



## House Captain Elections 2018

Dear Year 5,

I am writing to inform you that we will be holding elections for House Captains very soon.

I would like you to decide whether you want to stand for election as House Captain for your House. This is a role of responsibility and commitment. As House Captain you will be expected to lead your House and also to run regular House Forum meetings. We will help you to do this at first, but hope that after a while you will start to do this independently.

House Forums are a key part of our school communication and an important chance for every child at the school to express their views and raise any ideas or concerns they may have. You will need good listening skills and also good organisation skills. We need House Captains to be fair and considerate. You will be expected to conduct yourselves sensibly at all times. If you think you have these skills and attributes we would like you to nominate yourself for election.

Hustings will take place on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> July. Hustings are an opportunity for each nominee to explain why they feel they would be a good House Captain and persuade people to vote. Each nominee will have no more than 3 minutes to present their thoughts and ideas to the rest of the children in that House. The aim is for you to persuade the group that you would be the best person to elect. The members of each House will then vote for their preferred candidate.

If you would like to nominate yourself for election you need to return the attached slip to declare your interest by 3:15pm on Monday 2nd July. You will need a parent and someone in your House to second your nomination. This means that somebody else also thinks you would be a good candidate. It also means that they feel you are resilient enough to cope with both winning and losing.

Election results will be announced on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July in Assembly.

Two House Captains will be elected for each House. However, this year, due to the low numbers of boys compared to girls in Y5, we have decided that the two candidates in each House with the most votes will be elected; rather than the highest scoring boy and highest scoring girl.

Good Luck!

  
Sharon Sanderson

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### Note to Parents:

This is now a well-established part of the Grove Road school calendar and the children have a good understanding of what the role of House Captain involves. They have also had the opportunity to view previous House Captain Candidates give their Hustings speeches and cast a vote in the ballot. The Year 5 team have spent time exploring the processes associated with democracy, the skills of speaking persuasively as well as discussing the qualities associated with good House Captains to help Year 5 prepare and decide if they would like to stand for election.

However, every year the competition is fierce and understandably the children experience disappointment if they are not elected. It is for this reason that we require parents to approve the nomination so that you are aware that your child intends to stand for election and can provide additional support at home in preparing their speech but also supporting them if they are not elected. It is a secret ballot and the choice is made by the children in each house. This obviously results in disappointment for some, and as such we ask that you talk your child through this possibility and help them deal with the disappointment if they are not elected. Elected or not, all the children who stand get a great deal from the process and it gives an early insight into democracy and politics.

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I \_\_\_\_\_(name of nominee) \_\_\_\_\_ (Class)

declare that I would like to stand in the 2018 elections for House captain at Grove Road.

I \_\_\_\_\_(parent) have read the information attached and would like to approve this nomination.

I \_\_\_\_\_(pupil) would like to second this nomination.

**Nominations need to be returned to Miss Sanderson by 3:15pm on Monday 2nd July.**