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To all Parents/Carers,

6.12.19

First and foremost, thank you to everyone that attended and supported the Christmas Fair last Saturday. Thankfully it stayed dry and it was a lovely afternoon. Although the grand total is unconfirmed at the moment, I do know that lots of money was raised and someone was kind enough to 'match fund' part of that total. Thank you to this person and their business for their incredibly generous offer! I know this is something that local/national businesses do provide so if this may apply to you then please let us know – it all goes towards a good cause!

Speaking of which, the PTFA have recently purchased some Lego coding kits (see above pictures) for each year group. The children, working in teams, have to build a robot, connect it to the software on the tablets and then input a series of instructions. On the left, we have three Y6 girls building the robot and designing the movements on the tablet and on the right, about an hour down the line, we have the robot making its way across Mars – thanks to some magic with a green screen! Enabling the children to be computer literate and experience a range of technologies in school is something we are always looking to improve, so keep an eye on Twitter for further developments! And thank you again to our PTFA for providing us with the funds to do it all!

And finally, I had an impromptu assembly with the Y5 and Y6 children on Wednesday, yet the content is probably just as applicable to some of our younger children as it is them. It was all about 'digital footprints' and how important it is to use the internet safely and responsibly. What you put online leaves a footprint and it was just reminding the children of this fact. This then led into a conversation about social media and how many children have social media accounts, despite the age restriction of 13+. E-Safety continues to be a huge part of the curriculum but throughout the year we also look to offer sessions with parents/carers. In the meantime, check the website for more details – especially the online safety publication called 'DITTO', for which there is a link to.

Have a lovely weekend,

Mr I. Johnson