

Tuesday 15 October – School Council meeting

Minutes based on notes by Anna (Y7)

Section A: feedback and planning

- Beth (Y7) talked about the recent Pupil Voice event where she – together with Megan and Robert from Eco Group – presented our eco-friendly school plans to reps from other local schools. This project will include a particular focus on our outdoor spaces including the garden and woodland area (there are plans for planting 100 new trees next March).
- It was useful having a meeting yesterday with county councilor Karen Quinn, who explained a councillor's role and how a local council works, as part of Local Democracy Week. It was an opportunity for reps to raise some local community issues that are relevant to them, such as road safety issues. Karen also delivered yesterday's KS3 assembly. A couple of reps talked about the meeting with her in today's KS2 assembly.
- We have had to make a couple of changes to who is representing us at the Tyne Community Learning Trust launch event next Thursday (24 October), due to Y5 and Y8 pupils being out of school. Our reps will be Alex, Beth and Tom from Y7 plus William in Y6. Mr Lakey will pass on information very soon.
- Emma and Jasmine (Y5) are responsible for the School Council display board and will see Mrs R Clark about working on it.
- We had an update on the food feedback that reps gave to kitchen staff last time. Reps reported that a few small changes have been made so far.
- The Y5 reps will sell poppies for Remembrance in the first week back in November. Mrs Hewitt in the office will let Mr Snowdon when the poppies arrive and he will organise this.
- The Y7 reps are currently preparing a Children in Need assembly for November and will be assisting Y8 reps in running the stalls and activities on the day.
- The Y6 reps have ideas for fundraising for Tynedale Hospice at Home and will raise these with Mrs Kemp.
- Suggestions Boxes: Emma will do the Y5 box and Chloe will do the Y6 box. Isaac for Y5 and Olivia for Y6 will check them before each meeting to take ideas to the meeting.

Section B: Discussion of reps' ideas and suggestions

- Archie and Owen reported back on meeting Mr Lakey and going through some ideas from the last meeting.
- The office staff have introduced a new system for collecting phones at the end of the day, so there are now 4 separate boxes for different year groups. Reps were pleased this has been done, but also suggested idea of Y5 and Y6 phones being in those years' central areas instead of the office (plus the idea of using calculator boxes is still popular).

- Reps said they liked the new system of having different value house points: 1 HP, 3 HP, 5 HP, 10 HP. They also suggested having a different approach for KS3 to KS2 and the idea of small prizes linked to reward milestones. Reps also talked about wanting more consistency in what house points are awarded for.
- It was suggested that the woodland area could be accessible – on a rota basis for different year groups – at break and lunch times (during times of the year when the field is used).
- New seats in the Y8 quad could be popular, if there is money available.
- There were a couple of questions about bus travel to raise with Mr Lakey in the next meeting.
- The two main focus areas for the next meeting (Tuesday 12 November, lesson 5) will be: outdoor and play equipment, and house points and rewards.