

Feedback from Parents whose children were selected for the Gothia World Youth Cup in 2019

From: David Elvin

Sent: 23 July 2019 10:38

Subject: Incredible Gothia 2019

Hi Dan,

Sam had one of the best and most memorable weeks of his life and we loved watching and supporting the team (U12 White) and following their amazing journey to the plate semi final. So frustrating they went out on penalties.

We wanted to say a special thank you to Robbie who really was such a fantastic coach - the boys all loved working with him and learnt so much over the course of the week so please say a very big thank you to him too!

We are all looking forward to trials and hoping we can come again next year - a big thank you and the entire team that make this possible. You are really fulfilling the dreams of so many children up and down the country.

Thanks again

Sam, Dave and Polly Elvin

Dear Dan,

Theo and I wanted to thank you (rather belatedly) and your team for all of your hard work and time that you put into making the Gothia Cup trip an amazing experience for both Theo and us parents. You made the organisation look very easy (I'm sure it wasn't) and it was brilliant having all of the required information on the website – as you said it would be.

Theo really enjoyed the training camp at Mill Hill where he nervously went along not knowing anybody and came away having made some great friends, he enjoyed meeting his team mates (whose company he really enjoyed) and of course his team leaders. He said that both the staff and coaching was good and he came away from it tired but fulfilled, a very worthwhile experience.

The trip to Gothenburg was the icing on the cake. Theo was so happy in his group, they really gelled as a team from the word go and played as if they had been together for a while. They were a very talented group of boys and they were led and looked after so brilliantly by James and Emily who were composed, instilled confidence and complimented each other well. Theo felt well looked after and he would love to be a part of the same yellow team again if it were at all possible.

The boys in Lions 12 yellow were a joy to watch both on and off the pitch and were a credit to themselves and their families when finally faced a team with, shall we say fewer morals! Each individual was so talented and with enormous potential, and as a team although they did very well to get to the last 16 I think we all felt that they deserved to go further.

It was lovely to meet you briefly at the Hard Rock Cafe, sadly we didn't bump into you again but I hope you had an enjoyable time too?

Kind regards

Lynne

From: Mwiki Meadows
Sent: 22 July 2019 22:28
Subject: Trip to Gothia World Youth Cup

Mr Abraham,

The past week we spent in Gothenburg by far exceeded our expectations! I can say without a doubt that the Lions Under 11s (Purple) were trained and looked after by a trio of the best people we have ever encountered in all sporting activities our son has taken part in over the years - Ali, Adam and T.

We spotted you from a distance a couple of times, but didn't get a chance to speak to you. So I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you for all the hard work you put in.

Kind regards,

Mwiki Meadows

From: Shelley Crawley <shelleycrawley@icloud.com>
Sent: 23 July 2019 10:15
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia fab trip

Dear Dan,

Thank you so so much for organising such an amazing trip.

Harri had the best lifetime experience ever ,fantastic for all the boys and girls.

A massive thank you to coach Trevor , who treated them all like professional athletes, he was so supportive and really got them working as a team.

We really had no idea of how big a scale this was ,and just to be part of it was incredible .

We will all treasure these lovely memories, and will inform Crosfields of your wonderful organisation.

Hope you have a great summer.

Thanks a million .

Richard Shelley and Harri Crawley

From: Becky Howells
Sent: 22 July 2019 23:52
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Trip to Gothia World Youth Cup

Hi Dan,

Ethan had the most incredible week in Sweden. In fact we all had an incredible week.

Everything was superbly organised, and we cannot speak more highly of Matt and Luke. They were both so friendly, supportive, informative and so amazing with the boys, coaching them, encouraging them and in Ethans case spending a lot of time taping him up. Ethan was made to feel so comfortable in the team from the second we handed him over to the guys at the airport. He has walked away with far more confidence in his own ability and in his knees than he arrived with. This was so key for him, as he'd really lost a lot of self confidence since his injury.

We couldn't have had two better people to have been put in charge of the u13 blues, we are so grateful that Ethan got to be apart of that team, and the overall experience.

Last week will stick with Ethan for the rest of his life, so THANK YOU, for giving him the opportunity.

We are really hopeful that Ethan will have the chance to be apart of the experience again next year. Thank you again for all of your effort, your time and your commitment to making last week the huge success that it was.

Kind regards
Becky Howells

From: Bradley Welland
Sent: 31 August 2019 23:37
To: s.divers
Subject: Gothia Cup - Feedback

Dear Mr Divers

Hope you had a good summer.

Just wanted to provide some feedback from the Gothia Cup after Seb's attendance. The professionalism, dedication, communications, preparation and organisation from Dan Araham and his supporting coaching team was superb. As a football coach myself, it was a pleasure to see the coaching team get the most out of the boys in terms of potential, enjoyment and work rate, whilst creating an exciting, thought provoking, organised and well mannered environment which afforded the boys an experience they will no doubt enjoy the memories of for many years to come, demonstrating how football should be played and enjoyed.

Thanks,

Brad Welland

From: Will Sussman
Sent: 21 July 2019 20:16
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Thank you

Dear Dan

We've just returned from a fantastic week in Gothenburg and I wanted to thank you so much for the incredible experience you have provided for Sammy and all his team-mates. Although he's exhausted he has said it's one of the best weeks of his life, with so many memories to cherish.

There are so many points to pick up on - first the organisation from you and from the Gothia team. How you manage to organise so many teams of boys so efficiently is highly impressive. You made it very easy for us as parents to get the boys ready and to enjoy the experience ourselves. The whole smooth running of such a massive tournament also defied belief. Always done in a smiling, friendly and yet efficient manner, the Swedes were great hosts.

