Dear parents, carers and Y9 students,

The English Department at Samuel Whitbread is really excited about welcoming you to our school September. I hope in this letter we can help answer some of the questions you may want to ask about English in Year 9.

* Year 9 begins with Animal Farm by George Orwell. Through this text we explore ideas about the plot, characters and setting, as well as wider themes and ideas. Alongside this we also study persuasive writing through Aristotle and rhetoric, exploring how to write and present an effective speech.
* Following on from that is The Merchant of Venice by William Shakespeare. During our time studying The Merchant of Venice there will be opportunities to watch film and theatre versions of the play. Alongside this we study a range of poetry.
* The final text which we study is ‘Noughts and Crosses’ by Malorie Blackman. We also explore the genre of dystopian writing this term.
* The school will provide copies of all of these texts for you to access during your lessons.
* Although many of these texts appear on the GCSE syllabus, and many of the skills you will be using will be excellent preparation for what will be expected of you in Year 10, Year 9 is first and foremost the last year of your KS3 journey, and is not the start of your GCSE course.

We hope you are looking forward to starting this first exciting part of your Samuel Whitbread experience. Should you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact:

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