

January 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: What my child is learning in English this term

I hope that you had a lovely Christmas holiday and that your child is enjoying school and still feeling enthusiastic about their English lessons as we begin our new topics.

As you know, our curriculum has been designed to allow *all* students the greatest opportunity to develop effective communication skills in reading and writing, to help safeguard their success and employability prospects in the future.

That being said, please find attached an outline of what your child will be learning during the Spring term in English.

To reiterate, the support that children receive at home has a huge impact on their learning and I would be grateful if you could discuss some of the key questions below with your child, to help consolidate themes and ideas which they will be covering in lessons.

Equally we aim to inspire our students through their study of English and last term **we had students working with a visiting poet to create a mural along the English corridor**. The aim of this project was to enable them to develop their own creative voice through the medium of poetry.

As a reminder for any students in Year 11, **English revision runs every Wednesday afternoon from 3-3:45pm** and our **High Flyers session** (aimed at those students who are hoping to achieve a grade 7 and above in English), continues to **run every Friday after school from 3-3:45pm**.

We have had a fantastic turnout to our revision sessions so far this year, with over 200 students attending since September. Thank you for your encouragement at home and the organisation around school pickups which I know helps to facilitate this.

Once again we look forward to working alongside you this term to help your child to reach their full potential.

Yours faithfully,

Ms Lucy England
Head of Department

Years 7-11 Autumn First Half Term

Year Group	Topic 3	Topic 4	Key Vocabulary Unit 3	Unit 4
7	Stories Around the World. Unit 3: Poetry around the world. Key Questions: <i>What is the difference between prose and poetry?</i> <i>Why do people write poetry?</i> KS3 Recommended Reads	Unit 4: Class Novel: <i>The Breadwinner</i> Key Questions: <i>What do we mean by the term 'the breadwinner'?</i> <i>Why might survival be difficult for a young person in Afghanistan?</i>	Key Vocabulary Culture Poverty Patriotism Tyranny Democracy Dictatorship Discrimination Stanza Caesura Rhyme Rhythm	Key Vocabulary Patriarchal Compassion Heroism Perception Facade Hierarchy Foreshadow Climax Equity Emancipation Equality Oppressive Catalyst PTSD
8	Magic and Grief Unit 3: <i>A View from the Bridge</i> Key Question: <i>Why might people from different cultures be treated differently?</i> KS3 Recommended Reads	Crime and Mystery Unit 4: <i>Coraline</i> Key Questions: <i>Is being inquisitive ever a negative/dangerous thing?</i> <i>Why is it that many of us enjoy reading or watching things which scare us?</i>	Key Vocabulary Betrayal Loyalty Obsession Possession Connection Grief Desperation	Key Vocabulary Tension Doppelganger Alternative Manipulation Illusion Distorted
9	Unit 3: Speaking and Listening Assessments Key Questions: <i>How can we engage and persuade an audience of our viewpoint?</i> <i>What does the acronym AFOREST stand for?</i> KS3 Recommended Reads	Prejudice and Conflict Unit 4: <i>The Merchant of Venice</i> Key Question: <i>Does money rule the world, or are other things more important?</i>	Key Vocabulary: A -Address audience, Anecdote. F - Facts O -Opinions R -Repetition, Rhetorical questions E -Emotive language S -Statistics T -Tone, The rule of three	Key Vocabulary: Prejudice Morality Anti Semitism Malicious Heinous Racism
10	Creativity and Expression Unit 3: English Language Paper 1 Key Questions: <i>How can we engage a reader?</i> <i>What makes a piece of creative writing successful?</i> KS4 Recommended Reads	Unit 4: <i>Macbeth</i> Key Questions: <i>Is ambition ever a negative trait?</i> <i>What would you be willing to sacrifice in order to achieve everything you've ever wanted?</i>	Key Vocabulary: Simile Personification Metaphors Cyclical structure Foreshadow Cliffhanger Dialogue Sensory imagery	Key Vocabulary: Manipulative Machiavellian Hamartia Regicide Soliloquy Pathetic Fallacy Morality Tragedy Teason Ambition

11	<p>Unit 3: Revision of Literature texts</p> <p>Key Questions: <i>What is the best way to revise for English?</i></p> <p><i>Which texts do you need support with?</i></p> <p><u>KS4 Recommended Reads</u></p>	<p>Unit 4: Unseen poetry</p> <p>Key Question: <i>What does the acronym SMILE stand for?</i></p>	<p>Key Vocabulary: Context Intentions Cyclical structure Imagery Conflict/Resolution</p>	<p>Key Vocabulary: S-Subject, Structure M-Message of the writer I-Imagery L-Language devices and links E-Effect on the reader</p>
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Please note, all recommended reading lists for both KS3 and 4 can be found on our website.