

Friesland School's English Department Newsletter: Year 8

Currently we are studying the novel 'Refugee Boy' by Benjamin Zephaniah and the William Shakespeare play 'Much Ado About Nothing'.

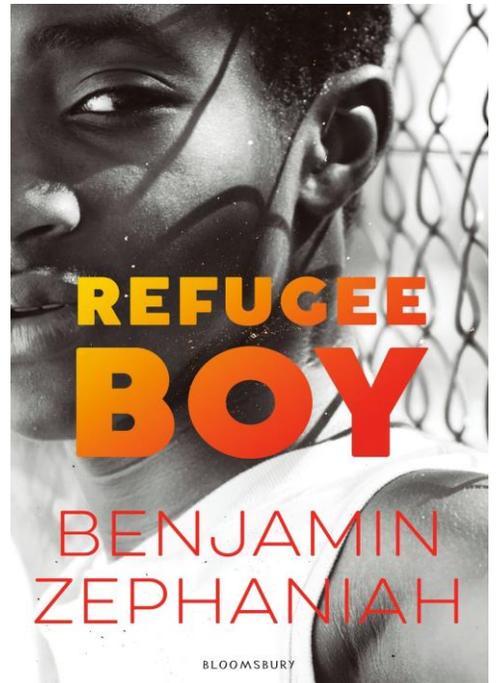


Key Skills

1. To carefully plan, write and structure engaging descriptive writing using vocabulary and sentence structures effectively
2. To respond to other people's views on the texts you read
3. To understand how writers present themes in Literature texts and how the themes support the writers' messages

How your child can develop their learning at home:

- Carry out some research on the social and historical context of Shakespeare's play, focusing particularly on the presentation of women
- Watch one of the many film versions of 'Much Ado About Nothing' to develop your understanding of the text
- Visit the Learning Zone on the Royal Shakespeare Company website to watch clips and find out more about the play
- Read other novels and poetry by Benjamin Zephaniah
- Visit BBC Bitesize for hints and tips on different types of writing, focusing particularly on descriptive writing
- When reading fiction, think very carefully about how the writer engages the reader
- 'Reject and Replace' vocabulary choices – look back over the work completed in class and strengthen the vocabulary
- Revisit and revise the key skills you worked on during the Autumn Term



Reading

Your child has a reading record and they should ensure they read regularly at home. Every time they read independently, or to someone at home or school, they should get this signed and verified by an adult and they will then be rewarded for this by their form tutor.

Magic numbers:

Read 25 times – bronze
Read 50 times – silver
Read 75 times – gold
Read 100 times – platinum
AND an invitation to our celebration evening
Read 200 times – diamond
AND an invitation to our celebration evening

