**WHAT IS POETRY?**

🡪An expression of emotions or feelings about an idea, topic or issue

🡪Songs also tell a story and include emotions and expressions so the two are very much related

🡪People read poetry for enjoyment but also to develop thinking and problem-solving skills

🡪Poetry uses writing techniques to make it sound more interesting, (just like short stories do!)

**BASIC POETRY TERMS**

🡪**LINES:** A line of poetry is like a sentence. A line covers one line, (although if it’s long it might spill over to a second line.

🡪**STANZA:** A stanza is like a paragraph. It focuses on one main topic or idea. It consists of a group of lines. Some poems say how long a stanza should be, like four lines for example.

🡪**RHYTHYM:** The beat of a poem and the way some words are emphasized

🡪**THEME:** Theme is the main idea of a poem, (what it’s about). There could be more than one theme for a poem so you have to be prepared to explain your answer.

🡪**POETIC DEVICES:** Tools poets use to make their poetry more interesting

**SIMILE**

A comparison using “like” or “as” (I twerked like rock star)

**METAPHOR**

A comparison without like or as, interpreted by the reader (Life is a highway)

**PERSONIFICATION**

Giving human qualities to a non-human object (The trees danced beautifully in the wind)

**ONOMATOPOEIA**

A word that is written similar to the way it sounds.

**ALLITERATION**

Repeating the sound at the start of a word two or more times (People parked periodically)

**THEME**

The central message, emotion, or idea within a piece of poetry (Similar to other forms of literature)

**OXYMORON**

This is a pair of words written together where the words are opposite and cancel each other out.

**COUPLET**

These are two rhyming lines written together, usually at the end of a stanza.