

Stage 3 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 Metropolitan South Operational Directorate Primary Schools Public Speaking Competition will be running in 2020 with an adjusted online format because of restrictions posed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Whereas previously we have run a face-to-face competition for all four stages, this year we will be running an online trial where finals will be run virtually using videoconferencing tools so that students can still engage with public speaking in a safe manner. The trial will be offered to Stage 3 students only.

The Stage Final will be held with only students and adjudicators in the Assembly Hall and classes will watch via Zoom from their own classrooms.

Your child will be presenting one prepared speech this term in Week 7 (beginning Monday 31st August). Class representatives will then be chosen to participate in the stage final. The Stage Final will be held with only students and adjudicators in the Assembly Hall and classes will watch via Zoom from their own classrooms.

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 and present a persuasive four-minute speech.

Students should state their point of view and then be encouraged to link their ideas to an issue or problem in society such as the environment, war, poverty, etc. They should be linking ideas to other people and the world in general for their entire speech. They should also justify their opinions but their message should be more profound and more specifically linked across a wider world view.

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

Term 3 Timeline

Week 1 & 2	Students will develop public speaking skills in class. Parents are encouraged to also practise this skill at home.
Week 3 - 6	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 7	Speeches due Monday 31st August. Class competitions will be held throughout the week. Finalists will be chosen to partake in the Stage competition.
Week 8	Class winners will be notified. Students will practice their speech regularly in preparation for the final.
Week 9	Stage 3 Competition will be held on <u>Tuesday 15th September</u> . The Stage Final will be held with only students and adjudicators in the Assembly Hall and classes will watch via Zoom from their own classrooms. One winner will be chosen to represent Peakhurst Public School at the Georges River Network final in Term 4.

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 two-minutes about their allocated topic.

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

Kind regards,
Stage Three Teachers