Great news everyone your teacher has decided to let you have a free lesson!

Only one problem, your teacher gets to choose what you will do - sorry!
Ok so your teacher has chosen a spelling quiz as your activity!

Now that’s not fair!
There’s got to be a better way of choosing!
Any ideas?
Which do we think is the best way to decide?

- teacher decides
- toss a coin
- pick a choice out of a hat
- everyone votes
- girls only vote
- boys only vote
- whoever got top marks in the last test gets to choose
- headteacher decides
- teacher picks one person to decide
- fastest runner gets to choose
Did you pick ‘everyone gets a vote’ as the best way to decide?

Most votes work using this system, whereby the overall favourite choice gets picked!

But there is another way . . . preferential voting! It’s a bit more complicated but lots of people think it’s a fairer way of choosing as you have to have over HALF the votes before you can win.

Let’s turnover to see an example of preferential voting in action!
Thirty children were asked to choose their favourite Wimpy Kid activity. Take a look at the results:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Votes</th>
<th>Video games</th>
<th>Cartoons</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Swimming</th>
<th>Football</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st choice</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Least favourite 2nd choices</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‘New’ least favourite 2nd choices</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‘New’ least favourite 2nd choices</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>16</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
So when do people get to vote and what do they get to vote for?

Greg once stood for treasurer of the school council but was beaten to it by Marty Porter but that’s another story!
So when do people get to vote and what do they get to vote for?

- Electing a school council member
- Electing a member of parliament
- Choosing a king or queen
- Choosing a new headteacher
- Choosing the number one record of the week
For each example think about:

What method of voting is used?

Is everyone allowed to vote?

Is it fair?

Is it the best method to use?
Now you’ve got a handle on voting it’s time to kick off your election campaign to see which of the Diary of a Wimpy Kid books is the best!

Next step - get to grips with the best bits of each diary!