Number 21 - The opportunity of defeating the enemy is provided by the enemy himself - Sunday 19th March 2017

U9 MATCH REPORT U9 MATCH REPORT KEYNSHAM TOWN V FRY CLUB COLTS U9 MATCH REPORT U9 MATCH REPORT

For our 2nd group game in the competition, we were away again, this time to our near neighbours Keynsham Town. We had beaten Keynsham earlier in the season, but we had heard they had improved a lot as the season had gone on, but we were confident after last week's impressive performance against Hallen. For this local derby, we were without Bartek and Ethem.

The Game 1 line-up was:

Alfie

Tristen Finley

Kaylum Bradley G Tyler

Aiden

It was a fierce start to begin with and tackles were flying in from both sides but neither side were creating much in the first five or so minutes. interception from Tristen set us on our way and he passed up the line to Aiden who flicked the ball to Bradley who swept a pass out to Kaylum on the left. Once he had sorted his feet out, he drifted with ball to the touchline before crossing a ball to the edge of the area where Tyler managed to get a good-looking shot on target, but the 'keeper caught it quite easily. The Keynsham 'keeper cleared the ball long down field, and we allowed the ball to bounce and suddenly it was at the edge of our area; the Keynsham player got to it first, but his first touch was heavy and before he could react Alfie was out of his goal and bravely dived at the feet of the Keynsham player and grabbed the ball. Bradley got the ball in the middle of our half and played a ball over the Keynsham midfield and Tyler ran onto the ball and was in the clear, but with the Keynsham player snapping at his heels he could not a get a clean shot away and the ball drifted wide. Kaylum got the ball out wide and battled past one player before laying the ball off to **Bradley** who jinked past one player but looked to have pushed the ball too far ahead of him, however he ran to it and managed to get a shot away just before the 'keeper picked it up, the ball deflected off of the 'keeper and looked like it was going out for a corner;

the defender got to it just in time and went to clear the ball, the clearance though hit the 'keeper and went in the net **0-1**. Keynsham piled on the pressure and had three or four corners in quick succession that we defended well and eventually Tyler got in enough space to clear the ball towards Aiden who chased the ball and managed to get to it before the Keynsham player and he carried on before shooting just wide of the far post.

HALF-TIME: KEYNSHAM 0 FRYS 1

Keynsham were on the attack, but Finn had read the situation well and made a well-timed tackle before passing down the wing to Aiden who got the ball just inside the Keynsham half; he cleverly beat one man and was soon on the by-line. Aiden then looked up and crossed the ball, the Keynsham defender got to the ball first and looked to clear it behind for a corner but was unfortunate to see it fly past the 'keeper into the net 0-2. We were beginning to take control of the game and a big kick up-field saw Finn deal with very well and lay the ball off to Bradley who looked up before hitting a great pass up the middle to Tyler who turned his man with great skill before hitting a pile driver of a shot which went narrowly wide. We had started to pass the ball a lot better and a great ball from Tyler found Bradley in space in the Keynsham half; Bradley was soon at the edge of the area, and he jinked past one defender before shooting hard from the narrowest of angles; the 'keeper who was expecting the cut back had no chance as the ball flew past him into the roof of the net **0-3**. We had a throw on the right side which was intercepted by the Keynsham defender; he hit a long cross field ball and we had nobody on the left side as we had all moved over for the throw. The Keynsham player drove into our penalty area before shooting low, giving Alfie no chance at all to make the save **1-3**. Keynsham were pressing to see if they could pull another goal back but a cracking tackle from Tristen stopped them in their tracks; he then got to the loose ball before passing down the line to Kaylum. We were breaking fast and after a touch to control the ball Kaylum threaded the ball into the Keynsham half for Bradley to run onto. **Bradley** got to the edge area of the area before slipping the ball past the onrushing goalkeeper into the back of the net 1-4. Keynsham had one more chance, but Tristen got a tremendous block and Alfie dropped on the ball to snuff out the last chance of the game.

