

Dear Kindergarten families,

Every year at Our Savior, we hold a Speech festival to encourage study and appreciation for poetry and other writings, and to develop public speaking skills. Each child will choose a work to memorize and present to the class and parents. Selections should be made according to your child's preference of material and ability to memorize and speak in front of audiences. We will do several practice runs in the form of a more informal "poetry theatre" in class prior to the speech festival on **Wednesday, February 27th**, so the children will feel more comfortable. However, it would be beneficial to also work on memorization and presentation at home. You are invited to come and listen to the recitations in the classroom the morning of speech festival. More specific times will come home in the newsletter.

Below is a list of categories for you to choose from and guidelines to follow.

Storytelling / Choral reading

1. Max 5 minutes.
2. No scripts or costumes or props.
3. Moving around is permitted and encouraged.
4. May be done in a group of 5 or less.

Poetry

1. Max 5 minutes.
2. No scripts, costumes, or props.

Demonstration

1. Max 5 minutes.
2. Notes and props may be used.
3. No groups
4. Explanation needs to be a majority of the demonstration.

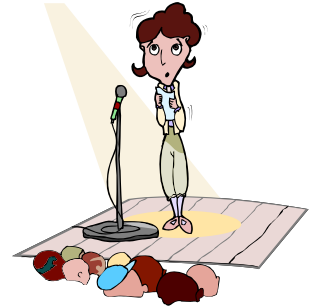
Please encourage your child, as we will in school, to create interest in their presentation by speaking fluently, clearly, and **loudly**, using inflection and changes in pace and volume, making eye contact, maintaining good posture, etc.

Selections need to be turned in by **Monday, January 28th**. Please send in a copy of your selection, including the author, by this date. The text of a picture book, speeches, poems, and Bible verses all are good selections. If your child would like to do a group choral reading, we can help them find a group and/or a piece. Since this is the first time many of you have done this, please don't hesitate to ask questions. We want this to be a fun and rewarding experience for your child. Please be creative in your selections and realistic in your expectations.

Sincerely,
Ms. Heather Hojnacki

Kindergarten Speech Festival

Guidelines and Procedures



Objective:

To provide students education, practice, and confidence in basic public speaking and listening skills.

Preparation in class:

1. Monthly oral book report presentations to practice speaking in front of peers.
2. Reading the Poem of the Week (Modeled reading of a new CK poem each week)
3. Evaluating poetry using a 6 +1 Traits rubric
4. Poetry Placemat project
5. Lessons (with role playing) on being an effective speaker: volume, projection, eye contact, pace, facial and body expression, and gestures
6. Lessons (with role playing) on being a good audience member: attentive listening (with eyes, ears, and heart), sitting skill, being quiet, not talking, body language, and eye contact

Procedure:

1. Students choose selection a month prior to Speech Festival. (May choose from poetry, storytelling, or demonstration) Parents send in copy of selection to practice in school.
2. Daily lessons on above skills and poetry theatre (a few students present each day with critique from class-too quiet, too loud, boring, too fast, etc.)
3. Speech Festival-parents are invited to classroom presentation. Each child receives an award, and presenters for school-wide showcase are on a volunteer basis.