

12th July 2017

To: Parents/Carers of students in Year 8 English

Dear Parent/Carer,

Texts for English Literature

We are writing to let you know about what you can expect for your child in English during Year 9 and how you can help them achieve to the best of their ability in their English GCSEs.

Due to the new curriculum there is an increased workload for GCSE English and, because of this, here at Cardinal Wiseman we have decided to begin the English GCSE courses in Year 9. This will mean that your child will begin studying for their GCSE **English Language** and GCSE **English Literature** exams in September 2017. Please note that their actual GCSE exams still will not take place until the summer term of Year 11.

With this in mind, we would like you to be aware of the texts your child will be studying as part of their **English Literature** GCSE. These are:

A Christmas Carol, by Charles Dickens
Macbeth, by William Shakespeare
DNA, by Dennis Kelly
Love and Relationship Poetry (anthology from AQA)

Details of each of these texts is attached.

Your child will be studying DNA and a selection of the set poetry in Year 9. In order for your child to annotate and keep their own revision copy of DNA, we are asking if you could buy a copy of it this summer for their use. Having a personal copy of the text will allow your child to annotate, revise and prepare thoroughly for the exams in Year 11. However, it is not compulsory for you to buy it. All students without their own text will be given a copy of to use in lessons. Unfortunately, we do not have texts available for individual students to annotate and keep as we need to re-cycle them each year.

The students will begin studying DNA after Christmas 2017 so you have some time to buy it but we would suggest that, if possible, the text is purchased at the start of the summer holidays so that your child can read it during the summer break. In the final exams, the most successful students will have a detailed knowledge of all the Literature texts, which will require numerous readings.

AQA supply a free of charge copy of the poetry anthology for each student. These will be given out in school.

For your information, the attached sheet has details of DNA, revision guides and all the Literature texts and their ISBN numbers should you want to buy any of them in preparation for Years 9, 10 and 11.

Many thanks for your support. Please do not hesitate to contact Mary Harper on harperm@wiseman.ealing.sch.uk with any queries.

Yours faithfully,

M Harper

B Kelly

Mrs M Harper
KS4 Manager English

Mrs B Kelly
Curriculum Coordinator

Texts studied for GCSE English Literature
Cardinal Wiseman High School

Copies of these texts can be purchased through Amazon with the following details:

DNA by Dennis Kelly (School Edition) ISBN-13: 978-1840029529
£7.99 to buy new (at the time of writing).

A useful revision guide for this text is: Oxford Literature Companions: DNA. Also available on Amazon ISBN-13: 978-0198398929.

A Christmas Carol: GCSE English Illustrated Study Edition ISBN-13: 978-1530990382 £4.67 to buy new (at the time of writing).

A useful revision guide for this text is: A Christmas Carol: York Notes for GCSE (9-1) ISBN-13: 978-1447982128.

Oxford School Shakespeare: Macbeth ISBN-13: 978-0198324003
£5.24 to buy new (at the time of writing)

A useful revision guide for this text is: Macbeth: York Notes for GCSE (9-1) ISBN-13: 978-1447982203.

Love and Relationships Poetry Anthology (AQA). A copy of this anthology is supplied to all students free of charge.

A useful revision guide for this text is: AQA Poetry Anthology - Love and Relationships: York Notes for GCSE (9-1) ISBN-13: 978-1292138046.