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HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

Academy Graduates in the First Team

An Academy Graduate appeared in each First Team matchday squad in December and January.

Tate Campbell was named on the bench for the first time for the game against Blackburn.

Josh Dacres-Cogley appeared in every matchday squad while also making starts against Blackburn and Watford. **Steve Seddon** and **Connal Trueman** have both appeared on the bench after their loan moves ended this month.



U18 PDL North & Youth Cup Update

Following the postponement of the FA Youth Cup, the U18s sole focus in December and January has been to continue their good form in the PDL North.

A **Remi Walker** hat-trick started January in the best possible way and helped the Blues to a 5-2 win over Crewe. Another convincing 4-1 win over Nottingham Forest secured top spot in the league.

Top spot was further cemented in the final weekend of the month with **Kieran Wakefield** bagging a brace in a 2-0 win over Hull. These results leave the U18s 5 points clear at the top of the league with a busy February and March to come.

December 2020 & January 2021

Academy Loans

The U23s have utilised both the summer and winter transfer windows to allow players in the squad to gain First Team experience.

Remeao Hutton has been loaned out to Stevenage of League 1 and has 23 appearances this season in all competitions.

Odin Bailey rejoined Forest Green Rovers, who he spent the second half of last season with. Odin has made 20 appearances and scored 1 goal so far this season.

Ryan Burke had a spell at Yeovil Town where he made 7 appearances but has now rejoined the U23s.

Jayden Reid made 12 appearances on loan at Barrow in the first half of the season and is now at Walsall.



Mitchell Roberts who made his professional debut at Harrogate Town has now been joined by **Josh Andrews** on a deadline day loan move.

Miguel Fernandez has also made a deadline day loan move to Spanish Segunda B side Club Deportivo Gujuelo.

Online Academy Programme

With the vast majority of the Academy programme being affected by Covid-19 lockdown restrictions, the online element of the programme has returned with the Academy staff coming up with innovative ways of keeping in contact with the players.

The U16s-U23s age groups took part in an online cooking tutorial to encourage homemade healthy eating.

The menu consisted of Protein Pancakes, Protein Balls and a Breakfast Burrito with both players and staff taking part with varying levels of success.



The event was part of the life skills programme the age groups are part of trying to encourage healthy eating to support the football element of training and matches.

The U13-U16 age groups had an opportunity to be on a Zoom call with England U16 Coach and ex professional player Rob Edwards who passed on key learnings from his experiences as both a player and a coach at the top level.

And for the GKs there will be a Q&A session in the near future with an ex-Birmingham City number 1 who has been capped by his country.