

## School Council Recap | Term 1

In the first council meeting, we discussed some of the good things about the new system and some of the issues we thought were important. We decided that the new PB (Positive Behaviour) System had been highly effective in helping students learn more and learn faster. Year 10 and 11 representatives said especially that they were learning more. We also noted that good behaviour and attendance are well rewarded and that most students are happy with the ability to go on rewards trips and have non-school uniform days throughout the year.

However, a primary issue was limited amounts to do at breaks and lunch. We suggested potentially opening the field or looking into other sports or activities to do during break or lunch. We also thought about inconsistent stamping from some teachers.

We took all of this to Mr Stokes personally during a meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup> of November. He was very pleased with our overall response to the behaviour system. To answer the issues of inconsistency with stamps, he agreed to send reminders out to teachers periodically about the three stamps per lesson average. As for the lack of activities during breaks, he promised year 10's access to the common room and said that the field would be open in half term 6 but could not open it any earlier due to a lack of staff available because of the split break and lunch.

After this meeting, we started discussing the new house system that will come into effect after Christmas. The colours for the houses will be Yellow, Purple, Blue and Green. The council voted to name the houses after physical landmarks in North Yorkshire, and, after consultations in tutor groups, it was decided on the names – notable rivers in our county: Swale, Nidd, Derwent, and Wharfe. Students will be able to buy coloured ties in their Houses corresponding colours. Mr Childe also suggested that trips will be made to spots along those rivers during the rest of the year. Students will be able to earn gold tokens for outstanding behaviour, work, effort or excellent work representing the school etc. These can then be deposited in your house token holder. Whenever a house reaches a set number of tokens, it will be rewarded with a special prize.

The student council has worked effectively over the last term and has helped make changes and decisions that will affect the rest of the school.

Josh Rudd (Student Councillor, 9.4)