



# GRACE ACADEMY SOLIHULL

## PE NEWSLETTER

### REAL MADRID SPORTS TOUR 2023

During the Easter break a handful of our most enthusiastic Y9 and Y10 footballers had a unique opportunity to attend a football tour to Madrid, Spain. During their time in Madrid students engaged with a range of enriching and entertaining opportunities linked to one of their passions, football.

### TRAINING

Our students trained like the pro's at the Real Madrid Training Ground (Valdebebas) with Real Madrid coaches. The professional coaches had high expectations and challenged our students at every turn, every member of the academy football team showed true resilience, determination and focus, leaving each coach very impressed with their individual and team development.

Student quote - *"I loved training because it was so much more tactical compared to my English football academy training."*



### MATCH DAY

Our students went on to test their newly developed skills with scheduled matches against local oppositions. Our students represented the academy excellently and showed determination, resilience and drive throughout each of their games.

Student quote - *"It was good to play against a different type of opponent and it was good to play with different people from different year groups"*

### REAL MADRID VS VILLARREAL

Our students began their tour with, quite possibly, their most exciting and inspiring opportunity, watching Real Madrid vs Villarreal. The game attracted over 55,000 football fans from all over the world, including our aspiring young footballers.

Student quote - *"My favourite part of the trip was probably the Real Madrid game as it was a fun experience at one of the best stadiums in the world."*





## CITY CENTRE TOUR

Students experienced the Spanish culture on their Madrid city tour. They also explored historic buildings, ventured into Spanish retail destinations and were particularly intrigued by the Spanish cuisine... McDonalds! Students enjoyed the new experience and some even chose it as the highlight of their trip.

Student quote - *"I thought the street acts were good, the Palace was really cool to see and the view of the city was amazing."*

## STADIUM TOUR

As well as training and fixtures, our students had the unique and exciting opportunity to venture behind the scenes at the prestigious Santiago Bernabeu Stadium giving them the opportunity to explore the rich history of the Real Madrid Football club and the legendary players that have called the Bernabeu home over the years. It was fantastic to see the enjoyment our students gained from this once in a lifetime experience.



A special thank you to all of our sponsors for supporting the delivery of this trip, particularly Driscoll Electrical Contractors Limited for supplying our students with their fantastic midlayers.

To all parents/carers, thank you for your support in allowing your child to access these opportunities. We hope to be able to offer this type of experience again in the future.