

Mother Tongue Other Tongue

2018-19 Anthology



Add your voice to the poet-tree

Foreword



In an age intent on building walls and fragmenting relationships on a global scale, the need to celebrate difference and diversity through language and culture has never been more pressing.

Poetry offers the chance to look at things in different and often new ways. We walk through many lives when we read these poems, intimately exploring a variety of topics from bullying and immigration to protecting the environment and peace.

It is a privilege to witness the thoughts and feelings of these young people woven throughout this beautiful anthology, particularly in these confusing and uncertain times. Moreover, it is humbling when the wisdom of innocence and youth makes us sit up and question what kind of world we are creating. Listen well!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Juliette Lee". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'J' and a decorative flourish at the end.

Juliette Lee

Poet and MTOT facilitator

Dafidi

**WINNER
P1-P3**



Dafidi
Dafidi wulo
Iranlwoṣo ati aanu
Iranlwoṣo, ore ati ore
Iranlwoṣo, abo, ore ati pinpin
Onilara

David
David is helpful
Helpful and kind
Helpful, kind and friendly
Helpful, kind, friendly and sharing
Generous

My name is David Taiwo. My poem is about myself. It is an adjective poem. Adjectives are describing words. I am helpful and friendly because I help my friends at lunchtime.

My family speak Yoruba. My mum and dad are from Africa. I know some words and I am learning words - e kaaro is good morning and e Kaasan is good afternoon. I want to learn to write sentences and read my own writing.

I have enjoyed MTOT. My favourite thing we do is draw pictures and writing sentences. I like showing off my good work to Miss Mackay.

David Taiwo

P1-P3, Our Lady of Peace Primary
School (Yoruba)

Bullismo - Bullying

HIGHLY
COMMEDED



Bello è
Un amico che è
Li vicino a me
Lontano dalla
Invidia e che chiede
Scusa se mi fa del
Male, non è
OK fare il bullo direi

Beautiful is
A friend who is
There close to me
Far from
Envy and says sorry
Sorry if he hurts me
It is not
OK to be a bully I would say

I was born in Scotland, but my family lives in Italy. So I decided to write a poem in Italian about friendship. I have a lot of friends and we don't like bullies. We are all equal and we need to care for others.

Giulia Ferretti

P1-P3, St Aloysius College Junior School (Italian)

The Tiger

HIGHLY
COMMEDED

বাঘ

পালাও পালাও বাঘ এসেছে
কালো হলুদ আমার শরীর
হাউ মাউ খাউ মানুষের গন্ধ পাউ
পালাও পালাও
ছেলে মেয়ে সবাই বড় ভয় পায়
দেখে সবাই তাই দৌড়ে পালাও

শব্দ্য

পালাও পালাও ক্যা এমে

কালো হলুদ আমার শরীর

হাউ মাউ খাউ মানুষের গন্ধ পাউ

পালাও পালাও

ছেলে মেয়ে সবাই বড় ভয় পায়

দেখে সবাই তাই দৌড়ে পালাও



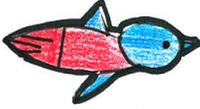
My name is Ishal and I have just arrived in Scotland. I have come from Dhaka in Bangladesh and I speak Bengali. I came with my parents because my dad is at UWS studying. Bangladesh is very different to Paisley.

The national animal of Bangladesh is the tiger. I wrote my poem about this animal because it is an incredible beast. I have seen tigers in the zoo but in my country you can see tigers in the countryside and villages. Wild Bengal tigers are dangerous because they are strong hunters and can sometimes attack people, but they are very beautiful animals and have inspired many writers.

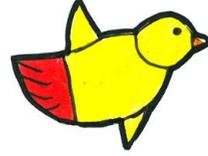
Syeda Jannata Farhin Ishal

P1-P3, West Primary School (Bengali)

The Bird

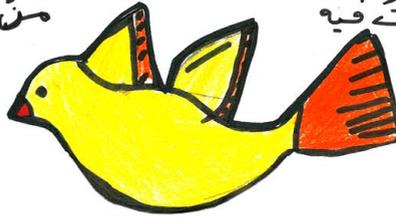


الطائر



ما أجملك
ما أحسنك
وقت السحر
فوق الشجر
في عجب
في طرب
زوالكزم
من نيم

يا طائراً
يا ببللاً
غردومع
والعب وطر
الزهرمولك
والورد مثلي
أعطاك ربي
ما أنتَ فيه



My poem is about a bird. This bird is a beautiful creature that is a gift from God. The bird makes music and can fly away from danger. For me the bird symbolises freedom.

