

# Murwillumbah Festival of Performing Arts Soc. Inc.

**ABN: 76 159 593 796**

**PO Box 1247, Murwillumbah. NSW 2484.**

**[www.murbahfestival.com.au](http://www.murbahfestival.com.au)**

**President: Simone Wong**

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## **Committee of Murwillumbah Festival of Performing Arts**

President: Simone Wong

Vice Presidents: Mary-Anne McShane, Heather Martin OAM

Secretary: Deidre Hulton

Treasurer: Lynnette Kee

Convenors Speech – Simone Wong

Music – Vikki Armour, Heather Martin OAM

Dance – Helen Green

Trophy Coordinator: Annette Simpson

Public Officer: Lynnette Kee

Minutes Secretary: Mary-Anne McShane

## **Committee of Management:**

Vikki Armour, Beth Brooks, Amanda Cossins, Helen Green, Deirdre Hulton, Bryanne Jardine, Lynnette Kee, Peter Kelly, Beryl Lawther, Michele Lourie, Mary-Anne McShane, Heather Martin, Lyn Pond, Annette Simpson, Debbie Tietzel, Di Wilder, Simone Wong.

### **Message from the Convenor - Simone Wong**

On behalf of the Speech and Drama Sub-Committee, I am pleased to welcome competitors both new, and seasoned, to another wonderful Speech competition.

We use the word “competition”, but at the heart of this is a group of young people who are willing to step up on stage and perform in front of an audience. This is no small feat, and we are proud to offer an opportunity for this to happen.

Whether these performers seek to pursue a career in the performing arts, want to improve their confidence, communication skills, understanding of literature or simply experience being on stage, we welcome them all.

### **Message from the President - Simone Wong**

On behalf of the Committee, I am thrilled to invite you to enter another exciting year for the Murwillumbah Festival of Performing Arts in 2025.

This year all genres return to the beautiful and newly renovated Murwillumbah Civic Centre and we look forward to welcoming you all there. The Festival provides a platform for young people to experience the excitement of being on stage and performing for an audience of both our locals and visitors to enjoy. We are proud to offer this opportunity within the backdrop of the beautiful Tweed Valley.

As always it is important to acknowledge the year-round work that goes into making this one of the most popular, and (we believe) friendliest Festivals around. The amazing committee, our sponsors and you, our competitors and audience, all contribute to its success and longevity.

We look forward to welcoming you in 2025.

Warm wishes,  
Simone Wong

# **GENERAL FESTIVAL REGULATIONS**

## **1. GENERAL MANAGEMENT**

- a) In these regulations, the word 'Committee', shall mean the Committee of the Murwillumbah Festival of Performing Arts Society Inc.
- b) The Committee reserves the right to refuse any entry.
- c) Programming positions will be strictly observed (unless changed by the Convenor).
- d) In Own Choice competitions, marks will be awarded for quality of selections.

## **2. BREACH OF REGULATION**

Any competitor deemed to be in breach of a section's regulations will be furnished with an Adjudicator's Report containing comments only.

## **3. ENTRIES**

- a) No entry will be accepted unless accompanied by the full fee as per Schedule.
- b) Entries should be through Comps-Online. Please be sure that ALL particulars are provided.

## **4. COMPETITIONS**

- a) No competitor will be allowed to perform the same item in more than one section, unless otherwise stated.
- b) Due to time commitments or unnecessary repetition, the Adjudicator may 'ring off' a competitor before completion of the performance. This does not necessarily signify disapproval or rejection.
- c) All competitors in Championship Sections must enter and perform in their corresponding age or open sections. (Restricted sections not accepted.)
- d) Please keep Props to a MINIMUM and be sure they are able to be handled by the stage hands. All props to be removed from the precincts of the stage at the conclusion of each session.
- e) Persons required to manipulate props or to play music will be allowed in the stage wings, but only during the relative performance.
- f) Sections may be split or combined if warranted, at the discretion of the convenor.
- g) The competition is open to amateurs only, not professionals or teachers. (A professional is defined as a person who earns a major part of his/her income from the practice of the art, or who uses the art as a primary means of livelihood.)
- h) Persons with disabilities are encouraged to enter the competitions. Please advise by email of any additional requirements or if wheelchair access to the stage is required.

