

# Neil Gunn Writing Competition 2023-24

## Primary School Winners – Feedback from the Judges

### **1<sup>st</sup> Place – Memories (152)**

- Beautiful, sophisticated use of language and emotion and an interesting concept that feels insightful and personal (use of memories to find comfort). Highly descriptive but would benefit from further development of the protagonist and description of their circumstances as an aspect of the setting.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Afterlife (224)**

- Good use of elements of storytelling, especially a dramatic concept that is well developed for the word count with some dialogue, characterisation of the protagonist and interplay between characters. Nice resolution of tension at the end. Further description of the setting and more sophisticated dialogue between the characters would develop the piece.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Zodiac (151)**

- Terrific use of a unique concept that is really interesting and draws the reader in. Good execution of storytelling elements throughout, but would benefit from further description of the setting and characters.

## **Honourable Mentions**

### **Candlelight (9)**

- Lovely, dramatic idea with beautiful use of language but could be improved with more description/development of the protagonist and additional dialogue to better set the scene.

### **Deep Fried Mars Bar (120)**

- Funny, imaginative, and original. Highly dramatic for such a short piece; would benefit from further development, especially with use of description and dialogue.