

30 March 2015

Dear Parent/Carer/Family Member

**Year 11 Drama GCSE Examination including Y8 Interval – Thursday 30 April 2015**

Thank you for your interest in our Year 11 GCSE Drama examination, which is being performed to the GCSE examiner this evening. Mr Coe, Head of Drama, has chosen to give the opportunity to Year 8 students to perform a short piece during the interval too.

It has come to my attention that students and parents who have purchased tickets, who are not related to the Year 11 GCSE performers, or the Year 8 performers, have not received a letter informing them about the content of the various Drama pieces.

It is important to inform you that the second GCSE Drama performance, due to start at 7.45pm, '12 Years a Slave', is focused on the Black Slave Trade during the 1800s and does contain racist language, and scenes of abuse. Mr Coe's intention for the performance has been to create a piece that authentically explores this time period and this has provided a suitably challenging drama opportunity for the students involved. If you are concerned about this in any way, you may choose to leave after the Year 8 interval performance.

The first GCSE Drama performance, due to start at 6.30pm, 'Woman in Black' contains supernatural themes and elements of strong suspense. It is for parents, as with the '12 Years a Slave' piece, to decide whether the content is suitable for younger students, particularly if parents were planning to bring along younger siblings of secondary age.

Finally, the Year 8 interval performance is based around 'The Everything Sketch', a piece of physical theatre that explores issues of good and evil, and it is only right you are aware of this.

Due to the subject matter and content, the plays are definitely not suitable for children younger than Year 7, and it is for parents to decide whether the GCSE content is suitable for their children of secondary age. This has been made clear from the outset to parents of the individual performers, but it was an oversight not to fully inform other ticket purchasers also, for which I apologise.

If you have any concerns about the performances, you are of course entitled to ask for a refund.

Yours sincerely



Andrew Wappat  
Principal