

Feedback from Parents

2018

From: Bruce L-T
Sent: 23 July 2018 22:13
To: Mr D Abraham

At the risk of either rambling on for too long or repeating what I'm sure you must have already read countless times, I can say that our Gothia Cup experience was absolutely amazing. Our son, Alex came home exhausted, but having had the best time. As for myself, I loved every minute and, as you predicted, wished I'd booked for longer when I had to come home on Wednesday evening. We're desperately hoping Alex will be fortunate enough to be selected again next year. If so, I will definitely book for the full week.

Huge thanks for all of your hard work in coordinating the Prep Schools' Lions - the superb communication and attention to detail made it very easy for us as parents.

I'd also like to recognise the hard work of the coaching staff. All of the Lions coaches that I came across were brilliant, but I'd specifically like to mention James Lewis and Emily Goss who took Alex's team - B12 Maroon. I'm sure it must be a tough job looking after 15 young lads for the week (I sometimes struggle with just 2!), but James and Emily were outstanding. They were professional, enthusiastic, patient and courteous at all times.

I hope you managed to enjoy the Gothia Cup as much as we did. As they said at the opening ceremony "memories to last a lifetime". That's for sure.

Enjoy the rest of the Summer.

Thanks and Regards
Bruce

From: Shona and Barry
Sent: 24 July 2018 17:16
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Re: Gothia World Youth Cup

Thanks so much Dan.

The event was truly phenomenal and Ozzy had a brilliant time.

It's amazing how the leaders, coaches, teams and parents come together in such unity when they're not in each others presence for very long each year and this is true testament to all your hard work.

Congratulations to you and your team on yet another fabulous Gothia Cup and sincere thanks from us.

Kind regards,
Shona Smith.

From: Matt Evand
Sent: 21 July 2018 09:54
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia

Dan

We just wanted to write to express our thanks to your team for running the most fantastic experience for the boys.

Ben has described it as “the best week of his life” and his coaches as “the best coaches ever”. He had an absolute ball from the moment he met the team at Heathrow. He cannot wait for next year (if selected!).

Thank you once again to your team.

Regards, Matt & Jo

(parents / B12 purple)

From: Sarah
Sent: 20 July 2018 19:41
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia 2018

Dear Dan

Just a note to thank you so much for organising this amazing trip for the Boys from England.

I'm am sure a lot of your free time and efforts has gone in to making this trip as problem free as possible for all concern and for this we are all very much appreciative.

It certainly is a trip of a lifetime for a 12 year old boy like Morgan. It will be a memory I'm sure he will keep for a long time.

He had a wonderful week and both Mark and myself have had as much fun supporting his team, other prep school teams as well as watching other countries teams play.

The staff, Chris and Max were great, supporting the whole team, I can imagine they will need a weeks holiday to recover Morgan is full on, non-stop at home so I expect he has kept them on their toes and not given them too much rest. Please thank them on our behalf for looking after our son so well.

Neither Mark or myself had been to Sweden before and we were also able to use the fantastic tram system in the city to see other parts of the city on our visit.

The highlight of course was that amazing opening ceremony. And if you get a chance to thank the organisers of that on our behalf that would appreciated.

Thank you again for all you have done it had been a great experience

Kind Regards
Sarah and Mark

From: Shelina
Sent: 23 July 2018 15:51
To: Mr D Abraham

Hi Dan, We have four words to describe the experience:

Wow! Bravo! 2019! Yes!

(if boys get invited to come for 2019)

We believe that every boy who dreams to be a footballer should have the privilege to experience this awesome World Youth Cup. Kiyani was very happy and his confidence grew as he scored goals and assisted team players to score too. Every boy was made to feel valued in the team.

I must also mention our gratitude and admiration for both coaches, Max and Chris and yourself! We the parents, and all the boys feel that we had the best coaches of the whole World Youth cup! And this would not have been possible if you had not created the opportunity for the boys and coaches.

They encouraged the boys to meet other boys, compete and unite.

Both coaches instilled the motto that it is a Team win.

I was very happy to see Max strategize and observe the teams that our boys would be playing against. As you know, they made it to the last 16 losing only to the defending Champions, the Ghanaian academy players, who won the cup again this year. Great results overall.

Chris' and Max's presence, always with a positive demeanour made the boys feel safe and motivated to do their best.

We were also impressed with your whole organisation from the first trials day in November 2017, the district matches, right to the end of this 2018 World Youth cup! Bravo!

Big thank you from the Samnani's.

Shelina

From: Lottie Perei
Sent: 24 July 2018 15:00
Subject: Re: Gothia World Youth Cup

Dear Dan

Thank you so much for all your hard work in organising the Prep School Lions. Harry had a fantastic tournament and his coaches Dan and Adam were so kind and supportive during his moments of feeling homesick. He thoroughly enjoyed the tournament and made a whole load of new friends - a trip that will stay with him forever.

Kindest regards.

Lottie

From: Simon Tarrant
Sent: 21 July 2018 12:40
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Isaac's Gothia trip

Hi Dan,

Just to add our thanks to you, Lana and Jack for everything that went into the fantastic experience that Isaac and his B11 Orange team had at Gothia.

Lana has given Isaac renewed motivation to persevere with exercise and sport despite growing pains which have taken the fun out of a lot of his sport for several months. He is already talking about saving up to pay towards the costs of another Gothia Cup trip should he get selected!!

He's made some lovely new friends and has been buzzing ever since he got over the initial nerves. Thanks to the whole team of coaches.

Best wishes, Simon and Ruth Tarrant

From: Suzanne Fricker
Sent: 25 July 2018 08:31

Dear Dan,

Thanks so much for everything, to you and the coaches - it was an amazing experience for the boys and just to be part of it watching was fantastic - I had no idea of the scale of it from just reading the numbers ... Will had a really good time - slept for nearly 24 hours when he got back 😊

Thanks again, have a lovely summer and hopefully a bit of a well earned break.

Best,

Suzanne

From: Declan McCusker
Sent: 25 July 2018 09:03

Dear Dan

Just a short note from the McCusker family to say thanks for a fantastic time in Sweden.

Joseph played in the B14 Prep School Lions white team – and having the opportunity to play against teams from Sweden and Guatemala was amazing. I would also like to feedback that Joseph's coach (Dan) did a fantastic job.

The opening ceremony was truly exceptional. Watching the England teams (including all the prep school boys) walking onto the pitch behind the St Georges Flags in front of 50,000 cheering fans is an experience we will never forget.

Thanks to you and your team – it must take a huge amount of organisation to arrange the logistics for the trip – and it was truly worth it.

Best wishes

Declan & Victoria McCusker

From: Lara Ward
Sent: 24 July 2018 13:31
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia World Youth Cup

Dear Dan,

Just wanted to write and say how much Cayden enjoyed his first Gothia Cup experience. He got on well with his team mates and thought his coaches were fantastic.

From a parents' perspective the Lions organisation was great. The coaches were both very positive and communicated well with the team both on and off the pitch. They also kept the parents in the loop as to any free time the boys would have etc.

It really was an amazing experience and Cayden came back buzzing.

Thanks,

Lara Ward

From: Emer Hoskin
Sent: 23 July 2018 21:39
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia Cup

Evening Dan

Just to add to your hundreds of emails from parents to say, for a second season running what an absolutely wonderful experience Harry had at Gothia this year. I came along this time and was blown away by it all - from the opening ceremony to the phenomenal standard of football, the camaraderie amongst the boys and also the parents! Both Harry and I have come away with new friends!

Tim was a lovely coach who trained our boys brilliantly and looked after them well, along with Sam who took great care of our boys on the occasion when they were victims of a rough tackle. We're still both wearing our Gothia wristbands with pride!

Please can we come again?!

Best wishes

Emer

From: Lou Etherington
Sent: 24 July 2018 10:10
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Thank you and photos

Hi Dan

I just wanted to say a huge thank you for allowing Harrison the opportunity to be part of the prep school lions squad in Gothenburg this year. He was part of B12 purple and had the most amazing time, it was a great bunch of boys and parents but the thing that really made it for him was the coaching team, Ben and Dan were brilliant and Harrison has non stop talked about how good the training was and what fantastic people they were.

It was also an amazing experience for us parents, we were so sad to leave, it was truly a special holiday.

Many thanks, both my boys are looking forward to the camp in August.

Regards
Louise Etherington

From: A.arbibe
Sent: 24 July 2018 08:54
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia Cup 2018

Hi Dan

First thank you very much for the amazing time Elliot (and we!) had during the Gothia Cup. What an amazing experience it was.

For next year, Elliot would love to participate again and stay with the Pumas if possible, he had such a great time with his teammates and coaches Mike and Ben.

Many thanks again for everything.

