



CRESTWOOD
COMMUNITY SCHOOL

CHK/JSS

8 September 2017

Dear Parent/Carer,

Following the success of The Wizard of Oz last year we are pleased to announce that this year's whole school production will be the much loved musical Annie by Thomas Meehan. Set in 1930s New York, during The Great Depression, brave young Annie is forced to live a life of misery at Miss Hannigan's orphanage. Her luck soon changes when she's chosen to spend a fairytale Christmas with famous billionaire, Oliver Warbucks. Meanwhile, spiteful Miss Hannigan has other ideas and hatches a plan to spoil Annie's search for her true family.

We will be holding auditions this year for all pupils and encourage those who are interested to take part and audition. Auditions will take place over two days, both of which pupils are expected to attend.

On Tuesday, 12th of September from 16:00 till 18:00 pupils will attend an acting audition, which will introduce them to the characters and give them an opportunity to experiment with the various roles available.

Then on Thursday, 14th of September from 16:00 till 16:45 pupils will partake in a dance workshop which will require them to learn a simple routine.

Finally those wishing to audition for leading roles will need to stay on after the dance workshop to attend a singing audition. This particular audition will require pupils to sing an excerpt from one of the Annie songs that they have previously selected, lasting no longer than one minute. There are plenty of YouTube backing tracks available for this selection and there will be a CD player and laptop available for the relevant backing tracks. Note that this part of the audition is **only** for those who want to audition for leading roles.

We would like to emphasize that if your child does not wish to be considered for a leading role then they will only be required to partake in the Tuesday acting (16:00 - 18:00) and Thursday dance (16:00 - 16:45) workshops.

All auditions will take place on the Cherbourg campus, in the main hall but all interested pupils from either campus are welcome and encouraged to attend. The starting time of 16:00 allows all pupils time to go home, get changed, grab a bite to eat and travel to the Cherbourg campus. We always suggest that pupils walk with a couple of friends and if coming straight from the Shakespeare campus there are numerous shops on route to purchase a snack.

Regarding expectations and commitments, those who audition and are successful in gaining a role within the cast will need to keep Wednesdays available for rehearsals which run from 16:00 till 18:30. Secondary rehearsals will also take place on Thursdays, although these will not run as late and only a handful of the cast will be called for these extra rehearsals.

The performances will take place on the 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th of March, which comprises of three evening performances and one matinee performance. Pupils will also be required on the 1st, 2nd, 5th, 6th and 7th of March for rehearsals during the school day; this will be the only time during the production when your child will be expected to miss lessons. Unfortunately this is unavoidable in order to combine all aspects of a complex musical and reach the professional standard of performance that we expect.

An online rehearsal schedule will be available to all members of the cast and their parents detailing when, where and who is being called for which rehearsals. This way everyone is fully aware and informed in advance as attendance is crucial.

The creative team and I cannot wait to get started on this production and we hope to see your child at the auditions next week! Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Regards,

Conner Handstock

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