



PUTTING THE FUN BACK  
INTO LEARNING!

Dear Parents and Guardians

Welcome to the Drama Studies Curriculum Guide,

This term the drama students will start a new context for their studies called 'Boy'. Boy is an autobiography written by the famous author Roald Dahl. After the successful completion of our Theatre through time scheme of work all the learners now feel more confident during their performances and know so much more.

### **Grade 3**

This term Grade 3 are learning about morals and values in the Drama room and outside the classroom. We are doing role plays and acting techniques that help them to develop their bodies, voices and faces. We will also look at body language and interpreting drama for performance purposes. The Grade 3's are fortunate to have a subject like Drama where they can have fun and learn simultaneously. Values like trust, integrity, respect and honesty will be imbedded and understood by the end of the month.

### **Grade 4**

Grade four are going to learn about improvisation, all the tips and techniques that make up for lack of time and rehearsal. Improvisation is a fantastic base for many other drama principles and activities. Improvisation helps with thinking on your feet, creativity and collaboration, everything the 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills consist of. Furthermore we will deal with theatre etiquette and the history of acting. Different types of stages and characters will be investigated by the children and applied to their own performances.

### **Grade 5**

This term Grade five are going to explore the art of scriptwriting and learn about the actors tools. The unit actors' tools revolve around using what your body has naturally. We are going to strengthen the voice, mind and body and learn how to prepare for any performance, whether it is a speech or less formal social communication. The notion of identity and confidence will be the foundation we build on as we explore and expand our knowledge of the relevance of drama.

### **Grade 6**

Grade 6 will be exploring the differences between autobiography and biography. They will read extracts from Boy and take a step down memory lane to re-call and re-create some of their first memories of school, the challenges they have faced and achievements they have accomplished in their lives. Grade 6 will be expected to include explorative strategies such as thought tracking and narration within their devised pieces and understand what a stimulus is and how to use it within performance.

## **Grade 7**

This term Grade 7 will be investigating how to form a debate and what language will be appropriate when conducting a formal argument. They will be working in groups to run their own debate and given relevant topics such as 'should students be allowed to eat unhealthy foods at school' and 'should students wear school uniform'. The students will be encouraged to use eye contact, persuasive language and projected voices to succeed in this challenge.

## **Grade 8**

Grade 8 will be analysing how language creates character. They will be reading extracts from Boy such as 'The Bicycle and the Sweet-shop' and analysing how Dahl uses highly detailed and descriptive language to create extravagant characters such as Mrs Prachett. They will be expected to use their imaginations and using clues from the text draw the characters appearances. Practically, Grade 8 will be re-creating scenes from the extract using their facial expressions and bodies to recreate and develop characterisation.

## **Grade 9**

Last term the GCSE class investigated the art of performing in small and big groups. They learnt more about the origin of Drama, how it developed and led to what we know today. This term we will dig even deeper as we come to terms with 20<sup>th</sup> Century Drama and analyse a wide variety of plays and intentions. We are now starting to prepare for the G10 year that awaits us and they will get more self-study and research to do about the classwork. Devised theatre, directing and designing for theatre will be prominent topics in the new scheme of work and thus is it important to stay up to date with the work and not be absent from school.

### **Departmental Contact Details:**

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Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries, we will do our best to respond as quickly as possible.

Thank you for your ongoing support,

Miss Natasha Horn & Miss Ronelle Markgraaff