JUNIOR ENGLISH – TAURANGA GIRLS' COLLEGE

Welcome to the Tauranga Girls' College English Department. What a journey you are about to embark on! It is one that enables you to enjoy a range of different texts, explore a raft of ideas and issues, one that will challenge you to express yourself and your ideas and to explore the way other people think when they create texts for us to enjoy. You will gain meaning from texts and make meaning in a variety of your own texts.

The aim of the programme is to strengthen your language skills and to enrich your thinking so that you can participate successfully in society and the workplace.

THE CURRICULUM

Each of the four terms in 2015 will hold a different focus in the classroom but **reading and writing to make and create meaning** are at the core of all you do.

You will have many opportunities to explore the **viewing and presenting** and **listening and speaking** strands of the curriculum also.

ASSESSMENT

There are two types of assessments to assess your progress this year.

Formative assessment –

Your teacher will give you tasks within each unit of work for you to complete. These are designed to give you an indication of how you are progressing and ideas about what your next steps will be.

Summative assessment –

These will be assessments that are completed under the same conditions as all Year 9 students. These will give you a firm idea of the curriculum level you are currently working at.

CLASS WORK

You have three books and these will be used for classwork, a writing folio and a response journal. It is your responsibility to complete ALL your classwork and to keep your notes up to date. If you are absent it is your responsibility to catch up on what you have missed.

HOMEWORK

Your teacher will give you homework and it is your responsibility to ensure it is done. If commitments outside of school make this difficult for you at any time, you need to prioritise your school work and conference with your teacher about this.

For every hour you spend in class you are expected to spend a half hour working on your English at home. Alongside this you should be reading widely – fiction, non-fiction, newspapers, magazine articles, blogs and websites of interest.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

There are many things you can get involved in provided by the English Department. There are speech competitions, writing clubs, debating teams, a philosophy club, writing competitions and the English Department blog update crew. Get involved in something new, NOW!

We look forward to watching you learn and take part in English Department activities.

My teacher's name is _____

My teacher's school email address is _____