



MALCOLM SARGENT PRIMARY SCHOOL

Love To Learn

26 September 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

HOUSE COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Our annual House Council election process has begun in earnest and there is already a buzz of excitement around the school!

Children have been asked if they wish to stand as a candidate for their class and if so, they have already made a short speech to their class mates, to convince them that they would be the best person to stand as their house councillor. The class then took a blind vote for their preferred girl and boy candidate. The top three girls and boys, as voted by the class, became the candidates in a campaign which will run up until Friday 28 September.

This year, Y3-6 will be standing as house councillors. Younger children will be given the opportunity to get involved with project work where applicable, to help train them in readiness for future leadership roles in KS2.

The chosen candidates in Y3-6 have been out campaigning for several days now, and have been encouraging other children to vote for them, by designing and displaying posters, making rosettes and badges, talking to children in their house assemblies and in classes in their house, and by rallying at lunchtimes. The process of how to conduct a fair and kind campaign is also taught to the children, together with democracy, appropriate to their age.

On 28 September, every child in Y3-6 in each school house will be given ballot papers and will take part in a voting exercise in the school hall, designed to mimic a real political election. Children in each house will vote for the candidates in each class in their house. The ballot papers will be counted and the winners announced in class on Friday. Teachers are careful to ensure this is done sensitively and that children are aware of the voting rules incorporating age appropriate ethics and confidentiality.

The top girl and boy in each class will become the House Councillor for their class. The Year 6 House Councillors will automatically become the House Captains for the year, working with Heads of House, to support events and school development as appropriate. The unelected candidates will be given opportunities to work on other projects throughout the year in groups such as Green Team, Road Safety Officers and Keep It Tidy representatives to name but a few.

The elected House Councillors will represent their class, and also their house, meeting with other house representatives as well as the whole school council, at regular meetings, to plan and implement developments to improve the school, as decided by them. Children benefit hugely from their involvement in this

process, and those elected this year will have opportunity to develop leadership, speaking and listening and a range of other life skills.

We look forward to supporting children with the many skills they will develop throughout this time, and announcing our House Councillors, and House Captains this year.

As always, we ask that you nurture them through this process, and help them to learn life skills such as the importance of celebrating other people's success, managing disappointment and how to be respectful to candidates and elected councillors.

Yours sincerely

Tim Cox
Vice Principal