

B I S H O P



R A M S E Y

Church of England School  
Headteacher: Mr A J Wilcock MA (Cantab)

12th March 2015

Dear Parent/Carer

### AS Literature Key Dates

As we are in the run up to final coursework submission dates and revision before the examination for AS Literature (15/05/15), we would like to keep you informed of the ways that your son/daughter can be prepared to achieve their best in the upcoming assessments for Unit 1 (the exam) and Unit 2 (the coursework).

### Unit 1: The Exam

Students have been informed that they will complete another **informal mock** during lesson time **week commencing 16th March**. Unlike the Christmas mock, this mock will cover both sections of the Literature paper and will require students to have revised all four texts: a selection of Frost and Rossetti poetry, 'The Great Gatsby' and 'Enduring Love'. Students will have only covered a small selection of Rossetti poems prior to this mock, but it will be sufficient for them to tackle the comparative essay in Section B.

We have advised students to make sure that they compile revision notes (spider diagrams or bullet points) on aspects of Narrative for each chapter in their prescribed novels and each selected poem in the anthology.

The students have clear guidelines on the assessment objectives for each question and have been advised to practice mini answers using past papers and mark schemes (available on the AQA website <http://www.aqa.org.uk/exams-administration/exams-guidance/find-past-papers-and-mark-schemes>). In addition to this, each student has a red assessment folder that contains feedback on their class and homework tasks to date, which they should refer back to for precise personal targets.

In terms of improving the content and quality of their ideas, students should refer to their class notes and respectable published commentaries such as York notes. There are online commentaries that students consult often, such as Cliff notes, which can be helpful. However, we do not recommend that students simply incorporate whole scale borrowed ideas without fully exploring the relevance to the task set and ensuring that they understand how to use the ideas and terminology accurately.

In addition, students have been issued with a blue glossary of technical literary terms that they should use for their analysis of texts during the examination and in their coursework tasks.



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We would encourage students to be reflective of their own work in the coming weeks, checking that their answers meet the criteria for assessment and that they have focused on the task. There can be no substitute for being thoroughly familiar with their four texts; if students have not done so already, they should complete at least two readings of the novels.

### **Unit 2: Coursework**

As coursework is worth 40% of the AS Literature grade, we would encourage students to be well-organised in meeting deadlines, thorough with their research and academic in presenting their final drafts.

By this stage, all students should have completed and had feedback on the final drafts of their essays on 'Much Ado About Nothing'. Students are currently working on their second task on 'The Importance of Being Earnest'. Students have been issued with a selection of approved tasks and should be drafting essay plans and initial paragraphs from this time on. Students should use their pink assessment feedback sheets to reflect on areas for improvement with their final task. These should be included in their red assessment folders previously mentioned. Students have clear guidelines on Fronter on essay style tips and how to present a clear line of argument.

We would advise students to complete a rough draft no later than **week commencing 16th March** to allow staff to provide feedback and re-draft time prior to the Easter holidays. Therefore, final drafts need to be completed on or before **Friday March 27th**.

**We would be very grateful if you could ensure that your son/daughter meets this deadline as the department must have time to moderate the marks for the entire cohort before they are sent to the exam board and sample folios are requested for external moderation.**

Practical requirements that **must** be complied with for final submission:

- Put the question at the top of your essay
- Put your name on every page
- Number every page
- Double space
- Font size 12
- Font – Times New Roman
- Include a bibliography
- **INCLUDE A WORD COUNT**
- All parts of your essay must be typed

### **Plagiarism**

We have given students guidelines on what constitutes plagiarism: any representation of ideas from another student's work, collaborating with another student on their final essay, borrowing excerpts from online essays or commentaries, would all constitute what the exam board refer to as malpractice. We make every effort within the department to spot any mishaps, deliberate or otherwise, but would ask parents and carers to remind their children of the importance of submitting essays that are their own work entirely. Quotations from commentaries can, of course, be used and credited in the bibliographies.

We anticipate that students will be more efficient at completing this final task. They do tend to develop as writers and critics throughout the year and become far more adept at understanding the comic dramatic genre, which is the focus of this Unit. In addition to working on their task at home, students will be given time in class to draft paragraphs and receive feedback.

Finally, there will also be a coursework clinic available on Wednesdays after school, **week commencing 9th March in ZG01** where students can have some extra one-to-one support – they just might have to wait in line.

We do hope that the students have managed to enjoy their Literature this year despite all the assessments. We notice a huge improvement in their skills and knowledge over the course of the year and with maintained focus at this crucial time from the students, we should be able to anticipate a good set of results in August and keen faces in September A2 classes.

Kind regards.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mrs M Trafford', written in a cursive style.

**Mrs M Trafford**  
**KS5 Co-ordinator**