

Moate community school kick off the footballing year.

By Céire Dunning.

The U16 boys of Moate Community School had their first encounter of the year against a strong Marist side. The challenge match took place in the Marist last Friday October 14th with a throw in time of 1.30. Moate got an early point from a free kick after being fouled by the strong Marist side. After a long kick out from the MCS goal keeper Jamie Colgan, Theo Watts (captain) picked it beautifully out of the air and kicked a wide ball out to Alan Daly who tapped it over the bar. This gave Moate a great start and left them two points up five minutes into the game. The Marist came in full attack and within minutes they had evened the score. For a while it was looking like the Athlone boys were going to get ahead but a very strong defensive Moate side kept the ball out of the danger areas. Boidu Sayeh was an exhibition at man marking. This gave MCS the boost to fight on. A quick pass from Keith Malynn left the ball straight into Andrew McCormack's arms and



after a long run down the field he sent the ball right between the posts. Moate looked unstoppable. James Langan provided a great ball to Eoghan Kelly he was in on goal. It looked as if they had a certain goal but the ball rebounded off the crossbar and was cleared. And so Moate seemed the better team with a score line of 5 points to 3 points to MCS at the break.

At the interval Moate made many substitutions. Eoin Dunne came on for Barney (Alan) Daly, Darren O'Connell came on for Jamie Colgan in goals, Daniel Guinan came on for Eoghan Kelly, Damian Boland came on for Brian Daly, Conor Sheridan came on for Thomas Longworth, Billy berry on for David Stone, Fergal Hynes on for Keith Malynn and Alan Nugent on for James Langan. The second half began and Moate were playing against the wind. The Marist team got three quick points shortly after the throw up. Moate did not lose heart. Eoin Dunne got the ball and gave a beautiful short pass to David Stone who kicked it straight over the bar. This gave Moate an extra bit of encouragement. The Marist took control of the game and a defensive error from Moate allowed the opposition in for an open shot at goal. The Marist looked unstoppable and shortly followed were 3 more points. Andrew McCormack caught another high ball in the middle of the field and sent the ball over the bar to bring his tally to seven points. The Marist took control again and added a goal in the final five minutes to kill of Moate's chances. The referee blew the final whistle to bring an end to the game. The final score the Marist 2-12, Moate 0-10. Although the defeat was significant, Moate had to be commended on their passion and commitment throughout the game and gives hope for the future of this developing team and their managers Gary Flanagan and Brian Devaney.

Moate team: Jamie Colgan, Brian Daly, Daniel Ledwith, Boidu Sayeh, Gavin Murray, Rory Cunningham, Thomas Longworth, Andrew McCormack, Theo Watts (captain), James Langan, Keith Malynn, Cathal Daly, David Stone, Eoghan Kelly, Barney Daly, Eoin Dunne, Alan Nugent, Conor Sheridan, Fergal Hynes, Daniel Guinan, Billy Berry, Darren O Connell and Damien Boland.