Speech - [mfpa.speech1923@gmail.com](mailto:mfpa.speech1923@gmail.com)

Music - [mfpa.music@gmail.com](mailto:mfpa.music@gmail.com)

Dance - [mfpa.dance@gmail.com](mailto:mfpa.dance@gmail.com)

- i) The proposed programme of competition is:-

**Speech and Drama** Thursday 19th June 2025 to Thursday 26th June 2025

**Music** Friday 27th June 2025 to Thursday 3rd July 2025

**Dance** Friday 4th July 2025 to Friday 11th July 2025

## **5. AGE**

Age for competitors is listed in the individual regulations for each genre

## **6. TIME LIMITS**

- a) Time limits have been specified throughout this schedule. In fairness to all and in the interest of accurate programming, PLEASE COMPLY WITH THESE LIMITS. Should time limits be exceeded, the adjudicator may penalise.
- b) A timer will be used for the Festival.

## **7. PRIZES**

- a) The adjudicator's decision is final and he/she will have the power to withhold or divide prizes according to merit.
- b) The adjudicator may also be entitled to recommend the awarding of a second prize only, if the performance has not sufficient merit to carry first prize.

## **8. PROTESTS**

- a) Protests need to be lodged with the Convenor, in writing, within one hour after the completion of the relevant section and must be accompanied by a deposit of \$10.00, which shall be forfeited if the protest is deemed to be unfounded.
- b) The decision of the Committee in all questions arising out of, or not provided for by these regulations, shall be final.
- c) 'Lack of knowledge' regarding Regulations will not be accepted as a bona fide reason for infringement of any Regulation.
- d) ALL competitors compete entirely at their own risk.

## **9. PHOTOGRAPHY**

- a) Flash photography is not allowed. For Dance, professional photographs and videos are available, at a reasonable cost.
- b) Photography is not allowed in the Dressing Rooms. The Committee has the right to remove any person who contravenes this direction.

## **10. PETS**

Animals are not permitted in the Auditorium except for Guide Dogs and Assistance Dogs. In the case of Assistance Dogs, a Handler's Identity Card may be requested.

## **11. REGULATIONS IN THE PROGRAMME**

- a) The General Regulations and Competition Rules specific to each of the disciplines are printed in the SCHEDULE and most will not be repeated in the PROGRAMME.
- b) Make sure you read the General Regulations and Specific Regulations as changes may occur.

## **12. PRAMS AND STROLLERS**

Prams and Strollers are NOT permitted backstage, on the stairwells, or in the dressing room

## **13. UNCLAIMED ITEMS / PROPERTY**

- a) Lost property will be kept for 2 weeks and then given to charity.
- b) Unclaimed Adjudicator's Reports, Music CDs and USB sticks/drives will be kept until the completion of the Festival.

#### **14. UNAUTHORISED PERSONS**

Unauthorised persons and parents are not to be backstage, or in the Announcer's area unless assisting with props.

#### **15. EFTPOS**

EFTPOS is available at the auditorium, but NO cash out.

**ENTRIES FOR SPEECH  
CLOSE 5<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2025**

# **SPEECH AND DRAMA COMPETITION RULES**

**ENTRIES CLOSE: 5th May, 2025**

Please make sure you check the GENERAL FESTIVAL REGULATIONS, as well as the SPEECH & DRAMA COMPETITION RULES. If in doubt, contact the Convenor.

**DATES:** Thursday 19th to Thursday 26th June, 2025 (inclusive)

**SCHOOL CHOIR DAYS:** Tuesday 24th and Wednesday 25th June

**ENTRIES CLOSE: 5th May, 2025**

**ENTRIES THROUGH:** Comps Online - [www.comps-online.com.au](http://www.comps-online.com.au)

**AUDITORIUM:** MURWILLUMBAH CIVIC CENTRE

**CONVENOR:** Simone Wong

Enquiries– [mfpa.speech1923@gmail.com](mailto:mfpa.speech1923@gmail.com) or 0439 937 449

EFTPOS is available at the auditorium, but NO cash out.

STAGE: 11m wide X 8m deep

## **IMPORTANT NOTICE TO TEACHERS AND PARENTS:**

There are a number of changes this year so please check everything carefully.

Please note that once the Speech & Drama Programme has been finalised, no alterations or additions will be made, unless Committee error. Any changes on the day of performance are at the discretion of the Convenor. Check your entries thoroughly.

### **1. AGE**

Age for Speech and Drama is 1<sup>st</sup> January 2025

### **2. COMPETITORS**

- a) Competitors, please mark your name off at the front desk prior to your session.
- b) Copies of all 'Own Choice' material should be scanned and emailed as a PDF file to [mfpa.speech1923@gmail.com](mailto:mfpa.speech1923@gmail.com) a minimum of 2 weeks prior to the Festival with SECTION NUMBER and COMPETITOR NUMBER and NAME clearly marked in the TOP RIGHT HAND CORNER. It is suggested that a hard copy be brought by the competitor, as insurance against inadvertent loss.
- c) Unless otherwise stated, all pieces are to be performed from MEMORY.

