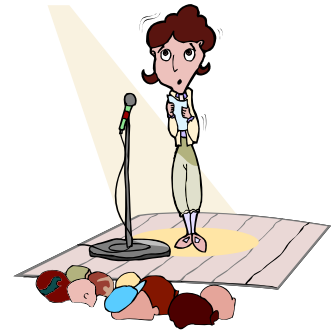


February 4, 2008



Aloha Parents of 4th Graders:

Our Speech festival is coming up on Wednesday, February 27, 2008. Students have been asked to select a poem or story of their choosing, which is appropriate for fourth grade. Some prefer to work with a partner or two, which is fine. They've been asked to start practicing at home and to ask someone to time them.

Some were timed in school already. One to four minutes is ideal; however, they are allowed a maximum of five minutes. They may practice with partners during recess if they wish, as well as on their own time. Please monitor your child at home to ensure that the memorization is progressing along in a timely manner.

Our Speech festival encourages appreciation for poetry and story-telling. It also gives them an opportunity to work on specific presentation skills such as volume, posture, eye contact, expression, pitch, clarity (speak clearly and enunciate words well), pauses, preparedness as well as listening.

These skills will be emphasized. Students will be asked to do at least two presentations in class and may be critiqued so they can see where they'll need to work on, before the scheduled day. Please feel free to come on Wednesday, February the 27th, to our classroom, to listen to their speeches. The time will be listed in the newsletter for that week, and your child will know the time.

**Mahalo,
*Mrs. L. Ewe***