



ENGLISH AT HVC



WELCOME Y6 STUDENTS



WHAT'S INSIDE

HEROES AND VILLAINS

ADVENTURE IS OUT THERE...

- How to learn a poem by heart
- Adventure word search

INTRODUCTION TO THE ENGLISH TEAM

- Poems of adventure and new beginnings

READY TO EXPLORE?

- Get ready to read yourself into an adventure with these fantastic book recommendations

WELCOME Y6 STUDENTS FROM THE ENGLISH TEACHERS AT YOUR NEW SCHOOL

As you enter the world of English at Hope Valley College, you will embark on an adventure of language and literature. This adventure will widen your imagination, take you to different places and times, and introduce you to a wide variety of exciting characters.

During your secondary English journey you will study a wide variety of texts including: novels (both classic and modern), drama (Shakespeare and modern plays), poetry, short stories and non-fiction texts.

You will also create your own adventures by crafting your own narratives and descriptions, whilst also developing and sharing your own opinions, both written and spoken.

We will also encourage your independent reading by introducing you to our amazing library and librarian, Mrs Mummery, knowing that the magic of books will take you to varied and exciting places past and present, learning about the world as you go.

Hope Valley College is a very special place and we look forward to welcoming you all soon!

HEROES AND VILLAINS

YOUR ADVENTURE WILL INCLUDE...

In September, we start by making you the hero of your own story.



Then, you will encounter the villains of Victorian literature.



You'll meet the heroes of World War One and Shakespearean villains.



And, you will come face to face with the heroes and villains of Greek Myths.



ADVENTURE IS OUT THERE

We know that you have been super busy doing lots of different activities at home during this strange time. We want to introduce ourselves to you and add another activity to the list of amazing and wonderful things you have been getting stuck into recently!

Your new English teachers have collected poems linked to the theme of Adventures and New Beginnings. We would love it if you could try to learn and remember one of the poems printed here.

We can't wait for you to start your new adventure with us, so what better way to get ready for it than to learn a poem? You can be as creative as you like when learning your poems, and what we would really love is to see as many of you as possible perform these poems (if you feel confident to do so) when we return to school. Good luck!

