



Garvald Children's Poetry Competition 2014

Poems on the theme 'Remember'
to celebrate
National Poetry Day

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Introduction

This competition was organized by the Garvald village website team in support of National Poetry Day, 2nd October 2014.

We had nearly a hundred entries this year! The theme, as for National Poetry Day, was '**Remember**'. The poems were sent as anonymous entries for judging and this year we were delighted to have Edinburgh-based poet and writer **Mario Relich** as our expert judge. Mario is Secretary of the Poetry Association of Scotland and is on the executive committee of Scottish PEN (www.scottishpen.org/).

He commented that he "very much enjoyed reading all ninety-eight of the poems" and that "the children have done their very best to come up with good poems, so much so that I felt obliged to single out a number of runners-up as well as choosing the winners. Family life, family deaths, holidays, pets, and the Great War were among the most prominent themes. The poems testify to pretty stable family relationships and some are quite sophisticated in their understanding of the theme of 'Remember'."

We thank Mario for taking the time to judge the poems and our congratulations go to the winners. All winning entries have been published at www.garvald.org.uk on the 'Competitions!' pages.

Winners

Category: 7-8 Years

Winner: **Heather Wheelan** (*The Autumn Leaves*)

Second: **Annabelle Murray** (*Remember*)

Third: **Isla Irvine** (*I Remember*)

Mario said:

"*The Autumn Leaves* is a perennial poetic theme handled very well. I like the simile at the end. There is depth of feeling, and a very good way with words, which makes the poem stand out from the rest in this group."

"*Remember* was very touching, as well as skilfully written. I have never owned a pet, so I think I can be objective about this kind of poem. It is also very clear and precise about important moments."

"At first the poem *I Remember* seems very ordinary, but the final line clinches it. It suggests that the 'here and now' might be more important than 'looking back'."

He also singled out *Remember* by **Olivia Urquhart-McKendry** as a Runner-up; "a simple, but thoughtfully crafted poem. The poet's relationship to the puppy is very well conveyed, and the third line 'And her fur was as soft as silk' appeals to the sense of touch."

Category: 9-10 Years

Winner: **Katya Eardley** (*The Remembering Garden*)

Second: **Reuben Phoenix-Hill** (*Remember A Long Time Ago*)

Third: **Josh Nevill** (*When I Got Upset Writing A Poem*)

Mario commented:

"*The Remembering Garden* is another perennial poetic theme handled very well. The hint of *déjà vu* adds poignancy. The implicit contrast between 'oak' and 'mouse' is also notable."

"In *Remember A Long Time Ago*, historical time-travel is handled very well, together with sharp observation: 'They don't care how much gold they pay'. I also liked the way the stanzas move backward in time."

"I regard *When I Got Upset Writing a Poem* as one of the cleverest poems of the ninety-eight entries. It's a case of 'having your cake and eating it', and doing so with cheeky bravado."

Runners up for the 9-10 years category include:

Road Kill by **Ella Walford** which "deals with a heart-breaking, distressing subject. Honesty of feeling marks it as one of the best poems."

When I Was A Kitten by **Grace Dunkerley** "is the kind of poem that Ted Hughes might have written at age ten, and I mean that as high praise. The poet projects themselves into an animal with shamanistic ease."

The Good Times by **Anna Meikle** "is a very remarkable poem which again echoes perennial themes, this time about how time passes away quickly. For such a young poet, the author has a sophisticated grasp of such a theme. My guess is that this poet is unusually well read."

I Remember by **Jamie Macphail** "displays a considerable sense of rhythm, and it's highly imaginative in a quirky way, and in its unusual vocabulary avoiding any kind of staid poetic diction."

Category: 11-12 Years

Winner: **Victor Strang Steele** (*Remember, My Son*)

Second: **Eloise MacIver** (*Remembering The Great War*)

Third: **Guy Brooks** (*Remember*)

Mario said:

"Remember, My Son is splendidly Kiplingesque and the simile of the ruby is very striking, indeed beautiful. It's one of the most accomplished poems of the ninety-eight entries."

"Concise vignettes of the soldier's lot in WWI grace each stanza of *Remembering the Great War*. The last line seems too long at first, but it effectively sums up the pervasive fear each soldier must have felt. Putting on the voice of a soldier, and his sense of longing, are very well done."

"Remember is very vivid and psychologically convincing. It could be described as 'heart-stopping fear recollected in tranquillity'."

Runners up for the 11-12 years category include:

The Death Of My Rabbit by **James Stuart**. "It's a poem which ruthlessly maintains its unflinching pace."

Memories Of My Life by **Tristan Swan** shows "dramatic storytelling which is very well-handled. The trajectory of 'looking back' is done in a very effective way."

In *The Great War* by **Isaac Ingram** "complex aspects of WWI are handled with impressive conciseness. 'Scythe held high' is a great image."

Remember Christmas And New Year by **Tilly Bellamy** "is not a very complicated poem, but it captures vividly the spirit of a traditional Christmas. I like the 'wall/toll' half-rhyme."

Winning Poems: Age Group 7-8 Years

First Prize – Heather Wheelan, age 8

The Autumn Leaves

When it's autumn it gets colder
And the leaves will fall off trees.
It is amazing with blazing leaves.
The animals are getting ready for their hibernating.
It will be cold and in the winter there was a storm with lots of vibrating.
People stomping on the leaves,
Sounds like animals crunching food.

