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Headteacher: Mr P Boyes

Our Ref: LOL

Dear Parent/Carer

With the GCSE exam period about to commence, I wanted to reach out and make sure you have all the information you need to support your child to get the English grades they deserve. I appreciate that this can be a stressful time – for student and parents - and we are here to support in any way we can.

Extra Support Outside Normal Lessons

The following English revision sessions continue to be available from Monday 20th April:

Mondays after school with Miss Oldham in room 111

Fridays after school with Mrs Owen in 112

Friday lunchtimes with Miss Jarman in 119

Preparation for English Language Exams

On Satchel One, students have access to two past papers (Language Paper 1 and 2) and these will be visible until the final English Language exam on June 5th. There are also support sheets attached on Satchel One with exam guides, top tips and terminology to revise.

A great online resource for revising English Language is the teacher 'Mr Bruff': he has short, clear videos explaining how to tackle each of the questions on the language papers.

Should your child need any further support or past papers for the Language exams, please encourage them to ask their English teacher.

Alternatively, you can contact us on these emails:

Miss Oldham: oldham@looea.net

Mrs Owen: jowen@looea.net

Mr Maywood: bmaywood@looea.net

Miss Jarman: bjarman@looea.net

Preparation for English Literature

Students will sit two exams for English Literature; the first is on May 11th (A Christmas Carol and Shakespeare).

The AQA literature exams are 'closed book' which means they have no copies of the texts we have studied and no notes with them. To achieve the grade a student deserves, it is essential to complete literature revision outside of school.

Students will answer essay questions on the following:

'A Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickens (ALL classes)

'Romeo and Juliet' by Shakespeare (Except Mrs Owen = Macbeth)

2 poems from a cluster of 15: 'Power and Conflict' (ALL classes)

2 unseen poems (ALL classes)

+ *One* modern text:

'An Inspector Calls' (Miss Oldham)

or 'Blood Brothers' (Mr Maywood)

or 'Lord of the Flies' (Mrs Owen)

or 'Animal Farm' (Miss Jarman)

How can parents and carers help?

- 1) Check they have all the revision guides they need handy for the literature listed above and encourage them to read and make notes or flashcards.
- 2) Remind them that little and often is best. There is always something they can be doing for just 10 or 15 minutes! For example, using education websites such as BBC bitesize; watching useful videos online, such as Mr Bruff's guides; and completing tasks set by teachers (such as quote learning, essay questions and quizzes).
- 3) Supporting students with quote learning is easy. Included with this letter are basic quote banks for A Christmas Carol and Power and Conflict Poetry. Why not give your child a little test? For example, you say the first few words of a quote and they try to finish it.
- 4) Look out for any versions on television of Romeo and Juliet (or Macbeth), the modern text they are studying and A Christmas Carol. This is an easy and enjoyable way to revise the plot and key quotations!

I wish all our amazing Year 11 students the greatest success for their last few months with us and the exam period ahead.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Yours faithfully



Miss L Oldham
(Head of English)

A Christmas Carol (studied by ALL Year 11 classes)

- 1) 'Bah! Humbug!'
- 2) 'A Merry Christmas, uncle. God save you!'
- 3) 'One coal'
- 4) 'Chain.... of cash-boxes, keys, padlocks, ledgers'
- 5) 'golden... idol '
- 6) 'decrease the surplus population'
- 7) 'they were a boy and a girl....wolfish...pinched...twisted'
- 8) 'There sprung a bright clear jet of light'
- 9) 'No, no...oh no...say he will be spared'
- 10) '...but brave in ribbons'
- 11) 'chestnuts on the fire sputtered and crackled noisily'
- 12) 'solitary as an oyster'
- 13) 'I am as happy as an angel'
- 14) 'I'll raise your salary'

Power and Conflict Poetry (studied by ALL Year 11 classes)

- 1) Look on my works ye mighty and despair!
- 2) Nothing beside remains
- 3) The lone and level sands stretch far away
- 4) Marks of weakness, marks of woe
- 5) The mind forged manacles I hear
- 6) Runs in blood down palace walls
- 7) One summer evening (led by her) I found a little boat
- 8) A huge peak, black and huge
- 9) A trouble to my dreams
- 10) That's my last Duchess painted on the wall
- 11) Notice Neptune though taming a sea horse
- 12) I gave commands then all smiles stopped together
- 13) Theirs not to reason why theirs but to do and die
- 14) Into the jaws of death rode the six hundred
- 15) Honour the charge they made
- 16) Our brains ache in the merciless iced east winds that knife us
- 17) But nothing happens
- 18) All their eyes are ice
- 19) We are prepared: we build our houses squat
- 20) Exploding comfortably
- 21) It is a huge nothing that we fear
- 22) Suddenly he awoke was running
- 23) The patriotic tear that had brimmed in his eye
- 24) Bullets smacking the belly out of the air
- 25) Probably armed possibly not
- 26) His blood shadow stays on the street
- 27) His bloody life in my bloody hands
- 28) I pinned one onto your lapel, crimped petals
- 29) The world overflowing like a treasure chest
- 30) Released a songbird from its cage
- 31) Spools of suffering set out in ordered rows
- 32) A hundred agonies in black and white
- 33) Eyeballs prick with tears between the bath and pre-lunch beers
- 34) Paper that lets the light shine through
- 35) Might fly our lives like paper kites
- 36) Where a hand has written in the names and histories
- 37) I am branded by an impression of sunlight
- 38) I comb its hair and love its shining eyes
- 39) It may be at war it may be sick with tyrants
- 40) A shaven head full of powerful incantations
- 41) Little fishing boats strung out like bunting
- 42) He must have wondered which had been the better way to die
- 43) A yellow sunrise to the dying
- 44) I carving out me own identity
- 45) Dem tell me wha dem want to tell me