



Monday 28th September

Dear Parents / Carers and Children,

HJS's Annual Poetry Competition

'Vision – See It Like a Poet'

This term we are once again holding our annual Poetry Competition, linked to National Poetry Day on Thursday 1st October. This year, the theme will be: **Vision – See It Like a Poet**. Each child in the school will be creating a poem on National Poetry Day and will be able to perform this poem to their class for the competition or perform a different poem of their choice. Each class will then vote on which poem they would like to represent their class in the year group semi-final. Class teachers will decide when the class and year group rounds will be taking place and they will let you know in advance. The winner of each year group semi-final will progress to the whole school grand final on **Monday 19th October**, where the winners from Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 will compete to be crowned 'Hampton Junior School's Poetry Competition Champion'. Please note, the year group rounds and the final will be recorded and held virtually.

Participation in the Poetry Competition is compulsory. We would love you to perform your own poem however, if you would prefer, you can find and perform a poem written by another author. Your poem can take a variety of formats, not limited to an acrostic, a ballad, a limerick or a free verse poem. Your poem should take no more than two minutes to perform. You can perform your poem individually, or you can work in a pair with someone else. If you feel it will enhance the meaning of your poem, you can incorporate props or a visual aid (e.g. a poster of your acrostic poem) into your performance. However, **no electronic aids**, such as Powerpoint presentations, will be allowed. You can have a copy of your poem, or cue cards, to read from if you choose.

Your poem will be judged on a range of criteria:

- How closely it links to the theme of Vision – See It Like a Poet
- How well you speak: are you speaking loudly and clearly, without rushing or mumbling?
- How well you engage with the audience: are you making eye contact and drawing the audience into your performance?
- Has your poem been performed within the two minute time limit?

It is also a good idea to practise your performance beforehand, firstly by yourself, then either in front of family members or a video camera!

If you have any questions regarding the poetry competition, then please speak to Miss Delaney or your class teacher.

Miss G Delaney
English Subject Leader