What we have been doing in English.....

We launched a school wide poetry competition and saw a range of stunning entries. Our overall winning entries came from Morgan Clements and Mia Bladon are sampled below. These students received poetry journals as prizes. We are currently devising our next competition which we are very excited about already!

Warning of a Conflagration

Have you ever regarded, with simple contemplation, the modest pulchritude of Mother Nature, as her eyelashes lower in gracious humility, with a humble incline of the head? Offer a glance, in your virtuous honour, upon the perfumes of petalled foliage, floral garlands of splendacious resplendence, efflorescing at rest, atop the kindly tremble of careful handling. In a fragrant concoction, the scents of petrichor, pearlescent salts, glitter through waterfalls, caressing, splashing the fruitful blossoms, with the anointment of a thousand aquatic oils. In a leafy aviary of branches, the feathered choir chorus mellifluous birdsong symphonies, in striking praise of the

Despite such grandiloquent rhapsodies, your regard may distance to the observation of nescient wanderers, unfortunate blemishes upon the varicoloured canvas of a sorrowed artist. Adult in appearance, naive in perseverance, they are not to romanticise the heating of our tilted home: idealising the situation would be pathetic deceit, like the dismissal of snippets from adolescent journals, like the hyperbolic sentimentality of tear stains, jerked from imperfections of a plaintive romance novel. If they continue in this shameful oblivion, we will soon find ourselves unsuspecting witnesses to a conflagration, sweeping landscapes into sadistic embers that serve us a reminder of the burden of ignorance.

Mia Bladon

A journey from the East, it was sent on God's intention of a human feast, to explore every village on sight, to kiss every mother, child and husband goodnight.

but there was one thing that it had missed, for every thing that it had kissed, in 14 day's time, your child and wife, would be choking up on wasted life.

scene.

This is not what it had planned for, it yelled "no more, no more", but what was done could not be reversed, for its life had been cursed.

So it fled the state, in hope of new fate, but all had come to an end, when the coughing started again.

Although it's intentions were to protect, More death would come than it'd expect, "Stay inside, stay away" it said, but humans were not to be led. A joke they called it, "this isn't a joke, not one bit!" It could not understand why they would not listen, but all was clear they'd made their decision.

It hated humans, and now had new plans, to rid the earth of their toxicity, and end their monstrosity.

As death reigned down upon all, it sat and watched us fall, so say hello to covid's game, because you're all the ones to blame.

Morgan Clements





We have also had clusters of department teachers in school delivering English lessons to the students on site. Year 10 and 11 students have been exploring the Poetry Anthology whilst younger students have been developing their reading and writing skillsets with their teachers. We have also been trialling using visualisers to record annotations of texts with teacher voiceover and explanation. This has worked well with both Y10 and Y8 classes and we are seeking to extend this further. Staff have also been seeking to do some recorded instruction!



Year 7 have recently moved to a weekly module approach and have been covering a range of topics including Shakespeare, poetry, letter writing and many more.....

Year 8 have been exploring Gothic literature and Romantic poetry, developing the skills and knowledge they will need all the way through to Year 11.

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Written Assessment

LO: To plan and fully prep to write a creative piece to be assessed.

So considering all of the GOTHIC conventions we have been looking at over the last few weeks, you're going to start planning, drafting, editing and completing your own Gothic story!

What should you include in your work?

• Plan-

P

- A story mountain (I'll come back to this)
- Higher level words · All the nunctuation

How does Steinberk present George and Lennie in the opening two chapters?

Chapters? Initially.Steinberk presents George as very protective over Lennie, like an older brother. This is shown in the quote, "Lennie, for god' sake don't drink so much.'[.. The small man leaned over and shook him by the shoulder." This suggests that the two are very close and George fecls responsible for Lennie s'well-being. The verb "shook" shows that George was worried about Lennie and what he might do if he ..] didn't act. Most readers can relate to the feeling of responsibility that George feels towards Lennie

Interestingly, Lennie is presented as an animal within a few sentences. "He walked heavily, dragging his feet a little, the way a bear drags his paws." The adverb "heavily" suggests he is weary after a long hike or that he isn't used to travelling far. The way that Lennie is described as a bear is intriguing because Lennie is a large man The way has bound to be extract a source of an equilibrium generative to the fact that Lennie has to rely on George a lot of the time too. As a reader, this makes you wonder what could of happened to make him so tired.

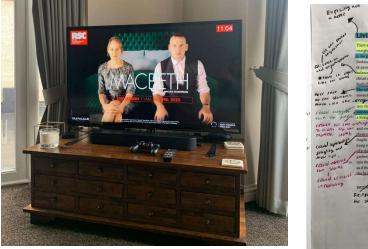
Clearly, Lennie relies on George heavily to get through simple tasks such as introducing himself. "In a panic, Lennie looked to George for help." This suggests that the two are very close and Lennie depends on George. The fact that Lennie was "in a panic" and instantly knew that George could help deepens the brother-like bond the two seem to share. As a reader, this makes you sceptical about Lennie surviving

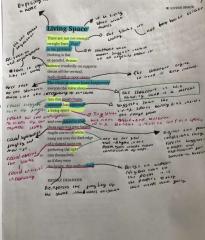


Year 9 have been looking at fiction texts and developing personal responses to them. This example shows a student who is exploring the opening of 'Of Mice and Men'

30th March 2020

Year 10 have continued to explore the key content for the GCSE course for both Literature and Language, some writing responses to the changes in the character of Scrooge, others responding to unseen poetry, others annotating the poetry from the anthology. Students have also been engaging with the BBC and RSC Shakespeare resources, including writing reviews of the latest Macbeth LIVE staring Niamh Cuzak and Christopher Eccleston. Pupils have also been using retrieval techniques such as the constant referring to previous work and learning to help it embed into their memories. Some of Ms Little's classes also learned full poems by memory which is and excellent skill in preparation for examinations next year.





The change of Scrooge

A Christmas Carol was written in 1843 by Charles Dickens. Dickens wrote A Christmas Carol in response to social attitudes toward poverty, in particular, child poverty. The story follows the character of Scrooge -a mean-spirited and selfish man- on his journey to become a better person.

At the beginning of the novella, Scrooge is portrayed as a cold-hearted person. This shown through the cold vocabulary used, for example Dickens writes "The cold within him froze his old features, nipped is pointed nose, shrivelled his cheek, stiffened his gait; made his eyes red and his thin lips blue." This depicts scrooge as extremely cold. Dickens also compares Scrooge to an oyster by saying, "solitary as an oyster". This shows that he may have a had exterior but there is something good inside of him.

At the start of Stave 2 Scrooge is trying to seem like an authoritative and imposing figure where Dickens says, "Scrooge Demanded". However, as the stave goes on his authority decreases as he becomes more emotional. For example, Dickens writes "And what is that upon your cheek?" showing that Scrooge has become teary. At this point in the novella the readers can feel Scrooge is beginning to change.

In stave 3, Scrooge is starting to become more caring. This is shown when he says, "Spirit... tell me if Tiny Tim will live". After the spirits horrifying reply scrooge seems even more concerned as he replies, "Oh no kind spirit! Say he will be spared." This shows how much Scrooge cares about Tiny Tim, which is a change from the beginning of the novella where all he cared about was money. Also,