

Robot Wars!

Redcar & Cleveland Lego Challenge

Pupils in Year 5/6 with the support of Mr Ormerod and School Governor Neil Selley recently visited Teesside University. During the Autumn Term the children worked tirelessly, giving up lunchtimes as well as attending after school clubs to programme a robot to carry out a series of tasks around a course. All the hard work paid off because they won the robotic challenge. An impressive 230 points on their first go was enough to win the trophy. Mr Ormerod was very proud of the children as this is only their third year of competing and hopes to improve on the other aspects of the competition to win the entire event out right next year.

The participating pupils were Charlie R, Charlotte P, Sophie W, Kieron S, Charlie B and Cally B.



Competing on the board with a judge looking on.



Our winning team with a trophy and medals.

Charlie in Y6 describes below his experience of representing the school at this special event.

'This was my second visit to Teesside University. I would love to study there or somewhere similar in the future. It took months of programming, practising and rehearsing to get to the standards that were required to succeed in the competition. Once we got there we all got ready to go down to the challenge boards to drive our robot around the mission boards completing missions to show people what could be possible and achievable, gaining points in the process. The chosen topic this year was called Senior Solutions which are inventions used for the elderly people that find things harder than we would, e.g. walking and visualisation. On our first attempt, we scored 230 points that wasn't the highest that we could achieve but was enough to put us in the lead!

During our waiting time before returning to the boards, we had to take part in different challenges to show teamwork and co-operation. We entered the Presentation Room, Core Values Room and the Robot Design Room. When we entered the Presentation Room we performed a re-creation of 'Dragons Den'. We sang a song to describe our idea of a mobility chair attached to a cable car system, connected to the roof of an elderly person's home. It could move to different rooms, turn 360 degrees and even had a recliner button if the user felt tired. The judges enjoyed our production.

We then visited the Core Values Room, we had to show the judges that we worked well as a team and we all shared roles, taking part in the process of planning for the competition. We also had to take part in a team challenge, we all stood on a piece of paper of different sizes and we managed to clear both of them.

Our final room was the Robot Design room. We talked about our design of the robot explaining how we were able to succeed in the missions. We also demonstrated to the judges our favourite missions and how we could overcome any problems. We waited for some time for the Judge's decision but thankfully it was good news, we had won the mission boards with the highest points total. We were over the moon! Overall, the day was so much fun and I would recommend it to anyone who enjoys Design and Technology.'