

# Free to Think, Free to Read and Free to Write!

## April's Short Story Writing Competition

(Compulsory for First, Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth Year students, and optional for Third and Sixth Years.)

- **I Never Thought the Day Would Come When...**
- **We Are All in This Together**
- **Freedom is a Fantastic Gift**
- **Everything Will Be Different**

Write a short story inspired by one of the above titles.

- Between 150-200 words
- No more than three characters
- No more than two settings
- Lots of descriptions
- Dialogue
- Humour (if you like)
- Images (comparisons)
- Plot/incident driven – must be a change for someone/ regarding situation
- Opening – throw the reader straight into a situation
- Ending – either open ending (leaves the reader thinking) or closed ending (ties things up/answers all the questions)

Final drafts should be written in your hardback copy so that prize-winners can be selected when we return to school.

Read the following short stories which are larger than 200 words for some ideas:

“Flight” by Doris Lessing

[https://books.google.ie/books?id=IM\\_KDwAAQBAJ&pg=PA76#v=onepage&q&f=false](https://books.google.ie/books?id=IM_KDwAAQBAJ&pg=PA76#v=onepage&q&f=false)

“A Rat and Some Renovations” by Bernard McLaverty

<https://books.google.ie/books?id=2dsUAAAAQBAJ&pg=PA10&lpg=PA10#v=onepage&q&f=false>

Keep reading, write some poetry, keep a diary and stay well!