

THE YEAR 3 POETRY RECITATION COMPETITION 2020

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

What is the poetry recitation competition?

This event is held every year and involves every boy in Years 3&4. Each pupil learns and performs a poem of his choice in class. The best from the class are selected for a grand final.

When is the competition?

- You will firstly choose a poem before Friday 15th May (agreed with your teacher).
- Please send your teacher a copy of your poem.
- You can start to learn your poem during your IEA time.
- You will have opportunities to perform your poem in English lessons before half term and your teacher will offer tips and advice.
- The class semi-final will be in the first week after half term
- The grand final will be announced when we know more about what we are doing after Half Term.

How long does my poem need to be?

- Year 3 boys should learn and recite a poem of at least **12** lines. There is no maximum length.

What poem should I choose?

- There is no theme, so you can choose a poem on any topic. This should be a poem written by a published author, NOT by you.
- 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.
- Funny poems or poems that tell a story are often ones that people enjoy performing and watching.

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!

Nicki Carrington

Head of Year 3