

August 2017

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to those students that are new to this class, welcome back to those returning to a new term and the beginning of our academic year. We hope you all had a great summer and have returned with bundles of enthusiasm, energy and creative ideas to get this term off to a great start!

This is a Creative class that is process driven and combines the principles of performance as acquired through Creative Drama with Singing and Dance. These classes include strong elements that are shared with the Creative Drama programme and augment those skills with movement, dance and singing.

Though there is an element of performance skills, the **main aims are to build confidence and develop basic musical theatre skills in a 'process' driven environment.**

Each term is themed with a scheme of work written to explore the focus for that term. Subject matter for each class is drawn from generic children's stories and children's books, rather than from specific shows, and songs and dances are drawn from a broad resource - shows, or from popular music or from whatever genre or area best suits the teaching objective. It is an exploration of the narrative, the characters and themes taken from these stories which are brought to life through creative drama, music, movement, song and dance in a fun and interactive manner.

It is important to note that the course is distinctly different from Pop Stars as it has a strong drama element. The belief in the creative drama, forms the basis for *all* performance work whether it be song, dance or acting. The students develop acting skills by building a deep belief in who they are when playing characters, this belief is then taken into the singing and dance elements of the course.

On very odd occasions, students may be encouraged to practice something at home, if they have been given something to do, then they will be given a CD, song sheets and link to video. Please help them with this if this is the case. However, this is not often the case as the class is process driven not performance driven.

This term we are exploring the theme of **Fairy Tales**, taking classic tales, bringing to life these stories through drama and looking at all songs fairytale related. Our 'Open' Class, where you can come in and see a small aspect of what we do in class, is in our Week 13, **20<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> November 2017**- Please understand this is NOT a performance, or a presentation, as we are not working on material to practice, prepare and perfect for a presentation. In the 'Open' Class you will see some aspects of the class, the kind of exercises and activities we get up to on a weekly basis and these are not aimed for a spectator or audience. The aim of the open class is to give you a glimpse of what goes on, not a practiced or rehearsed presentation

This class this term, is to be lead by **Lucy Calvert** along with a team of teachers that will be involved in this course throughout the year, all bringing their differing skills, techniques, qualities and specialized training. The team includes: Lucy Calvert, Izzy Walker, Megan Chng and is overseen by Alison Tompkins & Peter Hodgson joint Co founders & Directors of Centre Stage

If you have any questions regarding your child, the course or in general, please don't hesitate to contact your teacher on 67327211 Or [info@centre-stage.com](mailto:info@centre-stage.com) & for East Coast Classes 64496211 & [east@centre-stage.com](mailto:east@centre-stage.com)

Please also like our two facebook groups and ask to join our closed group to see photos and videos regularly posted of what we do in class.

Best wishes,

The Centre Stage Team

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