

LITERACY for all: In English and beyond...

Improved reading and writing strategies for staff and students including the NEW Teacher Toolkit for planning, drafting, peer assessment, modelling and step by step analysis. Also extended writing guides for staff and for students, a range of S&L strategies such as dictation, structuring talk to support writing and how to make talk meaningful. The expectations for all staff in supporting literacy have also been shared.

Additional strategies to support literacy:

- Tuesday Newsday (regular engagement with worthy news articles across all subjects)
- Literacy Lead monitoring Accelerated Reader lessons
- Word of the Week to stretch vocabulary
- Language of an Expert (to support written expression in all subjects)
- New Media Unit in Year 8 on creative persuasion
- Literacy Homework Booklets for Years 7 & 8
- Regular comprehension tasks for Year 9 each half term to raise standards
- Visual prompts in classrooms
- Book of the Month display in the entrance foyer
- Continued use of structured student talk
- Dynamic reading using visual media
- Speaking & Listening is included in all units to promote Oracy and listening focus
- Literacy Leaders support literacy across school
- Providing a Library and subtitled news channel in the dining area

Other strategies include:

Homework tasks at the end of each unit allow students to reflect upon, review and consolidate understanding using Student Voice. Author visits and writing competitions (*Tower Poetry, Alfred Hubberman, Mission Chaos etc*) provide cross curricular opportunities with other departments (eg History). National Poetry Day focuses on students writing about their favourite subjects. The Dove Cottage trip in Year 7 supports students' self-awareness and contextual understanding of their place in the world.

Our intent is to create a flexible framework at Key Stage 3 which immerses students in a wide range of creative and **inspiring** learning experiences built around the three strands of Literacy: Reading,

Writing, Speaking and Listening. These experiences are sequenced to gradually build the level of **challenge** incrementally whilst maintaining a consistently structured departmental approach to analysis, expression and original thought. In this way students feel safe, encouraged and **empowered** to use their knowledge to tackle any text or written task.

Our intent is to equip students with the ability and desire to:

- Develop opinions and express ideas with clarity and purpose both verbally and on paper
- Cultivate skills as knowledge
- Approach reading, writing, speaking and listening creatively
- Read for meaning including through the use of moving image texts
- Explore key themes in Literature
- Identify with other cultures sensitively
- Refine listening skills and respect the opinions of others
- Write extensively for purpose, audience and form including proof reading, planning, editing and redrafting opportunities to improve
- Evaluate the relevance of contextual factors
- Analyse fiction and non-fiction (including media texts) for language and structure
- Understand who and where we are in relation to others
- Recognise the development of the human condition
- Understand the full range of questions and develop the capability to answer them effectively
- Empathise and identify with the gamut of human emotions.
- Develop resilience and rise to the challenge.