



1 March 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Enrichment Wider Opportunity in Drama

The Drama Department are running a performance project with Highly Sprung Theatre Company. We are inviting Year 9 students interested in GCSE Drama to participate.

The Physical Fellowship Festival challenges young performers to engage in an intensive devising process, over two artist residency days in school with Highly Sprung artists. The NLS group will create a 20 minute piece of thought provoking and inspiring physical performance to showcase their talents linked to the theme; this year's festival's theme will be POWER.

It will be an excellent opportunity to experience live theatre whilst developing an understanding of the drama strategies that students will learn and apply throughout their Drama course.

On **Thursday 13 June and Friday 14 June** students will spend two days working with a Highly Sprung Director towards a performance piece. The artist will offer practical insights into the devising process and physical theatre techniques to develop performance material. Students will need to wear their PE kit for these workshops and bring a bottle of water. Tutor Time, break and lunchtime will be timetabled as normal. **Students will then be expected to commit to extra weekly rehearsals to continue rehearsing the performance in preparation for the performance.**

The performers will then spend a day at the Belgrade Theatre in Coventry on **Thursday 4 July** where students will be involved in all day workshops with professional theatre companies during the morning. Students will have a technical rehearsal in the afternoon followed by a dress rehearsal in preparation for a public performance in the main theatre at the Belgrade in conjunction with other local secondary schools and the Highly Sprung Performance Company.

A minibus will transport the group to the Theatre on **Thursday 4 July** for the Physical Fellowship Workshops and technical rehearsal. Students will need to wear appropriate loose clothing for the all-day practical workshop and bring a packed lunch and a dinner for the workshop, rehearsal and performance. Students will be required to stay at the theatre after the technical rehearsal until the evening performance has finished. You will need to make the necessary arrangements to collect your child from the Belgrade Theatre after the performance, which will finish at approximately 9.15pm.

This opportunity has been subsidised by the Drama Department but there is a contribution of £33.00 towards the cost of the event. Payment and permission is required via ParentPay (www.parentpay.com) by Friday 24 May. Refunds are not possible if students are unable to participate.

Students will be expected to behave appropriately at all times and attend the extra rehearsals in order to retain their place in the performance.

Places are limited and will be offered on a first come first served basis.

Thank you for your support.

Debby Hill
Performance Faculty Leader, Subject Leader Drama