



PUTTING THE FUN BACK  
INTO LEARNING!

Dear Parents and guardians,

Welcome to the January curriculum guide for Drama studies.

This term the drama students will look broadly at what is theatre and the elements required to make a good actor. They are now beginning to learn techniques such as characterisation, still images, the use of props and working as an ensemble. The main focus this term is to build the students' confidence to collaborate successfully as part of a trusted ensemble. This skill set of collaboration, communication and self-confidence all link with the ADEC Student Core Competency Framework and will assist them in becoming 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learners.

### **Grade 6**

The aim of this term for grade 6 will be to perform a short scene from a play to their peers, demonstrating their basic understanding of various dramatic elements including: levels, spatial awareness, characterisation and the use of props.

For preparation, this month, grade 6 will participate in various practical activities including 'slow motion emotion', (where they pick an emotion out of a hat and have to demonstrate to peers that emotion via facial expressions and body language), 10 second tableaux (create a series of still images including all 3 levels from pictures) and 'The Mirror' (learning to observe others and copy movements precisely).

### **Grade 7**

This term Grade 7 are working towards performing duologues, which will be performed to their peers. In preparation for this, this month, the students will be participating in various practical tasks which involves trust exercises (to build trust within the ensemble), the exploration of emotions and how facial expressions can convey emotions. They will discover how by using their bodies and imaginations they can create characters and objects by closely listening and cooperating as a team.

### **Grade 8**

This term Grade 8 are preparing to perform a scripted piece from a play to their peers. This month students will begin to focus on the use of voice in order to create a character. They will study a monologue looking for clues as to who the character is from the script and will be given the opportunity to perform in front of their peers to discuss and critique what tone and pace works best for their given character.

### **Grade 9**

This term Grade 9 are heading towards devising and performing an ensemble piece to their peers. In preparation for this, the students will be studying characterisation, script writing, plot, the use of props, costume and staging.

For this month, students will be looking at characterisation. They will explore how voice, body language and facial expressions are used to create different characters. They will be taking part in various exercises in which they demonstrate their ability and the use of constructive criticism between peers will evaluate their progression.

Assessment for this term will take the form of completion of a written exam, which will outline the students understanding of what constitutes theatre. A practical piece will be performed and filmed where the students can show off their creativity and understanding of relevant drama techniques.

### **Departmental Contact Details:**

Miss Natasha            [Natasha.h@albasmaschool.ae](mailto:Natasha.h@albasmaschool.ae)

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