

# NEWSLETTER no. 17

PQA - Cheltenham @ *Pates Grammar School*

## ***“The Ash Girl” by Timberlake Wertenberger***

Red Group’s Drama Showcase was held on February 05th in the Studio at Pates Grammar School. Despite some very nervous members of the Group(!) the show went extremely well, and everyone enjoyed the performance and did their absolute best. This meant that the play moved many parents to close to, or actual tears, which is an outstanding achievement for everyone. The play was deliberately chosen to be this challenging, it offered more than just a Christmas play feel despite being loosely based upon the traditional story of Cinderella. It offered firstly a real ensemble playing opportunity for our young cast, with a whole variety of at time quite complex characters. Additionally it offered the opportunity to experiment with movement and physical theatre both to create character and dramatic effect.

At times in rehearsal I am sure Red Group would happily admit it was hard work, and yet the production was worth the effort. They were a magnificent team on the day, and have learnt much they will always remember about team work and commitment. Sandra, Sharna and I were EXTREMELY proud of their show and simply want to say Well Done Everyone! Photos are dotted throughout the newsletter.

### **2011 TERM DATES FOR YOUR DIARY & IMPORTANT EVENTS**

#### ***Spring Term 2011***

***Jan 08th 2011 - April 16th 2011***

#### ***Thursday March 10th***

***Film Competition Final at The Houses  
Of Parliament!***

#### ***Easter Holidays***

***April 23rd 2011 & April 30th 2011***

#### ***Summer Term 2011***

***May 07th 2011 - July 30th 2011***

***Musical Theatre Showcase -  
Sunday June 12th***

***Summer Masterclass Week  
August 01st - 05th***



### **The Ash Girl” DVD & Photo’s available now...**

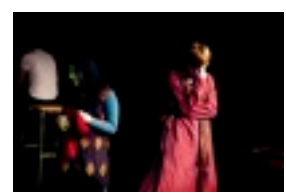
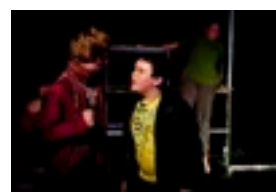
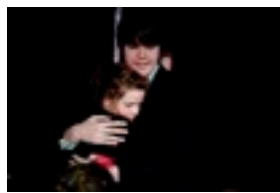
DVD’S of the performance of “The Ash Girl” with photos are available to purchase from me now. Whilst I do not wish to make a profit from these keepsakes equally I do need them to contribute towards the cost of the photographs and burning the DVD’s. Therefore they will be available for £5 upon request. I do not wish to burn more DVD’s than are required so if you would like a DVD of the performance or, a copy of the 200+ gorgeous photos too, please let me know by email asap.

## Red Group'S Film Competition - NATIONAL FINAL

### Thursday March 10th 2011!!!!

The National Final of the competition Lights Action Parliament is literally two weeks away as I write this newsletter to you all. The 5 students who created the film "Sophie" will be accompanying Vikki and I to London to find out whether they have a top spot in the winners group. We will have to be at The houses of Parliament by 10am so will be leaving Cheltenham by minibus very early on that particular day! We will be given a tour of The Houses of Parliament, followed by an introduction to Lord David Putnam (director of the iconic film Chariots of Fire). Lunch will be provided before we all gather to watch the films made by each of the teams in the winners group. After that the actual winners will be announced and we expect to be leaving about 3pm. I am quite sure that everyone wishes our Team Every possible good wish to do well on the day. As I won't be at the academy the Saturday prior to the final PLEASE PLEASE make sure to say Good Luck to the team of Hannah Davis, Jodie Adlam, Molly Heckford, Rob Tring and Jake Oldham during the course of the morning - and we hope to have great news for you on March 12th! Whatever the outcome however, both Vikki and I couldn't be more proud of all 3 teams that entered the competition and Red Group in General.

The winning team will receive prizes including a day at Pinewood studios, video equipment and cinema vouchers.



## GREEN GROUP SUCCESS AWAY FROM THE ACADEMY

### CAITLIN MARSHALL

#### AT THE YOUNG MUSICIAN OF THE YEAR COMPETITION



*Just to keep you informed of Caitlin's progress in The Young Musician of The Year a few weeks ago.*

*Caitlin competed against students who were a couple of years older than she is currently, and was highly commended for her playing. Despite not making it through to the next round of the competition, on this occasion Caitlin really enjoyed herself and will be looking forward to trying again next year. This is brilliant news and we are extremely proud of Caitlin's efforts to be the best she possibly can be.*

*Indeed I am proud of all the achievements of PQA - Cheltenham students, outside of the academy & would be delighted to be able to celebrate their success as well. So do please let me know if you have achieved something fantastic elsewhere as I would like to tell everyone about it!*

**WELL DONE CAITLIN!!**



### **KATHERINE SQUIRES - MARSHALL ARTS AWARD**

*Katherine Squires has been a regular member of Green group for a couple of years now. But aside from Drama she thoroughly enjoys attending classes for Marshall Arts. She is doing really well and here she is posing for the photograph at the academy with her latest medal and new belt! Katherine is definitely someone to take with you if you are out late and night or in need of protection!!!*