We were so impressed with all three coaches that were looking after B11 Purple. Ali, Adam and Ti were fantastic. During games they were so encouraging, never angry and such a good presence for the boys to have pitch-side. You could see the boys listening and taking on board the coaching they were given. The three of them were also such good pastoral leaders, always looking after the boys with a smile and having the boys well-being uppermost in their minds. We totally trusted them. We absolutely loved having them as coaches.

Finally as an experience for spectators we've had such a good week. We travelled as a family (7 of us) and we've had a blast.

Many thanks again for a wonderful week and I hope you have a well earned rest now.

Best regards

Will

From: Penny Smith
Sent: 22 July 2019 22:28
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Prep Schools Pumas

Evening Dan,

Thank you for your email below. We also wanted to show our appreciation and say thank you for a 2nd amazing year at Gothia for Samuel Smith. Unfortunately we, as parents, were unable to attend this year and relied wholly on the coaches and other parents for updates (as well as the app)! We were so so lucky with really supportive, caring parents together with top class coaches in Molly and Sam!

To have won the Fair Play award for our squad was a massive success, not forgetting the score sheet 😊

The boys are staying in touch on their own social media group and have made great friendships.

Thanks to you and all your staff with all the hard work that goes into arranging something like this.

Many thanks

Penny Smith

From: nicole.lester
Sent: 22 July 2019 22:58
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Maximilian Lester U12

Hello Dan

I can only join all the other parents by saying a big thank you and to the coaches. Max had an amazing time. He couldn't make the training camps in April but flew with the team without knowing anyone and was looked after very well and managed to bond with the boys in no time. He said at the end of the week that he is only a little sad that they didn't win any games but that he had the best time ever.

I am very impressed by the whole organisation too and appreciate all the work and time you must have put into it.

Max and I wish that he can be part of it again next year!

In the mean time we wish you a sunny summer.

Best regards
Max and Nicole Lester

From: Lizzie Maclean
Sent: 22 July 2019 22:34
To: Mr D Abraham <abrahamda@kesw.org>
Subject: Re: Prep Schools Pumas

Hi Dan,

This years trip was exceptional on every level. Oscar has now been for the past two years and it was Rory's first trip. Both boys loved it and the care and organisation was fantastic. I'd like to thank their coaches: Rory had Matt and Rhys and Oscar had George and Sam. They came home buzzing and the fact they had no desire to talk to us whilst they were away reflects how happy they were!. Watching the way Matt and Rhys interacted with the boys showed nothing but care for them as people and the support they were given on and off the pitch was fabulous.

Thanks for all your hard work and I hope you now manage to rest and enjoy your summer.

I will of course share our experience with the relevant staff at school and will share far and wide amongst the parents.

Kindest regards,

Lizzie

Lizzie Maclean

From: Andrew Cooper
Sent: 21 July 2019 18:02
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia 2019

Hi Dan,

We just wanted to thank you and everyone involved for organising such an amazing experience.

This was Toby's second trip to Gothia and once again it did not disappoint. High quality football, coaching and most of all fun for the boys, an experience he won't forget!

Also special mention to Mark and Shannon who coached the B12 (Green) squad for the week. They were fantastic with all of the boys and Toby had nothing but good things to say about them both.

Thanks again for a wonderful experience.

Andy, Amanda & Toby Cooper

From: Susie Jenkins
Sent: 21 July 2019 14:29
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia World Cup

Hi Dan

My son William Jenkins has just returned from The Gothia Cup this morning very tired but extremely happy! The first thing he said is he would love to go again next year!

The main reason for writing is to say how amazing and incredible we thought Chris and Isla were. Our boys are still fairly young and to have them go away for a week knowing that they would feel happy go to Chris or Isla about anything and that they were so well looked after was so reassuring. They were both really relaxed and approachable and great at keeping in touch with all the parents too and always took the time after the match to chat to everyone.

All in all a fantastic experience that will live with Will forever.

Kind regards
Susie Jenkins

From: Jo Dearsley
Sent: 22 July 2019 22:40
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Thank you

Dear Dan

James and I just wanted to thank you so much for Seb having the time of his life in Gothenburg.

The organisation involved must be mind boggling but everything ran like clockwork and the whole experience was fantastic, not only for the boys playing, but for all of us who came to support.

A special mention though, to Chris and Isla, who were excellent throughout.

They struck exactly the right balance between guiding and instructing the boys on the field (we couldn't believe they had 3 wins having only played as a team for the first time on the first Sunday - Chris is an excellent coach) but also nurturing the team ethos off the pitch and making sure they were happy and well looked after.

Seb very much looks forward to having an opportunity to play again next year, should he be selected.

Thank you again. I hope you have a restful rest of summer.

Kind regards

Jo and James Dearsley

Dear Dan,
Thank you so so much for organising such an amazing trip.
Harri had the best lifetime experience ever ,fantastic for all the boys and girls.
A massive thank you to coach Trevor , who treated them all like professional athletes, he was so supportive and really got them working as a team.
We really had no idea of how big a scale this was ,and just to be part of it was incredible .
We will all treasure these lovely memories, and will inform Crosfields of your wonderful organisation.
Hope you have a great summer.
Thanks a million .
Richard Shelley and Harri Crawley

From: Pippa Claydon
Sent: 23 July 2019 09:42
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Prep Schools Pumas

Thank you Dan so much for inviting Theo to Sweden - he had such a great time and it was such a great experience for him-not only did he love the football but thanks to you, Sam and George he is now loving sleepovers too, which to us is a major breakthrough and he said he would absolutely love to come back next year and was very sad to come home - which really does speak volumes of how much he enjoyed it. We are hoping he will be one of the lucky ones to get picked again, as we all had such a wonderful time, so thank you so much for everything.

Kind regards

Pippa Claydon

Nigel Tanner
Thu 18/07/2019 17:49

Dan

A huge thank you to you and the coaches, the boys clearly had a great time, and have been very successful against teams who have had more time playing together as a team; there is some serious talent in that team!