My name is Nermeen and I am 9 years old. I came to Scotland in May 2018 with my brother, my sister and my mum and dad. We left Syria because of the war and we moved to Jordan. We are now safe in the UK and we are learning English at school. I have mixed feelings about being here. I miss my country and my culture but I am happy to be safe and learn new things in Scotland.

I like the way my poem sounds. I have split it into two parts and made it rhyme.

Nermeen Jamal Horani

P4-P6, St John Ogilvie Primary School (Arabic)

**WINNER
P4-P6**

Nigeria

HIGHLY
COMMENDED



Ṣe o ranti ohun ti Nigeria je?
ni a lagbara kún pẹlu awon eniyan
re re ominira ranined gbagbo ogun
pipa eniyan aaiṣe? ni a ko e kowa?
ko si pe a ko ni awon eniyan pa
ni ba yi? o so iwa su da bi idarad
arṣ
awon eniyan man wa i bi bio
buru ṣulo ninu awon eniyan miran
mo ni se ti pe a ko e kowa a ti pa
awo no mo i ko ko bi man
kinini gbami i?
simi ito kasititun se a carre

My name is Jamal and I am 11 years old. I was born in Nigeria and lived there for ten years. I have been in Scotland for almost a year. My first language is Yoruba, then English, Igbo, Hausa and a little French. Sometimes it's great to have so many languages – you can have so many different friends from different countries and you can understand what they are saying, even if it is bad!

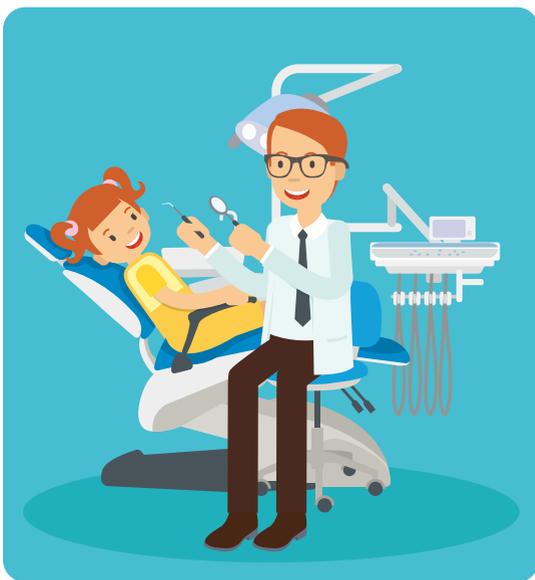
My poem is about how great and bad Nigeria can be. Nigeria is being corrupted by different governments. It makes me feel bad because Nigeria was a very great country. I hope Nigeria can see through all of these bad people and become great like it used to be.

I chose to write my poem in Yoruba. I used a lot of questions in my poem because I wanted to make it sound like I was questioning the government. I enjoyed writing this poem because it made me learn more about Nigeria.

Jamal Oladunjoye

P4-P6, St Charles's Primary School
(Yoruba)

Dentyści nie powinni prowadzić



Prawda to jest ponura gdy
Dentyści robi się w zębie
Dziura. Na biedne dzieci on
Krzyczy
Nie jadacie słodczy
I myśli, że jego nie dotyczy

**HIGHLY
COMMEDED**

My name is Lucja Lubanska. I am eight years old. I feel Scottish but I'm also half Polish. I only speak English at school, or when my English friends are playing with me. My mum and gran taught me to read and write in Polish.

My poem is about a dentist and he thinks it's alright if he eats sweets but the children don't. I chose to write about this because my brother and I missed our dentist appointment a few days ago. It's supposed to be a funny poem. Next time it will remind me and my brother to go to the dentist.

Even though it took me a long time to write my poem, I still enjoyed it. My poem rhymes and it was so hard to find words to rhyme.

