

English Department Summer work expectations

Dear Prospective A Level Student,

Welcome and congratulations: you have chosen a super A Level to study!

As you will be aware, there is a great deal of reading to enjoy with this academic course; the more you read around the set texts, the better. Obviously, the more familiar you are with the set texts themselves, the greater the likelihood that you will get every last drop out of the lessons and, thus, position yourself to do very well in the assessments.

Any questions at all, please do not hesitate to email sbe11@tsatrust.org.uk I shall be unavailable for the first two weeks of August, but otherwise will be checking my emails regularly -it will be good to hear how you are getting on with these tasks.

Set texts for the course as a whole

Girl, Woman, Other Bernadine Evaristo

Sense and Sensibility Jane Austen

A Doll's House Henrik Ibsen

Collected poems Christina Rossetti

Hamlet William Shakespeare

Summer work -what we shall be expecting you to arrive with:

You should have read *Jane Eyre*. It is a commitment. For some, accessing the audio book will be a sensible way to do this. I always recommend the audio versions -there's a real pleasure in being read to.

You should read at least one text for pleasure -and be ready to discuss it. It could be non-fiction, it could be poetry, it could be populist crime fiction, it might even be a graphic novel...

Please research the life and times of Christina Rossetti and be ready to present your findings. This will take the form of a structured class discussion, so you should have notes/mood board/poster/podcast script/any other way of recording your research -I am not interested in notes which have been cut and pasted; I want to hear what you think of her and the circumstances of her life. Be creative -and be ready for a conversation about your observations/ views/discoveries.

Above all, we expect you to arrive in class in September with a desire to read voraciously and to engage fulsomely in intelligent and lively debate about literature, its purpose, its 'whys' and 'hows'.

Have a lovely July and August,

Best wishes,

Mr Rutherford and Mrs Blunden-Currie