Very many thanks

Nigel and Debbie and Caleb

Emma Duke
Thu 18/07/2019 15:30

Hi Dan,

Words can't express how appreciative and grateful we are at the wonderful experience you have given our son.

Alfred has played for the U12 Purple team who were sadly knocked out at lunch time today. However reaching the last 32 teams in the knock out finals was an amazing achievement and we are very proud.

We cannot speak highly enough of the coaches, Trevor and Ollie. They have been fantastic with the boys in so many ways. The pastoral support as well as developing the boys football skills has been of exceptionally high standard. The time and energy they have dedicated has shone and as a result, I witnessed very happy and confident boys, always smiling and loving the experience. Equally Trevor and Ollie always looked as though they were having a great time too. I do not have their contact details so please feel free to share my comment and pass on our sincere thanks.

If there is an opportunity for Alfred to return we would be over the moon and Alfred would be honoured to be part of this amazing experience again.

Thank you once again and have a very safe journey home to you all.

Kind regards

Tim and Emma Duke

Fiona Kelly
Mon 29/07/2019 23:37

Hi there Dan, hope you've now recovered from a very busy Gothia Cup 2019? Nonstop for you! The Kelly family want to say THANK YOU so much for such an amazing experience for both Scott and Brad - and Simon this year following their teams around. Your organisation, their brilliant coaches, the camaraderie, extra football skills and overall excitement, gave everyone an amazing character building journey. Wish I could have gone! Thanks a million, have a great Summer and hope to see you next year! Fee Kelly x

Luce Brown

Fri 26/07/2019 13:43

Hi Dan,

We would very much like to extend our thanks to you and the rest of your team for organising our attendance at such a fantastic event. One which the family and obviously Henry who played in, encompassed the amazing atmosphere and international enjoyment it generated.

Until you actually see it going on around you nothing quite prepares you for the size and magnitude of the event - the Opening Ceremony was fantastic!

Henry's coaching team of George & Sam were kind, attentive and amazingly caring to all the boys requirements over the course of the week.

Henry made some great friends with members of the team he didn't already know and we met some really lovely families and socialised not only on the sidelines with them aswell. We are due to meet up later in the year with some of them for a Gothia Cup soiree.

So once again thanks for the great memories, Henry scoring against Germany is something he will never forget!

Have a great Summer.

Kindest regards

Tom & Lucy Brown

25/07/2019

Ladies and Gents,

Wow! what a week. Our boys were amazing and made us all so proud.

Zeb would love to keep in touch with the boys and judging by his Instagram account he is already in touch with many. Hopefully, the team will stay together for next year and we WILL bring home some silverware.

Juliet Hodgson

From: Nick Ratcliffe

Sent: 21 July 2019 18:42

To: Mr D Abraham

Subject: Gothia Cup 2019

Hi Dan,

Thank you for organizing the Gothia Cup trip for Jack. He had a great time both football wise and away from the football. I'd like to particularly thank his coach Joe Prosser who worked really hard to make the boys into a team. Overall it was a great experience for Jack and also for his brother Tom who went to Gothenburg to watch with us. Tom is currently in year 5 and is now inspired to try and get to Gothenburg in 2 years time.

Thanks Nick

From: Louise Steer
Sent: 01 August 2019 11:42
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: THANK YOU

Hi Dan

We have been very slack in contacting you but did contact Antony Stevens direct as we flew home from Gothia. The Gothia trip was superbly organised and we do not have a single criticism which for such a large scale event is really saying something. The actual event was a far happier and better experience for Harvey than the Easter session at Tonbridge School but perhaps that just demonstrates that Easter did it's job!

Antony was great. He couldn't have been a more perfect person to head up the squad that Harvey was in as his physio experience was invaluable for the strapping of Harvey's knees that he'd been having physio on for 4 months. Antony never complained as he tirelessly strapped Harvey's knees before every match and actually was really supportive in resolving the injury.

Dan and Tom were great too and Harvey thoroughly enjoyed the experience which for a boy who hates being away from home and his parents/siblings is a testament to the great environment the coaches nurtured.

A HUGE THANK YOU from the Steer family. We all loved being out there and it far exceeded our expectations.

Best Wishes

Louise, Jethro and Harvey Steer

From: katja osgood
Sent: 24 July 2019 19:44
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Re: Trip to Gothia World Youth Cup

Dear Dan Abraham,

I'm just regrouping after returning from our trip to Gothia. My son, B11 purple, had a fantastic time. He thoroughly enjoyed every moment. The coaches were brilliant. I was very impressed with them all. Monty really responded to being treated like an athlete - exercises and diet. The boys managed really well not to eat sweets, (at least not too many sweet things), especially as they were staying so close to the "biggest pick 'n mix in the world". Being able to play so many different nationalities was wonderful. The Mexican team brought wrestling masks as gifts for the boys, a really nice touch.

Thank you so much for organising such a fantastic trip. An experience of a life time, for me and my son.

Kind regards
Katja

From: Mark Sanders
Sent: 20 July 2019 13:36
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia cup

Dan ,
Imran had a fantastic time ,best ever .
Massive thanks to Chris and Max. They were superb .
Regards
Mark

From: Tracey Mancey
Sent: 20 July 2019 14:36
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Gothia 2019

Hi Dan,
Another wonderful tournament enjoyed by Jack and us. Didn't think you could top last year, but Jack said he enjoyed it even more!
A huge thank you to Matt and Chandler who were brilliant with the lads and us parents.

Jack had an amazing time, he thought Matt and Chandler were 'the best' and we have all come home wishing we were still at the tournament.

Have a lovely summer, thank you again,

Tracey

From: Gary Clarkson
Sent: 20 July 2019 15:42
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Baley Clarkson (72) - B12 Grey - Gothia Cup 2019

Hi Dan

We are back today after a terrific week in Gothenburg supporting 'The Lions'. Jamie & Victoria did a great job looking after the boys to which all the parents showed their appreciation.

