



Tuesday 19th October 2021

Calling all budding poets and performers! We are excited to announce that we will be celebrating poems at Parkdale by having a **Poetry Week** on **Monday the 1st – Friday 5th November**.

To help us enjoy the fantastic range of poems out there, we would like **every child to learn a poem** during the **October half-term holiday**. Your choice of poem is entirely up to you; it could be silly or serious, rhyming or non-rhyming, topic related, seasonal, a classic poem...on whatever subject you choose. All you need to do is find one that you like and practise it, so that you can perform it (without the words) to the class during Poetry Week.

Top Tips to learn a poem:

- ✓ The best way to learn a poem is little and often, 1 line, then 1 verse at a time
- ✓ Some poems have repeated lines which make it easier
- ✓ Speak slowly – don't rush through - add dramatic pauses
- ✓ Use expression and emphasise important words
- ✓ Vary volume for effect
- ✓ Write your poem out and mark which words to say louder or slower
- ✓ Look at your audience as much as possible
- ✓ Practise to an audience at home before you do it to the class
- ✓ Watch a real poet reciting a poem to see how to do it
- ✓ Always tell your audience the name of the poem and who it is by at the start



A good website is www.childrenspoetryarchive.org where you can search for age-related poems and hear poets reciting their own work. Also, www.poetrybyheart.org.uk/poetry-for-children/ has lots of child-friendly choices too. We suggest a poem between 6 and 12 lines long as a rough guide. Poems can be recited in any language.

Class teachers will support where necessary, for anyone who may need a little helping hand. We can't wait to enjoy the recitals!

The KS2 Team



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Parkdale Primary Community



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