

ASPIRE

NEWS 2023

4 APRIL 2023

FROM THE DESK OF THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

It's the holidays and what a term it's been. Congratulations to our cast on working so hard this term and giving so much to the production. We are so excited to start pulling it together next week. Our vocalists sang with the band last week for the first time and it was really exciting to hear.

The script will be placed in teams over the break, please give it a read and send any thoughts or questions you might have through. A printed copy will be given to everyone next term. I had hoped this would happen this week but there are still changes to make so I'd rather wait.

Your ensemble directors will advise you what to work on over the break. Please make sure you do practice and go over what you have learnt, learn lines and lyrics and basically think about Aspire stuff over the break. When we come back we will be working across ensembles more and there will be lots of retain so it's important you consolidate what you have been given so far.

Finally, tickets go on sale Monday 17 April 2023 – which is really exciting. Please talk about the show and encourage your family and friends to come along. Having a full audience is such a thrilling experience and it's all of our responsibilities to try and get as many people along to see it as possible!

Have a lovely Easter!!!

Anna 😊



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE ENSEMBLES

DRAMA

Firstly, this week I would like to thank all members of the ensemble for their hard work in auditioning for the roles in this year's show. It is exciting to see how eager you all are to have the script and to begin learning your lines.

For many of you this may be the first time that you have had to learn lines. There is no "better" way or "guaranteed" way to do this. It will vary from individual to individual and will be influenced by the way that you like to learn. I do best by making a recording of the dialogue, preferably with the person or persons that are in that scene. Initially I listen to the dialogue and then begin to join in. When I feel ready, I can stop the dialogue before my turn comes, see if I can say it, before checking it by continuing on. This is really helpful because it ensures that I know when to say the lines by knowing what comes before and after. Many people make that mistake of learning their lines but once learnt they have no idea when to say them. This isn't very effective and so learning the before lines is critical.

There are many free apps out there for learning lines so check them out in the holidays and begin the task. Below I have included some suggestions from Theatrefolk.

1. The tried-and-true basic technique — have a friend or family member read out your cue lines and recite your lines out loud back to them.
2. Copy out your lines, by hand, on paper. Then try writing them out from memory.
3. Write out the first letter of each line onto a piece of paper. For example, if your line is "Let's get something to drink," write L G S T D. Read the paper and say your actual line out loud to fit the letters.
4. Write your cue line on an index card, with your line on the other side of the card. Have a friend or family member quiz you.
5. Draw a comic strip of your lines. For example, if your line is "Let's get something to drink," you might draw a stick figure walking into the saloon and ordering a drink.
6. Record yourself saying your lines with a recording device and listen to them while doing other things.
7. Record yourself saying your CUE lines and leave blank spaces for you to say your lines out loud in between them.
8. Stand up and move while you read your script (preferably doing your blocking), rather than sitting or lying down passively.
9. Write your lines on Post-it notes and stick them to your mirror so you can read them while you do other things, like brush your teeth.

[Theatrefolk - The Drama Teacher Resource Company](#)

Lisa and Anastasia

ASPIRE

DANCE

Ahoy Dancers!

Well, the holidays are upon us....eek!

Please don't let the whole 2 weeks go by without any practice! You have all the videos to practice with but also take time to focus on what YOUR body is doing and what steps may need more attention.

Any of those acrobatic style movements, practice in a safe setting and get them into your muscle memory.

Thanks for a wonderful term!

Happy Easter!

Lauren and Montana

INSTRUMENTAL

Hope we've all found our feet within the band! Our sound is starting to come together now, which is fantastic as next term we will be playing with the other ensembles a lot more.

As always, please bring a pencil to each rehearsal, and come with your music prepared. Coming up on the holidays we should all have more time to practice, so make sure you're using the edit tracks on Teams.

Have a great holiday!

Jess, Chris, and Samantha

VOCAL

Congratulations on a brilliant Term 1 Vocal Ensemble! We are so impressed with the standard of this group - we are making beautiful sounds and having a ball while we're at it!

As we roll into holidays, please keep the following on mind:

1. As ASPIRE veterans know, in term 2 we hit the ground running! Staging, choreography and acting takes up a lot of our brain space so it is crucial vocalists are totally across all our repertoire when we come back - this means practice!! Nothing too strenuous, just make sure you are singing and memorising lyrics throughout the hols (multitasking is a beautiful thing people!)
2. Vocal health is so important so please look after yourselves and your instrument - always stay hydrated, avoid putting unnecessary pressure on you or voice (talking too much or too loudly...no surprises that Lonnie struggles with this!) You know your body and your instrument best so stay in tune with yourself and take care <3
3. Have a beautiful, peaceful and musical Easter break with your families.

Rest up and get ready for a fantastic Term 2!

Jess, Asha, and Lonnie

DESIGN

These past weeks we have been continuing experimenting with different dyes, we've been mixing up different shades of red, pink, and purple. Which crew will be which?

We have been working on designing different flags for the crews, looking at different symbols and their meaning. We have digitalised our designs and are working together to decide what works best, we are also collaborating with Anna on this.

We are almost at our break, and we want everyone to have a creative reset, ready to get back to work next term!

Lara and Jen

EXCITING AND IMPORTANT DATES/NEWS

ANNA RECOMMENDS

The Life of Pi presented by Civic Theatre Newcastle and National Theatre Live at the Civic Theatre Newcastle on Wednesday 5 April 2023 at 7.00 pm

The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe presented by Young People's Theatre Newcastle Inc at the Young People's Theatre on Tuesday 11 April 2023 at 11.00 am and 2.00 pm, Wednesday 12 April 2023 at 11.00 am and 7.00 pm, Thursday 13 April 2023 at 11.00 am and 2.00 pm, Friday 14 April 2023 at 11.00 am and 2.00 pm, Saturday 15 April 2023 at 2.00 pm and 7.00 pm, Friday 21 April 2023 at 11.00 am and 2.00 pm, Saturday 22 April 2023 at 2.00 pm and 7.00 pm and Saturday 29 April 2023 at 2.00 pm and 7.00 pm

Cirque Mother Africa presented by Rokitz Entertainment at the Civic Theatre Newcastle on Thursday 13 April 2023 at 7.30 pm

The Wedding Singer presented by Hunter Drama at the Civic Playhouse Newcastle on Friday 14 April 2023 at 7.30 pm, Saturday 15 April 2023 at 2.00 pm and 7.30 pm, Sunday 16 April 2023 at 2.00 pm, Wednesday 19 April 2023 at 7.30 pm, Friday 21 April 2023 at 7.30 pm and Saturday 22 April 2023 at 2.00 pm and 7.30 pm

