Teaching speaking and listening takes many forms in our classroom.
We spend a lot of our day discussing, exploring, sharing ideas, asking questions and engaging in and with oral language. One of our speaking activities is formal speaking topics. This involves children preparing a conversation topic at home and presenting it to their peers as a whole class or in small groups. When preparing for these talks children should write dot points or draw pictures to prompt their speaking. Try to avoid writing a 'script' to be read. The purpose of speaking topics is to provide children with an opportunity to speak confidently with their peers about a topic they are familiar with. It is a speaking, not reading, activity.

The best way to prepare for speaking topics is:

1. Have a good, quality conversation with your child about the topic. Ask them lots of questions to prompt their thinking.

2. Have your child record the main points of the conversation in their speaking book using either dot points or pictures.

3. Revisit the conversation a couple of times. Encourage them to be familiar with what they want to share with their group.

4. Have them practise their speaking at home in front of their family. Give them encouragement and help build confidence.

The children should aim to speak for 2-3 minutes. The other children will then have an opportunity to ask some questions and make some comments.

Please do not be limited by the prompting questions printed on the topic sheet. These are only meant to guide the conversation and we are keen for children to interpret each topic in a way that most interests them.

Please check the roster carefully (it can be a bit confusing being fortnightly)
Weeks 2 & 3  **All About Me!**  (My life, my family, things
I like/don’t like, my home, my pets, me & my friends, my favourite
things .... The options are endless)

**Weeks 4 & 5  I Love Summer.**  Divide your page into quarters and
draw 4 pictures of things you love about summer. You can then tell us what you
have drawn and why you like those things.

**Weeks 6 & 7   Amazing Animals.**  Choose an animal that interests you.
Find out some interesting facts about that animal to tell the class. Don’t forget to
tell us where the animal lives, what it needs to survive and why you are interested
in it.

**Weeks 8 & 9   Something I made.**  (Maybe you used .....lego, blocks,
cartons, paper, paint, material, food, wood .. tell us what you used, how you made it,
who helped you, why did you make it... bring the item or a photo)

**Weeks 10 & 11   Easter**  (How does your family celebrate
Easter?  What do you enjoy about Easter?  Perhaps you could bring in an
Easter symbol and explain it to us.)

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<tr>
<td><strong>Even</strong>&lt;br&gt;Weeks 2,4,6,8,10</td>
<td>Bridgett&lt;br&gt;Cooper</td>
<td>Alice M&lt;br&gt;Dru&lt;br&gt;Tess</td>
<td>Alice O&lt;br&gt;George</td>
<td>Bethany&lt;br&gt;Tarq</td>
<td>Charlotte&lt;br&gt;Will M</td>
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<td><strong>Odd</strong>&lt;br&gt;Weeks 3,5,7,9,11</td>
<td>Dakoda&lt;br&gt;Daniel</td>
<td>Ella&lt;br&gt;Eddie</td>
<td>Erin&lt;br&gt;Ravi</td>
<td>Isla&lt;br&gt;Will N</td>
<td>Macey&lt;br&gt;Maddie</td>
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Remember to be creative with these topics – make
them as interesting and individual as you like!