

MAKING THE NEWS COMPETITION 2005

Making the News (MTN) is a free online publishing system for education, enabling news to be published, broadcast and accessed over the World Wide Web. MTN is running a national competition, supported by the DfES, with prizes for entrants and their schools, in the Autumn Term, 2005. It is open to primary and secondary schools from the 10 RBC's.

The MTN Competition 2005 is intended to demonstrate how MTN and ICT can enhance and extend creative learning experiences and practice in schools. The competition is open to individual students, or small groups of students, to a maximum of five people per team, representing primary and secondary schools in the UK. Only one student's, or one team's, entry per school, per category, is permitted.

Competition entrants can use a variety of media:

News stories (text and images)
Interviews (text, audio, video)
Flash blogging (a means of recording video, accessed via MTN)
Animation
Music

Entrants will be categorised by age:

Age 10 and under
Age 11-14
Age 15 and above

There are ten competition categories:

Best local news story
Best feature on any topic
Best personal story
Best food report
Best field trip
Best environmental story
Best overseas report
Best ICT story
Best music report
Best education story

Key dates:

Competition registration – November 2005
Competition entries – 5th-16th December 2005
Competition Judging – w/b 19th December 2005
Competition Awards – 11th January 2006

The MTN competition will be promoted via the RBCs, local and national media.

Judging panel:

The judging panel will comprise representatives from MTN, the RBC's and competition partner sponsors. Judging criteria includes:

*News stories should be balanced and answer the questions 'what, who, why, where, when and how'.

*Entries should show evidence of sound investigation and research.

*Entries should be entirely the work of the person or team registered in the competition.

*All entries must display a high standard of spelling and punctuation.

*Copyright rules must be followed.

Prizes:

Certificates will be awarded at BETT. There will be prizes for Category winners and their schools. Where appropriate travel expenses will be paid for one student and accompanying adult to attend the competition awards ceremony.

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