

Oxspring Pupil Parliament News

Dear Parents

December 2018

We thought you might like to hear about our work as a Pupil Parliament over the past term. We are all enjoying the experience, but there is a lot to learn as it is a new experience to all of us. Listening to different views and opinions helps us to appreciate and learn from each other. **(See attached to see a selection of some of our personal views)**



So far this term we have:

- Agreed our job descriptions
- Elected a Leader of the House (Lucy W)
- Produced a code of conduct setting out our aims and values
- Met with Angela Smith our local MP
- Visited Barnsley Town Hall and met with the Mayor.
- Exchanged the minutes of our PP meetings with the Governors' meetings to keep each other informed.
- Interviewed the Chair of Governors of our school Mrs Heggie. (See attached)

Here are some of our highlights:

MPs visit to Barnsley Town Hall and meeting with the Mayor Thursday 8th November

"It was an amazing trip as we got to meet the mayor and have a tour of the hall! One of the most popular rooms that we went in was the council chamber. We all enjoyed speaking through the microphones! We also got a tour of the mayor's parlour [it was very high class]. The town hall was a great experience and this is what the pupil parliament thought of it.



"It was very interesting to be able to see the inside of



the town hall!" by Isabelle.



Over all the visit was a success!"

By Lucy leader of Pupil Parliament.

Meeting with Angela Smith MP for Stocksbridge and Penistone Friday 7th December.

This was a great experience for our MP's as we were able to sit down with Mrs Smith and ask her lots of questions about her work as an MP and how she represents our community in The Houses of Parliament.

Here are just some of the questions we put to her:

- Why did you become an MP?
- What do you do as an MP?

- What are the main highlights of your job?
- What does it feel like to be an MP?
- What are the hardest bits about your job?
- What plans do you have to improve the education of children and teenagers in Stocksbridge and Penistone?
- Do you find it frustrating having to compromise your beliefs in order to satisfy the policies of your leader or the opinions of your constituents?
- If you could change one thing about your job, what would it be?
- What do you think about pupils' being involved in pupil parliament at our school? Can you offer any advice to us in our role as new MPs?



Mrs Smith answered all our questions most fully and shared her experiences of working in Parliament and meeting people from all walks of life. It was fascinating and so enjoyable listening to her stories of life at Westminster as she is so approachable and explains things so well.

Lucy and Eddie's interview with Mrs Heggie Chair of Governors (See attached)

Pupil Parliament business for 2019.

We have a busy year ahead and there will be challenges, but we are excited and look forward to making a difference and using our voice to represent the constituents in each of the classes we represent.

These are just some of our aspirations and tasks for 2019.

- Set up Class Surgeries and Black Boxes for each class to encourage our pupils to ask questions and to enable them to have a voice in school matters.
- Work together to help the school achieve the Investor in Pupils Award.
- Individual MPs to take on specific roles to support the school.
- Work in partnership with our school governors to monitor learning and effective use of school finances and resources.
- Produce a video of our school describing our school for new parents, staff and pupils
- Plan our summer visit to the Houses of Parliament in Westminster.

Yours sincerely,

Oxspring Pupil Parliament

