

A LOOK BACK AT THE LAST ACADEMIC YEAR

2009/10 was a fantastic year for us in The Courtyard Education Team. It was our first full year as a new team and we have initiated several new projects as well as building on the strength and success of previous ones co-ordinated by our predecessors.

A major highlight for us was our Education Conference in January. Looking at improving literacy using the arts proved to be a successful theme. With Michael Rosen headlining the day and 8 breakout sessions, with over 65 delegates, we hope that teachers from across Herefordshire and the surrounding regions (and Kent!) enjoyed their time here and felt empowered to take some of their new tools and implement back in the classroom. We're hoping to hold another conference next year with Pie Corbett looking at the 'Talk for Writing' strategy with another children's author to headline the day with Pie. More information will follow before half term.

"THE MAJORITY WAS INCREDIBLY INSPIRATIONAL AND I FEEL I WANT TO GO STRAIGHT BACK AND IMPLEMENT."



Another project that we have really enjoyed delivering is Shakespeare in the Primary Classroom. These sessions have been led by our Education Officer David Durant who has a passion for Shakespeare and making it accessible to young people. Feedback from these sessions has been really positive and has been a great way to kick-start a Shakespeare project or culminates one. An off-shoot from this was our very first Shakespeare Day, which was attended by 4 county primary schools. We were also very fortunate to work with Sir Derek Jacobi to create a DVD especially for Herefordshire schools attending the day.

"ALL ACTIVITIES WERE PRACTICAL AND ENJOYABLE. SESSIONS REALLY INCREASED THE CHILDREN'S UNDERSTANDING OF THE MAIN THEMES AND CHARACTERS."



Another significant and successful project has to be our Roald Dahl Week in February. Within 5 days we worked with over 1300 young people across the county looking at a wide range of Dahl's books. The feedback we received from teachers and their pupils was outstanding and we felt very privileged and honoured to work with them. Dahl's books continue to be children's favourites and we're pleased that we could all bring his books to life.

"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 OF THEM COME OUT OF THEIR SHELL!"



PRIMARY SCHOOLS BULLETIN

ARTICULATE!

Welcome to The Courtyard's education newsletter: **ARTICULATE!**
In this newsletter you'll find information on our forthcoming productions, projects and the exciting return of free transportation for schools to Courtyard events!

FREE TRANSPORT FOR SCHOOLS IS BACK!

The
Sylvia Short



EDUCATIONAL
CHARITY

We are pleased to announce that the Sylvia Short Trust have confirmed that they can support future funding for coaches for schools across the county.

This is fantastic news as we now hope that some school trips, that might not have been financially viable before, are more possible.

Over the coming months we have some exciting productions for your pupils and we hope that this funding will allow you to take the opportunity for your pupils to experience a different performance that you may not have risked before. Each production is picked for a particular purpose, either it fits in with literacy or the curriculum or because its artistic quality is worthy of a performance at The Courtyard.

To confirm funding is available follow these 6 simple steps:

1. Call/Email Grant Brisland to check availability.
2. If funding is available, gather a minimum of 3 quotes from Herefordshire-based coach companies.
3. Using the cheapest quote confirm with Grant the cost for accounting.
4. Confirm with the coach company your visit, highlighting with particular emphasis that they must invoice The Courtyard directly.
5. Come to The Courtyard and enjoy the performance.
6. Complete an evaluation form of the performance and for The Sylvia Short Educational Trust.

A completed evaluation form is an essential part of funding and without the funding may be withdrawn.



If you see this symbol in the newsletter, it denotes the availability of FREE TRANSPORT courtesy of The Sylvia Short Educational Trust

CONTACT US

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

BOX OFFICE
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THE
COURTYARD
HEREFORDSHIRE'S
CENTRE FOR THE ARTS



“THE PUPILS ENJOYED THE PERFORMANCE THOROUGHLY, IT INSPIRED MANY TO WANT TO DANCE!”

“THE INTERACTIVE MATINEE IS PERFECT FOR THE CHILDREN TO GET INVOLVED AND UNDERSTAND THE PROCESS OF CHOREOGRAPHING A PIECE. THEY REALLY ENJOYED MEETING AND WORKING WITH THE DANCERS”



National Dance Company of Wales (formerly Diversions) are returning to The Courtyard this autumn with an Interactive Matinee ideal for Year 5 & 6 pupils. The evening performances are only suitable for secondary age pupils, but the company are still committed to providing dance and educational workshops for primary schools across the country.

