

June 18th 2010

The World Cup may be taking time to ignite, but we already have our own champions from the annual Year 7 Public speaking competition. After the battle in the bands, the three finalists fought for the Best Team, Chair, Main Speaker and Impromptu Speaker awards in B Hall in front of their peers on Monday.

The standard was the highest seen so far. There was evidence of thorough planning, animated delivery, good research and an effective balance between fact and opinion. Delivery was in some cases outstanding, with a range of sophisticated devices to engage the audience and make a point. Repetition, rhetorical questions and reiteration were used especially well and presentations were formal, lively and sophisticated. Many adult orators would be put to shame by our Year 7's confidence, range and flair!



Our Year 7 speakers with their certificates.

The Best Team of James Simpson, Edward Thomas and Ruaridh Mon-Williams was indeed, one of the best, if not the best, team we have seen: their use of humour, impressive research and content linked to their vocal strengths, confident delivery and team work all contributed to their outstanding success.

Chairpersons

All three speakers were poised and clear, encouraged their teammates and made good eye-contact with the audience. Two speeches were overly brief and rather too reliant on notes. More could have been said about each team member and the questions posed. James Simpson was awarded the prize because of his more extensive context-setting, humour and oratory pace, as well as his mature, formal manner.

Main speakers

All main speakers were logical, well researched and passionate - Edward particularly so, with his polished and impressive list of facts and exemplars. He used gestures and a range of pace and expression to persuade and engage his audience and approached the topic and speech with lively attack and energy. He also used humour to good effect to engage and challenge the audience. Frankie Hebbert's smile, poise and very good eye contact were effective features of her speech whilst Chloe Slater made especially good use of rhetorical questions, lively confident anecdotes and range of other devices. Her confidence and air of spontaneity were impressive, along with her minimal reliance on notes.

Impromptu

This most difficult form of public speaking presented few problems to the three speakers. Ruaridh Mon-Williams' humour, examples, pauses and clarity were all high quality features although he perhaps lost some focus on the question towards the end; Hasan Sadiq spoke with immense confidence and also used humour and his school experiences to good effect; Jed Morris was also too brief, but it was his clever and effective use of pauses, expression and dry wit that stole the show.

Our other champions this week were our Maths Challenge Winners. A total of 635,280 students enter these nationwide, and we had some outstanding results.

Samuel Hill, 8RN, received the award for Best in School' and he, along with Peter Crosby, 8AVC, Harry Maslen, 8JHB, Sam Hilton, 8HED, and Hannah Robinson, 8SP, were awarded Gold Certificates for their high scores in the event. A further 21 students received Silver certificates, and 56 students received Bronze.



Head-Line Online

Standards, however, have not been so high elsewhere and we ask your support in us meeting expectations with regards to uniform, sensible play on the play courts and litter.

Smarten Up!

The weather is warmer, and we are being sensible about blazers: they need to be worn to and from school, but can be kept off in lessons and around the site. But it is girls' skirts that our main concern. Despite repeated instructions for them to ensure they are decent, and of the required length, far too many girls are persisting in rolling them up. We are now treating any rolling up as defiance and issuing an automatic detention.

You may have seen in the press this week that the Headteacher at St Aidan's in Harrogate has banned skirts from September; Bingley Grammar School and Woodhey High School in Ramsbottom, Bury, have made similar stands:

A North Yorkshire school is ordering all its girls to wear trousers after claiming that the length of some pupils' skirts is "inappropriate".

St Aidan's Church of England School in Harrogate said children were "clearly wholly unaware of the signals they are giving out" by wearing short skirts.

In a letter to parents, head teacher Dennis Richards said all students must wear trousers from September 2010.

He said the school had received "many supportive messages" from parents.

Mr Richards said: "Parents who come in have been astonished to see the difference between the length their daughter may wear her skirt as she leaves home and what has happened by the time she is walking the corridors of the school."

He said the school had been "seriously concerned now, for a number of years, that girls as young as 12 or 13 years of age are placing themselves at risk by wearing skirts of a wholly inappropriate length".

(www.bbc.co.uk)

Girls have been barred from wearing skirts at a secondary school after concern about rising hemlines.

Female pupils at Bingley Grammar School have now been ordered to wear plain, black trousers to school from September 2009.

Only sixth form girls are exempt but the newly-drafted uniform policy will not tolerate inappropriate garments.

The school is thought to be the first secondary in the Bradford district to ban skirts.

(Telegraph and Argus)

SKIRTS are being banned by a high school because girls are wearing them too short.

Governors claim pupils have embarrassed their school by repeatedly flouting a rule that they should be worn no more than three inches above the knee.

From September 2007, skirts will be outlawed at Woodhey High School in Ramsbottom, near Bury.

Regulation black trousers will be the uniform dress code for all girls at the specialist mixed science college which has almost 1,000 pupils aged 11-16. Governors' chairwoman Luise Nandy told parents in a letter: "Skirts are worn far too short by the majority of girls who roll them up at the waist to appear fashionable.

"They are a source of endless battles between parents and children and staff and children about how they should be worn.

"There have been many comments from people in the community, including parents, who feel that such short skirts create an unfavourable image of the school."

Mrs Nandy added that the governors felt skirts were not appropriate for girls when they sit on the floor at assembly and during drama classes, saying it can be 'undignified and embarrassing' for staff and visitors.

