

Edith Cavell School Council Report to the Governing Body, 5th July 2016

September, when we had to apply to be a member of the School Council, feels like a very long time ago. Even further away is the special Assembly where we listened to from when Councillors from previous years talk about their experiences, and we thought about whether being on the Council was something we were interested in. Once we decided, applications were completed and election speeches were given to our class mates. Looking back, Ruby has decided that she was "Nervous and excited to stand up in front of everyone and speak because there's lots of children looking at you and it is scary." Voting was so close in some classes, particularly in Aquamarines, that we ended up with a record number of councillors for this year.

We all settled quickly into the role, having a very clear understanding of what is expected from us, as Joe noted. "On the School Council, you need good behaviour and high expectations because then you won't be sacked. The badge is really important because it shows that you are on the Council." Mrs Shatford is particularly pleased with the way that the Year 4's have taken responsibility for mentoring the younger children on the Council, and also for

independently visiting the Reception classes to talk to the children and ask for their ideas.

The Council's main focus this year has been around school dinners and the worries that some of them have about the meals, for example, some children are often hungry in the afternoon and would like the older children to have a bigger portion. A separate report has been written and has been given to Miss Cooke. Owen says, "It was very exciting being detectives for the school dinners because we had to look and see if the menu choices matched the food we could have. I liked asking my class what they thought."

Again we held a Christmas Jumper/T-shirt fundraiser day to help raise money for the new trim trail equipment, which Lucas liked, "We wore a Christmas jumper for the cost of £1.00 which made us look very colourful. I enjoyed wearing different clothes instead of our blue school jumper." Rachael says "We should do it again next year."

All of the Key Stage Two Councillors were involved in the interview process for the new Assistant Head, working with Mrs Shatford to decide what questions to ask the candidates. Everybody was quite nervous but became more confident with each interview and, as Elsa observed, "It feels really good to know that we helped to choose the new teacher."

Aquamarine Class councillors were asked by Miss Cooke to be involved in the writing of the School Travel Plan. Claire remembers being very excited when Miss Cooke talked to them about what the school would like as a bigger, Primary school. At first, Radek was a bit scared at being called to Miss Cooke's office as he thought he might be in trouble. He soon realised they were there to help, "Miss Cooke went on Google Maps and we could see if there could be a Zebra crossing or a Lollipop Man on Turner Way or Manton Lane. We were asked how we got to school and how we could improve the way we come to School."

Auditions for the end of year Talent Show have been held and the money raised, a pound each from all the contestants, will be used to help the trim trail fund. We have given Mrs Shatford ideas for what the prizes should be, ranging from bubble-wand pots, pencils to sweets and chocolate.

Before the end of the School year, it will be our turn to talk in Assembly about our time on the School Council, both the positive and more difficult things. The Year 1 children have said that they had found it tricky at first, to mix with the bigger children at meetings especially if you are shy, and so want to tell other children just to try. They also said they liked having the Year 4's collect them for meetings and

help them to talk to their classes. Finally, when Mrs Shatford asked all of the Councillors if we would like to do the job again, we all said "Yes!"