



Friday 17th October 2025

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

We are excited to share a wonderful opportunity for your child to take part in the BBC's 500 Words competition. **Whilst entry for this competition is voluntary**, we would ask you to encourage your child to participate and grasp the opportunity to express their creativity.

What is 500 Words?

It's a national competition that invites children aged 5 to 11 to write a story they would love to read – in 500 words or fewer. The focus is on creativity, imagination, and storytelling. Spelling, punctuation, and grammar are not marked, so children can feel free to express themselves without pressure.

Why enter?

- 50 finalists will be invited to a star-studded grand final in February 2026.
- Stories may be read aloud by celebrity guests!
- There are lots of prizes, including bundles of books for children and schools.
- Every entry is also entered into a random prize draw – winners could receive books, Literacy Wall Art, and even 500 books for their school!

How to get involved:

We will be supporting your child in school with resources and activities to help them develop their stories. You can also explore the 500 Words website at home, where you'll find fun writing tools, story starters, and guides to help your child craft their entry.

Key Dates:

All entries need to be brought back to your child's class teacher by **Monday 3rd November**.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact your child's class teacher.

Kind regards,

Mrs S. McShane

