



Mathematics & Computing Academy

Headteacher: Mrs M John

3rd December 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the year 9 Parents' Evening on Wednesday, December 10th, we would like to share key information about our Year 9 English curriculum and outline ways in which you might support your child's progress at home

Curriculum

We have had a fantastic start to the year exploring *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry* by Mildred D. Taylor and have taught a comprehensive unit about creative writing and short stories. Next term, students will be taught Macbeth and a selection of 19th century non-fiction texts about London. These units build the critical reading, writing, and analytical skills your child will need as they begin preparing for their GCSEs.

Assessment

Each term, students are assessed on both reading and writing. So far, students have been given feedback for a structural analysis of chapter 3 of *Roll of Thunder* and writing of an original short story. Students have also had their PU1 data published, which gives an overview of their classwork, homework and behaviour.

In the spring term, students will write an analysis based on an extract from Macbeth, and a non-fiction writing assessment which is in line with the requirements of GCSE Language Paper 2. Details of this will follow on Class Charts so please ensure you have access.

Homework

Homework continues to be set centrally by our Key Stage 3 leader. This is collected as per the homework timetable. Please ensure that homework is handwritten in exercise books, or printed on the day they are due. Use of AI will be sanctioned in accordance with our homework policy.

Reading plays a vital role in preparing for a rigorous GCSE curriculum in year 10 and year 11. Please encourage your child to read a range of both fiction and non-fiction texts for a minimum of 15 minutes per day. This can involve reading the news, a magazine or chapter of a novel. Consider the use of audiobooks, online summaries, reading out loud, using subtitles and having discussions about what they are reading. Consider how language is used in different contexts and how words can hold incredible power to help us think, feel and imagine. Examining how English functions in real-world contexts promotes active engagement and fosters authentic real-world connections

Should you have any questions regarding the year 9 curriculum, or anything else related to your child's English curriculum, please do not hesitate to contact the Miss Butcher KS3 Coordinator sbutcher@stanborough.herts.sch.uk or Miss McLean kmclean@stanborough.herts.sch.uk

Yours faithfully,

Ms McLean
Curriculum Leader: English

- Grow and Succeed -

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