



St Margaret's CEVAP School

# School Council

Classes represented at the meeting

Penguins	Puffins
Lions	Tigers
Giraffes	Zebras
Seahorses	Sea Turtles
Jellyfish	Starfish
Dolphins	Stingrays
Sharks	Whales

Date of meeting	25.2.26
Led by	Mr Gates

## Welcome

The children welcomed 3 members who had missed the previous meeting and everyone introduced themselves again. Mr Gates checked that the School Council reps had been given the opportunity to feedback to their class following the previous meeting. Most pupils confirmed that they had. Reps were given notebooks and pens to use in the meetings.

## Wellbeing

Mr Gates introduced the subject of wellbeing and explained that this was something important to pupils and staff at school. We talked about it being an awareness of what makes us feel happy, safe and cared for in school.

After discussion, the following things were identified as being **strengths** at St Margaret's in terms of supporting pupils' wellbeing...

- ✓ Secure friendships
- ✓ Supportive teachers and teaching assistants
- ✓ Sports
- ✓ Worry boxes (although there were some concerns about confidentiality)
- ✓ Learning new things and enjoying favourite subjects (such as Art and Music)
- ✓ After school clubs. The children would like the range to increase and were keen to have more clubs including dance, gymnastics, art, Lego and Glow in the Dark Dodgeball

The only things identified as being detrimental to wellbeing were...

- Falling over on the concrete playground or wooden area near the buddy bench
- Occasional disagreements and fights between pupils

**Action: Mr Gates is meeting with adults who are part of the Wellbeing Working Party on 16.3.26 and will share the children's feedback.**

## Football

There was discussion about football being the cause of many problems and behaviour incidents at lunchtimes. The children said that football can be fun but agreed that it could cause problems too.

There was a mixture of ideas about how to improve things, including...

- ✓ Have one year group allocated each day of the week so that everyone has a turn
- ✓ Have several smaller games happening at the same time
- ✓ Only play when Nash is there to supervise
- ✓ Ban football at lunchtimes all together!
- ✓ Have football on the astroturf to minimise injuries
- ✓ Buy new goalposts as the old ones are broken
- ✓ Reintroduce school football teams (boys and girls) so that children can compete against other schools. There was lots of enthusiasm for this idea across the age range

**Action: School Council reps to talk to their class about football and feedback at the next meeting**

### Other ideas

The children were keen to share a range of other suggestions that they had talked about with their peers. There were too many to go into in great depth, but some will be followed up in the months to come...

- ✓ Improve procedures for using the toilet as this tends to be a place where children are silly
- ✓ Introduce afternoon snack time for Years 5 and 6
- ✓ Separate boys and girls toilets across the school
- ✓ Bigger portions at lunch time (Mr Gates explained that the catering contract was changing soon)
- ✓ Ensure the cutlery is always clean and dry at lunchtime
- ✓ More exciting trips rather than just tours of places
- ✓ Younger children to go swimming
- ✓ More films (there was excitement about imminent trips to the cinema)
- ✓ Fun Run to raise money for school and charity
- ✓ New equipment for use outside at lunchtime (skipping ropes, balls etc)
- ✓ Mixed year group days

### Actions:

- ✓ School Council reps to talk to their class about trialling a mixed age afternoon once a term where the classes are mixed up for fun craft-based activities or something similar
- ✓ Mr Gates will talk to the kitchen staff about cutlery
- ✓ Class teachers to be stricter with monitoring toilet use and only send one child at a time
- ✓ Miss Ross and Mr Newson to see if there is any money to updated sports equipment

### Next meeting:

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2026 at 1.20pm with a focus on football and mixed age activity afternoons.