

Great Western Railway has Revealed the Winners of its Competition to Unearth Potential Train Managers of the Future.

Gloucester schoolboy Herbie Simpson, 10, Ben Badcock, 11, from Southampton, and nine-year-old Tristan Fielding, from Littlehampton, won through from the judges' shortlist.



Winners, left to right, Tristan Fielding, Herbie Simpson and Ben Badcock

Herbie donned an old-fashioned kipper tie and used a 1970s-style telephone to perfectly recite a journey from Gloucester to Weymouth via Bristol Temple Meads. BBC South West radio presenter David Sheppard, who featured on the panel of judges, praised Herbie for a “friendly and spirited” announcement with “faultless information”.

Ben wore his best train manager uniform to announce a journey from Bristol Temple Meads to Portsmouth Harbour. He was praised for showing “a great mastery of his material” and having “a great demeanour as a train manager”.

Tristan perfectly recited a GWR journey from London Paddington to Hereford. He was praised for being “smart and fully on-brand”, and “while he took the job seriously, he certainly enjoyed it too”.

All three receive a special #GWREnterTrainment pack including a set of GWR Top Trumps, a jigsaw and an adventure pack.

David, the voice behind some of GWR’s station safety messages including ‘Mind the gap’ when boarding and leaving a train, said: “For the judges and I, it has been a timely reminder that in a moment in our lives where there’s so much competition for the attention of young people, they are

still inspired by the things they see and hear around them and what can be more inspiring than a trip out on the train? So, to all our entrants, and to all the grown-up train managers who have inspired them to speak so clearly and with such authority, a great, big thank-you.”