**Act 5, Scene 8 – The Final Scene (Part 2)**

**Activities:**

1.What is happening in this scene?

2. What is a ‘usurper’ and what does this tell us about how the others viewed Macbeth’s rule?

3. Malcolm describes Macbeth as a ‘butcher’ and Lady Macbeth is a ‘fiend-like queen.’ In your opinion, who is more to blame for the events that transpire in the play? Explain your ideas.

4. The final act of ‘Macbeth’ is structured differently to the others in that the scenes are very short compared to the others. Why do you think Shakespeare has done this?

5. Do you think ‘Macbeth’ is a moral play? Do you think justice has been served at its conclusion?

**EXTRA CHALLENGE**: Fleance escaped his murder earlier in the play meaning the prophecy about Banquo’s children could still come true. In fact, this prophecy is the ONLY prophecy that remains unfulfilled by the end of the play. Why do you think this is? Is Shakespeare trying to tell his audience anything here?

*Re-enter MACDUFF, with MACBETH's head*

**MACDUFF**

Hail, king! for so thou art: behold, where stands
The usurper's cursed head: the time is free:
I see thee compass'd with thy kingdom's pearl,
That speak my salutation in their minds;
Whose voices I desire aloud with mine:
Hail, King of Scotland!

**ALL**

Hail, King of Scotland!

*Flourish*

INCREASING CHALLENGE

**MALCOLM**

We shall not spend a large expense of time
Before we reckon with your several loves,
And make us even with you. My thanes and kinsmen,
Henceforth be earls, the first that ever Scotland
In such an honour named. What's more to do,
Which would be planted newly with the time,
As calling home our exiled friends abroad
That fled the snares of watchful tyranny;
Producing forth the cruel ministers
Of this dead butcher and his fiend-like queen,
Who, as 'tis thought, by self and violent hands
Took off her life; this, and what needful else
That calls upon us, by the grace of Grace,
We will perform in measure, time and place:
So, thanks to all at once and to each one,
Whom we invite to see us crown'd at Scone.

*Flourish. Exeunt*