

RECITE NOW



About the Competition



What is it?

Recite Now is an initiative by DLR Libraries in cooperation with DLR Arts Office and *DLR Poetry Now*, Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown's annual poetry festival, in consultation with *Poetry Ireland*. The aim of the competition is to encourage primary school children to engage with poetry and recitation, and to introduce a fun new element to *DLR Poetry Now*.

Unique
New
York



We hope that this project will introduce young people to the joy of learning and reciting poetry. It's not about giving perfect performances, we want participants to enjoy the experience, while bringing their own personalities and creative energy to their recitals.

Who can enter?

Participants are invited from primary schools located in the county of Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown. The competition has 2 categories, Cat. 1 (Senior) for 5th and 6th classes & Cat. 2 (Junior) for 3rd and 4th classes.

When and where does it take place?

The heats will take place in January 2010 and the semi-final in February 2010 in DLR Libraries. The final will take place in March 2010 in the Pavilion Theatre as part of the *DLR Poetry Now* festival.

DLR Poetry Now runs from 25th to 28th March 2010.

Times and venues are dependent on levels of entry, and all participating schools will be informed of these in January.



Two
toads,
totally
tired

What poems will I be reciting?

Prescribed list of anthologies:

(Copies of these anthologies are available in all our branch libraries)

Something beginning with P
(Cashman, Seamus, ed.): O'Brien Press

Rusty nails & astronauts
(Dunbar, Robert & Fitzmaurice, Gabriel, eds.): Wolfhound Press

I like this poem: A collection of best-loved poems chosen by children for other children in aid of the International Year of the Child
(Webb, Kaye, ed.): Puffin

For the heats, participants in both categories will be expected to speak two poems:

– One prescribed poem as below:

Cat 1 (Senior):

I saw a jolly hunter by Charles Causley from "Rusty nails & Astronauts"
(Dunbar, Robert & Fitzmaurice, Gabriel, eds.): Wolfhound Press.

Cat 2 (Junior):

Cold Day, Hot Day by Joan McBreen from "Something beginning with P"
(Cashman, Seamus, ed.): O'Brien Press.

– One other poem from the list of anthologies above.

Shredded Swiss cheese

For the semi-final, participants in both categories will be expected to speak two poems:

- ***One prescribed poem as below:***

Cat. 1 (Senior):

The Door by Miroslav Holub from “Rusty nails & Astronauts”
(Dunbar, Robert & Fitzmaurice, Gabriel, eds.): Wolfhound Press.

Cat 2 (Junior):

Captivity translated by Gabriel Fitzmaurice from “Rusty nails & Astronauts”
(Dunbar, Robert & Fitzmaurice, Gabriel, eds.): Wolfhound Press.

- ***One other poem from the list of anthologies above.***

For the final, participants in both categories will be expected to speak two poems:

- ***One prescribed poem as below:***

Cat 1 (Senior):

Do you know what the sea is able to do? by Pat Ingoldsby from Something beginning with P” (Cashman, Seamus, ed.): O’Brien Press.

Cat 2 (Junior):

Me in a tree by Julie O’Callaghan from Something beginning with P”
(Cashman, Seamus, ed.): O’Brien Press.

- ***One other poem from the list of anthologies above.***



*She sells
seashells
on the
seashore.*

Minimum length of poems

Cat. 1 (Senior): 14 lines

Cat. 2 (Junior): 10 lines

All poems recited in this competition must be in English.

Second poems should be chosen from the list of prescribed anthologies, and should be different from the 6 prescribed poems.

Participants must recite the poems from memory, stating first the title, then the poet and then the anthology and publisher (for reasons of copyright).

e.g. ***Do you know what the sea is able to do? by Pat Ingoldsby from "Something beginning with P": O'Brien Press.***

We are aware that children may suffer from stage fright and forget their lines, so we would ask that teachers or accompanying adults be prepared to prompt if necessary.

Entry forms should be returned by Friday 22nd January 2010 to:

DLR Libraries Recite Now Competition,
DLR Libraries HQ,
2 Harbour Square,
Crofton Road,
Dun Laoghaire

**Moose
noshing
much
mush**

Why should my school/class take part?

Delivering the Primary School English curriculum:

Participation in this competition will help teachers achieve the aims of the English curriculum.

The curriculum states that

“Poetry should have a special place in listening and reading experience. The heightened and often compressed expression of thought and feeling and the music, rhythm and rhyme in the language can provide unique and striking glimpses into aspects of the human experience. Through it the child’s enjoyment of language can be fostered and his/her aesthetic response and sense of beauty awakened.”



Are our oars oak?

More specifically, in the section pertaining to fifth and sixth classes, it says the child should be enabled to

“listen to, read, learn, recite and respond to a challenging range of poetry”, “experience and enjoy playful aspects of the language” and “read aloud from a personal choice of texts to entertain and inform an audience”.

A poetry recitation competition can help deliver these curriculum aims.

Betty
better
butter
Brad's
bread

Personal development:

Poetry allows children to develop their understanding of, and receptiveness to language. Just as importantly, it encourages them to believe that language is a source of fun and pleasure, something they instinctively recognise when they listen to nursery rhymes for the first time.

Speaking poetry out loud can recreate that sense of the joy of language for older children, the importance of which has become increasingly recognised of late. This project was devised partly as a response to a recent resurgence of poetry as an art form, as seen in the slam poetry movement and the popularity of hip-hop music. It's seems timely to bring some of the dynamic aspects of these genres to the English class.

Building confidence:

The learning and performing of the poems will build confidence and engender a sense of achievement in all those who take part, at whatever level.

Involving parents/ the community:

This project brings poetry to the wider community through the families of the participants, and offers opportunities for involving parents, including acting as helpers, running/ attending school poetry performances and attending heats in libraries and the final in the Pavilion Theatre.



Red Leather Yellow Leather

Prizes for schools

Due to the cessation of government funding in 2009, the schools library service, through which DLR Libraries supplied primary schools in the county with books, has been discontinued. This competition offers substantial prizes in the form of books for school libraries, which will help maintain and foster good relations between the Library Service and primary schools, and also be of considerable benefit to the winning schools.

The prizes for each category are as follows:

Cat. 1 (Senior): Individual prizes

First: €300 and a book of poetry

Second: €200 and a book of poetry

Third: €100 and a book of poetry

Cat. 1 (Senior): School's prizes:

First: Book tokens worth €2000 for the school library

Second: Book tokens worth €1000 for the school library

Third: Book tokens worth €500 for the school library

Cat. 2 (Junior): Individual prizes

First: €200 and a book of poetry

Second: €100 and a book of poetry

Third: €50 and a book of poetry

Cat 2 (Junior): School's prizes

First: Book tokens worth €2000 for the school library

Second: Book tokens worth €1000 for the school library

Third: Book tokens worth €500 for the school library