



Year Nine English

Ko mātou o te Tari Ingarihi ka whakatewhatewhangia, ka whakawhanaketia, ā, ka whakapuakina whakaaro. Ka whakawhanake i te māia, ka whakahaumarau tauira, ā, ka okea ururoatia mātou.

Welcome to Year Nine English. English is a compulsory subject for all Year Nine to Year 12 students and most students continue to take it at Year 13.

The Year Nine theme is 'Being an Upstander'. Your English programme will be organised into literature and language units which will be linked to this theme. Some of these units are compulsory at this level. All Year Nine students will cover the following work using a mixture of digital and paper based learning opportunities:

- ✓ Creative and formal writing
- ✓ Novel
- ✓ Film
- ✓ Poetry
- ✓ Short stories
- ✓ Shakespearean drama
- ✓ Speeches (an opportunity to compete in the year 9 speech competition)
- ✓ Static images
- ✓ Language Study (including common tests)

If you miss a class for any reason, you must ask the teacher or a classmate what work you missed and get a copy of any notes you will need. This is **your** responsibility.

All homework set by your English teacher must be completed. If, for any reason, homework has not been set, **the most valuable thing you can do to improve your skills in English is to read.** Reading is the most important aspect of your English course.

St Mary's English department uses the New Zealand Curriculum to assess your progress in the two interconnected strands which each encompass the oral, written and visual forms of English:

- making meaning of ideas or information they receive (listening, reading and viewing)
- creating meaning for themselves or others (speaking, writing and presenting)

Using a set of underpinning processes and strategies, you will develop knowledge, skills and understanding related to:

- text purposes and audiences
- ideas
- language features
- structure and organisation

The achievement objectives allow you to progress, using your skills to engage with tasks and texts that are increasingly challenging and use depth in your exploration of language.

During Years Nine and Ten, students are expected to work through levels four and five of the curriculum achievement objectives to build the necessary skills for NCEA Level One (level six of the NZ Curriculum).

If you, your parent or carer have any questions about this, please contact the Head of Department, Meg Davies by email: meg.davies@stmw.school.nz or phone: 473 5554 ext 839

We hope that you have an enjoyable and exciting year and that you will emerge from your English programme as a courageous, confident and articulate communicator.