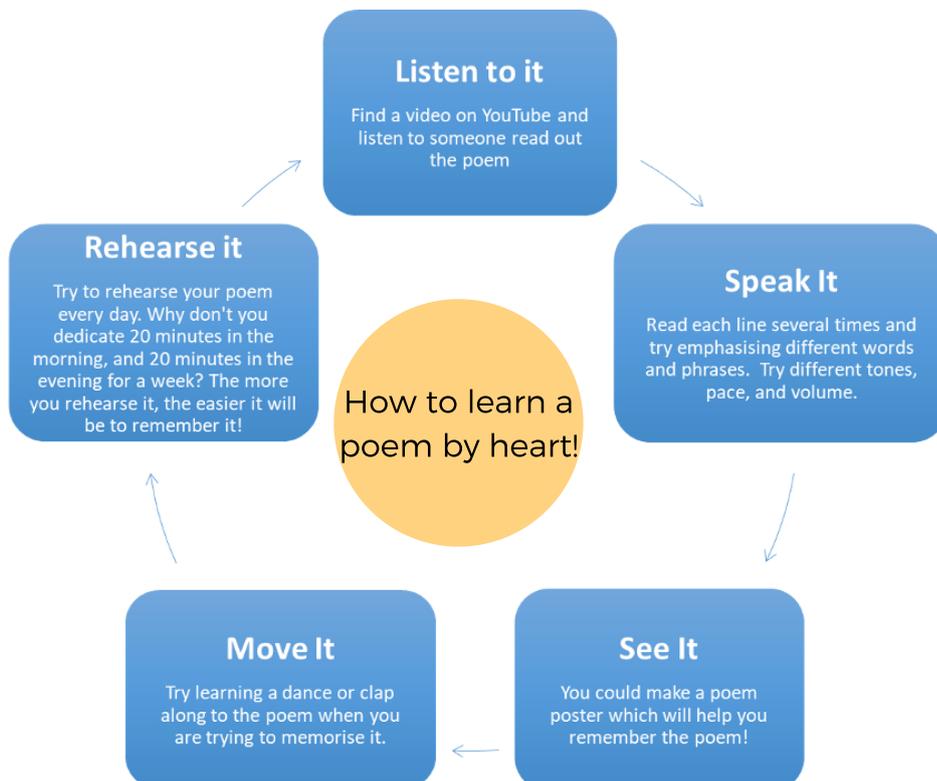
ADVENTURES AND NEW BEGINNINGS

E W V I J R P T G W R E N Z Q
 T R S E A R C H I N G X M S W
 C Q U X L S D T N U P C O H Q
 V L C T P F E K N D H I L J R
 Q H C R N A Y I K S H T D V Z
 C F I L M E T Z E S O I H Z D
 H N R W Q E V R R C N N O K T
 G F O I D Y F D A A K G P N C
 Q R P M E Q A P A J N B T I P
 K E R C D N Y E R E N E W A L
 R H G E I R D Q J O H Y I J D
 W J X U G J E S O Z M O U A D
 Y A W H T A P A H Q V E F B D
 P H O E N I X W M T Z A J Q F
 H T R I B E R V N S V Y X Q R

ADVENTURE
 DREAMS
 EXCITING
 FRESH
 FRIENDS
 PATHWAY
 PHOENIX

REBIRTH
 RENEWAL
 SEARCHING
 SPRING
 TEAMWORK
 UNITED

CAN YOU FIND ALL THE WORDS? HAVE A GO AT USING THESE WORDS TO COME UP WITH A POEM OF YOUR OWN!



HVC ENGLISH TEAM

MS HAYES



Hello, my name is Ms Hayes and I have been part of the HVC family since 2008. I picked this poem **'Mary Anning Roars to the Sea'** by **Sophie Kirtley** because it's about being brave, learning new things and the joy of discovery. All these things are waiting for you at Hope Valley College.

Hello! I'm Mrs Hale. I've taught at Hope Valley College for two years and I love it! I've chosen the poem **'On paper'** by **Jacqueline Amanda Woodson**.

When we start school, we begin by learning how to write our name but as we grow in confidence, knowledge and experience words can express anything we want them to - thoughts, dreams, stories, poetry, theories - which is pretty amazing! The poem tells us that a new beginning, like starting a new school, is 'a clean white page' where anything is possible!

MRS HALE



MRS FOSTER



Hi! I am Mrs Foster and I have been teaching English at Hope Valley College for 10 years. I love teaching English - every day is different and is a new adventure.

The poem I have chosen is called **'Heart of the City'** by **Sarah Maclennan**, a Creative Writing lecturer at Liverpool John Moore's University - the same university where my dad was a lecturer. The poem is described as a love poem to Liverpool and I chose it because it reflects my own feelings for this wonderful city and it just makes me smile.

Hi, I'm Ms Worrall and I've been working in the wonderful English team at Hope Valley College since 2012. I've chosen **'Life Doesn't Frighten Me'** by **Maya Angelou** as she's a wonderful writer. This poem is really empowering and helps me to remember that the world can be a challenging place. It reminds me to be strong and brave in order to overcome any obstacles. I hope you like it

MS WORRALL



MS NORMAN



Hello. My name is Ms Norman and each week we will spend time in the library where we will explore books and discover the magic of stories.

I've chosen the poem **'Breakage'** by **Mary Oliver**. She often wrote about adventures in nature (and also her dogs) and because of this she is my favourite poet. This poem is about figuring out something that is at first unclear. However, bit by bit, word by word we can solve the mystery and read the whole story.

POEMS OF ADVENTURE AND NEW BEGINNINGS

MARY ANNING ROARS TO THE SEA

BY SOPHIE KIRTLEY

In 1811, twelve year old Mary Anning found the first complete Ichthyosaur skeleton on the beach near her home in Lyme Regis.

