



LEAP[©]

School of Performing Arts

Newsletter

April 2017

Important information

Term Dates for the Summer Term

2017

Summer Term

Tuesday 18th
April

Saturday 27th May

Half term

Monday 5th
June

Saturday 15th July

Sign -up for Autumn Term classes

We cannot believe how quickly the academic year is flying by!

Sign-up sheets for the Autumn Term 2017 will be on display at the school entrance at the beginning and end of LEAP classes from **Saturday 3rd June till Saturday 17th June 2017.**

If any pupil are not returning please tick the correct column on the sheet, simply so those on the waiting lists can be notified as soon as possible for available places. Once sheets have been ticked, details, fees and dates for the Autumn Term will be sent out.

The boxes on the Sheets will state:

***Returning 2017/18**

***Will not be returning 2017/18**

***Wish to transfer to**

Class (for those wishing to try Musical Theatre Yr3 up or MT pupils wishing to transfer to Drama or even attend both classes)

Please see class times for Sep 2017/18 – highlighted may possibly alter slightly (to confirm after half term)

Year 1 Mon 3:30-4:15pm

Year 2 Wed 3:30 – 4:15pm

Year 3 Tue 3:30-4:30pm

Year 4 Tue 4:45-5:45pm

Year 5 Mon 4:30-5:30pm

Year 6 Wed 4:30-5:45pm

Year 7 Wed 6-7:15pm

Year 8/9 Mon 5:45-7pm

Year 10 / 11 Tue 6:00-7:15pm

Year 12 plus Tue 6:45 – 8pm (yes there is a cross over time with Yr10 / 11)

Musical Theatre timings

Junior Musical Theatre Sat 9:45am-12:45

Intermediate Musical Theatre Sat 10:45-1:45pm

Senior Musical Theatre Sat 9:45am-12:45

Please note that LEAP Classes will commence on **Saturday 16th Sep 2017**

LEAP UNIFORM

Please come to class in the appropriate uniform!

I am delighted that the majority of students are adhering to our dress code as explained on the web site and that uniform is worn to all classes. Our uniform is not only smart but is practical for its designed use.

It is important that all students are correctly dressed for all classes.

Longer hair must be tied back at all times

Uniform order forms can be downloaded off the website or from the LEAP board in the entrance to The Downley 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.

Acievement – doing something relly, really well.

Frendship – doing something special for others.

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

Pupils will take theses 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



LAMDA Exams

As many of you are aware the pupils in the week day drama class 5 to 13 and Intermediate / Senior Musical Theatre have been working on the LAMDA syllabus this year. I am delighted with each pupil's dedication and focus and feel they are all ready to take their LAMDA Acting exams. This exam is not compulsory but is a fantastic opportunity to further their drama and acting experience.

Please read attached letter for Exam cost, information and dates.

LAMDA exam dates applied for – **please note that these have been confirmed by LAMDA:**

12th July from 4pm

21st July from 3pm

31st July from 10am

10th Sep from 10am

17th Sep from 10am

If you wish your child to take their LAMDA exams, the exam will be held at The Downley School.

Please select a 1st and 2nd choice date that you wish to take your exam (if you also require an earlier or later slot please specify). If you are taking a combined or duet exam, please discuss with your partner which date you would like to select before notifying your teacher. If you are taking 2 exams ie: Acting and Musical theatre you are more than welcome to select different dates or have these on the same day.

How to book your exam:

1: select your 1st and 2nd choice date

2: if taking duet or combined exams confirm dates with your partner

3: either email, Mrs Gutteridge or sign up at your next lesson your exam preferences. Dates must be selected by Saturday 29th April 2017.

4: your exam date will be confirmed to you by Saturday 6th May 2017 and payment details emailed out.

Show Cases

LEAP's Drama and Musical Theatre showcases 2016/17

As many of you are aware, LEAP's focus this academic year is on technique and pupils are given the opportunity to perform in small showcases.

The Downley School is the venue for LEAP's individual show cases.

Please note that tickets on sale from Sat 6th May, 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 £5, LEAP Pupils £4. 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 your LEAP teacher as soon as possible.

The extra rehearsal is very important as we are planning to run through the show as much as possible.

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 uniform, hair neatly tied back and provided with a snack. Please make sure that they have plenty of water to drink.

Performances

Pirates Verses Mermaids

LEAP DRAMA CLASSES 1, 3&4

The Show will take place on **Wednesday 7th June**. There will be **two performances at 5pm and 7pm**.

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

The time table for rehearsals is as follows:

Tuesday 23rd May Yr. 1, 3, 4 - 3:30pm -5:30pm at The Downley School.

Tuesday 6th June Yr. 1, 3, 4 - in costume 3:30pm -5:30pm at The Downley School.

Wednesday 7th June– show - pupils will arrive at The Downley School for 4:15pm

IMPORTANT

As you can imagine productions of this scale will require quality rehearsal time and planning. Therefore, it is important that students are unable to attend these rehearsals and it is crucial that you contact me as soon as possible if holidays have already been booked.



