

Stage One Public Speaking Term 3, 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

During Term 3, all students will be working on developing their public speaking skills. Public speaking is an element of Speaking and Listening in our English syllabus. At school, the teachers work closely with the students to build their skills and confidence in presenting their ideas and opinions.

The purpose of the competition is to further develop the public speaking skills of students K-6 and increase students' self-confidence to talk in front of an audience at class and stage level. At the Stage Finals, students will be expected to present a prepared speech and an impromptu speech.

Your child will be presenting one prepared speech this term in Week 7 (beginning Monday 31st August). In weeks 2, 3 and 4, students will only have to complete one spelling activity for homework to allow extra time for preparation. Please assist your child with their speech. Included below are some guidelines and helpful hints to assist you and your child. **Please be aware that ALL speeches need to be ready by Monday, 31st August.**

TOPIC and TIME: Students must write a 2 MINUTE speech on a topic of their own choice. It should include a personal opinion with the purpose of persuading the audience. For example, holidays, "School holidays should be shorter/longer" or family, "Why my family is important to me" etc.

Term 3 Timeline

Week 1-4	Students will develop public speaking skills in class. Parents are encouraged to also practise this skill at home.
Week 2	Students will write a speech for the competition <u>at home</u> . Students will need to practise their speech regularly in preparation for the competition.
Week 3	
Week 4	
Week 5/ Week 6	Students will have the option to practise their speech in class during week 5 and 6 and receive verbal feedback. This is not compulsory, however is a choice for your child. They must be prepared to present at any time during this period if they want to take this opportunity. They will still present their speech during the class competition in week 7.
Week 7	Speeches due Monday 1st August. Class competitions will be held throughout the week. Two finalists from each class will be chosen to partake in the Stage competition. They will know by the Friday of this week.
Week 9	Stage competitions will be held. One winner will be chosen.

Hints

Three aspects need to be considered when constructing and presenting the prepared speech.

- Manner, Matter and Method
- Website with useful tips to help your child with their speech
<http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/english/english-tips/public-speaking-in-primary-school>

Manner (worth 20%)

Manner refers to the presentation of the speech. The key to good manner is to be natural. Acting, singing, dancing and props are not allowed. Parts of manner include:

- Eye contact: speakers should look at the whole audience by focussing on parts of the audience for a short period of time.
- Stance: Speakers should be comfortable but should not do anything that distracts from what they are saying.
- Voice: Natural volume and tone of voice
- Gesture: If a speaker has to think about gesturing, then they should not be doing it.
- Palm cards: speakers should use cardboard palm cards (1/4 A4) not pieces of paper. Palm cards should be numbered.
- Speakers should not read their speeches; they should deliver them.

Matter (worth 40%)

Matter refers to the material of the speech. Whilst the involvement of parent is strongly encouraged, speakers should always write their own speech. Matter refers to what is said in the speech. Speeches should be as original as possible. Each speech should have a message or a point of view. This is what distinguishes a speech from an information report. The speaker should make his/ her opinion clear and they should leave the audience with something to think about.

Method (worth 40%)

Method refers to the structure of the text. It must have a beginning, middle and conclusion.

- Beginning:
 - There are 3 ways to begin a speech.
 - Story: must be relevant to the speech as a whole
 - Statement: Should be interesting and thought-provoking
 - Question: Must be answered at some point in the speech.
 - *Avoid phrases such as... 'The subject of my speech is' or 'My name is'*
- Middle development
 - The way the speech is developed will depend on the speaker's purpose and personality. 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 where the speaker 'gets his message across'.
- Conclusion
 - This is the climax of the speech. The conclusion should be short final statement this is linked in style and content to the introduction and sums up the speech's subject and purpose.
 - Ending: 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. That is, with a story, statement or a question.
 - Avoid ending with 'Thank you for listening to my speech' or any similar phrases.

Impromptu speeches are also adjudicated using the same rules. **The prepared speech and impromptu speeches are adjudicated equally, both as 50% of the total mark for the stage competitions.**

Students will be given 5 minutes to prepare for their impromptu speech, with students expected to speak for one minute about their allocated topic.

We're excited to give our students this opportunity and look forward to your support.

Kind regards,
Stage One Teachers