Wild waves crash, raw winds roar:
I hear the voice of the lost dinosaur.
I roar back. I am bold.
I roar because in my hand I hold
my hammer
to break
these rocks
apart
and unlock the secrets
at their old, cold heart.

'I found your bones!'
I shout, all alone,
to the plesiosaur
who paddled and dived
who lived, then died,
right here, before,
so long before

me,

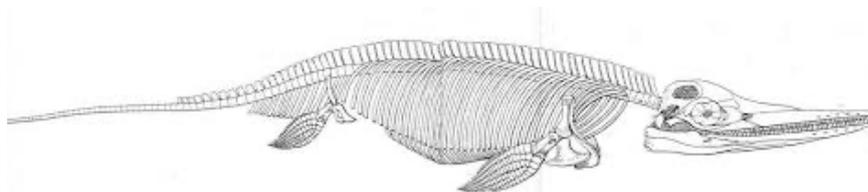
in my wind-flapped gown
with my salt-wet hair
staring down at the ground,
then up
up at the fast grey sky,
where seven white gulls
circle and cry, and circle, and I
squeeze my eyes half shut
and I half-spy

a pterosaur
on the wing.
'I found your bones!'
I roar to the thing
who isn't really there
anymore, then I roar
as I sing a half-made song,
with words half-right
and words half-wrong
with wild words lost
in the wind-spun air
and why do I sing?

Because I dare.

I dare to dig,
and I dare
to find
the bones and the shadows
left behind.
I dare to turn stone after stone
after stone,
I wear hard boots
and, I walk all alone,
here, right here,
with my hammer in my hand,
I dare to walk the land-slipped
shifty sand,
and I dare to learn
and to understand.

I dare to sing and I dare to roar
like the dinosaurs
who dared here
long long
before.





HEART OF THE CITY

BY SARAH MACLENNAN

In the space
between two heart
Copper birds shake off their chains
A radio tower slumps, rubber-spined
Stone lions slip from plinths
Cathedrals lumber closer
Superlambanana bleats
Bronze statues query pigeons
Remind me again, who am I?
Anfield & Goodison wrestle
Three flirtatious Graces sing
Make us a mirror, River
Theatres belch trapped laughter
Parks play Chinese Whispers
Avenues of trees pass it on, pass it on
Docks stroke the flanks of ships
One-way systems unravel
city bones of wood, iron, glass, stone
beats
and life pulses through the City
breath in its lungs
blood in its veins
and - at its heart - you



LIFE DOESN'T FRIGHTEN ME

BY MAYA ANGELOU

Shadows on the wall
Noises down the hall
Life doesn't frighten me at all

Bad dogs barking loud
Big ghosts in a cloud
Life doesn't frighten me at all

Mean old Mother Goose
Lions on the loose
They don't frighten me at all

Dragons breathing flame
On my counterpane
That doesn't frighten me at all.

I go boo
Make them shoo
I make fun
Way they run
I won't cry
So they fly
I just smile
They go wild

Life doesn't frighten me at all.

Tough guys fight
All alone at night
Life doesn't frighten me at all.

Panthers in the park
Strangers in the dark
No, they don't frighten me at all.

That new classroom where
Boys all pull my hair
(Kissy little girls
With their hair in curls)
They don't frighten me at all.

Don't show me frogs and snakes
And listen for my scream,
If I'm afraid at all
It's only in my dreams.

I've got a magic charm
That I keep up my sleeve
I can walk the ocean floor
And never have to breathe.

Life doesn't frighten me at all
Not at all
Not at all.

Life doesn't frighten me at all.



ON PAPER

The first time I write my full name

Jacqueline Amanda Woodson

without anybody's help
on a clean white page in my composition
notebook,

I know

if I wanted to

I could write anything.

