



LEAP®

School of Performing Arts

Newsletter

March 2019

Important information

Can you believe we are half way through the year! This newsletter is designed to be a one stop shop for the events and key diary dates during the forthcoming term.

Term Dates for the Summer and Spring Term

Spring Term

Monday 25th February

Last class Sat 6th April

Summer Term

Sat 27th April

Saturday 25th May

Half term

Monday 3rd June

Classes finish Sat 20th July

LEAP Teachers

Over the past few years LEAP has strengthened its teaching talent. We now have a broad range of talents and strengths to pass onto the students as all our teachers take a more participative approach over the classes we offer.

Please see the indicative teaching structure below

LEAP Principal

Mrs. Gutteridge — Drama / Dance Teacher and Musical Theatre **part time cover all classes**. LAMDA tuition

Senior LEAP Teacher

Miss Gibson – Musical Theatre / Tuesday Drama Cls / Private Singing Teacher. LAMDA Tuition

LEAP Leader

Miss Stally -Musical Theatre / Dance teacher. Monday & Wednesday Drama Teacher. LAMDA Tuition

LEAP Associate

Mr Mackriell – Musical Theatre / Drama Teacher/ LAMDA tuition

LEAP Student Teacher

Katherine Marks – Drama. / Dance/ Musical Theatre

Safeguarding / collection

Please can I ask that all queries or concerns come directly to LEAP at mail@leap-performingarts.co.uk or phone/ text 07896 048841. **Please can all contact, and mail be made directly to LEAP staff.** If you are running more than 10 minutes late, you must leave a message or text the LEAP phone on 07896 048841 even if we do not pick up we will check all messages at the end of every class then we can reassure the children that they will be collected as soon as possible.

Yr 1, 2 and 3 Weekday Drama Pupils who attend The Downley School

The Downley School day finishes at 3:15pm with LEAP classes commencing at 3:30pm, LEAP teachers will continue to voluntarily chaperone children at the end of the day until their class starts at 3:30pm. A LEAP member of Staff will collect the pupils from their class teachers at the playground classroom door and escort them across the playground through the back gates to Chiltern Wood School to avoid car parks and vehicles.

Please can pupils who attend extra clubs at The Downley School and those who attend afterschool club also let leaders know if you are walking over to Chiltern Wood for LEAP classes.

Collection and Drop off

Please can all parents use the furthest car park by the Chiltern Wood School Swimming pool for collection and drop off.

Please can all **YR 1,2,3, 4, 5, 9 & 10, 11 plus pupils** be dropped off and collected at the side hall doors and parents congregate outside these doors or on the patio area by the

Swimming Pool before and after LEAP classes. Please look out for LEAP signs. There are regular meetings still taking place in the building at the end of the day and would like to avoid as much disruption as possible.

Please can **YR 6 pupils** be dropped off at side hall doors and parents congregate outside these doors or on the patio area by the Swimming Pool before their LEAP class but be collected at the Main School Entrance at the End of Class

Please can **Yr 7, 8&9 and Saturday Musical Theatre pupils enter** and leave via the Main School Entrance at Chiltern Wood School.



LEAP Trophies

Your LEAP teacher selects a different pupil

each class week to receive one of our special trophy awards. Trophies are awarded for: **Positive Steps** – for trying hard and having an excellent attitude to learning.

Achievement – doing something really, really well.

Friendship – doing something special for others.

The Arts – for achieving well in music, dance or drama.

Pupils will take these home for one week and return them the following lesson, allowing another pupil an opportunity to achieve this. **If the Trophy is damaged, we would greatly appreciate you trying to super glue it back together again. If you are unable to do so a**

replacement charge of £10 will be required.

Our aim is for every child in the class to receive the trophy throughout the year and to do this will require the trophy to be returned weekly.

SUMMER TERM

Your child automatically has a place in their LEAP class for the Summer Term. I do hope that the majority of the pupils will be returning. Please can you let me know as soon as possible (if not already done so) if this is **not** the case by the **31st March** when fees are due, so those on the waiting lists can be notified.

