

Hello, we are very excited to welcome you to the English Literature course at Hartismere. Here are some things you can be doing to prepare yourself for the course:

With the long summer ahead, why not use some of your TV time to watch literature classics and films about literature



Pride and Prejudice Jane Austen	The 1813 novel depicts five sisters from an English family of landed gentry as they deal with issues of marriage, morality and misconceptions – you will have heard of Mr Darcy!
The Great Gatsby F. Scott. Fitzgerald	Exploring themes of decadence, idealism, resistance to change, social upheaval and excess, creating a portrait of the Roaring Twenties that has been described as a cautionary tale regarding the American Dream. Glitz, Glam and Leo DiCaprio 😊
Oliver Twist Charles Dickens	In this early example of the social novel, Dickens satirises the hypocrisies of his time, including child labour, the recruitment of children as criminals, and the presence of street children.
The Secret Garden Francis Hodgson Burnett	Initially published in serial format starting in the autumn of 1910, it is one of Burnett's most popular novels, and is considered to be a classic of English children's literature.
Midnight in Paris (2011)	A fantastic Woody Allen film, which is literally a nostalgic trip down memory lane, featuring some of the greatest figures of not only literature but also the bygone era. Surprise followed by surprise.
Dead Poets Society (1989)	Robin Williams shines as an English teacher who inspires his students through his teaching of poetry.
Big Fish (2003)	Another fantasy film, it beautifully portrays the art of storytelling. It is the enchanting story of a father and son, but it's really the story of stories themselves. Stories are only as great as they are told.
Finding Neverland (2004)	Starring Johnny Depp, the semi-biographical film is about playwright J. M. Barrie and his relationship with a family who inspired him to create Peter Pan.
Shakespeare in Love (1998)	How can we miss anything about the father of literature? The film depicts an imaginary love affair involving Viola de Lesseps and playwright William Shakespeare while he was writing Romeo and Juliet.
Finding Forrester (2000)	Student Jamal befriends a reclusive writer (played by Sean Connery) through whom he refines his talent for writing and comes to terms with his identity. Although not a true story, it was inspired by writer J.D. Salinger.



READING

The more that you read,
the more things you will know.
The more that you learn,
the more places you'll go.

Dr. Seuss



Read! Read for pleasure. Read for fun.

Develop your reading habits. Widely read students are always more successful at English Literature A-level. If you feel you need some ideas for good reading, why not try:

<http://www.theguardian.com/books/2015/aug/16/100-best-novels->

There's one suggested novel from each of 100 writers, covering from the 17th Century to 2000. Excellent 'intros' to each novel and author, and a range of linked articles debating the issues about deciding on lists of 'the suggested' reading list, which you could use to broaden your knowledge of literature, but you should choose anything you like – the more widely you read, the more secure you will be in your knowledge of literature and the more confident in making comparisons across texts. Understanding of literature is greatly enhanced by being able to cross-reference texts, ideas and styles.

Free audio Books!

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p06w4v4x>

<https://stories.audible.com/discovery>

Task: Create a reading diary – note all books you read over the summer and consider: What books you enjoy reading? Have any shaped the way you see the world? Which writers do you admire? Was there a book you didn't enjoy, if so why? Did you try any new genres/authors? What was the best book you read this summer?

When Literature meets painting...

Salvador Dalí, *Mad Tea Party* (1969). Dalí's surrealist bent is a fitting match for illustrations to accompany Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland* (1865). *Mad Tea Party* is one of a suite containing 12—one for each chapter of the book. The rarely seen illustrations are stunning, and draw you into the rabbit hole to a vibrant vision of Carroll's captivating (and terrifying) world.



I Saw the Figure 5 in Gold is one of Charles Demuth's series of eight abstract portraits of friends. This one represents poet William Carlos Williams through images popularly associated with him; the initials W.C.W., the names "Bill," and "Carlos" as well as an allusion to Williams' poem "The Great Figure" in which a fire truck emblazoned with the number 5 rumbles through a dark city.

Websites to checkout other paintings inspired by literature:

<https://www.dailyartmagazine.com/when-literature-meets-painting/>

<https://news.artnet.com/art-world/art-inspired-literature-559481>

<https://www.quora.com/What-are-the-most-intriguing-paintings-based-on-famous-poems-Include-the-painting-and-the-pertinent-lines-from-the-poem>

<https://www.tate.org.uk/art/artists/william-blake-39/blakes-songs-innocence-experience>

Task: write a poem inspired by a painting or create a piece of art inspired by a poem/prose/play

Be as creative as you can!

Budding musicians ...Why not write a song or piece of music inspired by your favourite book, play or poem instead

<https://www.theguardian.com/childrens-books-site/2016/may/20/10-songs-inspired-by-literature>

Use this opportunity to watch live theatre productions

Free Theatre

The Globe

<https://globeplayer.tv>

National Theatre

<https://www.nationaltheatre.org>.

RSC

<https://www.rsc.org.uk/news/bbc-culture-in-quarantine>

Digital Theatre <https://www.digitaltheatreplus.com/education>

Username: pupil@hartismere.com (this means they literally put 'pupil' - don't replace it with your name)

Password: theatre121

British Literary periods

A level Literature will explore texts from a range of literary periods.

Task: To prepare, research the different periods and create a timeline of texts, authors and any important contextual factors.

You can present this how you like; it could be a mind map, list or perhaps completing a bookcase similar to the one below using the book spines to show information! This can be done by hand, on the computer, using images...



Just for fun: Have a go at working out the 27 figures of speech in this image (Time Flies...)



Hartismere English Literature looks forward to seeing you in September