Alain Arbibe

From: Matteo Canonaco
Sent: 24 July 2018 08:41
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia WC - James

Dear Dan

Thanks for your e-mail and thanks again for your dedication (and patience!) in organising so many teams for the Gothia Cup. We had not quite fully realised how amazing this tournament would be for the children to take part in. We were all blown away, James had an incredible experience and he made some very good new friends.

Many thanks again for your Herculean efforts and for those of Tom, the team coach and Antony team Sports Therapist, who looked after the boys so well and really helped them grow during the week.

Matteo & Sophia Canonaco

From: Tyne Cameron
Sent: 24 July 2018
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia 2018

Dan,

On behalf of Inigo I wanted to write to thank you so much for the most amazing opportunity and experience of Gothia 2018.

Everything was superb from the beginning to end. The organisation, information, training camp at Easter, accommodation in Gothenburg, tournament, team manager and physiotherapist were simply superb and to cap it all the U11 Prep School Lions Red team were undefeated in their 7 matches !

We would have no hesitation going again and would highly recommend it to anyone whose child loves football.

Well done all

Martin Langford

From: Melissa
Sent: 24 July 2018 07:58
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia Cup

Hi Dan,

I hope you've recovered after the past week.

I just wanted to say what an amazing week both Harry and I had. I cannot speak highly enough of both Luke and Simon who turned a fabulous group of boys into a brilliant team who played some great football. Whilst we enjoyed our trip last year, nothing can compare to our experience this year.

Not only were Luke and Simon fantastic with the boys, they were great with the parents. They set up a whatsapp group to provide updates and photos to all the parents which not only allayed any of our worries but also formed a great bond between us all. This was highlighted when, rather than have some time to themselves on Saturday, they chose to spend the day with the boys and their parents and we had a group outing to the beach.

Luke and Simon should be commended on their performance and I would have no hesitation in providing a reference for either of them.

Should Harry and the rest of his team (U12 reds) be successful at the trials for next years' Gothia Cup I would hope that they could remain together as a team and be coached again by Luke and Simon.

I hope that you can now relax and have a well deserved holiday.

Best wishes,

Melissa

From: Catherine Aiken
Sent: 24 July 2018
To: Mr D Abraham

Many thanks Dan the photos are great. Callum had a fantastic week, a truly memorable experience expertly organised. We were particularly impressed with Ollie as coach who looked after and guided the boys so professionally.

Many thanks again for all your hard work.
Look forward to next season/year.

Catherine

From: Nadine et David
Sent: 24 July 2018 22:32
To: Mr D Abraham

Dear Dan,

I write to express our thanks to you and your team for an excellent experience that our son Xavier has just enjoyed at the Gothia World Youth Cup with the B11 Pumas White.

He thoroughly enjoyed the football, albeit, despite the results not all going their way. We watched all but 2 of the games and the boys put a lot of effort in as a team but the luck was just not with them on this occasion.

Xavier was very proud to be representing England at the opening ceremony on the Monday and when we asked him what he thought of the ceremony, he used words such as “awesome” and “amazing”...! It was a truly spectacular event even for us parents.

However, a special thank you must go to you for all the organisation, not to mention all the time that you must put into this event. Organising all the trials, training camps and then getting all 33 teams out to Gothenburg is a huge task, very well done.

I know that he is already looking forward to the training camp at the end of August.

We hope that you enjoy a well deserved holiday and look forward to seeing you at the end of August at the training camp.

All the very best.
Kind regards
David & Nadine Combe-Law

From: Collette Trotter
Sent: 24 July 2018 07:31
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Thank You!

Hello Dan

We had a great time in Gothenburg. Great football, lots of friendships, beautiful city, but mostly what great organisation.
Thank you to you and the team of people working with you for making it happen. The hard work that goes in to this is evident and everyone of you are always so helpful and approachable.

Regards
Collette

From: Marcus Gaskell
Sent: 24 July 2018 07:30

Subject: Gothia Cup

Hi Dan

Just wanted to say how much Thomas and Adam enjoyed the Gothia experience playing with the B12 Grey team. Fantastic organisation from yourself, excellent coaching and mentoring from Ant Stevens and Tom Downs and the boys are so much richer from the experience. Whilst they would have liked to have got a little further in the competition, reaching the A group playoffs with a scratch team shows how far they developed in a matter of days and demonstrates the potential that they can now build on.

Thanks again for an awesome week in Gothenburg.

Hope you now get to have a break and put your feet up!.

Best Regards

Marcus and Sian Gaskell

From: Lizzie Maclean
Sent: 24 July 2018 22:18
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: RE: Photograph from Sweden

Hi Dan,

Apologies for not writing sooner; a wonderful trip, thoroughly enjoyed by Oscar and us as a family. It was lovely to be a part of such a special and memorable experience. Your team of coaches, physios and volunteers all worked exceptionally hard. Norbett and Sam were great- Norbett especially, he got Oscar and new how to get the best from him!

Lizzie

From: Aina Suterwalla
Sent: 23 July 2018 23:46
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia

Dear Dan,

Just wanted to say a big thank you for a fantastic tournament. Zain thoroughly enjoyed the football and also catching up with friends he made last year / making new friends this year. It was lovely to see the boys come together so well as a team, and to see them continue to stay in touch after getting back home from Gothenburg!

A big thanks must go to Cammy and Connor for helping the boys to bond so well as a team, keeping them motivated, and generally looking after them so well !!

It's also been a wonderful experience for us parents. We have enjoyed cheering on the side lines, and also getting to know the parents of the boys in Zain's team. We are definitely looking forward to next year's tournament !

Best wishes
Aina

From: Giles Henderson
Sent: 23 July 2018 22:51
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Thanks for Gothia

Hi Dan,

I just want to thank you for such an amazing tournament. The experience for our son Archie was incredible!! He loved every minute of it, as did we, the rest of the family as supporters. I can quite honestly say it is the best kids sports tournament that I have ever seen, by a country mile and an experience the children will take with them for the rest of their lives!

Cheers

Giles

From: ify monye
Sent: 23 July 2018 22:47
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia

Dear Dan

Gothia was such an experience!!!!!!

Exciting, suspense, exhilarating, and totally worth the trip. My entire family and I were there to cheer on our son Somto and his amazing teammates.

I will like to place on record that we felt the team B11 Red was so much in tune, in harmony that their Coach is highly recommended for commendation. We all thought Kevin was an amazing Coach.

Thank you for all your hard work.

Best wishes
Ifeoma Monye

From: Suzanne Wood
Sent: 23 July 2018 22:18
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia

Mr Abraham,
Alexander said that Harry and Aaron are the best coaches ever. High praise from him.
Many thanks for enabling this amazing opportunity for an 11 year old football mad boy.
Kind regards
Suzanne Wood

From: Yuki Beardmore-Gray
Sent: 23 July 2018 21:17
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: RE: Gothia World Youth Cup

Dear Dan,

Thank you so much again to you and to your amazing team of staff for another successful Gothia trip. Tom and I were unable to go ourselves this year but Leo had another very happy week – he said it was probably even more fun than last year – and I think his team, B15 Alpha, did pretty well to get to the last 32. It's the perfect way for football-loving boys to spend part of their holidays and I know it wouldn't be possible without your dedication. I briefly met and thanked Yasar and Matt at Gatwick, but please pass on our appreciation to them too.

Best wishes,

Yuki and Tom Beardmore-Gray

From: Angus Macdonald
Sent: 23 July 2018 21:10
To: Mr D Abraham
Cc: Clare Macdonald
Subject: Re: Gothia World Youth Cup

Hi Dan,

Charlie had the best time with the B12 Yellow squad, with amazing coaches Harry & Arron!!

So many very happy memories & some great new friendships made alongside some fantastic football performances against Swedish, Mexican & Brazilian teams.

We all can't wait to hopefully do it all again & Ollie our youngest can't wait to hopefully be selected once he's old enough!

Thanks for the first class job organising all the teams - it really was very impressive & hopefully you can relax now!

Angus

From: James Bethell
Sent: 23 July 2018 21:05
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Thank you.

Dear Dan

On behalf of Jacob and myself, can I say thank for the wonderful experience at the Gothia Cup. It was an utterly memorable event. The coaches Arron and Harry were absolutely inspirational. The organisation was impeccable.

Thank you very much for all your efforts.

With best wishes.

James and Jacob.

From: Allan Wilson
Sent: 23 July 2018 20:58
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia World Youth Cup

Hi Dan,

A truly memorable week - both for Harry (U11 Blues) and us! I have to say the organisation from start to finish was fantastic and Matt and 'mother Hen' were just brilliant with the boys and their communication with us. They were supportive and inspirational in equal measure and I know Harry has taken a lot from the week - both on and off the field.

You and the whole team must be very proud of the work you've done. Harry, I have no doubt, will be doing his best to make it again next year!

Regards
Allan

From: Emma Oakden
Sent: 23 July 2018 13:44
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia

Dear Dan,

I just wanted to thank you and all of the staff (especially Nick, Hannah and Ed) for making this year's Gothia trip such an amazing experience.