FULL-TIME: KEYNSHAM 1 FRYS 4

Man of the Match – Chosen by Andy for a great defensive display – **Finley**

The Game 2 line-up was:

Finlay

Keanu Cory

James Charlie Bradley W

Liam

Substitutes: Aran

With Cory getting a last-minute knock to the head and not feeling confident to go in goal Finn and Keanu showed great team spirit and both agreed to go in goal so many thanks to both boys. Keynsham believed in their chances, only being three goals behind that they could come back into the match and started all guns blazing and were quickly on the attack. A good tackle from Cory forced them out wide and the shot lost the power and Finn saved well. Finn rolled the ball out wide to Keanu who found James with a good pass. James took the ball into the Keynsham half and passed out wide to Liam who fired a ball across the edge of the area to where Bradley hit the ball on the half volley; it was flying towards the top corner before the Keynsham 'keeper came to make a good save and put the ball out for a corner. Charlie took a great corner which found its way to the middle of the penalty area, Aran managed to flick it on, and it came to Cory on the back post. He managed to get his foot to the ball and deflect it towards goal, but it hit the post and went behind for a goal kick. We pressured them well as they tried to pass the ball out and Aran got the ball off them and passed to Charlie who hit a shot from 20 yards out which only just went wide of the left post. We were on the front foot and Keynsham were struggling to get the ball out of their half. James was dominating midfield and from another battle that he won he found Bradley out on the left side and Bradley cleverly beat the Keynsham defender with a deft little chip before getting a crisp first time shot which the 'keeper got down well to save. Keynsham attacked down their left, but Cory got a great tackle in and played a delightful ball down the line to Bradley who after controlling the ball passed inside to James who drove into the area before shooting. The 'keeper was up to the task again making another good save. Keynsham had one more attack before half time and they passed the ball well down the middle before a cross-field ball out to the right opened us up. Keanu came to put the striker under pressure, but he still managed to get a shot away but without conviction and Finn did well to save.

HALF-TIME: KEYNSHAM 0 FRYS 0

We were slow to get going in the 2nd half and Keynsham piled on the pressure and we had to defend well with Finn and Cory protecting Keanu in goal well. They picked the ball up on the halfway line and played a quick exchange of passes before they unleased a shot from outside the box that was placed to perfection, going in off the post giving Keanu no chance **1-0**. The goal gave them some confidence and not long after they suddenly had two players bearing down on goal with only Keanu in the way; he somewhere managed to make a great save and Liam who had sprinted back made a vital

clearance. This bit of brilliance from Keanu and Liam sparked us into life and a great ball by Cory down the wing found Aran who floated past the Keynsham player before crossing to Liam who was in the penalty box on his own. He could not believe he had so much time and hit a first time shot just wide. Liam was suddenly full of energy, and he was first to the goal-kick and drove at the Keynsham defence before shooting wide. Keynsham were attacking but Charlie had also stepped up a gear and made a wonderful tackle before finding Finn who fed the ball down the line to Liam who flicked the ball into Aran's path, and he tricked the defender in to thinking he was going one way before going the other and was clear on goal, which he finished with great maturity 1-1. We were again the better team and a quick throw by James found Aran who passed back to James, and he went near the corner then back inside then back outside before floating over a wonderful cross which found **Liam** near the penalty spot, and he volleyed the ball with great power and accuracy into the roof of the net 1-2. Keynsham were not finished, and they played some lovely football on their right before cutting the ball back to the middle of our half where the player who was waiting for the ball ran a couple of yards before hit a rocket of a shot that only stopped when it hit the net 2-2. Charlie had one chance to win it but after a great powerful run in which he beat two players, his low shot was well saved by the 'keeper.

FULL-TIME: KEYNSHAM 2 FRYS 2

Man of the Match – Chosen by Andy for agreeing to go in goal at the last minute and performing very well – Finlay & Keanu

OVERALL: KEYNSHAM 3 FRYS 6

Afterthoughts.....

We might have not played as well as we did the week before, but the boys put in a 100% effort to get the win against a side that has improved an awful lot, even when things were not going right, they never gave up stuck to the jobs that they had been given. In Match 1, after a battle in the first half we became more on top in the 2nd half and got the deserved win. The 2nd game was the opposite where we were by far the better side in the 1st half but could not score and had to battle hard to get the draw in the 2nd half. We move on to our last group game next week and whatever happens the boys should be very proud at what they have done in these mini competitions this year after already getting to one final and with a chance of another: well done Boys.