Baley really enjoyed himself with the boys and their spirit was great to see. We hope that he may be considered for next year and the trials (is there a template/protocol for boys wishing to return?) as this was indeed a great experience for him & us as a family, with our younger son Charlie (9).

All the best for a relaxing Summer,

Gary & Karen Clarkson.

From: Yuki Beardmore-Gray
Sent: 20 July 2019 23:25
To: Mr D Abraham <abrahamda@kesw.org>
Subject: Thank you

Dear Dan,

Leo had another fun-filled week at Gothia. He says it was the best out of the three tournaments he has been to and we are all thrilled that the Under 16 boys did so well. They are exhausted though! Many thanks to you, all the Gothia organisers as well as to Ollie and Alfie for allowing the boys to have such a successful time.

Hope you have a good summer.

Many thanks,
Yuki Beardmore-Gray

From: Nasim Malhotra
Sent: 04 August 2019 13:38
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Aidan Malhotra U12s

Dear Dan

I hope you are well and enjoying the summer holidays now that Gothia is over.

Massive Congratulations once again to the entire team, coaches, and yourself for such an amazing event and so well organised. We truly had a great time and an amazing experience for Aidan. He really wants to take part again next year.

Thank you once again
Best
Nasim

From: Shona Smith
Sent: 05 August 2019 13:50
To: Mr D Abraham <abrahamda@kesw.org>
Subject: Prep Schools Pumas

Hi Dan

Just wanted to say a huge thank you from Oscar and us again.

Another wonderful year and it just keeps getting better!

Enjoy your summer and hopefully get some well deserved rest.

Kind regards,
Shona and Oscar Smith.

From: Faith Ramsay
Sent: 02 August 2019 19:01
To: Mr D Abraham
Cc: Mike Ramsay
Subject: Gothia Cup 2019

Dear Dan

We have now been back from this year's Gothia Cup for a few weeks. We wanted to write to you to thank you and your team for all your hard work in putting these Prep Schools teams together and giving all the boys an amazing experience.

Ethan was delighted to see so many of his team mates from the prior year. The team also welcomed the new additions who brought their own individual skills to the mix of the team and were a great reflection on the Prep School Lion teams. Whilst the boys did well to get to the quarter-finals of the plate, more time with Kevin before the matches started may have got them deeper into the competition at the group stage. This is because Kevin is an exceptional coach and without a doubt brings the best out in this group of boys. Please pass on to Kevin our thanks for all his hard work and the support and encouragement he gives to the boys - I know Ethan has benefitted from his wisdom, mentoring and the whole experience.

Many Thanks and Best Wishes

Faith & Mike Ramsay

From: Hugo Hardman
Sent: 24 July 2019 18:21
To: Mr D Abraham <abrahamda@kesw.org>
Subject: Gothia World Youth Cup

Hi Dan,

I've been meaning to write to thank you for the trip.

The organisation was simply extraordinary and we had no idea quite how huge the whole event is or how much fun it is for players and supporters alike.

It was a massive learning curve for the boys and with such advanced and expert coaching they cannot have failed to have learned so much from the experience.

Thank you again for a brilliant week.

Best

Hugo

Hugo Hardman

From: pablolopez-henares@hsbc.com
Sent: 22 July 2019 22:18
To: Mr D Abraham <abrahamda@kesw.org>
Subject: Re: EXTERNAL: Trip to Gothia World Youth Cup

Thank you Dan

It has been an amazing experience both for Beltran and the family

Many thanks to you and the rest of the organisation for a wonderful event and fantastic planning

BR

Pablo

From: mark brunton
Sent: 24 July 2019 14:46
To: Mr D Abraham <abrahamda@kesw.org>
Subject: Gothia Cup

Hi Dan

Many thanks for organising another superb PSL experience, Paddy loved every minute in the U12 Lions Greens as did the parents.

Mark and Shannon did a great job with the team and the organisation and preparation was second to none. The team played well, and some of the talent and ability displayed by some of the Prep School kids was exceptional. It must take a lot of work and obvious dedication to run an event for so many children and their families, so thank you and your team in giving us this unique experience.

Have a very good summer and well earned rest.

Many thanks and best wishes

Mark Brunton

From: Toby Leyland
Sent: 24 July 2019 11:59
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Feedback from Gothia Cup U11 Purples

Dear Dan,

Just wanted to send a note to say a big thank you for all your hard work organising the District football teams going to the Gothia World cup, it is not until we saw the number of teams and the logistics involved that we fully appreciated all the hard work that has gone on behind the scenes to make it all run so smoothly.

Will had a fantastic life experience, playing in a tight knit squad against teams from Sweden, USA, Singapore and Mexico. The level of skill from other teams and our own was evident in each match as well as the true spirit of fair play for all involved. As supporters our match against Orgryte IS2 from Sweden was a particular highlight as well as the closing game against Colegio Aleman from Mexico stand out as being end to end football.

The support, professionalism and personal care from Ali, Adam and Tanaya made a great trip truly memorable. Will and the purple team were very lucky to have such a dedicated and supportive management team and I think despite a tough Thursday the boys all did them proud on and off the pitch.

Thank you once again and we look forward to being able to be a part of this event next year.

Kind regards

Toby, Louise and Will

From: Kerry Mathews
Sent: 24 July 2019 10:57
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Re: Prep Schools Pumas

Hello,
Thank you for your email, Elliot Mathews absolutely loved it and is already talking about next year.

I would also like to say how well organised everything seemed to be. The emails beforehand were reassuring and Elliot said everything was very clear once there were there.

His brother Louis (born 2008 - just finished year 5) is also keen, and an able footballer, but presumably we have to wait for school to put him forward for the trial on 6th Oct?

