Students will be expected to complete **30-45 minutes** of work outside of class time per week. This will be a combination of reading the class ‘Book Club’ book, and a short piece of writing connected with the work being done in class. ‘Book Club’ ensures a variety of shared reading outside of class, designed to develop vocabulary and reading fluency.

**EXAMPLE ‘BOOK CLUB’ BOOKS**

- *One* by Sarah Crossan
- *The Middle of Nowhere* by Geraldine McCaughrean
- *Railhead* by Philip Reeve

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**Unit 1 – Journalism**

Dive into the word of investigative journalism, as we explore how journalists go about researching stories, interviewing sources, and constructing their articles. We’ll look at some key pieces of journalism from across history, before you have the opportunity to conduct some investigative journalism yourself!

This unit will culminate in you researching and writing your own piece of journalism, and presenting your own news segment, both for assessment.

**Unit 2 – Reading Fiction**

Allow yourself to be transported to another world, as we read a modern novel, such as Philip Pullman’s *The Ruby in the Smoke*, Jennifer Donnelly’s *A Gathering Light*, or Laurie Halse Anderson’s *Chains*, together. This unit will help you to develop your close reading and analysis skills. Alongside exploring character, setting and theme, you’ll also start to think about narrative structures and how these impact on your understanding of the text. You’ll be taught through a combination of Socratic seminars, creative tasks, drama activities and presentations.

This unit will culminate in a close reading assessment, a creative writing assessment, and a speaking and listening assessment, enabling you to see how you’re progressing in all the key skill areas of English.
Unit 3 – Poetry
Take a trip across the world through poetry, as we read landscape poetry from all corners of the globe. As you discover different countries and cultures through these works, you'll also gain a deeper insight into how poetic language and structures work, and how these contribute to meaning. You'll have the chance to write your own poetry, exploring what the landscape of your life means to you.

This unit will culminate in the production of a poem written independently, as well as an analysis of your own work.

Unit 4 – Descriptive Writing
Prepare to use all your senses as we learn how to immerse a reader into a whole new world through our words. You'll explore plenty of examples of descriptive writing of all genres, soaking up new vocabulary and writing techniques, and create your own descriptive writing in response to pieces of art, impressive landscapes, and other images.

This unit will culminate in the production of a piece of descriptive writing.

Unit 5 – Speech Writing
Learn the art of speech making in this unit, as we read and listen to famous speeches from across the ages. From Martin Luther King to Barack Obama, Emmeline Pankhurst to Malala Yousafzai, we'll explore how the use of rhetorical and persuasive devices combine to produce powerful, memorable words that inspire, motivate and encourage. You'll then create your own speech, to deliver to the class.

This unit will culminate in you writing and delivering your own speech to the class.

Unit 6 – Drama
Get ready to perform in this final unit of the year, where you'll learn about twentieth century theatre practitioner Bertolt Brecht. You'll apply these techniques to the study of a modern play, Dr Korczak's Example by David Grieg, and alongside performing, you'll have the chance to design your own production.

This unit will culminate in a performance, as well as each student producing a set design for their own production.

*Please note that all named texts are subject to change, as each class’ syllabus will be tailored to suit the needs and interests of students*