

## **Play Leaders**

Each year Play Leaders are selected by Miss Heaton. The children must complete an application form at the beginning of the academic year. From this, between 16-18 children are selected who will undertake the role for the upcoming year.

The role of the Play Leaders is to give year 5 children the opportunity to develop leadership skills, how to play, deliver and organise team games to younger children in an appropriate environment. Play leaders are then supported in the delivery of lunchtime sessions where they can deliver the games they have learnt, by teaching younger pupils to co-operate with each other in a safe and caring environment.

The leaders are given training in this area. This training focuses on the 6 key principles of play leader training; enjoyment, cooperation, opportunities, safety, instructions and responsibility. The focus on the different qualities required to be a good play leader; as well as learning a variety of different cooperative team games. Finally, they must plan and deliver their own session in which they will be assessed on.

The team meet every week to discuss any new games they may want to learn and refine their leadership skills. We also discuss the Play Leaders successes and any areas they may need to further develop.

These leader roles develop our children by encouraging them to take responsibility and develop their leadership skills. The role also encourages children to develop personal responsibility, self-organisation, confidence, and self-esteem. Play Leaders are given an opportunity to work with younger children, thus promoting integration and social inclusion across the school community. Finally, the children are encouraged to focus on their cooperation and develop moral, social, and psychological skills within the whole school community.

