



Mirfield Show Story and Poem Writing Competition

This competition closes on 31st July 2021, for judging.

There are prizes in each class and for all sorts of writing that the judge likes.

The 2021 theme is friendship and togetherness, in all its forms, with special picture classes for younger creatives.

The competition is open to all individuals, schools, and other groups. Winning entries may be displayed at Through the Wardrobe Bookshop, Nettleton Road, Mirfield WF14 9AL.

There are terrific prizes of £10 book vouchers from Through the Wardrobe Bookshop, Mirfield, for the writer of the best entry in each class, and the most atmospheric writing, the best sport-related writing and the best picture from classes 4 or 5.



Best story or poem entered, open to all writers, wins an additional £10 voucher



Reserve best story or poem, open to all, wins an additional £5 voucher



New School Prize – vouchers to the value of £50 to spend at Through the Wardrobe Bookshop for the school or nursery that submits the best school entry in classes 2 to 8 – and a reserve prize of £25 of vouchers - age will be taken into account.

Class 1 – Open to all – open to all adults and young people from the age of 15 – a story of no more than 2800 words or a poem of no more than 40 lines.

Class 2 – writers 13 to 14 years of age – a story of no more than 1600 words or a poem of no more than 30 lines.

Class 3 – writers 11 to 12 years of age – a story of no more than 1200 words or a poem of no more than 25 lines.

Class 4 – writers 9 to 10 years of age – a story of no more than 800 words or a poem of no more than 20 lines. This may include a picture that helps to tell the story.

Class 5 – writers up to 8 years of age – a story of no more than 600 words or a poem of no more than 16 lines. This may include a picture that helps to tell the story.

Class 6 – creatives 5 to 6 years of age – a picture in any medium, based around any part of the poem, “The Canary” (or an extension of its theme), which is reproduced overleaf. (This is intended to be read to the entrant.)

Class 7 – creatives 4 years of age and younger - a picture in any medium, based around any part of “The Canary” (or an extension of its theme), which is reproduced overleaf. (This is intended to be read to the entrant.)

Class 8 – all creatives up to 6 years of age – a picture that tells a story that is **created by the artist** and that is accurately written down by someone else for submission with the picture.

Entry to the competition is free!

The closing date is 31 July 2021 and winners will be announced by 18 August 2021.

Please legibly write or type your story or poem on one side of as many sheets of paper you need. Contact details for all entries must be on a separate and securely attached piece of paper. You need to give your name and telephone/mobile number (an address is helpful – your school is OK) and - if you are under 15 - your age. If you are under 18, please provide your parent or other responsible adult's confirmation that they agree the competition terms. Your entry may be as short as you like.

The creative writing competition terms and conditions are simple;

1. All stories and poems must be submitted for judging by 31st July 2021. (Acknowledgement of receipt on request.)
2. Pictures for classes 6, 7 and 8 can be any size up to A3 size (30 cm x 42cm) and may be entered by post or delivery to 51 Springfield Park, Mirfield WF14 9PE. Alternative arrangements can be made – please contact writers@mirfieldshow.com
3. If there are fewer than five entries in a class, we reserve the right to amalgamate classes, and re-award the prizes.
4. Entries should be e-mailed to writers@mirfieldshow.com or posted to Mirfield Show Story and Poem Competition, 51 Springfield Park, Mirfield WF14 9PE.
5. The judge's decision will be final.
6. Your story or poem may be displayed or reproduced at places in Mirfield and at Through the Wardrobe, but we will ask you first.
7. We may include a selection of winning stories, poems, and pictures on our website. If you do not wish your story or poem to appear on our website, we will respect your wishes if you let us know when you send in your entry.

The Canary

by Elizabeth Turner (c.1775 – 1846)

Mary had a little bird,
With feathers bright and yellow.
Slender legs – upon my word,
He was a pretty fellow!

Sweetest notes he always sung,
Which much delighted Mary;
Often when his cage was hung,
She sat to hear canary.

Crumbs of bread and dainty seeds
She carried to him daily,
Seeking for the early weeds,
She decked his palace gaily.

This, my little readers, learn,
And ever practice duly;
Songs and smiles of love return
To friends who love you truly.

Thank you to our sponsor,

Through the Wardrobe Bookshop

2 Nettleton Road, Mirfield WF14 9AA