The Interactive Matinee is a fun and interesting introduction to Contemporary Dance. Your pupils as audience members have the opportunity to volunteer to take part in class and rehearsals on-stage with the professional company dancers.

The show includes a selection of stunning work from their current repertoire and an opportunity to ask the dancers questions after the show. They've had some fabulous questions from curious children ranging from "why has that man got a ponytail?" to "how much money do you earn?" For the more reserved pupils who aren't brave enough to venture on stage there is even a chance to join in simple movements while seated in the theatre.

National Dance Company Wales' Interactive Matinees are lively, open and relaxed. National Dance Company Wales have received great feedback from teachers and pupils from primaries and special schools who have attended these matinees which are specially designed with a young and excitable schools audience in mind.

If you are booking to see the Interactive Matinee and would like to receive an Education Pack from NDCWales with extra background information please email or call their Participation Team on 029 2063 5612 or participation@ndcwales.co.uk.

Date: Friday 1 October

Time: 1:00pm

Schools: £5

Free Coaches Available!



Courtesy of Sylvia Short Educational Trust we are able to provide coaches for National Dance Company's Interactive Matinee. If you would like more information please contact Grant Brisland on 01432 346535.

TO BOOK YOUR TICKETS
CALL OUR BOX OFFICE ON
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In partnership with Herefordshire Council's Learning Team, we are delighted to invite you to the re-branded annual Arts Supermarket as the bigger and better Creative Learning Market Place. Creative Learning is now considered a fundamental approach for successful learning, confidence building and enjoyment. Most children excel when exploring creativity in all forms and encourages them to become active learners. The Creative Learning Market Place is an opportunity for creative practitioners, primarily from Herefordshire, to promote themselves and their services to you. This event will also be the launch of the Moves to Succeed Toolkit; a successful project working with young people over the last academic year with 2Faced Dance Company.

The Creative Learning Market Place will take over the ground floor of The Courtyard on Tuesday 28 September between 2pm and 5pm. Practitioners will hold interactive stands for you to experience firsthand their skills and for the first time will include expert outdoor practitioners. If you are able to bring any of your pupils along, they'd be welcome too.

There are no fees to come along, just turn up and meet our creative practitioners!

If you would like more information please contact Grant Brisland on 01432 346535 or Annie Millen on 01432 383658



THE COURTYARD EDUCATION BROCHURE

If you are interested in having a Courtyard practitioner come into your school, but you're not quite sure what project or area of the curriculum they could help you deliver please contact Grant Brisland on 01432 343535 and he can send you one of our new education brochures.

In it you'll find detailed projects such as:

- Exploring Fairytales
- Developing Literacy through Drama
- Shakespeare in the Primary Classroom
- Stories from Other Cultures
- Physical and Devised Theatre
- History through Drama
- Bringing Your Book to Life
- Shadow Puppetry



It's a really exciting, user-friendly, document, which highlights the key learning objective of each project as well as examples of workshop structures.

If there is a project that you want us to deliver and tailor-make but is not within the pack, it doesn't mean that we can't deliver it, we just need to devise it together.

For more information on current projects please visit our website:

WWW.COURTYARD.ORG.UK/EDUCATION

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 ages 3 -7.

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.

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

Free Coaches Available!

Courtesy of Sylvia Short Educational Trust we are able to provide coaches for this production. If you would like more information please contact Grant Brisland on 01432 346535.

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.



We know that saving energy in Herefordshire Schools matters. How? Because 95% of our schools are registered as an Eco School. That makes Herefordshire the third highest in the country!

To celebrate this incredible achievement and to raise the standard even higher, this autumn we are co-ordinating our every own **ENERGY SUPERHEROES WEEK**.

This is to tie in with a county-wide campaign, h.Energy, which aims to raise awareness on what we can all do to save our world.

Your pupils will take facts and figures to come up with solutions on what they can do to save energy. For example did you know that by taking showers rather than baths we would save enough water every week to make 1,000 cups of tea!