Freddie had an absolutely brilliant time - he says he particularly enjoyed making new friends and playing some great football with Pumas.

Best wishes,

Emma Oakden

Dan,

I just wanted to say the biggest “thank you” on behalf of us and Harry for last week. We all had a fantastic week in Gothenburg and it was a real experience for all of us. For Harry it was an opportunity of a lifetime, especially being able to walk out on the pitch at Ullevi with his team mates which I think was a particular highlight! He got to play teams from Sweden, Germany, Norway and Mexico over the week and I think the whole experience will have a lasting effect on him. Yes we had ups and downs with home sickness and not being on his return flight but he came through all those and still loved it and wants to do it all again! I cannot thank enough Danny and Adam his coaches, they did an amazing job in not only looking after the players but in communicating with the parents and looking after the pastoral side of things as well as the football part. Please, please pass on my sincere thanks to them – Harry is very fond of them both and they were truly fantastic.

Thank you for all you do behind the scenes and everyone else involved in the Gothia experience – you should be very proud of what you achieve.

Kind regards, Sue

From: James Pace
Sent: 24 July 2018 19:24
To: Mr D Abraham
Cc: Kirstie Pace
Subject: Gothia Cup

Dan

Kirstie and I wanted to say a huge thank you to you and your team for what we gather was a fantastic trip. Despite his injury, Freddie really enjoyed every moment and if he's lucky enough to be selected again next year, then we are under strict instructions to come.

Your coaches are fantastic - a particular mention for Elliot who Freddie said was brilliant with him - and the logistics that you must have to cope with on top of your day job are quite extraordinary. A massive congratulations.

Kind regards,
James

From: Natalie Lewis
Sent: 23 July 2018 09:04
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Thank you

Remi had the most amazing time. Thank you for such great organisation. And Chris and Max were really brilliant. They are all so excited for next year. Hoping they can be kept together with new additions for 11 a side!

Thanks again Dan
Natalie

From: Tracey Mancey
Sent: 23 July 2018 08:32
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia 2018 - Thank you!

Hi Dan,

It was great to meet you at the parents party. I just wanted to write to say a huge THANK YOU for the exceptional organisation and clear information that created such a fantastic event for our Son and us parents alike.

Jack did not stop talking all the way back from the airport about his time at Gothia on and off the pitch - all positive. It was an incredible event to be part of. Please also pass on our thanks to the coaches Alex and Joe who have the patience of saints and looked after our lads so well. Jack has come away with so many unforgettable memories. The coaching and advice that continued throughout the trip has him fired up and eager for next season.

Thank you all so much, hope you get some much deserved R&R,

Very best wishes

Tracey Mancey

From: Polly Eddis
Sent: 24 July 2018 17:48
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Thanks Gothia Cup

Dear Dan

We are still coming back down to earth - Algy was pretty flat when he got home after the week of his life.

I must thank you again for this superb opportunity for Algy and for organising every detail so brilliantly including Chris and Max who gave the boys such confidence and encouragement throughout- never a hint of anything but positivity. It was a real lesson to these boys who sometimes aren't quite as lucky as we are at school, with teachers who let their lust for a win creep into their coaching. The boys and parents alike had such huge huge respect for Chris and Max, and the way they managed us all was hugely professional.

Algy is praying he makes it again next year - he has such superb memories and new friendships from Gothia Cup, as do Johnny and I.

All I can say is a monumental THANK YOU!

Polly Eddis

From: Kate
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Re: Summer Training Camp

Hi Dan

I hope you enjoyed the tournament and are starting to recover. Many thanks again for taking so many boys to Gothia this year. The coaches Mike and Ben were second to none (please pass on our gratitude to them again) and the team gelled so well as a result. Sam had the time of his life and was riding high throughout the tournament - exciting games and good match results always help! What an experience to play against so many different cultures at such a well organised event. Lucky boys indeed!

Many thanks again
Kate and Felix

From: mike ramsay
Sent: 22 July 2018 20:20
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia 2018

Hi Dan,

An amazing week for the boys. We were hugely impressed with Kevin and Olivia who did a tremendous job on preparing, training and tactically managing all the matches. The boys gelled so well and the team spirit is something I've not seen in all the football teams Ethan has played for to date.

One thought that a number of the U11 Red parents had was whether this squad can stay together with Kevin for next year as their record performance of being unbeaten might be worth trying to repeat ?

Best Wishes,
Mike and Faith

From: Joanna Linnell
Sent: 22 July 2018 18:56
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Re: Summer Training Camp

Hi Dan

Firstly a massive thank you for the most memorable week of football! The Gothia Cup was definitely everything that we read up about. The passion and skill of the players, the utter professionalism from the coaches Robbie and Victoria, the incredible opening ceremony (which we were so emotionally proud to be watching!), and I think more than anything the strength of commitment and the friendships made both between players and parents was just amazing!!! A week we will never forget .

Anyway in the back of this tournament Hardy would like to train with you all in Reading at the end of August- are their still places available??

Joanna

From: Michael Reyner
Sent: 22 July 2018 17:16
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Thank you!

Dear Dan,

Camilla and I wanted to thank you and your team for all their hard work and support in making the Gothia Cup such a wonderful experience for the boys.

Ed had a terrific time, both on and off the field, and this reflects in particular on the enthusiasm, positivity, great coaching and organisational skills shown by Ollie and Chris in looking after his District Blue team. They quickly gelled as a team, played attractive passing football and showed great composure and sportsmanship.

We and the other parents were well looked after and communication was excellent; the whole experience was memorable for us too. And the sun shone brightly – most of the time!

Many thanks,

Michael and Camilla Reyner

From: Mark Sanders
Sent: 22 July 2018 09:43
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia WYC

Dan,
Just wanted to say a massive thanks for all your hard work with the Lions .
Great tournament as usual , Imran and his team had a fantastic time .
Many thanks to Chris and Max , they were great with the boys .
Regards
Mark

From: Toby Lancaster
Sent: 21 July 2018 19:38
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia 2018

A quick note to thank you and your team for all of the fantastic work you have done in organizing the Gothia trip. Dom and Stephen, Louis' coaches were a credit to both you and the organization. The coaching was of excellent quality, full of encouragement and constructive support. In addition to this the pastoral care that the boys received was fantastic. They always seemed to have a smile on their face due to the fun they were having and Louis has described the trip as "his best ever!" The team formed a really close bond and it seemed that both coaches wanted to continue working with them in the future!

I look forward to next year if Louis makes the squad, and thanks once again for a truly memorable trip.

Toby Lancaster

From: Simon Burleton
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia cup feedback B14 Blue

Hi Dan

Just a quick note to say how much Harry enjoyed playing for the B14 Blue team at the Gothia cup. Oliver & Kris were brilliant with the boys in the way they coached them and supported them over the week.

Equally they communicated & interacted very well with the parents so all in all a very positive trip. It was just a shame that they could not have progressed further but the standard of teams they came up against was high.

If you could let them know this feedback that would be much appreciated.

Also many thanks to you Dan for your organisation and communication from start to finish which again was excellent.

Thanks
Simon.

From: Sally Harman
Sent: 25 July 2018 16:26

Subject: Gothia World Youth Cup

Hi Dan,

Huge thanks from The Harmans for what was THE most fabulous experience in Gothenburg which exceeded all of our expectations. It truly was a memorable experience for us all and Kevin and I can't thank you, Elliott and Gus enough for agreeing to take Bradley with his allergies under your wing for a trip of a lifetime.

Gothia made such a positive impression that we all keep reminiscing "this time last week.....!" It was an experience that will stay with us throughout our lifetime and we can't thank you and your team enough for making everything run so smoothly.

Wishing you all a fabulous summer.

Very best wishes,

Sally

From: Juliet hodgson
Sent: 26 July 2018 17:39
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Wow!

Dear Dan,

What can I say? Apart from a huge thank you to you and your team for taking the boys to such a fabulous tournament.

Tim and I were so impressed with the level of organisation your team undertook to ensure our boys had a great time. The trials last November were nail biting and Zeb was delighted to be picked. So much so that when I told him he jumped into my arms and burst into tears! Perhaps you don't mention that one as it won't do his street cred any good.

Can I please pass on a huge thank you to Robbie and Victoria. They were quite simply the best coaches and physio we could have hoped for. The boys seemed to all get on and played well as a team (although Robbie may have other comments on that). Robbie seemed to strike the right balance between strict but allowing them some freedom and obviously we loved it when we could have free time with the boys. I know there have been a few comments about keeping the team together, and if that happens, we would be absolutely delighted as we thought what a delightful bunch of boys they were and a credit to all their parents. Zeb had a few tears when he left and said it was the best experience he had ever had!

