

November 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian

**Re: Year 9 &10 Drama and Year 8 English Trip: *A Monster Calls* – Yvonne Arnaud Theatre**

The Drama and English departments are delighted to be able to offer students an amazing opportunity to see the acclaimed production of “*A Monster Calls*” at the Yvonne Arnaud Theatre, on **Tuesday 12th May 2020** at 7.30pm.

This trip will be enable students in Year 8 to appreciate the art of a live theatre performance of a novel they have been studying in lessons this term, and help them understand the novel itself. It is also open to students in Years 9 and 10 who are taking, or considering opting for, GCSE Drama; the trip will help students understand Component 1 of the GCSE, as part of which they will have to write about a live theatre review.

Patrick Ness’ powerful novel “*A Monster Calls*” is brought to stage in a powerful new adaptation by visionary director Sally Cookson. It is a fluid, ensemble and physical theatre piece, which relies on bodies, rather than sets, to tell a contemporary story, shot through with the magic of ancient myths.

We will travel by coach to and from the theatre, departing from school at 6.00pm in order to see the 7.30pm performance. Students must **meet in The Holt Café at 5.30pm**. We will arrive back at school at 11.00pm. We would appreciate it if parents could collect their daughters promptly from the bus stop opposite St Paul’s Church. Your daughter should bring a packed tea with her and eat before the trip departs, as there may not be time to obtain food once we have arrived at the theatre.

The tickets for this performance have been held for us at a reasonable price, however, we do need to secure them through payment as soon as possible. The total cost for the trip (which includes the theatre ticket and coach travel) will be **£24.00**. The deadline for payment is by **Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2020**. We have places for **120 students** to travel to the event. If the trip is oversubscribed, a ballot will be held to allocate places and a waiting list opened.

Payment for the trip needs to be made via WisePay; simply login to your WisePay account for details. If you need a reminder of your WisePay login please e-mail [n.hopkins@holt.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:n.hopkins@holt.wokingham.sch.uk). In the event of difficulties using this system, please telephone Mrs Simmons, the Deputy School Business Manager.

Payment for the trip will be deemed as your consent for your child to participate. However, **if the school receives Pupil Premium funding for your child**, then please give your consent here [Pupil Premium](#), and do not make a payment.

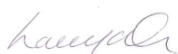
In cases of severe financial hardship, please contact Mrs Kennedy, Co-Headteacher, who may be able to put you in touch with agencies that could help or to discuss the situation.

Please check, and amend if necessary, the personal, medical and emergency contact details that we hold for your child using the SIMS Parent App. Please ensure this is always kept up to date.

Yours sincerely



Miss S Edwards  
Head of Drama



Ms L Mirza  
Second in English and KS3 Coordinator