

# SATIPS

Support and training in Prep Schools

February 2020

Dear Colleague

## **SATIPS Poetry Competition 2020**

**Judge: Wendy Cope OBE**

Many of you have taken part in this popular competition in previous years and I do hope that you will enter your pupils' poems in the 2020 event. The competition aims to complement and support the excellent teaching of poetry that goes on within the regular curriculum and it is a chance for you and your pupils to be rewarded for work that you are already doing. We hope to produce an anthology of the winning poems in due course.

The competition is open to all SATIPS member schools. Teachers are free to use any subject, theme or style which is appropriate. However, for those who would prefer a subject, perhaps the attached poems will act as a starting point. All the poems are by this year's judge, Wendy Cope. Wendy worked for 14 years as a primary school teacher before going freelance after the publication of her first book, *Making Cocoa for Kingsley Amis*. Her work has won awards on both sides of the Atlantic and in 2010 she was appointed OBE for services to literature. Her fifth collection of poems, *Anecdotal Evidence* appeared in 2018.

The competition has been a big success in the past and I would encourage you to enter; there is a great deal of satisfaction and pride not only in winning a prize or a certificate, but simply in taking part.

Good luck!  
With all best wishes,



Stephen Davies  
SATIPS Poetry Competition Organiser  
Bryanston School: [www.bryanston.co.uk](http://www.bryanston.co.uk)  
Email: [poetrycompetition@satips.org](mailto:poetrycompetition@satips.org)



## Rules of the SATIPS Poetry Competition 2020

There will be three age categories: Years 3&4, Years 5&6 and Years 7&8.

Poems should be no longer than 30 lines.

Poems should be on one side of A4 paper with the title and year group written **clearly** on the front. Pupils should write their name and the name of their school on the reverse.

Each school is allowed a total of 30 entries.

The enclosed Entry Form must be completed and included with submissions.

The entry fee is £1 per poem or £25 for a school entry of no more than 30 poems. A cheque, payable to SATIPS, should be included with submissions. Alternatively, payment can be made by BACS: Bank: CAF Bank Ltd. Sort Code: 40-52-40 Account No: 00013271

Please ensure the name of your school and 'Poetry Competition' are included as a reference.

Prizes will be awarded for each age group. There is a magnificent cup for the best school entry overall.

**The deadline for entries is Monday 4th May 2020.** All submissions received after this date will not be considered.

All poems and entry fees should be sent to the following address:

**SATIPS Poetry Competition 2020**  
**West Routengill**  
**Walden**  
**Leyburn**  
**North Yorkshire**  
**DL8 4LF**

All enquiries should be made to [poetrycompetition@satips.org](mailto:poetrycompetition@satips.org)

# ENTRY FORM: SATIPS POETRY COMPETITION 2020

School:

Address:

Contact Teacher:

Email address:

Cheque enclosed/ BACS Payment: £

	PUPIL'S NAME	YEAR	TITLE OF POEM
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			

(Continue overleaf if required)

	PUPIL'S NAME	YEAR	TITLE OF POEM
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			
16			
17			
18			
19			
20			
21			
22			
23			
24			
25			
26			
27			
28			
29			
30			

## Stimulus Poems by Wendy Cope for the SATIPS Poetry Competition 2020

Please note that it is not a requirement to use this material. Poems on any topic and in any style may be entered into the competition.

### FLOWERS

Some men never think of it.  
You did. You'd come along  
And say you'd nearly brought me flowers  
But something had gone wrong.

The shop was closed. Or you had doubts -  
The sort that minds like ours  
Dream up incessantly. You thought  
I might not want your flowers.

It made me smile and hug you then.  
Now I can only smile.  
But look, the flowers you nearly brought  
Have lasted all this while.

From *Serious Concerns* (Faber & Faber 1992)

### AN ATTEMPT AT UNRHYMED VERSE

People tell you all the time,  
Poems do not have to rhyme.  
It's often better if they don't  
And I'm determined this one won't.  
Oh dear.

Never mind, I'll start again.  
Busy, busy with my pen...cil.  
I can do it, if I try -  
Easy, peasy, pudding and gherkins.

Writing verse is so much fun,  
Cheering as the summer weather,  
Makes you feel alert and bright,  
'Specially when you get it more or less the  
way you want it.

From *Two Cures for Love* (Faber & Faber 2011)

## ORB

An illuminated orb  
against a black background -  
the colour of flesh, with faint  
red lines that could be rivers.

Not a planet in the night sky:  
my eyeball  
on the optician's screen.

It's beautiful. Just one small feature  
of a mysterious universe  
I'll never explore, packed neatly  
in this soft container.

We know so little of ourselves,  
and of each other - the working parts  
we carry everywhere,

the darkness we scan  
like astronomers, seeking  
the half-forgotten stories of our lives.

From *Anecdotal Evidence* (Faber & Faber 2018)

**All poems ©Wendy Cope OBE**



(Photo: Adrian Harvey)