



BORDEN GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Borden Grammar School
Avenue of Remembrance
Sittingbourne
ME10 4DB

12 September 2019

Dear parents and carers

A warm welcome to the start of a new academic year from the English Department and we are looking forward to working with your son again.

Please be aware that students in Year 8 will be enrolled in the Accelerated Reader programme and must therefore bring a reading book to every English lesson. Your son will shortly be receiving a homework timetable which will indicate two separate slots for English homework in one week: one of these homeworks should be designated for 30 minutes of private reading every week to complement the 10 minutes of reading undertaken at the start of each English lesson.

In addition to this, we are also launching Extended Learning Projects that have been designed to stretch and enrich the learning taking place in your son's English lessons. These projects can be found on Moodle under 'English' and then 'KS3'. Your son's designated ELP, for that term, will then co-ordinate with the topic or theme being taught in class.

These projects are not designed to replace homework but instead are to complement the topic and activities in the lesson - to allow students to go beyond the learning in the classroom and widen their knowledge and engagement. The English Department ran a small scale pilot of these projects last year and they were well received by students in Years 7 and 8 who enjoyed looking at unfamiliar material in order to stretch and challenge them. Your son's class teacher will explain where these projects are located on Moodle and will refer to them throughout the term, so please do have a look and encourage your son to engage in wider reading.

Also new for Year 8 students is 'Bedrock Vocabulary' which we will be launching in lessons soon. The premise of this new initiative is to extend and widen students' vocabulary and make them more confident with unfamiliar words. They are able to access the material on any device that connects to wifi (phones, tablets, Xboxes, kindles) and the expectation will be that students will complete two 15 minute sessions a week on 'Bedrock Vocabulary' both inside and outside of lessons – more to come on this later in the term once it's up and running.

Yours faithfully

Mrs M Brooker
Head of English



Headteacher: Mr J R Hopkins BA (Hons) NPQH