Lucja Lubanska

P4-P6, St Charles's Primary School (Polish)

The Moon

WINNER
P7-S1

اکیلا جاند

کھو پورا کھو ادورا ہے۔ جاند بھی

کتنا اکیلا ہے۔ ستاروں

میں رہتا ہے۔

ہزاروں میں

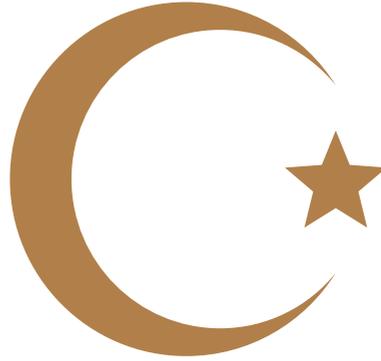
رہتا ہے۔ اداس

راتوں میں اکثر

بہاڑوں میں جب

جب کے روتا ہے۔ جاند بھی کتنا

اکیلا ہے۔



This is a poem about the moon written in Urdu.

The poem describes how lonely the moon feels in the sky all alone and how I feel about the moon in the dark, beautiful sky.

I was inspired to write this poem because my grandma always used to read me poems about moons before I went to bed when I was 5 or 6 years old. I feel the moon is lonely, it has no one to talk to but it still makes people smile. In my opinion, the most powerful phrase is when I describe the moon as incomplete. It's a sadness that the moon feels about itself that no one on Earth can really understand.

Writing this poem in Urdu made me more confident. I thought it was difficult because when I thought of an amazing phrase in English it would not sound quite right in Urdu. This taught me to think of descriptive language phrases in Urdu rather than trying to translate.

Qainat Qamar

P7-S1, Pollokshields Primary School (Urdu)

Music

HIGHLY
COMMENDED

音乐

音乐是个很美好的东西。

音乐是大胆的唱出来。

音乐可以让我跳舞。

音乐可以让人开心，

有时后会让人伤心，

因为音乐是回忆。

音乐是我的最爱。

Music is wonderful. It can make you sing and dance. It carries emotion and memories. Music is my favourite thing and that is why I chose to write about it.

My name is Kitty and I'm 11 years old. I'm originally from China and have been in Scotland for almost 4 years. I play piano and the violin. I sing and I also dance, so music is in my life quite a lot.

At first I tried to write my poem in English then translate it to Chinese, but it didn't sound right. So I started again in Chinese. When I did that it sounded better and flowed. This is something I have noticed about working with both languages. Translation can lose what you are trying to say.

Kitty Zhu

P7-S1, St James' Primary School (Mandarin Chinese)

The Sea

WINNER
S2-S3

وسلاماً أيتها البحر المريض رأيتها البحر الذي
أبحر من صور إلى إسبانيا فوق السفن أيتها البحر
الذي يسقط هنا كالمدن ألف شبّاك على
تابوتك اللّحلي مفتوح ولا أبحر فيها ساعراً
تسند الفلّ أو ترفعه المرأة.



Peace be upon you, oh sea that is sick
Oh sea that sailed from Tire to Spain
over the ships
Oh sea that falls from us from cities
One thousand nets on your tabernacle
And I shall not see therein a poet
Who is supported by the idea of
Raised by Women

I wrote this poem because the sea to me is as beautiful as women. In my country, Libya, we are surrounded by the sea in the place I come from. My town is called Binnghzai and this poem reminds me of home. Spain is mentioned because people from my country love Spain and we see it as a place of peace where there is no war, like in Libya. The women in Libya used to be very respected but now the war has caused lots of disrespect – we do not trust each other now and there are more lies which cause hurt. Women are scared of going out now in case they are terrorised or hurt or their children are hurt. The sea represents our dream, as women, and a peaceful place.

My mother tongue is Arabic and I have chosen words like the sea and cities because I love the sound of them when I say them in Arabic but I also like their meaning. I like the word city because it is full of culture and people. The sea sounds and looks beautiful as a word and as a symbol.

I mentioned that the sea is sick because it feels sad about why people hurt each other. This also represents my religion because there is a story in Islam where Moses was walking through the sea and the sea parted for him. People followed him for more peace.

Shahd Dongo

S2-S3, Craigmount High School (Arabic)

Our Plastic City

HIGHLY
COMMENDED



skály se rozpadnou
vody vysychají
zvířata zahynou
a ani rostliny nezbyvají

chceme dýchat, však dýchat muset
naše lesy, naše plíce
krev proudí po tvém těle
náš život, naše srdce.
myšlenky a pocity,
naše kořeny stromů
kůže s očima
pouhé mraky daj na oblohu
slyšet a cítit
to je šumění pramene
a náš svět pouhá kapka z nebe

ty a já, životy
my nejsme jen lidí, ale lesy
jsme oceány a louky
vše co roste a kvete,
jsme krása a narušení
naší malé země.

