**English 1 Syllabus---Fall 2015**

**Mrs. Quinn**

**Course Objectives (What to expect)**

* Students will read and analyze a variety of literature including: novels, short stories, plays, poetry, and nonfiction.
* Students will further develop their reading skills through the study of vocabulary, literary techniques, and the use of varying reading strategies for different types of reading.
* Students will further develop their writing skills through both formal and informal writing. Research skills and crediting sources for borrowed work in correct MLA format will be emphasized.
* Students will further their skills in writing by studying grammar and mechanics of writing as need is reflected in their writing.
* Students will work collaboratively in small groups and as a class which will require the development of listening and speaking skills, the ability to work with and interact with others, and leadership skills.

**Literature we will study this year**

* Short stories (3 weeks) –some stories we will read will include:
  + “The Lottery”
  + “Harrison Bergeron”
  + “Lesson of the Moth”
  + “The Sniper”
  + “The Cask of Amontillado”
  + “All Summer and a Day”
  + “The Lady or the Tiger”
  + “The Scarlet Ibis”
    - During the short story unit, we will be focusing on some literary elements, connotation and denotation, and how to annotate a text.
* *The Odyssey* by Homer (7-8 weeks)
  + This will include the study of some Greek gods, and ancient Greek culture.
  + There will also be an emphasis on literary analysis.
* *Speak* by Laurie Halse Anderson (5-6 weeks)
  + Literary analysis will continue to be developed.

**Writing**

You will be doing informal and formal writing and projects related to the literature we are studying. Some of the formal writing students will complete includes:

* We will do an early writing that involves your reflections on Freshmen Kick-off.
* Informative research paper with citations and Works Cited in MLA format. This will be done with Library orientation and during the 3 weeks we are working on short stories.
* Hero paper. This will be during the 7-8 weeks we spend on *The Odyssey.*
* Researched Outline with citations and a Works Cited page on a current teen issue. This will be completed during the 5-6 weeks we spend on *Speak.*
* Each week you will be writing and sending an email to your parents in which you inform them of what you have done in English 1 and what you have learned in the class. You will also inform them of your grade and why you are earning this grade. You will copy this email to me so that I can grade it.

**Library Orientation**

Freshmen in all English classes will receive Library instruction and orientation.