Welcome to yr 8, stage 4 English! To keep you engaged and enthusiastic about the study of English in stage 4, you are required to explore the following:

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| Fiction | at least two works |
| Poetry | a wide range of types of poems |
| Film, or film on video or DVD | at least two works |
| Nonfiction | at least two works |
| Drama | at least two works |

We will cover all of these over the course of 2011 and during Term 1, Yr 8 students will be working towards improving writing skills and writing for various purposes using particular language devices. We will also have some fun with words and focus on spelling and enhancing vocabulary. Students will read, listen ,write view and respond to texts in a fun and engaging English program.

Students will receive a spelling list each week and other homework tasks related to class tasks. Everyone is expected to bring books, pens, rulers and pencils to class. Books should be covered and these will be collected and marked in addition to class observation of bookwork. Your bookwork should be neat, organised and UP-TO-DATE! Please see Mrs Jones regarding any work you have missed as your bookwork is your RESPONSIBILITY.

The first unit (*Writing Persuasively)*  is entirely based around student compositions and responses to various text types. We will explore various speeches, debates, newspaper reports/articles, posters, advertisements and essays to examine how persuasive devices are used to affect the target audience. This unit addresses the following NSW BOS syllabus outcomes:

*A student …*

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| 1 responds to and composes texts for understanding, interpretation, critical analysis and pleasure |
| 2 uses a range of processes for responding to and composing texts |
| 4 uses and describes language forms and features, and structures of texts appropriate to different purposes, audiences and contexts |
| 5 makes informed language choices to shape meaning with accuracy, clarity and coherence |
| 7 thinks critically and interpretively about information, ideas and arguments to respond to and compose texts |
| 11 uses, reflects on and assesses individual and collaborative skills for learning. |

I look forward to a fun, positive and lively classroom this term. Please don’t hesitate to see me if you have any concerns.

Mrs Jones