

IN FOCUS Teachers take on pupils in charity football match for Charlie



■ Embrace - Charlie Bovey and former teacher Emma O'Reilly

CONTRARY to all expectations, including their own, teachers from Belfairs Academy in Leigh triumphed against their students in a charity football match.

The game was organised by sixth formers Livvie Creed, Kaelan Williams and Lucas Waite in aid of their friend, Charlie Bovey, who has Stage 4 brain cancer.

Billed as 'Tackle the Teachers', the match raised over £850 for the two charities supporting Charlie during his treatment - CLIC Sargent and Paul's House.

There was deadlock after the full 90-minutes, with the score level at three goals apiece. A penalty shoot-out added to the tension and was finally resolved in favour of the teaching staff, at nine goals to eight.

Director of Belfairs Academy's Post 16 department, Andrew Bakonyvari said: "The students all played well and Charlie Bovey got on the pitch for the second half, making some good plays and even bundling me over whilst I was tying my shoe laces on the side lines."

Organised by A Level PE teacher, Emma O'Reilly - who taught Charlie before he was unable to continue with his studies - he was presented with an autographed Arsenal team photo, a hand-written message from manager Arsene Wenger and a video message of well wishes from Arsenal's star defender and Spanish international, Hector Bellerin.

Visit www.gofundme.com/bbx9bv-charlies-fund



■ Teams - Pupils and teachers joined forces to go



■ Success - £850 was raised for two charities



■ Teachers vs students - and the teachers came out on top



■ Fundraising - The match was in aid of Charlie Bovey



■ Tight affair - Penalties were needed to decide

Charlie



to head-to-head in a charity football match



the game



■ Competitive - Students played against pupils in the charity match at Balfairs



■ Presentation - Charlie Bovey was given a very special gift