

ARTICULATE!

Welcome to The Courtyard's education newsletter: **ARTICULATE!**
In this newsletter you'll find information on our forthcoming productions and a review of Herefordshire's first Roald Dahl Week!

POETRY IN MOTION 2010

This term we are working with *Ledbury Poetry Festival* to celebrate the poetic talents within the county with our project **POETRY IN MOTION**. The concept is a very simple one where we ask young people, of all ages, to send us their poem (maximum 75 words) to enter into the competition. The successful ones will then be displayed on First buses around the county as well as a chance for the successful entries to read their poem as part of this year's festival!

The theme this year is *4 Seasons in Herefordshire* and the style of poem is completely open. There will be four different age categories; 4-7, 8-10, 11-13, 14-16, 18+, to ensure the process is equal. Poems can be hand-written or typed with the name, age and school of the young person and sent electronically or by post.

We would like to invite all schools to take part in the project with a nominal fee of £25 per class (up to 30 pupils). If you are a Courtyard affiliated consortium school the fee is just £15 per class. You can enter as many classes as you wish, it would be fantastic to get the whole school to enter!

We will also publish the winning poems on our website, and if we are able to raise enough funds we hope to produce a publication for the winning poems from each category.

If you would like your school to participate in the project please email me at grant.brisland@courtyard.org.uk detailing which class years you'd like to enter. The deadline for poems is Friday 28 May. However, if you could email me the details of which year groups you are entering before that it would be very much appreciated.

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The Courtyard provides a space
for innovation, creativity and
participation for the whole
community

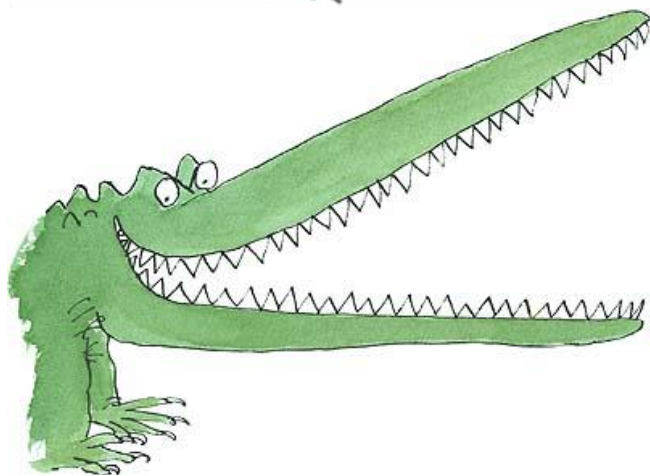
BOX OFFICE

01432 340 555

THE
COURTARD
HEREFORDSHIRE'S
CENTRE FOR THE ARTS



ROALD DAHL WEEK – FEBRUARY 2010



Herefordshire's first Roald Dahl Week was a huge success with 11 county primary schools taking part. Over 1300 young people participating in workshops led by David, Kate or Helen and all seemed to thoroughly enjoy their time.

Despite feeling exhausted at the end of the week, we all had an amazing time coming into the different schools and sharing our love of Dahl. Each school and every pupil grabbed the opportunity with both hands and demonstrated, once again, that drama is a fantastic tool to engage a whole class in literacy.

Some of the comments include:

“ACTIVITIES SHOWED CLEAR PROGRESSION ENABLING THE CHILDREN TO DEVELOP THROUGHOUT THE SESSION. GAVE ME AN OPPORTUNITY TO WATCH THE CHILDREN – REALLY INTERESTING TO SEE SOME “COME OUT OF THEIR SHELL”

“ALL OF KEY STAGE 2 BENEFITED IN ONE DAY. I HEARD CHILDREN AT LUNCH TIME FROM YEAR 6 & YEAR 4 TALKING ABOUT THE GREAT TIME THEY HAD THIS MORNING”

“ IT WAS FANTASTIC TO SEE ALL THE CHILDREN ENGAGED THROUGHOUT”

“SOMEBODY NEW ALWAYS EXCITES THE CHILDREN. THEY BRING A WEALTH OF SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE THAT WE DO NOT HAVE”

“ALL CHILDREN WERE ABLE TO ACCESS THE SESSION INCLUDING SEN CHILDREN”

“HAVING AN EXPERT IN DRAMA MEANS CHILDREN LEARN QUICKLY AND EFFECTIVELY”

Thankfully we had half term to recharge our batteries and start organising future events. David's now organising a Primary School Shakespeare Day in June and Kate is organising a Secondary School project for the summer. David will definitely be sending information out in the coming weeks, so look out for it soon.

I'm sure that this will become an annual event (with it perhaps being spread across a month for more schools to take part!), so do look out for more information on Roald Dahl Month 2011!

