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To all Parents/Carers,

3/5/19



Following a welcome break in the torrential rain, our Y6 children were able to spend some quality time in the Forest Area this week as part of their 'Fantastic Beasts' writing project. And this, in no small part, was thanks to the work of some very willing and able YMCA Residents who were good enough to give the place a bit of a tidy up and make sure nature's residents were safe and well (see above right). A huge thank you to Dave Finn and his team who worked incredibly hard over two days dredging the pond, revitalising the paths and planting some new bulbs. Our close relationship with YMCA, not least the wraparound and holiday clubs, means they are able to support us in lots of other ways – so thank you again.

In other news, I wanted to draw your attention to a new page on the school website. This is where you will find all things to do with recycling and what we are trying to achieve as a school. As mentioned in other weekly words, we are currently in a competition to win a £10,000 recycled plastics playground. We're not off the mark yet but we have just sent our first box of used beauty products to Terracycle to be counted. Watch this space as the PTFA, Six Streets and local businesses are all doing their bit to support us! Whilst on the topic of being greener, this year's questionnaires will be distributed online for you to complete – we think it might make the process easier too.

<http://www.markeaton.derby.sch.uk/Eco-Council>

Our partnership with schools in Tanzania is also gathering momentum and we now have three members of staff signed up to visit Tanzania in Autumn – which will mean a visit here too. A big thank you to Rob Rodgers from the British Council for helping us to get this up and running. This promises to be a really exciting project over the next couple of years and we feel it will give the whole school the opportunity to view education and life itself from a different perspective. If you want to know more, click on the link below:

<https://www.britishcouncil.org/en/programmes/education/connecting-classrooms>

Have a nice weekend

Mr I. Johnson