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**Hornby Primary School wins Allflex prize following successful farm open day**

NFU Vice President Mrs Minette Batters awarded St Margaret’s School in Hornby the £300 Allflex prize at the recent Westmorland Show. The junior pupils were among sixteen hundred children from 37 Cumbrian and Lancastrian primary schools attending the July schools farm open day at Heaves Farm, Levens. Back in the classroom, the children were challenged to create projects demonstrating all they had seen and learnt.

St Margaret’s prize-winning project took the form of bunting with each flag produced by a separate child, depicting what had particularly inspired them on the farm.

Mr Kerry Stafford-Roberts, Headmaster of St Margaret’s, an enthusiastic supporter of the schools farm open day remarked, “I’m a firm believer in children exploring first-hand the area and industries around which they live. St Margaret’s is a rural school and it’s important for our pupils to understand about our countryside and how agriculture works.

“We have been lucky enough to regularly attend the open days with our 30 junior children. It’s one of the highlights of our school year

Whilst no specific plans have been finalised as yet, Mr Stafford-Roberts says the school intends to spend the prize money on something for pupils to use outdoors.

Helen Sheppard of sponsor Allflex UK commented, “We are delighted to support this long-running schools' farm open day. It demonstrates through hands on activities what really happens on a modern working farm.”

The biennial event aims to demonstrate the exciting technologies involved in food production and to encourage children to see agriculture as an essential, progressive and vibrant modern industry.

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