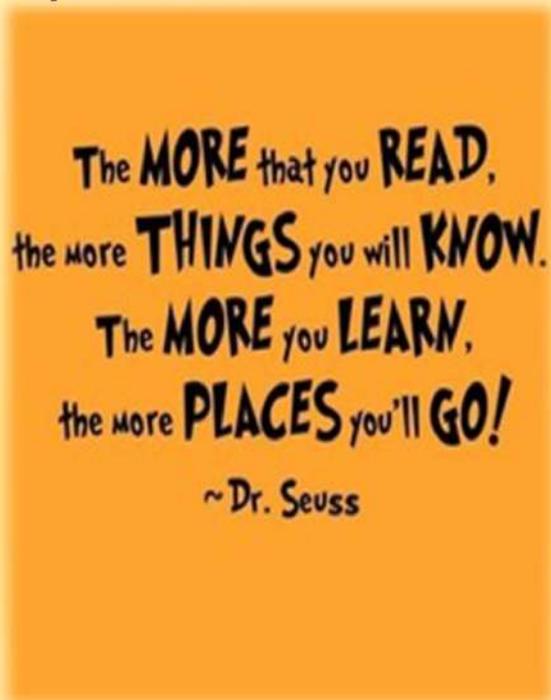


# English

**At St. Tiernan's Community School we have a forward-thinking and innovative English department.**



## What You Will Study in English:

- **Fiction** - we will be reading a selection of different novels which feature a variety of themes, storylines, settings and contexts.
- **Drama** - we will also be reading a selection of drama extracts and full plays - including Shakespearean plays! You will learn about script-writing, drama features and how actors bring a character to life... while trying your hand at some acting yourself!
- **Poetry** - we will read lots of different poems which explore a kaleidoscope of different themes; some of them simple and witty, others complex and thought-provoking, all of them beautiful and meaningful.
- **Writing** - reading and writing really are the 'bread and butter' of English as a subject. For every diverse style we read, students will also be encouraged to write in that style and create their own pieces of work.
- **Film** - In studying film, students will analyse not only the performances of actors, but also specific techniques employed by the director including camera angles and shots, music and sound effects, voiceovers, setting, costumes, make-up and much, much more. The cinematic experience is one that all students and teachers alike generally enjoy embracing.

## Teachers in the English Department:

Ms C. Cullen

Ms A. Doherty

Ms C. Bannigan

Ms R. Craul

Ms M. McGarrigle

Mr C. O'Mahony

Mr D. Dockery

The committed teachers in the English department are experts in their field and passionate communicators. They have wide-ranging experiences of teaching the subject, as well as in related disciplines such as drama, creative writing, debating and film. Their diversity adds to the dynamism of the department and deepens the English experience offered to students.



### Student Testimonials:

*During my time in St Tiernan's, English was one of my favourite subjects, and I found that it was also one of the most important subjects as not only did it add to my vocabulary which is a necessary life skill, but I also learned valuable skills such as essay writing and how to meet deadlines.*

*My view on the English curriculum is that it helps to enhance analytical thinking by analysing studied poetry, Shakespeare and prescribed texts as you have to analyse everything in different ways which promotes not just an analytical mind-set but also a creative one!*

**Adityaa Gupta (Class of 2020)**

*"Having come from a foreign educational system, I already had a preconceived notion that learning one's own language was monotonous and meaningless. However, I came to St Tiernan's and it exceeded all my expectations. Thanks to the highly trained teachers in the area, English has become one of my favourite subjects and for the first time in a long time I am passionate about writing. I have developed a deeper critical thinking about the literature that precedes us. I got to expand my vocabulary, embellish my writing, and above all I have found a safe space to debate my thoughts with my class. Undoubtedly, Higher Level English has been the icing on the cake to this wonderful experience at secondary school"*

**Andrea Parra Rada (Class of 2020)**

### Junior Cycle English:

English in junior cycle aims to develop students' knowledge of language and literature, to consolidate and deepen their literacy skills and make them more self-aware as learners. More specifically it encourages all students to:

- To be creative through language and to gain enjoyment and continuing personal growth from English in all its forms.
- To develop control over English using it and responding to it with purpose and effect through the interconnected literacy skills of oral language, reading and writing.
- To engage personally with and think critically about an increasingly broad range of spoken, written and multimodal texts.
- To develop an informed appreciation of literature through personal encounters with a variety of literary texts.
- To use their literacy skills to manage information needs, and find, use, synthesise, evaluate and communicate information using a variety of media.
- To gain an understanding of the grammar and conventions of English and how they might be used to promote clear and effective communication.

### Leaving Cert English:

The aims of Leaving Cert English are to develop in students:

- A mature and critical literacy to prepare them for the responsibilities and challenges of adult life in all contexts;
- A respect and appreciation for language used accurately and appropriately and a competence in a wide range of language skills both oral and written.
- An awareness of the value of literature in its diverse forms for enriching their perceptions, for enhancing their sense of cultural identity, and for creating experiences of aesthetic pleasure;

***“Poetry begins where language starts: in the shadows and accidents of one person's life.”***

- **Eavan Boland (Leaving Certificate Poet)**