the fray and along with Ben Robinson and Bradley Foster form an impressive back line in front of keeper Bobby Williams. The midfield pairing of Tom Wilkinson and Ethan Halliday dominated the midfield and were able to create width bringing wide players Harry Haveron and the energetic Ralph Woodward into the game and with striker Ralph Rudkin's strong running and determined play caused frequent danger to the Doncaster defence. A poor clearance from Doncaster was picked up by Haveron outside the area and his fierce drive was too powerful for the keeper who could only divert it into the roof of the net 1-0 to Leeds at half time.

The expected comeback from Doncaster looked ominous but the Leeds defence stood firm and Robinson's head thwarted many in swinging corners and Foster and Wilkinson joined forces with the midfield to alleviate Doncaster threats. Doncaster found a way back when a defence splitting pass [a hint of offside] found the wide player at the far post and he fired home. Williams made an excellent point blank save to keep the scores level. The last 15 minutes was end to end with Zak Tate creating space and supplying crosses to the impressive Rudkin. It was from such a cross-field ball which Rudkin controlled and fired in an angled shot which beat the keeper but unfortunately hit the post, so near yet so far. An entertaining game finished all square but the Yellows can feel proud to have taken a point from Doncaster and every team member showed a never say die spirit!