Finally, a big thank you to you. Without your dedication I very much doubt this would go ahead. You definitely made one boys Summer!

Best wishes

Juliet

From: Kevin Harman
Sent: 25 July 2018 13:48
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia

Dear Dan,

I just wanted to drop you a note to say how much Bradley and ourselves enjoyed the Gothia Cup. We all had a fantastic time. I think the whole experience will be a happy lasting memory for Bradley. Thank you and your team of coaches for organizing this event. We are truly grateful. Elliott and Gus looked after the team superbly, this was doubly important to us as Bradley has a nut allergy. The whole week was incident free. BIG THANK YOU .

Kind regards,

Kevin Harman

From: Julia Yates
Sent: 27 July 2018 15:58
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia thanks

Dear Dan

Apologies for the delay in sending this email on, it does not make the sentiments any less sincere.

A huge thank you to you and all your team, but particularly Matt & Luke, for making Dan's 10 days in Gothenburg one of the best times of his life (his words).

The organisation throughout has been incredible and the professionalism of everyone Dan has encountered has been noticeable.

I think it is a huge credit to all that, despite the fact Prep School Lions teams effectively arrive as 12 individuals, they leave as a team. And perform as such against Academy sides that presumably train together week in week out.

Dan loved every part of the experience - the trials, the training camp but most importantly Gothia itself. His enjoyment was not just on the pitch - although scoring goals and winning games obviously helped!! - but the flights, the opening ceremony, the food, the dorm, the evenings, the free time, the days after the football was over, the whole thing.

We hope you can enjoy some down time over the summer before you have to start planning next year. And once again, a huge thank you from us all.

Kind regards
Julia Yates

Feedback from Parents

2017

From: Jemima Jabb
Sent: 16 August 2017 19:28
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia

Dear Dan,

A very belated (we've been away) but nonetheless heartfelt thank you for all your organisation, time & effort spent on planning the Gothia trip this year. It was a fantastic experience for Mila, as a player, but also for us as a family. We were blessed with fantastic weather & loved the city - so easy to get around & we saw more of it travelling to the various matches than we ever would have done otherwise. There was some fantastic football to watch & a wonderful opportunity to play against teams from all over the world. We all absolutely loved it - thank you.

I hope you are enjoying your summer & once again many thanks for an experience of a lifetime!

Kind regards,

Lama & Jemima Jabb

From: Amanda Dawson
Sent: 05 August 2017 18:39
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia Cup 2018

Dear Dan

I would like to take this opportunity to send special thanks to you and your team of coaches, physios and staff. Dan and Matt were truly amazing and gave excellent coaching, commitment and were a pleasure to be around. They looked after the boys superbly and everything was so well organised.

I had absolutely no idea what to expect of the Gothia Cup but we were overwhelmed with the enormity of the tournament and the fantastic atmosphere both on and off the pitch. We stayed in a hotel in which there were at least 10 different nationalities all playing table tennis together!!!

We very much look forward to being a part of it again in 2018.

Amanda & Shaun Dominic

From: Jeremy Clark
Date: 29 July 2017 at 10:21:45 BST
To: "dan@districtfootball.co.uk" <dan@districtfootball.co.uk>
Subject: Thanks

Dear Dan,

I just wanted to say a huge thank you from the Clark family to you and all the administrative and coaching team for all that you have done for Oliver and Edward this year, from the exceptional A squad programme to the fantastic experience that they have both thoroughly enjoyed in Gothenburg.

The high standards of coaching set by Alex and Charlie in the U13 and U11s respectively during the season have continued through Gothia, with George and Asa providing a great learning environment for their teams. It is a great credit to you and to the Prep School Lions organisation that you can attract this calibre of coaching staff, and we are very grateful to all of them.

Although they have now switched back into cricket mode, both Oliver and Edward have and will continue to talk about all their experiences, and I'm sure will remember them for many years to come. We were just sorry not to be there to support!

Best wishes,

Jeremy, and the rest of the Clark family.

From: Paul & Annabel Murray
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia

Dear Dan,

First of all, I need to say thank you to you and all your staff but in particular Simon and Lana for a fantastic week last week. Callum had an amazing time. It was such a valuable experience, both on and off the pitch. It was amazing seeing the team come together so quickly and then to do so well. I have never felt so stressed watching him play or compete in anything. Those penalties.....! And also, it was a great time to gain some independence and maturity in managing themselves as individuals away from home.

It is such a fantastic opportunity that you provide for these boys.

Annabel

From: Hanningtons
Sent: 28 July 2017 14:12
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia Cup

Hello,

I wanted to let you know how amazing Chris was during the tournament. He was consistently friendly, calm and informative - even when there was mayhem going on around him!

He was lovely but firm with the boys and made all us parents feel at ease, knowing our little darlings were in such good care.

He was a credit to the tournament, so thank you!

Kind regards

Pandora

From: Sonya Dixon
Sent: 27 July 2017 10:04
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia Cup and next season

Dear Dan,

Thank you for your incredible hard work in making the Prep School Lions an unforgettable experience. Toby benefited hugely not only from the valuable coaching and playing on pitch but equally by all the motivating pastoral care and camaraderie off pitch.

We can't praise enough the three coaches, Chris, James and Andrew for their exceptional coaching and mentoring skills. Even when the team lost through gruelling penalties in their final match, they expertly picked the boys up and showed them what great sportsmanship is.

We look forward to hearing about the process for next year, Toby would certainly be very keen to be involved.

Many thanks to you and especially Chris, James and Andrew.

All best wishes,

Sonya and Ed

From: Mark Sanders
Sent: 27 July 2017 09:52
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia Cup

Dan,
Just wanted to say a massive thank you on behalf of Imran and family Sanders. Fantastic week, great organisation and big thanks to Simon and Monica for their care of the boys.
Regards
Mark and Humaira

From: john & judy dalgleish
Sent: 27 July 2017 08:14
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Next season

Hi Dan

What a phenomenal week we have had at Gothenburg. Can't believe how well Matts team has done... made it to the last 16 teams out of a 138, and considering that some of the teams they played probably play together all year round, and our boys haven't!

Matthew has been in a buzz over the whole experience and now that things have calmed down, he kept wishing gothia is happening again ... I think because it has been such an event for him to look forward to this entire year, and it seems to have come and then gone so quickly, it seems surreal! He really really enjoyed the football matches, the opening ceremony, his team mates and simply everything about it.

Thank you too for looking out for him, he has really come out of his shell, according to Sam, and mingled well with the other boys, and have made some great buddies. we are so proud of him :)

Please do thank George and Sam again if you see them, for looking after Matthew and everyone who is involved in the organisation of this event, it has been awesome for John and I too!

Dan, thank you once again, it was a fab week.

Have a super holiday and a great summer.

warmest regards
Judy

From: Declan Durkan
Sent: 26 July 2017 19:12
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Thank you

Dan, I just wanted to thank you and your team for organising a great week of football in Gothenburg.

My son James has a great time and really enjoyed making so many new friends during the tournament.

I would like to express my special thanks to the coaches of B13 2, Samantha and George. It was a bit of a culture shock for James at the beginning of the week as he was the youngest in the team and effectively playing up a year. He was a little quiet and remote from the Group. Both Sam and George spotted this and helped him integrate. I popped into the school towards the end of the week to find James holding court at dinner in the middle of his team mates! Both coaches were full of encouragement and praise for all the players which helped him enormously.

Thanks again for all the hard work you put in to make this event the success it is. The players get so much more out of this than playing good level football.

Best wishes
Declan

From: Victoria
Sent: 26 July 2017 17:48
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Re: Gothia Cup and next season

It was a fantastic trip! I really enjoyed supporting Max at the matches. Gothenburg is a great city!

Max loved every minute.
Victoria

From: Emer Hoskin
Sent: 26 July 2017 17:29
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Thank you from Harry Dewar and family!

Dear Dan

I've been meaning to write to you on behalf of Harry (Dewar) and myself to say a massive thank you for the week at Gothia. I have genuinely never seen Harry as happy as when he returned and he said it was the best thing he has ever done. I think life at home has been quite an anti-climax!

He absolutely loved his team and misses his team mates so much now he is home - though there seems to be a plan to meet up again at the end of the summer and they are all in constant contact on social media etc. How lovely for them to have made some really good, new friends. He refuses to take his Gothia wristband off - think he'll be wearing it all summer!

My parents (Harry's grandparents) went in my place as I was unable to go and they absolutely loved it too. In fact, they too made lots of new friends and they tried to change their tickets so that they could stay on until the end because they were having such a fantastic time. Their first question to me was if they could please go again next year!

So, all in all a resounding success. Harry has only ever really played for the school football team (and endless footie in the garden, of course) but he has been so inspired by his experience with the Prep School Lions that he wants to put his cricket on the back burner this year (he's a district player) and he's joining a football club so that he can concentrate on his football year-round. I can't tell you how great it is to see one's son feeling so happy and inspired by something!