Second Prize – Annabelle Murray, age 7

Remember

When I went off the plane from England
Back to Scotland it was a week till my birthday.
Mummy said there was an early birthday
So we got down the stairs and rushed in to the airport.
Then we got into the car
We drove to a house
Had never been there before so I knocked on the door.
And suddenly a Sprocker dog jumped out at me.
"Whose dog is this?" I said
"Yours!" she said
So I squeezed her tight then let go.
Then I cuddled my new dog his name was Ty
So we popped him in the car and took him home.

Third Prize – Isla Irvine, age 8

I Remember

Remember the first time I rode my bike
Remember my first holiday
I like to remember all my memories every day
Some are good and some are bad
Remember my first day at nursery
Remember my first Christmas
Remember the good things in life
But I will never forget today

Runner Up: Age Group 7-8 Years

Remember

When I held my nana's puppy Darcy.
She had brown eyes.
And her fur was as soft as silk.
She is eight weeks old.
And she ran around
The kitchen like nothing
On earth.
She attacked my uncle's smelly feet
As she ran around the garden.
"Darcy! Darcy!"
I shouted.

Olivia Urquhart-McKendry, age 7

Winning Poems: Age Group 9-10 Years

First Prize - Katya Eardley, age 10

The Remembering Garden

I walked through the towering gate,
I saw the enormous oak.
Somehow I knew I had been there before
I felt so odd.

Walking around the empty garden,
Knowing all the trees
I felt so happy yet so sad
In the remembering garden.

I took a shaky step towards the oak
Remembering being here long ago
I was as curious as a mouse
I could not stop wondering

I soon was sure I really had been here before
So long ago
It was so quiet
In the remembering garden.

Second Prize - Reuben Phoenix-Hill, age 10

Remember A Long Time Ago

I remember all those years,
With modern computers and phones at our ear
People driving in the street,
With other people to meet.

Soldiers remember 100 years ago,
When they fought with gun blows.
People lying dead on the battlefield,
Other people with guns they wield.

Knights remember 500 years ago,
On horseback they would go.
Kings and queens have a banquet every day,
They don't care how much gold they pay.

Romans remember 2,500 years ago,
As the northern wind blows,
Gladiators would fight,
All through the night.

Cave people remember 10,000 years ago,
As the fire would glow.
They would hunt for meat,
And they would eat.

These people lived a long time ago,
From 1914 to 10,000 BC, I know,
That's a long time ago.

Third Prize – Josh Nevill, age 10

When I Got Upset Writing A Poem

We are told to write a poem on something we remember.
I cannot think of anything.
I say, "I can't remember anything from when I was young."
I ask if we can make something up,
The teacher says,
"No."
I feel so angry at myself, and at him.
Tears start to well up in my eyes,
I stare at the blank page,
I really want to rip it up.
I hide my face behind my hands.
I feel so annoyed with myself,
I wish I could run out the room.
Tears drip onto the desk.
Finally I say, "I can't think of a subject."
I take my hand away so everyone can see my embarrassment.
I remember the time a teacher asked me to write a poem.

Runners-Up: Age Group 9-10 Years

Road Kill

Sad, unexpected,
Sprinting upstairs crying,
Lying in bed for what felt like ages,
Staring at nothing.
I could hear everything
Mum coming in, saying it was ok,
But I could tell she felt the same
Her voice trembling.
Anger raging inside me
As though it was my fault.
Realizing how much I love her.
I hate the person that killed her
Sad, tragic,
Unhappy for months,
I still am.
Always will be.

Ella Walford, age 10

When I Was A Kitten

When I was a kitten,
I crawled inside a mitten,
I drank a lot of milk,
And tore and scratched the silk!

When I was quite small,
My owner was called Paul,
Paul preferred rice,
But I loved mice!

Grace Dunkerley, age 10

The Good Times

I remember the good old days.
Back when I did play much more.
When I ran around touched the ground.
I played tig and was not so big.

I used to run around much more.
I had more energy then.
I ran around all the time.
I never bothered to walk.
I remember this time when I was two.
I slipped on my shoe.
I thought I was dead but I wasn't.
When I turned five.
I learned to ski.
It was fun but I hurt my knee.
When I was on skis.

I loved the times when I was young, young, young.
When I had fun.
But now I am nine it is not so fun.
School is OK.
But I wish I was back in the good old times.
But I wish, wish, wish and wish for the good old days.
Will they ever come back?

Anna Meikle, age 9

I Remember

I remember the day I went to Jupiter, Saturn, Venus, and Mars.
I remember the day I kicked the moon, ouch, ouch, argg!!!
I remember the day I jumped in the rocket, yippee, yippee, yippee.
I remember the day that I said... 1, 2, 3.
I remember the day like it was yesterday.

Jamie Macphail, age 10

Winning Poems: Age Group 11-12 Years

First Prize – Victor Strang Steele, age 11

Remember, My Son

Remember, my son, that day we had so much fun.
When the sun was shining down.
Remember, my son, the cold chill and thrill of the water
Glistening like the moon.
Remember, my son, that day at the cinema
When you were laughing your head off.
Remember, my son, the glorious flavour of
A sugary sweet melting on your tongue.
Remember, my son, on Christmas Eve
The warm glow of the fire like a ruby.
Remember my son the soft, jolly
Christmas music drifting through the air.
But remember this the most, my son:
Live life to the full
Because every sixty seconds you spend upset
Is a minute of happiness you'll never get back.