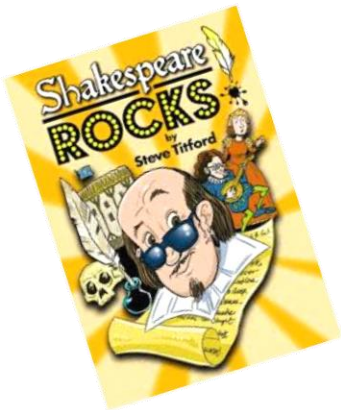
Please find attached payment details for the Summer Term.

LEAP Showcases 2019

LEAP's Drama and Musical Theatre showcases 2019

As you are aware LEAP's focus this year has been on technique and pupils are given the opportunity to perform in small showcases.

Cressex Community School is the venue for LEAP's individual show cases this summer. The school hall turns into a stunning theatre space, with a stage and tiered seating for 336. All of this space is equipped with the latest sound



and lighting technology to enhance productions.

Please note that tickets are now on sale, all you have to do is email your tickets requests or see your LEAP teacher at the end of a class and tickets will be issued to pupils during their next LEAP class once payment is made via bank transfer, cash or cheque (cheques payable to LEAP). All tickets are priced at £7. Please note that young children must have their own seats – we regret that children under 3 years are not allowed.

Please advise in advance if you require disabled access.

Shows consisting of more than one year group requires quality rehearsal time and planning. Therefore, it is important that pupils are given the opportunity to work together to

finalise the show as they have only been working on their individual section in class time. If students are unable to attend **any** of the rehearsals, **it is crucial that you contact me as soon as possible.** The extra rehearsal is very important as we are planning to run through the show as much as possible. Costumes will be required for these days to ensure the costume changes are viable. Nearly all costumes have been provided by LEAP, unless your LEAP teacher has contacted you separately.

IMPORTANT

Pupils will be registered at the main entrance. They must arrive in full costume, hair neatly tied back and provided with a snack. Please make sure that they have plenty of water to drink.

Performances

Shakespeare Rocks

LEAP DRAMA CLASSES Yr 5,6,7

The Show will take place on **Friday 29th March 7pm**

(On the day of the show pupils will be required to bring a packed tea)

The time table for rehearsals is as follows:

Wednesday 13th March Yr 5,6, 7 – 4:45 – 7:15pm at Chiltern Wood School.

Wednesday 27th March YR 5,6, 7 – 4:45 – 7:15pm at Chiltern Wood School.

Friday 29th March – show – pupils will arrive at Cressex Community School for 4:30pm

I do appreciate that yr 7 pupils may be slightly delayed getting to rehearsals due to school coaches.

Sleeping Beauty's Dream

LEAP DRAMA CLASSES 1,2,3 & 4

The Show will take place on **Sunday May 5th at 12:30pm**

(on the day of the show pupils will be snakes and water)

The time table for rehearsals is as follows:

Tuesday 26th March Yr. 1,2,3 &4 3:30pm -5:45pm at Chiltern Wood School.

Tuesday 30th April Yr1, 2, 3 & 4 - 3:30pm – 5:45pm at Chiltern Wood School



Sun 5th May – show - pupils will arrive at Cressex Community School for 10am

The Terrible Fate of Humpty Dumpty

LEAP DRAMA CLASSES 8&9

The Show will take place on Sunday May 5th at 4pm

Monday 29th April 5:45pm – 8pm at Chiltern Wood School

Sun 5th May – show - pupils will arrive at Cressex Community School for 1:30pm

LEAP DRAMA CLASSES 10 plus

The Show is pencilled in for Saturday 13th July at 4pm

Tuesday 29th June, 2nd Jul, 9th July All Yr 10 plus pupils from 6pm-8pm (covers snow days) at Chiltern Wood School

Saturday 13th July – show - pupils will arrive at Cressex Community School for 2pm.

Costumes for Showcases Drama Classes Yr 1-7

Nearly all the costumes are being provided for these showcases for this performance by LEAP. However, there may be a few items we would be most grateful if you could provide – these will be very basic. Please look out for a letter which will be handed out in class.

Musical Theatre Showcase

Musical Theater Showcase All Musial Theatre Saturday CLASSES

The Show will take place on Saturday 13th July at 1pm

The time table for the up and coming rehearsals is as follows:

From Sat 8th & 15th June –all pupils will be required from 9:45am – 12:45

From Sat 22nd June – Sat 6th July – all pupils will be required from 9:45am-1:45pm (cover snow day lost 5th Feb) at Chiltern Wood School.