**WELL DONE KATHERINE - We are very proud of you!**

## **QUIRKY KIDZ-CASTING DAY** **FEBRUARY 13th 2011**

*I am delighted to report that Cheltenham PQA Students made a real impact at the long anticipated casting day for Quirky Kidz. It was relayed to me afterwards that the attitude of everyone who went along was exemplary. The agents thoroughly enjoyed meeting everyone, and felt that Cheltenham-workshop time had been fantastic.*

*I want to say to everyone who attended these meetings a BIG WELL DONE and thank you - for representing PQA-Cheltenham with pride and considerable talent! Now we keep our fingers crossed that suitable opportunities come up in the very near future. You can be absolutely sure that I will keep you all informed immediately if I am sent any information regarding castings or auditions.*

*I couldn't be more proud of you all.*



### **SUE'S CONTACT DETAILS FOR ABSENCES**

*As always, please don't hesitate to contact me in between sessions if you need more information about something or need to tell me about something affecting your child. My contact details are as follows;*

**[sue@pqacademy.com](mailto:sue@pqacademy.com)** 01452 849459 / 07966055036

*Also I am very grateful to those of you who text or phone me to say your child is unable to attend a session - it saves me a lot of time on a Saturday morning! **Please please** keep doing it!!!*

**HOW TO  
CONTACT  
SUE**



### **A Message From Sue!**

**PLEASE NOTE THAT ON MARCH 05th 2011 I WILL NOT BE AT THE ACADEMY AT ALL DURING THAT MORNING.**

*Everything will run as normal it's just that I won't be there! Suki Hutcheson will be dealing with the front desk and will be passing anything that I need to deal with urgently, to me asap on my return. However, I return from Prague very late Wednesday evening and will be all day in London with the Winners of the Film Competition on the Thursday. Please email me as usual if you need to speak to me about anything urgent, and I will be in contact asap on Friday March 11th.*

# SUMMER 2011 MASTERCLASS COURSE DETAILS

**HURRY & Book Your Place with Sue Now!**

## SUMMER MASTERCLASS IN ACTING COURSE

**AUG. 01ST - AUG 05TH 2011**  
**@PATES GRAMMAR SCHOOL**

**IN ORDER TO CHOOSE THE SCRIPT WE WILL BE PERFORMING I NEED TO KNOW APPROXIMATE NUMBERS, & MALE/FEMALE SPLIT!!!**

**AGES 12 - 18YRS**

Following an extremely popular and successful course last summer, I am again going to be running a week long acting course primarily for Senior Students.

If, however, you are a member of *Blue Group* and are particularly keen to join in the experience, I *may* consider allowing you to join, but it will depend upon YOUR commitment, and the structure of the senior group. Come & chat to me!

- ★ We will be working in very much the same way as we did last year.
- ★ Rehearsals will run from 10am - 4pm Monday - Thursday with a short lunch break.
- ★ You will be expected to arrive on Monday, August 01st, with the majority of your lines already learnt and ready to ACT!!!
- ★ We will be looking to present a performance of approximately an hour to parents on the Friday of the Masterclass week.
- ★ Timing for the show will be decided nearer the time - but it is possible that I might decide to do an early evening performance.



### COST

#### Senior Summer Course COST

(Students who are otherwise unable to attend Saturday PQA sessions are VERY WELCOME to also apply to attend the course.)

£185 for all PQA students

£200 for all non PQA members

*Be prepared to work VERY HARD throughout the week. I expect your total commitment and will expect to treat everyone on the course as though they are professional actors. You will learn an enormous amount about how to work as part of an ensemble company, where there are no stars, and the responsibility for the success of the production lies with everyone.*



### SCHOLARSHIPS

*There are some partial scholarships available for the summer Masterclass in Acting.*

*Please see or speak to me for further details or contact her by email [sue@pqacademy.com](mailto:sue@pqacademy.com)*

*by phone 01452 849459 / 07966055036*

To reserve a place on the course:

**PLEASE LET ME KNOW IMMEDIATELY IF YOU ARE INTERESTED**

A deposit of £40 is required & this is non refundable. The balance of the course fees are due by

*Monday July 18th - 2 weeks before the course*

*Cheques should be made payable to:- Sue Day please.*

### MY OWN EXPERIENCE IN DIRECTING

*I know that many of you see me at the front of the academy week after week, but are not aware of my background both in the professional world of Directing Plays, and of teaching! So here below is a quick resume!*

*I was trained at THE CENTRAL SCHOOL OF SPEECH & DRAMA for 4 years*

*Artistic Director To "OffCentre" A Fringe Theatre Company - London - 7 years*

*Head of Drama Department in large Comprehensive Schools - 15+ years*

*Youth Theatre Director for The Yvonne Theatre in Guildford - 5 years*

*A'level / GCSE Examiner - 4 years*

*Private Tutor for GCSE & A'Level exams, Scholarship Auditions, National Youth Theatre Auditions & Drama School Auditions - Since I qualified!*

Plays That I am Currently Considering for performance (this may change!!!)

*"DNA" by Dennis Kelly*

*"Metamorphosis" by Franz Kafka*

*"After The Rain" by John Bowen*

*"Dark of The Moon" by Howard Richardson*

*"Not in My Name" by Alice Bartlett*

