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Dear families,

English midway mini and end-of-unit assessments for Year 7

We hope that you and your friends are well. We know that there is a huge effort going on in the whole school community to make this extended period of online learning work as good as it can be. Thank you from the English teaching team for everything you are doing to make this as productive and worthwhile as it can be.

English teachers have made and are delivering a creative multi-text unit entitled The Island. We have tried to reduce the amount of weekly hand-in assignments to one a week, but we are finding that some students are not managing to do this regularly. The work sometimes does not reflect the student's best efforts, or it is not submitted correctly.

Please encourage your Year 7 student to submit a thoughtful task for what we call the '**midway**' assessment. In most classes, only half of the students have submitted work, though most of the task set could have been finished within lesson time. We want to assess these midway tasks so that students can have feedback before the end of unit assessments. It will help us to understand your son's needs and appreciate what he has thought and learnt.

The success criteria for the unit of work are posted on each Year 7 class Team, but it may help to see these here:

William Ellis School English Department

Year 7 Unit Imaginative Writing: The Island

Key skills being assessed across the unit:

1. I can shape and create engaging first-person accounts of an island I have imagined for others to read and enjoy.
2. I can adapt writers' strategies for storytelling in my own writing, including establishing a setting and focusing on descriptive details.
3. I can explore different types of writing in my reading and writing, including diaries, narratives and letters.
4. I can write in simple, compound and complex sentences, using full stops and commas to control my writing.
5. I can include dialogue in my writing and correctly format it.

Midway task – a diary entry describing my first few days on my island, including the arrival, initial impressions, descriptions of the setting and personal reflections.

End of Unit Task – a final diary entry after I've been rescued/rescued myself summarising my experience on the island (demonstrating the writing skills I've learned across the unit).

Thank you very much for your time and support. We all send our very best wishes.

Yours faithfully

Ms Lorna Damms, Head of English

Mr Robert Yurchesyn, Key Stage 3 English Lead