

8<sup>th</sup> September 2015

Dear Parents / Carers,

This coming term, Archibald will be participating in the Shakespeare Schools Festival 2015. This is a fantastic opportunity for us as a school and will involve a group of Year 4 children studying and performing a Shakespearian play to an audience at the Northern Stage.

Your child has been selected as a cast member in our production of 'Romeo and Juliet'. The play is an edited version, cut down to thirty minutes and we are performing at the Northern Stage as a part of the Festival along with three other local schools performing different plays. The play will be the literacy focus for this half term, with rehearsals taking place during the school day as part of the curriculum. The children involved will perform in their literacy group and not as a class.

Our performance date is **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November**. On this day, the children will attend the theatre in the afternoon for a dress rehearsal, and will need to remain there until the evening performance which will commence at 7pm and finish at approximately 10pm. Your child will need to be collected after the show from the theatre. This is a very exciting opportunity for the children, and as it will be the main focus for our literacy work this half term, **all** children are expected to attend. Further details regarding arrangements will be given nearer the time.

Shakespeare Schools Festival is an exciting opportunity for parents, friends, family and teachers of three or four different schools to come together and celebrate the achievements of their pupils. The children deserve the best possible audience to help celebrate their hard work and success. Tickets are already on sale from the box office at Northern Stage. As they are cheaper when purchased in bulk, and to ensure each child has the opportunity for a family member to attend, the school has purchased the maximum number of 60 (2 per child) to resell to parents at a cost of £7.50 each. Please log on to ParentPay to buy tickets at a reduced rate.

***Please note, if you wish to buy additional tickets, you will need to contact the booking office direct; these tickets will be at a slightly higher price of £10 each. You can buy tickets directly through the Northern Stage. Phone: 0191 230 5151 Website: <https://www.northernstage.co.uk/whats-on>***

We will be starting work on our play immediately, as there is a lot to do before the curtain goes up! If you envisage a problem with your child participating in this event, I would be grateful if you could let me know, in person, as soon as possible.

If you have any further questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards.

Mrs. S Graham