

## KS3 English

In the first three years we teach English through the medium of literature, reading a variety of books, mainly modern fiction aimed at young people, but also a Shakespeare text each year and some pre-twentieth century texts. In Year 7 students study “The Midnight Fox”, “Beowulf”, “Private Peaceful” as well as studying the play version of “Frankenstein” and completing a Writing Skills unit and creating their own poetry anthology. Speaking and Listening skills are developed, and every year about 40 students are entered for the challenging, but extremely rewarding, English Speaking Board Examination.

In addition, all Year 7s complete a six week course in touch-typing, an important life-skill which we hope they will continue to build on during their time at the School.



In Year 8, more challenging texts are studied, such as “Stone Cold”, “Holes” and “A Midsummer Night’s Dream” and the students complete a media study of techniques used in films.

In Year 9 the students are no longer taught English in their tutor groups, but are arranged into mixed-ability sets. Students study exciting and challenging texts, such as “The Woman in Black”, “Animal Farm” and “Heroes”. They will also undertake a comprehensive study of poetry, drawing upon diverse source material ranging from “Dulce et decorum est” to “Porphyria’s Lover”. Shakespeare is also studied in Year 9 with “Much Ado About Nothing” and “Twelfth Night” being popular choices. Finally, at the close of Year 9, students will undertake a bridging unit that will focus upon the skills needed for successful study at GCSE and beyond. As always, throughout the year, students will develop their speaking and listening skills through regular and varied assessments. Students will be assessed internally throughout the year, however, they will also sit a formal test in reading and writing shortly after the Easter holiday.

