



English & Media  
**English**

**KS3**  
Curriculum Details

**Year 7**

Content

Homework

Parent / Carer Support

**The Modern Novel**

Students develop close reading skills as they study 'A Monster Calls' by Patrick Ness. Alongside the study of plot, characterisation and themes, students will develop their own creative writing skills.

Students will be set a range of reading and writing tasks with links to the lessons.

Encourage wider reading at home. Discuss what they think of the books they are studying in class.

Revision for assessments.

Patrick Ness has written other novels that students may wish to read independently.

**Discovering Dickens**

Students study extracts from a range of texts written by Charles Dickens. Using 'Great Expectations' as their main source, students explore his methods in creating character and setting. Students also learn about some of the issues prevalent in Victorian society, using this knowledge as a base to create non-fiction pieces of writing.

Students are expected to borrow books during their library lessons and read independently.

Help your child to proof read any homework and correct any errors.

Encourage wider reading at home especially Dickens' texts and historical context.

Help your child to proof read any homework and correct any errors.

There have been some good television adaptations of Dickens' novels which students may benefit from watching.

**Fantasy and Shakespeare's World**

Students begin by exploring the conventions of the fantasy genre and developing their own skills in writing fantasy narratives. After this, students study some of the ideas in one of Shakespeare's most magical texts; A Midsummer Night's Dream.

Encourage wider reading of Shakespeare fantasy genre and research into historical events.

Ask students to recall plays, themes and characters they have learnt about in class.

Study Guides, Resources & Extra Support

Handwriting booklets and grammar resources are available for free from the English department. A recommended reading list is available.

Reading and Writing Club in room 36 Wednesday 3.15 -4pm



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**Year 8**

Content

Homework

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**Gothic Fiction**

Students will learn about the history of the Gothic and explore extracts from novels, poetry and plays. They will analyse writers' use of language to atmosphere and match genre conventions. Students will develop their own writing skills to mimic the Gothic texts they have studied.

Students will be set wider reading extracts to further explore the genre. Revision for assessments.

Students are expected to borrow books during their library lessons and read independently.

Encourage wider reading at home. Discuss what they think of what they're studying. Read and discuss homework texts. Help your child to proof read any homework and correct any error.

**Journeys**

Linked by the theme of journeys, students will study a range of poems. Using a poetry anthology created by the English department, students will learn about the poet's craft as well as experimenting with their own poetry. In the second half, students will study a range of non-fiction extracts which all share the theme of 'journeys'.

Encourage wider reading at home. Discuss what they think of the play and ask them to tell you about the story and the main characters within it. Encourage students to explore poetry independently. Spoken Word poetry (found on YouTube) is engaging for many and demonstrates that poetry is ever evolving. Use the website

**Outsiders**

Core text: The Bone Sparrow. Through this modern novel, students will explore characterisation, plot development and the context of forced displacement. Students will also study a collection of monologues presented from the point of view of an 'outsider'. Students' own writing will focus on non-fiction writing in which they express their own opinion

Encourage wider reading at home, particularly of historical information and newspaper articles. Discuss with them what they are reading and their opinion on what they've read, in order to help them to develop their own opinions.

Study Guides, Resources & Extra Support

Handwriting booklets and grammar resources are available for free from the English department. A recommended reading list is available.

Parental/carer support:

Encourage students to borrow books from the local or school library. Discuss news events at home, or events in a book they're reading, to help them to develop their own opinions.

Reading and Writing Club in room 36 Wednesday 3.15 -4pm



English & Media  
**English**

**KS3**  
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**Year 9**

Content

Homework

Parent / Carer Support

**American Literature**

Core text: Arthur Miller's A View From The Bridge. During the study of the play, students focus on the representation of America and the American Dream. Students will look at the historical context as well as the tragic form. Additionally, students will study a range of thematic extracts from different time periods in American history. In their own writing, Students will develop their crafting of creative pieces.

Wider reading linked to the topic. Revision for assessments. Students are expected to borrow books during their library lessons and read independently.

'Spark Notes' is a useful website for finding out more information on A View From the Bridge. It includes plot and character summaries as well as a list of themes within the play. Encourage wider reading at home. Discuss with them their opinion on what they've read, in order to help them to develop their own opinions. Help your child to proof read any homework and correct any errors.

**GCSE Bridging Unit: Rhetoric & Big Ideas**

As a way to bridge the gap to GCSE, students will be studying the topic of 'rhetoric'. This involves close analysis of powerful speeches and discursive texts. Students will develop skills in employing rhetorical devices in their own writing. Then we will study of George Orwell's 'Animal Farm', enabling students to encounter some of the ideas found on the GCSE English Literature course.

Wider reading linked to a topic. Written pieces and literacy skills. Revision for assessments. Students are expected to borrow books during their library lessons and read independently.

Encourage wider reading at home, particularly of newspaper articles. Discuss with them how writers present their opinions using rhetorical devices.. Compare how different newspapers present the same news item.

**Othello**

Core text: Shakespeare's Othello. During their study of the play, students will be focusing on the actions of key characters and important issues within the play including the portrayal of women and race. They will also be analysing the language choices used by the playwright. Students will develop skills in academic writing.

Wider reading linked to the topic. Revision for assessments.

Students are expected to borrow books during their library lessons and read independently.

No Fear Shakespeare is a useful website to find out more information on Othello and to help students to feel confident with the language. Help your child to proof read any homework and correct any errors.

Study Guides, Resources & Extra Support

Handwriting booklets and grammar resources are available for free from the English department. A recommended reading list is available.

Encourage students to borrow books from the local or school library. Discuss news events at home, or events in a book they're reading, to help them to develop their own opinions. Reading and Writing Club in room 36 Wednesday 3.15 -4pm