WELCOME TO MHS ENGLISH!

WHAT TYPES OF ACTIVITY DO YOU THINK YOU WILL DO IN AN ENGLISH CLASS?

Make a list in the box.

The answers are on the next slide…

SOME OF THE ACTIVITIES IN ENGLISH…

Activity	Details
Reading	*Reading as a class; personal reading; fiction and non-fiction; poetry and plays*
Writing	*Creative, personal, informative and persuasive*
Discussion	*As a class; in groups; in pairs*
Analysis	*Explaining similes and metaphors; word choice; character and plot*
Presenting	*Individual presentation; group presentation*
Research	*Lots of different topics*
Media Studies	*Learning about newspapers, adverts, tv, film*

ACTIVITY 1: GETTING TO KNOW YOU

TASK: Make an acrostic poem with the letters of your first name. Come up with words that describe you best.

TASK: Research your name (ask a parent, or use the internet) and find out what your name means and where it comes from:

ACTIVITY 2: DESCRIBING FEELINGS

TASK: Look at the words on the next slide and decide which best fit how you feel about coming to MHS.

TASK: find other ways of describing these feelings. In other words, find SYNONYMS for the words.

- **You can use a thesaurus or the internet to do this.**
- **You can do your chosen words, or all of them.**

SYNONYMS – *WORDS THAT HAVE THE SAME MEANING*

FEELING	TYPE OF WORD	DEFINITION	SYNONYMS
EXCITED	ADJECTIVE	REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO SOMETHING	EAGER, ENTHUSIASTIC, KEEN
NERVOUS			
HAPPY			
CONFUSED			
SCARED			
DREADING			
UNCONCERNED			

ACTIVITY 3: USING THE NEW VOCABULARY

TASK: Use some of the new words to write a few sentences about how you feel about leaving primary school and coming up to MHS. Try to describe your thoughts and feelings, and include details of what you are looking forward/not looking forward to most!

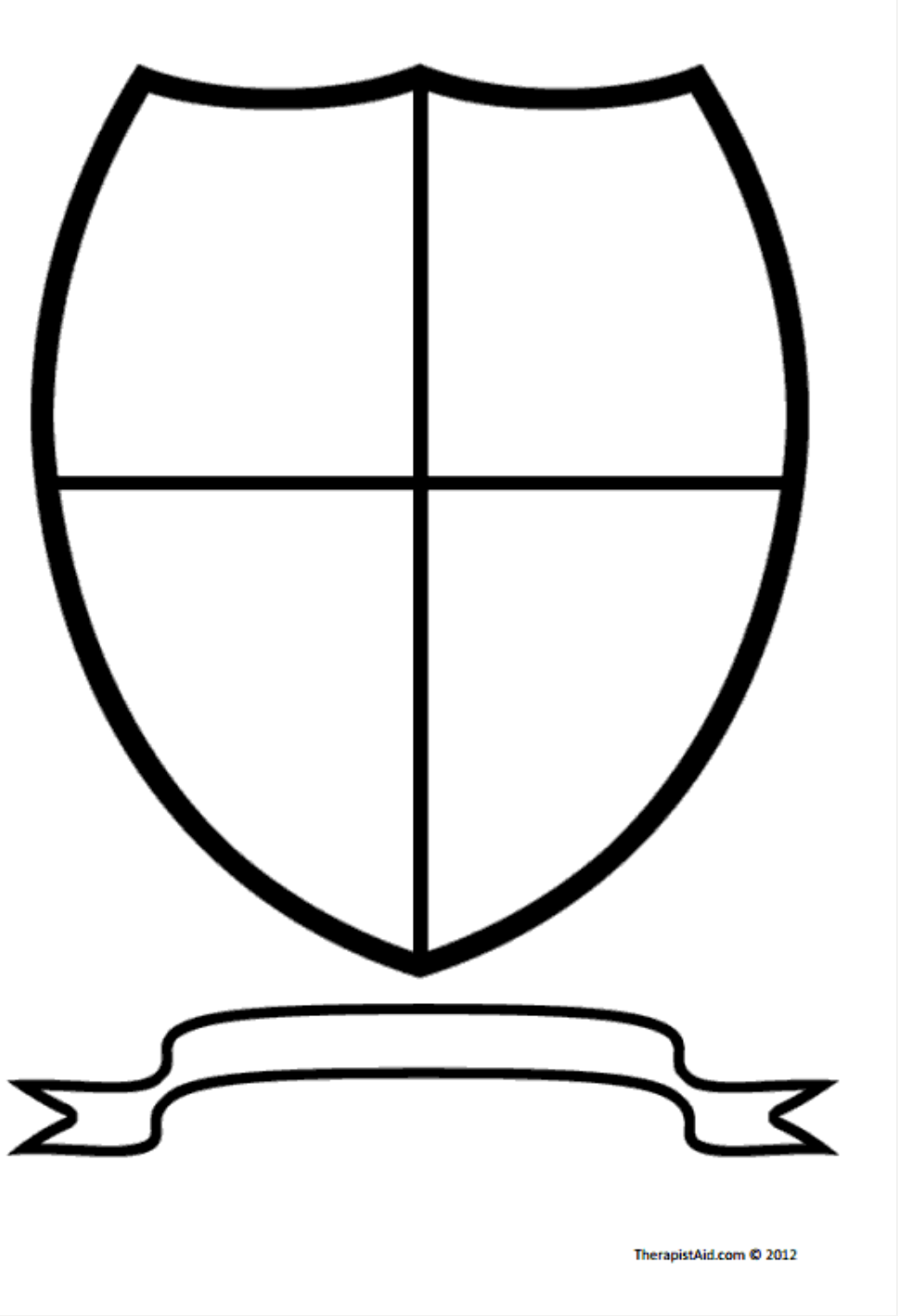
Use the box to write your sentences, or Word, or paper – whichever suits you best.