Thanks so much once again, I know how much effort went in to the planning and executing of it all. The boys (and parents) are extremely grateful. It really was an amazing experience that Harry will never forget.

Best wishes

Emer

From: Alex Rahaman
Sent: 26 July 2017 17:10
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Thank you

Hi Dan,

Thank you for running this great set up. Amelia and I enjoyed it immensely as parents and Freddie as a player.

Best wishes,

Alex

From: ANNE HEAL
Sent: 26 July 2017 17:06
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia Cup

Many thanks for this. Tom (Fowler) had the most marvellous time and it was all so brilliantly organised. Thank you so much to you and all the coaches and physios. A huge volunteering commitment but one which is very much appreciated.

With best wishes and thanks
Anne & Stuart Fowler.

From: Steve Plant
Sent: 26 July 2017 16:56
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: A BIG THANK YOU

Dear Dan

I am sure you have had many many thank yous from the boys but just to add to the chorus of appreciation may I thank you and your team for all the efforts and hard work that went into this year's Gothia Cup. Many happy memories and a wonderful experience for all who participated. Thank you again.
Best regards

Stephen Plant

From: Dee Sahota
Sent: 26 July 2017 16:53
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Thank you

We all had an incredible time Dan, we would certainly be interested in attending again next year with both boys who will be U13 & U14 in 2018.

Superb organisation on every level, terrific football and incredible atmosphere everywhere you turned. The boys were a delight to watch, Lions all the way!!!!

Wishing you a relaxing summer, looking forward to next year already.

All the best, Dee

From: Szafnauer, Otmar
Sent: 26 July 2017 16:45
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia Cup

Dear Dan,

Thank you for the great organization of the Prep Schools' Lions as well as the professionalism shown by all those involved.

Kind regards,

Otmar

From: Linda Carpenter
Sent: 26 July 2017 16:44
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Thank you

Dear Dan

I wanted to get in touch to thank you for facilitating such an amazing experience for Thomas, who played in the Lions 3 team in the Gothia Cup.

I was unable to come to Sweden personally but was on the edge of my seat, following the updates on the internet and app! Many thanks to you and your team for making such a fabulous experience happen!

The Gothia Cup is clearly unique- helping not only build football skills but also independence, social skills and so much more.

Thomas has come back and entertained us with great stories on and off the pitch!

Many thanks again and kind regards

Linda Carpenter

From: ANDY SOUTH
Sent: 26 July 2017 16:43
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Thank you

Hi Dan,

Just wanted to put on record how much Hugo and the rest of the South family appreciated all the hard work you and the coaches put into the week. It will live long in the memory (hearing other boys singing a song about your son is a very special moment ... 'we've got Hugo South').

I think the boys in all teams did everybody proud, one of our parents did video a number of the B11(1) matches and they are hosted on YouTube, if you would like the links please let me know.

Best regards
Andy South

From: Penny Walker
Sent: 26 July 2017 16:37
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia Cup and next season

Dear Dan

Just wanted to say what a fantastic time Casper had in Gothia - a truly memorable experience and special thanks to Kevin for making him Captain.

We are delighted that he was able to attend and that all the teams seemed to do so well

Thanks again
Penny Walker

From: Victoria Campling
Sent: 26 July 2017 16:23
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Prep Schools' Lions

Hi Dan,

Will get the report done asap and will send it over as requested.

Can I just say that I was so incredibly impressed with every part of our Gothia experience from start to finish. I am involved in a lot of organisations and I was so impressed with how smoothly everything went.

I would particularly like to mention Sol's 3 coaches. They were truly fantastic and I could not have felt that he was in safer hands.

At the beginning of the week Sol was really home sick and when we arrived he was quite teary. The coaches supported him every step of the way (especially James) and after we left on the Wednesday he went from strength to strength and came home feeling like he could do anything!

So, in summary I would like to thank you and all your wonderful team for giving the boys an experience of a life time!

Take care,

Tor

From: John Wells
Sent: 26 July 2017 16:09
To: Mr D Abraham
Cc: Emma Wells Mob
Subject: Gothia

Hello Dan

Just a very quick note to thank you again very much for organising such an amazing trip, we all had a fantastic time!

Best Regards

John Wells

From: Kiki and Chris Andrews
Sent: 26 July 2017 15:54
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia Cup

Dear Dan,

Thank you so much for organising the whole of last week - Toby had a blast. A massive undertaking and one which we all appreciate.

Kind regards,

Kiki Andrews

From: John Gaffney
Sent: 26 July 2017 15:53
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia Cup and next season

Dan

Thank you for organising such a well-run trip last week in Gothenburg, James thoroughly enjoyed himself and we were thrilled to watch 5 matches in three days in good warm weather. We were very pleased with how the coaches conducted themselves and how they acted so responsibly with looking after the boys.

Regards

John

From: cressida robinson
Sent: 26 July 2017 15:21
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Goalkeeping Training Camp

Hello Dan

It was a great experience - thank you to you and the coaches for all your organisation.

Best wishes

Cressida

From: James
Sent: 26 July 2017 11:28
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Prep Schools' Lions B12 (4) Gothia Cup

Dear Dan,

Just wanted to drop you a short note to thank you so much for the 'Gothia' experience. Freddie absolutely loved it and am sure will stay with him for a life-time.

Daffyd and Molly were brilliant in the way that they supported, encouraged and looked after the children throughout the week.

The team gelled so well – Freddie felt that he had known them for years. Daffyd particularly was a great inspiration for them and I hope that if Freddie gets the opportunity next year the team can stick together.

Despite only playing together that weekend, they surpassed our expectations, winning their pool and getting down to the final 32.

Our many thanks again to you and all your team

With best wishes

James & Julie Phillips

From: Paul

Sent: 26 July 2017 10:30

To: Mr D Abraham

Subject: Prep Schools' Pumas at Gothia Cup, Thank you

Hi Dan,

I big thank you to your and you team for delivering an amazing experience for the boys. A special mention to Mike, who was coaching Brett. He did a fantastic job with the boys and the parents, sometimes under extremely difficult circumstances. He was very level headed and got the very best out of the boys.

Thank you once again.

Paul Smith

From: John Matheson

Sent: 24 July 2017 14:00

To: Mr D Abraham

Subject: Prep Schools' Lions at Gothia Cup

Hi Dan

Just wanted to say a huge 'thank you' to you and your team, hope everyone got back Ok.

The boys (and parents) all had an amazing time and the Pumas win was a fantastic way to end it!

Many thanks

John

From: Michelle Scott

Sent: 24 July 2017 12:58

To: Mr D Abraham

Subject: Gothia Cup

Dear Dan,

I was going to send you an email too but you got to me first! Nicholas really enjoyed his Gothia experience & so did we. Although it was Nicks first time the team seemed to 'gel' well & do well as a result. Regarding next year Nicholas would love to be involved again.

Regards

Michelle Scott

From: Catherine Brant

Sent: 24 July 2017 08:26

To: Mr D Abraham

Subject: Gothia Cup - Thank you!!!

Hi Dan,

I just wanted to say a huge thank you for all your amazing organisation for the Prep School Lions Gothia Cup.

Neither myself or Fergus had any idea what to expect and we found the whole experience amazing. Fergus didn't know anyone in his team, apart from when they met at the Easter camp, and it was with some trepidation that I waved him off at Heathrow! However, it is thanks to the organisation, the spot-on attitude and support from George and Sam and the passion of the boys themselves that made this a brilliant (and successful for under 13 B2) week and I am so pleased that Fergus had this opportunity and apart from enjoying great football, I have no doubt he took away very much more from the week.

Please pass on my huge thanks to George and Sam for their energy, enthusiasm and commitment.

Best wishes,

Catherine

From: Yuki Beardmore-Gray

Sent: 23 July 2017 22:01

To: Mr D Abraham

Subject: Gothia Cup

Dear Dan,

I hope you got home safely and are having a well-earned rest now!

Thank you very much for all your hard work in organising a superb week at Gothia. Leo has a brilliant time; he loved being part of his squad, made some great friends, thoroughly enjoyed the whole Gothia experience and is desperate to go again next year. Tom and I really enjoyed our three days in Gothenburg too and were amazed at both your organisation of the Prep Schools Lions, as well as the whole Gothia Tournament. Everything was thoroughly impressive, Gothenburg was a lovely city to visit and we all really enjoyed ourselves. We very much appreciate everything you did for the boys. Please pass on our huge thanks to Tim Green and Sam Walker too, whose company and leadership Leo really enjoyed.

Best wishes,

Yuki, Tom and Leo Beardmore-Gray

From: Gerry Young

Sent: 23 July 2017 22:00

To: Mr D Abraham

Subject: Re: Gothia Cup

Hi Dan

George very much enjoyed Gothia this year. Pete was an excellent coach and Matt a great physio- thank you so much for a very well organised trip.

