

The winter prompt is here! The winter season of Westport Writes runs from December through January, with a Writers Gathering on Jan. 14th at 1 pm in the Community Room and a Library Reading on Thursday, Jan. 26th at 6:30 pm. We're also looking forward to displaying some of the middle school student work at the library during the month of January. Keep reading below for an update on the Fall season.

Winter prompt postcard 5.5 x 4.25.png

The fall season of Westport Writes Together wraps up as the days get colder. On Saturday, November 12, writers from as far away as Newport, Rhode Island and Mattapoisett, along with a host of writers from Westport, gathered to celebrate the season, read their work, and to connect with other writers.

With a makeshift podium and the ever-supportive James Cronin ready to step up to emcee, audience members were treated to poems, flash fiction stories, short essays, and snippets from longer pieces. Listening was like its own walk in the fall woods, with Joan McKinley's soft and tender air and Paul Mercier's maples and pines. In "The Properties of Declining Light" and "Autumn Nocturne," poets paired the fading of the season to the end season of life, as knowledge and soul become transported to a place beyond time.

Afterwards, the room was full of great conversations about making time for writing, seeing the beauty in the dwindling November colors of Westport grasses, shrubs, and plants, and people making new friendships.

So many people have contributed to the fall writing prompts, from a class of fifth graders at the elementary school with leaf and pumpkin-laced lined writing pages to the middle school submissions and adults living in Westport or those far away with memories of childhood here. When the Fall River Herald featured the project in October, a submission came in from Belgium, memories of Elephant Rock, connected across the Atlantic Ocean, more than three thousand miles away.

Westport Writes continues for the winter and spring seasons, with two more writers gatherings — Saturday Jan. 14th at 1 pm and Monday April 3 at 4:30, both at the Friends Community House at Friends Meeting, Westport — and two more library readings — Thursday Jan. 26 at 6:30 pm and Saturday, April 29 at 1 pm at the Westport Free Public Library. As always, anyone is welcome to attend either event. We love meeting new writers, people who are convinced they aren't writers, and writers of any age, genre, or type!