



Dear parents,

I hope you all had a lovely half term.

As mentioned in the weekly bulletin towards the end of last half term, we are delighted to have received confirmation that the Bedfordshire Speech and Drama Festival 2021 will be going ahead. However, things will look slightly different, as outlined below.

The plans are that the Festival will take place over 3-4 days between 8th-12th March. The number of performers will be limited within each class. There will only be solo performances, no duets or groups. There are no set themes or set pieces. Instead, performers have a free choice of piece provided it is within the given time limits. Classes will then be sorted according to age after the entry deadline of 31st December 2020. Each performer is allowed only one audience member to support them and mask/face coverings are to be worn at all times, except when performing.

Over the next couple of weeks, we will be discussing the various class options with the boys and will start to select which classes they would like to participate in as well as choosing their pieces. We would encourage all boys to enter two classes; we will discuss all of this in our lessons. We will provide the boys with plenty of options, but we do encourage the boys to have a look for themselves too. It is a fantastic opportunity to use the 'free range' of choice this year for the boys to explore texts that they are fond of, enjoy reading, or might not have considered before.

At this stage I am afraid we cannot offer any further details in terms of how the festival will run but will keep you up to date as and when we have any further information. We understand this a concerning time for everyone; however, we hope this offers some reassurance and insight as to how the festival and we, as a school will adhere to all the safety and guidelines relating the Coronavirus outbreak. Please note, this information may change due to the continued revision of Government Guidelines surrounding the virus, but we will inform you of any changes at the earliest opportunity.

Please see below, for your reference, the list of potential classes your child can enter.

Lastly, we would just like to say thank you for your ongoing support and the encouragement you offer the boys to their learning in Speech and Drama. It is especially reassuring during these uncertain times.

If you have any questions, then please do let one of us know.

Kind Regards,

Mrs.Turton, Mrs Iversen and Mr.Rawlings (the Speech and Drama team)



Available classes: Bedfordshire Festival Speech and Drama Festival
8-12TH March 2021 (Venue to be confirmed)

Verse Speaking Solo; entry fee £10

Own choice of a poem to be spoken aloud from memory
Time limit: 5 minutes

Prepared Reading Solo; entry fee £10

Own choice of a reading from any book
Time limit: 5 minutes

Dramatic Solo; entry fee £10

Own choice of a scene
Time limit: 5 minutes

Shakespeare Solo; entry fee £10

An extract from any Shakespeare play
Time limit: 5 minutes

Write and Speak a Poem; entry fee £10

The entrant is to write a poem on a subject of their own choice which they read aloud at the Festival.
Time limit: 5 minutes

Religious Text Reading Solo; entry fee £10

Own choice of passage from a religious text of the candidate's own choice to be read in English.
Time limit: 5 minutes