

WELCOME TO TERM 4

Class days and times...

All classes resume this week. There is no need to re-enrol. Our enrolment process rolls over from term to term. Class days and times remain the same unless you have requested something otherwise. If you do need to change times or venues because of a schedule clash this term, please let us know. We have plenty of other class times and options that will be suitable.



Speech Exams / internal assessments...

Term 4 is all about speech exams and internal assessments. Every student that attends Giant Leaps is expected to prepare a programme of their work to be assessed. Students and families will have chosen to either do the formal NZ examination or the internal Giant Leaps examination. If for whatever reason you opt for your child NOT to do the formal NZ examination, they will prepare the same material as their peers and be internally assessed by their drama teacher at no cost to you. Your child's teacher will be helping to select and prepare the chosen exam material during class time. For best exam results, we do expect that additional work and preparation is done at home outside of class time. Exams provide a goal for each student to work towards as a concrete measure of their achievement. SPEECH NZ provides a very high standard and internationally recognised qualification. Upon successful completion of examinations students will receive a badge or certificate to mark their progress through the grades. If you have any questions or concerns about your child's upcoming NZ speech exam or Giant Leaps internal assessment - please talk with your teacher directly.



Term 4 teaching plan and content...

Over the next 10 weeks students will be refining all of the teaching objectives set out in the NZ speech syllabus. We will be specifically focusing on exam and assessment etiquette and preparations which includes the following:

1. Poem recital
2. Speech writing and delivery
3. Characterisation and monologues
4. Reading aloud with prepared and sight reading
5. Creative improvisations, role play, and mime

Speech and Drama exercise books...

It is more important than any other time that students bring their speech and drama books to class in Term 4. Speech and Drama books are our primary source of communication between classes and home. In your child's speech and drama book you will see their exam content and preparation feedback. You will also find information about important dates coming up including deadlines for exam entry fees. If your child needs a new or replacement speech and drama book please be sure to tell your child's teacher so we can get this arranged early in the start of term.

Did you know we have a specialist Structured Literacy Team?

It is well known that New Zealand children are falling behind with their reading, writing, and spelling skills. Literacy is embedded in our Speech and Drama classes but no child will be excluded from participation if they have difficulties with this area of their development. Our teachers will support any child with literacy challenges to access the speech NZ curriculum. We can request individual variations if required. We are very lucky at Giant Leaps that we also have a team of Speech Therapists and Structured Literacy practitioners. If you would like individual support for your child, then just talk to your teacher and they will put you in touch with someone from our specialist team. You can read more about our Literacy Boost® programme the benefits of structured literacy here:

Literacy Boost®

