

ASPIRE

NEWS 2022

10 MAY 2022

FROM THE DESK OF THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

It's been a fantastic start to Term 2 rehearsals with our cast getting stuck into a massive amount of new material. The story will continue to evolve a little, but we are pretty much working with our final script now so any questions you have about it or concerns please let me know. This is our story, and we all have a part to play in making sure it's told in the best way possible!

It was wonderful to see our vocalists and stage band come together for the first time last week. In the coming weeks there will be a lot of cross over of ensembles as we get sections of the production ready for performance. When we put these large cast sections together there may be some standing around as we figure out where best to place everyone. Please be patient at these times, not everything works perfectly first time, in fact that never happens. So, there may well be some chopping and changing, be ready to make notes about entry and exit points, whereabouts on the set you are standing, when you stand/sit/react to things. You can then go over this information at home, remembering movement is exactly the same as learning lines. It doesn't happen straight away, and you need to go over this in your own time to ensure it's in your head.

Finally keep challenging yourself each week. Stay committed and focused at rehearsals. Bring all your energy. If you've had a bad day at school, leave it at the door and throw yourself into doing something you love! When you practice something don't just mark it through give your all, practice performing! Essentially bring it! It will pay off when performance time comes!

Anna 😊



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE ENSEMBLES

DRAMA

Hi everyone, I wanted today to remind you about the stage of rehearsal.

The 9 Stages of Theatre Rehearsals

- The First Rehearsal. Auditions are over. ...
- The Early Learning Stages. It's the first few weeks of rehearsal and you're still in the honeymoon period. ...
- Momentary Amnesia. ...
- Turbulence. ...
- The First Glimpse. ...
- Bump In and Tech Rehearsals. ...
- Opening Night. ...
- Closing Night.

When you look at the stages above, you need to decide where you are sitting currently. At first rehearsing is fun and new and exciting, but as the challenge builds up and things get busy, it can become a little demanding and difficult.

I want you to work hard and maintain your commitment if you feel challenged. We still have so much to learn – lines, choreography, songs, blocking and about our characters. After each rehearsal I want you to quiz yourself about what you learnt this rehearsal. Please write what you learnt in teams each week so that I know you are making progress in your understanding of theatre.

I would suspect in a few more weeks, you may hit the turbulence stage. This is when things feel a bit out of control, and you are struggling to maintain your effort. Dig deep and keep thinking about what you are learning. This will help you determine the purpose of each rehearsal. Remember it will soon be production week, the most exciting and dynamic week imaginable.

We invite you to ask any questions that you may have. Learn your lines! This must happen by week 4 when we will expect you all to be off script.

Looking forward to seeing you this week.

Lisa and Jay

ASPIRE

DANCE

Hi Dancers

Not much to report this week but PLEASE PRACTICE!

There is a whole lot more acting and singing coming into play from here on in so knowing your chore inside and out is vital!

Lauren and Montana

MUSIC

The Instrumental Ensemble have been working on lots of different songs this term. There is a lot of repertoire in this year's show, a few songs still to be started. The focus for the next couple of weeks will be refining and practising the repertoire received so far, aiming for a high-performance standard. The rhythm section have been focusing on their sound, ensuring their parts and overall sound blend well. Last week the band was joined by the vocalists for the first time. The music sounds amazing!

Please ensure you practise your music, playing along with the backing tracks that are available on our MSTeams site.

Jess and Chris

VOCAL

How exciting is it to see the show starting to come together?

Singing with the band and learning movement is challenging for us in the Vocal Ensemble, but it is a crucial part of the show. We all need to keep learning and extending ourselves as we get closer to production week.

Please continue to check in with our **TEAMS** channel and keep practising your lyrics, movements, dances as we embark on a rather challenging term of rehearsals.

Just a few things that we think describe the **VOCAL ENSEMBLE** ...

T: Talented

H: Hard-working

E: Energetic

C: Creative

O: Outstanding

S: Super

T: Tenacious

O: Obliging

F: Fabulous

W: Wonderful

I: Imaginative

S: Sensational

H: Happy

E: Excellent

S: Strong

Stay safe and healthy!

Jeanette and Lonnie

PS: A massive **CONGRATULATIONS** to **Macy** on winning her section of the ASPIRE Song Competition last week ... go Macy!

EXCITING AND IMPORTANT DATES/NEWS

PLEASE NOTE THESE DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

SCHOOL HOLIDAY REHEARSALS

Tuesday 12 July 2022 from 9.30 am – 4.00 pm at St Pius X High School, Adamstown

Wednesday 13 July 2022 from 9.30 am – 4.00 pm at St Pius X High School, Adamstown

Thursday 14 July 2022 from 9.30 am – 4.00 pm at St Pius X High School, Adamstown

Friday 15 July 2022 from 9.30 am – 4.00 pm at St Pius X High School, Adamstown

WEEKEND REHEARSALS

Sunday 17 July 2022 from 9.30 am – 4.00 pm St Pius X High School, Adamstown

Sunday 24 July 2022 from 8.30 am – 5.00 pm TBA

BUMP IN/BUMP OUT (DESIGN AND PRODUCTION ENSEMBLES ONLY)

Saturday 23 July 2022 at Civic Theatre Newcastle

Sunday 24 July 2022 at Civic Theatre Newcastle

PRODUCTION WEEK

Monday 25 July 2022 Technical Run 8.30 am – 5.00 pm at Civic Theatre, Newcastle

Tuesday 26 July 2022 Dress Rehearsal 8.30 am – 5.00 pm at Civic Theatre, Newcastle

Wednesday 27 July 2022 First Performance Call Time 9.30 am at Civic Theatre, Newcastle

Thursday 28 July 2022 Second Performance Call Time 9.30 am at Civic Theatre, Newcastle

Friday 29 July 2022 Third Performance Call Time 9.30 am at Civic Theatre, Newcastle

Friday 29 July 2022 Fourth Performance Call Time 5.30 pm at Civic Theatre, Newcastle

Saturday 30 July 2022 Final Performance Call Time 5.30 pm at Civic Theatre, Newcastle

ANNA RECOMMENDS

Jane Eyre by Shake&Stir Theatre Company on Saturday 14 May 2022 at 7.30 pm at the Civic Theatre Newcastle

The World of Musicals by Rokitz Entertainment on Monday 16 May 2022 at 7.30 pm at the Civic Theatre Newcastle

Nostalgia by the National College of Dance on Thursday 19 May 2022 at 6.30 pm at the Civic Theatre Newcastle

DESIGN

We are putting a call out to all our cast members to donate some items to our found object throne. Some suggestions include cutlery, sport equipment, old shoes, brooms, rakes, tools, old toys, old instruments, etc. These objects will be painted black and become part of our set, so please ensure you are happy to say goodbye to these items.

The design crew have been working hard on the beginning stages of our throne, we have started with a donated peacock chair, and some donations of cricket bats, a pool cue, and a tennis racket, all painted black.

The girls have also been working on creating head pieces for all of our dancers, this has become a trial-and-error process, to ensure it works and is secure for the stage. As well as this we have been putting together our costume for our character and also helping our costume designer Lauren with her creating.

We had a visit from our set designer Lisa to help us stay on track with all our set pieces. We are keeping very busy and know that the show will be here in no time!

Lara and Jen

