



Stratton Upper School

# English News for Year 11

From the English Department... we have lots of exciting and helpful ideas to get you ready for exams, and they're all here in this newsletter ready to go! Remember you can also always ask your teacher for support as well!

## Welcome!

Welcome to Mr Anstice who joins us having worked in English departments across Bedfordshire in a range of other schools, and has also studied and taught Law in various colleges.

Mr Anstice joins us to support the department in teaching during Ms Howe's absence. We are very positive about Mr Anstice's appointment and looking forward to his time with us.

## Websites that can help

If you don't really fancy staying after school there are lots of websites you can access at home that can help you! Here are a few:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/education/topics/zprysg8> - the poems

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/education/topics/zykncwx> - Romeo and Juliet

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/education/topics/zwhkxsg> - A Christmas Carol

Lots here on the English language papers 1 and 2

<https://www.bbc.com/education/examspecs/zcbchv4>

The "Mr Bruff" videos on you tube are also rather popular with the students – He breaks down the questions really clearly for both language and literature.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCM2vdqz-7e4HAuzhpFuRY8w>

This channel is also really good with several 'walk throughs' of the questions and responses:

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0jbf4wl1GPTs6hpbKZ-7Bw/videos?disable\\_polymer=1](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0jbf4wl1GPTs6hpbKZ-7Bw/videos?disable_polymer=1)

<https://www.youtube.com/user/mrbruff/playlists> Basically anything for Language or Literature exams will be on here somewhere!

<https://www.shmoop.com/> for Literature texts

<http://www.sparknotes.com/> for Literature texts

## Exam support

Exams are coming up towards us at a great speed! Now is the time to start attending revision sessions with your teacher after school to support your learning!

Miss Trim– Monday X5, Y4, Y5

Miss Stratton– Monday Y3

Mrs Luck– Monday X1, Y1, X4

Mrs Paul– Wednesday X2

Mrs Cash– Tuesday Y2

Miss Wood– Wednesday X3

## Revision tips:

(Tick when completed)

- Re-read texts
- Revision guides – activities and notes
- Read knowledge maps/test yourself
- Practice papers
- GCSE bitesize
- Attend revision sessions
- Make notes of key themes/characters in literature texts
- Complete all homework set
- Read a variety of non-fiction texts and feature spot writer's methods
- Create quizzes with your friends
- Draw comic strips of story lines
- Select and annotate your own quotes
- Watch documentaries on authors/poets
- Complete Literacy work set during registration every week.
- Practice writing **PETER** paragraphs: 
  - P**oint
  - E**vidence
  - T**erminology
  - E**ffect (interpretations and audience)
  - R**efer to context

## ROUGH GUIDE TO REVISION IN LESSONS:

Some classes may spend more or less time on certain topics but it is a good rough guide.

## How can you help yourself?

Students could support themselves by studying the same topics at home or balancing a schedule to study opposite topics every two weeks.

WEEK BEGINNING	TOPIC FOR REVISION
1 <sup>st</sup> January	Mock feedback (students all in own group)
8 <sup>th</sup> January	Mock feedback (students all in own group)
15 <sup>th</sup> January	Unseen poetry (students all in own group)
22 <sup>nd</sup> January	Language Paper 1 (students all in own group)
29 <sup>th</sup> January	Language Paper 1 (students all in own group)
5 <sup>th</sup> February	Recapping modern play/ prose
12 <sup>th</sup> February	HALF TERM
19 <sup>th</sup> February	Recapping modern play/ prose
26 <sup>th</sup> February	Recapping poetry
5 <sup>th</sup> March	Recapping poetry
12 <sup>th</sup> March	Language or unseen poetry (all in own groups)
19 <sup>th</sup> March Mocks	Recapping Shakespeare
26 <sup>th</sup> March	Recapping Shakespeare
2 <sup>nd</sup> April	EASTER
9 <sup>th</sup> April	EASTER
16 <sup>th</sup> April	Mock Feedback (students all in own group)
23 <sup>rd</sup> April	Recapping A Christmas Carol (students all in own group)
30 <sup>th</sup> April	Recapping A Christmas Carol (students all in own group)
7 <sup>th</sup> May	Recapping Language Paper 2 (students all in own group)
14 <sup>th</sup> May Exams	Skills/ revision (students all in own group)

## Key Information

It is a combined English Language AND Literature course.

We use the AQA exam board qualification.

It results in TWO English GCSE grades in the summer.

The English Language grade is the grade that colleges will usually ask for, where an English grade is a requirement.

It consists only of final examinations.

AQA No tier of entry.

Every student sits the same exam.

### English Language

Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading writing (50%) 1hr45mins

Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives (50%) 1hr45mins

### English Literature

Paper 1: Macbeth/Romeo and Juliet, A Christmas Carol (40%)  
1 hr 45 mins

Paper 2: DNA/Blood Brothers/An Inspector Calls, Power and Conflict/Love and Relationships poetry, and unseen poetry (60%)  
2 hrs 15 mins

### We expect our students to be able to:

Extract relevant information from these texts to help answer questions; to use skimming and scanning to read a text quickly.

Understand why an author has used a certain word and what it suggests e.g. 'I skipped to work' suggests they are feeling happy.

Be able to make comparisons between texts

Take time to read and understand the question – rushing will lose marks.

Write in paragraphs complete with correct spelling, punctuation, grammar, capital letters – not using basic skills will lose marks.

Use PEE/PETER/PEEL effectively.

Have a secure knowledge of any texts they have read in classes since Year 10.

Make the most of opportunities available to them e.g. revision sessions.