English – Thursday 5th November & Friday 6th November 2020

What do you think poetry is?
Do you have any favourite poems?
Do you know any poets?
Do you like poetry?
Why or why not?

Have you performed any poems yourself before?
Or have you seen anyone else performing poetry?
What was it like to watch or perform?
How did it make you feel?

Now watch this video:
https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/english-ks1-ks2-understanding-poetry/zdwxbdm

What have you learnt about performing poetry?
What different places and spaces could you perform in?
Does it HAVE to be on a stage?
Does it HAVE to be for a big audience?

Let's focus on using the different performance techniques that Joe explores in the video to perform a poem of your own. Here are some poems that could inspire you:

Overheard in a Tower Block by Joseph Coelho;
The Big Book of Bad Things by Michael Rosen;
The Language of Cat by Rachel Rooney;
You Tell Me! by Roger McGough and Michael Rosen;
Goldilocks on CCTV by John Agard;
Cosmic Disco by Grace Nichols;
Hot Like Fire by Valerie Bloom

Now think about how to perform a poem of your choice.

Which one did you like when read aloud?
When you hear the poem, how does it make you feel?
How could you explore this emotion in your performance?

How will you use the volume, tone and pace of your voice to show the emotions?
How will you use facial expressions, body language and actions to add more to your performance?

Is there a certain place where this poem could be performed? (For example an outdoor themed poem should be performed in a garden or a poem about bedtime could be done lying down on your bed)

Now spend some time re-reading your chosen poem, work on techniques, rehearse and re-work before performing to your family.

Perform your poem to your family – Remember to use all the skills you learned from the video.

How did the performance go?
How did it make you feel?
Did your audience understand the emotions you were trying to show?
What did you like best about your performance?
What could you do better next time?