KS1 – CHRISTMAS SHOW

THE LIFE AND ADVENTURES OF SANTA CLAUS

Based on the book by L Frank Baum

This Christmas we have another treat for your KS1 classes. Pantomime can sometimes be a bit scary for the little ones, and, perhaps, a tad too long. We therefore have a smaller show in our Studio Theatre which is ideal for the teenie weenies.

Brought to us from The Big Wooden Horse Company, that bought us *The Night Before Christmas* in 2008, we have this magical festive adventure.

Follow the early life of Santa Claus, from being abandoned in the forest and adopted by the wood-nymphs, through to making the very first toys. Find out why we hang stockings, why he climbs down the chimney and meet the original reindeers, Glossie and Flossie, as well as the chilly rogue, Jack Frost.

The performance is just under an hour, so we'll get your classes back to school in time for the end of the day. To

Schedule:

| | | |
|-----------------------|------|-----|
| Tuesday 7 December | 10am | 1pm |
| Wednesday 8 December | 10am | 1pm |
| Thursday 9 December | 10am | 1pm |
| Friday 10 December | 10am | 1pm |
| Monday 13 December | 10am | 1pm |
| Tuesday 14 December | 10am | 1pm |
| Wednesday 15 December | 10am | 1pm |
| Thursday 16 December | 10am | 1pm |
| Friday 17 December | 10am | 1pm |

Schools £6

To reserve your tickets contact our Box Office on **01432 340 555**. You can reserve now and confirm numbers and pay nearer the time.

We'll also be offering workshops alongside this production and provide you with a teacher pack.



PANTOMIME - ALADDIN



After our most successful year for schools audiences we are already selling tickets for this year's production, ALADDIN. Over 5800 school tickets were sold for *Beauty and the Beast*, with many hailing it as our best pantomime to date. The same production team are now busily preparing this year's tale to bring another exciting performance to Herefordshire audiences.

We bring you this traditional story of Aladdin and his magical lamp, all your panto favourites are there - goodies, baddies, friendship, adventure, songs and dance - filled to the brim with jokes and laughter, all with a familiar Herefordshire twist.

Join Aladdin on an epic journey from China to the Middle East.

Can he defeat the evil Abanaza, and find his one true love?

Will Widow Twankey ever see her son again?

And what is so special about this mysterious lamp?

As usual there will be plenty of school matinees for you to book your classes into. However, year on year we are seeing an increase in schools bookings **so please do book early** to ensure that you get your preferred date.

The school performances are as follows:

| | |
|-----------------------|------------|
| Monday 29 November | 10am |
| Tuesday 30 November | 10am |
| Wednesday 1 December | 10am & 2pm |
| Thursday 2 December | 10am & 2pm |
| Friday 3 December | 1pm |
| Monday 6 December | 10am & 2pm |
| Tuesday 7 December | 10am & 2pm |
| Wednesday 8 December | 10am & 2pm |
| Thursday 9 December | 1:30pm |
| Friday 10 December | 1:30pm |
| Monday 13 December | 10am & 2pm |
| Tuesday 14 December | 10am & 2pm |
| Wednesday 15 December | 1:30pm |
| Thursday 16 December | 1:30pm |
| Friday 17 December | 1:30pm |
| Friday 7 January | 1:30pm |

Schools: £9 (£8 if you pay before October half term)

Images from *Beauty and the Beast* 2009/2010:



**TO BOOK YOUR TICKETS
CALL 01432 340 555**

CHARLIE & LOLA'S BEST BESTEST PLAY



Watershed Productions present the BBC Worldwide and Polka Theatre production of

Charlie and Lola's Best Bestest Play

based on the characters created by Lauren Child and adapted by Jonathan Lloyd

This autumn bring your very new reception class and Year 1 to see this gorgeous puppet production of the Charlie and Lola. With a teacher pack with exciting games and activities this production will be a great way to start your term. There are only 2 school performances so we advise that you book as soon as bookings open on Monday 17 May at 10am.

I have this little sister Lola.

She is small and very funny...

Don't miss everyone's favourite brother and sister, Charlie and Lola, in their extremely ever so wonderful stage show! The stars of the hit BBC TV series and books by Lauren Child are brought to life by a magical mix of puppets and music.

2-D and 3-D worlds mingle in this new play, adapted from some of the freshest and funniest episodes....Will Lola ever tidy her messy room? Will Charlie get Lola to sleep, even though she is not sleepy and will not go to bed?

Charlie and Lola's Best Bestest Play is ideal for ages 3+ and lasts around an hour without an interval.

Date: Friday 24 September

Times: 10am & 1pm

Schools: £7

"There are some lovely touches that neither the page nor TV could match. It is a gentle little show, pitched just right for its target audience, but is not afraid to play with the liveness of theatre, too. An ideal early theatre experience."

The Guardian

TO BOOK YOUR TICKETS ON
MONDAY 17 MAY
CALL OUR BOX OFFICE ON
01432 340555