

KS3 Newsletter Autumn Half Term 1

Welcome to the English Department:

How is my child assessed?	Who do I contact if I have any questions?
<p>This half term, students in Year 7 will complete one formative writing assessment based on their reading of various extracts from gothic literature. This will be followed by a summative assessment of the same format. They will be assessed on their ability to create tone and atmosphere through the use of literary devices, their spelling, punctuation and grammar, and their ability to structure a narrative.</p> <p>Students in Year 8 will begin the topic, 'Speeches that Changed the World'. They will be assessed formatively on their transactional writing skills, including their ability to incorporate the features of rhetoric in their work. This will be followed by a summative assessment of the same nature.</p> <p>After each assessment students will complete a 'Close the Gap' lesson in which they make improvements on their work.</p> <p>These are all completed in an assessment book that does not go home.</p>	<p>Please email the English KS3 Coordinator on: ssmithson-ingr@abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk</p> <p>Who are the KS3 teachers?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Miss K O'Connell (Head of Department) - Mrs A Taylor - Mrs K Coxon - Mrs R Edwards - Mrs R Holden - Mrs S Smithson-Ingrey - Miss L Andrew-Martin - Mrs N Stollary

Year 7: Gothic Fiction

This half term, students will be reading a selection of extracts from gothic texts carefully curated by the English department. These texts will consist of: *The Monkey's Paw*, *Jekyll and Hyde*, *The Red Room*, *Frankenstein* and *The Woman in Black*. Students will be exploring the context of the gothic genre and its common tropes. Their exposure to these texts will not only help with their comprehension and analysis skills but also aid the development of their imaginative writing skills as students learn to incorporate features of the gothic into their own writing to create tone and atmosphere.

What will my child be learning:	Key Vocabulary to learn:	Suggested Wider Reading:
<p>1: What are the differences between the genres of 'horror' and 'gothic'?</p> <p>2: What are the common tropes of the gothic genre?</p> <p>3: How do gothic writers create tone and atmosphere in their work?</p> <p>4: How can I craft an atmospheric and engaging gothic narrative?</p>	<p>The following vocabulary list will be introduced to students throughout the course of this half term. We encourage you to test your child's spellings fortnightly.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Gothic Eerie Atmosphere Mystery Suspense Pathetic Fallacy Supernatural 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ <i>Tom's Midnight Garden</i> – Phillipa Pearce ❖ <i>Flowers in the Attic</i> – Virginia Andrews ❖ <i>Breathe: A Ghost Story</i> – Cliff McNish <p><u>Please ensure you read the description of the book first and decide whether it is appropriate for your child.</u></p>

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Year 8: 'Speeches that Changed the World'

Students will read a carefully selected anthology of speeches said to have changed the course of history. Students will be exposed to contextual information to help their understanding. They will learn the features of rhetoric and practise their own persuasive writing skills via close analysis and speech writing.

What will my child be learning?	Key vocabulary to learn:	Recommended wider reading:
<p>1: What are the features of rhetoric? 2: What was the Gettysburg Address and why was it so powerful? 3: What was the Tilbury Speech and why was it so important?</p> <p>4: How do the following speeches employ the features of rhetoric and how did they change the world?:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emmeline Pankhurst – Suffrage • Winston Churchill – We Will Fight • Greta Thunberg – UN Speech • Malala Yousafzai Speech – UN Speech • Martin Luther King – I have a Dream • Sojourner Truth – Ain't I a woman? • Tony Blair – Labour Party 1995 • Emma Watson – 'He for She' at the UN <p>5: How can I use the features of rhetoric in my own writing?</p>	<p>The following vocabulary list will be introduced to students throughout the course of this half term. We encourage you to test your child's spellings fortnightly.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Ethos Logos Pathos Rhetoric Prejudice Injustice Environmentalism Suffrage Patriarchal Feminism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ <i>I am Malala</i> – Malala Youzafzai ❖ <i>The Hate U Give</i> – Angie Thomas ❖ <i>No One is Too Small to Make a Difference</i> – Greta Thunberg <p><u>Please ensure you read the description of the book first and decide whether it is appropriate for your child.</u></p>

What books will my child read in their reading lessons? Once a fortnight your child will have a 'reading' lesson. Their class will read a novel together and work through various activities based on the novel.

Year 7

The Philosopher's Stone – J.K. Rowling

Year 8

The Hunger Games – Suzanne Collins