**Football Legends coach GCSE PE students**

Chance of a Lifetime Coaching!

GCSE students here at Helsby High School have had the amazing opportunity of training not only on our brand new 3G pitch, but also receiving coaching and encouragement from football legends Sammy Lee, Paul Simpson and Ross Embleton.

The League Managers Association hosted a football coaching session as a trial for a potential new outreach project and decided to host it here at Helsby High School. The session welcomed the highest calibre managers to train our students. These included Sammy Lee (former Liverpool player and assistant manager), Paul Simpson (ex-Man City player and former manager of the successful England Under-20 World Cup winning team) and Ross Embleton (ex-Leyton Orient First Team Coach).

The managers undertook an extensive football session with the GCSE PE and Cambridge National Sports Studies football students, facilitating improvements to their game with passing, shooting and crossing drills, followed by a small tournament to apply those skills. The managers and students were also able to make full use of the new pavilion in this great new community facility for a warm cup of tea after the session on what was a bright but cold autumn day.

The session was supported by school governor Andy Wheeler and our Headteacher Mr Hill, as well as a number of keen and interested teachers who also came down to support the students and spot our star visitors. Towards the end of training the new 3G pitch accommodated two 7-a-side games which were enjoyed by students and staff alike.

The 36 GCSE students were thrilled to receive such extensive coaching and were delighted to talk with these football legends after the training. Sammy Lee told stories and gave advice to our students about working in this sport using his wealth of football experience; the students hung on his every word and it was a delight to see them so engaged.

We would like to thank the coaches for offering their valuable time and expertise to our students, who greatly enjoyed the session and were delighted to be able to get photos and autographs after the session!