Using these incredible facts your pupils will practically demonstrate what we can all do to save our planet and will resonate far better than a television programme as we take on an active learning role with your pupils.

If you are interested in taking part, the workshops will be available between Monday 11 and Friday 15 October. It is most suited to Key Stage 2 pupils and the material the pupils devise could be performed to the whole school as an assembly.

The cost of the workshop will be £110 half day or £200 for a full day. If you are part of Herefordshire's Arts Education Consortium you can use this as part of your free allocation.

For more information or to book your workshop contact Grant Brisland on 01432 346535 or grant.brisland@courtyard.org.uk



IF EVERYONE IN THE UK
TURNED APPLIANCES OFF
AND AVOIDED USING
STANDBY, WE WOULD
SAVE ENOUGH
ELECTRICITY TO POWER 2.7
MILLION HOMES FOR A
YEAR

IF WE ALL TURNED THE
THERMOSTAT DOWN BY
ONE DEGREE WE COULD
SAVE ENOUGH ENERGY TO
HEAT 1.7 MILLION
HOUSEHOLDS FOR A YEAR

IF WE ALL TURNED OFF
LIGHTS WHEN NOT NEEDED,
WE COULD SAVE ENOUGH
MONEY TO PAY THE
WAGES OF 10,000 NEW
TEACHERS



KS1 - 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 you can.

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

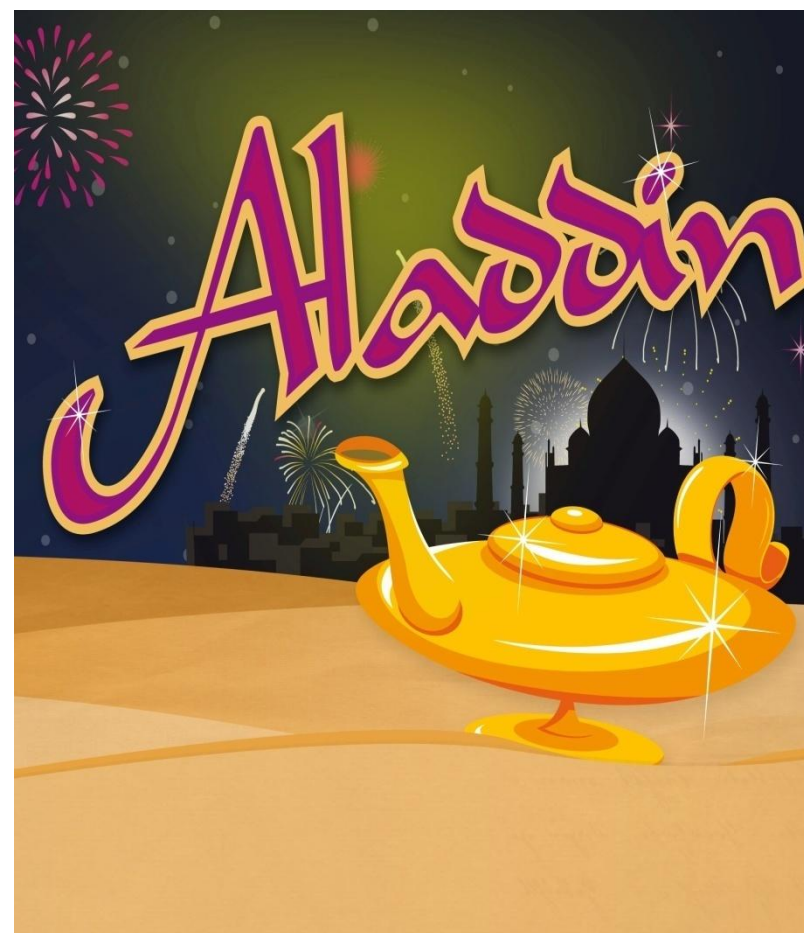


"There are some lovely touches that neither the page nor TV could match. It is a gentle little show, pitched just right for its target audience, but is not afraid to play with the liveness of theatre, too. An ideal early theatre experience."

The Guardian

TO BOOK YOUR TICKETS CALL
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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 busy 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 Abanazar, 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)

TO BOOK YOUR TICKETS
CALL 01432 340 555

Images from Beauty and the Beast 2009/2010:

