



PUTTING THE FUN BACK
INTO LEARNING!

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Al Basma will host a book fair this term. It is hoped that you will support this and you will encourage your child to purchase a book from the book fair. Reading for pleasure will not only improve your child's reading skills but it will also improve their grammatical understanding which will help their skills in writing.

The book fair will have books suitable for students of all ages and abilities. Please contact your teacher for more information or if you require book suggestions.

Grade 6:

Ms Shahima's and Mr John's classes will be looking at a non fiction writing module taught through the medium of a very influential historical event, the Sinking of the Titanic. This module will explore different writing forms from letters, diary entries, newspaper articles and also audio excerpts.

Ms Nicola's and Ms. Rachel's classes will look at a variety of non fiction text types from a book called 'Voices in Time'. Here they are expected to know and understand the features of these text types. They will explore biographies, autobiographies, articles, letters and diary entries. They should be able to comment on the different levels of formality of each text.

Students will be given spellings to learn each week. Homework will be given also at least once per week; please check their student organiser for details of homework and support them in its completion. Please be aware that assessment is ongoing and not at the end of module therefore all homework assignments need to be completed.

Grade 7:

All Grade 7s will explore Travel writing. Travel has inspired a variety of different text types and has proven to be an interesting medium through which we can inspire students to be creative and engaging with language. Students will look at writing forms including: writing to persuade, inform, describe and advise. This module will be adapted to suit the variety of learners we have.

Students will be given spellings to learn each week. Homework will be given also at least once per week; please check their student organiser for details of homework and support them in its completion. Please be aware that assessment is ongoing and not at the end of module therefore all homework assignments need to be completed.

Grade 8:

Grade 8s are beginning to look at GCSE modules in order to introduce them to the level required for grade 9. This term, they will look at a journalism module. They will focus on print media and the writing

of articles and editorials and how these differ from other writing types. Students will be taught how to use words to manipulate meaning and how to grab the reader's attention.

Students will be given spellings to learn each week. Homework will also be given at least once per week; please check their student organiser for details of homework and support them in its completion. Please be aware that assessment is ongoing and not at the end of module therefore all homework assignments need to be completed.

Grade 9:

Ms Niamh and Ms Rachel's Grade 9s have been working on the iGCSE poetry module, we have decided to continue with this for the next three weeks in order to allow time for students to improve their essay writing skills. They have been given a copy of the mark scheme and are aware of what they need to do to improve. It is hoped that they will develop their skills of critical analysis.

Mr John and Mrs Lamia's classes are continuing the exploration of a Dragon's Den module which will concentrate on different writing forms. This module aims to assess the students' basic understanding and highlight areas which require further study and teaching associated with writing skills. This module will rely heavily upon grammar and language constructions both of which are vital for their progress in English. Similarly, there will be nightly homework and revision required.

Grade 10

Ms. Niamh and Mr John's classes will continue with the study of Shakespeare's *Macbeth* for one week in order to prepare them for an end of module assessment. In the second week of November, they will move on to study poetry on order to complete poetry missed from last term due to Ramadan. Students will use similar skills to those that they have used with *Macbeth*. It is hoped that all poems will be completed this term.

Ms Lamia and Ms Rachel will continue with reading modules this term. They are looking at reading skills through the medium of A Global Citizenship module this will give the students the opportunity to explore what it means to be a global citizen through various different text forms. This term aims to improve the reading styles and abilities of students.

Next Steps

Homework in the English department is, as always a very important element of our teaching. Homework is given out every lesson. If your child claims to have no written homework then be assured that they have reading (as part of their reading challenge) or review work which helps prepare for their continuous assessment. Across all year groups vocabulary is of high importance and it is essential for your children to revise their spelling and vocabulary regularly in order for them to be able to access the materials in lesson.

Students will be able to access the book fair at an assigned slot on the first week of November. It is hoped that this book fair will help students to purchase books to keep them reading over the coming terms.

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Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries, we will do our best to respond as quickly as possible.

Thank you for your ongoing support,

The English Team