

**2022-2023 LORETO COLLEGE POETRY COMPETITION
THE WINNING POEMS**

YEAR 8

FIRST PLACE

Environment

Solar energy is the way to go,
It's trendy, stylish and renewable.
So let's go. Fossil fuels are
So last year. Throw back to
The dinosaurs is where you should be, O can't you see!

The oceans making terrible noises,
The colour is off, the coral is poisoned.
The mammals cry and the ice melts,
What will happen next is anyone's guess.

We need to recycle, we need to reuse,
We need solar panels on our school roofs.
We need to plant trees to clean the air,
Government would you even dare to care?

By: Donal Ward, Year 8.

SECOND PLACE

Environment

Some might see grass and trees,
But I see polluted seas.

Some might not notice a blackbird's song,
But I see one without a home.

I can smell factory fumes,
Where others only smell their own food.

They see a fancy new sports car,
I see a planet destroyer.

They see a pretty new toy,
I see children sweating in a far-off factory.

By: Una Moore, Year 8.

The Environment

Environmental pollution
Not taken care of
Vigorously polluted
It is a gift to us, do not take it for granted
Outrageously gorgeous
Not looked after
Made for all shapes and sizes
Easily destroyed
Natural
Taken for granted
A home for animals
Looked after by some.

By: Una Moore, Year 8.

THIRD PLACE

If We Don't Change

If we don't change, the icecaps will melt,
If we don't change, the forests will burn,
If we don't change, death will be dealt,
So to save our planet we have to learn,
On how to look after Planet Earth.

By: Oisin McGlone, Year 8.

YEAR 9-10

FIRST PLACE

Environment Poem

Our greed has affected the world,
The rubbish thrown around,
The world that was made by the lord,
Is quickly destroyed.
Pollution made by factories,
Global warming affecting the weather,
We caused the world to become this way,
Now the world decays.
Forests are where the animals breed,
The forests disappear because of our greed.
We can help the world be better,
Only if we become full of fret.

They see factories while I see pollution,
They feel heat but I feel global warming,
This poem is a warning to those who litter,
To those who don't do anything in this crisis.
Please with the love in your heart,
Help the planet be clean and free.

By: Sophie Holmes, Year 9

SECOND PLACE

Environment

Look outside, what do you see?
You see bird and all kinds
Of wildlife. You see grass
The sky, the flowers, all so beautiful.
What you don't see is...

Turtles choking on plastic jars
And bottles getting stuck on animals'
Noses, oh doesn't it sound terrible.

Look outside, what do you see?
You see the snow covering
Everything, and the birds
Heading south, but what
Also do you see? You see
All the rubbish and litter
Standing out like a
Sore thumb!

'Is there a Planet B?' the answer
Is no-one knows, so take
Care of this planet God
Have us this planet as a
Gift, so we would help him
Take care of it.

We shouldn't need a planet B
Because God worked so hard on
Planet A.
So get out there, pick up
A bit of litter, and it wouldn't
Hurt to put your litter
In a bin liner.

By: Ava Heaney, Year 9.

THIRD PLACE

Environment

The trees are swaying in the breeze,
Oh what a beautiful sight,
If you take a stroll outside today
You're in for a great delight.

Layer up, folks, it's getting cold
All teas, coffees, and hot chocolates sold!
Most of the animals hibernating,
To stay warm during Winter months.

Finally, it's time for the leaves to come back
Plants starting to grow through the cracks,
Flowers and buds are growing their petals
Spreading their beauty throughout the meadow.

It's finally becoming warm,
Beaches will be swarmed,
Summer is the time
We all go outside!

The environment is our gift, can't you see?
Everyone must help to keep it clean.
The world is for us, so we can survive,
There's no planet B, so you decide.

By: Dean McCool, Year 9.

YEAR 11-12

FIRST PLACE

A Poem About The Environment

I am content with the knowledge that the sky above me is ocean blue,
And the ground I walk upon is a country bathed in green.
And in the Earth's atmosphere, there is an element called Oxygen,
That is sandwiched in-between.

By: Joshua McGurgan, Year 12.

SECOND PLACE

The Environment

The environment, what does it actually
Mean? People think the world lives around
Us, I believe it lives inside of us. I feel it
Creep up my sleeves as if a weed was to
Cloak itself around a tree and suffocate
Its bark with goosebumps.

If the atmosphere was defined as air
Current, darkness would be a small lush of
Wind and daylight would be a hurricane in
Disguise. We believe daylight is the hope
And the answer to all of our problems, and
Have confidence in darkness being
Somewhat of a nightmare. It's a rumour
That's passed around and underestimated. I
Sit in the darkness and cannot describe the
Alive feeling that sunlight is not capable of
Providing to me.

The environment, it has its own way of
Making time pass so sudden without giving
Us the realisation until time has slipped
Beneath our finger tips and before we know
It, it's gone. 'How did it get so late so soon?
It's night before it's afternoon. December's
Here before it's June.' My goodness the time.

The environment has its own way of
Making time pass SO sudden without giving
US the realisation until time has slipped
Beneath our finger tips and before we know
It it's gone. 'HOW did it get SO late SO soon?
It's night before it's afternoon, December's
Here before it's June.' My goodness the time
Has flown. You may know him as Dr Seuss.
Life goes fast, we don't take in our
Surroundings enough until we're the age of
50 and that's when we look back upon our
Environment and ask ourselves the same
Question. Did we choose our environment
Wisely? Or did we take it for granted?

By: Caitlin Harron, Year 11.

YEAR 13-14

FIRST PLACE

Lay To Waste

Nothing as pleasing to the eye than our world of smog,
Seas of bones and sewage waste,
Caress the once blubbering sea life
That we had sought to chase.

The bird and bees are no longer in conversation
When there isn't a place for them to thrive.
People don't come outside their houses,
Never mind having families in nests and hives.

The world is not what we once knew,
It is old and decrepit as a dried leaf based on a busy pavement.
There are too many problems long overdue solving,
Like sexism, poverty and too many types of enslavement.

The environment is harsh and cold,
And as we know the strong will outlive the weak,
But we are killing those who were once below us
So, look at us now, the meek.

No time for dilly,
When we killed dallying long ago.
THERE IS NO ENVIRONMENT LEFT
Nothing is left to write or show.

By: Alanna Benson, Year 13

SECOND PLACE

The Environment's End

How do you establish what it means to be green? When the world is dying
And following an unhealthy regime?

When the plastic in oceans is filling up high?
When the plants start to wither and crumble and die?

How can you say that you are doing the most?
When our endangered animals are merely a ghost?

How can you laugh, cry, eat and sing?
When the seasons are merging, autumn into spring.

We are laughing at the faces whose aim is to save Greta Thunberg, Ilyess El Korbi demand us to
behave,
The environment is dying, they cry to us.
'Why bother?' we ask, 'why such a fuss?'

Yet we won't be so happy when our flowers no longer bloom,
When our air is no longer clean, when we can no longer assume.

We must start now or the environment will go,
Our precious daffodils we once loved to sow.

Every minute is important, I urge you to say,
Let's start now, not tomorrow, but today.

By: Orla McHenry, Year 13.