

# English

Head of English – Mrs K Dunleavy

Assistant Head of English – Mrs C McCarthy

## **Topics of Study This Year:**

In Term 1, pupils will read 'Animal Farm' by George Orwell. Or 'Warhorse' by Michael Morpurgo which will enable them to understand how writers present character and themes. They will also use the novel as a stimulus for written work. Towards the end of their first term pupils will explore war poetry & non fiction writing: looking at a variety of texts from the First World War onwards such as war poetry & diary entries. In Term 2 pupils will then study a range of speeches from the 20th & 21st centuries, culminating in an exciting speaking & listening presentation. In Term 3, pupils will study a Dystopian text 'Floodland'— a genre made recently popular by The Hunger Games.. They will examine characters in detail, create presentations to explore their findings, and finally end the term with a creative writing task that is sure to be a lot of fun!

### **Term 1**

Pupils will read 'Animal Farm' and be able to skim & scan the text for relevant information. They will show their understanding of how writers like Orwell portray important themes, such as violence, in their texts. They will complete a written assessment to show their improved reading skills.

Pupils will begin to understand how writers express thoughts & feelings through language within war poetry & autobiographical texts. They will complete a reading assessment which will test their exploration of writer's ideas.

### **Term 2**

Pupils will finally analyse the speeches found from the 20th and 21st centuries analysing the rhetorical devices used by the writers and craft their own *persuasive* speeches which they will then present to their peers.

### **Term 3**

Pupils will have a secure knowledge of a range of texts from the canon. They will understand the Dystopian genre & explore how writers create and portray characters. They will be encouraged to have confident discussions about texts and will be able to draw comparisons between characters.

## **Assessments:**

**Year 8 Assessment will take place week starting 21st April 2017**

Half term teacher assessments in either reading or writing skills.

## **Key Dates:**

World Book Day 2nd March 2017

## **Homework:**

Homework will support the examination skills that pupils will need to achieve their National Curriculum target. Homework will be set weekly.

## **Other Useful Information:**

BBCbitesize is a useful tool for key stage 3 revision. Revision materials will also be available on Moodle.