(Manchester Evening News)

We may not favour such draconian measures, but going upstairs (and we have so many!) and sitting down are increasingly embarrassing, and we are therefore taking a hard line.

If you have a daughter, please support us in protecting her modesty and helping her avoid the challenge. Personal Best is all about choice and consequence: we need girls to make the right choice.

[Click here](#) to see the full school uniform requirements.



Head-Line Online

Play on!

The play court issue is to do with damage to cars and hurt students as a consequence of balls being kicked (deliberately and accidentally) out of the courts. Staff have to park on site; our main car park, because of space constraints, is adjacent to two courts. We are therefore instructing students to play with foam balls only, and these can be bought from Mr Jennings in the Key Stage 3 Pastoral hub or brought from home,

We want students to play, but play sensibly and safely.

Bin It!

Finally, Litter. We are happy (so far!) for students to make use of the picnic benches and other benching around the site, and either bring a packed lunch or buy a sandwich from the dining hall. We expect them, however, to be responsible about litter, and this week they have let themselves down. Again, we would like to work with you to reverse this and continue the picnicking choice. Bin it! Has to be our 'war cry'. We have a well kept site, and we all need to be proud of it, respect it and encourage others to respect it too.

Bienvenido!

Our Spanish Exchange students arrive at last, due originally just after Easter, the Iceland ash cloud delayed their visit until now. We look forward to welcoming them into school on Monday.

Enjoy a long weekend

Contrary to some popular opinion, we are not closing early on Wednesday when England kick off against Slovenia. Students can, however, look forward to a long weekend in two weeks' time - they are not in school on Friday 2nd and Monday 5th July.

Friday is a staff holiday; Monday is a staff joint Training Day at Harewood House with our RHIO Learning Partnership: Rosset, Harrogate Grammar, Ilkley Grammar School and Otley, Prince Henry's.

Parent Information Evening

Our third Parent Information Evening, is scheduled for Tuesday June 22nd, 6.30pm -7.30pm in B Hall. The evening is planned to cover Sex and Relationships and Drugs Education, giving you an insight into our Ilkley Grammar School learning programmes and allowing you time to ask questions and explore how we can work together in supporting our students.

During this session there will be a short presentation on the content of our curriculum plus an opportunity to sample a Key Stage Three lesson.

Lead by Tim Milburn, our Director of Personal Development, with our Parental Involvement Worker, Marian Sloan, and our police liaison team, we hope you will join us.

If you are interested in attending could you please reply via email to timothy.milburn@ilkleygs.ngfl.ac.uk

Sporting Successes this week:

Dean Miller (7CE) triumphed with his rugby team at Twickenham. They beat Cobham 5-0 in the Gullivers Plate Finals and came away with an impressive piece of Silverware.

The Junior Boys' Athletics team won the Regional B Final this week by 1 point. The Junior Girls came second to Bourne Grammar (Lincs) by 3 points.

The Year 7 Girls' and Boys' Athletics teams are the Bradford Junior Athletics Winners, which puts them through to the West Yorkshire Youth Games on Saturday June 26th.



Attendance Champions

Top of the form this week:

Year 7: 7JB with 97.8% attendance

Year 8: 8AVC with 98.2% attendance

Year 9: 9HD with 97.7% attendance

Year 10: 10EM with 94.9% attendance

Year 11: Study Leave



Calendar

- **21st June** Year 12 Study leave ends
- **21st June** Next Steps UCAS conference
- **22nd June** Year 9 Enterprise Day
- **22nd June** Parent Information Evening
- **23rd June** Year 9 Enterprise Day
- **24th June** Year 9 Enterprise Day
- **24th June** Year 13 HE Fayre
- **25th June** Year 12 Geography Fieldwork

Forward Planning

- **28th June** Biology Fieldwork
- **29th June** Biology Fieldwork
- **29th June** Year 10 Mock Interviews
- **30th June** Year 10 Mock Interviews
- **30th June** Year 9 Cross Curricular Specialist Schools Project (PM)
- **1st July** Year 6-7 Parents' Transition Meeting
- **1st and 2nd July** Post 16 Stratford Trip
- **2nd July** Training Day
- **4th July** PTA Car Boot Sale from 7.30am at school field
- **5th July** Training Day
- **5th and 6th July** Chemical Industries Cumbria
- **7th July** Biology Fieldwork
- **8th July** Year 7 Parents' Meeting
- **8th July** Year 9 Rounders
- **8th and 9th July** Chemical Industries Cumbria
- **9th July** Year 10 Rounders
- **12th July** Year 7 Public Speaking (am)
- **12th July** Year 12 Rotary Public Speaking (pm)
- **14th July** Summer Concert
- **18th July** PTA Car Boot Sale from 7.30am at school field
- **19th July** Super Tutor Group Activity (am)
- **20th July** Celebration Assembly
- **21st July** Celebration Day
- **22nd July** Celebration Assembly
- **22nd July** School Closes after Lunch

You can view the 2010 - 2011 Holiday dates [here](#)

Mailing List

If you would like to receive a copy of Headline On-Line via email please complete the [email address field here](#) and you will be added to our mailing list from next week.

Get in touch!

We would be interested in any feedback on these bulletins.

Also, if you would like further information on anything within them or, wish to request other information items, [then please get in touch](#).

Email: admin@ilkleygs.ngfl.ac.uk

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