

**Curriculum Area: English Year: 7
2015/2016**

Topics	Year Curriculum	How you can support learning at home, eg. Books, websites, family learning through visits.
<p>Module 1 Writing for different purposes</p>	<p>In this first half term, students will study a range of non fiction texts based around the novel ‘Stormbreaker’ and will be introduced to many of the writing skills that are crucial for succeeding in the GCSE English Language exam. They will learn, through a study of the language and structural techniques used by the writer, the skills to enable them to produce engaging pieces of their own.</p> <p>As the module develops, students will apply their new skills to a range of other texts, including instructional, explanation and descriptive writing.</p> <p>During this module, students will also have the opportunity to enhance skills in spoken language as they produce paired, group and individual presentations to their peers.</p> <p>Assessment will take the form of three extended pieces which will show students’ ability to adapt their writing to a range of different purposes. Students will also be assessed on the accuracy of spelling, punctuation and grammar in line with the new GCSE assessments. Accurate SPG will count for 20% of their end of year grade.</p> <p><u>Opportunities for the Development of Literacy Skills.</u></p> <p>In the first weeks of this half term, students will re visit the KS2 list of spellings and grammatical terms for Y6 to secure their knowledge in these areas and so that any gaps are addressed . Students will then move on to develop their range of vocabulary and learn the spelling of more complex words and grammatical terms from the KS3 spelling list.</p> <p>Securing and developing students’ understanding of how to correctly punctuate their writing will also be an important focus.</p>	<p>Springs Academy LRC has some excellent examples of fiction and non fiction texts which can be accessed by all students. Please encourage your son/daughter to read examples of these on a regular basis.</p> <p>Students will be given extended learning tasks with a specific literacy focus each week. Parents and carers can support students by practising spellings and testing their knowledge of key grammatical terms on a regular basis.</p> <p>Activities for the revision of KS2 spelling and grammar can be found at: http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/english/spelling_grammar/</p> <p>The KS3 spelling list can be found at: http://www.phon.ucl.ac.uk/home/dick/tta/spelling/ks3list.htm</p>



<p>Module 2 The full text</p>	<p>In the second half term, students will study a full text in exactly the same way as they will when they study GCSE English Literature at KS4. The theme for the novels in this module is 'Out of the Ordinary' and there are a number of engaging, accessible texts, suitable for all reading abilities, to choose from.</p> <p>As students progress through the module, the reading skills that students were introduced to in the first half term will be developed further so that students gain an appreciation of language, characterisation and genre and understand how writers use specific techniques to hook the reader and maintain their interest. Students will be assessed by producing a series of reading responses to stimulus questions based on the novel as well as writing a final extended piece.</p> <p><u>Opportunities for the Development of Literacy Skills.</u></p> <p>This half term, students will continue to secure the spelling of key words from the novel they are studying and from the KS3 spelling list. They will also continue to learn key linguistic and grammatical terminology and will have opportunities to study the way that authors use these techniques skilfully to produce effective, engaging works.</p> <p>Securing and developing students' understanding of how to correctly punctuate their writing will continue to be an important focus and studying the effects created by the author's choice of punctuation will also feature this half term.</p>	<p>Please encourage your son/daughter to read for pleasure as regularly as possible. Springs Academy has an excellent Learning Resource Centre where novels aimed at a young audience can be regularly borrowed.</p> <p>Reading novels at a young age will develop a student's literacy skills and thinking skills: an excellent preparation for their school career.</p> <p>Spelling and grammar will continue to be a focus for extended learning. Please ensure that your son/daughter practises spellings and learns key terms regularly.</p>
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**Module 3
Poetry**

In the second term at Springs, students will read a range of poetry from the AQA Anthology based on the theme of Relationships in order to familiarise them with the type of poetry that they will study at KS4. Works will include both modern and pre 1914 poetry from a range of writers. Through a detailed study of the texts, students will gain an appreciation of the craft of poetry: how language can be used in a variety of ways to create different effects, such as rhythm and rhyme. They will learn how to analyse poetry for meaning and how to write their own poetry in a range of styles incorporating many of the techniques that established poets use.

In order to build student's reading skills further, towards the end of the module, they will be introduced to skills which will enable them to compare aspects of texts such as the way a theme or character is presented. Assessment will take the form of a formal essay which will ask students to revisit their learning from the novel in Autumn 2 and compare aspects of this to the poetry they have studied in this module. This is a relatively new and challenging skill for students at KS3 but is one that is crucial for success in both the English Language and Literature exams.

