

High School & Sixth Form

Lower 5 STRIVE club commences



At the beginning of this year, Mr Reeves and I began work on introducing our first super curricular event. In our new role as Super-Curriculum coordinators, we are keen to ensure that our pupils not only develop in their academic subjects but also have the chance to develop the life skills that will support in areas such as public speaking, critical evaluation, competent research skills and essay writing.

We are calling this program the STRIVE program, encompassing the skills and attributes we hope to develop - Success, Talents, Resilience, Independence, Volunteering and Elevation.

We began our club by gathering in the Garden Room for a working lunch over hotdogs and chips, whilst introducing them to a game which was designed to push them out of their comfort zones. After modelling the game 'Just a minute', each pupil had one minute to present an argument for or against a topic that was presented in front of them. Topics ranged from - 'should private schools be abolished', 'should only Christians celebrate Christmas' and 'can animals be naughty'. They were divided into two teams but each member of the club engaged in one minute of talking about a completely unfamiliar topic and should they deviate, hesitate or repeat parts of their argument they were challenged by the opposite team and they lost a point.

We were extremely impressed by their efforts and they coped far better with this first intense experience than we could ever imagine. This week in STRIVE we are watching examples of TED talks to give them an idea of the end point of their achievement and to get them thinking about areas they might be interested in to develop their own TED talk. We were both exceptionally impressed by the start of this club and we really enjoyed their company.

Well done Lower 5.

Dr Sara Newton & Mr Daniel Reeves