



Salonika Remembers

Never Such Innocence is dedicated to educating young people about the First World War, its impact and legacy.

To mark the centenary of the First World War we are running an annual poetry and art competition for young people from 2014 to 2018. Our fourth and final competition will launch on Friday 22nd September at which time our fourth edition resource pack will be published.

The updated resource will include new sections on The Salonika Campaign and Music in the War, and we have extended The War in the Skies to mark the centenary of the Royal Air Force. Our fourth edition resource will be available as a free download on our website www.neversuchinnocence.com from 22nd September.

The poetry competition and art competition are open to all 9-16-year olds across the world. The competitions are split into the following age categories:

Age 9-11

Age 11-14

Age 14-16

Prizes per competition category:

1st place: £200-pupil & £200-school

2nd place: £100-pupil & £100-school

3rd place: £50-pupil & £50-school

All winners and runners up are invited to an unforgettable Awards Ceremony in London. Two runners up from each category are also selected and invited to the Awards Ceremony and will receive special signed copies of First World War inspired books! Every entrant receives a personalised certificate of commendation.

As well as being entered into the main international competition, children from Greece will also be in for the chance to have their work publicly exhibited in Thessaloniki and to have their work featured in the official Salonika commemorations taking place at the Doiran cemetery in September 2018.



We understand that it might be a bit daunting for some of your children to write poetry in the English language. We have five tips for writing poetry that might help children approach their work.

1. Write about what you know and have experienced. Sincerity speaks!
2. Ask yourself at the end of every line, 'Do I really need all these words? What are the ones that carry power, and what are the ones that are padding?'
3. Remember you don't have to write in complete sentences in the poetry – there are no restrictions
4. Never use a word just because it rhymes, and remember rhythm is as important in poetry as rhyme
5. Think IMAGES! Images are pictures that tell a story

Poems do not need to be restrictive in format, they can be thoughts written down and from anyone's perspective. For instance, it could be from the perspective of one of the soldier's whose grave you have visited, or it could be from the loved on of that soldier. A good example of this is the following poem which won a previous competition:

What happens next? By Sean Thackwray

What happens next
Will our lips meet again?
I long to feel you
But know in my heart this could be the end!
Are you listening my darling?
There is hate and selfishness,
But I'm only full of love and hope!

Poems will be accepted in Greek, however the competition is a great opportunity for children to practice their English language skills and so we encourage competition entries in English.

For the art competition, we encourage all mediums be it painting, sketches, cartoons, or collage. Perhaps think about best way to memorialise a soldier, or dedicate the art to the memory of an individual. Reflect on your visit to the cemetery and channel your thoughts into your poem or artwork.



Below is a snapshot of some of the rules to the competition, full rules and details may be found on our website www.neversuchinnocence.com

- The competition is open to children worldwide aged 9-16
- We ask for individual entrants, or teachers on behalf of their pupil/s, to notify us of any special educational needs they would like the judges to consider
- There is no entry fee
- Entries may be on any subject relating to the First World War
- Artwork can be made in any medium
- The copyright of each entry remains with the author. However, authors of the winning entries, by entering the competition, grant Never Such Innocence the right to publish and/or broadcast their work
- The deadline for entries is Friday 16th March 2018
- All entries must be accompanied by an entry form which may be downloaded from our website and emailed to competition@neversuchinnocence.com

In 2018 we shall be collating a lasting legacy. We shall publish a book containing all of the winning poetry and art entries from the four centenary years, preserved for generations to come – The Children’s Centenary Legacy.