

‘Play Ball’ by Edward G (U6)

‘Why won’t you just play ball?’

Rugby. Cricket. (Of course). Jolly good fun!

It takes hardly any skill at all:

You just get on the ball and run. Good Man!

Yes, Sir -- I’m sure it’s easier

to learn the rules and play the game,

but that doesn’t really sound like

fun. To weather the cold of

September showers; October frost --

and all for what?! Losing 50-0 away

in driving rain?...

Anyhow, I play Rugby now.

The Hooligans’ sport,

crawling with Gentlemen:

blazers, school fees, match teas.

Shake hands, win or lose.

(play fair; that’s the name of the game)

Wake up tomorrow black & blue

at best. After all:

There's no points in try,
only succeed. Stick your head in.
Break a leg! (Or arm).
Don't let the side down,
and don't lose track of
what's important: being the bigger,
better men.

Saturday finds me down in the mud
learning to play the real man's game.