

29 September 2016

Dear Parent/Carer

### **Year 10 English Literature exam**

Currently, students in English are able to achieve two GCSE qualifications; one within English Language and one within English Literature. Each of these qualifications requires students to take two exams, equalling four exams in total. As you can imagine, this puts a huge amount of pressure on students and therefore the careful decision has been made for Year 10 students to take their English Literature GCSE this year, providing the government do not make any significant changes to the GCSE exam expectations. Historically, students have performed better in both exams when they have taken one of their English GCSEs in Year 10.

Throughout Years 7-9, your child has been developing the skills to enable them to be successful at GCSE level. In Year 10, your child will be continuing to master these skills with a particular focus on English Literature and gaining the knowledge they require to be successful in their Literature GCSE. All Year 10 students who are ready for the exams will be taking their English Literature exams in May 2017. This allows these students to focus their attention on one qualification before focusing their attention on the English Language exam in Year 11.

Your child will be taking their first exam on 22 May 2017 with a focus on Shakespeare ('Macbeth' or 'Romeo and Juliet') and a post-1914 play ('An Inspector Calls'). Their second exam will take place on 26 May 2017 with a focus on a 19<sup>th</sup> century novel ('Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde' or 'A Christmas Carol') and poetry, both unseen as well as a selection of poems from the Pearson Poetry Anthology. Both exams will take place in the morning.

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Level 1



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Students will be provided with their own copy of the Pearson Poetry Anthology, and it is recommended that students purchase a copy of each of the three texts they will be studying so that they can make their own annotations and revise more effectively. As a school we are lucky to be able to purchase the two novels at a much reduced rate. If you would like to purchase the novel your child will be studying through the school, please could you complete the attached order form and return to reception along with payment by Monday, 10 October 2016.

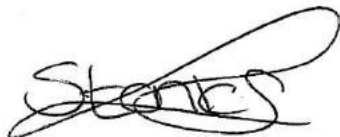
Unfortunately, we are unable to get a reduced rate on the post-1914 play and Shakespeare texts but would recommend Ebay and Amazon for used versions of these texts which will enable you to keep costs reduced. Your child can find out which texts they will be studying from their English teacher.

With such an important year ahead, it is crucial that your child is in school because any missed lessons will leave gaps in learning and make the exam more difficult.

We look forward to a wonderful, hard-working year with Year 10 and are excited to share in your child's successes when they receive their English Literature GCSE results in the summer.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



Mrs S Tonks  
Head of English

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### **Year 10 English Literature exam**

I would like to purchase a copy of my child's GCSE novel at a reduced rate.

Name of child: \_\_\_\_\_ Class Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

GCSE novel chosen (*please only select one – your child's teacher will be able to inform you of the novel being studied by their class*):

Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde	£2.99	Tick to select	<input type="checkbox"/>
A Christmas Carol	£2.49	Tick to select	

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please hand completed forms into reception along with payment by 10 October 2016.**