The first week of the season saw 2 of the 4 games played

**Preston under 14 vrs Datchworth**

A new look under 14 side took on Datchworth in the first game of the season. Winning the toss Guy elected to field, the opening bowlers of Ewan and Louie got Preston on top as Ewan 2/7 took 2 early wickets. With Ewan getting everyone a bowl the opposition posted a score of 94/6 in their 18 overs.

Preston reply relied on wides as we got to 10 without a run off the bat, we then lost both openers Billy and Louie for ducks. The first scoring shot was a 6 over mid wicket from Olly C. When he retired on 26 he was still our only scorer with the score on 44/2. A few singles here and then from Josh and Guy but then 3 quick wickets left us still needing 25. Debutants Olly M and Rhys then ran well and Rhys in particular hit the ball cleanly including a six to take us to victory Olly 8\* and Rhys 13\*.

A good star to the season

**Preston under 10 vrs Ickleford**

On a bright night at the rec, the boys entertained the impressive Ickleford team. Fielding first Debutant Daniel took the new ball and started well. The first pair for Ickleford posted 31/0 thanks to a some wayward bowling at times. The next pair continued the good work to take them to 255/0 as we tried hard to get a wicket. The third pair saw us bowl well as we restricted them to only 5 scoring shots including a maiden from Harry. 269/0 when the final pair entered the arena, we then got amongst the wickets as we took four wicket, 3 run outs and a wicket for Daniel as the oppo finished 266/4.

Our reply did not get off to the best of starts as we lost a wicket third ball, James and Toby where finding the tight bowling hard to get away as we were 191/3 after the first 4 overs. Xander and Daniel then started well with 10 off the first over, a very good drive for four from Xander. After the four overs the boys were on 207/4. Harry and Nathan then batted sensibly not to lose a wickets as they had a partnership of 21, the highlight being a lofted straight drive from Harry for 4.

When Elliott and Nid took guard they needed 39 to win, a early wicket made the chances fo victory hard, but some positive running and striking of the ball saw Elliott hit a couple of boundaries as we finished on 249/6.

Good first game.