Best wishes

Marianne Young

(mother of George Young born 15/12/03 Prep School Lions B14 (1))

From: francesca Nash
Sent: 23 July 2017 19:36
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia Cup

Dear Dan,

Thank you for your email. I wanted to write to thank you for organising such a fantastic trip. William enjoyed every minute and really bonded with his team.

I am quite sure he would love to be involved next year.

Thanks again.
Francesca Speake

From: beth
Sent: 23 July 2017 18:37
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia Cup

Dear Dan,

I can't thank you enough for the experience's you are opening for the boys. They have learned and gained so much from being part of Prep Schools Lions. The exposure to so many different highly professional coaches and physio's, to other boys from very different schools, has been a huge part in both boy's ability to create positive relationships with both adults and their peers. Dealing with the massive highs and then coping with the huge disappointments when playing in the tournament, have certainly had a significant part to play in the development of their emotional well-being. Over the last four years I have seen an enormous positive change in their ability to cope with varying situations that they've had to deal with. I truly believe that being part of such a well-established, incredibly well organised and professional set up has given both my boys a real sense of self-worth and value. They are both extremely proud to be part of the Lions.

I apologise for the emotional 'fluffy' comments, but we're all still on the 'Gothia high' and the boys have come back buzzing.

Have a great summer,

Kind regards,
Beth

From: Claire Crawford

Sent: 23 July 2017 16:58

To: Mr D Abraham

Cc: Philip Crawford

Subject: Gothia Cup

Dan,

Before I hope you get chance for a Summer break I want to write to say thank you to you and your team for a wonderful Gothia experience. It was an extraordinary week that we didn't want to end.

Owen (B12 5) had an amazing time in his team and enjoyed every part of the time with his team mates and Asa and Melvin. It is a testament to the boys and Asa that despite having not played a competitive game before Monday made it to the last 16 of the cup. We found Asa and Melvin to have the perfect balance of coaching, discipline and support.

We enjoyed having the opportunity of being part of an incredible event that was from our view appeared flawlessly organised. Aside from watching our team throughout the competition watching the B11 team at Kviberg win their quarter final on Thursday evening is one memory that will stay with us for a long time.

Thank you again for all the time this must take throughout the year and I hope you have a great summer and a chance to recharge for the new season ahead.

Best wishes,

Claire & Philip Crawford

From: Sue Wallis

Sent: 23 July 2017 14:28

To: Mr D Abraham

Subject: Gothia Cup

Hi Dan

Many thanks for an incredible tournament, Will said it was "the best week of his life!" - that says it all. We had a fantastic time, thank you so much.

Could we also say a thank you to the coaches, Tim and Sam for B14 and for Danny and Matt B12 LIONS 3. Danny was fantastic with the boys (not that Tim wasn't) and I know it was his first year but please don't make it the last! He was brilliant.

With kind regards

Sue

From: Aina Suterwalla

Sent: 23 July 2017 11:21

To: Mr D Abraham

Subject: Gothia Cup Report

Dear Dan,

Once again, thanks for a fantastic tournament. Zain thoroughly enjoyed the football and catching up with friends he made last year / making new friends this year. It's a wonderful experience for the boys, and us parents, and we are looking forward to next year's tournament!

Best wishes

Aina (Zain's mum)

From: Sarah Hall
Sent: 23 July 2017 11:17
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia Cup

Hi Dan

You (and clearly lots of other parents!) pipped us to the post with writing to thank the whole team for the most amazing time Tom and Barney had last week - as did we!

I didn't come last year (only Matt did) so had no real idea what to expect. But I was completely blown away. Just incredible. Both in terms of fun for the boys, life experience, great football and truly fantastic coaches. Max, Sam, Charlie and Luke were beyond kind, encouraging, great fun, hardworking.... I could go on and on. They were just brilliant and the boys loved every second.

Thanks again for giving the boys such a wonderful week.

I hope you and the coaches are enjoying a well-earned rest this week.

Yours
Sarah and Matt Hall

From: Stephen Bough
Sent: 23 July 2017 11:05
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia Cup

Dan

Thanks again for pulling together a wonderful lifetime experience for the boys and parents – we had such a good time.

Enjoy the summer with your family.

All the best

Stephen

From: Katie Evans
Sent: 23 July 2017 10:58
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia Cup

Dear Dan,

I was going to email you this week to say that Jack (Kennedy) has asked me (about ten times) if he can go back to Gothenburg again next year. This being our first year we didn't know whether children can automatically come back or whether they have to be selected again?

He thoroughly enjoyed the week, the football was fantastic and he has learnt a lot and come back focused on the areas he knows he needs to improve on. It really has been the most wonderful experience for him.

Tim has been an amazing coach, so encouraging and made Jack feel like a valid part of the team. I'm sure I'm not the only parent saying so, and Jack spoke highly of Sam too. I think it is testament to the two of them that so many of the B14(2) boys want to return.

Many thanks for a wonderful week.

Best wishes

Katie Evans

From: T Strang Gmail
Sent: 23 July 2017 10:38
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia Cup

Hi Dan,

John, had an amazing time this year for which we can't thank you and your team enough.

Kind regards

Tom
Strang

From: Jayne Dando
Sent: 23 July 2017 10:03
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Prep Schools' Pumas at Gothia Cup -Ethan

Dan,

Just a note to say a huge thank you to you and the team for another great year. Ethan had a great time and is already hoping to be involved next year. The efforts of the team are much appreciated, especially as we were unable to make it this year,

Regards,

Jayne Dando

From: Wendy Miell-Ingram
Sent: 23 July 2017 09:57
To: Mr D Abraham
Cc: Daddy
Subject: Gothia Cup!

Dear Dan,

A huge thank you for organising the trip to Gothenburg. Rowan and Quinn had an amazing time and loved every minute of the tournament. They are already keen to book on again for next year and we hear there is some exciting talk about Gothia Cup China! Either way, they would love to join in.

Our coaches Simon and George were fantastic. So professional and amazing with the boys. If possible, we would be grateful if you would kindly let us have a contact address for both, so that we can send a personal thank you card to them.

Once again, thank you to you, the coaches and all the support team. An amazing experience, with lots of fun and enjoyment along the way.

Very best wishes,

Wendy and David Miell-Ingram

From: Fiona Kelly
Sent: 23 July 2017 09:39
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia Cup Report

Dan, are you home?

Thank you so much for such an amazing experience for our son Scott Kelly in the under 12's and us as a family! His coaches, Chris, James and Andrew were brilliant. Our other little fella Brad is super inspired to get in the under 12's next year now too!

Thanks again for all your hard work and to all your wonderful and dedicated staff!

Fee Kelly x

From: Alison Pomeroy
Sent: 23 July 2017 09:29
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia Cup

Dear Dan,

The past week has been amazing. George had a fantastic time, please send our sincere thanks to Tim and our physio, Sam who really did a grand job with the boys. If there is to be a team next year then count George in, we would love him to take part. It was a brilliant experience for him and we thoroughly enjoyed supporting the team. Many thanks for the opportunity you have given George and we hope to be back at Gothia next year.

Kind regards,

Ali Pomeroy

From: Emma Oakden
Sent: 23 July 2017 08:13
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Thank you!

Dan,

Good morning, I just wanted to thank you and all the staff involved in making this year's trip to Gothia such a success! Henry had an amazing time and is already really looking forward to next year!

Please do pass on our thanks to the coaches of his team (B12 Pumas 2) Sam and Max, who truly did a sterling job both on and off the field.

Do hope you have a great summer,

Best wishes,

Emma Oakden

From: Philippa Ejje
Sent: 22 July 2017 11:14
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia Cup

Hi Dan,

We just wanted to thank you for the great experience both our boys had at the Gothia Cup.

Neil and I were lucky enough to travel out with our other son Harry and though what a well organised event it was. The boy's teams were really well drilled and seemed to gel even though they had only just come together so it was a credit to you all that it worked so well, so please extend our thanks to Dom and Daf and their teams.

Both boys have come back on high and are hoping to have the opportunity to return next year and our youngest who is 8, is already asking when he can go!

Thanks again for the opportunity and hopefully Max and Tom will be there again next year.

Kind Regards

Pip Ejje

From: Gemma Clapcott
Sent: 22 July 2017 11:05
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia Cup U13s

Dear Dan

I just wanted to say a big thank you for a wonderful professional experience. My son, DJ Clapcott, has had an amazing time and feels he has learnt so much from the trip.

Please pass on my heartfelt thanks to Kevin and Sam for looking after the U13(3) so well.

Kind regards

Gemma

From: Wendy West
Sent: 22 July 2017 10:54
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Re: Flight Arrangements

Hi Dan

Thanks again for your superb organisation.

