

Date: Thursday, 4 July 2024

### Public Speaking 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

In 2024, the public speaking competition will return in its full capacity. The public speaking competition has been renamed The School Performance South Primary Schools Public Speaking Competition. The competition will begin in classrooms where all students are given the opportunity to speak in front of the class. They will be marked on their ability to present a prepared speech and an impromptu speech.

Class presentations will occur in **Term 3 Weeks 3-5** where two students from each class will be chosen to go through to the Stage Competition.

Stage competitions will occur in **Term 3 Week 6**.

From the stage competition one speaker will be selected to represent our school in the Zone Finals. Further information about these finals will be sent home if students are selected to compete at this level of the competition.

You might like to use the upcoming school holiday period to help your child prepare and rehearse their speeches. To assist you and your child, attached are some useful hints for the preparation and delivery of speeches.

Students should prepare their speech at home, ready to present in **Term 3 Week 3**. It is important that the speech is relevant to the student and to the students who are part of the audience. The structure should be clear, logical and sequential. Some students may need support to prepare and present their speeches.

Division	Prepared Speech Times	Impromptu Speech Times
Early Stage 1 - Kindergarten	<b>1 minute</b>	<b>30 seconds</b> 2 minutes preparation time
Stage 1 - Years 1 and 2	<b>2 minutes</b>	<b>1 minute</b> 5 minutes preparation time
Stage 2 - Years 3 and 4	<b>3 minutes</b>	<b>1 minute</b> 5 minutes preparation time
Stage 3 - Years 5 and 6	<b>4 minutes</b>	<b>2 minutes</b> 5 minutes preparation time

#### Topic Selection

The topic is open to student preference. It is important that the speech your child prepares states an opinion and attempts to persuade the audience.

Early Stage 1 & Stage 1: Students can choose simple topics such as pets, toys, holidays, family members etc.

Stage 2: Students can also choose simple topics but they should be encouraged to talk about other people in relation to their topic. Their entire speech should not just be about themselves.

Stage 3: Students should be encouraged to speak about an issue or problem in society such as the environment, war, poverty, etc. They should be talking about other people and the world in general for their entire speech. **Year 5 and 6 will prepare their speeches in class starting from the beginning of Term 3.**

Message: Each speech should have an overall point. Speakers should incorporate their own point of view so that their speech does not become an information report. The speaker should make his/her opinion clear and they should leave the audience with something to think about.

Language: Students should understand, be familiar with and be able to pronounce correctly the language contained in their speech.

## **The Speech**

Three aspects need to be considered in constructing and presenting the prepared and impromptu speech - Manner, Matter and Method.

**Manner** - refers to the presentation of the speech

Speakers should have good use of voice (articulation, volume, pause, pace), good posture, gestures and eye contact. The speaker's voice should be relaxed without being exaggerated. Costumes or props are not permitted. Speakers should refer to palm cards and not just read the content. Palm cards for Kindergarten and Stage 1 are to be no larger than a quarter of a page. Palm cards for Stage 2 and 3 are to be no larger than an eighth of a page.

**Matter**-- refers to the material in the speech

Speeches should be as original as possible, be well-structured and have interesting content which is unique and interesting for the audience. Each speech should have a message or point of view.

**Method** - refers to the structure of a speech

Speeches need to have a clear introduction, middle and conclusion. Good introductions and conclusions are memorable, effective and original.

**Beginning:** There are three ways to begin a speech:

- Story - must be relevant to the speech as a whole
- Statement - must be thought provoking and interesting
- Question - must be answered at some point within the speech

**Middle development:** the way the speech is developed will depend on the speaker's purpose. This part of the speech should be linked to the introduction in a logical and interesting way. It should also contain ideas and examples that support the topic and purpose of the speech and are linked to each other. This is the part of the speech that gets the message across.

**Conclusion:** this is the climax of the speech. The conclusion should be a short final statement that is linked in style and content to the introduction and sums up the speech's subject and purpose. Speakers should make the point of their speech clear. The three ways to end a speech are the same as the three ways to begin a speech: story, statement or question.

Participation in public speaking by all students is worthwhile as it assists them to become more confident, clear and focused speakers in public situations. This should improve self-esteem and will assist them in the world beyond school.

The class teachers thank you for your support and appreciate your assistance to prepare your child for this exciting learning opportunity.

**Public Speaking Coordinator**  
**Mrs Davenport**

**Principal**  
**Mrs Betts Smith**