



KNOX  
GRAMMAR  
SCHOOL

STATE

# DA VINCI DECATHLON 2021

CELEBRATING THE ACADEMIC GIFTS OF STUDENTS  
IN YEARS 9, 10 & 11



## ART AND POETRY

TEAM NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

Total	Rank
/40	

# THERE'S ALWAYS A CHANCE

## BACKGROUND

The quirky nature of life is that anything is possible. Winning the lottery, being elected Prime Minister, or becoming a saint are all *unlikely* for most people, but not *impossible*. This concept extends to every facet of our lives, as an ever-present but usually unpredictable force.

In art, maximalism can strongly depict our emotions when we let our minds wander in this way. A reaction against minimalism, the form celebrates the concepts of excess and richness, conveying flamboyant decorations, superfluous luxuries, and fantastical paraphernalia to capture the sense of 'more is more'. In a world where there's always a chance of something occurring, maximalism is the ultimate depiction of an exaggeration this mindset enables.



Consider Maurizio Ferrari's *TOILETPAPER Paradise* installation, pictured above. A great example of maximalism with its extravagant colours and garish designs, take inspiration from it as you complete this task!

## THE TASK

1. Develop a poem that communicates an unlikely or improbable event that might occur in 2021, such as an asteroid hitting earth or a visitation from outer space. The poem must describe the event, and convey the changes it instigated. Apply the concept of maximalism to the poem.
2. Create a visual representation of this changed society after the unlikely or improbable event has taken place. This must be clearly linked to what the poem communicates whilst utilising the concept of maximalism to exaggerate the impact of the event.
3. The visual representation may be two-dimensional or three-dimensional.
4. The poem must be thematically, symbolically **AND** physically linked with the visual representation, utilising language to achieve what is expressed above. The poem may take any form.

Please take note of the following:

- The event need not have widespread ramifications on society; such effects could also be solely personal or limited to one specific community.
- Think broadly about what type of societal happenings are unlikely to happen and the impact this could have on society!

- Simple words, when expertly crafted, can often be more powerful than verbose terminology.
- If competing virtually, take a photograph or photographs and upload to Dropbox.

### MATERIALS TO BE PROVIDED

- 3 x sheets of white A4 paper
- 2 x sheets of red A4 paper
- 2 x sheets of blue A4 paper
- 2 x sheets of green A4 paper
- 1 x sheet of cardboard A4 paper

### MARKING CRITERIA

MARKING CRITERIA	POEM	ARTWORK
Original interpretation of the task	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
The striking use of images and words to represent the concept of maximalism to the viewer	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
The thematic, symbolic AND physical interconnectedness of the poetry and artwork	0 1 2 3 4 5	6 7 8 9 10
Use of maximalism between the artwork and poem to emphasise a changed society after an improbable event	0 1 2 3 4 5	6 7 8 9 10
<b>TOTAL</b>		/40

**END OF PAPER**