Year 9 English

Half term 1/6

INTRODUCTION

Hello from all the staff in the English Department at St Mary's Catholic Academy. We would like to let you know about what your child is learning through to the end of the school year and into Year 10 so that you can support them as best you can.

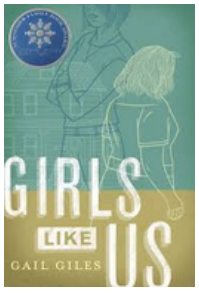
What's In This Half Term's Issue?

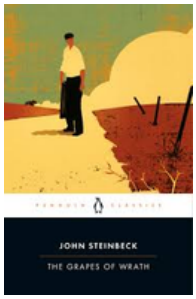
Book recommendations

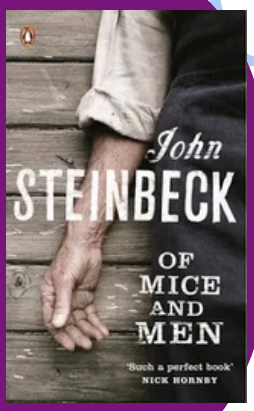
What we are studying this half term

Home Learning

Book Recommendations







Home Learning

Your child will be given two home learning tasks each week. Please check the MCAS app for details of these tasks.

Module Update

During this half term, students will be studying John Steinbeck's classic novella *Of Mice and Men*. As part of this module, they will explore key themes such as friendship, loneliness, and the American Dream against the backdrop of 1930s Soledad, California. Understanding this historical context has already proven to be a highlight for many students.
This unit plays a crucial role in building the foundation for Key Stage 4 English Literature. Throughout the study of the novella, students will develop essential analytical skills by examining how Steinbeck uses language and structure to create meaning. Alongside their literature work, students will also practise creative writing to support their transition into KS4.

The Year Ahead

Take a look at the Learning Journey to see what is in store for the rest of Year 9!

Year 9 SMCA English Curriculum

Module 1: Class Novel – *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck

Reading
Focus on analysing **characterisation and setting, writer's intentions, context and alternative interpretations.**

Writing
Creative – Description and Narrative Focus on characterisation.

How will you be assessed?
Formative 1: Reading – Inference, analysis of structure, context
Formative 2: Writing – Description/Narrative
Summative: Reading – Inference, analysis of language & structure, context

Module 2: Beyond Blackpool

Reading
Analysing and comparing non-fiction texts.
Learn a set method for making **comparisons** across different texts from around the world.

Writing
Learn how to write like a journalist or travel writer on world issues.
Functional Texts – Comment Article

How will you be assessed?
Formative 1: Reading – Inference, non-fiction comparison of inference and analysis
Formative 2: Writing – Comment Article
Summative: Reading – Non-fiction Comparison

Module 3: Voices of War

Reading
Explore and **analyse** a range of texts (including non-fiction and poetry) linked to the themes of power and conflict.

Writing
Develop your ability to write **functional texts** like letters and articles on world issues linked to 'Power & Conflict'.

How will you be assessed?
Formative 1: Writing – Comment Article
Formative 2: Reading – Poetry (inference, analysis and context)
Summative: Exam Week – Knowledge-based
Summative: Reading – Comparative Poetry Essay

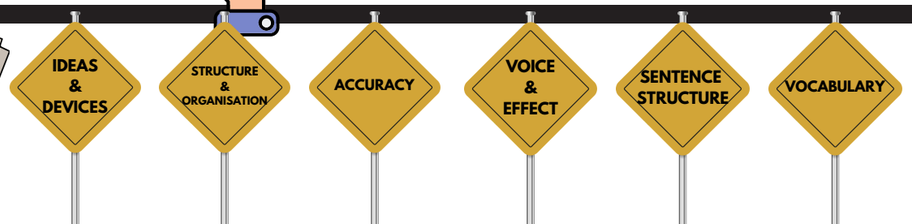
Module 4: Love & Relationships

Reading
Explore and **analyse** a range of non-fiction texts linked to the theme of 'Love and Relationships'. Explore Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet, focusing on plot, characters and theme.

Writing
Improve your **creative writing skills,** exploring both descriptive and narrative techniques.

How will you be assessed?
Formative 1: Reading – Knowledge of Romeo and Juliet
Formative 2: Writing – Creative Writing
Summative: Reading – Knowledge of Romeo and Juliet

Year 8 → → **INFERENCE** → **RETRIEVAL** → **LANGUAGE ANALYSIS** → **STRUCTURE ANALYSIS** → **COMPARE 'WHAT'** → **COMPARE 'HOW'**



Year 9 English
Let's explore different WORLD EXPERIENCES whilst also developing your reading and writing skills needed for GCSE and life!