

THE POETRY RECITATION COMPETITION 2017

AIM: To enjoy poetry and build confidence in performing to an audience.

When is the competition?

- You will have opportunities to perform your poem in English lessons and your teacher will offer tips and advice.
- The Y4 semi-final will be on Wednesday 7th June in the Atrium.
- The grand final is on Friday 9th June in the EMH.

How long does my poem need to be?

- Year 4 boys should learn and recite a poem of at least **12** lines. There is no maximum length.

What poem should I choose?

- Boys need to find their own poem to recite. The theme for Year 4 is Animals, so please choose any poem that is to do with animals.
- If you have learned a poem for speech and drama lessons, please **DO NOT** use this poem for the competition. It is important that you start from the same point as the other boys in your class.

How can I learn a poem?

- Break your poem down into small sections and learn it bit by bit.
- Record yourself reading your poem and learn by listening.
- Practise as much as you can in front of anyone who will listen to you!

What makes a good poetry performance?

A successful poetry recital will:

- Reveal an excellent **KNOWLEDGE** and **UNDERSTANDING** of the poem's language and content
- Be **AUDIBLE** and **CLEAR** throughout the delivery
- Make use of **VOCAL TECHNIQUES** like volume, pace, pitch, pause and emphasis to engage the audience
- Show a strong sense of the **RHYTHM** of the poem
- Make use of **BODY LANGUAGE** and **GESTURE** to enhance* the delivery (including eye contact to involve your listener)

*It is important to realise that this is a RECITAL rather than a poetry performance, so actions should enhance rather than dominate the performance.

Will I get a grade?

Your class teacher will award you one of the following:

- Outstanding (4 house points)
- Very good (3 house points)
- Good (2 house points)
- Satisfactory (1 house point)
- Unsatisfactory (0 house points)

The very best of luck!