### **3. GUIDELINES FOR MATERIAL**

- a) The selection must be of suitable length and difficulty for each age group.
- b) In choosing your selections, consideration should be given to the appropriateness of the material to the age and experience of the entrant and the boundaries of good taste. Please consider your audience.

### **4. TIME LIMITS**

- a) Time limits have been specified throughout this schedule. Should time limits be exceeded, the adjudicator may penalise.
  - b) A timer will be used for the Festival.
- Time limits are maximum times – selections may be shorter.

### **5. COSTUMES AND PROPS**

- a) Costumes are required for Drama Sections, including Shakespeare.
- b) Costumes are optional for 5 years and 6 Years in all sections.

c) Please keep props to a minimum and ensure they are capable of being handled by the Stage Hands.

## **6. NOVICE HUMOROUS SECTIONS**

- a) Novice Humorous Sections are for competitors who have never received a 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> place in any Speech & Drama Section of any eisteddfod or festival to date.
- b) Competitors in NOVICE HUMOROUS may also enter HUMOROUS but they must use a different poem.

## **7. SIGHT READING AND IMPROVISATIONS**

Improvisations will be provided by the Adjudicator.

8Yrs to 12Yrs = approximately 12 lines

13Yrs to 17Yrs = half page text

Improvisation title to be provided by the Adjudicator. Each competitor will be given an age appropriate preparation time off stage. A bell will be rung 30 seconds before finish time.

## **8. VERSE SPEAKING**

Verse Speaking is to be NON humorous

## **9. DRAMA**

Dramatisation from a Published or Devised piece assuming language, movement and dress of original character. Portray one character only.

## **10. PROSE: A Selection from a novel.**

- a) All Prose is to be memorised
- b) The selection may include narration, description and dialogue. It should be spoken in the story-telling style but should not be performed as a dramatic scene.

## **11. MIME**

Mime costume, all black (No music allowed.)

## **12. POEMS IN PAIRS**

A poem recited by 2 people. Some unison work is required.

## **13. GROUP DRAMA / POEM / MIME**

Minimum of 3 performers, maximum of 10 performers in all age groups.

## **14. ENTRY COST**

**Solos: \$8.00 per item**

**Duos: \$4.00 per item, per competitor**

**Groups: \$12.00**

**Choirs: \$15.00**

**J.J. Richards Scholarship: \$30.00**

## 15. AGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Competitors must enter the following 4 sections to qualify for the J.J. Richards Age Championships.

Ages 7 to 14 Years: Verse Speaking, Prose, Drama, Mime.

Scholarship - 15 to 17 Years must enter six sections – Verse Speaking, Humorous Verse, Sight Reading, Memorised Prose, Drama and Mime

7 Years: \$20.00 plus trophy Runner Up: \$10.00

8 Years: \$25.00 plus trophy Runner Up: \$15.00

9 Years: \$25.00 plus trophy Runner Up: \$15.00

10 Years: \$30.00 plus trophy Runner Up: \$15.00

11 Years: \$30.00 plus trophy Runner Up: \$15.00

12 Years: \$40.00 plus trophy Runner Up: \$20.00

13 Years: \$40.00 plus trophy Runner Up: \$20.00

14 Years: \$50.00 plus trophy Runner Up: \$25.00

15 - 17 Years \$300.00 for the Aggregate Winner: \$200 for the RUNNER UP

## 16. PERPETUAL TROPHIES/SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS:

Our thanks to the many sponsors who every year continue to give their support to the Murwillumbah Festival of Performing Arts Inc. Scholarships and awards may be added prior to Festival. Listed below, our perpetual awards and trophies only.

### **Regulations and Guidelines referring to awards and scholarships.**

The scholarship winner is to be chosen by the adjudicator with no consultation or discussion with committee members

The adjudicator's decision is final. The Committee will not enter into correspondence regarding any outcome.

The scholarship should be awarded to the most outstanding performer.

It is recommended, but not required, that the scholarship be awarded to a senior student with overall excellence in 3 or more sections in the current Festival.

