



Saint Thomas More R.C. Primary School

Senior Leadership Team
Headteacher, Joanne Butterworth, Deputy Headteacher: Anna Quigg
Assistant Headteacher: Sarah Dodd
BBC Radio 2 500 words writing competition

Dear Parents,

I would like to invite the children to take part in a fantastic writing challenge. BBC Radio 2 have been running this competition for a number of years and it is a fantastic opportunity for children to 'try out' their writing skills.

The competition asks for children to write a short story of no more than 500 words. There is lots of information about how to do this on the 500 words website (type 500 words 2020 into google)

"500 Words is the UK's most successful short story-writing competition for children between the ages of 5 and 13.

Since the competition launched 934,296 stories have been entered in the competition.

It was launched back in 2011, after Chris Evans had a dream. He dreamt of getting children excited about reading and writing. All children: no matter what their ability, experience, or background.

It's super simple. All entrants must pen an original story, no more than 500 words in length, and submit it online. It can be about ANYTHING you want - space-ships, grannies, insects, time travel. The list is endless!

Stories are judged anonymously, without regard to grammar, punctuation or spelling. The competition culminates in a broadcast extravaganza of live music and sensational story-telling every summer, at a special venue. Past venues have included The Globe and The Tower of London and Windsor Castle. 2019 saw a magnificent extravaganza come live from Windsor Castle. From the 112,986 entries - that's 56.5 million words, with the six winning wordsmiths announced on-air by celebrity narrators including David Walliams and Helen McCrory. There was also fantastic music from Busted, Tom Walker and Matilda the Musical."

This year's grand final will be held at Buckingham Palace on 12th June.

If you would like to enter you can either do this independently online on the 500 words website or if you prefer I can enter stories via a teacher account, if you would like me to do this for you email your story to me at: ccraven@stthomasmorerc.rochdale.sch.uk

The competition closes on **Thursday 27th February at 8pm** if you would like me to submit your entry please email to me by **Tuesday 25th February**.

Happy writing!

Mrs Craven - Whole School English Lead

We Love, We Learn, We Live with Christ

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