

Ryarsh Primary School

RYARSH AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE

Zachery

Orang-utan Class

This term's Excellence Award in Orang-utan Class goes to someone who has consistently raised their level of effort and attainment across the last three terms, and who has proved that focus, good listening skills, openness to feedback and continual ambition to improve are integral to making great progress with their learning.

It has been a pleasure to see Zach's quiet confidence begin to blossom more over the last few weeks, and his pride in his work has shone through. He shows a great enjoyment of all the subjects, and never gives up when faced with a challenge. His logical, reasoned and rational outlook helps him to break down any problem into smaller, more achievable chunks, and this has helped him overcome barriers and achieve great things this term. From the challenges of Growth Mindset day in January to the preparation for SATs, longer writing projects and all the things to come in Year 6, Zach has shown a quiet, understated but high level of determination and commitment, both of which I am sure will see him through the rest of the year with confidence, and set him in a fantastic stead for when he moves on in July.

Zach is never seen without a book in his hand. I've lost count of the random places around the school that I've seen him with his face buried in his beloved leather-bound copy of J.R.R. Tolkien's *The Hobbit*. From the playground to the Forest School to the lunch hall and the corridors, Zach's love of reading never leaves his side, and the meadows and mountains of Middle-Earth have inspired and fired his imagination. Every morning he has updated me with how the plucky troop of Dwarves and Hobbits are progressing with their adventures, and his ambition to finish the book and move onto the even longer *Lord of the Rings* Trilogy and beyond are testament to his love of fantasy, other worlds and classic storytelling.

Speaking of classics, Zach's love of 90s Indie music is something to behold, and where I feel he and I share a number of tastes. His knowledge of retro video games rivals that of someone who actually lived through the era, and the passion with which he discusses these interests is admirable. He is an excellent conversationalist, and great company for a chat about Oasis during break time duty.

Zach's creativity in learning has really shone through this term, and I am very excited to see where he goes next. He has exceptional manners around the school, and a strong sense of care for his fellow pupils. As a buddy, he has shown a fantastic level of empathy, care, support and encouragement, and a quiet maturity that sets him up strongly for the challenges of Secondary School.

Zach's uniqueness shone through in our Forest School sessions before Christmas. His determination to develop his stealth and camouflage skills led to some enjoyable games, and his listening skills and practical side helped him to really conquer some of the challenges set. I look forward to seeing how he continues this on our trip to PGL.

All in all, it has been a fantastic few terms for Zach so far in Year 6, and Mrs Parfitt, Mrs Taplin and I are all incredibly proud of the capable young man he has grown in to. Keep it up, Zach!

Signed - Class teacher