Each scholarship may only be awarded once to each awardee

J. J. Richards Memorial Scholarship for Speech and Drama – Perpetual Trophy and \$600.00  
Rotary Club of Mt Warning AM Runner Up (to J. J. Richards Memorial Scholarship) - \$100.00  
J.J. Richards Championships for each Age Group – 7 to 14 years (see 15 above)

Halpin Family Trophy – awarded to 15 -17 Years Aggregate Winner. Runner up \$200  
Murwillumbah Central Rotary Encouragement Award Trophy – presented in each age group.

Murwillumbah Theatre Company Perpetual Trophy - Senior Drama Award  
Tweed Theatre Company Perpetual Trophy - Encouragement Award

Lydia Pender Memorial Trophy plus MFPA \$50.00 – Australian Poem  
MFPA Medallion plus \$50.00: Selection from Shakespeare – 15 to 17 years

**PLEASE NOTE:** ALL perpetual trophies are presented to the awardees for photographs and then retained by the MFPA for engraving. Please Return to Simone Wong before leaving the festival.



<b>Section</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Max time limit</b>
<b><u>5 Years &amp; Under</u></b>		
500	TRADITIONAL NURSERY RHYME (in costume)	1 min
501	LIGHT or HUMOROUS VERSE	1 min
<b><u>6 Years &amp; Under</u></b>		
601	LIGHT / HUMOROUS VERSE	1 ½ mins
602	CHARACTER RECITAL (in costume)	1 ½ mins
603	MIME	1 ½ mins
604	POEMS IN PAIRS	1 ½ mins
<b><u>7 Years</u></b>		
701	VERSE SPEAKING	1 ½ mins
702	MEMORISED PROSE	1 ½ mins
703	HUMOROUS VERSE	1 ½ mins
704	NOVICE HUMOROUS VERSE	1 ½ mins
705	MIME	1 ½ mins
706	DRAMA	1 ½ mins
707	POEMS IN PAIRS	1 ½ mins
<b><u>8 Years</u></b>		
801	VERSE SPEAKING	2 mins
802	MEMORISED PROSE	2 mins
803	HUMOROUS VERSE	2 mins
804	NOVICE HUMOROUS VERSE	2 mins
805	MIME	2 mins
806	DRAMA	2 mins
807	SIGHT READING	2 mins
808	POEMS IN PAIRS	2 mins
809	DUO MIME	2 mins
810	DUOLOGUE	3 mins
<b><u>8 Years &amp; Under *</u></b>		
811	GROUP POEM	3 mins
812	GROUP MIME	3 mins
813	GROUP DRAMA	3 mins
814	GROUP PERFORMANCE POEM	3 mins (May include costumes and props.)
* Groups: Minimum 3, Maximum 10 performers		

### **9 Years**

- 901 VERSE SPEAKING 2 ½ mins
- 902 MEMORISED PROSE 2 ½ mins
- 903 HUMOROUS VERSE 2 ½ mins
- 904 NOVICE HUMOROUS VERSE 2 ½ mins
- 905 MIME 2 ½ mins
- 906 DRAMA 2 ½ mins
- 907 SIGHT READING 2 ½ mins
- 908 POEMS IN PAIRS 2 ½ mins
- 909 DUO Mime 2 ½ mins
- 910 DUOLOGUE 3 mins

### **10 Years**

- 1001 VERSE SPEAKING 2 ½ mins
- 1002 MEMORISED PROSE 2 ½ mins
- 1003 HUMOROUS VERSE 2 ½ mins
- 1004 NOVICE HUMOROUS VERSE 2 ½ mins
- 1005 MIME 2 ½ mins
- 1006 DRAMA 3 mins
- 1007 SIGHT READING 2 ½ mins
- 1008 POEMS IN PAIRS 2 ½ mins
- 1009 DUO MIME 2 ½ mins
- 1010 DUOLOGUE 3 mins

### **10 Years & Under \***

- 1011 GROUP POEM 3 ½ mins
  - 1012 GROUP MIME 3 ½ mins
  - 1013 GROUP DRAMA 3 ½ mins
  - 1014 GROUP PERFORMANCE POEM 3 ½ mins  
(May include costumes and props.)
- \* Groups: Minimum 3, Maximum 10 performers

### **11 Years**

- 1101 VERSE SPEAKING 2 ½ mins
- 1102 MEMORISED PROSE 2 ½ mins
- 1103 HUMOROUS VERSE 2 ½ mins
- 1104 DUO MIME 2 ½ mins 1
- 1105 MIME 2 ½ mins
- 1106 DRAMA 3 mins
- 1107 SIGHT READING 2 ½ mins
- 1108 POEM IN PAIRS 3 mins
- 1109 DUOLOGUE 2 ½ mins
- 1110 IMPROVISATION 2 mins

