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Dear Parent/Carer

For those of you that do not know me, I am Andrew Fitch and I am the Head of English at Highbury Grove School. I wanted to write to you to make sure that you are completely up to date with everything that is happening in the English department in the lead up to your child's English Language and English Literature GCSEs and how you can support us in helping your child prepare for these vital exams.

Your child will be sitting four English exams in May and June: two in English Language and two in English Literature. Unlike previous years these two GCSEs are now evenly weighted – they both count just as much as each other.

For your reference here is the exam schedule for English:

- English Literature 1 (Shakespeare and the 19th century novel): 22nd May
- English Literature 2 (Modern texts and poetry): 26th May
- English Language 1 (Explorations in creative reading and writing): 6th June
- English Language 2 (Writers' viewpoints and perspectives): 12th June

In preparation for these exams the English department is running intervention and booster sessions **every Tuesday afternoon**, which students are welcome to drop in to, as well as a series of holiday and weekend revision sessions during both the Easter break (Monday 3rd and Tuesday 4th April) and the May half term.

In order to help your child prepare for the exams there are a number of things that they can do:

- Re-read the core texts that we have studied;
- Make and learn a list of key quotations from each text;
- Learn the structures of each of the questions on the English Language exams;
- Create 'knowledge organisers' for each text containing the key plot and character details.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me
afitch@highburygrove.islington.sch.uk

Kind regards

Andrew Fitch
Head of English