

Parents Evening

by J. Richards

“Good evening, Mrs.?...” “Kay”
 “Oh, Kay! Ha ha! Now, just a mo’
 While I look in my notes, ah! Selwyn –
 Right, well, off we go!”

Your son’s work has been fine this year-
 I have no real complaints
 And, arty! Well, you won’t believe
 What he can do with paints!

In fact, you see that yellow door?
 Yes, yellow, very bright-
 Well, if you’d come this morning
 You’d’ve seen that it was white!

Your Selwyn took a liking
 To the sunshine yellow hue
 And once he’d started painting
 There was nothing we could do

Now, looking at his number work
 I really have to say
 It doesn’t look like maths
 Is really Selwyn’s true forte

I gave the class five minutes
 To complete their work, and then
 I saw that your sweet Selwyn
 Was still writing after ten.

I don’t mind that he took a little long
 That doesn’t hurt
 The problem was I found that he was writing
 On his shirt!

Oh, when he puts his hand up
 He must take a little care
 That he does not, quite by accident
 Pull Sally Salmon’s hair

For Sally’s such a sweet thing
 And although she hardly jumps
 I feel for her a little
 When I find her hair in clumps

It’s not the mess that troubles us
 A broom is fine for that
 It’s just that Sally’s scared
 To sit in class without a hat

I’ve seen him playing football
 And I do not speak in jest
 When I say he’ll play for England
 And he’ll be the next George Best!

He only gets picked last for teams
 Because of his physique
 So I’d like to recommend
 He keeps off doughnuts for a week!

His swimming’s coming on as well
 He swims a width, no worries
 I’m just concerned that he can be
 Less thoughtful when he hurries

I see him pushing down on people’s heads
 To stay afloat
 I think they’d all be better off
 With Selwyn in a boat!

He loves to cook as well, you know
 No dish he hasn’t learned
 But, then again, I’d add
 That there’s no dish he hasn’t burned!

Your Selwyn has green fingers –
 In the garden he’s a whiz!
 Although, at first, it wasn’t clear
 How he made roses fizz –

He’d ask if he could feed them
 With a food that he had made
 But it turned out
 He was watering the plants with lemonade!

Now, unless you’ve any questions,
 There are other parents waiting –
 ‘though I know you find
 Our chat about your son exhilarating

“I have one question, if I may:
 Are you not good with names?
 For we’re the other Kays
 And I am here about my James!”