

## **U9's in Triangular Action at Ealing**

***Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> October saw Teddington Under 9's sending 29 boys to our friends at Ealing RFC for a three-way friendly fixture with Guildford and of course Ealing themselves.***

The Teddington boys firstly participated in a new warm-up; an excellent game of "Cops and Robbers", which with over 80 boys involved looked like total chaos. However, thanks to the excellent coaches at Ealing, it was hugely popular and bound to lead to calls to replace our very own "Hennie Muller's". Don't worry, Hennie is here to stay.

It was then down to the business of matches. Guildford, who we have met more frequently this year, also had enough boys to field 3 teams, meaning a combined total of 8 teams across 3 pitches. This enabled 2 teams to take it in turns to "sit things out", take a de-brief from their coach, a quick drink and then back into the fray.

There were plenty of wins, losses and draws, which seemed to be fairly evenly shared out. Particularly impressive were the Teddington C team, consisting of many new faces this year. By a quirk of the draw they ended up facing Ealing A and Guildford A, both very strong, experienced sides. However, they put on a mighty show of guts and determination, improving in both games and really playing some good stuff.

The B Squad also performed very well despite a number of accidental knocks and bumps, getting a couple of good wins. Finally the A Squad had their customary nail-biting encounters with their Ealing and Guildford counterparts, winning one and losing one each, both by the tightest of margins.

All in all, everyone agreed that "Rugby was the winner!" Thanks go out to our hosts and fellow guests for a very enjoyable morning, despite the weather.

Finally, well done to those parents and players who made the effort to come along in half term week.