



Re-evaluation for Investing in Children membership

West Cornforth Primary School

West Cornforth Primary is a welcoming school with a very active school council who enjoys fundraising. For this evaluation I met with Bobby-Lee, Abby, Hannah, Liam, Morgan, Stephen, Christopher, Caitlin, Zalinka and Ben, who told me all about their school.

Evidence of Dialogue & Change

School Council

As ever the school council is an important part of the school. Each class has two representatives, a boy and a girl. Abby told me, ***“The class voted for who they wanted. We meet when we’ve got things to look at; it depends on how much we’ve got to say.”***

Morgan told me how they find out what is important to their class, and how they make sure the class knows what the school council has done. ***“We’ve got a book to write things in; we read it back to the class.”***

The school council has a chair person, Carylanne, Morgan is the vice chair, Liam is the treasurer and Miss Herd is the secretary.

The school council has recently been dealing with complaints about the toilets. Morgan said, ***“The locks are broken and people have complained about the soap.”*** Stephen went on, ***“In the boys toilets, there are cracked tiles on the wall. People were getting loads of toilet paper and blocking the toilets.”***

Hannah told me that the school council came up with an idea to help sort things out, ***“We’ve got Year Six monitors who go and check that it’s clean and the toilets are flushed.”***

Abby went on to tell me how the school council has dealt with the problem on a bigger scale, ***“We’ve passed it on to Mrs Sarsfield and she’s sorting it out. One of them has improved already.”*** Zalinka added, ***“If you tell Mrs Sarsfield she does an assembly on health and safety to remind everyone.”***

Tuck Shop

Morgan told me about the school tuck shop. ***“You can buy fruit for twenty pence and raisins are ten pence. The children can suggest different fruits. Sometimes people go round and get a big list of ideas, then everyone votes on what to get, we use a tally chart.”***

Hannah added, ***“We get ice pops when the weather’s hot, they cost ten pence, the last time we got them they all went in one day!”***

Gardening Club

The gardening club at West Cornforth Primary is well established now and it has been successful in the last year. Hannah told me how the children have decided what they thought the school needed, ***“We’re buying some benches to go on the field, we’ve got a parents shelter now, and benches for parents with planters, so it’s nice for them to wait.”*** The gardening club is supported by parents who come along and help out.

Playground Project

Stephen told me about the school’s playground project, ***“We’re trying to look after the playground and the field.”***

Hannah said, ***“The yard has stones and holes. When you fall you really hurt yourself! We want to flatten it off and make it safer.”***

The children are in the process of finding out the kind of things everyone wants for the playground and the field. As Morgan told me, ***“People have come to us with ideas.”***

To start off the project, the school has already won £250 and they plan to raise more money to make sure the playground is a great place to be.

Already the school council have made sure that a ***‘Huff and Puff’*** set was bought because ***“People in the classes wanted things to do on the yard,”*** as Caitlin told me.

The children I met were really keen to tell me about lots of things that are going on at their school. They are involved in ***Fit for Fun*** week with wake up and shake up dancing every morning which the children all said they enjoy.

The children also have many things in school that they wanted me to know about like their talent competition ***‘Search for a Star’***. Everyone wanted the school to have this contest and Abby told me, ***“The classes do performances, and whatever the best class is, they get a certificate.”***

This year, the theme is about films and the children can do anything they like – tell jokes, dance, sing, play music or even do football tricks. The children sell tickets to their families and have two performances in one day.

It was clear from talking to the children that they are able to make sure things in school happen because of their suggestions, their plans and also their hard work in raising funds to pay for the work to be done.

The school council ensures that all children in the school have an opportunity to have their say and they are very proud that they have been chosen to do this. Morgan told me how it made her feel good, ***“Because people voted and wanted you, and they’re not afraid to come and give ideas. I can write it down. They know you’re trustworthy.”*** Hannah went on, ***“You feel trusted by your class.”*** Zalinka added, ***“You know people want you to be on.”***

When I asked the children if they felt that their school should receive another year of Investing in Children membership they all agreed “Yes!”, and so with the endorsement of with Bobby-Lee, Abby, Hannah, Liam, Morgan, Stephen, Christopher, Caitlin, Zalinka and Ben, I would like to recommend the West Cornforth Primary School receives membership once again.

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