

English

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Curriculum Overview: Pupils will continue their journey through English by starting the year with the 19th century classic gothic fiction novel – Frankenstein, by Mary Shelley. They will explore the ‘gory’ context of science to the novel and look closely at how Shelley uses language and structure to communicate her own ideas to the reader. After reading the novel they will focus on a range of writing skills to help them with their descriptive writing, and writing a news report. After Christmas the pupils will move onto their study of ‘culture poetry’. A wide variety of poems are up for study in this scheme of work, and leads nicely onto a ‘voices of the people’ scheme. This allows pupils to examine how people use the written word to communicate their ideas about what is important. A range of non-fiction texts such as speeches and newspaper articles will be studied. Finishing the year in the final term the pupils will enjoy a class reader. ‘Foodland’s’ by Marcus Sedgewick is a dystopian story and we use it as an opportunity to really engage the pupils with reading. They will study character development, writer’s language choices and practise writing analytical responses.

Topic Studied- Term 1

Frankenstein, by Mary Shelley. Pupils will start by exploring the context of the novel. This moves on to looking more closely at the word choices made by a writer, annotating the text and developing their interpretations about ideas in the text. A writing unit follows this and they practise how to write descriptively, and then how to write a news report.

Topic Studied- Term 2

Culture poetry. A variety of poems by different poets, set in different cultures are read and examined in this unit. Poetic techniques are studied, identifying these are practised, and writing about the effects of these techniques is carried out. ‘Voices of the people’ follows this unit and focuses on the study of non-fiction texts and how perspectives are conveyed.

Topic Studied- Term 3

Class reader – Floodland, by Marcus Sedgewick. All pupils will read this text and look at how a writer develops character, uses setting and context, and plot to develop themes, ideas and events. They also look at the evolution of Young Adult fiction and the importance of reading for pleasure.

Assessments:

Reading and writing assessments take place each term. On top of this there will also be spelling tests and subject terminology tests.

Homework:

Homework is set each week by the class teacher. In the case where a class has more than one teacher it is the teacher the pupils see most who sets the homework. Pupils should also be spending time reading at home to support their literacy skills.

Other Useful Information:

Throughout the year we celebrate various events which help us to engage pupils with the subject. Roald Dahl Day, National Poetry Day, Harry Potter Night, World Book Day and Readathon are examples of such events.