

Welcome from the English Department at Thomas Telford School

Dear Parent/Guardian,

When your child joins us in September they will begin to develop and consolidate their knowledge and understanding of English Literacy, English Literature and English Language. This will provide a solid foundation for their GCSE studies.

There are some activities below which would act as useful preparation for September and could be completed over the summer. Any completed activities should be brought to school in the first week and handed to their English teacher. The work is not compulsory but there will be prizes for the best pieces and some of the work will be displayed in school in recognition of outstanding achievement.

We also encourage and highly recommend reading as widely as possible to maximise potential and progress at Key Stage Three. Attached is a reading list of recommended fiction and a list of the key vocabulary your child should know and be able to spell before starting in September. This is the statutory Key Stage Two spelling list which all children are expected to know before starting secondary school.

Summer Holiday Activities

- Read some good quality fiction (reading list attached).
- Revise Key Stage Two spellings (list attached).
- Write a letter introducing yourself to your new English teacher.
- Write out a list of the books you have read over the past year and review your favourite.
- Design a new cover (either front, or front and back) for your favourite book.
- Write a story about an interesting event that took place during the summer holiday.

Yours sincerely,

Thomas Telford School English Department

Reading List

Fantasy

Joan Aiken- Midnight is a Place

David Almond- Skellig, Heaven Eyes

Eion Colfer- Artemis Fowl series, The Supernaturalist, Half Moon Investigations

Chris D'Lacey- Icefire, Shrinking Ralph Perfect, The Salt Pirates of Skegness

Helen Dunmore- Ingo

Cornelia Funke- Inkheart, Inkspell, The Thief Lord

Alan Garner- The Owl Service, Elidor

Alan Gibbons- Warriors of the Raven

Elizabeth Goudge- Little White Horse

Anthony Horowitz- The Power of Five series

Erin Hunter- Warrior Cats series

Brian Jaques- Redwall

Diane Wynne Jones- Eight Days of Luke, The Chrestomanci Series

Elizabeth Kay- The Divide, Back to the Divide etc

Stephen Moore- Tooth and Claw

William Nicholson- The Wind on Fire Trilogy, The Noble Warriors Trilogy

Jenny Nimmo- Charlie Bone series

Ian Ogilvy- Measle and the Mallockee

Christopher Paolini- Eragon, Eldest

Michele Paver- Wolf Brother, Spirit Walker, Soul Eater

Terry Pratchett- Johnny and the Bomb, Diggers, The Amazing Maurice and His Educated Rodents

Philip Pullman- His Dark Materials Series

Philip Reeve- Mortal Engines

Philip Ridley- Mighty Fizz Chilla

Adventure

Jon Blake- The Last Free Cat

Frank Cottrell Boyce- Millions, Framed, Cosmic

Melvin Burgess- An Angel for May

Joe Craig- Jimmy Coates series

Jamila Gavin- The Blood Stone, Surya Trilogy

Carl Hiaasen- Hoot

Charlie Higson- The Young Bond books

Sophie Mckenzie- Girl Missing

Willard Price- Volcano Adventure etc

Chris Ryan- Alpha Force series

Ruth Thomas- The Runaways

Mark Walden- H.I.V.E series

Jeanette Winterson- Tanglewreck

WW2

Nina Bawden- Carrie's War

John Boyne- The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas

The Diary of Anne Frank

Anne Holm- I am David

Robert Leeson- Tom's War

Michele Magorian- Goodnight Mr Tom

Linda Newberry- Blitz Boys

Christne Nostlinger- Fly Away Home

Jill Paton Walsh- Dolphin Crossing

Robert Westall- Blitzcat

Classics

Frances Hodgson Burnett- The Secret Garden, The Little Princess, Little Lord Fauntleroy

Arthur Conan Doyle- The Lost World

Alexandre Dumas- The Three Musketeers

W. E. Johns- Biggles
C. S. Lewis- Narnia
L. M. Montgomery- Anne of Green Gables
E. Nesbit- The Railway Children
Mary Norton- The Borrowers
Arthur Ransome- Swallows and Amazons
Anna Sewell- Black Beauty
R. L. Stevenson- Treasure Island
Mark Twain- The Adventures of Tom Sawyer
Jules Verne- Around the World in 80 Days

Modern Classics

Richard Adams- Watership Down
Joan Aiken- The Wolves of Willoughby Chase
Lynne Read Banks- The Indian in the Cupboard
Gillian Cross- The Demon Headmaster series, The Great Elephant Chase
Penelope Farmer- Charlotte Sometime
Norman Juster- The Phantom Tollbooth
Jack London- White Fang, Call of the Wild
Jenny Nimmo- The Snow Spider Trilogy
Phillipa Pearce- Tom's Midnight Garden
Sylvia Voight- The Homecoming
Laura Ingalls- Wilder Little House on the Prairie
Henry Williamson- Tarka The Otter

Popular authors

Geraldine McCaughrean- Stop the Train, The Stones are Hatching, A Little Lower than Angels, Peter Pan in Scarlet

Michael Morpurgo books for older readers- Out of the Ashes, Private Peaceful, Alone on the Wide Sea, Adolphus Tips, Why the Whales Came

Jacqueline Wilson- The Illustrated Mum, Vicky Angel, My Sister Jodie

Thought provoking books

Malorie Blackman- Pig Heart Boy, Tell Me No Lies

Zizou Corder- Lionboy

Peter Dickinson- The Kin

Anita Desai- Village by the Sea

Deborah Ellis- The Breadwinner series

Adeline Yen Mah- The Chinese Cinderella

Humour

Dinah Capparucci- Aliens Don't Eat Dog Food

Susan Gates- Killer Mushrooms Ate My Gran

Pete Johnson- Trust Me I'm a Trouble maker

Diana Wynne Jones- Charmed Life

Phillip Reeve- Night of the Living Dead, Night of the Living Veg

Alan Temperley- Harry and the Wrinklies

Spelling List

accommodate

appreciate

cemetery

accompany

attached

committee

according

available

communicate

achieve

average

community

aggressive

awkward

competition

amateur

bargain

conscience*

ancient

bruise

conscious*

apparent

category

controversy

convenience	identity	recognise
correspond	immediate(ly)	recommend
criticise (critic + ise)	individual	relevant
curiosity	interfere	restaurant
definite	interrupt	rhyme
desperate	language	rhythm
determined	leisure	sacrifice
develop	lightning	secretary
dictionary	marvellous	shoulder
disastrous	mischievous	signature
embarrass	muscle	sincere(ly)
environment	necessary	soldier
equip (-ped, -ment)	neighbour	stomach
especially	nuisance	sufficient
exaggerate	occupy	suggest
excellent	occur	symbol
existence	opportunity	system
explanation	parliament	temperature
familiar	persuade	thorough
foreign	physical	twelfth
forty	prejudice	variety
frequently	privilege	vegetable
government	profession	vehicle
guarantee	programme	yacht
harass	pronunciation	
hindrance	queue	