This is an abstract poem, to make you realise what we are and the disruption we do to our world. The meaning behind the poem is to appreciate what you have and what you're given, mentioning the damage we cause the Earth, how we take it for granted. The poem should make you think about the consequences behind our actions and how they will all affect our future. It should make you think about how important the little things in life are. Even though people are the ones to cause these disruptions, it has to be the people to make the change.

Alex Mandova

S2-S3, Bishopbriggs Academy (Czech)

Homeland and Language

சுமியீ ஶமாதரி பமுணமயாண ஶமா
சுமியீ ஶமாதரி ஶசம்ஶமாதரிஶுனிஶ்
சுமியீ ஶமாதரியிஶ் 200-ஶ்ஶும்ஶசு
2ஶ்ஶண ஶுஶ்ஶஶஶ ஶமுஶ்ஶிஶ்ஶு
சுனிஶ்ப்பட்ட 2ஶ்ஶரிஶ்ப்பு 2ஶ்ஶ
சுமியீ பேஶம் மஶ்ஶுனிஶ் ஶுஶ.



In my poem I have written about my mother tongue – Tamil, as well as a bit about the part of India I'm from, Tamil Nadu, translating to Tamil country. Although I do enjoy living in Scotland, spending time with my friends, coming to school and spending time with the lovely people here, some part of me always longs to be back in India, my home for 3 years. I really want to be a part of the culture there. I always long to be there in the middle of a place bustling with the magic of cultures, traditions, colours, festivals and family, especially family. Even though they are almost half the world away I feel they do whatever they can to make me feel close to them and that makes them my world. Overall I feel very privileged and proud to be born and brought up in a Tamil family. I also feel really blessed to be a Tamil and I love the way I am.

**HIGHLY
COMMEDED**

Lovely Selwyn

S2-S3, Bishopbriggs Academy (Tamil)

Ztracena v překladu/ Lost in Translation

WINNER
SENIOR
PHASE



Každý den se sama sebe ptám,
když v zrcadlo se podívám,
jsem to stále já?

Myšlenky a pocity mé
jsou ztraceny v překladu,
někde mezi nimi je však nový svět.

Srdce mi silně buší,
cítím ten tlak okolí,
vždyť jen nemohu si vzpomenout
na jedno krátké slovíčko,
to pak na jazyku objeví se jak první
jarní květ.

Pomalu se učím,
nová slova, nové mravy,
už nikdy nebudu stejná,
ale přesto jsem to já.

My poem is called “Lost in translation” as it was inspired by my daily thoughts about speaking English. I came to Scotland for a year-long exchange and it has been a wild adventure so far, but my mother tongue is Czech so it is sometimes a bit overwhelming and I often find myself stuck in between the two languages, I just feel lost, because I am unable to express my thoughts and it all becomes so unclear as my head is filled with a mix of the two languages.

For me, coming to Scotland felt like starting from scratch, you have to make all these first impressions and it's almost as if I was creating a completely new person and this poem is describing exactly how it made me feel quite powerful. I also became more confident thanks to the fact that this new and very different version of myself is the very best version of myself, I finally feel like I am living up to my full potential and after a while I even learnt how to embrace my Czech accent. In conclusion, to the outer world it might seem that I am here to discover a new culture, but it was more about discovering the new me.

Diana Procházková

Senior Phase, George Heriot's School (Czech)

No soy ficticia



No soy como la otra mujer que tu tenías
O de esas con las que tu mantenías
No soy ficticia, tampoco lo hago con malicia
Solo soy real como el agua al coral
Mantengo, enfrento, huyendo con el
justo conocimiento
Repito, extiendo, deposito, todo lo que
no está escrito
También me conocen como involucrada
Pero tan solo soy amada
Algunas lo clasifican como envidia
Pero yo tan solo suelto rimas

For me, this poem represents myself as a person and also all other people who have been criticised for being themselves. Sometimes people have an idea about how you should be and they don't understand that you don't match what they want. They don't understand that those words can hurt you and you don't feel good enough when you're being your true self.

Girls in particular are faced with an 'ideal woman' in the media and other girls can be very cruel if you aren't like that. I don't understand why because we are all the same gender and should support each other.

Everyone should be free to be themselves.

Alexandra Grimaldo

Senior Phase, Craigroyston Community High School (Spanish)

**HIGHLY
COMMENDED**

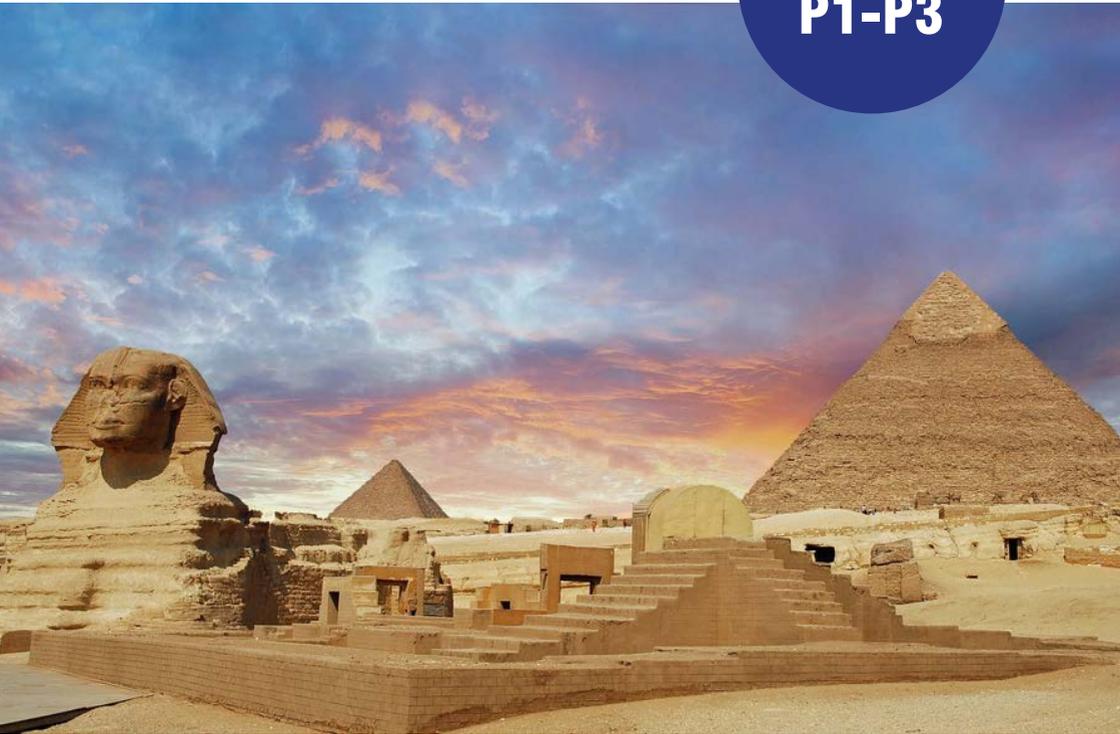
Other Tongue



Add your voice to the poet-tree

Egipto

**WINNER
P1-P3**



El faraón es rojo como la lava
El sacerdote es verde como la hierba
Los nobles son azules como la lluvia
Los escribas son amarillos como el sol
El guerrero es negro como carbon
Los artesanos son rosas como una rosa
El campesino es marrón como la tierra
Los esclavos son blancos como nieve

I have been learning about ancient Egyptian society to put all the people in order, this is called the hierarchy and I really enjoyed it.

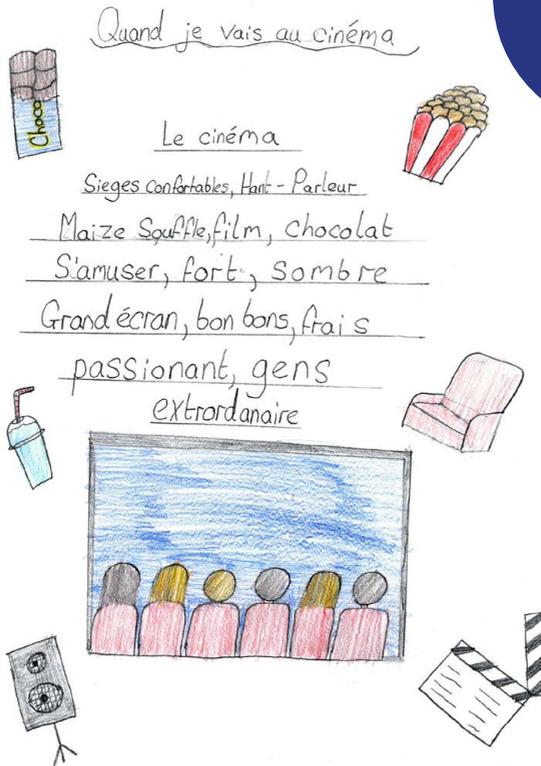
I have used colours to compare them to different things, e.g. the pharaoh is red like lava.