Many thanks
Kerry Mathews

From: usha krishna
Sent: 24 July 2019 00:57
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Prep Schools Pumas

Dear Mr Abraham,
Thank you so much for give Sutirth a wonderful opportunity to play the cup this year. Its an amazing experience for him and he thoroughly enjoyed every bit of it. I would also like to thank Matt Everett for caring and looking after him. With regular updates about the team and boys, he gave us peace that they are in safe hands and having the time of the life. Thank you.
Usha.

From: Frederique Griere
Sent: 22 July 2019 12:28
To: Mr D Abraham <abrahamda@kesw.org>
Subject: Gothia Cup 2019

Dear Dan,

I hope you are well!

First of all, a huge thank you from our son Elliott Healey and us for the fantastic week he has spent at the Gothia. He came back full of fantastic memories and wants to do it again next year! My husband Geoff who was there for a few days, thought the event was very well organised! Elliott's coaches Lee and Conor were great fun and looked after the children very well so again a big thank you to you!

Many thanks & kind regards
Freddie

From: Gary Jeffries
Sent: 22 July 2019 10:39
To: Mr D Abraham <abrahamda@kesw.org>
Subject: Gothia Cup - B11 Orange

Dear Dan

A note of thanks for organising such a fantastic trip for the Prep Schools Lions. It was an amazing experience for Josh (and for us parents!) to play teams from Sweden, Germany, France, Malaysia and Singapore - and brilliant to see the group of boys gel together so well as a team; he really did not want to leave Samskolen on Saturday evening!!

Conor and Lee, the coaches, were absolutely excellent. Please pass on our thanks for looking after the team so well, both on and off the pitch.

Thanks again - Josh would absolutely love to come back next year, if selected.

Kind regards

Gary

From: Claire Engelsma
Sent: 24 July 2019 09:45
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Trip to Gothia World Youth Cup

Dear Dan,

Thank you for this message. It was our first time at Gothia and we had a wonderful time! We were mind-blown by the scale of the event and the organisational / logistical feat achieved so seamlessly by you and your team. A huge thank you from the Engelsma family and especially from Jake, who had the time of his life. His older brother, also a keen footballer, was extremely envious and wished that we had known about it whilst he was at Belmont! I hope you can enjoy some very well deserved r&r time now?

We hope to see you again next year.

Best wishes,

The Engelsmas

From: Bradley Welland
Sent: 23 July 2019 20:54
To: Mr D Abraham <abrahamda@kesw.org>
Subject: Prep Schools Pumas

Dan

Thanks again - Thought the week was well organised and managed very well.

As I mentioned at the airport, the boys conducted themselves with maturity, politeness and discipline on and off the pitch.

Thank you again for your management and oversight, it was very much appreciated and recognised by myself and the other U11s parents I met in Gothenburg.

A special thank you to the coaches of the Puma U11s, Matt and Rhys. Their professionalism, dedication, comms, preparation and organisation was superb. As a football coach myself, it was a pleasure to see them get the most out of the boys in terms of potential, enjoyment and work rate, whilst creating an exciting, thought provoking, organised and well mannered environment which afforded the boys an experience they will no doubt enjoy the memories of for many years to come, demonstrating how football should be played and enjoyed

Thanks,
Brad Welland [Sebastian's father]

From: Sofie Gripenberg
Sent: 23 July 2019 16:13
To: Mr D Abraham <abrahamda@kesw.org>
Subject: Gothia Cup

Dear Dan,
I just wanted to send you a quick email to say a big thank you! Max has had a great week in Gothenburg and enjoyed every minute of Gothia Cup!!

He loved making a bunch of new friends but more than anything, he loved the football! Luke and Simon were absolut stars looking after the boys, they immediately made us (parents) feel happy to leave them in charge of the boys.
Can't thank them both enough for making this great experience even more awesome for the boys!

And thank you Dan for making this trip possible for the boys, can't even imagine the work that goes in to a trip like this. We have been so impressed with it all, from the training camp at Easter to dropping Max off at Gatwick and the communication throughout the week and then collecting him at the end.

Max is determined to make the squad again next year and have not stopped practising his skills in the garden since we got back!!

Wishing you a wonderful summer!

Kind Regards,
Max, Neil and Sofie Cain

From: Victoria Fangen Hall
Sent: 23 July 2019 13:51
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Many thanks

Dear Dan,

A quick note to say thank you for organising the recent trip to the Gothia Cup. Luc had an absolutely brilliant time and is already talking about next year! As a family we thoroughly enjoyed ourselves too and we tagged on a few days in Copenhagen at the end which was a lovely end to a fun, but at times, exhausting trip.

Trevor did a wonderful job with the B12 Purples getting the boys to bond and work as a group. I can't imagine what it is like to organise a group of 11 and 12 year olds who don't know each other and are away from home. It's certainly not something I could do.

He treated the boys as athletes, explaining about diet and the need for rest, and his encouragement during matches was constant, giving sound advice in his clear precise manner. He communicated well with us as parents and was very patient, especially when we asked the same questions over and over again! Oliver was a great addition to Trevor's team offering the boys good warm up and cool down skills and another adult for them to chat to when they had questions or weren't quite sure about things.

I don't have either of Trevor or Oliver's email addresses and would be grateful if you could send them to me as I'd like to pass on my grateful thanks to them both in person. Trevor has given Luc some sound advice to help him improve for the coming season which he will be putting into action this Sunday at a football tournament.

Best wishes and many thanks again. I hope you can now enjoy a holiday.

Victoria

From: "PaulandLinda"
Date: 22 July 2019 at 11:21:37 BST
To: "Dan Abraham, Prep Schools Lions"
Subject: Gothia 2019 Ronnie

Morning Dan,

Hopefully you have recovered from yet another fabulous tournament in Sweden.

