

# Public Speaking and Debating

The Public Speaking and Debating season has commenced for the year, with Meriden students taking the stage across a range of competitions.

## Public Speaking Competitions

At the end of Term 1, six Meriden students participated in the Rostrum Voice of Youth Local Final held at Santa Sabina. Year 10 students Alice Feng, Mandy Shi and Rochelle Tao competed in the Senior section, while Year 9 students Dharmashri Desai and Frances Errington, along with Year 8 student Sophia Le, competed in the Junior section.



The girls spoke on a diverse range of important social issues, from cultural appropriation in popular culture to gender equality. Their ability to weave together contemporary media, personal anecdotes and clear takeaway messages impressed adjudicators and audiences alike.

Congratulations to Rochelle Tao, Year 10 (left) and Alice Feng, Year 10 (middle) who were awarded runner-up in their finals, and to Frances Errington, Year 9 (right), who won her section. Frances will compete in the Regional Final in Term 2.

Best wishes are also extended to Mia Wu (Year 10) and Anna Satchithanathan (Year 11), who will compete in the Plain English-Speaking Competition early in Term 2. Both students enjoyed significant success in public speaking last year, with Anna named a State Finalist in the Plain English-Speaking Competition and Mia a State Finalist in the Junior Secondary Speaking Competition.

## IGSA Archdale Debating Competition

The debating season also begins in Term 2 with the commencement of the IGSA Archdale Debating Competition. Congratulations to the following students who have been selected for Archdale teams this year:

**7A** Mikaela Chenlu  
Annika Kumar  
Brionne Ng  
Mia Shou  
Katie Yi

**7B** Mikayla Chen  
Shaivi Gabani  
Angela Tao  
Emma Tao  
Chelsea Yang

**8A** Andrea Jin  
Catherine Kaleel  
Zoe Tu  
Annabelle Yu  
Julia Yun

**8B** Aleisha Chan  
Skylar Chen  
Eleanor Green  
Eano Gu  
Rachel Jun  
Lorena Tram

<b>Year 9</b>	Annie Fang Elvia Lin Maya Vojvodic Jessie Xu Cynthia Yu	<b>Juniors</b>	Isabella He Tracy Hu Aria Kochhar Kate Le Vicky Qian
<b>Year 10</b>	Amanda Akkara Alice Feng Mandy Shi Noemi Snelling Mia Wu Ariana Zhang	<b>Seniors</b>	Tina Dong Annie Li Ashley Shu Yumi Takusagawa Rochelle Tao Jasmine Yang

Last year, Meriden finished as runners-up in the Archdale Shield, and we wish all teams the very best for another exciting season ahead.

***Mrs Charlotte Yates***  
**Coordinator of Learning Link – Speech**  
**Debating Coordinator**