Saturday 13th July – show - pupils will arrive at Cressex Community School for 10am.



Extra Opportunities for LEAP students (repeated from October newsletter)



ARTS AWARD

Arts Award to LEAP – optional 2018/19 Bronze and Silver only.

The Aim of the Arts Award is to support young people who want to deepen their engagement with the arts, build creative and leadership skills, and to achieve a national qualification.

Through Arts Award at our five levels, children and young people aged 7-25 can explore any art forms including performing arts, visual arts, literature, media and multimedia. The award builds confidence, helps young people to enjoy cultural activities, and prepares them for further education or employment.

Arts Award is managed by Trinity College London in association with Arts Council England working with 10 regional Bridge organisations. Since its launch in 2005, the award has grown quickly and is now flourishing in arts centers.

If you're ready to develop new experiences in the arts and media, doing a Bronze Arts Award is perfect for you – this will be aimed at pupils in year 6/7/8 – and they can achieve a Level 1 national qualification.

They will attend events, research their heroes and share passions with others.

Employers, universities and colleges recognise that Arts Award is a qualification that shows your level of commitment and progress in the arts, and in developing new skills

Doing Bronze Award means they will:

- take part in an arts activity, anything from dance to creative writing to beat boxing
- go to an arts event of your choice
- find their arts hero or heroine, research their story, and discover how they got to where they are today
- share their skills by helping to run a workshop or by giving a demonstration to others

They will build a portfolio of your ideas and activities in their own personal style and format. They might make a folder or sketchbook, a video diary or website - it's up to them. The Bronze Award will usually take you about 40 hours to complete.

Challenge yourself and build your creativity

Through **Silver Arts Award**, pupils will develop their arts skills, lead activities in the art form of their choice and achieve a Level 2 qualification - this will be aimed at pupils in year 8/9/10/11 or 7 if previous obtained their Bronze award.

Like all Arts Awards, the Silver Award is flexible enough to fit into their existing studies or other commitments, but in-depth enough for them to achieve a qualification.

Their success will show colleges and employers that you've made real progress in their art form, improved their understanding of the arts and developed arts leadership skills.

To achieve a Silver Arts Award, they will complete two units:

Arts practice – complete a challenge they have set yourself within their chosen art form, and explore arts events and arts opportunities within their community

Arts leadership – plan, deliver and review their arts project

They can create their own portfolio to gain the Silver Award. Pick their own style and format – diary style, video, online, slide show presentation, or something different altogether, if appropriate.

More information about the Arts Award will be given to the pupils in the Autumn Term.

Please note that an extra fee will apply to gain this qualification.

LAMDA

LAMDA EXAMS

Aimed at Drama Classes 5,6,7,8,9,10 plus and Intermediate / Senior Musical Theatre

As many of you know LAMDA is an extra-curricular activity that benchmarks students ability, providing independent professional accreditations.

This year participation is on a first come first serve basis to ensure LEAP's own technique based learning syllabus can be met. We have listened to the feedback and recognise that our own lessons had become too biased towards LAMDA, which is not why this option was made available.

If you wish to continue LAMDA based learning, please read on carefully to ensure you don't miss out. But first lets remind ourselves all about Lamda.

The London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA) is one of the oldest drama schools in the United Kingdom. Founded in 1861, it quickly established itself as a centre of excellence in performance training. LAMDA has provided theatre and the world of film and television with generation upon generation of first-class actors and expertly-trained stage managers across the world.

work towards their LAMDA exams this academic year ranging from Grade 2 to Gold Medal Acting or Musical Theatre syllabuses.

As an extra to LEAP classes, pupils in the above classes must opt-in to work towards their LAMDA exams this academic year ranging from Grade 2 to Gold Medal Acting or Musical Theatre syllabuses.

Pupils interested in opting in LAMDA Examinations must read the booklet attached and complete the forms at the back of the pack and return to your LEAP class teacher.

Local News, opportunities and Auditions

AUDITIONS 9-21 YEARS OLD

Following on from the hugely successful production of Oklahoma! Wycombe Swan Summer Youth Project is delighted to continue the presentation of big classic musicals for this Summer.