### **12 Years**

- 1201 VERSE SPEAKING 2 ½ mins
- 1202 MEMORISED PROSE 2 ½ mins
- 1203 HUMOROUS VERSE 2 ½ mins
- 1204 DUO MIME 2 ½ mins
- 1205 MIME 2 ½ mins
- 1206 DRAMA 3 mins
- 1207 SIGHT READING 2 ½ mins
- 1208 POEM IN PAIRS 3 mins
- 1209 DUOLOGUE 2 ½ mins
- 1210 IMPROVISATION 2 mins

### **12 Years & Under \***

- 1211 GROUP POEM 3 ½ mins
  - 1212 GROUP MIME 4 mins
  - 1213 GROUP DRAMA 4 mins
  - 1214 GROUP PERFORMANCE POEM 4 mins  
(May include costumes and props.)
  - 1215 DUO IMPROVISATION 3 mins
- \* Groups: Minimum 3, Maximum 10 performers

### **13 - 14 Years**

- 1401 VERSE SPEAKING 3 mins
- 1402 MEMORISED PROSE 3 mins
- 1403 HUMOROUS VERSE 3 mins
- 1404 MIME 3 mins
- 1405 DRAMA 3 mins
- 1406 SIGHT READING 3 mins
- 1407 IMPROVISATION 4 mins
- 1408 DUOLOGUE. 3 mins
- 1409 DUO MIME 2 mins

### **14 Years & Under**

- 1410 SHAKESPEARE SELECTION (One character) 3 mins
- 1411 DUO IMPROVISATION 3 mins
- 1412 GROUP DRAMA 4 mins
- 1414 AUSTRALIAN POEM 3 mins *Poem must have an Australian Theme and Author  
(Lydia Pender Memorial Trophy + MFPA \$50)*
- 1415 GROUP PERFORMANCE POEM 3 mins

### 15 to 17 Years

1501 VERSE SPEAKING 4 mins

1502 MEMORISED PROSE READING 4 mins

1503 HUMOROUS VERSE 4 mins

1504 MIME 4 mins

1505 DRAMA 4 mins

1506 SIGHT READING 4 mins

1507 IMPROVISATION 3 mins

1508 DUOLOGUE 4 mins

1509 DUO MIME 3 mins

1510 SHAKESPEARE SELECTION (One character)

1500 HSC Drama Performance

15 to 17 years 4 mins MFPA Prize Medallion and \$50.00 prize

Non-competitive section for HSC students to perform their dramas and receive written comments from the Adjudicator.

This section will be programmed after school hours.

1600 J.J. RICHARDS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

15 Years to 20 Years, Amateur only.

Previous 1<sup>st</sup> place winners of this section are not eligible.

Competitors to present a **memorised, themed** and **linked** creative presentation of no longer than 15 minutes, which consists of 3 performances from the following

- Lyric poem
- Humorous poem or humorous prose
- Drama
- Mime

Own choice of theme. Costume, props, music and all genres optional.

Entry fee for this section is \$30.00.

GUIDELINES FOR MATERIAL

1. Please be considerate of your audience and stay within the boundaries of 'good taste', no expletives or unsavoury topics please
2. Pieces **MAY NOT** be repeated in other sections of the festival.
3. Unless there are four competitors in this section, the competition will be cancelled and entry fee refunded.

## **SCHOOL SECTIONS – CHORAL SPEAKING RULES AND GUIDELINES**

Choral Speaking is the group interpretation of a poem or prose. The piece is spoken by the choir as a whole but solo and group voices may be included. Actions and gestures may be used if suggested by the piece.

ALL enquiries to Simone Wong or Michele Lourie  
Entry fee \$15.00 per choir.

1. Choirs must all be in school uniform but may have a hint of character (e.g., witch hat; shawl etc) Props are to be hand-held only.
2. Small school's choir section to be from schools with a maximum of 110 students. It may be multi-stage and can be own choice or an appropriate choice from the set poem sections
3. NO school bags to be taken into the auditorium. This will allow more room for students.
4. Choir Days: Primary and Kindergarten choirs will be held Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> June, 2025 and Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2025 – Specific times to be advised

### **5. Closing date for entries: 5th May 2025**

Teachers accompanying choirs are to wear their school's name badge for free entry with their choir.

