

## INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE 1 V CLAYESMORE 5

1.Egor	8.Nick
2.Jonathan	9.Shaaz
3.Ye	10.James
4.Goga (c)	11.Max
5.Nathan	12.Xu
6.Marc	13.Benny
7.Matiya	

The College U15 side were looking forward to the game against Clayesmore after a depleted side had lost heavily in the away match early in the Autumn term. Unfortunately the afternoon would result in another loss but a lot of pride and belief was restored to the team against larger and stronger opposition.

The match kicked off with the College going forward nervously but James was quickly dispossessed and the Clayesmore attackers passed the ball well to quickly take the lead. The College realised that the match was going to be a hard one but some mistakes and coming second best in some situations meant that Clayesmore were leading 3-0 after about fifteen minutes.

To compound what was happening, Goga picked up a knock but played on playing as a true captain should. The College then managed to pick up the ball in midfield and with Matiya quickly spreading the ball forward, the U15's moved well with the ball and Marc restored some pride to the team with a shot from the left that beat the goalkeeper.

The College were unable to stop the onslaught though and at half time the score was 4-1 to Clayesmore. The team received some advice at half time and the defence was told to push up the field to catch the Clayesmore attack offside. Along with this the team was told to play the second half as if the game was 0-0 and to see what they could do.

The second half saw a much more spirited performance from all the players. Tackles were much more convincing and the boys worked as hard as they could. Max was unlucky not to add to his goal from the last game as he blazed wide of the post, Nick and Matiya also failed to convert some good chances. Clayesmore found themselves under some significant pressure and only added to their tally on the counter attack when they eventually beat the offside trap.

Max and Goga had put in valiant performances during the afternoon but succumbed to their injuries during the second half to be replaced by Xu and Benny. The IC battled on well and with Jonathan and Benny playing in central defence against stronger players they did well to only allow one more goal to slip past Egor and into the back of the net.

The boys were well spirited in defeat and realised that they had put in a real battling performance against well-drilled opposition. The IC U15 should be very proud of themselves for their performance and improvement on the away fixture.