**Romeo and Juliet: Act 2**

**Year 5 and Year 6**

**Language Exercise: Similes and Metaphors**

**A metaphor** is a word or a phrase used to describe something as if it were something else:

For example, "A wave of terror washed over him." The terror isn't actually a wave, but a wave is a good way of describing the feeling.

"Mercutio is dynamite." He's not made of dynamite, but it's a way to explain how exciting he is.

**A simile** describes something by **comparing it to something else**, using like or as:

The snake moved **like a** ripple on a pond.

It was **as slippery as** an eel.

Juliet is **as graceful as** a gazelle.

**TASK:**

In Act 2, when Romeo and Juliet declare their love for one another Shakespeare uses similies and metaphors.

Read the passages of text below.

1. Highlight/underline the metaphors in one colour (for example red pen)
2. Highlight/underline the similes in another colour (for example blue pen)

**Romeo:**

But soft! What light through yonder window breaks?

**yonder** = over there

It is the east, and Juliet is the sun.

Arise, fair sun, and kill the envious moon,

**Juliet**:

This love, by summer’s ripening breath,

May prove a beauteous flower when next

we meet.

**Juliet**:

But to be frank, and give it thee again.

**bounty** = generosity

b**oundless** = limitless

And yet I wish but for the thing I have.

My **bounty** is as **boundless** as the sea,

My love as deep.

**Romeo:**

**thou** = you

**art** = are

**mortals** = humans

O, speak again, bright angel! For **thou** **art**

As glorious to this night…

As is a winged messenger of heaven

Unto the white, upturned, wondering eyes

Of **mortals**