

The Farmer

James Potter is a farmer based in Yorkshire, providing the very highest standards in free range egg production and packing since the 1970's. As a Sainsbury's supplier farm, James heard about the FaceTime a Farmer initiative at the Sainsbury's Farming Conference 2018. James states "when my own children were younger they believed everything just appeared magically appeared on the shelves in the supermarket," therefore, he believes that this initiative is the perfect way to "give children an understanding of where their food comes from."

The School

Anderton Park Primary school is a large inner-city primary school in Sparkhill, Birmingham. Every class in the school is matched to a farmer from across the UK, they believe that this is an amazing opportunity for the children in the school to learn not only about the world of farming but about British farming in particular. Thomas Whatoff, the Year 5 class teacher matched with James, is keen to link the experience to his broader curriculum and current affairs, even discussing with the children how Brexit would impact on egg production in the UK.

The Sessions

To prepare for the first session, Thomas and his class researched the subject of egg production in order to write questions to ask James. Once connected, James was able to show the children around the farm and give a brief overview of the structure. The children started to learn about the journey of an egg from farm to fork with the next sessions being structured to look at this process in more detail.



Impact

From just one introductory session Thomas was surprised about the engagement of the children, "giving them the opportunity to see things outside the city," which they would not previously have seen. This is supported by one pupil's comment, "It is really interesting to see farming in real life!" Thomas and James are looking forward to future sessions with different areas of the egg production business being explored in more detail.

Further information about this initiative and how your school or farm can become involved can be found at www.leafuk.org/facetimeafarmer

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Thank you to James Potter and Anderton Park Primary School

