



# OCTOBER newsletter



Welcome to the October edition of the Thirsk Talent Hub Newsletter! This month has been packed with hard work, exciting experiences, and continued progress both on and off the pitch. The players have continued to impress with their dedication, attitude, and willingness to learn — and we're proud of how far the group has come already this term.

## this month's scheme of work

We've continued our focus on Performance Strengths, encouraging players to identify what they do well and how they can make their strengths even stronger. Self-awareness remains a key part of the programme — helping students understand their individual playing profiles, set personal targets, and reflect on performance.

## student spotlight

Each month, we celebrate some of our shining stars! This section highlights a student/s who has gone above and beyond—whether through kindness, creativity, hard work, or leadership. Let's cheer them on and be inspired by their example!

Year 7 - Penny Pollard  
Year 8 - Cameal Hassan  
Year 9 - Alfie Bridgen  
Year 10 - Ryan Stapylton

Well done to all four! Your attitude, commitment, and work ethic has been exemplary in the programme!

## upcoming events

Here's what's coming up for the Hub in the next few weeks:

Year 7/8 Ball Duties – Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup>  
November vs Gateshead

Year 8/9 Ball Duties – Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup>  
November vs Rochdale

**New Scheme of Work:** After October half-term, we will be launching our first classroom based scheme of work. We will be looking at the principles of coaching and the students will be involved in designing & delivering their own sessions.







# first team Ball duties



## year 8 Ball duties



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This fixture was an extra-special occasion for our Year 8 students, who not only took on Ball Duties but also had the incredible chance to walk out as Matchday Mascots alongside the York City players!

It was a proud and memorable experience for everyone involved — from leading the team out in front of the home crowd to maintaining focus and teamwork throughout their duties. The group represented Thirsk Talent Hub with real professionalism and enthusiasm.

The York City staff were full of praise for their attitude, organisation, and confidence — a credit to themselves, the Hub, and the school.

## year 9 Ball duties



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Following in their footsteps, our Year 9 students took on Ball Duties for the Boreham Wood fixture and carried out their roles to an equally high standard. Their communication, focus, and teamwork throughout the match were excellent, demonstrating maturity and reliability in a busy matchday setting.

Both fixtures gave our students a brilliant insight into what it takes to operate in a professional football environment — from pre-match routines and time management to representing the club in front of supporters. Well done to all involved — you made the Hub proud!







# primary school comp leaders



October has been a busy and exciting month for the Thirsk Talent Hub as we proudly hosted a series of Primary School Football Tournaments at Thirsk School. These events were designed to give local pupils the chance to experience competitive football in a fun, inclusive, and supportive environment — and they didn't disappoint!

Over four fantastic afternoons, we welcomed schools from across the local area, with hundreds of pupils taking part, representing their schools with energy, teamwork, and enthusiasm.

A special mention goes to our Talent Hub students, who helped with refereeing, scorekeeping, setting up pitches, and supporting the younger players. Their leadership, professionalism, and encouragement helped the tournaments run smoothly and made the younger participants feel part of something special. Their contribution showed the values we want to promote at the Hub — respect, teamwork, and community spirit.

Thank you to all the primary schools, staff, and families who supported these events, and to everyone at Thirsk School who made them possible. These competitions are a fantastic way to build connections, inspire young players, and strengthen the pathway between primary school sport and the Thirsk Talent Hub.



Here's what's been happening this month:

- Thursday 9th October – Girls Football
- Thursday 16th October – Football
- Tuesday 21st October – Girls Football Finals:
- Wednesday 22nd October – Football Finals



# COACHES' CORNER



## TIPS OF THE MONTH

### togetherness

Supporting, including, and encouraging one another to succeed both in and out of the classroom.

### teamwork

Be the loudest supporter of your teammates. Positivity is contagious.

### pitch personality framework

#### proactive

Take responsibility for your own development. Don't wait for someone else to push you.

## Dilan's reflections

### talent hub lead coach

"It's been another brilliant month for the Hub. The players have shown real commitment to improving their performances and understanding how their strengths contribute to the team."

"The matchday experiences have been a real highlight — our students continue to impress with their professionalism and attitude in front of large crowds."

As we move into the Coaching Principles scheme, I'm looking forward to seeing the players take on more leadership and communication roles, building confidence and ownership in their development."



## John's reflections

### head of physical education

"This term has seen a fantastic buzz around the Talent Hub. The effort and enthusiasm from all year groups have been exceptional. It's also been great to see our students representing Thirsk School so positively in fixtures and events."

The partnership with York City FC continues to give our players fantastic insight into the professional game, and we're excited to see how the Coaching Principles scheme helps them grow both as players and as people."

