

School Council Minutes

Date: Friday 19th January 2026

Present: Mrs France; School Council Representatives from Squirrel, Fox and Owl Classes

Apologies: LC

Chair: Mrs France

I. Welcome and Overview of Spring Term Events

Mrs France shared the key dates for the upcoming Spring Term so the School Council could help promote them across their classes and contribute ideas where appropriate:

- World Interfaith Week: w/c 2nd February
- Children's Mental Health Week: w/c 9th February
- Garsington Youth Company Auditions: 24th February
- British Values Day: 25th February
- World Book Day: 4th March
- Women's World Day of Prayer (focus on Nigeria): 6th March
- Science Week: w/c 9th March
- Tennis Coaching: 9th March
- Inter-house Tag Rugby: 11th March
- Spring Day: 13th March
- Oxford Cricket Day: 18th March
- Poetry Slam Competition & Final: 18th March
- Inter-school Netball Match: 19th March
- Red Nose Day: 20th March
- Spring Service & Easter Egg Hunt: 27th March

2. Children's Mental Health Week (w/c 9th Feb)

The council discussed what the week is about.

Children shared that it is important because:

- It helps everyone understand feelings and emotions.
- It reminds children to talk to a trusted adult if they feel worried or sad.
- It encourages kindness, friendships, and looking after one another.
- Ideas from pupils:
- Daily "wellbeing check-ins" in class.
- Calm-time activities such as drawing, mindfulness colouring or quiet reading.
- A "kindness chain" where children add links for acts of kindness.
- Using collective worship to introduce the theme of "Growing Together".

Action: Mrs France to liaise with staff to plan activities and wellbeing resources.

3. British Values Day (25th Feb)

The council discussed the five British Values and how to make the day meaningful and engaging.

Pupil ideas included:

- Inter-house activities linked to each value (Democracy, Rule of Law, Individual Liberty, Mutual Respect, Tolerance).

- Votes for activities so children can practise Democracy.
- Designing class rules posters to show Rule of Law.
- Activities that celebrate being unique for Individual Liberty.
- Team challenges demonstrating Mutual Respect.
- Learning about different cultures for Tolerance.

Action: School Council to help teachers select house-based activities.

4. World Book Day (4th March)

The council briefly discussed ideas for celebrating books and reading:

- Dressing up as book characters.
- Book swaps.
- Paired reading across classes.
- A “Stop, Drop and Read” surprise event.

Action: School Council reps to gather further class ideas.

5. Women’s World Day of Prayer – Nigeria (6th March)

The council learned that this year’s focus is Nigeria.

Mrs France has a friend with links to Nigeria to talk about life, faith, and culture.

Pupils were very enthusiastic.

Action: Mrs France to speak to her contact.

6. Science Week (w/c 9th March) – Theme: Outer Space

Children discussed activities linked to space:

- Making rockets or space buggies.
- Learning about planets.
- Space-themed investigations.

Action: To share ideas with class teachers.

7. Red Nose Day (20th March)

Children proposed fun but simple fundraising ideas as there is a lot going on at school at that time.

Decisions:

- Wear jumpers backwards.
- Hold a joke-telling competition in each class.

Action: School Council to promote this “silly but safe” theme.

8. Pupil Survey

The council worked together to write the new Pupil Voice Survey and decide on the questions.

Questions will cover learning, safety, friendships, clubs, behaviour, school environment, and wellbeing.

Survey will be introduced by Mrs France in Collective Worship.

School Council will then support teachers by helping to ask younger children the questions.

Action: Mrs France to finalise survey; reps to assist with delivery.

9. Roles and Responsibilities in School

The council reviewed current responsibilities and how they could be improved.

Buddy System

Question raised: Is the Buddy system for one year or longer? Currently that is how it works.

Eco-Warriors

Ideas for extending their role:

Litter-free lunches

Helping with recycling

Planting and caring for the new garden areas

Energy-saving reminders in classrooms

Action: Mrs France to feed ideas back to staff.

10. Class Feedback

Owl Class

Can we have a school disco again?

Could Year 6 have their own lunch table?

Could Year 6 have a special club just for them?

Could KS2 children help EYFS more?

Can we have school fetes again?

Fox Class

How does getting a supply teacher work?

What happens if Mrs Healy is off?

Could we hold a cake sale for Cancer Research? (Some children shared that family members have cancer.)

Could we do a school swap or link with a local school to see how others work?

Can we get some blossom trees?

Squirrel Class

Can we get more sensory items for the Rainbow Room?

Can we make more food projects in DT, like fruit kebabs?

Can we go to the library more often?

Action: Mrs France to investigate possibilities and discuss with SLT.

II. Next Meeting

Date: Monday 23rd February 2026

Time: Lunchtime

Location: Rainbow Room