

17<sup>th</sup> January 2018

Dear Form 5 and Form 6 Parents

### Creative Writing Competition Deadlines

Happy New Year to you all. The term has started off well and the children are working really hard. I wanted to outline a few expectations early on with regards to the competitions I would like to enter the children into this year, focusing on their creative writing talents and thought a quick letter home would be the best way to do this.

Ideally, I would like every child in the class to submit at least one entry for **each** competition. I do not mind if it is the **same** entry for each competition, but an essay from each child is essential and forms a crucial part of our curriculum.

I have provided the web links so you can look at the rules and expectations if you wish, but I have concisely outlined them below as well.

I will coordinate and post all entries for competitions **2 through 4** but if your child wishes to take part in the **BBC 500 Words** competition you will need to facilitate this yourself. I will happily check and proof their work for all these competitions to ensure the highest level of entries are sent in, while still remaining true to your child's vision and story line. We might also submit some of the work we have already done in class.

The deadlines below are my own, so I can facilitate and coordinate collating and posting the entries in good time. Any essays submitted after these dates will not be included. I am sure you can understand that things like this take great consideration and time, so please adhere strictly to these deadlines.

The Competitions:

**1. 500 WORDS BBC Radio 2 Competition – Entry Deadline 5<sup>th</sup> February 2018**

Short Story with no MORE than 500 words, ONE entry per pupil, and individual entries not as a school, these must be typed.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/4h26FXFQ4KfMV7VVSbJxY3g/500-words-2018>

**2. WICKED Writing Competition – Entry Deadline 26<sup>th</sup> February 2018**

Short Story or Poem, no MORE than 750 words, multiple entries allowed, entered as a school, must be typed and emailed to me: [g.hague@branwoodschoo.co.uk](mailto:g.hague@branwoodschoo.co.uk)

<https://www.wickedyoungwriterawards.com/about-the-award>

**3. Never Such Innocence, World War One Reflection – Entry Deadline 5<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

WWI Remembrance Poetry Competition, suggested word limit 800 words, entered as a school, can be typed or written, if typed please email me: [g.hague@branwoodschoo.co.uk](mailto:g.hague@branwoodschoo.co.uk)  
<http://neversuchinnocence.com/library/images/NSI%20resource%204th%20edition.pdf>

**4. ISA (Independent Schools Association) Horsey Junior Essay Prize 2018 – Entry Deadline 7<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

ISA competition, only ONE female and male entry from each form will be entered! Best story from form 5 boy/girl and form 6 boy/girl will go through, which will be judged by an 'outsider'. No MORE than 500 words, only one side of writing allowed, this has to be handwritten.

<https://www.isaschools.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/2018-Essay-Competition-entry-details-1.pdf>

I hope you find this helpful and I look forward to reading the children's entries. Best Creative Writing advice for the children, which I reiterate all the time in lessons, is to write from experience and manipulate this into a fantastical 'tale'. They need to use plenty of adjectives and figurative language to ensure their writing is rich and appealing. They know to write to a recipe, thinking of a story they love and try to manipulate this to suit their style of storytelling.

Your input as a parent is welcomed and family discussions about story planning is a very helpful tool. Enjoy the process and please do come and see me if you need further clarification.

Happy writing and good luck!

Mrs G Hague