

The English Department KS3 Autumn Newsletter Autumn 2026-2027

Welcome back: We are so pleased to welcome you back into our classrooms. Hopefully you have had a much needed break and have had time to relax ahead of a busy year.

Autumn Term updates:

The KS3 Spelling Bee will be taking place for all year groups during the autumn term.

Homework will be set regularly – can parents please ensure that pupils are submitting homework of high quality on time

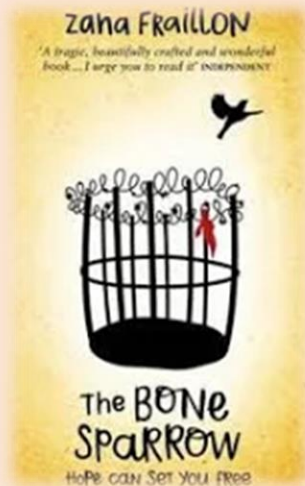
The English Department would like to acknowledge to all parents and pupils how strong the start has been for our KS3 pupils this September! Keep it up! ☺

Year 7

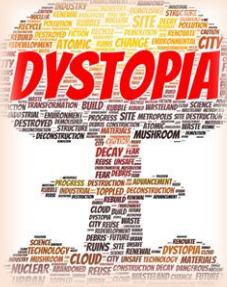


Autumn: Identity and Belonging

This term, we are diving into Zana Fraillon's powerful novel, *The Bone Sparrow*. Through the eyes of Subhi, a young Rohingya refugee born behind a detention centre fence, we will explore themes of hope, friendship, and the power of stories. Alongside the novel, we are studying a selection of poetry focused on **identity**. Together, these texts will challenge us to think about who we are, how our backgrounds shape us, and how we find our voices in the world.

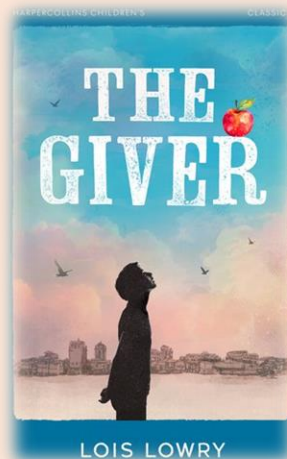


Year 8



Autumn: The Giver

This term, we are stepping into Jonas's world as we study Lois Lowry's captivating dystopian novel, *The Giver*. In a community where choice, colour, and pain have been eliminated in favour of "Sameness," Jonas is chosen to inherit the memories of the true world. As we read, we will question what it really means to be free, the value of individuality, and whether a perfect world is worth the price of our feelings. Get ready to debate, analyse, and uncover the secrets behind this seemingly perfect society!



Year 9

Autumn: Heroes & War Poetry

This term, we are exploring the complex realities of conflict through Robert Cormier's gripping novel, *Heroes*.

Following the story of Francis Cassavant, a young veteran returning home with devastating physical and emotional scars, we will question the true meaning of heroism, guilt, and forgiveness. Alongside the novel, we are diving into a powerful selection of **war poetry**. Together, these texts will challenge us to look past the surface of glory, examine the lasting impact of war, and understand the human voices behind the history.

