

Fame Production Update!
Parent & Student Communication – 15th February 2021

Dear Parents & Students,

Happy Chinese Lunar New Year!

As restrictions have recently been lifted slightly, we wanted to let you know that we have now been able to make a provisional Theatre booking for the weekend of 5th & 6th June 2021 in an outside venue and this is an exciting step forward. However, although this has been done, there are still certain guidelines and restrictions that are still in place, which may still prevent us from performing in this venue and to a live audience.

1: We still have to apply for approval for this production to have a live audience. If we don't receive this then we will look to video the production in a different venue, abiding by current guidelines.

2: The seat numbers in the Theatre, have to be limited to a maximum of 50 per performance. We traditionally do two performances on the Sunday. Even if we add in one extra performance to make three shows, it still leaves us with a total audience of only 150, which might make the whole project simply not viable financially in an outside venue, when we take in to consideration the cost to hire the venue for three days, Theatre Technicians/Manpower costs, Set, Costume etc.

Even if we were to raise the ticket price, it would need to be raised considerably more, well above the normal we would charge, in order to make it possible. We could ask you the parents to be prepared to pay more than usual for the ticket price, but this would still no where near cover our costs. The options available to us, are to increase ticket cost and:

- a. Approach the National Arts Council to see if they can help fill the short fall from limited ticket numbers – we are awaiting back for an answer on this
- b. Ask the Theatre to help discount any of their costs - we are awaiting back for an answer on this
- c. We crowd fund.

We are not arts funded and never make money on any of our productions, but we usually aim to at least try to cover our costs, and although we generally don't, we understand the value is in the experience for the students and therefore CS absorbs the inevitable shortfall every time. However, this time, with such limitations on ticket numbers/prices, this year, that shortfall is looking too large without some sort of help. If anyone has any fantastic ideas other than above, to add to this, do let us know and we will be very happy to listen! 😊

3: We still have limits on the numbers of how many performers can sing, the number of unmasked performers, safe distances etc – so the direction and performances, will need to work around these restrictions safely, especially in all chorus/group numbers. This will undoubtedly effect the direction and choreography and In turn the overall performance aesthetically. We will of course do what we can, within these restrictions, we will adapt, change and be as creative as possible with what we do, in order to remain within the strict guidelines and aim for the best we can. However, if we end up performing this production, it will no doubt be different in many ways from in 'normal times'! 😊

So we will continue to work towards the production and keep you updated with our progress as and when things change. And we are hopeful for a positive outcome.

As always, we thank you for your understanding on this and your continual support.

Very Best wishes,

Ali & Pete