



Tring School

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RIDGEWAY
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Dear Parent/Carer

Following on from the government announcement and subsequent move to home learning for schools, I wanted to write to you to let you know what we are doing during your child's English lessons.

As you are aware, we have been studying **Romeo and Juliet** this term. I made the decision that these lessons would be paused during the online teaching phase. We have many parents in the team and they are not always able to be online during the scheduled lesson times. Face to face active discussions are the most effective ways to teach Shakespeare and therefore, we will come back to the play when we return to formal school lessons. It would help us if you are able to **watch online** versions of the play in order to keep it current.

In the meantime, we are delivering a series of lessons to support Media and English Language skills and the feedback has been positive from our students so far. We will continue to focus on these key skills as part of online learning, if schools remain shut after Easter. We have been adding, and will continue to add, tasks which can be completed through our **Independent Study site**. There is no shortage of extra work our students can complete, which can be accessed via the Super Curriculum link on the school website..

Additionally, we have advised all students to **read for at least 45 minutes** a day and to update their reading logs on their Digital Exercise books. They have also been sent a link to the Epic! Reading website which gives them access to free online books. We have pre-selected books which we feel will be beneficial for them to read. These are recommendations only and they are free to read their own book choices.

Whilst we are in household lockdown, several people have contacted us asking about the texts we will be studying for GCSE. We intend to teach **A Christmas Carol** by Charles Dickens and **Animal Farm** by George Orwell. Any pre-reading, summary work and familiarisation with the texts will be incredibly useful to our students.

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As ever, we would like to thank you for your continued support. Please stay in contact with your child's teacher if there are any concerns. Communication is key in these difficult times and we will be there to support your child as much as is possible.

Stay safe.

Kind regards

Ms V Johnston
English Subject Leader