



CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Executive Head Teacher: Gerida Montague MA
School Senior Lead: Eleanor Prince BA PGCE

December 2023

Dear Parents

Poetry By Heart Competition – KS2



In the Spring Term, our pupils will be taking part in a national competition - "Poetry By Heart!"

In the third week of the term (w/c 15th January) each class in Key Stage 2 will select a poem from pre-1914 and post-1914 to learn by heart. They will have opportunity to learn and practise this poem in class, but we would appreciate your support and help with learning the chosen poems at home too!

At the end of the week, pupils will perform their poems to each other, and up to eight children from each year group will be selected to record their poems individually for entry into the competition. These pupils will be filmed and their video entry securely sent online to be shared with the judging panel at Poetry By Heart. We will also display their entry on the website.

Each class will also record their poem as a group, all together, for the 'freestyle' category.

If you DO NOT consent to your child being filmed for the competition – please let the school office know prior to 15th January. Those without external photograph permission will also be opted out by default – please let the office know if you wish to update your preferences for this event. Children will still need to learn their poem for the class performance at the end of term, as part of our oracy work and poetry work as per the National Curriculum.

Each class will then perform their poem to parents towards the end of the Spring Term. You can find details of each class's performance below.

Class	Location	Time
Year 3+4	School Hall Tuesday 23 rd January	2:45-3:15pm
Year 5+6	Sports Hall Thursday 25 th January	2:45-3:15pm

There will be an element of practising at home required, alongside rehearsing in school. Finalists in the competition will have the opportunity to perform at the Globe Theatre in London – last year, one of our partnership school pupils was awarded “Best in County!” Can we go one further this year and reach the final?

You can find out more about the competition here: <https://www.poetrybyheart.org.uk/>

We hope that your child will enjoy this opportunity.

Thank you for your support,



Gerida Montague
Executive Headteacher