May, 2011

**PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITIONS 2011**

**Legacy Junior Public Speaking Competition and *The Sydney Morning Herald* Plain English Speaking Competitions 2011**

Following on from our successful in-school competitions at the end of 2010, it was very pleasing to see so many students put their names down for these two State wide competitions this year.

**The Legacy Junior Public Speaking Awards** are open to students who are 14 years old or younger on 1 January 2011. In this competition students present both a 5 minute prepared speech and a 2 minute impromptu speech. The prepared speech can be on any subject chosen by the contestant.

***The Sydney Morning Herald* Plain English Speaking Awards** is open to students between 15 and 18 years of age (inclusive) on 1 January 2011. This competition requires an 8 minute prepared speech and a 3 minute impromptu speech. Once again, the speech may be on any subject and should be based on material from *The Sydney Morning Herald*.

For more information about these competitions, go to:

[www.artsunit.nsw.edu.au/programs/speaking-competitions/public-speaking](http://www.artsunit.nsw.edu.au/programs/speaking-competitions/public-speaking)

Because of the large number of students wishing to compete, we conducted our own internal competition early this term to select two representatives to send to the local area finals. Students presented both prepared and impromptu speeches. The speeches were very impressive and it was a great opportunity for the junior competitors to hear our seniors speak. The impromptu speech is particularly challenging as students are only given three minutes to prepare before presenting their speech. Quite a daunting task!

Choosing only two representatives for each competition was very difficult. Our representatives in ***The Sydney Morning Herald* Plain English Speaking Award** this year are Isabelle Capell-Hattam and Rhiannon Young; and our representatives for **The Legacy Junior Public Speaking** Awards are Georgia Nash and James Franklin.

The other students who tried out are to be commended. Every one of them are worthy representatives and I hope they’ll put their hands up again to participate next year. Those students are: Codie McGovern, James Jeffs, Thomas Capell-Hattam, Chelsea Rose, Danielle Polack and Cassandra Mourin.

Ms Deanne Ion

Public Speaking Coordinator