**Poetic Devices**

Simile: A simile compares two things using the words “like” or “as.” Comparing one thing to another creates a vivid image. Examples: “as blind as a bat”, “the emerald is green as grass”, “her lips were as red as rubies”

Metaphor: Compares two things without using the words “like” or “as.” Gives the qualities of one thing to something that is quite different. Examples: “the night is a black cat”, “the classroom was a zoo”, and “the clouds are balls of cotton”.

Alliteration: The repetition of the first consonant sound in words, as in the nursery rhyme “Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers.”

Personification: Gives human traits and feelings to things that are not human – like animals or objects. Examples: “Rita heard the last piece of pie calling her name”, “My alarm clock yells at me every morning” and “The avalanche devoured anything standing in its way”

Onomatopoeia: Words that represent the actual sound of something are words of onomatopoeia. Examples: Dogs “bark,” cats “purr,” thunder “booms,” rain “drips,” and the clock “ticks.”

Assonance: Takes place when two or more words, close to one another repeat the same vowel sound, but start with different consonant sounds. Examples: “Go and mow the lawn” and “I must confess that in my quest I felt depressed and restless”

Hyperbole: An exaggeration which may be used for emphasis and humor. Hyperboles are used in speaking and writing for effect or to make a boring story more interesting. Examples: “I am so hungry I could eat a horse” and “this car goes faster than the speed of light”