



NEWS

Greetings

You will probably be reading this following the Easter Festivities so allow me to take this opportunity – on behalf of Ellie, Georgina, Gill, Rose and myself – to wish you a Happy Easter. A great deal to tell you this time round, so without further ado.....

NEW MEMBERS - FIRST FOUR SESSIONS FREE

The New Members Incentive Scheme, launched in January 2009, has proved popular. If you know of anyone with a child who may be interested in becoming a Member ask them (the Parent, not the child) to give us a ring. We are offering a Taster Session and the First Four Sessions **FREE**. Naturally there are Terms and Conditions attached.

MORNING COMPANY SHOWCASE 2009

The Morning Company Showcase took place on **Saturday 28 March 2008**. Later than intended due to circumstances beyond our control. The Company had put together the structure and content over the last few months and ably supported by monologues from the PM Company's Max, Steph, Nicole, Adam and Sarah, an excellent afternoons entertainment was had by all!

SUMMER PRODUCTION

After a great deal of thought and consideration a decision has been taken to present an adaptation of George Orwell's **Animal Farm** as the Summer Production. The show will be presented at The Black Box on **Saturday 04 July 2009** as the first joint Companies production since True Colours in 2005. Animal Farm will see The Black Box transformed into a theatre venue for the first time – more than the rehearsal space you usually see it as. This production will be re worked as Theatre School's second trip to the Buxton Fringe Festival (see below).

SESSION DATES - IMPORTANT

The needs of the production will also see a minor 'tweak' in the Theatre School Session Calendar to facilitate rehearsals as well as the Buxton performances.

Both Companies will be needed from **1pm until 5pm** for the dress rehearsal, then from **6.30 to 9pm** on **Saturday 04 July 2009** for the performance at 7pm

Thus the Saturday 04 July Morning Session will now be 2 – 5pm and the Saturday 11 July Morning Session will now be 6.30 – 9pm on Saturday 04 July 2009

Please note, to allow Black Box staff and additional crew members a break all Members must be collected on time and off the premises between 5 and 6.30pm on the 04 July 2009.

BUXTON FRINGE FESTIVAL

A reworked version of the Saturday 04 July performance of Animal Farm will be taken to Buxton, without Morning Company Members, we have added an additional re rehearsal date to the Sessions Calendar for Afternoon Company Members only. This will be **Friday 10 July from 6–9pm** More details about Buxton will be with you accordingly but please, we would love to see you there! Even if your child is not in the production. It's a lovely place and would make a great day out

OPEN EVENING and AWARDS NIGHT

As we always try to close the year with a distinct 'all-inclusive' celebration we have taken the decision that the **Open Evening / Awards Evening** will take place immediately following the performance of Animal Farm at The Black Box on Saturday 04 July 2009. The annual event gives Member's Parent / Guardian the opportunity to ask any questions and for Black Box to inform you of improvements or developments. It will also see the awarding of Most Developed Person (one in each group) Student's Student and the coveted Most Promising Performer plaques.

OTHER STUFF

RESTART

Following the Easter break Theatre School resumes on **Saturday 25 April**

I've been asked to mention that all Afternoon Company Members be off-script!

STAFF

You've probably read the name 'Georgina' in the introductory paragraph (on the left of this column) and thought 'Georgina? Who's Georgina?' Well, Georgina Mason will be with Black Box until the end of May on an eight week placement from Birmingham School of Acting. She has already visited the company as a guest, in February, and was so impressed she wanted to come back

INVOICED FEES

Fees for the third final term of 2008 – 09 are now due and we would respectfully ask that they are met no later than Saturday 04 May 2009. Chasing late payment is embarrassing and not part of the Membership terms and conditions agreed to.

In addition, we have had little alternative but to increase the surcharge for Debit card payments from 70p to £1. Our apologies....

IT'S YOUR NEWSLETTER

We continue to invite information for inclusion from Members.

So come on, if you have a relevant activity, achievement, even a cartoon! – Please let your Theatre School Leader have details and we will consider it for inclusion.

Plus for the first time you can read this newsletter on-line. See the website!

"Tis an agreeable read!"