

22nd November 2017

Dear Parent,

The English Department would like to make you aware that there are many resources that are available to help your child revise for the upcoming GCSE English exams. Year 11 students have both English Literature and English Language GCSE exams this summer. Year 10 are taking the English Literature GCSE exam this summer also. We are sitting the exam a year early in order to alleviate the pressure in Year 11 (unfortunately this option was not available for our past and current Year 11).

Our exam board is Edexcel and there are a number of revision guides and workbooks that you can buy – we have a list of those we recommend and examples that your child has had the opportunity to look at. The list will be available on Parents' Evening or I can send you one if you let me know. In addition to this there are free revision guides online such as <http://www.sparknotes.com/> and <http://www.gradesaver.com/study-guides>.

There are a number of other free resources that are available and your child should be using these regularly at home to revise. As you may be aware, no texts are allowed in the new English GCSEs so students must memorise plot, character, theme and quotes from all three set texts (A Christmas Carol, Romeo and Juliet and An Inspector Calls) and from fifteen poems in the Conflict section of the anthology.

All pupils have free access to the PIXLIT app and have been given the log on details to access it. This is a fantastic resource that tests them on plot, character, themes and quotations. They can download the app onto their electronic devices or access it through a desktop. Find the details at: <https://englishapp.pixl.org.uk/>

All the set texts are available in audio form on www.youtube.com.

We also recommend Mary Meredith's tutorials on YouTube for the Conflict poems. Find them at: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL7K6t2DMY9MA2f2eD_k0SK5OsoniiYMxw

There are also some good tutorials for the set texts on YouTube including these for A Christmas Carol: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-euaBRLFz5A>

If you don't have internet access then we have provided all students with packs of exam questions and they can use these to revise all the texts. In addition, students also have an exercise book with key quotes and they should be using these to memorise quotations and to test themselves.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you need any further information.

Yours faithfully,

Ms D Smith
Head of EBACC Faculty