Anna Inglis

P1-P3, St Aloysius College Junior School
(Spanish)

Quand je vais au cinéma

**WINNER
P4-P6**



My poem's theme is the cinema. I chose this because I love going to the cinema. I represented this theme using different describing words. I chose the title because all the words in the poem describe the things I usually see in the cinema. My poem is related to the French studies I am doing about the different buildings there. I have written my poem from many different perspectives in the cinema. In my opinion, the most powerful line is: Grand écran, bon bons, frais, because it feels to me like a thing that a famous French person would say. The overall message of my poem is to go to the cinema and have fun! It was quite difficult writing the poem because I had to translate all the words and write them down twice, but it was fun so I would possibly do something like this again.

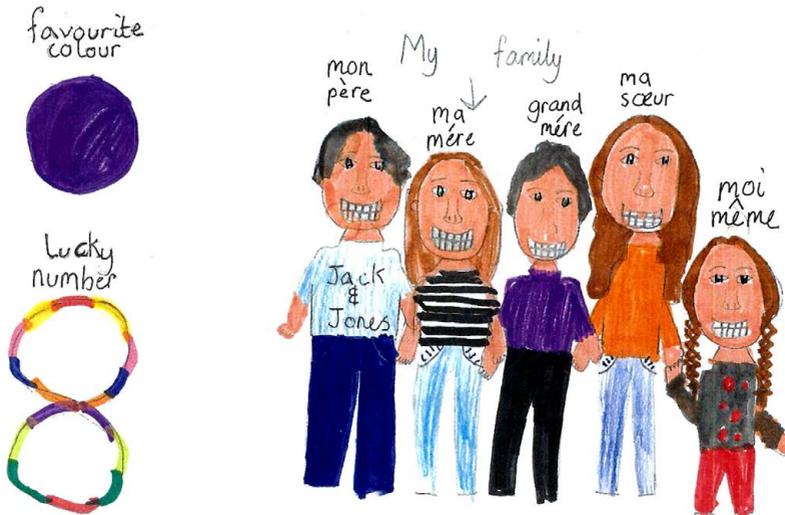
Holly Price

P4-P6, Doune Primary School (French)

Bonjour

HIGHLY
COMMEDED

Bonjour Je m'appelle Milly.
Bonjour Ma famille est ma mère,
mon père, ma sœur et grand-mère.
Bonjour J'ai dix ans.
Bonjour Mon anniversaire est la neuf août.
Bonjour Ma couleur préférée est violet.
Bonjour Ma chiffre porte-bonheur est huit
Au revoir, A bientôt



My poem theme is me and my family. I chose this because I love my family and I wanted to write about them. I decided to draw pictures of things in my poem I like. I drew an 8 because it is my lucky number. I drew my family because they are important to me. I drew a purple circle because purple is my favourite colour. I loved writing this poem because I felt so happy and excited because I had always wanted to take part in a poetry competition. Plus this is the first time I wrote a poem in French and also I felt very proud writing it in French because I had never done anything like that before.

Milly Russell

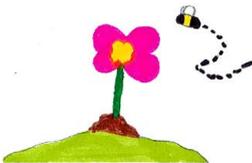
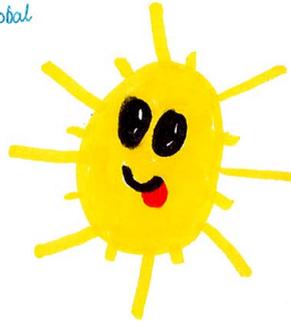
P4-P6, St George's Primary School (French)

La tierra: antes, ahora y mañana !

