



Wednesday, 20th December 2017

Dear Pupils,

The Key Stage 2 Verse Speaking Competition

What is it?

This is a competition that allows every pupil in the KS2 to showcase their amazing talents when reading a brilliant poem of their choice. It is all about bringing poems to life, celebrating how good they sound out loud and performing them with fabulous expression.

What do I need to know?

- 1) Everyone in KS2 will now choose and learn a poem of their choice off by heart. It can be funny, happy, sad; in fact, it can be about any topic you like. If you want to write your own poem then great, go ahead!
- 2) The poem must be at least 6 lines long, there is no maximum length.
- 3) After the holidays, each pupil will perform the poem to the rest of their class on **Thursday, 4th January** or **Friday, 5th January**.
- 4) Your teacher and classmates will judge the performances, and the top five highest scoring pupils will go through to the **Verse Speaking Final on Wednesday, 10th January**.
- 5) At the final, all of the teachers in KS2 will judge the performances and a winner for each year group will be selected. There will also be an overall winner who can come from any year group.
- 6) You need to choose your poem now, so that you can learn it over the holidays.

Where do I find my poem?

Books

You can have a look in your local library, in the school library, or your local bookshop. It can often be easier to browse through a book than to spend time searching online. Look for books like 'The Works', which contain a range of poems by different authors, or alternatively have a look for specific authors. The following authors are a good place to start: Roger McGough, Alan Ahlberg, Roald Dahl, Benjamin Zephaniah and Michael Rosen.

Online

Try the websites below. Many of them have audio or video by the authors to help you hear what the poems sound like when read out loud.

www.childrenspoetryarchive.org

www.fizzyfunnyfuzzy.com

www.poetry4kids.com/poems

www.poetryguy.com

Finally, make sure you practise as often as possible. Good luck and have fun reading!

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'H Singleton'.

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