

5th September 2017

Re. Year 10 Purchase of Texts for English Literature GCSE

Dear Parents/Carers,

I wanted to write to you as your son/daughter begins to study for their English Literature GCSE. One important way in which the English Literature qualification has recently changed, is that it is based on two **closed book** exams - there is no coursework or controlled assessment on the new specifications. This means that, whereas in the past students have had access to the text they have studied in the exam to enable them to refer to it, they will now no longer have that option. Students will still be expected to have a good grasp of the whole texts they will be studying - and the emphasis is very much on *whole texts*.

To enable students to handle these challenging texts for an exam, it will be necessary for your son/daughter to have their own copies. They are texts which will require reading and re-reading over the two-year course, and making revision notes directly onto the pages will be extremely useful. Students will certainly need to re-read them in the run up to the exams in Year 11.

Texts required for the GCSE Literature course are:

- *An Inspector Calls* - by J.B. Priestley (Heinemann - ISBN-13: 978-0435232825)

And either:

- *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Hyde* - by Robert Louis Stevenson (Collins Classic ISBN-13: 978-0007351008) for those being taught by Mrs Enright, Mrs Mytton, Mrs Whittaker or Mrs Baird

or

- *The Sign of the Four* - by Arthur Conan Doyle (Collins Classic ISBN-13: 978-0008110468) for those being taught by Miss Nicoll or Miss Smy.

These can all be purchased either online (e.g. Amazon) or from local bookshops such as Waterstones. It is extremely helpful for students to ensure they have the same edition as we use in school. Please also ensure you have checked with your son/daughter who they are being taught by, and therefore which novel they are studying, or email me at h.smy@wgsnitney.org.uk to confirm.

Looking ahead to Year 11, students will study *Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare. We use the following edition:

Romeo and Juliet - by William Shakespeare (Oxford School Shakespeare - Price: £6.99 ISBN: 978-0-19-832166-8)

As a school, we are **currently** able to purchase this text from the publisher at a 50% discount -**this may not be the case by the time your son/daughter is in Year 11**. To take advantage of this discount, please place an order on Parent Pay before Thursday 14th September.

If you would like copies of this text, but financial circumstances make this difficult, there are funds available to help. Please ask your child to speak to their English teacher or to me.

Yours faithfully,



H. Smy
Head of English, Media and Film.



WOOD GREEN
SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mr R Shadbolt