



PUTTING THE FUN BACK
INTO LEARNING!

Dear Parents and Guardians

Welcome to the Drama Studies Curriculum Guide,

Last term the drama students looked broadly at what theatre is and the elements required to make a good actor. They have now learnt techniques such as characterisation, still images, the use of props and working as an ensemble. The main focus last term was to build the students' confidence and their ability to collaborate successfully as part of a trusted ensemble. This skill set of collaboration, communication and self-confidence all link with the ADEK Student Core Competency Framework and will assist them in becoming 21st Century Learners. It was a very successful term and we look forward to even more growth in term 2.

Grade 3

The aim of December and the beginning of January for Grade 3 will be to perform a class song linking with book week. We will also look at Disney drama to analyse and investigate famous characters in films. All drama elements and principles will be incorporated into this unit. As a class the students will be exploring what qualities make a good actor such as communication, verbal characterisation and the use of the body. They will take part in various other practical tasks and learn to observe others and copy movements precisely.

Grade 3 will be introduced to constructive criticism and how to evaluate their own/peer work to help them improve every week within lesson.

Grade 4

In December and January the Grade 4s will focus on the importance of the actor as well as drama across the world. The students will specifically be concentrating on the link between their own work and fiction as seen on television and in theatres. The students will participate in tasks such as creating believable dialogue and will stage numerous class performances where they have a chance to practice their voice and body work.

Grade 4 will be creating and conducting their own cooking show to stay aware of the impact of vocal and body emotion-based performances. This promotes correct theatre practice.

Grade 5

The aim of December and January for Grade 5 will be to investigate the skill of collaboration. The students will work together in groups to present numerous cultural tasks from across the world. The students will have to think critically and contribute creatively to succeed in the tasks that await them. This term is filled with fun activities that present opportunities to grow and develop as young actors. The topic of global drama and performance links to what we covered last term. The students are writing dialogue, performing in small and big groups and they are reflecting on each other's work.

The Grade 5's are also going to dig into the art of theatre and classroom etiquette and learn the behind the scene responsibilities of drama. We look forward to seeing what great work the children will come up with in term 2.

Grade 6

The aim of January for Grade 6 will be to concentrate on the explorative strategy of narration. The students will be defining and identifying differences between various narrators and how to act the part. By means of group discussions each student will be participating in tasks such as 'thought tracking' and performing scenes from well-known films like Hunger Games and Harry Potter.

Grade 6 will develop their narration skills further by using dialogue prompts and cue cards to develop creative scenes and dialogue for performance. Big group activities will be experimented with.

Grade 7

In January, Grade 7 are broadening their previous knowledge of the explorative strategy of thought-tracking. They will analyse various scenarios and prompts to answer questions concerning the three unities of drama. Practically, the Grade 7's will be working in groups to create and perform a piece of theatre to the class, with a main focus on character differentiation. They will have to work as an ensemble and use their bodies to represent and recreate well known stories.

Grade 7 will be evaluating and practising constructive criticism among themselves and peers which will develop positive practice for future lessons. Brainstorming will be a main focus for the month, as students teach each other to think critically.

Grade 8

This month Grade 8 are still investigating the importance of realistic theatre. The students will look at theatre practitioner Konstantin Stanislavski and the preparation for naturalism and believable acting. Practically, grade 8 will be creating and performing naturalistic theatre to their peers where they will be required to evaluate their own performances to help focus on improvements within performance. Designing and directing for theatre tasks will also be covered.

The students will develop plot charts for short stories and discuss the difference between linear, cyclic and episodic structures.

Grade 9

Last term the Grade 9s explored the art of directing, devising and acting. These three aspects of drama will continue to be the focus point into January as is required at IGCSE level. They will further their knowledge of drama techniques and the process of play making.

The students develop quickly and their knowledge grows rapidly. During the next phase of learning we will look at A. Boal and the well-known 'forum theatre' (community theatre) he has used to influence the world. A fieldtrip awaits the group at the end of January in Dubai and we look forward to seeing the impact of this on their performance assessments.

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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,
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