



Horsforth School

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Dear Parent / Carer

I am writing to update you about the nature of the work that your son / daughter will be covering during the summer term in English.

As you may be aware, changes to the GCSE examinations mean that for English Language and Literature, there is no longer any coursework or controlled assessment. Instead, grades are based on four exams at the end of Year 11. The course content has also changed, particularly for Literature, with pupils needing to be confident in their understanding of a much greater range of challenging texts.

For this reason, we have decided to introduce Year 9 pupils to some of the content they will return to in Year 11 with the hope of providing them with a strong foundation on which to build. Over the next term, they will study 8 poems from the AQA Power and Conflict Poetry Anthology as well as complete their Speaking and Listening individual presentation - a required component of the GCSE Language course but not contributory to their grade.

Pupils will still be working towards their end of year target level and continue improving their reading and writing skills, just with content with more direct future relevance.

We believe that the work that they complete this term will be useful for them to look back on as a revision tool and give them greater confidence before beginning the full GCSE course in Year 10.

I would be grateful if you would speak to your son / daughter about this new challenge and support them in making this term a productive and rewarding experience for them and their peers. Please find below the full list of texts they will be studying and websites that are useful in supporting their future studies.

- AQA GCSE English Language (<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-language-8700>)
- AQA GCSE English Literature (<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-literature-8702>
Texts studied: *Romeo and Juliet*, *A Christmas Carol*, *An Inspector Calls*, AQA Poetry Anthology -Power and Conflict, Unseen Poetry)
- http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/english_literature/
- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zr9d7ty>
- <http://www.litcharts.com/>

I would like to thank you in advance for your support with this, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

Marie Wardle
Acting Head of English

'Opportunity and achievement for all'