Second Prize - Eloise MacIver, age 11

Remembering The Great War

Signing up for the war
Boats across the channel sea
Germans being shot down
Well, rather them than me.

Peering over the trench
Lice in all our clothes
Making friends and losing them
I still remember all those.

Eating wretched food
So cold and so wet
But on the bright-side,
I'm not dead yet.

Football at Christmas
Setting messenger pigeons free
Poppies in the field
Barbed wire is all I see.

Missing home so badly
And not knowing who's dead
But I still wish I was there
Because there's no bullet aimed at your head.

Third Prize – Guy Brooks, age 11

Remember

I remember that flight
The crack of lightning
My hands shaking
With the spluttering of the engine
My fear of the dark as the lights flicker
I could hear the breathing as we dropped
The lightning cutting through the thick grey cloud
I remember the metallic announcement

We broke through the cloud
My heart jumped as I saw land
As the shaking finally stopped in my hands
I, remember that feeling
As all my worries lifted
When we touched onto that grey band of land
I remember that day so cold and grey

Runners-Up: Age Group 11-12 years

The Death Of My Rabbit

The sudden squeal of death
Froze my heart
Overwhelming sadness falls on me like hail as I watch in disbelief
My breathing faint and quivery as I sit on grass
Unable to move
Sweat oozing out onto my brow
The dog
Shaking my rabbit by the neck
My cheeks
Suddenly moist with petrified tears

James Stuart, age 11

Memories Of My Life

There was a time, I am told, when I was an only child,
But this I cannot remember

The first thing I remember is my sister being born
And from then on my memory's much better
Memories of holidays, family and friends,
These, I will never forget
5 years later...

I remember being shown into a big red room
"You're going to meet your new teacher!" mum says,
The teacher says "hello, what's your name?"
I smile shyly, then hide behind mum's dress.
Memories of holidays, family and friends,
These I will never forget
2 years later...

I remember, strolling about like I owned the school, laughing with all my
friends.
And then some P7s would show their faces,
And we would all yell "get them!"

Now I'm a P7, I still walk the school, although I'm now being chased by
P2's.
Meanwhile at my house, my room's changed. My whole house has changed
actually, but my memories have not.

Tristan Swan, age 11

The Great War

Remember;
The gunshots beginning.
Cries of pain.
Death swooping down,
Scythe held high.

Remember;
Roaring engines.
Zeppelins with bombs.
Planes locked in combat,
Machine guns blazing.

Remember;
Ceasefire at Christmas.
Football match played.
Soldier's friendly game.
Enemies become friends.

Remember;
The guns resuming.
Soldiers firing.
No-man's land,
Cratered and bleak.

Remember;
The Germans' final charge.
Americans arrive from over the sea.
The Allies are complete,
End of the war.
Remember.

Isaac Ingram, age 11

Remember Christmas and New Year

Remember Christmas and New Year,
What lovely times they were,
My Christmas stocking hung on the wall,
The bell about to toll.

Remember rushing down to the fire place
Seeing if Santa is really going to come.
Remember how the frozen light shined through the window and the frosty air.
Remember when the lights went on the Christmas tree.
Remember all the teddy bears and toys that I got that year.

Tilly Bellamy, age 11

Other Entries: Age Group 7-8 Years

Remember

It was sunny
I woke up
There were lots of balloons
I thought it was my brother
But it wasn't
It was my birthday
I stood up
And dressed myself
Into my new dress
I was excited
My mum brought the cake
I leaned forward and my brother
Pushed me forward
And I fell into my cake

Amelia Guzikowska, age 7

Remember

When I touched the car window it was icy cold.
When we got to camp I ran down to my best lake and it was icy and shining
in the sunlight.
In the morning the birds were singing
And I woke up with a yawn.

Ava Middlemiss, age 7

Remember

Remember the time
The time when me and my friends
Went to the post box.
I thought I needed some things.
But my mum said,
“Don’t be silly!”

Daniel Bond, age 7

Remember

It was a long journey
When we got there it was a very hot day
We saw lots of animals
We saw tigers and lions and zebras
And elephants
And we went to the park
We had lunch there
But it was so hot the lunch melted!

Evie Harkness, age 7

Remember

I went to the library it was a lovely day.
I was eating a sausage roll
So I stayed out until I had finished it.
I ran in the library and
Stopped to talk to a library manager.
After that I went to choose my books.
When I got home I sorted my books out in my room.
Two of the books that I had were Rainbow Magic by Daisy Meadows.
I like the Rainbow Magic books very much.
One of the books that were Rainbow Magic had three stories
And the other had one.

Polly Watson, age 7

Remember

It was dark when we walked
Onto the pitch
As we shook hands
I had a funny feeling
I know the goalie always got blamed

It was 1-0, this was not good
This could be Scotland's
World Cup journey over
Brazil were just too good!

Ronnie Brown, age 7

Remember

I woke up
The roof was pounding with rain
I heard my parrot squeaking I went down the stairs
The next morning I went swimming with my big sister and my two cousins
Five days to go until I go on holiday

Abbie Sneddon, age 8

Remember

It was a dark and stormy night
When I was driving to Aberfoyle with my family.
I looked out the window.
I couldn't believe my eyes.
I saw flashing of lightning coming out of the sky.

