

Dr. Paul Hullah Poetry Prize

To be awarded for the fifth time in July 2019, the Dr. Paul Hullah Poetry Prize is open to RGS pupils in the fourth and fifth form. The prize is sponsored by Paul Hullah, Old Riponian and Professor of British Literature and Culture, Meiji Gakuin University, Japan.

Here he explains the rationale behind this year's title:

Yorkshire writer Simon Armitage has just been appointed to the most prestigious post in poetry: Poet Laureate. To celebrate this achievement, we want to explore Armitage's gifts for describing the natural world and for finding miraculous beauty in mundane and unexpected places. Poetry gets us to slow down and watch the world more gently. Armitage is good at that. The ordinary can be absolutely miraculous.



This year's task is to write a poem inspired by the phrase

THE MAGIC AND MARVEL OF THE MUNDANE.

Entries should be at least fourteen lines long. Any poetic form, rhyme scheme or narrator is allowed. Entry is now open for this exciting competition for both fourth and fifth form students. It would be an excellent achievement on your CV or UCAS form, especially if you will be applying for English or any humanities or arts subject at university.

Mrs Mars is happy to help with drafts and advice. Submissions are to Mrs Mars or via email to marsh@ripongrammar.co.uk The deadline is July 16th 2019.

“Prose fills a space, like a liquid poured in from the top, but poetry occupies it, arrays itself in formation, sets up camp and refuses to budge.”

– Simon Armitage, [Walking Home: A Poet's Journey](#)