

Platanos College News

Friday 6th May 2016

Mayor of London mock election 2016

On Tuesday 3rd May the entire school hosted a mock election to demonstrate the democratic process and raise awareness amongst the pupils of the upcoming London Mayoral Election on 5th May 2016. The big event took place during the morning whole school assembly.

An introduction on democracy and the electoral process was followed by presentations from six political parties each represented by a pupil in Year 10. The six parties involved were the Conservatives, Green Party, Labour, Liberal Democrats, Women's Equality Party and UKIP.

The speeches delivered by the pupils were impressive. All speeches were well-received by the audience of pupils and staff. The most stirring speech was given by the Labour candidate, Nathaniel Clarke, a Year 10 pupil who received the loudest and most prolonged round of applause. The manner in which Nathaniel articulated his policies whilst providing counter arguments for the various parties made for a very impressive speech.

After the presentations, all pupils participated by completing a ballot paper to select the candidate of their choice. For many, this was their first experience of an electoral process.



There were many excited pupils at the end of the assembly and mock election:

- “It was very good. It got the whole school excited and it was my first time participating and learning about it.” (Year 7 pupil)
- “It was informative as it got us ready and aware of what might happen in the future.” (Year 8 pupil)
- “It was very interesting and the speeches were very good.” (Year 9 pupil)
- “I think it was very good because it made us understand the process and how to draw up different policies.” (Year 10 pupil)

Following the votes count, the overall winner was Labour with 66% of the votes. This was followed by UKIP (12%), the Greens (8%), the Conservatives (5%), Women’s Equality Party (5%) and Liberal Democrats (4%).

The Platanos College London Mayoral Election was a great occasion enjoyed by pupils and staff alike. It was indeed also timely reminder about the importance of democracy and the relevance of elections in modern Britain.

