

Summer Term 1 Spelling Bee Competition



Mrs Stewardson with winner, Shona Colleran

Each half-term we run the Spelling Bee Competition, open to students from Years 7 to 10. This term 12 students participated, each chosen to represent their form, along with a group of supporting form spectators. Congratulations to all pupils who took part, and well done to our winner, Shona Colleran!

Admittedly, each half-term the Spelling Bee becomes more challenging, with four rounds in total. We begin with Round 1 words, such as: 'Divine' and 'Routine', eventually moving to Round 4 words, such as: 'Chameleon' and 'Effervescent.' Well we did warn you, they're challenging vocabulary choices, but they're also proving to be great fun, as those who participate and spectate know.

Reasons we encourage our pupils to join our half-termly Spelling Bee Competition

Encouraging our pupils to enter the half-termly Spelling Bee Competition results in many benefits, as the competition not only provides a valuable educational experience for those involved, but also engages them in healthy competition, leading to a well-balanced, educational/fun activity. We do not merely involve rote learning of words, rather, the competition is a comprehensive learning process allowing all to learn definitions, pronunciation and roots of words. We believe this is why so many are keen to take part. (Although the prizes to be won, also seem to motivate interest!)

All competitors compete in a perfect environment with spectators and staff members (including our Headmistress) who are so supportive, and very professional, thus proving that brain activity for all is enhanced, whether you're sat looking *at* the audience, or sat looking *at* the competitors! Everyone benefits in varying ways – from learning grammar, enhancing vocabulary, building greater knowledge and embedding friendly rivalry, which stimulates that competitive spirit.

Our next competition will be **Summer Term 2, Thursday, 5th July, 2018**. Hope to see you there!

Funny moment from competition:

Pronouncer: 'Your word is: 'FRUSTRATING.'

Pupil Competitor: 'Oh, I'm so sorry, do you want me to come over and help you with it?'

Pronouncer: 'DOH!'