

January



Dear Parents/Guardians,

We hope that you and your family have had a pleasant Christmas and we wish you the very best for the New Year. As recommended, your son/daughter should have finished re-reading their Dickens novel over the holidays, but taken some time to relax and restore energy as well. Before the exams, they will ideally have re-read the text again (key chapters would be sufficient for *Great Expectations*), as well as re-reading the Shakespeare play and *An Inspector Calls*. There is no substitute for re-reading the text when it comes to knowledge of the themes, ideas and quotes; students who re-read the text several times before the exams are most likely to succeed in the summer.

This month, your son/daughter has revision tasks to complete on their Dickens text. These activities should be done as a minimum; more personalised and independent revision should also be taking place. We recommend that your son/daughter compares their folder with another student's to ensure that the same amount of work has been completed. If not, any gaps need to be filled with the use of revision guides (*York Notes* is recommended) and good quality internet revision websites. The videos on YouTube are a good source of knowledge, however the class teacher has the most useful and trusted advice; we regularly receive training via AQA courses and check the website for up-to-date information each week, whereas many videos online are unchecked by the exam board.

As the final full term at school begins for your child, please may we thank you for your support and wish you all the best of luck in the forthcoming months.

Ms Sarah Meredith

(Acting Head of English)