**CLOKS NEWSLETTER- SEPTEMBER 2024**

Welcome back everyone,

Welcome back everyone, I hope you all had a great summer and managed to enjoy a bit of sunshine.

We would like to offer a warm welcome to all of our new members, it’s lovely to see some new faces.

Rehearsals are going well and everyone is settling in and getting to know each other. We are all excited about our Christmas production and now that it has been cast we can get on with creating our show.

Just a reminder for everyone, please bring a sensible snack and drink (no sweets, gum or fizzy drinks) and wear clothes and shoes that are comfortable and easy to move around in.

On the reverse of this letter will be a schedule. If you would like to come earlier than your allotted time then that is fine, please just remember others will be rehearsing so please sit quietly and either watch or learn lines.

We will be performing in Combe St Nicholas Church on Friday 6th and Saturday 7th December (with a dress rehearsal on the 5th. Our final Saturday rehearsal on the 30th will also be in Combe Church).

It seems like a long time away but the weeks fly by at an alarming rate so it is vital that everyone attends as many rehearsals as possible. We don’t have much time to go back over things this term so a missed rehearsal means that people get behind. It also makes it tricky for those who are there. That said, I do understand that people do have to miss a week from time to time. If you cannot make a rehearsal then please contact me beforehand and let me know. You can do this by text/messenger on 07743238805 , via email at fareys@btinternet.com or by leaving a message on the CLOKS Facebook page.

**CARNIVAL**- Saturday 12th October 7.30pm-We have decided to give the Carnival a miss this year. We didn’t have enough CLOKS adults that could commit to being there on the night. The children’s safety and well being is our priority so we felt we couldn’t proceed this time around.On the plus side, it will give everyone a chance to watch this year and we will come back with a vengeance in 2025!

**CHANGE OF REHEARSAL VENUE- SATURDAY 12th OCTOBER-**For this one Saturday only we are de-camping to the upper room in the Guild Hall so that the children’s Carnival can use Crowshute. The times will be as per the schedule. Come to the Guild Hall lobby and someone will direct you to the upper room.

**CLOKS AGM**- Saturday 23rd November- 1pm –Crowshute House- ALL welcome. Please come along and find out a little more about CLOKS and what we have been up to behind the scenes over the last year. This is always very poorly attended so if you can spare half an hour please do come along. This is also a chance for you, as parents and carers, to put any questions and comments to the committee...

**CLOKS MOVIE NIGHT**- HOLYROOD MAIN SCHOOL HALL- THURSDAY 21st NOV 6.30pm-This is a chance for all cast (new and old), crew and helpers to watch a recording of our show. We will be serving drinks and popcorn in the interval. We are asking for a donation of £4 per child/adult that wants to attend.

**MINCE PIES AND RAFFLE PRIZES FOR THE CHRISTMAS SHOW-** As with previous years we are asking each family to donate one box of mince pies and a raffle prize for the Christmas show. These can be bought in from now and we will store them. Thank you.

**2024 SHOW- THE SOUND OF MUSIC**-For those of you who don;t already know, the Sound Of Music is our next main show. We are all very excited to be performing this popular and iconic piece. It really is one of the greats! The dates of performance are- Thursday 3rd July - Saturday 5thJuly- (in addition to our usual Saturdays there will be extra/dress rehearsals on- Sunday 22nd June,, Sunday 29th June, Tuesday 1st July and Wednesday 2nd July)

We will be holding an auditions/ workshop early in January. Audition pieces will be available before the Christmas show.

**CLOKS T SHIRTS/HOODIES**- If you would like to buy a t- shirt please talk to Jo. At the moment we are still using Barrons in Chard, but may be trying out a new supplier soon. We are also considering CLOKS hoodies as the winter months approach, if you are interested please give Jo (Dentler) your details. Prices will be available soon.We may also be launching our own brand of merchandise in the not too distant future to include tote bags.(if you would be interested in this or have any ideas for other items speak to Briana Yandle)

**FUND RAISING IDEAS-** With each show getting more and more expensive, we are having to up our fundraising . On average each show costs between £7000 and £9000 to put on. Our outgoings sadly outweigh our ticket sales so every year we make a loss. We need to raise some serious funds so that we can keep putting on these fabulous shows. If anyone has any ideas or would like to raise money on our behalf then please get in touch.

**TESCO BLUE TOKENS-** Something that did help us this year was winning the BLUE TOKEN scheme at Tesco, Chard. We were awarded £1500 which we have spent on radio mics for our performances. Thanks to everyone who supported us in this , your little blue circles really made a huge amount of difference to us!

**FEES**- A fees letter will be out shortly,detailing ways in which you can pay.. Unfortunately we have had to raise all of our prices slightly to cover rising costs, however, on a weekly basis the subs work out at £5 for a three hour session and this also includes extra dress rehearsals and show week. I hope you agree that it is still a very reasonable price.

**COLLECTING CHILDREN**- Unless you have given specific instructions for your child to be able to walk home, please can you come into the building to collect your child at the end of a rehearsal. With so many cars in the carpark it is not ideal for the children to be running around unsupervised.

Best Wishes from Maria and the CLOKS team X :)

**REHEARSAL SCHEDULE**

SAT 28th September- 9.30-10.00- Crows pages 5-8

 10-12.30- All needed

SAT 5th October- 9.30-10.00- Scene 1- Kay, Gerda, Granny, Snow Queen and Sprites

 10-12.30- all needed

SAT 12th October (**THE GUILD HALL,CHARD**) - 9.30- 10.00- Urchins/Crows for Snowman

 10.00- 12.30- All needed

SAT 19th October- 9.30-10.15- Hans, Sonja, Crispin, Cristina, Robbers pages 21-23

 10.15- 10.30- Gerda, Granny, Urchins and Crows-Scene 5

 10.30- 12,30- All needed

\*\*\*\*\*\*From the start of November various groups of children may be called in to try on costumes. We will tell the children the week before but will also put a message on Facebook.

If you havent got facebook and you want to double check please don’t hesitate to email or send me a message.\*\*\*\*\*\*

SAT 2nd November- 9.30- 10.30- Flower Witch, Flowers, Scarecrow, Gerda, Crows

 10.30- 12.30- ALl needed

SAT 9th November- 9.30- 10.00- Scene 3- Snow Queen, sprites, Kay

 10-12.30- All needed

SAT 16th November- 9.30- 10.30- Robbers, Gerda, Reindeer

 10.00- 12.30- ALL needed (costume fitting if not rehearsing

SAT 23rd November- 9.30-12,30- ALL needed

SAT 30th November- extended rehearsal COMBE ST NICHOLAS CHURCH 9.30-1.30pm

Please bring snacks and drinks and warm clothes as the church can get cold

THURSDAY 5th December- Dress rehearsal in the church- exact times tbc

FRIDAY -6th December- PERFORMANCE 1- arrival times tbc

SATURDAY 7th December- PERFORMANCE 2- arrival times tbc.

If you know that you will away or that you cannot attend ay of the above rehearsals please let me know as soon as possible.

 Thanks for your support

Maria and the CLOKS team.