What is an Impromptu Speech?

In keeping with the Southern Sydney Schools Public Speaking Competition all Stage Finalists will be required to present an impromptu speech, which is written at school on finals day.

- The speech topic is only given at the time of writing.
- Students have 5 minutes to write about the topic.
- They will be given 1-2 minutes to read back over notes before presenting.
- Students will be judged on their Matter, Method and Manner as in the prepared speeches. To revise this you can download 'Public Speaking Tips' on YPS website under 'Extra-Curricular'.
- The impromptu speech is 50% of the final score.

As you can see, an impromptu speech is delivered without a lot of preparation time. So finalists are encouraged to develop their brainstorming and planning skills, and practise delivering their points with eye contact and above all... lots of confidence!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Impromptu Speech Times</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stage 1: Year 1 and 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stage 2: Year 3 and 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stage 3: Year 5 and 6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

How to prepare for Impromptu Speaking

"It’s much easier to be convincing if you care about your topic. Figure out what’s important to you about your message and speak from the heart.” Nicholas Boothman

Writing impromptus is easier if you have a formula. You could use one of these ideas to help you practise at home:

- **Mind Map**
  - Put topic in middle of page
  - Decide on your point of view
  - Give reasons and examples

- **Statement**
  - Agree or disagree with the statement
  - Give reasons and examples

- **P.R.E.P.**
  - Point: State an argument
  - Give Reasons
  - Give Examples
  - Next Point... and so on

Ask someone to set you a topic and time you, so you can practise presenting a speech without much preparation time.

Below are some sample impromptu topics to practise with.

Sample Topics Only - these will not be used on finals day

- 'When I Grow Up'
- 'Homework should be banned'
- 'Our Future'