James at Thornbridge

When James joined Year 6 he appeared quiet, avoided physical activity and lacked the confidence to widen his friendship group. He cried during our first football session and refused to take part, because he was afraid of people running towards him or being hit by the ball. He informed us after school he spent most of his time on his X-box and that all of his friends were online.

Subsequently when James signed up to take part in the Year 6 residential at Thornbridge Outdoor, staff were surprised but delighted. During the weekend he seemed happy, actively joining in in group tasks and encouraging others in his team. He was like a different child! Whilst taking part in the Sky ropes and Low ropes activities he openly expressed his pride in himself for attempting something that he would never have even contemplated previously.

Since returning from our visit, James has become a much happier and active member of the class. He has new friends throughout the year group and is, on the whole, much more confident in his own abilities and willing to attempt new things.

Intake Primary, June 2014