The next day it was just raining.
I went fishing I caught a fish about 35cm.
We all had it for lunch.

It was so tasty me and mum and Connie had two bits each.

Scarlett Totney, age 8

Remember

I was on my way to a football match
I was going with my dad and brother
We walked to the football stadium
My team won four one
I was very happy
It was a brilliant match
I thought it was super!

Aaron Adams, age 8

Remember

I was two
We were at a football match
Five minutes to go
I was on my Dad's shoulders
They scored a goal
I got a fright
I peed on my Dad's head!

Rudie Shearer, age 8

Remember

On our way to camping
We got there and went fishing
We caught an eel it was 30cm long
Then we had supper
It was roast lamb then we went to
Bed.
We woke up at 5.30 am
Tom's dad told us off.
Then we went fishing again

We caught another eel
Then we went home.

Fergus Montgomerie, age 8

Remember

Remember, remember
The first time you went to nursery
When you were in the toilets
You sang hey, diddle, diddle.

Remember, remember
The first time you went to school
When you were in class
You would normally fiddle.

Remember, remember
The first time you went
To secondary school.

Indie Phoenix Hill, age 8

Remember

It was Saturday morning.
It was sunny.
I had just got up, "It's a good day ahead", I said to myself.
Me and my friend, Fergus my dad and Fergus's dad were going camping together.
At about 10 o'clock in the morning me and my dad were ready so we left.
When we got there I saw a big river so I set up my rod.
When Fergus arrived and he started fishing and so did I.
We said that he had caught something but he hadn't.
About ten minutes later he caught something for real.
I ran to the rod and told Fergus but he did not believe me.
I told him again.
So he came over and he had caught an eel. Same with me!

Great!

Tom Kelman, age 8

I Remember

Summer is very hot
Winter is very cold
In the winter you
Make snowmen
In summer chilling at the beach
And making sand castles
Get some shells
Get some snowball playing and
Diving in the pool and surfing
A snow fight I lost
Remember your coat
Remember your swimming suit

Jessie Doherty, age 8

I Remember When

I remember when I first went to the Halloween party.
I remember when I got my first scooter.
I remember when I got my first quad bike.
I remember when I first came to the school.
I remember when I met Taylor, Logan F, Fergus.
I remember when I got a dog.

Logan Zelent, age 8

I Remember

I remember that I went to England and went to the big park.
I heard a few things like a bird and the wind.
The birds made this noise
Tweet, tweet, tweet.
The wind made this noise

Sh, sh, sh.

Holle Wright, age 8

I Remember The Good Times

I was at the park, a dog
Started to flick the bark
Then I fell into a pool.
Everything was cool.
I remember my first ice cream
And played with my football team.
I saw a cape then it ripped so I
Used some tape.

Wesley Niven, age 8

Swiss Roll

I remember when my dad got angry and threw a Swiss roll at my cat.
Then my mum got angry at my dad and throw a Swiss roll right back.
The baby climbed out of the cot and got onto a big fright.
But I remember the funny times and the bad times as well.
But this all when my dad fell in the well.

Jenny Jumelle, age 8

Summer Holidays

I remember when I was in Spain.
I remember how hot I was.
I remember how excited I was on my first time in the pool.
The beach was so close I could see the sea from the villa, splosh, splosh,
splosh.
I had a tan already so I got a new one.

Daisy Ingram, age 8

I Remember My Memories

I remember my
Very first toy
I remember eating my very first tomato
It tasted disgusting
I remember getting my iPod
From my sister
I remember inventing a club with
My Dad
I remember getting
My iPad

Jessica Cole, age 8

I Remember When

I remember when I got my iPod from Santa.
I remember when I got my gun from dad.
I remember when I got my first dog from dad.
I remember when I got my first stag.
I remember when I got my first BB gun.

Jack Brown age 8

I Remember Norfolk

In Norfolk where the seas are high,
Almost like I can't say goodbye,
Really nice and beautiful views,
Now I am just teasing you!
Some is sand and some is stone,
Anyway it's not quite home!

Fergus Curran, age 8

Other Entries: Age Group 9-10 Years

My Niece Kyla

Remember the happiness and laughter of joy
Remember the clock striking ten
Remember buying the cheerful new toy
Remember the atmosphere then.

Remember the time when her name was just “baby”
Remember her very first laugh
Remember we thought she could talk, just maybe
Remember when she had a bath.

Remember her birthday and the party we had
Remember her first tiny step
Remember when she was a tiny bit mad
Remember when she wanted a crepe.

Eliza-Jane Aitken Curran, age 10

Remember

I remember my first day of school and I had a great day,
I remember when my first tooth fell out I think it was in May,
I remember when I used to hum in the same tune as the hoover when it
was turned on,
I remember my first proper holiday when I went to Switzerland,
I remember the day that my Granddad died and I felt quite sad,
I remember when my mum told me that I was very MAD!!!!
I remember when I learned to ride my bike I thought I couldn't do it,
I remember the first time I was scratched by a very scary cat!
I remember the first sum I did I was very proud,
I remember that I got in trouble for being very
LLLOOOUUUDDDD!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Constance Pennycuick, age 10

Remember, Remember Christmas Day

Remember, remember running down the stairs, opening the door to see
popping presents burst open.

Remember, remember putting bubbling bobbles on the Christmas tree.

