



4 May, 2018

Stage 2 Multicultural Perspectives Public Speaking Speak-off and Competition

This term students in Stage 2 will be learning about and practising speech writing and public speaking skills in class with the theme of Multicultural Perspectives. Teachers will be preparing the students in class, however you may like to assist your child using the following information. Students will have the option to work on their speech at home as part of their homework.

Please read the following information carefully about public speaking, the tips may help your child develop their public speaking skills and help you to prepare your child for their participation in the class speak-off and/or the Multicultural Perspectives Public Speaking Competition.

Students will present 3 minute speeches to the class in the class speak-off in Week 5 that have been prepared either at school or at home. The school final will be held during Week 6 with students being chosen to represent their class based on the presentation of these speeches and the speeches prepared in class.

If your child is successful in representing their class, parents will be invited to attend the finals. Students will need to deliver their prepared speech again to a larger audience and will also be required to prepare and deliver a different impromptu speech. Students will not know this topic until the day.

About the Multicultural Perspectives Public Speaking Competition

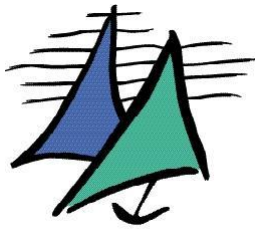
For 23 years the Multicultural Perspectives Public Speaking Competition has been encouraging primary school students to explore ideas of multiculturalism in Australia, as well as giving them a place to practice their public speaking skills and improve their confidence. Last year the Arts Unit had more than 2,000 students from all across NSW participate in the competition, culminating in two amazing state finals.

Public Speaking Tips

Please remember, the aim of a speech is to entertain the audience while giving an opinion or perspective. It is not a drama performance and props should not be used.

Introduction

The introduction and the conclusion of a speech are the most important parts. You do not need to say good morning or good afternoon to your audience or say, "Today I am going to be talking about ...". Instead, try to make the introduction attention-grabbing. Rhetorical questions, bold statements, onomatopoeia (sound words) or dialogue are good tools to use.



The Body of the Speech

Try brain storming the topic for ideas for your speech. Come up with as many ideas as possible and choose the most interesting to use in your speech. The main part of your speech may have your own personal opinions in it. This makes it more interesting. It should contain information but it should not just be a list of facts.

Conclusion

You don't need to thank the audience for listening. It's their job! The audience thank you, your hard work and your effort by clapping you. Finish with a concluding statement and the audience will know you're finished.

Cue Cards and Eye Contact

Try to use cue cards. Writing dot points or drawing pictures on palm cards is a great way to encourage eye contact and to assist students to not read their speech.

Pace

Speaking in front of people can be nerve-wracking. Speaking slower and controlling breathing can assist. It also helps the audience to catch what the presenter is saying.

Volume

Try to remember the audience at the back of the room want to hear what is being said. Try to project your voice without shouting.

Expression

Use expression to your advantage! The intonation and expression people use when speaking helps to make speeches even more entertaining. Think about the expression we use when reading an entertaining book.

Posture / Body Language

Try to stand comfortably, with your feet about shoulder width apart so you are balanced. You may use hand gestures to support what you are saying. Try to not fiddle because this is what the audience will start focusing on, instead of the interesting things you are saying.

Time

The time for the prepared speech should be **3 minutes**. Speeches that go for 30 seconds either side of 3 minutes are acceptable.

The time for the impromptu speech is **1 minute**. Speeches that go for 30 seconds either side of 1 minute are acceptable.



Students will choose one of the following topics for their Prepared Speech;

- *Watch your language*
- *What Australia Day means to me*
- *Multicultural Classrooms*
- *Refugees*
- *Games bring us together*
- *Kid power!*
- *Belonging*
- *Global Connections*
- *My Story*
- *Do you understand me?*
- *What makes an Australian?*

What the Adjudicators are looking for

The adjudicators will make their decision based on the manner, matter and method the contestants employ in presenting their speeches.

They will look for contestants to be confident and engaging speakers. The prepared speeches need to show an understanding of multiculturalism, and be well developed and interesting.

Contestants are also expected to demonstrate a balance of personal opinion and information in their speeches, as well as a balance of humour and sincerity.

Finally, adjudicators are required to give equal consideration to the prepared and impromptu speeches in making their decision.



Merimbula Public School



Please see your child's teacher if you have any questions.

Regards,

Tahlia Stafford
Stage 2 Assistant Principal



Education

PO Box 48
Merimbula NSW 2548
Ph: 64951266 FAX: 64953239
merimbula-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au



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