



Subject: English

Summer Half Term 1, Poetry

Overarching Topic:			
Why is this topic being studied at this time?	Poetry demonstrates the sheer power, the profound importance and the admirable beauty of words. It's a literary act of bravery full of emotions and observations about the ways we love and live; a world in which the ordinary becomes extraordinary. In this unit, students will be exposed to a range of poetry, all carefully chosen for their poetic prowess, in order to explore poetical conventions, language and just how poetry observes, reflects and refracts society.		
How does it fit into the wider subject curriculum?	Contextually poetry helps across the whole curriculum as it gives an empathetic understanding of a range of concepts, places, and events. Poetry hones writing skills, especially in condensing complex and abstract perspectives and emotions into words. The RWS KS3 Poetry Anthology also exercises memory and performance skills through poetry recitals that will link with studies in Music and Drama.		
	Essential	Core	Ambitious
The Big Questions (What questions will students be able to answer upon mastery of the topic?)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is poetry? • Can I learn the names of poets? • What are form, language and structure? • What poetic techniques are there? • Can I write a poem? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why is poetry important? • How does a poet convey their perspective? • How is poetry different over time? • How is poetry different over place? • What does my own poetry look like? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does poetry observe, reflect and refract society? • What motivates the writing of poetry? • How does culture influence poetry? • How do I use my own perspective and culture to create a conceptual, yet relevant, piece of writing that can enter the Young Poets of the Year Award?
The Key Skills/ Techniques	The sophistication and application of skills will become more advanced as students' progress through the critical, core and pinnacle knowledge.		
	Skill/Technique	How will this skill be developed?	
	Understanding poetic techniques	Vocabulary organisers, technique spotting, practising writing techniques	

	Developing analytical skills – Skills in discussion, critical analysis and forming a personal voice in responses (written and verbal)	Annotating poems, writing analytical paragraphs on form, structure and language, modelling responses, discussion and debate
	Honing writing skills	Application of techniques and styles in writing, planning for structure and content, revision and editing of work, discussion and debate