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Highlights of the Month

Academy Graduates in the First Team

As pre-season got underway during June and July, an impressive 18 Academy Graduates were involved within the First Team matchday squads in preparation for the new season.

Josh Williams scored on his start against Salford City as well as **Charlie Lakin** who also played in the 3-0 win against Cheltenham Town. **Marcel Oakley** and **Odin Bailey** both started against Barrow and were subbed on against Cheltenham Town.

Tate Campbell made 3 appearances in the First Team during pre-season starting against Salford and Barrow, he also came off the bench against Cheltenham Town. **Nico Gordon** and **Mitchell Roberts** also started in the 7-0 win against Salford.

Before **Ryan Stirk** left for his season long loan at Mansfield Town, he started and scored against Salford while also making another appearance against Cheltenham Town. **Zach Jeacock** has also been loaned out to League 2 Salford City, who he started against during pre-season for the First Team.

There were also several other players who have made substitute appearances for the First Team. **Remi Walker**, **Jordan James**, **Alife Chang**, **Adan George** who also scored in his appearance against Salford, and **Josh Andrews** all made substitute appearances. While **Connal Trueman**, **Rico Browne**, **Caolan Boyd-Munce** & **Kyle Hurst** have all been involved in matchday squads.

June & July 2021



Category 1 Games Programme Update

With the Academy confirming their Category 1 status, the Under 23s and Under 18s will now compete in the Premier League 2 and U18 Premier League respectively.

This will mean the age groups will be battling it out against the top Academy teams in the country. With the Under 23s having won the PDL National Final and the Under 18s reaching the semi-finals of their league competition, they will be up for the test.

The league season will start with the Under 23s facing Stoke City away and then Newcastle United at St. Andrews in August. While the Under 18s will be welcoming Brighton and Spurs to Wast Hills either side of an away trip to Southampton.

While the Under 9 to Under 15 games programme won't change drastically because of the change in Category status, there will be more Premier League tournaments throughout the course of the season which will offer a variety of exciting experiences beginning in September.

International Call-Up

Jobe Bellingham received an England Under 16 International Call-Up in June for their fixture against their Northern Ireland counterparts. Jobe will also be representing England Under 17s next month.

A special mention to Academy Graduate **Jude Bellingham** who played a significant role being part of England's Euro 2020 squad who finished as runners up in the tournament.

Having appeared in the tournament, Jude became the youngest player ever to have appeared in a game at the Euros.



Schoolboy Tournaments at Liverpool

In July to start the new season our Under 10 to Under 13 age groups travelled to Liverpool to begin the 2021/22 season.

The Under 12s managed to remain unbeaten overall throughout the course of the day against all teams. The age group managed a draw with West Brom and a win against Burnley with their standout result being beating Liverpool 7-0 across all games.

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