



PUTTING THE FUN BACK
INTO LEARNING!

Dear Parents and guardians,

Welcome to the March curriculum guide for Drama Studies.

This month the drama students have been focusing on their end of term pieces. They have been working on an array of drama techniques such as marking the moment, freeze frame and slow motion to build techniques which they will apply in their end of term pieces.

Assessment for this term for KS3 will take the form of completion of a practical piece, which will be performed to an audience and filmed. This gives the opportunity for students to show off their creativity and understanding of relevant drama techniques which have been explored in lessons and build up their confidence as a performer.

Topics such as bullying and attendance and punctuality have been a focus for practical pieces for the students of KS3, as this supports whole school priorities and their work in other lessons.

The skill set of collaboration, communication and self-confidence which is present within all drama sessions and planning, links with the ADEC Student Core Competency Framework and will assist the students in becoming 21st Century Learners.

Grade 6

The aim of this term for grade 6 has been to devise, rehearse and perform a short improvisation based on the topic bullying.

For preparation, the students have been focusing on drama techniques such as marking the moment where they explored various techniques such as slow motion, narration, freeze frame and the use of music and spotlight to enhance a significant moment within their pieces.

Grade 6 have also explored duologue and spontaneous duologue, where they have used an array of stimuli including poem and diary entries to inspire ideas for their final pieces.

Grade 7

This term Grade 7 are working towards performing a duologue which will be performed to a live audience and assessed. In preparation for this students have been devising an array of rehearsed improvisations where they have used photographs and newspaper clippings as stimuli. Techniques such as marking the moment, hot-seating and cross-cutting have been explored and the students will be expected to include such techniques in their final performances.

The duologues have been taken from the script 'The Dead Ones', which is about two young soldiers of war who are strangers but help each other out. The students will have the opportunity to bring the script to life by researching their characters and exploring their characters' intentions, motivations and dreams.

Grade 8

This month Grade 8 are working towards a devised ensemble piece which will be performed to the school in special assemblies and assessed. In preparation for this, students have focused on the audition process, where they have explored techniques such as cold read. To develop technique further, students were given the opportunity to use cold read technique and audition for lead roles of the production in front of a panel of peers and teacher, who acted as casting directors. Students will be cast into specific roles according to ability and performance.

Once cast, the focus for the rest of the term has been character building and the rehearsal process of the production 'Secret Student Spies'. The play explores the theme of 'attendance and punctuality' and what impact this has on education.

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Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries, I will do my best to respond as quickly as possible.

Thank you for your ongoing support,

Natasha. H