El aire era fresco
Los bosques duraban siglos
Las calles eran limpias
Los animales eran felices
Pero eso fue antes del calentamiento global

Ahora el aire no es tan fresco
Los bosques no son tan grandes
Las calles no están tan limpias
Los animales no son tan felices
Pero podemos intentar terminar esto

Podemos recoger la basura
Usar energía solar
No cortar árboles
Mantener a las abejas vivas para
Poliniz' las flores
Podemos terminar esto si trabajamos juntos



Orla Kelly



**WINNER
P7-S1**

I wanted to write a poem about the environment because I want to tell people how we damage the earth. I also say how we can help and if we do it together we could stop global warming and harming the earth.

I wrote it in Spanish because we're talking about climate change in Spanish. We are also learning how we can help. I want to spread the word so we can stop.

Orla Kelly

P7-S1, St Aloysius College Junior School (Spanish)

Tràighean Cuaraidh

HIGHLY
COMMEDED

The sea brushes the sand
The sky
The land
The sun is a citrine
The clock ticks
Minutes pass but you want to make your time here last
The sun sinks beneath the waves and the moon shows her silver face
The stars twinkle in the sky or maybe a shooting star going by
The seals cry like wolves to the moon and the waves are like a soft tune
So few words for such a special place full of its remaining grace
Tha an tràigh fhathast brèagha bho an Fhaoilleach gu an Dùbhlachd
bho Diluain gu Didòmhnaich a h-uile h-uair a thide
Dorcha no aotrom an nuair a thèid na ràithean seachad
sin far a bheil mo chridhe

For this poem I used Gaelic and English. I used English because it is the first language I ever learned and is what I use to write in all the time and feel most easy writing in. The reason I wrote in Gaelic is because it is one of the languages people use on the place I live in and love. I also wrote in Gaelic because it was the first language of my grandfather who used to teach me Gaelic. I wrote in Gaelic to thank him for teaching me.

Melody Elizabeth Clark-Want

P7-S1, Port Charlotte Primary School
(Gaelic and English)



周り花見中の答え

Mawari Hanami-chuu no Kotae

The Solution in the Surrounding Cherry Blossoms



Ima, kono sora no shita de
Watashi wa mi wo tsukatte mite
Mawari wo mite
Kokoro ga dokidoki kore chuu ni
Mi de hitotsu ki wo mite
Zenbu no sekai wo mieru
Dakara, kono chikyuu wo kaetai
Mieru no wa, mina-san no aru shinpai
Demo shakai wa kore ni 'dame' to iu
Watashi wa 'hoka no hito wa komaru tame' to iu
Shakai wa kimitachi no yume wo kiru
Kore wo shimattara, warui sekai wo tsukutte natte iru

Hanami dake wo shite iru chuu
Fuku kaze wa sakura wo ochiru
Nanika kangaete kotae ga kuru
Hitobito dandan motto iru
Mainichi jinsei de watashi arukurashii
Hito wa tsuyoi hito wo tadoru hō ga ii
Komaru no to mondai wo kamawanai
Atama wo sagattara, itsumo zettai ni daijōbu
Komaru no ga nai shi, genki ni naru
Demo sono aida ni hoka no hito
wa ippai komaru no ga aru

Nakunaru shi, nakunaru, shi, nakenai shi,
tsuyoi mono ga naide naru
Warui jinsei, tsuyokunaku, komaru no hito ga
shippai suru
Hidoi, kanemochi ga katsu
Fukōsei dakedo jinsei da
Demo aruteido ni kono kisoku wo kaerarerun da!
Seka wa fusei ga ippai aru kedo

Kono koto mo mata kaerarerun da yo
Kimi wa ii hito no yō ni iru
Demo hoka no hito wa 'kimi no kutsu ni tatenai'
Unmei to jinsei wa hontō ni fukōsei da ne

Saa, kono ki ni mite iru chuu
Hitotsu sakurazaki wa shippai ni orite ochiru
Watashi wa te de ha wo kacchi suru
Kyō kara sekai wo kaeru
Iya, ima kara sekai wo kaeru

This poem portrays the importance of the current surroundings one sees and understanding the injustices of society. I am not Japanese, but I understand that British people like me have a different view. As for me, one's surroundings are really important and special things. I have Asperger's Syndrome, so I see the world differently. But sometimes I couldn't even possibly see the world from your point of view. This poem is from the perspective of someone with a 'different brain' but with some 'Japanese feeling' in it.

