

# U6 Academy



We had a terrific bunch of kids in the Academy this season which made the sessions a joy to coach. Everyone has really improved their skills, stamina and fitness.

We started the season with a game called finding Nemo, where the kids have to dribble around a pitch full of cones, looking under each one in turn until finding a fish – they soon sussed that out! The favourite game was, of course, Fox and Chickens – it seems everyone wants to be the fox. There was definitely some crafty tail feather tucking going on though!

Ice Monster taught them balance and how to stop the ball, The Great Escape helped them with decision making and agility, and then we started to teach turns. I'm really glad some of the players have mastered the Maradona turn, I'll be looking out for it in the matches they play next season. We even tried the Cruyff turn which was more of a challenge.

We blasted the ball at the rebound wall to learn our shooting technique and tried to dribble around

the hungry sharks in the Freestyle warm up.

The players always looked forward to the match at the end of training and they are beginning to learn the benefit of passing, running into space and defending.

We had a chance to see how well they had progressed in their understanding of match play when we invited Kings Church Amersham over for some friendlies on our end-of-season Fun Day. Didn't they do well! We had several victories and a couple of draws so the future looks bright for HT Lions as they will be known, going forward into next year.

I will be taking the Academy again in the autumn so I wish the players that are moving on to the under 7s well for next season. My thanks go to Drew for taking on the challenge of managing them and for helping with the training this year.

Meanwhile, I look forward to welcoming this years Reception Class children back into the Academy on 3rd September. Have a great summer everyone!

Kevin

