4 – THE THANE OF CAWDOR

How does the news that Macbeth has been made Thane of Cawdor change things?

WHAT YOU NEED

- Some pieces of paper, or a notebook and something to write with.
- A copy of Act 1 Scene 3 from Macbeth to read, either on the page or onscreen.

ACTIVITY

- The witches' first prophecy is confirmed in Act 1 Scene 3. Read the scene from Angus's line 'We are sent, / To give thee from our royal master thanks' to the end.
- Add an extra scene to your comic strip, on a separate piece of paper, showing how both Banquo and Macbeth react to Ross's news.
- Pay particular attention to Macbeth's asides – things he says privately to the audience. Why doesn't he tell the others these things? Do you think Banquo is also thinking things he chooses not to share and if so, why? Add these secret thoughts to your comic strip in thought bubbles.
- Ask yourself: What do Macbeth and Banquo think of the witches now? How does their behaviour change towards each other?

EXTENSION

- Create two moodboards or collages of Macbeth's and Banquo's dreams and ambitions now the first prophecy has come true. How do they see their futures now? What images can you find or create to represent these new ideas and concepts.
- Compare the two moodboards. What do they tell you about the differences in their characters?
- To look at how Macbeth develops throughout the play, you might want to build on your mood-boards and continue adding to your Macbeth images as you work through the play. Start to collect quotes as well as images, noting down Macbeth's false beliefs and ambitions now he has met the witches and how these change. These can be quotes from the play, individual words, drawings, images, anything that represents what Macbeth now wants and believes.
- Using a large piece of paper or cork board if you have one, stick or pin these images together. Or you could start a moodboard on your tablet using a collage app such as Pinterest or Mural.
- As you make your way through these activities, add to this wall with anything else you find.