

Maidenhead & Bray U9s 285-3 beat Hurley U9s 259-4 by 26 runs

On a pleasant morning, Hurley made the short journey to the picturesque setting of Maidenhead & Bray with a mixed U9 selection, giving a variety of debuts to a selection of our cubs (Lachlan, Fraser and Danny). Having won the toss and inserted M&B, the bruising figure of Max crashed 21 runs quick runs, utilising the pace of Jem and the short boundaries, to good effect. Sam (11) and Ollie (21) put M&B in prime position at 258 after six overs. Repair work was carried out by Ewan (2 overs, 1 wicket, 2 runs), Fraser (1 over, 0 runs), Archie (2 overs for 5 runs), and with Danny and Ben both taking a wicket on their debut, to help restrict M&B to 285 for 3 wickets. Fraser, at 5 years 5 months makes his way into the record books as the youngest ever player for Hurley! Can we go younger?

With a large total to chase, and against a much older unit, the Hurley cubs scrapped for every run and made the game a competitive affair. James Calliss, promoted to opening the batting, equal top scored with 7 (one more than me yesterday!), and with Danny (it's hard to keep the McAllisters out of the press) scoring an excellent 7 (greater than his age, but lower in IQ than some of the adult players we played against from Amersham Hill on Saturday), Matthew Williams with a career best 6 and Archie with 5, Hurley eventually fell 26 runs short but an excellent effort by all, and great experience for all the kids so that one day I can relax with pipe, slippers and dog of some description, watching the Jems (and James' and Ewans) become polished diamonds!