As always Ronnie had a fantastic time and has made more friends from all over the world, particularly the Swedish girls!

We would like to thank you yet again for all of your hard work, time and commitment to making the Gothia trip such a success. Ronnie would certainly be interested in going again.

Thank you again and enjoy a well earned break.

Kind Regards,

Linda and Paul

From: Lisa
Sent: 23 July 2019 13:35
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: 2020

Hi Dan

Sam had an amazing time last week. It is such a great set up and what an amazing experience. He is already hoping he will qualify for next year to do it all again.

Sam is moving schools but it is still a prep school so I was advised he would still get an invite to trials if he isn't on the straight through to next year list.

However, I have been talking to his new school as they have a football academy and I think the children there could also benefit. I will be sharing my take on the week along with photos and they will see Sam but do you have any literature you could send me please that I can share with them

Kind Regards
Lisa

From: Emma Bulstrode
Sent: 23 July 2019 12:02
To: Mr D Abraham <abrahamda@kesw.org>
Subject: Trip to Gothia World Youth Cup

Thank you Dan. I just want to add a huge thank you from the Bulstrodes for what sounds like an amazing week for Eddie last week. He enjoyed it so much, especially the football but the experience itself also seems to have grown and matured him in just a week! We really appreciate the care, professionalism and joy that your team put into taking care of the boys, Ali especially. Your organisation of every aspect has also been amazing and kept us worry free, well prepared and able to really enjoy the tournament from home (me!) and locally (my husband!). Many thanks, Emma (Eddie's mum)

From: Daniel O'Connor
Sent: 23 July 2019 11:51
To: Mr D Abraham <abrahamda@kesw.org>
Subject: Trip to Gothia Cup

Dear Dan,

I just wanted to say what a fantastic experience it was for not only our son but also ourselves. We all had a great week and were very proud of the boys for reaching the semi-final u13s. I would also like to say what a great coach and physiotherapist (Ben Taylor and Dan) we were lucky to have for our team. They really were exceptional.

Thanks again.

Kind Regards

Victoria O'Connor

From: Sophie Gooley
Sent: 23 July 2019 11:07
To: Mr D Abraham <abrahamda@kesw.org>
Subject: Trip to Gothia Cup

Dear Dan

I cannot thank you enough for such a fabulous experience, both for Vinnie & us as parents. The whole event was brilliantly organised and the level of football superb. I would like to particularly mention Ed Hawkins & his team Rickie & Mauricio who went above and beyond in every way. The boys were and are truly inspired by them.

Hats off to you Dan & thank you.

Sophie

From: Oli Adams
Sent: 23 July 2019 11:04
To: Mr D Abraham <abrahamda@kesw.org>
Subject: Trip to Gothia World Youth Cup

Hi Dan

I did want to say a HUGE thank you to you and your team for the whole organisation of both the camps and the Gothia trip itself.

This was Charlie's second trip and he enjoyed it as much as the first and I am sure he will be pretty keen to go again.

I have no doubt that the overall management for the whole year's activities is no easy task but hopefully you feel it is worth it when you see so many boys (and now girls too!) have a real lifetime experience at the Gothia cup.

A word for the coaches too – I spoke to a few different coaches on the various buses and trams and found them all to be enthusiastic, professional, helpful and with a real dedication for their teams to enjoy the week and get the most out of their games. Again this cannot be easy but I found them all to be fantastic.

Also a special word of thanks to Charlie's coaches – Chris and Max – this was Charlie's second year with them and they are both fantastic. They find a perfect balance of encouragement and positivity but also with a laser focus on improvement, giving every boy lots of attention and feedback – they were a key reason why we went again this year and we cannot thank them enough.

Best regards

Oli Adams

From: james.kirk@staffworx.co.uk
Sent: 23 July 2019 10:01
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: A heartfelt thank you to the whole team - Gothia World Youth Cup

Hi Dan

I hope you are well and returned safely also, it looks like we brought the weather back with us ☐

We just wanted to reach out to thank you and the whole team for arranging such a wonderful life experience for all of the children. Sammy said it is one of the best things he's ever done, the setup and organisation of the whole event was phenomenal and a credit to everyone involved.

Particular thanks to Chris and Isla in B11 Pumas White for taking such good care of the boys and making the trip such fun. It was a great experience for the parents also, Gothenburg is a great City and we certainly got to see lots of it while there, by tram, foot, electric scooter and bus.

A big thank you to Jim at World Youth Tournaments for co-ordinating our stay, bracelets and opening ceremony tickets.

We hope to see you soon, have a lovely Summer

Best wishes

Jim, Mel & Sammy

From: Ben Threlfall
Sent: 23 July 2019 09:46
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Trip to Gothia

I picked Tommy up from Gatwick on Sunday morning and although tired he couldn't stop talking about all the different experiences he had whilst at The Gothia Cup - the friendships he'd made, the tough matches where he and the team had to dig deep, the opening ceremony, the finals they'd watched on the Saturday.

As parents we had a whip round for Ben and Craig Bowker to show our appreciation and I've dropped them a thankyou note separately. I have to mention how good they were with Tommy and building a team spirit with the group of boys. The boys played their hearts out, showed great sportsmanship and didn't let their heads go down, even they came up against some tough opposition.

All the best for the rest of the holidays

Ben and Georgie Threlfall

From: Dragan Pendić
Sent: 20 August 2019 11:27
To: Mr D Abraham <abrahamda@kesw.org>
Subject: Trip to Gothia World Youth Cup

Dear Dan,

My wife and I just wanted to thank you and your team for organising an outstanding experience for the U12 White Lions this year.

Robbie and Chloe were absolutely phenomenal. They created such a wonderful atmosphere of commitment and friendship between the boys that resulted in much deserved plate cup semi-final! We felt so proud of every single one of them - an exceptional display of teamwork and genuine desire to win every time. Luka loved the whole experience, made lovely new friends and he's determined we come home with silverware next year!!