PERFORMANCES CONTINUED

Musical Theatre Showcase

The Show will take place on **Saturday 15th July**.

There will be **two** performances at **12 noon** and **3pm**.

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

The time table for the up and coming rehearsals is as follows:
Saturday 17th June Junior/ Senior and Inter classes – 9:45am – 2pm at The Downley School.

Saturday 8th July Junior/ Senior and Inter classes – 9:45am – 4pm at The Downley School.

Saturday 15th July Junior/ Senior and Inter classes – 9:45am – till end of show

MUSICAL THEATRE CLASSES DOWNLEY DAY

LEAP's Musical Theatre classes will be performing a selection of Musical Theatre songs at Downley Day on **Saturday 17th June**.

Plan for Saturday 17th June:

Downley Day on Downley Common (fingers crossed no rain this year) Please can all pupils arrive at **9:45am** with hair and makeup done in neat LEAP uniform pupils will finish classes at **12:30pm** (please bring a pack lunch). We will walk over to the common to perform at **1:15pm** and then pupils will be escorted back to the school ready for collection.

MUSICAL THEATRE CLASSES DOWNLEY DAY

LEAP's Musical Theatre classes will be performing a selection of Musical Theatre songs at The Downley School Fayre on **Saturday 20th May**.

Plan for Saturday 20th May:

Downley School Fayre **Please can all pupils arrive for class at 12:30 this week – 3:30pm at Chiltern Wood School** (Maplewood school) with hair and makeup done in neat LEAP uniform. Pupils will finish classes at 3:30pm. Pupils will perform at the Downley school at **Approx 4pm** and will be finished for collection approx. 4:30pm. We do hope these timings are convenient as we were trying to avoid pupils having to come in for class in the morning, being collected and dropped back again for the fayre at a later time this year. The fayre starts at 4pm.

PLEASE NOTE: pupils who have singing lessons this day will be given new timings to fit into classes.

Showcases Yr. 7 Plus

I am aware that a lot of the pupils have school exams and LAMDA coming up and some pupils are absent in July from classes.

Therefore, performances for these year groups will be conformed depending on the development of the pieces and some may take place July 2017 or even will take part in Sep 2017 as the senior class did in Sep 2015 with Juvie giving the summer holidays to learn lines. Further information will be sent out after half term.

LEAP Dance

For the Summer term Miss Durrant will be running a DANCE audition technique class bi-weekly again on Wednesdays from 6:15-7:30pm

The classes are aimed at those who are serious and determined to pursue a career in the performing arts industry and want an insight into drama school audition days - a beneficial class. Our aim is to offer experience through mock auditions, intensive technical workshops and how to prepare for auditions. Guidance will be given on your audition material, how to present yourself and any areas you may need to develop further to give you the best possible chance of success.

What are these sessions about? To succeed in Musical Theatre / Even some Drama courses you need to be a 'triple threat'. Whether is dance your weaker discipline or strongest, you need to be ready. The aim of this 6-week course is to give you the skills necessary to strengthen your dance audition technique for either musical theatre courses, university courses or professional casting auditions or just improve your technique.

Students are stretched and challenged. The course is limited to places to ensure participants receive detailed feedback.

Dates: 10th May, 24th May, 7th June
21st June, 5th July

HOW TO JOIN

Places are still available if you are interested – just contact your LEAP teacher.

Auditions

Wycombe Swan Summer Youth Project is delighted to announce their next production will be *Legally Blonde*, the fabulously fun musical based on the hit movie of the same name. *Legally Blonde the Musical* follows the transformation of Elle Woods, accompanied by her Chihuahua Bruiser, as she tackles stereotypes, snobbery and scandal in pursuit of her dreams. Ready to revamp her image, Elle goes where no Delta Nu sorority girl has gone before: Harvard Law School!

Join them to celebrate the talent of the local youth of Buckinghamshire and beyond in this musical extravaganza that proves that being yourself never goes out of style.

The verdict? This much fun shouldn't be legal!

AUDITIONS - They're looking for aspiring young performers and technicians aged 9 -21 to audition to be the cast and crew of our Summer

Youth Project *Legally Blonde*. Working with a professional creative team this will be the theatrical experience of a lifetime. If you have the passion, desire and commitment to be part of our project then download an audition and technical pack from the website.

You must be 9-21 years of age on or before Sat 22 July 2017 to be eligible for this Project.



Audition Date Sun 23 April 10am

Rehearsal Dates Sat 22 July -
Wed 2 August

Performance Dates Thu 3 - Sat 5
August

And finally,...

This newsletter has been packed with information about forthcoming events and activities – which I feel clearly demonstrates LEAP's commitment to developing its pupils and maximising their opportunities. As we look forward to an exciting term, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the pupils, parents and staff that make LEAP what it is