Remember, remember opening sparkling stockings.

Remember, remember having a snow fight in the deep snow.

Remember, remember having Christmas pudding.

Rachel Aitchison, age 10

Remember

Remember that special day,
When his paws set
Foot in the garden and
He started to play.

Remember that distinct
Squeaking of his first
Chew toy when he
Drops it at your feet.

Remember that time when
There was a power cut
And he would howl
And we would just tut.

Remember that he's grown
Up and old, but he
Still keeps me warm when it's wet and cold.

Niamh Brotherston, age 10

I Remember Going To Belfast

I remember staying up all night.
I remember being excited.
I remember gulping my breakfast.
I remember saying bye to my dad.
I remember jumping in the car.
I remember running into the airport.
I remember meeting a lady in front of security.
I remember my mum started talking to her. Her name was Sam.
I remember she took me through security with her.
I remember she got a coffee.
The EasyJet is leaving in 10 minutes.
Oh no we better go.
I remember I sat next to Sam on the plane.
We arrived at Belfast.
I remember saying bye to Sam.
I remember running to my Granny.
After we went to my Granny's house I remember eating my dinner.
I remember going on the trampoline.
I remember going to bed to watch Freaky Friday.
I remember going to sleep.

Amy Harkness, age 9

Christmas

Christmas is a time for family and friends,
So enjoy your Christmas before it ends.
Santa will deliver presents from his sleigh,
Before time runs out and starts the day.
Santa lives in the North Pole and if you're naughty you'll get bag of *coal!*

Callum McBain, age 9

Remember The Day

Remember the past, remember the present,
Remember each day with pride.
Remember the time when you got your first cat.
Remember you called it Finn.
Remember the day you went to school,
It was there you learned to swim,
Remember each week, remember each year,
Remember the last day of life.

Ellen Hunter, age 9

Remember The Wedding

I remember when the rings came.
I remember when the party happened.
I remember the dinner.
I remember the honeymoon.
I remember the first baby.

George Chalmers, age 9

I Still See It All

We went to France.
Up the Eiffel Tower,
Down by the Seine.
We canoed in a river,
Laughed in the boat,
Splashed in the sea,
Lazed in the sun,
Ate snails for lunch,
Frogs legs for supper.
We learnt some French.

Isla Kilkenny, age 9

Memories

I only remember a little bit of being a baby.
I remember my christening.
I got a pole with two teddy bears on each end.
I also got a cuddly toy.
That's all I can remember from when I was a baby.
When I was three I went to Spain and I went swimming in the pool.
That's all I can remember
From when I was three.
When I was six I went to France with my cousins.
Now I am nine and I still have the whole world ahead of me.

Jemma Swan, age 9

I Remember

I remember the day I went to Glentress.
I remember when I got my first motor bike.
I remember the first day of school.
I remember the first day I went to the zoo.
I remember the day I went swimming.

Logan Ferguson, age 9

I Remember

I remember when I won my first medal.
I remember my first teddy.
I remember my first dog.
I remember my first ride on a quad bike.
I remember my first fish.

Oakleigh Robertson, age 9

All These Years I Remember The Good Times

When I was two I tripped over my shoe
And my finger turned
BLUE!

When I was 5 I slid down
The slide with my mum
At my side.

When I was 10 I went skiing
Again and broke my shin.
Boy that was sore.

I remember all that but
There is still much more.
I remember the good times
When...

When I was 13. I had a monkey
Called Max.
He would go in to my bag to steal
Snacks.
When I was 20 I graduated
From uni.

The good old times were when
I was young but sadly now I am 81.

Mimi Brown, age 9

I Remember My First Teddy Bear

I got my first teddy bear.
It was soft and cuddly.
I took it to bed.
The colour was golden.
I love my teddy bear.

Louisa Stoddart, age 9

Always Remember

My mum says I can't remember,
But I don't agree.
I remember the time I was a baby.
I remember the first train I went on.
I remember the my uncle's name (John).
I will remember today tomorrow and after.
So I will remember faster.
I will remember.
So proves mum wrong, she will think again.

Riley White, age 9

Summer!

The summer is awesome the summer is great.
So enjoy it while you can before it's too late.

The summer is hot red hot good mate.
So enjoy it while you can before it's too late.

The summer is fun the summer is great.
So enjoy it while you can before it's too late.

Rorie Watt, age 9

Taylor the Sailor

Taylor the sailor on his boat
Catching fish with his dog Chop
Fish, fish, fishy I will sell, I will sell
And they will make fish fingers
Yum, yum, yum, hum, yum, yum, yum, hum.

Taylor Black, age 9

I Can Remember

I can remember my first day in Primary One.
My first fall out with my best friend.
The first time I watched a scary film.

I can remember when I got my pet cat,
My first game on our iPod.
And I can remember everything since then.

Sophie Barclay, age 9

Suddenly I Remembered

I was walking by the street by the big oak tree.
Suddenly I remembered
Back and back to when I was five,
When me and my mum went to the park every day.
I waked a little more.
Suddenly I remembered
Back when I was seven,
When me and my mum went swimming in the pool.
Suddenly I remembered that
I was walking home after a fun time at the park with my friend.

Sara Martins, age 9

Since I was 4

When I was 4 I touched a boar.
When I was 6 I learnt hieroglyphics.
When I was 8 I went to bed very late.
When I was 12 I banged in to a shelf.
When I was 20 I eat plenty.
When I was 30 I ate my friend Bertie.

