Class poem about a special end-of-year event


Class poems make a great assembly item or a contribution to a school yearbook.

**Purpose**
To write a collective class poem

**Motivation and generating ideas**
Tell the students they are going to write a poem about a special end-of-year event. The event could be an assembly, athletics day or a class trip or graduation ceremony.

**Think, pair, share**
Students discuss their memories.

**Sharing an exemplar**
Share the *Athletics Day* poem to show students the structure of the poem they will be writing. Ask 'What do you notice about this poem?' Share responses.

**Think, pair, record**
Students work with a partner to brainstorm ideas for a poem about the event. Students record three or four lines on whiteboards, devices or in their books. The teacher could scribble for younger students.

**Think, pair, square (page 41, The Oral Language Book)**
Ask students to share their memories with another pair. The group helps each student to decide on their best line.

**Reviewing**
Ask students to 'self-check' their lines for accuracy. They could also work with a partner to review and improve their sentences based on agreed criteria. For example, upgrade (improve) a word.

**Lesson wrap-up**
Students share their line. As a class, agree on the repeated line for the class poem.

The teacher or a group of students collates the class poem.

**Performance (Reader’s Theatre)**
Give students their own copy of the poem. Assign different parts to the students. For example, in the *Athletics Day* poem, the boys and girls read one line each and everyone reads the repeated line. The class then practises reading the poem. Focus on: reading together, using appropriate expression, varying the pace and volume of the reading. This may require modelling from the teacher.