

10th September 2021

Re: Talk Time

Dear Parents and Carers,

You will have seen in your teacher's newsletter, that we are starting a new session in school called Talk Time. As part of our aim to nurture our children who are learning for life, we would like to support them in building the skills and confidence to talk to an audience.

I have led similar initiatives during my career and the development of skills to present and confidence increase in all children whatever their starting point.

The sessions will be adapted depending on the age of your child and this is set out below.

Early Years:

Early Years pupils as part of their transition to the school, are invited to bring a 'special box' to share items which are important to them. They are supported to explain the contents of the box to their class. This model of having an object or objects to talk about is continued through the year on a rota of children. The children in Early Years will then bring a speaking object to school to share once every half term.

Infants:

In Key Stage One, the children prepare a presentation at home to give to their class once a term. The presentation can be on any topic of interest to the speaker. This could be about a hobby, an interest, a pet; anything which they know a good amount about. The children should use visual resources (for example: objects, images, Google slides) to support their presentation. They should speak for about 5 minutes. The audience will ask the speaker questions and use the Talk Time feedback to give tickled pink and green for growth comments which is attached to this letter.

Juniors:

In Key Stage Two, the children will also give a presentation to their class once a term. However, they are required to prepare a talk at home related to their topic for the term. They should also use visual resources (for example: objects, images, Google slides) to support their presentation. They should speak for about 5 minutes. The audience will ask the speaker questions and use the Talk Time feedback to give tickled pink and green for growth comments which is below.

Talk Time Feedback Junior Class

							Comments <i>(Anything particularly good or areas for improvement)</i>
<u>Voice</u> Is the presentation easy to hear and of a good speed? Is their voice interesting to listen to with expression?							
<u>Interacting with the audience</u> Do they make eye contact with the audience? Do they make you want to listen?							
<u>Body Language</u> Are they confident? Does the way they move make the presentation better? Do they move too much? Do they need to move more?							
<u>Subject of the talk</u> Is the talk interesting to listen to? Do they tell you much information?							
<u>Language</u> Do they use vocabulary which is technical or key to the topic? Is their grammar correct?							
<u>Structure</u> Does the talk have a clear beginning, middle and end? Do they introduce their talk to you?							
<u>Use of resources</u> Do they give their audience something to look at? Something to watch? Something to pass round? Do they use ICT?							
<u>Personal organisation</u> Does the speaker know what they are saying? Have they organised their talk well? Have they got notes which they use to help them? Do they use these notes well? Do they know where their resources are?							

Feedback I've had in the past from parents has been a shared wish that they had a similar opportunity earlier on to have the confidence to speak in front of an audience in adulthood!

We look forward to hearing some exciting things!

Yours sincerely

Vicky Wittich

(Headteacher and English Subject Lead)