We never felt so excited (and stressed at the same time!) watching them play.

Have a lovely summer and hopefully see you again soon!

Best wishes,
Dragan, Becca & Luka

From: Prunella Murray
Sent: 19 August 2019 20:30
To: Mr D Abraham <abrahamda@kesw.org>
Subject: Gothia Cup

Hi Dan

Slightly late in the day but just wanted to pass on my thanks for all your organisation for the Gothia World Youth Cup this July. Iona, U11 girls, loved the entire experience especially the matches, bonding with the other girls, the opening ceremony and exploring Gothenberg. Her football improved significantly over the course of the week. Hannah and Katy the coaches were great too.

Overall Iona was delighted to be part of the inaugural Prep School Lions' girls squad and we'd love to see more girls go next year.

Best wishes for a relaxing summer.

Pru Murray

From: juliethodgson
Sent: 19 August 2019 16:38
To: Mr D Abraham
Subject: Thank you

Dear Dan,

Apologies that it has taken this long for me to write to you but we've been away.

Tim and I just wanted to say a huge thank you to you for again organising the boys trip to the Gothia Cup. We appreciate it must be an absolute logistical nightmare.

Zeb had a fabulous time and was delighted to get so far in the tournament. A poor start against a superb Brazilian team didnt help morale but the boys rallied and got better and better as the week went on. Just makes you wonder what they would be like if they played together more often?

More importantly though was we feel that Zeb matured as a team player. He gave his all for the team and really enjoyed the opportunity to make friends. The Brazilian coach recognised Zeb and he and his team, always went out of their way to say hi to our boys and have a laugh, joke and a high five.

Once again, thank you so much for a fabulous trip and many thanks for organising it. We very much appreciate it.

Best wishes

Juliet and Tim

From: Robert Jones
Sent: 18 August 2019 22:43
To: Mr D Abraham <abrahamda@kesw.org>
Subject: Trip to Gothia World Youth Cup

Dan

A belated email to thank you and coaches for both my boys - Zac Jones B11 Maroon and Charlie Jones B13 Red - experience at Gothia. They both had a wonderful time and please pass on my thanks to both Lee and Alex who were lead coaches for their teams for both their coaching and looking after them for the week. I only managed to get over for a day but saw both teams and was impressed with football and the enjoyment they had installed into the squads.

Robert Jones

From: John Hunt
Sent: 20 July 2019 12:15
To: Mr D Abraham <abrahamda@kesw.org>
Subject: Gothia Cup

Hi Dan,

Sarah and I wanted to thank you, Dom and Stevie for looking after Charlie so well over the last few days. Charlie has had an absolutely fantastic time, loved every moment of it. Charlie wanted to say a special massive thanks to Dom and Stevie - he cant speak highly enough of them. They've been supportive, fun, encouraging by all accounts. Thanks guys! What a wonderful experience for the players!
Hopefully you and everyone on the team has a restful summer.
Very best,
John

From: Jonathan Willcock
Sent: 23 July 2019 09:37
To: Mr D Abraham <abrahamda@kesw.org>
Subject: Gothia World Youth Cup

Thank you for your email. It was an exceptional week loved by Alex and Georgina and I as parents. Look forward to hopefully going again next year. Well done to you and your team!

KR

Jonathan

From: Paul Mould
Sent: 23 July 2019 09:37
To: Mr D Abraham
Cc: Rachel Mould
Subject: Trip to Gothia World Youth Cup

Hi Dan

Thank you so much for all the work you put into Gothia. What an event!! We are so pleased that Zach and us were able to be involved. A fantastic life experience.

Zach was a little nervous before leaving and unsure as to how it would go. It's fair to say that it massively exceeded his and our expectations – he has made some great friendships and memories. Already in contact, having got back, with a number of the boys and planning there next adventures!

Andy, Joe and Kris were amazing from start to finish. They worked so hard and were so positive and caring about the boys that they 100% got the best of out of them. They tried so hard in what turned out to be a pretty tough group. Lots more smiles than tears! They looked after them very well. Zach is lucky enough to train with a number of teams at quite a high level and immediately felt that the coaching team were excellent and he learned a lot of new thoughts and ideas on football. The guys were talking about trying to play together again next year.

Please pass on our thanks to Andy, Joe and Kris. We would highly recommend them as a coaching team with 100% trust in the fact that they will help the boys do their best and learn and develop as footballers and boys.

Very proud of Zach and delighted that we were able to play this year. Again, thank you to you. Couldn't believe the sheer size of the event. The App was brilliant.

Paul & Rachel Mould

From: Lara Ward
Sent: 23 July 2019 08:44
To: Mr D Abraham <abrahamda@kesw.org>
Subject: Trip to Gothia World Youth Cup

Dear Dan,

Cayden had a wonderful time at the Gothia Cup again this year. He said it was 'even better than last year.' He also loved catching up with the boys that were on his team last year and playing with a few new team mates too.

Kind regards,

Lara Ward

From: Stephen Wall
Sent: 21 July 2019 10:51
To: Mr D Abraham <abrahamda@kesw.org>
Subject: Gothia Cup

Dear Dan,

I'm just mailing to say many thanks for arranging and indeed selecting Sebastian for the tournament. Both Seb and Charlie want you to be aware that Dominic and Stephen added to a already amazing experience.

They did a thoroughly good job of integrating all the boys and making sure friends were made, and as such deserve much credit from us also as parents as that can only bring peace of mind whilst your child is away.

Your tour arrangements even though changed all ran smoothly and efficiently and I know all the boys became greater friends for spending even more time together.

In summary, from a parental point of view the boys of (Yellow) performed well even though they were most unlucky.

From my son's view point the enjoyment was all fulfilling and when I asked him to sum up the whole event he said Dad it's a 'Madness'.!!!

