

# 'Count us in!' – ( A poem to mark the work of CensusAtSchool )

## **'Count us in!'**

A feast of hands reach for the sky  
as children's minds with numbers flash  
and data snowballs, piled high.  
Involve, improve, awareness raise  
and as they reach the next key stage.  
A swirl of colour floods the screen.  
The internet – a whole new scene.  
Step by step a plan is hatched  
And forms are filled with files attached.  
'How tall are you?'  
'Your date of birth?'  
'What is your favourite football team?'  
The answer, well it could have been  
a number of the chosen sides  
but Man United overrides.  
And figures, well, they rarely lie,  
Statistics help us to get by.  
In every walk of life they gather,  
Hidden data, project matter,  
Calculate by marketing,  
Numbers fronting everything.  
And feedback, well there's quite enough  
To show that pupils know their stuff.

## **'Count us in!'**

They cry again.  
'Lets join the hungry masses who  
participate from every school  
in England, Wales and Ireland too.'  
Upload the information fast.  
Ensure your school is not the last!  
For soon a snapshot will be made  
Into a colourful parade of  
Children's hobbies to the teens..  
A glimpse of future hopes and dreams.  
And in the lessons yet to come, we'll utilise  
What has been done, a massive pupil  
Database, a slice of life, by time and place.  
Up to a million voices raised.  
Children's comments to appraise.  
Midst media buzz and questioning,  
Hear them, shouting,

## **'Count us in!'**

