

English

Curriculum Manager: Mrs K Dunleavy

Teaching Staff: Mrs C McCarthy, Mrs L Packwood, Miss A Beecroft, Miss L Clayton, Mr I Taylor, Miss J Dixon, Mr P Evans, Miss C Robert, Miss H Dorward, Miss J Shaw, Mr C Hackett, Mrs M Thompson, Mrs S Speakman.

Curriculum Overview: Pupils will continue their journey through English by starting the year with the 20th century comedy/drama play 'Our Day Out' by Willy Russell. They use this as a stimulus to then practise writing about topics of importance to them in the scheme 'writing from a perspective'. Term two starts with the 20th century American novel 'Of Mice and Men' by John Steinbeck, and moves onto descriptive writing, using the descriptions from the novel to inspire ideas. The final term marks the commencement of the pupils' first actual GCSE study – the reading of Shakespeare's 'Macbeth'.

Topic Studied- Term 1
Drama study – 'Our Day Out' by Willy Russell. The first study of a play for our pupils, designed to prepare them for GCSE literature. They will look at dramatic devices, context, themes and ideas. They will then study a range of non-fiction texts to examine how writers present their perspectives using language devices and crafting word choices. They will use this to write their own speech.

Topic Studied- Term 2
Class reader – 'Of Mice and Men' by John Steinbeck. Pupils take a trip to America and life on the ranches during the 1930s by studying this novel. A story of friendship, power and dreams: all explored via language and structural study. From this they will put pen to paper themselves and create a piece of descriptive writing focussing on how they, themselves, craft language and structure.

Topic Studied- Term 3
GCSE Literature study – 'Macbeth' by William Shakespeare. Pupils will read and annotate the play 'Macbeth' to start their preparation for their GCSE English literature exams in Year 11. They look at the context of the play, dramatic devices, practise developing multiple interpretations of writers choices and how themes/ideas are presented by the writer.

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.