



Friday, 23rd January 2026

Dear Parents,

Re: Level 1 Award in Speech (Grade 1) Examination

The children are very excited about their upcoming English Speaking Board (ESB) examination. This qualification aims to promote clear, confident and effective interpersonal and communication skills. The examination will take place in school on **Thursday, 12th March**. Following the examination, each child will receive a written report outlining their achievements and band of attainment.

The ESB examination consists of four sections:

- **Section 1:** The children will give a four-minute talk about something they are passionate about. This could be a hobby, an outdoor pursuit, a sport they play or follow, a personal achievement (such as a qualification, badge or prize), or a contemporary issue (such as conservation, recycling or space exploration). The possibilities are endless!
- **Section 2:** Children will recite a poem from memory for up to two minutes. They must introduce the poem and explain what it means to them.
- **Section 3:** Children will prepare 12–15 pages of dialogue from a book, from which the assessor will choose an extract to read aloud. They must introduce the book and explain what appeals to them about it.
- **Section 4:** Children will listen and respond to questions from the group and the assessor at any time.

How You Can Help:

- Talk with your child about their poem choice. Ask them what they like about it, why they chose it, whether it reminds them of anything, and which line is their favourite.
- Discuss their book choice. What is happening in the section they've chosen? Who is their favourite character and why?
- Encourage your child to read their poem and book aloud to build confidence when reciting.
- Help them create their ESB board. Ideally, it should be A2 in size and include pictures with labels.

This will be a fun and rewarding experience for your child. I will be working closely with the children during Enrichment this half term to ensure they are well prepared for their ESB examination. We will begin final preparations in school during the week beginning **Monday, 23rd February 2026**. Please ensure that your child brings their ESB board, book and poem to school on **Monday, 23rd February 2026**.

A charge of £37.50 will be added to your Summer Term fee invoice to cover the cost of the examination.

Should you have any additional questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kindest regards,

Ms Drislane
Acting Head of English