



Miss Barker's Year 7s have been working on Sir Gawain and the Green Knight looking at everything medieval. Their homework was to get creative to design their own kingdoms. And look at what they have produced. Lucy Sheridan even researched medieval food and made an almond cake that was scoffed in minutes!

Miss Archer's Year 8s have also been getting the creative juices flowing looking at the poetry of identity. They were asked to come up with a creative idea based on one of their chosen poems and again the results are amazing.



## Synergy Start Up

**SCHOOL  
SYNERGY**  
A complete school system

Just a reminder for everyone to register for our new Synergy system. This is a great way to keep up to date with key information relating to your child.


## Safety First

Our office has received calls from people worried about our students not wearing safety helmets whilst riding. Please remind your child about the importance of safety first.




# Literacy Matters

Just for information: Miss Bray's Bling my Life Skills focusses on common mistakes that our students often make in English & Maths. We keep revisiting this throughout the week.




**Bling**  
my **LIFE** skills



**Safety**

This week's **THOUGHT**  
for the **WEEK** is focused  
on **INTERNET SAFETY.**



A thought for the week

**Punctuation & Transition Words**

*in other words*

thus      however

for example      consequently

therefore      furthermore

Classic Mistake N°28

$0.5 \times 0.5 = 2.5$

X

"A Point Worth Noting"

**Predicament: WORD of the WEEK** *an unfortunate or trying position.*

November 4th 2019



## THE STANDARD

Team English Newsletter

**In this issue:**

- Teaching & Learning focus.
- The Language Banquet.
- Class Marking.
- The Zone of Challenge.

THE ZONE OF CHALLENGE

Below is an image from the Magenta Principles; it is a great text all about challenge in the classroom. (John has a copy of anyone would like to borrow it)

The concept is that learners have a designated portion of the lesson where they grapple and engage with their learning; this ensures that they are working within "the zone" and can become grittier with their learning.

The Zone of Challenge

Successful learning requires an element of challenge; too easy they become bored, too hard they are bewildered, pitched correctly they are engaged and helped take the next step in their learning.

**How hot are your objectives?**

Phil invited us to the Language Banquet this week. Let's make sure we're spicing up the learning journey. Some examples of turning korma-style offerings into spicier dishes:

**She Walks in Beauty** - We will learn about Lord Byron's poem.

**Spider** - We will learn about the work and scurrilous antics of the most notorious Romantic of them all.



OUR NEW POETRY strategy

TEACHING & LEARNING FOCUS:

- Class marking: check books regularly to inform your planning
- Be flexible: adapt your lessons!
- Acceleration: this can be editing of work.

AfL

Book Look

Book Look completed by \_\_\_\_\_

**Areas to check:**

- ☐ Lifelines
- ☐ Annotations on poems
- ☐ Homework labelled
- ☐ Analysis coloured coded
- ☐ No empty space

Remember to put the onus on the pupils to check their books too. Use Peer Book Look sheets like Ruth created so that pupils have a clear checklist.

Part B: Comparing Poems - Strategy

This will create inspiring work.



**T** - Title.  
**W** - What happens? (Opening / Ending)  
**C** - Characters. (People / Animals)  
**I** - Imagery.  
**W** - Words.

REINDER: Students are to learn one poem per week

## Setting 'The Standard'

Our English Faculty have just implemented a great new weekly newsletter called 'The Standard' which is a great way to keep everyone up to date with priorities, as well as profiling 'things going on.' We are hoping that this will be extended to all faculties.



"The root of the word 'assessment' is from the Latin *assidere*, which means to 'sit beside'"



## *Sock it to 'em!*



Last week was Anti Bullying Week and our kids went bonkers with their odd socks combos. Odd Socks Day is an opportunity to encourage everyone to express their individuality and uniqueness and to just be themselves. The slogan for ABW this year is 'Change Starts With Us,' which is something we will emphasise to our students throughout the year.



## *Rivers of the World*

One of Mrs Manriquez' final projects with her classes was Rivers of the World where our students hooked up with a school in Ethiopia to create an installation that now has pride of place on The Embankment on The River Thames.

Well done to Mrs Manriquez who we miss so much and to all of her fabulous art students.



## ***Fantastic Scholastic!***

The Scholastic Book Fair was a great success last week and enjoyed so much by our Year 7s and 8s. We hold this event each year in November and it's as popular as ever. 70 of our students received £5 vouchers won in the Eager Readers Raffle which they put towards their book choices. Brilliant!



## ***Mind the Gap!***



30 of our Year 8s really got stuck into BIMA Digital Day last week with a series of sessions led by industry experts who were seeking to promote STEM subjects and Computing as possible option subjects. Our students joined 7000 others across the UK who spent the day learning new skills and bridging the digital gap.

## ***Maths Rocks!***



Maths Week England was a great success for us with Mr Steel organising some great activities for students to enjoy and staff to be bamboozled with! Numeracy in the real world is so important for our youngsters in helping them to live happy and fulfilled lives in the future. The Times tables Rock Stars Competition was a big hit, of course, as were the inter- class challenges throughout the week.



## Respectful Remembrance

A big thank you to Isabelle, Alexa, Deanna, Aaron and Alfie for representing our school at the service of remembrance in Victoria Park last Sunday. It was great also to see so many of our students, past and present, representing their various youth organisations. A huge well done also to Tom who played an emotional last post tribute which formed part of our day of remembrance.



## Dream Space



Mrs Holland is doing a fantastic job with our 'Under the Stairs Display Space.' Our School Teddy has already been on his summer hols, has promoted DofE and has been on an autumn walk. Last week he was the centrepiece for our day of remembrance. Mrs Holland has transformed this space and made it so special. It makes us all feel good which is so important. Mrs Holland is busily preparing her Christmas offering. We can't wait to see it.