**U13 Girls' Football -** 24<sup>th</sup> September 2012 Round 1 National Cup v King Edward VII School (KES) FT – TCA 3 – 2 KES Goalscorers – Chloe Clifford, Abi Roach-Smith, Ellie Nobbs

Team
Mary Orobosa-Ogbiede
Charlotte Cameron
Megan Williams
Elleemai Benbow
Ellen Withers
Ellie Nobbs
Chloe Clifford
Kayleigh Jackson
Courtney Beckett
Abi Roach-Smith

Manager Miss A Anderson

Thomas Clarkson Academy's U13 girls' football team have successfully started their English Schools FA national cup campaign with a win against local rivals KES. The team, made from a combination of year 7 and 8 girls was led by captain Roach-Smith.

TCA made a very strong start, Clifford and Nobbs making cracking tackles and dribbles with the ball up field towards the KES goal, this lead to our first goal by Clifford. Many times the defence of TCA were tested, Williams, Benbow & Cameron proving themselves to be watertight. On the few occasions that goalkeeper Orobosa-Ogbiede was called into action, she made some cracking saves.

Smooth passing and communication allowed Withers and Clifford to advance the ball up the pitch, combined with a fantastic through-ball from Nobbs to Roach-Smith gave TCA their second goal.

KES attacked more frequently in the second half and broke the TCA defence, pulling back to 2-1. Nevertheless, the TCA spirits were not dampened and they held tight until the break.

Keeper Orobosa-Ogbiede's nerves were tested at the very beginning of the second half as KES were awarded a penalty for an unfortunate hand-ball in the box, bringing the score to 2-2. Cameron did well to motivate and focus the team and the girls regained composure, including some fantastic challenges in the midfield by Beckett and Jackson. The TCA girls dug deep to their last energy reserves to ensure they took the lead back. Nobbs collected the ball on the half way line, took the ball passed at least 4 KES players and slotted the ball into the back of the net. Final score 3-2 to TCA.

A superb game all round by the TCA girls, who look forward to playing either Springwood High School or Neale Wade Community College in the  $2^{nd}$  round.

Referee – Mr D Hudson Linesmen – DomVenckus & Alex Albutt (year 10)