Zoe Doig, age 9

7s vs St. Mary's

7s vs St. Mary's
We were prepared
Blood anger happiness
The nervous match
One as big as an ogre
One as small as an ant
7s vs S. Mary's
He battled through with four men on him
One, two three
And then
Plunged and scored the try.
There was happiness
There was sadness
Everyone about to cry
Then we realised it may not be done
There may not be so much fun
We have to convert.
We did.
Into extra time,
Fierce, strong, hard, we scored the golden try.

Sholto Harris, age 10

Remember

I am 60
My years have gone quickly
But now I am old and slow
My life is coming to an end
Good bye, good bye

Holly Brown, age 9

Memories

I remember when we were on the boat,
We set sail.
We were following the sky and the sea,
The sea was glimmering the sky was shining at us.
And we sailed away into the sea.

Lucia Bivar Seguardo, age 10

When I Was Young

I remember when I was young
So fit I used to be
I ran up and down the street
As busy as a bee
I entered in all the races
And won every one
But now those days are over
I am not so young

Tom Riddell, age 10

Remember

I remember the day that you left me to go to the beautiful sky
The sky so blue to live a life of eternity
The sky so blue
I remember you came down to earth with your beautiful golden wings
Your beautiful golden wings
They flutter like an angel's wing in the beautiful sky
You make the world look so perfect and pretty
In the sky so blue
You said goodbye and went away to the beautiful sky of yours
Your beautiful golden wings like a lovely angel's to the sky so blue you went
You went back up to the beautiful sky to live a life of eternity
To the sky so blue

Ross Conor Fanagan Cadzow, age 9

At The Seaside

Remember
 At the seaside,
 And all the lovely shells.
 Remember
 The sea's melodies,
 And all the salty smells.

Holly Elliot, age 10

Remember Your...

Remember your
First holiday
Remember how you were
As adventurous as a baby in a new house.

Remember your
First day of school
Remember how you were
As quiet as a baby mouse.

Remember your
First birthday party when you were ten
Remember how you were
As happy as a buzzy bee.

Remember your
First dance performance
Remember how you were
As nervous as can be.

Hannah Chalmers, age 10

Remember My Friends

Holly E was as brave as a lion
Eloise was as brave as a mouse
Sam was a brave as a polar bear
Nicole was as brave as a tiger.

Lucia was as brave as a panda
Hannah was as brave as a rat
Harry was as brave as a bear
Grace was brave as a monkey

Daniel Murray, age 10

Remember The Good Old Days

Remember the day when we were eleven,
We went on a bike ride to the top of the hill,
We took a picnic and
Went to the park,
But we are the three best friends anyone could have.

Nicole Taylor, age 10

I Remember When I Left My Hoos

When I was only ten I left my hoos,
I left my hoos because me dad turned
Into a dog
Me mum turned into a moth
And only I was left
It was a dark night the sun
Was up and bright branches and brambles bright
As the white as the moon so bright then all sudden
I turned it to a big fat juicy pie.

Craig Milligan, age 10

Scary Noises

I've been to three different schools
And three different houses
With lots of scary noises in the night
In the light in the dark in the day oh please don't hurt me
I'll pray I'll pray after a long day everyone in my village said go

Liam Jumelle, age 10

Remember Me

Do you remember when we were young?
All strong and fine, playing standing in a line,

But now my years are finished all done
I'm finished forever but please family
Respect I'm gone I'll never be here again,

Please don't fight please be nice
Just remember I'll always be with
In your *heart*.

Samantha Snowden, age 9

Warrior

I remember when I was I a warrior,
Running up and down the battle field
Tripping over rocks and tumbling down the hills and
Most silly of all I would
Keep running into trees.
After the fight it looked like I
Had just come out of the war
Even though I hadn't touched a single person.

Ewan McClung, age 9

Remembrance Day

Remembrance Day comes every year,
When you have to stop for one minute to remember the people who died
In the war,
It's quite a sad time for some people cry
And at the end remember to say bye
To all the people who died.

Jasmine Anderson, age 9

Remember

Remember, remember when I was young.
I played snow ball fights with me friends.
One of me friends throws a snow ball like a comet.
He hit me more than anyone else.
Anyway it was only a game.
But now I'm old and I can't do anything about it.

Harry Bertrand, age 10

Memories Of...

Memories of the funny stories that was told when I was young.
Some I swore not to say because it's too risky.
We don't say around some folk though I'm dying to say.
I'll have to go away right now I may see very soon.
So now I am away, so see you very soon.

Eloise Thursz, age 9

Remember The Lake

Remember when we were kids we went to the lake.
The waterfall so small it was.
And the big hill we'd fight up there pretending to be pirates,
Or scuba diving in the Lake or as we call it the deep blue sea.
Remember it was our life.

Aidan Ballantyne, age 10

I Remember When

I remember when I was small
And now I see myself tall.
I remember when I called my pet
And he would always come back wet.
But now those days are gone
And more days to come.

Now I stay alone
Sitting in my old chair of foam.
And now I am poor
I wish I could have more.
But now those days have gone
And more days to come.

I remember when the skies were blue
I wish you were with me too.
I remember at the end of the day
You used to take me to the bay.
But now those days are gone
And more days to come.

