

Youth Theatre Newsletter April 2024

Dear All

What a busy term we have had. I am looking forward to the Youth Theatre members getting an opportunity to perform in front of an audience. Not long now!!

In order to make life easier for our treasurer, Lucy Bunyan, we will be issuing invoices for the next term. Please could I give you all a polite reminder that she does all of this a volunteer and it is really time consuming for her to chase up overdue fees so prompt payment is appreciated.

CHAPERONES - Catherine Grice works as a volunteer to organise chaperones for all events at the theatre involving children and does an amazing job but it is disappointing that we have nearly 90 members and only 8 chaperones. Catherine is always happy to help with applications. The theatre will reimburse the cost. Sadly, if we do not get more help we will have to limit performance opportunities for Youth Theatre members.

TERM DATES:

19/20 April

26 April – Encore – alternative venue tbc

27 April – all groups at the theatre

3 / 4 May

14 May – Dress rehearsal for Match Girls/Lost – 6.00 – 7.30

15 May – Dress Rehearsal for Blood Brothers – 6.00 – 8.00

16/17 May – Performances for Match Girls, Lost and Blood Brothers. To be at the theatre by 6.45 end tbc.

18 May – Youth Theatre presentations - (no musical theatre this week but feel free to come along and support the rest of the group)

Dress rehearsal times – at usual times. Arts Award to rehearse at 1.30

Performance at 2.30 all children to sign in by 2.00, There are no tickets for this event but we are happy to accept donations.

24/25 May (final Arts Award – All portfolios to be completed)

31 May /1 June – **No Youth Theatre** – Half Term

7/8 June – Musical Theatre group **to start at 1.35** for the final half term.

14 / 15 June

21 / 22 June final youth theatre for all groups except Musical Theatre

29 June – Beauty and the Beast – full run through – 12.30 – 4.30

2 July – B&B dress – 5.30 – 7.00

3 – 6 July B&B performances. Time TBC

As you can see there are very few rehearsals left. Please support your child to learn lines and feel prepared. They will enjoy their performance much more if they feel secure with their words. There has been a lot of absence this term and very few rehearsals with a full cast. I do realise this is sometimes unavoidable but please could we have full attendance for the last few weeks and performances please. It isn't enough to say they know their lines – they need to be there to say them!! Reactions are a big part of acting and it is challenging for children who are there to react authentically to an empty space!

OTHER DATES

24 – 27 April – *Murder in Play* – IES production. See website for details.

1 May – Verse and Prose rehearsal – 7.30

4 May – Quiz Night at the theatre.

2 June – Discover Arts Award in a Day – Key Stage 1

4 June Poetry and Prose evening.

PROMPTS and PROPS – I really need some help. At the moment I am trying to direct and produce and manage the Youth Theatre.

POETRY and PROSE evening – I still have a couple of spaces left if any members (or parents) want to take part in this event as part of the Literary Festival. This can be anything you like – an acting monologue, a poem, a piece from your favourite book ...

FOH – Guisy de Novellis is our Front of House Manager and does an amazing job organising all of the volunteers that we need to open the theatre to the public. We are particularly short of duty managers.

This job involves overseeing all of the volunteers for that evening and ensuring excellent customer service. You will be responsible for maintaining the safety and security of our patrons during the evening and you will collaborate with stage managers, production crews, and other theatre staff to ensure smooth coordination between front-of-house and backstage operations. It is a responsible but rewarding job. Full training is given so if you feel you could be part of our FOH team let me know and I will put you in touch with Guisy.

Looking forward to seeing you all after Easter.

Lucy