This whole experience for Aidan and us has been even more amazing this year, given where his team started and now in the plate final...phenomenal turnaround and what a fabulous story to dine out on for years to come!

Best regards

Wendy

From: Stephen Bough
Sent: 22 July 2017 07:44
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Thank you

Dan

We have just arrived back from a wonderful week in Sweden for the Gothia Cup. I would like to thank you and your team for organising the trip. We really appreciate the hard work you have put in to this to make such a large-scale event work so well with so many teams.

I thought across the age groups the boys were fantastic, working hard, playing great football with lots of smiles on their faces.

The experience for Tom was amazing and he thoroughly enjoyed his football at Gothia as well as forming new friendships with a great bunch of players.

Hopefully you will now get a well-earned break.

All the best

Stephen

From: NICOLA HUGHES
Sent: 21 July 2017 06:58
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Fwd: Prep Schools' Pumas at Gothia Cup

Hi Dan

I came home last night and stayed in Gothenburg from Sunday - Thursday, what an amazing tournament, I had such a fabulous time, the tournament was superb and so glad I went, what a fantastic experience for these young boys, Callum has really enjoyed himself and I look forward their home coming this evening

Thanks for your hard work and efforts putting this together alongside all the wonderful coaches

Kind regards

Nicky

From: Ben Walmsley
Sent: 20 July 2017 19:52
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: RE: Prep Schools' Lions at Gothia Cup

Hi Dan

Just a quick note to say thank you for all your hard work and organisation that goes into to getting the boys to Gothia.

I thought the whole experience was fantastic and I sure Finn has loved every minute.

Please do pass on my thanks to Kevin and Sam for looking after the boys so well this week.

Best regards

Ben

From: Courtney
Sent: 20 July 2017 08:36
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Re: gothia cup

Dear Dan

Just a quick email to thank you and your team for this week.

Everything has been so well organised; the boys have played some great football and met new friends. I've really enjoyed being here and watching the matches. My son Rory is loving every moment of this experience.

I would also like to say how fantastic we all think Daf and Molly are. They have looked after the boys, coached and advised them and been informative and professional with us parents.

They really are quite an asset.

Thank you again for everything.

Kind regards

Courtney Proctor

From: Jackie Russell
Sent: 20 July 2017 04:59
To: Mr D Abraham
Cc: David Russell
Subject: Re: Prep Schools' Lions at Gothia Cup

Domy Russell is loving it from the very brief conversation he squeezed me in for 2 min all week!

Regards,
Jackie (Donnelly) Russell

Other feedback

Just want to say thank you again for what you do for football for these youngsters. I can't tell you enough how grateful I am as Matthews confidence in himself has grown so much since being picked for the A squad.

Judy Dagleish, Parent

To sum up the week in Gothenburg from the parents' point of view, we might have dropped off our little boys at the airport but a week later we collected young men. We watched proudly, as our boys grew in confidence, developed interpersonal skills and worked as a team with lads that they hardly knew and in the process developed friendships.

To Dan, the coaches and staff - you were all just amazing. The impact you have on the lives of these young men will be far reaching and you have given them memories that will live on for a lifetime.

Erica Reilly, Parent

From: Fiona Wilson
Sent: 12 September 2017 09:53
To: Mr D Abraham; James Wilson
Subject: Archie Wilson

Morning Dan,

I am writing to confirm that Archie would love to accept the offer to return to Gothia with the Pumas next year.

Archie returned from the trip inspired by the experience and also from the coaches Sam and Max. I couldn't have asked for better role models. It was a pleasure to see how he matured in such a short period of time. For this reason alone, we are really excited to see his development and growth, another year with the Pumas.

Thank you and best of luck in securing your next years teams.

Best wishes,
Fiona and James Wilson

Feedback from Parents

2016

Dear Dan

Thanks so much for such a great week in Gothenburg. Milo and Felix had a brilliant time and enjoyed every minute of it.

George and Sam were fantastic and our team were delighted to get so far in the tournament. It was all so well organised couldn't have been better.

Many many thanks,
Sarah, Huw, Milo and Felix

Dear Dan,

I thought that it might be good for you to know that Ben has been invited in by Crystal Palace for a 6 week trial for their academy. I believe that this has been directly influenced by his involvement with the Prep Schools team last year. All the games and training made an impact, (while we did not see much change on the pitch early season last year). Then the Easter training camp really brought around confidence. We put Ben in a camp in the summer half term soon after that and the coaches said they felt he was good enough to be in an academy. Soon after that he was scouted by Crystal Palace and was asked to come in for a trial game. Ben got back from Gothia, where he played his best ever football, and went to his trial game with Crystal Palace. He was one of two outfield players out of about 25 boys to be picked for a trial with the academy.

Thanks you so much,

Michelle

Dear Dan

With school holidays coming towards a close Sam, Rachael and I just wanted to say a big thank to you and particularly Simon and Monica for the fantastic experience our son, Sam, had playing for the Prep School Lions in Gothenburg.

Not only did he hugely enjoy playing and doing so with new team mates, he learnt a huge amount from Simon (and wished that he has been able to have more pre-cup training to learn more!). His footballing skills and thinking were taken to a whole new level.

Best wishes,

Andrew

Hi Dan

A HUGE Thank You to you and your team - you all did an incredible job in organising the event. I know Ben had an AMAZING time, played some outstanding football, made some great friends and above all had a fantastic experience that will stay with him a life time I am sure.

Kindest regards

Jane

Hi Dan

Tane had the most brilliant time (absolutely loved the whole Gothia Experience!)

Thank-you for all your effort and support, he really got a lot out of the whole experience!!

Many Thanks!

Berry Wallis

Dear Dan,

I just had to drop you a line to say how absolutely brilliant the Gothia Cup experience was for us, as parents, and for Harry, in particular. Harry played in the U11 (3) team and they managed to get through to the last 16 teams, only to be beaten by Ghana, who went on to win their overall age group, so a huge achievement.

I was absolutely amazed and thrilled at how well Cammy built up the team, gave the boys confidence and taught them so brilliantly throughout the tournament. He was such a wonderful inspiration for the boys and for us, the parents. I can't praise him highly enough and I just hope that he can keep the same group next year when they move up to U12 (that is if Harry gets into the team — not a given I am sure given the strength of the squad!). Please, please!!

I had absolutely no idea of the scale of the Gothia Cup before I arrived and the City welcomed us all with open arms. All the facilities were just brilliant and we came to love Skatas like home.

Thank you for making this all possible for us all and I look forward to meeting with you sometime.

Best wishes

Rachel (Harry's mother!)

Special thanks must go to Dan Abraham and his team of Prep School coaches, physios and support staff. They were truly magnificent and supported, encouraged and looked after the children superbly throughout. To coin a cliché (and it would be wrong not to use at least one), football was the winner – but at least as far as the Under 12s were concerned, it ended in all too familiar fashion, knocked out by the Germans. Haven't we heard that somewhere before?

Jeremy Richardson

I am sure that the experience he gained at the Gothia Cup, as well as with the ISFA England Squad (who he has represented for the past 12 months), has been a key element in his football development.

It has been a pleasure to be a part of your organisation for the past three years, and I would like to thank you for the immense amount of hard work you have invested.

Best Regards,

Rob

Hi Dan,

We were so impressed with our trip to the Gothia Cup; excellent coaching, high standard of football and a whole lot of fun. Both Flynn and Jake Ibbotson had the most amazing week, definitely one that they will never forget. Both are keen to go again next year, but would both like to trial for the A squad if possible. I have sent on Alex's report to the boys' school, along with my own experience of what was a truly fantastic experience. The coaches in particular were brilliant, both on and off the pitch. Thank you so much for all your hard work organising.

Kind regards,

Bryony

Dear Dan,

Just a quick email to let you know that we had an unforgettable week!
We were very impressed! It was so professional and so international (90 countries!).
The Opening Ceremony gave me goose bumps, just realizing how special it was that the boys were part of something like this.
Also, the boys were so lovely together as if they were friends for years and played also as they played together for years.

Many thanks for all your support and for organizing such a huge event and we're looking forward to Gothia 2017 as well.

Best wishes,
Benthe van Druten

Hi Dan

Thank-you soo much for the brilliant photos, I greatly appreciate them, especially as you must have been very busy!!!
Very positive feedback from Tane!..(apart from being rather tired!), he absolutely loved every minute of the whole tour!
He was nervous about travelling without a parent, but it was a truly fabulous experience for him and he would highly recommend it to anyone!
Also, a big thank-you to his coach Neil and physio Chris, who he said were "great!"...professional but fun!

Regards

Berry

Hi Dan

Thank you very much for organising another excellent Gothia Cup trip - it must be an enormous amount of work, and for giving Conor the opportunity to participate again.

Conor had a brilliant time, he thought the players got on incredibly well and formed a great team to make the trip such a positive experience, and he really enjoyed working with Pete and Matt, so we would be grateful if you would pass our thanks on to them.

