



## **Socrates acquitted in retrial reported by pupils from St Marylebone C E School**

*Katherine Wills and Kitty Low, pupils at St Marylebone C E School (part of the London Classics Hub) told us how they got on at the mock trial of Socrates at the UK Supreme Court on the 30 September 2015, an event put on by the Lawyers Group in support of Classics for All.*



In 399 BC, Socrates was found guilty of treason against the Athenian state and of polluting the minds of the young. In 2015, he was acquitted: unsurprising, perhaps, with a jury made up of enthusiastic supporters of Classics for All.

The trial took place at the Supreme Court, and was argued most convincingly by both the prosecution and the defence: the modern jury admired Socrates' incessant questioning and expression of free speech, yet the prosecution did bring up the problems with his probing and the effect this had on Athenian democracy. We found ourselves swayed by every argument: the classic response of the impressionable masses that Socrates so disdained. However, the prosecution failed to secure a second guilty verdict.

After the trial, there were some great speeches about the importance and success of Classics for All and the growing support of the Lawyers Group.

The canapés were delicious and contained no traces of hemlock, praise Zeus.