ACTIVITY: GETTING TO KNOW YOU

Some families (usually the very rich and powerful!) have a family crest, which represents their family.

TASK: Make a family crest which best represents you. Divide it into sections which suit you best: hobbies, family, favourites…

There is a template on the next page that you can print, or copy.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OPTIONAL EXTENSION ACTIVITY: POETRY

If you want to continue with some English work, here is an activity on a poem that you can do.

BEFORE YOU READ THE POEM

The poem is about an eagle. Imagine the words and phrases someone might choose to describe this bird. Write them down:

The Eagle

BY ALFRED, LORD TENNYSON

He clasps the crag with crooked hands;
Close to the sun in lonely lands,
Ring'd with the azure world, he stands.

The wrinkled sea beneath him crawls;
He watches from his mountain walls,
And like a thunderbolt he falls.

ACTIVITY 1: READ THIS POEM

HOW TO READ A POEM 1: DO YOU UNDERSTAND ALL THE WORDS?

The Eagle

BY ALFRED, LORD TENNYSON

He clasps the crag with crooked hands;
Close to the sun in lonely lands,
Ring'd with the azure world, he stands.

The wrinkled sea beneath him crawls;
He watches from his mountain walls,
And like a thunderbolt he falls.

Clasps:

Crag:

Ring'd:

Azure:

HOW TO READ A POEM 2:

MAKE SURE YOU UNDERSTAND IT

Line	What does it mean?
He clasps the crag with crooked hands	
Close to the sun in lonely lands .	
Ring'd with the azure world, he stands	The blue sky is all around him as he stands on the mountain
The wrinkled sea beneath him crawls	
He watches from his mountain walls	
And like a thunderbolt he falls	

HOW TO READ A POEM 3: FIND THE POETIC TECHNIQUES

IF YOU DON'T KNOW THE DEFINITIONS, LOOK THEM UP AND FILL IN THE GRID

He clasps the crag with crooked hands;
Close to the sun in lonely lands,
Ring'd with the azure world, he stands.

The wrinkled sea beneath him crawls;
He watches from his mountain walls,
And like a thunderbolt he falls.

Technique	Definition
alliteration	
colour	
personification	
metaphor	
simile	

TASK: Can you find these techniques in this poem? The answers are on the next slide…

Alliteration - hard sounds like an eagle's character

Colour – to describe the exact tone of the sky (not just blue)

He clasps the crag with crooked hands;
Close to the sun in lonely lands,
Ring'd with the azure world, he stands.

The **wrinkled sea** beneath him crawls;
He watches from his **mountain walls**,
And like a thunderbolt he falls.

Personification the sea moves slowly

Metaphors – the sea has wrinkles and the mountains are walls

Simile – the way he dives is compared to thunder = powerful

PLAN AND WRITE YOUR OWN POEM…

1. Choose a bird (or any animal) you want to describe
2. Make a list of words and phrases that describe your choice
3. Use the template on a future slide to help you

PLANNING – WORDS/PHRASES THAT DESCRIBE YOUR CHOICE OF BIRD

USE THIS AS A TEMPLATE FOR YOUR POEM IF YOU LIKE

Line 1	Describe how it stands/perches.	Use alliteration
Line 2	Where does it live?	Use alliteration
Line 3	Describe the colours of the surroundings	Use colours (be specific!)
Line 4	Describe what he sees	Use a metaphor
Line 5	Describe what it is perched on	Use metaphor
Line 6	Describe it flying/walking	Use a simile

TITLE: ________________________________

WRITE YOUR POEM IN THE BOX, OR ON WORD, OR ON PAPER.

EXTENSION ACTIVITY: YOU COULD WRITE ANOTHER POEM USING A DIFFERENT ANIMAL OR DRAW THE SUBJECT OF YOUR POEM.