

Responsibility**Respect****Compassion****Courage**

18th May 2026

Dear Parents and Year 6 children,

We are thrilled to announce auditions for 'Ye-Ha!' our upcoming school musical! This is a fantastic opportunity for our talented children to shine on stage, showcasing their skills in acting, singing and dancing. This is always a fantastic experience and privilege for the Year 6 children to perform at a professional theatre. We encourage all interested children to audition!

This opportunity directly aligns with the Key Stage 2 English curriculum, which emphasises the importance of speaking and listening in various contexts, including performing and presenting. In Year 6, 'pupils' confidence, enjoyment and mastery of language should be extended through public speaking, performance and debate.' This opportunity also supports the Key Stage 2 Music curriculum, which states 'children should perform in solo and ensemble contexts, using their voices with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression.' The development of these performance skills also supports broader educational goals, building confidence, teamwork, and creative expression.

Please note that the auditions will be held during school time on **Thursday, 21st May**.

To help prepare, we wanted to share the criteria we will be using during the audition process:

Audition Criteria:

We will be looking for children who demonstrate enthusiasm and potential in the following areas:

- **Acting:**

1. **Character Voice:** Speaking clearly, understanding lines, and using voice to portray character.
2. **Using Your Body:** Showing feelings through facial expressions and body language, moving appropriately on stage, and listening/reacting to others.
3. **Imagination and Effort:** Believing in the character, trying your best, and following directions.

- **Singing:**

1. **Singing in Tune:** Matching notes and keeping with the music.
2. **Rhythm and Timing:** Singing to the beat and following the speed of the song.

3. **Expression and Enjoyment:** Showing the feeling of the song and having fun!
4. **Breath and Clarity:** Taking breaths appropriately and singing words clearly.

- **Dancing/Movement:**

1. **Following the Beat:** Moving in time with the music and keeping a rhythm.
2. **Energy and Fun:** Showing enthusiasm and putting energy into movements.

What to Prepare:

All children have been given a copy of the script. Please remind them to bring it in every day.

- **Acting:** Please be ready to read a short piece of dialogue or a few lines from the show.
- **Singing:** Please prepare the song from the show that we have stated for the character you are auditioning for. You can find the soundtrack for our musical available on both Spotify and YouTube. Please take some time to listen to the song and learn the melody and lyrics.
- **Dancing/Movement:** Please devise a piece of choreography for the first 1 min 15 secs of 'Texas hold 'em' (Beyonce, clean version). Please wear comfortable clothes and shoes that you can move in (like trainers or soft shoes).

A Note on Resilience and Casting:

Auditioning is a brave step, and we are proud of every child who steps onto the stage. However, with many talented children and a limited number of 'lead' roles, not everyone will get the specific part they hoped for.

We encourage the children to approach this with a 'growth mindset.' Being part of the ensemble or a supporting role is just as vital to the success of the show as being the lead. A professional production is like a clock; every single cog, no matter how small, is essential for it to work. If results aren't what you expected, remember:

- Every role matters: The energy of the ensemble is what makes a show successful.
- It's a learning curve: Every audition is practice for the future.
- Support your peers: Part of being a great performer is being a great teammate.

We will celebrate the courage of everyone who tries out, regardless of the final cast list.

Performance Dates:

Mark your calendars! Our production will take place on **Wednesday 8th July at Chequer Mead Theatre at 7pm**, East Grinstead. Details concerning how to obtain tickets will follow shortly.

We would be delighted if you could join us to support our young performers and enjoy what promises to be a wonderful show!

We are incredibly excited about this production and look forward to seeing the amazing talent our children have to offer at the auditions.

Many thanks for your continued support at this exciting time in Year 6.

Mrs McKnight and Mrs Ridgers

Year 6 Teachers