Opportunities for spoken language skills to be developed will also be available as part of this topic in the form of group discussions and role play activities.

Opportunities for the Development of Literacy Skills.

In the second term, students will continue to secure the spelling of key words and to develop new vocabulary, including unfamiliar words from the poems they are studying. They will also continue to learn key linguistic and grammatical terminology and will have opportunities to study the way that writers use these techniques skilfully to produce effective, engaging poems.

Students will also study the effects created by the author's choice of structure and punctuation and will have the opportunity to apply these choices to their own writing.

Students can borrow a wide range of poetry books from the LRC. Please speak to your son/daughter about the poems they read; discuss the overall meaning and effect of interesting words and phrases.

Spelling and grammar will continue to be a focus for extended learning. Please ensure that your son/daughter practises spellings and learns key terms regularly.



<p>Module 4 Short stories and creative writing</p>	<p>Students will study a range of short stories from a range of genres. There will be a series of detailed language focuses: How language is crafted by the author to create a range of effects, how structure plays an important part in the development of a story and how key descriptive techniques create a compelling narrative. Assessment in this module will take the form of one extended creative writing piece which will be based on a picture stimulus, in line with the new English Language GCSE Paper 1 exam. Spelling, punctuation and grammar continue to be a focus and will be worth 20% of students' end of year grade.</p> <p><u>Opportunities for the Development of Literacy Skills.</u></p> <p>Students will develop their range of vocabulary further to include a range of more ambitious language and will learn how to produce high-quality narratives using the word and sentence-level and structural techniques they have been taught. Planning, editing and redrafting will be an important skill for students to learn in order to produce the very best quality work in this module. Strategies for spelling more ambitious words and the confident use of more advanced punctuation will also feature.</p>	<p>Please encourage students to read for pleasure at home: good quality short stories and novels will develop good reading skills.</p> <p>A range of activities based on reading and writing skills can be found at: http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks3/english/</p> <p>Please continue to encourage your son/daughter to take responsibility for learning their spellings and key grammatical terms at home.</p>
<p>Module 5 Preparation for the KS3 exam</p>	<p>During this half term, students will sit a modified version of the GCSE English Language exam so that they become familiar with the layout of questions and understand how to apply the skills they have learned in previous modules to the exam format. Students will be introduced to the four types of reading question: locating information, language analysis, structural analysis and evaluation, and will have the opportunity to practise their exam skills using past paper questions. In addition to developing reading skills, students will also re visit the descriptive writing unit from Module 4 in order to develop their skills further in preparation for the writing section of the exam.</p>	<p>Teachers have access to a range of KS3 exam past papers. Please encourage your son/daughter to borrow these so that they can practise their exam skills at home.</p>



<p>Module 6 Dracula: The play script</p>	<p>As students enter the final term in year 7, they will study a full play script in the same way as they will when they prepare for the English Literature exam in KS4.</p> <p>Students will build on the skills learned when they studied the full novel in Autumn 2 by studying and analysing the structural, linguistic and grammatical choices made by the author and will explore the effect of these on the audience. They will look closely at the specific features of the genre and note how these are evident in the text.</p> <p>The chosen text, <i>Dracula</i>, will also enable students to develop new skills in considering how the social and historical context of the text influences the way that events and characters are portrayed: a vital skill for success in the English Literature exam.</p> <p>Opportunities for drama activities and group discussion will be available throughout the module and students will receive a separate spoken language level for their contributions.</p> <p>Assessment for this module will take the form of one comparative essay focusing on the portrayal of character in the play and an extract from prose. Students will also be assessed on one extended narrative writing piece based on one scene from the play. SPG will make up 20% of the end of year grade for writing.</p> <p><u>Opportunities for the Development of Literacy Skills.</u></p> <p>Students will continue to develop their range of vocabulary further to include a range of more ambitious language related to the play. Strategies for spelling more ambitious words and the confident use of more advanced punctuation will also continue to feature in this module.</p>	<p>A range of play scripts for pleasure can be borrowed from the LRC.</p> <p>Reading play scripts at a young age will develop a student's literacy skills and thinking skills.</p> <p>Please take opportunities to discuss the play that your son/daughter is reading: What do they learn about characters? Can they remember the main events? Can they predict the ending?</p>
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