

Student Council 2022/2023

In September, Keyingham Primary Schools Student Council first met as a team of 26 members. They spoke about how this academic year might look and came up with the idea of **'The Journey to Green'**.

Some key phrases used were:

"Improving the environment as much as we can"

"Planting trees to increase the oxygen in the atmosphere"

"Building homes for animals and birds"

"Learning from nature"

Over the year it was mentioned that they would look at outdoor spaces and make them more attractive to people and wildlife.

The main focus would be to develop the grassed area at the front of the school and to create a beautiful public place for everyone to enjoy, realising that this would take some time, and may look a bit untidy for a while until it became established!

In October and November 2023, Student Council started to design plans for the area at the front of the school. They discussed ideas of what would work well in this area. This included bird feeders, wildflowers, trees, a vegetable patch, benches and herbs. All of these would help the environment, attract animals and insects, and make the area inviting for people. They also discussed bigger ideas that they thought would be good, like a skate park and a swimming pool!

At the beginning of 2023, members of the Student Council met with Keyingham Parish Council and Ottringham Parish Council. They spoke to the Parish Council Members about their **Journey to Green** and how they could help. They also informed them about their vision for the front of the school being a public place for all to enjoy. Their develop ideas included trees, seating, wildlife shelters and flowers to encourage wildlife but they needed their help. The members asked them if they would support their idea and if they could donate their time, money or skills to help with the project.

In April, the 26 members were very grateful to Keyingham Parish Council for help with bidding to the Kings Coronation Fund of a bench for the area. The Student Council all decided on the colour for this bench. This will be dedicated to King Charles and this year's student council. Also, the members are also grateful to Ottringham Parish Council and Sunk Island Garden Centre for donating 100 daffodil bulbs that were planted.

Every month when the counsellors meet, they 'RAG Rate' 5 school values. This is called 'The Values Scorecard'. The Values are: Kindness, Curiosity, Courage, Behaviour and Respect. Each member states if they believe if their class are **'happy', 'ok'** or **'not happy'** with their group's performance in each of the 5 values. These ratings are fed back to classes for them to be further discussed. Not only is this a good way of keeping our values in focus it also helps everyone to think about how they can work together to be Kind, ask questions, be brave, respect each other and behave responsibly.

The main project for this year's student council was planting the 52 trees at the front of the school, along with the other trees that were planted at the back of the school. The school received a Grant from the Humber Forest Charity for these trees. Keyingham Parish Council were invited to help with the planting. An organisation called Rewilding Youth also came to help with this project.

Over this school year, the counsellors have enjoyed many meetings and projects. One of which was visiting Hull University for the Whole Trust Student Conference. They met students from the other Trust Schools and worked together throughout the whole day.

On reflection of this year, the Student Council have worked as a team, made decisions, learned how to raise money by enterprising, helped and cared for the environment and made great progress on their **Journey to Green!** They have enjoyed having lessons outside, been taught how to plant trees correctly, helping the environment and getting everyone involved with their project. They have also enjoyed working with Mrs Billaney, Keyingham Parish Clerk.

At the end of this academic year, a huge thank you goes to the Year 6 students who will be going onto High School, and the students who have been part of Student Council for two years now. All members have played a great part in discussions, feedback and projects. We move into the next academic year with 12 Student Counsellors who are passionate about carrying on with their **Journey to Green**.