Once again many thanks for organising all this for the boys , and should this be available in the future to Seb's age group he I know would like to be considered.

Kind Regards,

Stephen Wall.

From: Katie
Sent: 23 July 2019 08:18
To: Mr D Abraham <abrahamda@kesw.org>
Subject: Gothia World Youth Cup

Dear Dan

Thank you so much for all the time and effort you have put into making the Gothia experience so wonderful for all our children.

Finn had an amazing time and a lot of that was down to you, as well as Simon and Tasha who were excellent coaches/team leaders. Firm yet sympathetic and well respected by the team (& well liked by the parents!) made for a successful trip all round.

Having seen just how enormous the competition is, I appreciate just how much of your time you must spend arranging teams, trials, camps etc and all your hard work is much appreciated.

With best wishes for a wonderful Summer

Katie Slatford

From: Zuraida Curtis
Sent: 23 July 2019 07:39
To: Mr D Abraham <abrahamda@kesw.org>
Subject: Gothia Cup

Dear Dan

A huge thank you from us for an unforgettable trip to Sweden for Xavier, and us. The trip was very well organised. Xavier had a fabulous week and made some great friends. Luke and Simon were amazing with the kids, both in a coaching capacity and in terms of providing pastoral care. This is definitely a trip that I would recommend to the parents of any child that has been selected and we hope to do it all again next year.

Zuraida and Darren Curtis

From: Sean Glynn
Sent: 23 July 2019 07:33
To: Mr D Abraham <abrahamda@kesw.org>
Subject: Thank you

Hi Dan

We just wanted to say a huge thank you again for organising the Prep School Lions Gothia training camps and cup trip to Gothenburg.

This is Tate's second visit, which he attended this time on his own. The coaching and pastoral care was first class and has given Tate another incredible experience from which to develop both his football and his character.

The effort from all involved does not go unnoticed and as parents we are very grateful.

Wishing you a fantastic summer.

Kind regards

Sean Glynn

From: Adam Bradley
Sent: 23 July 2019 06:22
To: Mr D Abraham <abrahamda@kesw.org>
Subject: Prep Schools Team

Hi Dan,

Quick note to say thanks to you for a really good year.

Casper enjoyed the competition of the A squad matches and was really impressed with Tonbridge School and the training camp.

The Gothia Cup was an unforgettable experience for all the family including his grandmother. Luke and Simon did an excellent job coaching and looking after the Reds team and three straight wins in the group was exciting. Fascinating to watch the players and the supporters (!) from some of the opposing teams from around the world.

No doubt the organisation and work to make it happen is huge and is much appreciated.

Casper, Helen and Adam Bradley

From: Sharon Gladman
Sent: 22 July 2019 23:58
To: Mr D Abraham <abrahamda@kesw.org>
Subject: Gothia Cup- Aaron Gladman -U12 Pink

Dear Mr Abraham,

We wanted to email you as Aaron had a superb week beyond our expectations. The coaching, support and encouragement was excellent from their coaches Ed, Ricky and Mauricio. Aaron had the time of his life and enjoyed every moment. We watched all the boys give their best due to the coaches encouragement and calm expertise. It was great to see such team spirit giving them a desire to win. At our last game the team looked like they had been a team for a long time and there was a feeling everyone wanted to do it again next year including the parents. All the parents said the same team next year as everyone got on so well with the same coaching staff. So that they could build on the success of this year.

Some of the matches were tough with the German and Phoenix Academy teams. On the Thursday the team was up at 5.00 am and caught the bus which then broke down, so they decided to walk the mile and half with the parents as they did not want to miss the match but luckily the bus started as we were starting to walk. The boys played an 8.00 am match which they won convincingly and then at 12.20 played Phoenix Academy and achieved a draw after a tough match followed by penalties, sadly they lost. The Phoenix Academy coach and boys said it was the hardest match they had to date and thought the team had been together for a long time.

Therefore thank you so much for such a great opportunity and epic experience for all the boys. We also met some great parents who are definitely ready to go again next year.

Kind regards,

Sharon and Paul Gladman

Here is some feedback from the players about their overall experience:

Sammy says: "Gothia was life changing. I felt so close to the team at the end and even after the first match we were close. I felt like we'd known each other for a month or two. Having the choice to spend time with your family was great. It was one of the best weeks of my life."

Sam says: "I can't stop talking about the trip, I absolutely loved being part of the Prep Schools Lions and making a whole bunch of school friends. I really hope I can go back next year! I would like to say my favourite part was watching Right to Dream in the final versus Tiki Taka FC, it was amazing watching the penalty shootout and feeling the atmosphere!"

Xavi says: "At first I was worried about travelling on a plane without my family, but actually it was easy and so much fun! My favourite parts were playing football, watching the opening ceremony at Ulevi stadium and going on fun trips together with my teammates during our spare time. Our coaches Ali, Adam and T our physiotherapist took very good care of us."

Ollie says "Thank you all so much, for such a memorable experience I enjoyed it so much and I've met some people that I will never forget, so thank you. Firstly, Rickie thank you so much for being our physio you were so helpful dealing with my heel and my blisters, if it wasn't for you I'd barely be able to walk let alone run around a football pitch and score goals! So thank you. Also I can't believe how close you are to my house your just round the corner. Secondly, Mauricio you were so helpful telling the team and me, the best tactics and how to play against all the teams and also giving advise for what we should improve on if we did something wrong. And lastly Ed, I can't explain how thankful I am to be included on that amazing trip, and like you said I realised how lucky I was to be there, and that I was taking someone else's place. You were so good at organising all the logistics and timings, also in all the games you were so fair at giving everybody equal game time but at the same time trying to win the game. You are all so generous for giving up your time to go to Sweden with a group of kids, I don't know how you all do it, once again a HUGE THANK YOU.