

Speech Day Protocol for Awarding Cups, Prizes and Awards

Broomfield House School

May 2019

This protocol establishes our approach to awarding cups, prizes and awards at our annual Broomfield House School Speech Day event at the end of the Summer term.

This event serves two primary purposes:

- To celebrate achievement across the school, and particularly those of our leaving Year 6s;
- To foster a culture of ambition amongst all our pupils

To achieve our purposes for Speech Day we have a range of events during the Speech Day. These include:

- Performance(s) from our Chamber Choir to highlight musical and all round excellence in the school
- Speeches by our Year 6 prefects (head boy and girl, house captains, sports captains and others as determined by the Year 6 teacher in consultation with the SLT each year) which highlight the progress of pupils in the year and special events and achievements by groups and individual pupils
- Communal singing of the National Anthem as part of our British Values programme
- A speech by the winner of our Speech competition, usually a Year 6 pupil who has prepared for their ESB examination in this Summer term;
- The awarding of prizes by the head teacher.

Prizes fall into three broad categories (Junior prizes being awarded for Years 2-3, and senior prizes for Years 4-6): for achievement through competition or examination; Year 6 (a combination of at least two of ability, progress, and/or enthusiasm) prizes; school honour prizes. These three categories are explained below:

Prizes for competitive achievement through competition or examination are awarded based on pupils' verifiable performance in examinations in or out of school. These include: class awards for coming first or second cumulatively in the class Summer exams when the total marks achieved in maths, English and science are added together and compared throughout the whole class. Similarly, the internal handwriting, singing and speech competitions result in an award based on internal staff decisions about the quality of work by pupils. Furthermore, individual prizes in maths, English and science are awarded as Junior awards normally to the children in Years 3 (Junior) who came top in these individual examinations in the Summer term, but from academic year 18/19, the Senior awards in these areas will become part of the Year 6 cups awarded (see below) and not necessarily go to children who come top in these examinations but may denote special ability, progress or enthusiasm for this subject. There is some staff discretion allowed here for unusual circumstances. Music awards are also made based on examination results in external grades. A Junior award would be given only if the potential prize holder has achieved a minimum of grade 1; and a Senior award is given to a potential prize winner who has achieved a minimum of grade 3. If more than one child has achieved the highest grade in their category, then the child with the highest mark or mark level (pass/merit/distinction) will normally be awarded the prize. These prizes are decided on by the SLT and teaching staff.

Year 6 prizes (31 in total) are given to Year 6 children for their special ability, progress or enthusiasm (at least two of these for an award to be made) in an area, and not necessarily for their competitive achievement in a specific school event or examination (while the expectation is that the pupil will have a real and demonstrable strength in this area, or will have made pleasing effort and/or progress showing enthusiasm and commitment). These are awarded in the Speech Day event after the achievement awards. Each year 6 pupil is introduced by the head teacher and described in terms of their all-round attributes in order to highlight their range of abilities and achievements during their BHS career. Within this special mention of why they are being awarded whichever of these cup(s) has been decided on as a symbol of their overall achievement in the school. These awards span the full range of school life from music, classroom academic subjects, activities and arts/crafts and sport. These prizes are decided on by the SLT and teaching staff.

School Honour prizes are presented to children in any year group but mainly in Year 6, and at the end of the prize giving section of Speech Day. These denote particular characteristics which we value at Broomfield and which are embodied in our school motto (“Lo here is fellowship”), school rules, pupils’ code, & our vision and ethos – courtesy (and kindness), endeavour (trying our best/ and/or resilience), fellowship (helping and looking out for others in our school), leadership (through serving the needs of the school community), and honour (the combination of excellence in all these traits and potentially more, including if appropriate their academic achievements). These cups are given in addition to the Year 6 and competitive achievement awards and are in the sole discretion of the head teacher with the support as required of the SLT.

The result of this approach is that the children understand that competitive achievement is regarded and recognised through the success of winning prizes; and that all our Year 6 leaving pupils receive a symbol of appreciation from the school and have their attributes and qualities highlighted as valued leaving members of the school community; and the school’s main values of kindness, trying our best, helping others, the desire of excellence alongside the honour of our fellowship as a school community are highlighted as important and special in the life of the school and celebrated in this event.

Norton York

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