Emily Feerick

S2-S3, Bearsden Academy (Japanese)

HIGHLY
COMMEDED

Flocons de neige à Paris

En décembre il fait très froid
Les gens portent leurs chapeaux et
leurs écharpes
La Seine gèle

Quand la lune blanche brille
Et tout le monde est au chaud dans
leurs lits
Chutes de neige

C'est beau les lumières
Très beau !
Un scintillant Tour Eiffel
Et puis s'en aller



Our poem is all about when it snows in Paris, focusing on snowflakes especially.

We related to this poem because of our recent project in class. We had to 'plan' a trip to Paris and talk about Paris's landmarks. Since it's nearly Christmas as well, in class we have looked at winter.

One of our favourite lines was 'et puis s'en aller'. It shows that snow can appear, you get excited and then it just disappears like it was never there.

We enjoyed finding new words in French.

Brooke Braidwood and Chloe Gibb

S2-S3, Graeme High School (French)

Liberté, égalité, fraternité

**WINNER
SENIOR
PHASE**



Le monde semble parfait
Mais le rumeurs se propagent en parlait
Prenons la France comme modèle
Ils ont des règles traditionnelles
Le slogan dit „liberté, égalité, fraternité”
Parce que les citoyens ont besoin de innocuité
Mais dans la société d’aujourd’hui
Les gens ne se sentent toujours pas gratuit
Nous sommes confrontés à des problèmes
d’immigration
Alors malheureusement vient la discrimination
C’est l’opinion de la nation
Il n’y a pas que de l’imagination
Le racisme est aussi un facteur grave
Mais la victime doit être brave
Cela peut prendre quelques secondes
Que sela se produit partout dans le monde
Mais rappelez-vous un mot: égalité
Car traiter les autres différemment est illegalité

My poem focuses on the different problems people have to face in today’s society. I have chosen to write about this because we are learning about these topics in Advanced Higher French and I think that more people should know the consequences this can have on people. I have tried to include several examples, like racism and discrimination throughout the poem to reinforce the impact this has on people’s lives.

The title of the poem ‘liberté, égalité, fraternité’ is the national motto of France. I have picked this title to reflect on the fact that my poem focuses on the problems in France, but in real life, this happens all over the world.

I think the last two lines are the most important as, after all the horrible examples, these lines tell a deep message, to treat people equally as everyone deserves the same chances.

Writing a poem in French was very difficult but at the same time it was also quite interesting trying to find rhyming words and working out what to include.

Boglarka Balla

Senior Phase, Graeme High
School (French)

Au Soleil

HIGHLY
COMMENDED



Elle était allongée sur le lit d'hôpital, regardant dehors le temps pluvieux, ne sachant pas ce que l'avenir lui réservait.

Le cancer l'avait entourée comme l'univers du monde entier.

Elle ne savait pas si elle retrouverait une vie normale. Ses souvenirs sont remplis de sourires et de larmes.

Elle se souvient de son dernier anniversaire, de Noël et du dernier jour d'école, en se demandant si elle aura l'occasion de revivre ces moments.

Le lendemain, elle court dehors au soleil, sachant qu'elle l'a fait, sachant qu'elle peut revivre, librement.

Aujourd'hui, le bonheur l'a entourée comme l'univers du monde entier.

My poem is about a young girl in hospital fighting against cancer and it highlights her thoughts before knowing that she has recovered.

The theme of this poem is the idea of the uncertainty in the girl's mind thinking if she will make it or not. I represented these by repeating the phrase that finished as "comme l'univers du Monde entier" which emphasised what her life is all about at a certain time.

The overall message in my poem is that you should never give up and always think positive no matter what the problem is.

Simi Singh

Senior Phase, Graeme High School (French)

Acknowledgements

SCILT, Scotland's National Centre for Languages is thankful to all the people and organisations who gave their support and collaboration to Mother Tongue Other Tongue 2018- 19:

Juliette Lee
University of Strathclyde
Scottish Poetry Library
Jackie Kay
Manchester Metropolitan University
Routes Into Languages North West

The wonderful teachers and pupils of Scotland
And anyone else that we missed...

...Daaly, dakujem, danke, dziękuję, gracias, grazie, merci, obrigado, shukran,
shukriya, spasibo, thanks, xièxiè.



Editing of poems and commentaries has been kept to a minimum in order to preserve originality and authenticity.

