



## DEBATING IN JUNIOR SCHOOL

**Once again, we entered both a Year 5 and Year 6 team in the IPSHA Debating Competition.** This competition allows us to compete against other independent schools in our area. Both teams performed admirably, showcasing their growing skills and enthusiasm for debating, with some exciting victories along the way.

For our Year 5 team, it was their first time participating in the competition. Despite their inexperience, they quickly picked up essential debating skills and surprised everyone by winning a few debates, even against some experienced Year 6 teams! Both teams tackled complex topics such as "That we should have Australian native animals as pets," "That we should ban contact sports," and "That we should stop selling bottled water." This gave them so much to think about and argue.



Meanwhile, the Year 6 students built on their existing knowledge, honing their debating abilities in class time. With the guidance of their teachers, they have been engaging in Friday mini debates, filling the classrooms with lively arguments and impressive rebuttals. It's been fantastic to witness their growth and passion for debating.

As the debating season draws to a close, excitement is building for the Year 6 Debating Grand Final, which will take place on Friday, 27th of September. We can't wait to see these talented students showcase everything they've learned throughout their lessons. Good luck to all involved!

**Mr David Stroud**

*Year 6 Teacher/Junior School Debating Coach*