

EFM Gifted and Talented Programme 2012-2013

Spring Term 2013

What is Gifted and Talented?

- > 'Gifted' students have a natural talent or aptitude for at least one academic subject and have the potential to develop significantly beyond what is expected for their age. 'Talented' students have special, often creative or artistic, aptitude and display an above average ability in an area such as music, sport or art.
- > In other schools and colleges this is also referred to as 'More and Most Able', 'Exceptionally Able' or 'Pupils with marked aptitude'

Challenge yourself

Being curious, and asking intelligent questions, comes naturally to the gifted student. Keep challenging yourself and demanding the very best of yourself: you will develop very quickly into a highly successful and fulfilled learner.

What is happening this term?

Listening to the students' feedback we have decided to give a choice for the next task.

Option One Imaginary Worlds: Short stories

Students will read a selection of short stories to choose their favourite from. The task is to produce their own creative response to that story. In this task we are aiming to develop skills in language and literature to the highest levels. How well can they use inference to decode a text and make their own meaning—and sustain a discussion about the writer's purpose and effect on the reader. What other possibilities are there for the characters? What could happen in a different setting? A different time period? What if this was a poem or a play instead of a piece of prose? Critical and creative thinking is key here.

Option Two Exploring a Film Text

This is not about focusing on the written word, but an audio-visual stimulus. We are aiming to develop skills in analysis and critical thinking with the most popular mass-communication medium of modern times. Students will be introduced to critical voices and continue fine-tuning their independent learning and research skills. Students will choose their own film text and produce their own creative response: a review, a project focusing on actors/technicians, a prequel or a sequel, artwork for a marketing campaign (or for their own imagined film), a graphic-novel style adaptation of a key scene or a piece of writing inspired by the film.

What happened in the first term?

We had a very creative response to our first project which was 'Identity' - how do you define yourself? Students had lots of fun writing poetry, short stories and creating fantastic collages which tried to get to the centre of who they were. One student even posted a video of herself on YouTube '30 things about me' which was thoughtfully put together and executed with humour and wit.



Faculty of English, Film & Media

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You said that you would have liked more meetings to check if you were on the right track with the last project...so don't forget to 'book in' with Amanda or Fran for regular guidance. We want you, again, to produce something you will be proud to put in a portfolio and show at college/HE interviews.

The next meeting....

If you are interested in any of these projects or you have your own idea of something you would like to develop, there will be a meeting in rm 1 on Friday 22nd February at lunch-time. Come along and ask questions—get involved in a project that will really stretch and challenge you and give you a taste of 'A' level type activities.