

# 6 TIPS FOR WRITING GOOD POEMS

- 1** Poems can be about anything – the objects in a messy drawer, a trail of ants climbing across the trampoline or your lost pink football boot – anything that matters to you.
- 2** Use your senses – see, smell and hear the things in your poem. Try thinking of yourself as a camera – show the reader in words the pictures you can see.
- 3** Build your poem with details and objects. Here are some examples of things from previous year's winning poems: pipes waiting to trip you in the attic, the bus pass with the photo you don't want anyone to see, the squadron of attacking wasps or a little brother running around the garden like a wild bull.
- 4** Use your favourite words, words you like to say. Poems don't need to rhyme or have special flowery language. Enjoy all the different sounds you can make, be inventive. Surprise yourself.
- 5** Read your poem out loud and see how it sounds. Which bits do you like best? Have you used the same word twice? Can you find any better words? Is your poem too long? Is it in the right order? See if you can improve it.
- 6** For further inspiration, visit The Poetry Trust website to read last year's winning poems [www.bit.ly/suffolkyoungpoets2014](http://www.bit.ly/suffolkyoungpoets2014)

# SEE YOU THERE

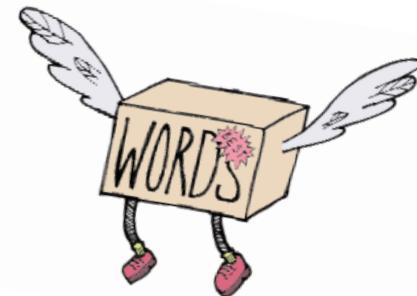
## THE 2015 ALDEBURGH POETRY FESTIVAL

Friday 6 – Sunday 8 November

The UK's leading annual international celebration of contemporary poetry. An inspiring weekend of readings, discussions, workshops and much more, including the prizewinners of the Suffolk Young Poets Competition reading alongside **Joanne Limburg**. Group bookings welcome. Make it a class outing!

Full programme available in August.

[www.thepoetrytrust.org](http://www.thepoetrytrust.org)



For more classroom approaches, don't forget  
The Poetry Trust's Toolkit – download a free PDF  
[www.bit.ly/poetrytoolkit](http://www.bit.ly/poetrytoolkit)

Illustrations by Leti Mortimer

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# THE SUFFOLK YOUNG POETS COMPETITION 2015



# THE INFO



The Poetry Trust invites you to enter poems on any subject for this year's Suffolk Young Poets Competition.

- Open to all young poets up to the age of eighteen living in Suffolk or attending a Suffolk school in 2014-2015
- Poems may be typed or hand-written
- Each poem should begin on a separate page
- Writer's name, age (on 31st July 2015), and home or school address must be on each page
- A maximum of three poems per entrant
- Poems cannot be returned so please keep copies

## SEND ENTRIES TO:

Suffolk Young Poets Competition  
The Poetry Trust  
The Cut, 9 New Cut  
Halesworth, Suffolk IP19 8BY  
by Friday 31 July 2015

# THE PRIZES

The successful young poets will receive their prizes and read their winning poems alongside an exciting new poet for younger readers, **Joanne Limburg**. Her brilliant first collection for children, *Bookside Down*, was shortlisted, and highly commended, for the CLPE Poetry Award – hear her playful and funny poems at the **Aldeburgh Poetry Festival on Friday 6 November 2015**.

A maximum of ten £20 book tokens will be awarded as prizes at the judges' discretion. The winners will be announced on National Poetry Day (8 October 2015) and will be promoted on regional radio and television.

All the prizewinning poems will be published in the East Anglian Daily Times.

They will also appear on the The Poetry Trust website:  
[www.thepoetrytrust.org](http://www.thepoetrytrust.org)

The Suffolk Poetry Society will make the annual award of the Hardiman Scott Cup to the school with the strongest overall entry.

 *Suffolk Poetry Society*

# THE EVENT

The most exciting part of winning a Suffolk Young Poets Competition prize is the experience of sharing the poem with the big Aldeburgh Poetry Festival audience in a brilliant venue at Snape Maltings, gathered for a real celebration of schools poetry in Suffolk. The event is a one-off opportunity for whole families and school groups to applaud Suffolk's most talented young poets.

Taking place early on Friday evening, the prizewinners' reading provides the perfect way to kick off the Festival weekend. So don't miss this year's **Aldeburgh Poetry Festival** – we hope to see you there!