<b>Section</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Maximum Time Limit</b>
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#### **Own Choice**

400 SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS - Speaking Choir Years 9 and 10 5 Mins

401 SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS - Speaking Choir Years 7 and 8 5 Mins

402 PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS - Speaking Choir Years 5 & 6 4 Mins

403 PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS - Speaking Choir Years 3 & 4 3 Mins

404 INFANT SCHOOL STUDENTS - Speaking Choir Years 1 & 2 3 Mins

No "Own Choice" for Kindergarten

410 SMALL SCHOOL - Speaking Choir (Multi or Single Stage) "Own Choice" or from Set Poems

#### **Set Poems**

406 EARLY STAGE 1 - Speaking Choir Kindergarten

407 STAGE 1 – Speaking Choir Years 1 & 2:

408 STAGE 2 – Speaking Choir Years 3 & 4:

409 STAGE 3 – Speaking Choir Years 5 & 6:

*\* The set poem cannot be used in any own choice choir sections. Because of limited time, the same choir may not enter both "Own Choice" and "Set Poem".*

## Early Stage 1 (Kindergarten) Set Poem - "A Tiny Seed" by Michele Lourié

I planted a tiny seed in the earth  
To watch it grow.  
I went to see it every day  
But it was slow,  
So slow!

The sun shone down on my tiny seed  
With a happy smile.  
But still nothing grew there –  
Dad said, "Just wait.  
Wait a while"

A bee made a visit to see my seed  
Pollen to seek  
It buzzed about, finding none,  
Maybe next week,  
Next week?

A small cloud burst above my head  
Its droplets fell  
The ground was softened, then  
Something happened,  
And ..... well .....

A tiny shoot of green poked through  
More came every day.  
It grew .... and grew .... and GREW  
Into a lovely flower.  
At last!  
AAAAH!

## **Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2) Set Poem The Witch's Balloon S.J. Graham**

Far, far away, where ganders are grey,  
In a land where pixies dwell,  
There once lived a witch who did nothing but stitch,  
And she lived in a coconut shell.  
She stitched by day and she stitched by night,  
She stitched both early and soon.  
For she dreamt of making a wonderful flight  
In a magical gas balloon.  
At last it was done. She chortled, 'What fun.'  
She puffed till it grew up quite round.  
Fixed a basket below, called out 'Here we go.'  
And cheered as it flew from the ground.  
Inside she then hopped, and it never stopped  
High up sailed that magic balloon.  
Alas and alack, she never came back...  
You can see her up there on the moon!

Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4) Set Poem *"Presto Flippit!"* by Jeff Ferguson

The near-sighted Wizard  
Made swift, magic passes,  
But his sleeve flicked his face  
And knocked off his glasses.  
"Oh bother!" he grumbled,  
"*Presto Flippit!*" he said,  
Then 'WHOOSH' came a Spell-Cloud  
That covered his head.

The wizard coughed loudly,  
Wildly waving his wand;  
Cloud passed out a window  
To stop over a pond.  
The goldfish that lived there  
Had seen this before.  
They stayed very still –  
Made not one movement more.

The Spell-Cloud flew onward  
"Til it came to some trees  
Where there lived birds and beetles  
And sweet honey bees.  
Although instinct told them  
To take to the wing,  
Instead, they stayed hidden  
From the Cloud's menacing.

Disappointed, it floated  
Over hill, over flat,  
To hang close above  
A brown cow and black cat.  
"*Presto Flippit!*" it cried,  
And there came a "KAPOW!"  
The black cat mewed "MOO"  
And "MEOW?" said the cow.

The Spell-Cloud then vanished;  
Yet today, yes, even now,  
That black cat say's "MOO"  
While the cow says "MEOW".



### Stage 3 (Years 5 & 6) Set Poem - "Thunderbolt" by Bill Scott

Thunderbolt came from the Hawkesbury River.  
He was a bushranger, he was a rover.  
Made all the rich folk shudder and shiver.  
Wore fine clothes and lived in clover.  
Riding high on a thoroughbred colt -  
Bad man, bushranger, Thunderbolt.

Uralla, Armidale, Torrington as well,  
Yarrowick Mountain where the farmers dwell  
saw him ride, till a constable in blue  
caught him and sent him to Cockatoo;  
but he slipped from his cell and his iron chain  
to wander free in the bush again.

He wandered far, he wandered wide.  
Nobody knows just where he died  
but on Yarrowick Mountain when the wind is high  
and shadowy clouds go drifting by,  
riding tall on his thoroughbred colt  
comes the ghost of Thunderbolt.

Comes the ghost of Thunderbolt.