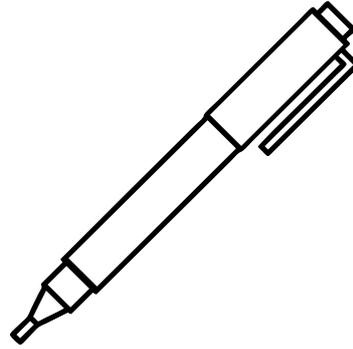
Letters becoming words, words gathering
meaning,

becoming
thoughts outside my head

becoming sentences

written by

Jacqueline Amanda Woodson



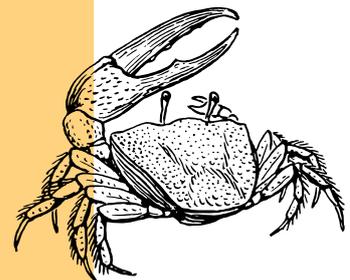
**WHICH OF THESE
POEMS WILL YOU
CHOOSE TO LEARN BY
HEART?**

BREAKAGE

BY MARY OLIVER

I go down to the edge of the sea.
How everything shines in the morning light!
The cusp of the whelk,
the broken cupboard of the clam,
the opened, blue mussels,
moon snails, pale pink and barnacle scarred—
and nothing at all whole or shut, but tattered, split,
dropped by the gulls onto the gray rocks and all the moisture gone.
It's like a schoolhouse
of little words,
thousands of words.
First you figure out what each one means by itself,
the jingle, the periwinkle, the scallop
full of moonlight.

Then you begin, slowly, to read the whole story.



READY TO EXPLORE?

GET READY TO READ YOURSELF INTO AN ADVENTURE WITH THESE FANTASTIC BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

A Good Day for Climbing Trees by Jaco Jacobs

A lovely coming-of-age story about finding your place and being heard for the first time.

The Boy at the Back of the Class by Onjali Q Rauf

An inspiring and sweet tale that will make you think about what it is to be a good person whatever your circumstances (the narrator is from a poor background with a single parent mum who struggles to make ends meet), and challenge prejudice and push for fairness, whenever possible.

The Ruby in the Smoke' by Philip Pullman

Inspired by the tradition of the Victorian melodrama, Pullman's first Sally Lockhart story is a cracking adventure. Cleverly-plotted, bristling with excitement and brilliantly gripping! It provides an intriguing insight into the injustice and inequality of Victorian society.

Boy in the Tower by Polly Ho-Yen

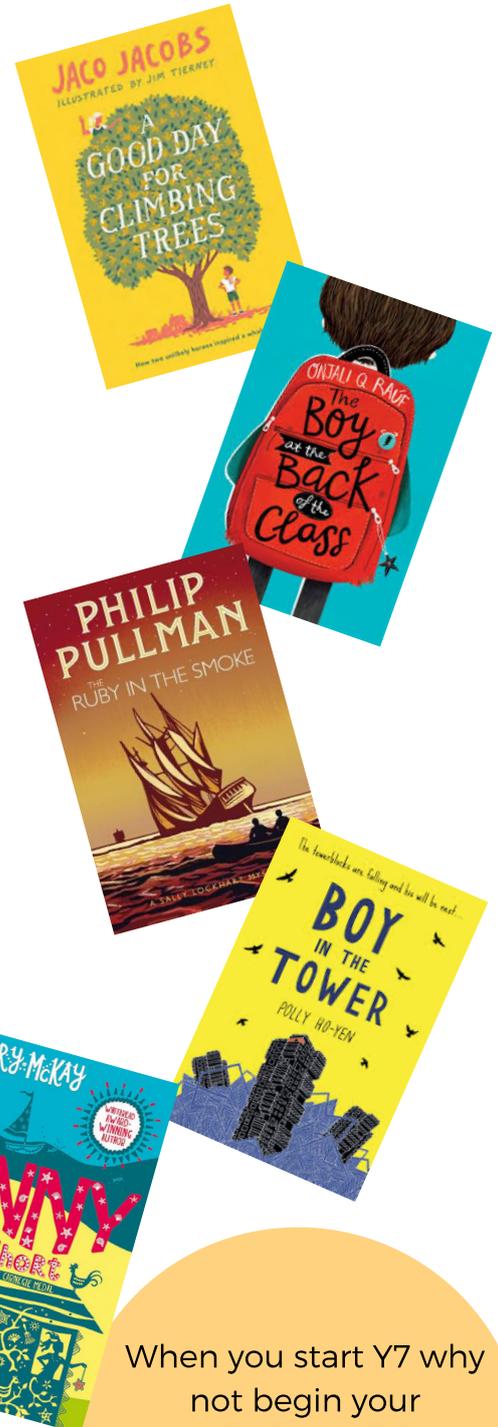
'When they first arrived, they came quietly and stealthily as if they tip-toed into the world when we were all looking the other way...'