Guys and Dolls is hailed as one of the greatest musicals of all time. A timeless New York tale of gamblers, petty crooks, nightclub singers, as well as strait-laced missionaries, will delight and beguile you. The dice are rolled as these colourful characters pursue love and luck from the heart of Time's Square to the sizzling clubs of Cuba. Will Lady Luck be on their side?

As an extra to LEAP classes, pupils in the above classes must opt-in to

Guys and Dolls has it all - glamour, fun, romance, dazzling dance numbers, stunning costumes and some of the greatest show tunes ever including *Luck be a Lady*, *Sit Down You're Rockin'* *The Boat*, *I've Never Been In Love Before* and *Take Back Your Mink*.

Spend your summer on our stage!

Apply to audition for our cast or for a backstage and technical interview

Auditions and Technical Interviews	Sun 12 May 2019
Rehearsal Dates	Sun 11 - Sat 24 August 2019
Performance Dates	Thu 22 - Sat 24 August 2019

Our stage performers have the opportunity to work with a highly skilled creative team including a professional Theatre Director, Choreographer, Musical Director, Musicians & Technical team to

create a major musical on our main stage. Summer Youth Project is an inclusive and collaborative company that work with people who can respect each other, learn from each other and work together to create excellence.

Please find AUDITION PACK attached for those interested. However, note that you will need to apply online through the The Wycombe Swan website. www.wycombeswan.co.uk

Get involved Summer Youth Project.

LEAP Theatre Trips



Outing –Dinosaur World Live

Wednesday 17th April 11:30am To Drama Class Pupils Yr. 1 -Yr 5 and Junior Musical Theatre pupils

LEAP is delighted to announce an outing to see Dinosaur World Live

Dare to experience the dangers and delights of Dinosaur World Live in this roarsome interactive show for all the family.

Grab your compass and join our intrepid explorer across uncharted territories to discover a pre-historic world of astonishing (and remarkably life-like) dinosaurs. Meet a host of impressive creatures, including every child's favourite flesh-eating giant, the Tyrannosaurus Rex, a Triceratops, Giraffatitan, Microraptor and Segnosaurus!

A special meet and greet after the show offers all our brave explorers the chance to make a new dinosaur friend.

Don't miss this entertaining and mind-expanding Jurassic adventure, live on stage. Book now before tickets become extinct!

Playing at The Wycombe Swan Theatre I have secured 10 seats at a discount rate of £10 each (normally £14). Pupils will meet at the theatre

entrance at 11:10am – collection 12:45pm.

Requests will be on a first come first served basis and payment must be made by 17th March 2019

Once signed in, a staff member of LEAP will chaperone students until the drop off time.

All pupils are to wear their LEAP uniforms and if permitted, may bring sufficient funds to purchase refreshments and/or programmes.



Outing –Avenue Q

Wednesday 24th July 7:30pm To Drama Class Pupils Yr. 10 plus and Senior Musical Theatre pupils

LEAP is delighted to announce an outing to see Avenue Q.

Fantasies come true - the hilarious and multi-award-winning **Avenue Q** is back!

Following a smash-hit run in 2014-2015, the fur-lariously laugh-out-loud musical is back by popular demand.

Catch-up with all your favourite (and unforgettable) characters on a downtown New York street trying to make sense of life's burning issues – like what do you do with a BA in English? How do you find your

purpose? And is the internet really just for.... nevermind.

Missed all the fuzz last time round? Don't let your life suck – book now!

Created by **Jeff Marx** and **Robert Lopez** (Co-creator of *Book of Mormon*).

From the producers of *Footloose*, *Flashdance* and *American Idiot*.

– this is a show for an older audience!!

Playing at Aylesbury Waterside Theatre I have secured 10 seats at a discount rate of £20 each (normally £32).

A minibus will be booked to collect the students from Downley and return. Timings and cost for travel to be confirmed nearer the time. (approx. £12)

Requests will be on a first come first served basis and payment must be made by 1st May 2019

Once signed in, a staff member of LEAP will chaperone students until the drop off time.

All pupils are to wear their LEAP uniforms and if permitted, may bring sufficient funds to purchase refreshments and/or programmes.

INTERESTED IN THESE TRIPS?

Interested in these trips? – see your LEAP teacher at the end of a class session, e-mail at mail@leap-performingarts.co.uk or call 07896 048841 (please leave a message so that we can get back to you the same day).

