**MEDIA STUDIES**

I am really pleased that you will be joining the Media Studies Department in September to study A Level Media Studies.

There is one piece of work which I would like you to do before you join us.

A Level Media Studies requires you to ‘read’ the media critically – to understand how and why media texts are constructed as they are.  In preparation for this, please follow a media event or activity during the summer.  This could take the form of one of the following:

∙ a news story

∙ a set of advertisements for one product

∙ a story about a famous person (royalty, film/pop personality)

∙ an event concerning a controversy (environmental issue, a scandal)

∙ the launch of a new film, magazine or TV/radio station

∙ a political event

∙ a new TV programme/series etc.

Please write two to three sides describing the event you have chosen to follow.

Once you have decided on your subject, think about how the media deals with the event.  Is there any variation in the way the event is treated across different media?  How does the focus of your chosen event change over time?  For example, think about the General Election, or the European Football Championship, and how coverage of the event may have changed according to a variety of factors.  How is your understanding of your chosen event affected by the way the media deals with or presents the event?

You will be asked to report on your chosen event in the sessions during the first two weeks of the course.

I look forward to seeing you in September.  If you are unsure of any of the above, or if you have any questions about the Media Studies course, please contact me at the Sixth Form, alternatively you can email me at any time on t.wilkes@fakenhamacademy.org

**Mr Tim Wilkes**

Teacher of Film and Media Studies