

# Platanos College News

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2015

## Mock General Election 2015 at Platanos

With the UK General Election fast approaching and the heightened interest and debating taking place nationally, Platanos College hosted a mock election on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May for the entire school.

The mock election was an exciting event demonstrating the democratic process and raising awareness amongst pupils of the General Election on 7<sup>th</sup> May. The exercise took place during a whole school assembly and partly organised by the school's debating team.

An introduction on the electoral process and the values of democracy, free speech, tolerance and social responsibility was followed by presentations from five political parties each represented by a member of staff and a pupil. The five parties represented were the Green Party, Conservatives, Labour, Liberal Democrats and UKIP.



**Attitude Determines Altitude**

Our pupil candidates representing each party delivered impressive and convincing speeches indeed. Each combined passion with great energy and oratory skills.

After the presentations, the entire school were given ballot papers to complete as part of the mock election in order for our voters (both staff and pupils) to nominate their party of choice. For many pupils, this was their first experience of an electoral process.

*"This assembly has taught us how we can vote and how unfair life can be and how this can be changed through voting."* - **Year 7 pupil**

*"It was interesting because we saw the different pupils debating why we should vote for them."* - **Year 8 pupil**

*"It was very inspirational."* - **Year 9 pupil**

*"I found it thought-provoking."* - **Year 10 pupil**

*"I learnt about the different policies of the different parties, which was informative."* - **Year 11 pupil**

The mock election was a great occasion and a timely reminder about the importance of democracy and the relevance of elections in our country today.

