

# GOZONE Debating Information 2011

## St Hilda's Year 5 & 6

Welcome to a challenging, exciting year of Debating

### Proposed Class Dates:

Term 1 Term 1 - Wed. 3:30-4:30 Feb 9, 16, 23, Mar 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Apr. 6 (9 Sessions)

Term 2 Term 2 - Wed. 3:30-4:30 May 18, 25 June 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Jul 6 (8 sessions)

Term 3 Wed 3:30-4:30 Aug 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Sept 7, 14, 21 (8 sessions)

Term 4 Term 4 - Wed 3:30-4:30 Oct 26 Nov 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 ( 6 sessions)

### For simplicity, the fees for the year have been averaged into a Term rate of \$95

We have an extra session in Term 1 and there are extra costs for the Grand Final in Term 4

There has been a slight increase in fees to allow for an assistant to support us in each session.

### **GOZONE Debating - Action learning with teamwork**

- Debating is an art as well as a skill. We encourage the use of creativity as well as logic.
- Each person debates in their own way, using their personality and talents.
- Everyone needs to understand the topic in order to argue about it.
- Debating is about teamwork—everyone needs to listen and work with others .
- Questioning and challenging the other team with rebuttal is a key skill (They prepare for this)
- Students learn a lot by discussing their topic with parents and teachers. They don't have the life experience at this age to understand the whole context by themselves.
- Students learn more by writing their debate themselves. Their confidence will grow as well.
- Debating is a complex skill, please help students celebrate what they have achieved at each step. We have found students learn more by focusing on 1 or 2 improvements at a time.

### Coach(s): Lesli Grant & Helene Fisher

#### **Term 1 In-house Debate. Term 2-4 - Inter-school debates** (Held in Weeks 8-10)

For Inter-school debates, teams from 2 or more groups/schools come together . We have two or more rooms of Debating at the same time. Our affirmative teams are in one room, our negative teams are in another. At the end of the evening, the adjudicator gives brief feedback and awards the Rise and Shine Certificates The evening lasts for a couple of hours. Students are learning from watching other students debate as well.

#### **Rise and Shine Level Certificates replace Winner and Runner-Up Awards**

Each team is awarded a Bronze, Silver, Gold or Platinum Certificate to reflect the level of debating skill their team has shown in their debate. For primary students, this rewards their effort and assists motivation and learning. It is a joy to see how confident they become.

Medallions and Certificates are awarded in Term 4. Each school/group has their name engraved on a perpetual trophy showing their placement in the GOZONE Debating Competition for that year.

You can find more information on the website [www.debating.net.au](http://www.debating.net.au). Note the DVD for sale. Current students can purchase a copy for 1/2 price.

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### **GOZONE Debating**

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