We hope you manage to now get a holiday.

Best wishes

Audrey and Shaun Taylor

Dan,

Thank you so much for organising such an amazing week.

Unfortunately, I was not able to attend but my husband Simon did and his father, both had the time of their lives. Jake was in B12 team and Timi/Alex were fantastic coaches, parents and friends for the week. I was really concerned that Jake would struggle being away from home and from his twin brother but he had the most amazing time and certainly will never forget the week he had competing.

It was brilliantly organised and an unforgettable event so thank you for all your hard work in putting it together.

Have a great summer

Kate

A Big Thank You again Dan, for a wonderful week of football and fun in Gothenburg. Both Aaron and Theo had a wonderful time and really enjoyed the whole week. I've already been hearing "can we do it again next year....?!".

Hopefully you've now begun to recover from what I can only imagine to be an incredibly busy week, I know it was for me and I only had 2 boys out there with you! Could I also ask you to pass on my thanks again to Rob & Tom who looked after Theo so well and Tim & Melina for making Aaron's week such a great one.

Please keep us in touch with plans for next year and we may well look forward to seeing you again.

With kind regards
Suzanne Mara

Dear Dan,

Just a quick note to say thanks for all your hard work in organising the trip to Gothenburg.

Tom had an amazing time and has come back elated, but exhausted!

Cammy and Shannon were a great team, and we're sure that their hard work and commitment played a very large part in how much Tom and his team-mates performed and enjoyed themselves, both on & off the pitch.

There were some very close-fought games when the boys showed great team spirit, but in particular the way the boys reacted when they went 10-0 down to Lizzy at half time was incredible. It would have been so easy for their heads to go down and for the tournament to end on a sour note, but Cammy's half-time talk really inspired them to just go out and have fun. In all my time on the touch line I have never seen a team in any sport lose with such grace and in such good spirits.

Tom has made some great new friends and hopes to be able to play with them again in the future.

Thanks again,

Nick & Anna

I just wanted to take the opportunity to thank you both so very much for all your hard work at Gothia. Henry has had an amazing experience and absolutely loved his time in Sweden - he of course loved playing football, but also thoroughly enjoyed the team experience as well as all the exciting events and activities you had organised.

My husband was extremely impressed by everything he saw, and we cannot thank you enough for making Gothia so much fun for the boys!

Henry (and Nick) are already excited for Gothia next year.....so count them in!!!

I hope you are having a relaxing week off.

Best wishes,

Emma

Hi Dan, I just wanted to say a massive thank you for taking Mitchell. He had a fantastic time made some lovely friends. Both coaches were also great I really can't thank you all enough. I'm so glad you gave him the chance to have this great experience. Thank you so much Dan your a star.
Gemma

Dan

The boys loved it so big thank you to you and the coaches - I thought they were amazing with the kids. Charlie our U13 wants to know if you would take an U14 team next year so he can go again!

Best
Paula

Good morning,

I just wanted to let you know that Edward had an amazing (and exhausting) time. Thank you very much. Please would you pass on our thanks to his coach, Edward has mentioned him a lot since he's been back.

Hope you enjoy the rest of your summer.

Charlotte

Dear Dan,

We just wanted to say a big thank you from Zain and us for a fantastic 10 days in Gothenburg. Zain had an incredible time, and we thoroughly enjoyed watching the matches. Zain learnt so much from this trip, in terms of football but also life skills ! A special thanks to Gareth and Lana - Gareth was a fantastic coach, and both Gareth and Lana ensured the boys were focused and well prepared for their matches. Looking forward to next years tournament!

Best wishes

Aina

Thank you Dan,

It was such an amazing trip, with the experience totally different from last years.

My boys had an amazing time too.

Regards.

Lola

Dan,

It was a joy to be part of it. Really appreciate all the hard work you and your excellent team put into making it happen

Needless to say Michael thoroughly enjoy it as well. Hopefully be joining you again next year

Steve

Dear Dan

Our son Will has had the absolute pleasure and privilege of playing at the last two Gothia Cup.

These are experiences that will live long in his and our memories as we, as a family, have been over on both occasions supporting the teams.

Dear Dan,

Thank you for a fantastic week. Josh really had a great time, particularly because of the his truly wonderful coach, Dan and Physio, Rebecca. They were an inspirational pair who taught the boys so much. Dan did wonders with the team during the matches. He is a fantastic coach. It would be amazing to see what he could do with the boys next year with another years experience under their belts. And Rebecca's care and exuberant personality was infectious.

Bw
Alex, Sean & Josh

Dear Dan,

Just would like to say a huge, huge thank you to you and all the other coaches/physios involved. Yes, it was an incredible week! Our boys and ourselves had the most fantastic time. The staff, the organisation, the place – all amazing! We all have serious holiday blues.....

See you next year for sure!!

Kind regards,

Petra & Enzo

Dear Dan,

Zach had the best time this year; you're right, he learnt as much off the pitch as on it and the boys came home as a real unit this time round.

Pete was incredible – as was Matt, and we would absolutely love Zach to be able to go back again next year. If we need to sign him up or let you know – the answer is YES PLEASE !

And if you plan on doing any of the pre-season / Christmas or Easter camps, they would be very helpful and I'm sure well attended too.

Have a great summer too; you really do organise a phenomenal week and I don't know many parents who would ever take on that mammoth task. **Thank** you for all you do.

With very best wishes, Alix

Dear Dan,

I wanted to thank you for giving Patrick such an amazing opportunity in attending Gothia . He has got so much out of it both for his football, and personally in learning how to manage a large tournament, how to be part of a team and managing on his own away from home. The standard of coaching and the level of support he has received from Daff and Molly have been truly outstanding.

Patrick himself has loved it but is now pretty exhausted.

Kind regards
Alison Hughes

Dear Dan

My husband and I have just spent a week at the Gothia cup with Harry Coe and his team, B13 (4). Having returned this weekend, I wanted to email and thank you and the wider team for facilitating such an amazing and unforgettable experience for the boys (and for us!)

Harry's team experienced every emotion on the spectrum as they progressed through their games from the pain of a loss, the thrill of a win, the nerves required for a penalty shoot out and the relief and sheer delight of slotting that ball passed the goalkeeper and from the goalkeeper's perspective the relief of keeping the ball out! We witnessed the boys go through it all and with the added dimension of playing teams from other countries - the emotional hot headed South Americans and the slick Scandinavians.

And it wasn't just the football. New friends were made and team spirit was evident from the moment we left them at the airport, through the ups and downs of the tournament and very much alive at the end when they consoled each other as they were finally out of the tournament. (And I am glad that was the case as I was quite reluctant to go too close given that they all smelled terrible after a week of wearing the same kit!)

It was super - thank you so much!

I have copied in Dan Bather from Highfield because if you do it again, they must send more boys to your selection camp.

Warm regards

Shirley Coe

Dear Dan

I would like to thank you and all the coaches for an amazing week for James. It has been an incredible experience and we enjoyed every minute!

Kind regards

Tracey Akerman

Dan,

Firstly, we would like to say a very big thank you to you and your team for giving us the opportunity to experience this fantastic tournament.

We cannot imagine how difficult it must have to organise and the ongoing logistics of dealing with unforeseen circumstances must have put your patience to the test.

Theo really enjoyed taking part and has made some lovely friends. The teams looked as if they had been playing together for years, and credit must be given to the coaches for achieving such high standards.

The boys were great ambassadors on and off the field and made us proud. So thank you again for making this happen.

Anil and Claire

Dear Dan

I just wanted to thank you and your incredible team for the most superb week. The Prep School Lions 3 with Cammy and Shannon have had the most amazing experience of their little lives! None of us really had any idea what to expect but what has gone on has far exceeded anything we could have imagined. I wish you could have seen the boys first knock out match on Wednesday evening. They played with such courage and emotional strength. To say the ref needed glasses would be an understatement, to award a hand ball when the ball was at least ten feet from the nearest player beggared belief, but our boys dug deep and secured the win, it was beyond exciting!

Cammy and Shannon were great. I'm not sure Charlie will cope without a personal medic at his disposal in September, school matches will seem very basic in comparison! If you are ever in a position to visit DH on the back of this I am sure the boys and sports staff would be delighted to welcome you. Five prep school lions in the school team bodes well for the future!

Enjoy the remainder of the trip, we look forward to welcoming our heroes home on Sunday!

Kind regards

Rosie Manger

Dear Dan

Our son Will has had the absolute pleasure and privilege of playing for the South Central teams at the last two Gothia Cups.

These are experiences that will live long in his and our memories as we, as a family, have been over on both occasions supporting the teams.

We would like to take the opportunity to thank you, and the team that support you, for helping Will have such incredible experiences. These are opportunities that many people will never get so to have been twice and really enjoyed every element has been fantastic for him and us. With sincere best wishes and huge gratitude, Dominic
