Thomas Bullock CE Primary Academy

English – Shakespeare Unit – Merchant of Venice.

Home Learning – Year 5 –24th April – page 1

Getting to know the Story in more Depth.

Now you have spent some time with our two opening male characters lets see if we have the same thoughts about them.

My thinking is that **Antonio** is a very good friend to **Bassanio**. He lends him the money he asks for although he doesn't have it at the moment and has to borrow it himself. He borrows it at great risk to himself – the loss of his home. He lends it even though **Bassanio** owes him money already and hasn't paid him back. Either he is reckless or thinks that friendship is priceless beyond the value of money.

Bassanio seems to be reckless, he asks his friend for money knowing he already owes him a debt. He seems to want to live beyond his means. Maybe he thinks money will solve his problems and give him the girl of his dreams, maybe he is just taking advantage of his friend, **Antonio**. I wonder will he lose this friendship if he behaves like this?