



The Mall School

Curriculum Guide

English – Spring Term

Year 8

Teachers:	Miss Ellie Challis
Lessons:	4 x 40min, 1 x 60min
Homework:	2 x 40min

Introduction:

The Common Entrance examination consists of two written papers. Section A of 'Paper One' comprises questions on a comprehension passage. Section B involves formal writing, i.e. letter, speech, magazine article etc. In Section A of 'Paper Two' there are comprehension questions on a poem and in Section B there are a selection of creative writing titles. The school examination in March will be the most recent Common Entrance examination. Feedback to parents occurs shortly afterwards at a Parents' Evening where the boys strengths and weaknesses are discussed.

Key Objectives:

- read substantial passages unaided and give independent written responses to questions requiring a range of comprehension skills
- supply answers involving reasoning, personal opinion/experience or prediction
- show evidence of original creative work in the form of their choice within the limitation of a timed examination.
- be aware of content, purpose, style, organisation (so a story would have a beginning, middle and end; a debate would look at both sides of the question and draw a conclusion; the content of a letter would suit the purpose and cover the areas requested by the paper, and so on), as well as quality and breadth of language.
- respond to literature via an understanding of how writers achieve their effects, reveal their feelings and make readers more aware. This assumes knowledge of metaphor, simile, personification, symbol, irony, alliteration, assonance, rhyme, rhythm and metre.

These key objectives will be covered alongside others in the units of work in each term. The topic areas to be covered for the Spring Term are as follows:

- Direct and Indirect Speech
- Understanding subtext
- Comprehension Exercises
- Letter Writing
- Creative Writing
- Revision of Imagery
- Revision of News Reporting

Resources:

All boys must bring the following equipment to all lessons:
Pen, Pencil, Rubber, Highlighter Pens, Glue Stick.