Rosie Taylor, age 9

I Remember

I remember when I was at my Grandma's
I saw it in the picture
My grandma was there and so was I
My Mum, my Dad and my sister
They were all there
But there was one who was not there

Rory Morrison, age 9

Other Entries: Age Group 11-12 years

The Day I Saw A Volcano From A Beach

Remember that day
Oh such a beautiful day
That day all I remember is the volcano
You could see the ash
Swelling into a dark grey fist
I was lost for words
Dumfounded, flabbergasted
It was the most beautiful sight I have ever seen
The pale orange lava oozing slowly like a tentacle
Reaching down the mountainside destroying anything it came across
So quiet and beautiful on the outside
So dangerous and terrifying on the in.

Xan Gray Muir, age 11

I Remember

The rocks towering over the sand
The smell of the barbeque wafting around
A baby sleeping on the sand
Covered in soft sand
Swimming out to the rocks
Climbing to the top
I can see everything for miles around
It's amazing!
The sun is reflecting off the water
I hope it's getting warmer
I jump, I hit the water with a splash
When I swim back to shore nobody is playing anymore.
They're packing away ready to go home
It's starting to rain
It's probably for the best.

Honor Carrick-Buchanan, age 11

Storm

Wake up
To the crashing of waves
Creaking of the boat in the fierce wind
Thunder and lightning
Can't sleep
Walking up onto the sopping wet deck
Rocks glistening in the light of the moon
Grabbing the anchor
Pushing it down
Down onto the swaying deck
Watching the waves crashing against the wind
Birds calling
Shouting up on deck
Petrified of something leaping out of the water
Finally falling asleep
Wake again
Massive smash of a wave on the boat
Hands sweating head pounding
My world is still ticking away.

Rebecca Watson, age 11

The Worst Bit Of My Holiday

The phone rings
Mum ignores it
The phone rings again
This time she looks at it
It is the vets
Mum answers it
Fluids of thins
The dog had passed away
I felt terrible
That I had not been there for him
We were in a beautiful chalet in France
When the poor dog had passed away.

Eleanor Rowley, age 11

Dogs

The summer sun is shining
Playing in fields of spiky stubble
Black coats gleaming chasing dumb birds
Going on walks having races
Burrs stuck to their fluff
Muddy pounding paws on ploughed fields
Remembering them young
Maisie has puppies
One dies
We keep one called Sam
Teaching them tricks hungry after walks
Scoffing their dinner playing fetch with a tennis ball
Going shooting and having fun
Yummy dog biscuits, grey hairs starting to form
Getting ill and having operations
Going to school and coming back
Bridey has died
Didn't say goodbye
Bury him under a blossom tree putting down the grave-stone
Crying and weeping
Planting flowers
Happy now
Maisie gets ill she dies as well
Buried in paddock with Bridey
They are happy now
I loved my dogs and still do.

Louisa Forsyth, age 11

A Dream Of Dragons

I remember a dream of dragons,
Flying through the air,
Hundreds of colours,
But no more.

Wait,
Here comes a red dragon,
With shimmering amber eyes,
And scales that glint in the sunlight.

I felt a pang for the dragon,
Being all alone,
So aboard his back I climbed,
And into the air we rose.

Together we flew,
Over mountain tops, just him and
me,
Over lush, green hills and turquoise
lakes,
All the way to a snow-capped forest.
But underneath the crystal-white
snow,
Lay a forest of darklings,
Pairs of beady eyes,
Sat staring at me and my dragon.

I knew that my dragon would
protect me,
From all evil alike,
I saw other dragons,
But white, green and blue.

They all looked so sad,
Under confinement,
I wished I could free them,
Suddenly I knew what to do.

Together we flew,
Back out of the forest,
And over the hills and lakes,
To the mountain tops.

There we found other dragons,
All different colours,
All different powers,
But all dragons.

The news spread like dragonfire,
And soon all knew,
Of the attempt to defeat the
darklings,
And the prayers for a victory.

Together we flew,
In our hundreds,
We flew to defeat the darklings,
And we prayed for a victory.

We used our powers,
To fight the battle,
And we won,
Because we prayed for victory.

Perhaps I remembered this dream of
dragons,
Because maybe they aren't mythical,
Maybe somebody remembers them,
Like we all remember one we've
loved.

Midnight Adams, age 11

My Trip To France

The sun and the heat
Shinning down on us
As everyone sat eating lunch
Amongst the rush of people.

The fish swam around in the river,
Suddenly we were in the canoes,
Drifting through the shade of the trees.
I dipped my feet in the river, the cool rush of water over my sweaty toes.

People sunbathing on the banks
And the sound of the rapids
And now I am remembering how much I love France, I smile and my Friend
smiles back.

Venetia Reynolds, age 11

My Brother

On the floor he sat
Grinning with delight
As he chewed the dripping loo brush.

Mum called the ambulance
Up the drive it came
It seems like Arthur
Made more noise than the ambulance's blaring sirens.

Away to hospital
He cried until he saw
The doctor with a beard
After that he giggled and snorted until
The doctor sent him home.

Ruth Meynell, age 11

My Brazilian Journey

Remembering feelings rushing throughout me
Everyone was quiet
Me: buzzing with excitement – I was flying to Brazil
Missing home but distracted by happiness
Being there was incredible.
Each night all night homesick
Realising that not all family was there.

