4th June 2025

**Poetry Recital Competition Invitation**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are delighted to invite your child to take part in our upcoming Countess Gytha Poetry Recital Competition! This exciting event celebrates a love of language, performance, and expression, and ties in beautifully with our ongoing promotion of oracy across the school.

The competition will be held in three age categories:

* Reception, Year 1 and Year 2
* Year 3 and Year 4
* Year 5 and Year 6

Children who wish to enter should choose one poem from a list of selected poems for their age group and learn it off by heart. While we encourage pupils to memorise their poem, they may use a copy as a prompt if needed. Please note that props are not allowed during performances.

If your child would like to take part, they should express their interest to myself or their class teacher, who will provide them with the list of poems. The list will also be available on the school website, in the Gallery section.

Those who wish to enter the competition will need to practise their selected poem independently. Entrants should think carefully about how to use tone, pace, volume, expression, and actions to bring their performance to life.

We will hold auditions in school on Friday 20th June at 12.30 – 1.30pm, and one child from each age category will be selected to represent their group in the end-of-year Talent Show. This is a wonderful opportunity to develop confidence and performance skills, and we hope your child will be inspired to take part.

Warm regards,
Toby Gallagher