Year 7 – My first personal statement

What to include:

Education:

What 3 subjects do you enjoy studying and why?

What 1 subject would you like to develop within and why?

What's 1 subject you are looking forward to studying at secondary school and why? (This could even be a new subject).

Personal goals:

State one thing that you really aspire to achieve in your first year at Beal High School. This has to be a personal goal of yours and can relate to either, your studies, Personal growth or Extra curricular interests.

Interesting facts or experience:

State either one interesting fact about yourself, or an experience you have had, this doesn't necessarily have to be recent.

Extra-curricular Hobbies or Interests:

We want to know more about you, what activities/ hobbies do you, or have you participated in? If not, then what are you interested in ? Be this: cooking, arts, collecting of some sort, a sport, musical instrument… Make a note of all of your extra-curricular interests.

Inspiration:

Who inspires you? From time-to-time, we find that we are inspired by someone, this could be a celebrity, actor, sports leader, someone who led change, a family member. Below state 1 person who has inspired you and why.

B) Book Task: Independent Reading Project 2023

Students should read a book from the list below and write a review.
This is due the first English lesson students have in the Autumn Term.

This is an opportunity for your child to enjoy reading some great books and to learn about things independently. This is an excellent experience in preparation for the years ahead, where they will be expected to undertake more independent reading.

Read **at least one of the books** in the list below. Please choose a book you have never read before as this is a challenge for you to experience new books!

Once you have read your chosen book(s), **you will then need to create a presentation about it.** This could be in the form of a poster, a short booklet or a PowerPoint presentation, with accompanying cue cards.

It is a very good idea to have **a clear focus for your presentation**. It will be too ambitious to try to present information about everything in the book(s) you have read.

You could use any of the following as a focus:
A key theme. For example, other worlds, animals who act like people, time travel or magical powers.
A character or character type. For example, characters who have magical powers, heroes or villains.

In your presentation you could include:
- ❖ Images/clips from film adaptations of the book(s) you have read.
- ❖ Key quotations.
- ❖ Spider diagrams that make links between the texts (if you have read more than one).
- ❖ Readings of your favourite sections of the texts.

What type of books are on the reading list?
All of the books on the reading list belong to the genre of **fantasy fiction.** A list of recommended texts can be found below and overleaf.

Before you choose and start reading one of the books, you may want to conduct some **research** on it, as well as fantasy genre.

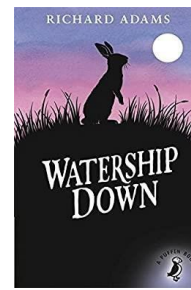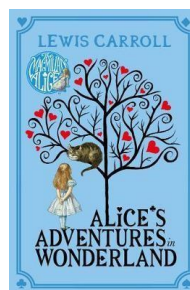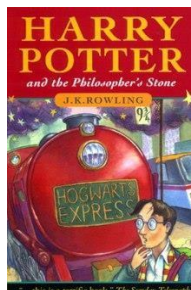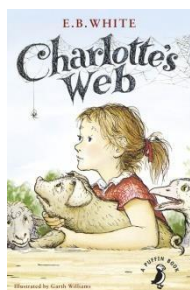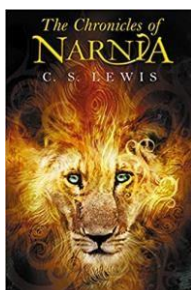**You could use the following questions to get started:**

- ❖ What is fantasy fiction?
- ❖ When did the genre emerge?
- ❖ Who are the most important authors within this genre? What are the most important novels/texts?
- ❖ Can you find any pictures of the era in which your particular genre or theme emerged to help you understand the text that you are about to read better?

Fantasy Fiction - Reading List

The English Department have tried to think of books that will challenge and interest you.
Happy reading!

