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To all Parents/Carers

28.2.2020



A little bit of a theme in this week's Weekly Word; namely the environment and Climate Change!

Before half term an intrepid group of Y5 children got together and organised their very own Climate Change march on the field. Inspired by Greta Thunberg and her Youth Strike 4 Climate movement, the children created their own banners, posters and catchy chant. Without a doubt, if they have anything to do with it, the future of our planet is in good hands. We have since sent a press release and a photo to the Derby Evening Telegraph in the hope that they will publish the story and inspire other children to take action – fingers crossed!

On a similar note, I met with a local councillor and resident of Wheeldon Ave earlier in the week to discuss the problem of 'idling' within the six streets community. Idling is where a vehicle's engine is left running whilst it is not moving. Indeed, it is scientifically proven that 'idling' is particularly bad for the environment, not least the air quality in the local community. Parking, as we know, is a huge issue on the surrounding streets but if you have driven to school and you are parked up, please turn off your engine. In partnership with the six streets community, we have created some posters (see top right) which you will see in people's windows and on lampposts so your support on this matter will be much appreciated.

And finally, we are just about to launch our new research based project around the theme of spelling. It is well documented in educational journals (and I am sure it hasn't gone unnoticed by you) that spelling, nationally, is on the decline. There are many theories about why this is; an increase in the use of autocorrect on electronic devices, fewer children reading etc, but what we are going to do over the next term is put some of our own theories to the test in the classroom. Children learn how to spell in lots of different ways so by having a whole school approach to it we can hopefully uncover some factors which can either be reversed, revised or improved. I'll let you know how we get on.

Oh, and don't forget to check out Markeaton's very own online safety video!!!

<https://twitter.com/home>

Have a good weekend,
Mr I. Johnson