Binny for Short by Hilary McKay

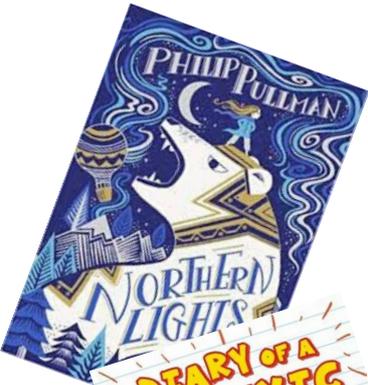
Beautifully-written and enormously engaging, this gentle story about friendship and family in a seaside town will charm readers, right up until its warm-hearted and very satisfying ending.

The Pearl in the Ice by Cathryn Constable

Great for "children who are just starting to consider and question their position in the world and challenge their parents' insistence to always 'know best". A fast-paced cocktail of fantasy, reality and shocking discovery.

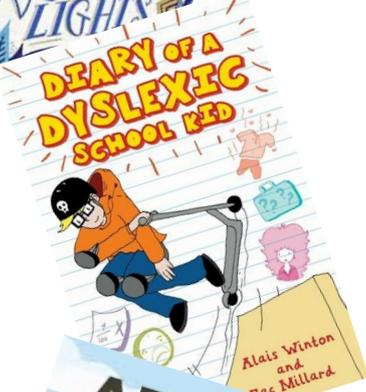


When you start Y7 why not begin your adventure by **visiting the library** at your new school and picking a great book?



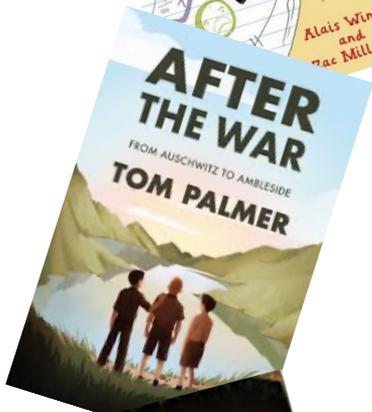
Northern Lights by Philip Pullman

This book is the first in Pullman’s Dark Materials trilogy. It is a beautifully-written story that tells the brilliant tale of Lyra. Great for readers who love adventure and excitement. When you have finished reading it you could also watch the TV series on BBC iplayer.



Diary of a Dyslexic School Kid by Alais Winton & Zac Millard

Experience day-to-day life for a dyslexic kid. The authors display the ups and downs of school - and home - life with a reading difficulty, focussing on the sometimes overwhelming experience of being at a bigger school and studying loads of new subjects.



After the War by Tom Palmer

Palmer writes about Auschwitz children brought to the Lake District in 1945 for a new start.

The Arrival by Shaun Tan

In a heart breaking parting, a man gives his wife and daughter a last kiss and boards a steamship to cross the ocean. He's embarking on the most painful yet important journey of his life- he's leaving home to build a better future for his family. This is an amazing picture book / graphic novel that tells a mesmerizing story with no words!



Instructions by Neil Gaiman

What to do if you find yourself inside a fairy tale? A picture book of his brilliant narrative poem by the famous graphic novelist, Neil Gaiman

WHY NOT WATCH OR LISTEN TO SOME POEMS ABOUT ADVENTURE AND NEW BEGINNINGS?

The Rime of the Ancient Mariner by William Coleridge (read by lots of famous people!)

<https://www.ancientmarinerbigread.com>

New Beginnings by Tony Walsh

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/english-ks2-new-beginnings-by-tony-walsh/zddmbdm>

Instructions by Neil Gaiman <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5UnfyOTSZZw>