TITLE	AUTHOR
The Power of Five Series	Anthony Horowitz
Wings	Aprilynne Pike
The Chronicles of Narnia	C S Lewis
Princess Bride	Cary Elwes
Fairyland	Catherynne M Valente
Inkheart	Cornelia Funke
Skellig	David Almond
Howl's Moving Castle	Diana Wynne Jones
The Worlds of Chrestomanci	Diana Wynne Jones
Charlotte's Web	E B White
Artemis Fowl	Eoin Colfer
A Map of Nowhere	Gillian Cross
Harry Potter Series	J K Rowling
Peter Pan	J M Barrie
The Hobbit	J R R Tolkein
The Lord of the Rings Series	J R R Tolkein
The Wonderful Wizard of Oz	L Frank Baum
The Magicians	Lev Grossman
Alice in Wonderland	Lewis Carroll
The Axe and the Throne	M D Ireman
A Wrinkle in Time	Madeleine L'Engle
The Never-ending Story	Michael Ende
The Graveyard Book	Neil Gaiman
Mortal Engines	Philip Reeve
His Dark Materials	Phillip Pullman
The Golden Compass	Phillip Pullman

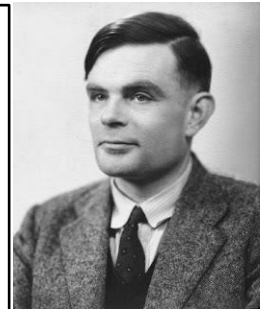|	
Northern Lights	Phillip Pullman
Watership Down	Richard Adams
The Percy Jackson Series	Rick Riordan
Charlie and the Chocolate Factory	Roald Dahl
James and the Giant Peach	Roald Dahl
The Witches	Roald Dahl
The BFG	Roald Dahl
The Jungle Book	Rudyard Kipling
Time Riders Series	S Scarrow
Haroun and the Sea of Stories Book	Salman Rushdie
The Hunger Games	Suzanne Collins
Truckers, Diggers Series	T Pratchett
The Sorcerer's Apprentice	Tahir Shah

How to access reading material/books

- Ask siblings and family members in your own home if they have any books.
- You can purchase books at many retail bookstores such as Foyles, Waterstones and WHSmith.
- You can purchase or download books online for a charge: www.amazon.co.uk / www.foyles.co.uk / www.waterstones.co.uk
- Free audiobooks: www.librivox.org / https://stories.audible.com/start-listen
- Project Gutenberg offers 56,000 free books to download: www.Gutenberg.org
- Links to free downloadable books: https://books.google.co.uk / www.manybooks.net
- Reviews of books: www.goodreads.com

Code Breaking…

Alan Turing

Alan Turing was a British mathematician. He made major contributions to the fields of mathematics, computer science, and artificial intelligence. He worked for the British government during World War II, when he succeeded in breaking the secret code Germany used to communicate.

In September 1939 Great Britain went to war against Germany. During the war, Turing worked at the Government Code and Cypher School at Bletchley Park. Turing and others designed a code-breaking machine known as the Bombe. They used the Bombe to learn German military secrets. By early 1942 the code breakers at Bletchley Park were decoding about 39,000 messages a month. At the end of the war, Turing was made an Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire.

Can you crack the code to reveal the message?

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
55	47	84	10	9	75	59	64	32	15	23	50	26
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
80	63	19	3	27	30	21	92	18	35	99	69	199

16 x 2 =			70 - 35 =			9 x 7 =		
			110 - 55 =			63 - 31 =		
42 + 42 =			64 - 32 =			10 x 8 =		
110 - 55 =			5 x 4 + 1 =					
160 / 2=						56 - 9 =		
20 x 4 =			27 - 6 =			49 - 40 =		
126 - 63 =			7 x 9 =			8 + 47 =		
3 x 7 =						25 x 2 =		
			48 - 33 =					

Challenge: Can you make up some calculations to spell out your name using the same code breaker grid?
Can you make up your own message for a friend to decode?

C) **Send us a postcard during your holiday**

Address your postcard to:

Ms Williams, Head of Year 7, Beal High School, Woodford Bridge Road, Ilford IG4 5LP

You can post it from wherever you are on holiday. Alternatively, bring it to reception during the holiday and you won't have to use a stamp!