

Ryarsh Primary School

RYARSH AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE

Ilyana

Orang-utan Class

Choosing the final Excellence Award winner for Orang-utan class this year has been something of a challenge. In the two terms I have been here, there have been moments where I have been proud of every single member of Year 6, and there is something about each of them that Mrs Taplin, Miss Lucas, Mrs Garrett and myself will dearly miss as they move onwards.

But, since my first day back in April, our chosen person has always made a special impact on the class. She tries hard in every subject, is always smiling, and never once have I heard her moan, sigh, complain or give up, a quality that sets her up in excellent stead ready for the challenges of Year Seven.

Ilyana is a quietly confident girl, who constantly puts others before herself. She demonstrates exemplary manners in both the classroom and the wider school community, and was one of the first children to come and introduce herself to me on my first day at Ryarsh, showing me the fantastic piece of maths that she was working on. Since that day, Ilyana has continued to show me some outstanding examples of the really highest standard of Year 6 learning, showing a maturity and confidence way beyond her years.

She is an impeccably polite girl, but, as I discovered on our PGL trip, she also has a sharp, sometimes wonderfully sarcastic sense of humour, an unfailingly positive attitude to every activity, and the admirable ability to laugh at herself when it is needed. She approached every challenge, be it the terror of the abseiling tower, the daunting height of the giant swing or the finesse of fencing, with an 'I can do it' attitude, and, when her turn was over, put her all into supporting her friends and encouraging those around her. She approached every day of our trip like she has done every day in class – wide awake, smiling, positive and ready to do her best.

The final term of Year 6 is always a bittersweet one, with the moments of fun and long-anticipated excitement constantly competing with the impending sadness of moving on and the challenge of new beginnings, but Ilyana has kept her head up through it all, turning in not just an excellent, ambassadorial attitude throughout our residential and SATs week, but an enthusiastic, mature and energetic performance as part of the School of Rock dancers in the Year Six production of The Greatest Show. Her attitude to learning her lines and practising her dance moves has, again, been incredibly strong and selfless, ensuring she has helped and encouraged her group to achieve their best. This attitude has also been seen alongside her friends in Song and Dance club, where Ilyana's empathetic leadership skills were demonstrated in teaching and supporting the children of Key Stage One in learning, practising and performing 'Naughty' from Matilda at Ryarsh Has Got Talent.

All of the Year Six staff will be sad to see Ilyana leave us next week, but we have every faith that she is heading for a bright and shining future. We all wish you every success in everything you do, and, just remember, keep on being you.

Signed - Class teacher