

SPEECH AND DRAMA – YRS 5-8

ESB

MICHAELMAS TERM

Throughout the first term we work on various skills, which are required for the E.S.B. exam e.g. reading aloud, verse speaking, talking to an audience and debating. Some pupils will choose to enter the Shropshire Festival of Verse and Prose in October and they will prepare themselves during these lessons.

LENT TERM

During this term the pupils prepare their talk for the public speaking competitions, which are held at the end of term. (These talks can then be improved and adapted for the E.S.B. exam in June)

TRINITY TERM

For the first half of the term, the pupils work on their memorised pieces and readings for the exam. The E.S.B. exams take place in the first week after half term. The remainder of the term is used to improve any skills, which are pin-pointed by the examiner.

DRAMA

YEAR 5

MICHAELMAS TERM

The pupils work on developing simple mimes to express different emotions, then they work to combine this with voice. They move onto some simple improvisations within pairs. When they are ready to move on they work in groups with short play scripts.

LENT TERM

The pupils work on developing radio plays within small groups building on what they have learnt about expressing emotion through voice. These could be linked to themes they are studying in History e.g. WWII

TRINITY TERM

We begin by working on character development and ideas for stories using the stimulus of props. They then work in groups to develop short plays based on these stories and characters.

YEAR 6

MICHAELMAS TERM

The pupils begin doing some script work such as monologues and dialogues, which some of them may choose to develop for the Shropshire Festival of Verse & Prose. They then develop some improvisations linked to themes they are studying in History e.g. Spaniards and Aztecs. In the weeks before Christmas, we rehearse for the Nativity play.

LENT TERM

In this term the pupils work in groups to plan and perform their own short plays. They are asked to produce a modernised version of a traditional fairy story. They begin by working on scene development then use these to carry out planned improvisations.

TRINITY TERM

In this term the pupils work to improve basic acting skills such as mime and voice. They also use these lessons to practise any drama work they are doing for the exam.

YEAR 7

MICHAELMAS TERM

We begin by working on scripted monologues and dialogues that some pupils may wish to develop for the Shropshire Festival of Verse and Prose. Having experienced the format of a dialogue they are then given novels aimed at their age group from which they will take out dialogue to produce their own. These are then acted out. The pupils then begin work on developing a pantomime. This is a whole class project and is continued next term.

LENT TERM

Work continued on pantomime. As well as performance the pupils tackle set and costume design. If possible, the pupils may perform the finished piece of work to the Lower School.

TRINITY TERM

In this term, the pupils will concentrate on developing group work using scripts.

YEAR 8

MICHAELMAS TERM

In this term the pupils work on character development. They begin by analysing their own character and those of their classmates. They then move on to invent new characters. In pairs and small group they bring their characters together to develop a short drama. During next few lessons pupils learn about stage positioning and how they can use this to direct an audience's attention. For the rest of the term the pupils work on making their own TV show – either a news or magazine programme.

LENT TERM

In this term the work is based on the study of a play. The pupils develop their acting and directional skills.

TRINITY TERM

In this term the pupils will build on what they have learnt over the past two terms and develop their own small scripted plays in groups.