But all day every day,
Roaring happiness building up inside.
Amazing scenes, beautiful feelings, loud but mysterious
Zoos, beaches, jungles, the world is a jungle.
I feel upset,
Leaving this vast adventure.

Anna Lowry, age 11

Getting Up On One Ski

One summer on Loch Ken.
It was very hot and the water was as
Calm as a bed sheet.
I was very excited but at the same time
Very nervous.
The water was as cold as ice but after
A little while I got used to it.
I said, "Go!" and I was up.
It was like I was running on water on
One foot.
And then just a few meters more.
I started wobbling from side to side.
And then, SPLAT!
I had fallen.

Jake Cliff, age 11

My First Jump In Wakeboarding

Standing on the edge of the dock
Water washing up on to the edge
Nerves tingle in my fingers
Feet turning pale white
Rough Velcro straps on my feet.
I stand up and stare at the other end of the lake
“You can do it!” I tell myself
As I bite my lip.
The cable starts moving
My legs start shaking.
The odd smell of old pine trees and soggy water splash
Enter the water with white spray in my face
My hair blows to the wind
I turn to the side
I hit the jump
Felt like I was flying
My teeth biting together
I closed my eyes and held my breath
Slowly opening my eyes
I took a deep look and realised I had cleared it
It felt amazing
I did it!
Yah!

Tilly Scovell, age 11

Mallorca

The waves are as blue as sapphires,
People playing exciting games of ball,
Oh no! I fall into the glass clear water,
And something red wraps round my arm.

I scream and immediately jump out,
My mum and dad come and I say, "OUCH!"
I lie in the shade of the umbrella,
Waiting for the pain to go away.

After a while I feel happy,
And then we go on a pedalo.
We push and push until it glides into the water.
I stand on top of the slide and say, "Here I go!"

After a couple more goes we head back to the beach.
We start to pack up at the end of the tiring day.
As we travel back in the bumpy car
I realise that we have gone quite far
When we arrived home we all ran to the showers,
But I go and bomb into the pool,
And splash and do rubbish handstands until I feel sleepy.
I wonder out of the freezing pool,
To go and start the BBQ.
When we finish our scrumptious supper,
I go and flop on to my bed.
I had a lovely day and wish it could happen again.

Kitty Seymour, age 11

It Was So Funny When....

It was so funny when my little sister fell over after being on a roundabout.
It was so funny when my dog did a forward roll on the sofa.
It was so funny when my mum got splatted all over my Mum.
It was so funny when my little sister got stuck in the slide.
It was so funny when my sister opened her first Christmas cracker.
Remember the day that my dog looked like a deer.

Megan Houston, age 11

Christmas Day

I woke up on Christmas morning,
To find my whole family sleeping.
I sneaked down stairs to find my presents,
And that's when I saw all the snow.
I stared at the snow until I heard a creak.

I went back to bed to find Ted,
In his bed, above my head,
Then I hear a slice of bread,
It must have dropped from a ledge.

Then I walked down stairs,
And my little sister got lots of teddy bears,
Then I look at my brother.
He got lots of bother,
From my mother.

Then I look at my pile.
I got thousands of presents.
I quickly run over to them,
And tear them apart.

Jamie Denholm-Moises, age 11

Remember

I remember the night that I went trick or treating with my friends,
It was funny and dark and then it started to rain harder and harder, then it stopped.

We got to the first door.

The main thing are the sweets, they look so nice and say "Eat me, eat me".

After the last door you just want to go back to the best time of your life,

The time where you're the only one.

Kuba Guzikowski, 11

I Remember My First Christmas

I remember my first Christmas like it was only yesterday,

I got a seesaw and a slide and played on them all day.

The snow was crisp and cold outside and I kept on falling over,

We went sledging down the hill and I found a four leaf clover.

We came back to the house and with our new present,

Our family came round, they all live on different crescents.

Christmas dinner was the best with turkey, potatoes and all the rest.

I remember my first Christmas like it was only yesterday.

Beth Riva, age 11

Remember

I remember, remember when you were there.

I remember, remember when I was there.

I remember, remember what happened that night.

I remember, remember getting onto my bed.

I remember, remember you coming back home.

I remember, remember you brought him back here.

I remember, remember when you first said his name.

I remember, remember you called him James.

Annie Wilson-Rumney, age 11

Remember

Remember, remember my finger was jammed in a car door because my friend slammed it on it.

Or my first peanut butter M&M!

Remember, remember my first day of school.

Or way off in Spain sitting by the pool!

Remember, remember those days at Cub Camp.

It had rained every night and the tents were all damp!

Cody Gunn, age 11

Remember

I remember my first time riding a bike,
I went down a hill with my feet sticking out,
The wind in my face now that was a treat,

I wobbled and wiggled.....
I missed the turning
I knew what was coming now,
The HEDGE!

The second time I went down that hill,
I put the brakes on as hard as I could,
But I flipped over my handle bars and fell in the wood,
And now I know to be careful down that hill.

Lucy de Burgh, age 11

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Other websites of interest for young poets, parents and teachers:

- www.youngpoetsnetwork.org.uk
- www.poetrysociety.org.uk/content/competitions/fyp
- www.guardian.co.uk/childrens-books-site
- www.poetrysociety.org.uk/content/education
- www.nationalpoetryday.co.uk/index.php
- www.scottishpoetrylibrary.org.uk/connect/national-poetry-day

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