

**Year 8 English Exam**  
**Week Commencing 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2016**

<b>Who?</b>	All students in Year 8
<b>What?</b>	A 90 minute exam paper. Section A: <i>Blood Brothers</i> by Willy Russell (testing reading skills), Section B: Imaginative Writing (testing writing skills).
<b>When?</b>	In a double lesson in the week beginning 23 <sup>rd</sup> May 2016. English teachers will confirm the exact day with individual classes.
<b>Where?</b>	Regular English classrooms.
<b>Why?</b>	To give students the experience of sitting a formal English exam. It will also give English teachers an opportunity to assess reading and writing skills and create targets for how to develop further.

**How to revise for the Year 8 English Exam**

**Reading Section – *Blood Brothers* by Willy Russell**

- Create mind maps or flash cards for characters and themes. Ask a friend or family member to test you – can you remember what’s on your flashcards?
- Write the plot in bullet points – which parts of the play link together?
- Create a mind map or flash card about the context of the play: Liverpool in the 1980s. Ask someone to test you – how much can you remember.
- Write a summary of the play in your own words.
- Look back at the extracts you have studied in lessons. Choose 5-10 interesting words/phrases/techniques and for each one say what makes it interesting.
- Read an extract from another novel or play or remind yourself of something you have studied in English lessons at Chesterton. Compare *Blood Brothers* to the other text – what similarities and differences are there? Think about: setting, characters, themes, language used, first person/third person narrative, context etc.

**Writing Section**

- Read, read, read! Read a range of extracts from fiction and non-fiction. Think about the words and the techniques the writer has used. How could you use those techniques in your own writing?
- Revise language devices such as similes, metaphors, alliteration, emotive language, personification, triples. For each one write some examples.
- Revise sentence variety. Try writing the same sentence but starting in different ways.
- Revise when to start a new paragraph. Remember TIP TOP. Time change, Place change, new TOPic, new Person.
- Revise punctuation. How many of these can you use accurately? . , ? ! ; “
- Test your spellings. How many of the spellings on the next page can you spell correctly?
- Try planning some imaginative stories. Take a newspaper headline, ask a friend or family to give you a word such as journey, lost, etc. or find an interesting picture – now make a plan of a story you would write to go with that stimulus.

## Key Stage 3 Spelling Lists

### General spelling list

accommodation	conclusion	explanation
actually	conscience	February
alcohol	conscious	fierce
although	consequence	forty
analyse/analysis	continuous	fulfil
argument	creation	furthermore
assessment	daughter	guard
atmosphere	decide/decision	happened
audible	definite	health
audience	design	height
autumn	development	imaginary
beautiful	diamond	improvise
beginning	diary	industrial
believe	disappear	interesting
beneath	disappoint	interrupt
buried	embarrass	issue
business	energy	jealous
caught	engagement	knowledge
chocolate	enquire	listening
climb	environment	lonely
column	evaluation	lovely
concentration	evidence	marriage
material	potential	sincerely
meanwhile	preparation	skilful
miscellaneous	prioritise	soldier
mischief	process	stomach
modern	proportion	straight
moreover	proposition	strategy
murmur	questionnaire	strength
necessary	queue	success
nervous	reaction	surely
original	receive	surprise
outrageous	reference	survey
parallel	relief	technique
participation	remember	technology
pattern	research	texture
peaceful	resources	tomorrow
people	safety	unfortunately
performance	Saturday	Wednesday
permanent	secondary	weight
persuade/persuasion	separate	weird
physical	sequence	women
possession	shoulder	