The Speaker

Speaker's House Westminster London SW1A 0AA

19 February 2019

Dear Ms. Thornton,

I have recently been contacted by your Member of Parliament, Paul Blomfield Esq. MP, informing me of your school council elections in December 2018.

Paul has written in glowing terms about your enthusiasm in engaging your students in the democratic process and to continue their educational experience following a visit to Westminster with some of your pupils. I am so glad that your experience here in Westminster was so positive and I shall certainly ensure that the Education and Visits Teams here in Westminster are informed.

After encouraging your students to organise into 'party' groupings running on different policy platforms - the 'Attendance Avengers' and 'Healthy Living' to name but two, your excellent students produced manifestos and took part in hustings. Following three weeks of campaigning, overseen by you and your team of dedicated and enthusiastic staff, the polling day was held in December 2018.

Paul Blomfield tells me that he was so impressed by the tremendous efforts of the staff and the pupils, as well as by their enthusiasm for the democratic process, not to mention the quality of debates on the policy platforms.

After hearing about your uplifting and heart-warming initiative, I feel compelled to write to you to send my very best wishes to you, your staff and your excellent students at Wybourn Community Primary and Nursery School. It is obvious to me that Wybourn is truly an excellent Community Scholl and I would like to take this opportunity to send encouragement to all and hope that the council elections become a firm part of the school year for decades to come.

Well done to you all!

Best wishes,
Yours sincerely

Rt Hon John Bercow MP
Speaker

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