

National Theatre

CONNECTIONS 2023

Tuesday

Connections

By Alison Carr



Tuesday 21st March 4pm

The Studio, Hele's School



Tuesday 28th March 7pm

The Drum, Theatre Royal Plymouth

Creative & Performing Arts



Welcome to our monthly newsletter

What an amazing few months its been since our last newsletter. Firstly, I must mention Fame, what an incredible experience it was for all involved. Productions like that don't just happen without an army of support, and we thank all those who helped, performed or came along to watch and support us, more about that inside. Mr Jones, however, not one to stand still for a moment, has already secured the rights for next years production, Les Misérables in February 2024....watch this space.

The Art department have been busy, running several external visits, providing students with the opportunity to experience artwork first hand, Find out about just some of these trips on pages 4 and 5

We are now gearing up to the exam season. Art, Drama and Music all have students about to sit their GCSE'S and A'Levels, all of whom have to prepare practical work alongside written exams, suffice to say we are very busy in CPA at the moment!

That's all for now, so until next time.....

Immerse yourselves in the Arts

Issue 4 March 2023

Inside this issue

Fame	2-3
Focus On	4
Hele's Art on Tour	5
Looking ahead.....	6
NT Connections.....	7

Useful Contacts

Mr Jones

Head of Creative and Performing Arts
jones@heles.plymouth.sch.uk

Mrs Wakeham

Head of Art
wakeham@heles.plymouth.sch.uk

Mr Cartwright

Head of Music
cartwright@heles.plymouth.sch.uk



We ended last term on an incredible high with our production of FAME. This was a fully immersive performance across Creative and Performing Arts, with the orchestration under the guidance of Mr Cartwright and our music students and the art department lending their support, and adding stunning detail on the artistic aspects of the set.

We had a vast range of cast members from Years 7-13 involved in our production. Investing in emerging talent is something we pride ourselves in within our school community and ensures that we develop the future generation of theatre and music makers. Alongside our performers, we would like to say a big, big thank you to the many people who helped to make FAME the success it was. A special mention must go to Ian Hibbert and Dave Lynas, who were both instrumental in bringing our production to life.

Iain Hibbert is Hele's Design and Technology technician, and alongside his day job, designed and built the set. His talent proving that it is truly possible to turn a school hall into a state-of-the-art venue for 1 week a year.

Dave Lynas put in countless hours, studying the lighting, staging and sound aspects of the show. His vision, patience and expertise always bring another layer of professionalism to the design and delivery of our shows.

Here's what some of our audience had to say

"Incredible performance from The Kids From Fame tonight!! So much talent on one stage it blew me away again!! Huge well done to all the cast and crew"

"Thank you to all the cast, musicians & backstage for entertaining us yet again. Every year amazed at the talent we have in our school community. I've always loved seeing pupils as they develop and shine from Year 7 to Year 13"

"No words to explain just how amazing this evenings performance of Fame was. What a talented cast, supported by top class crew and musicians. Great, great job!"



CONNECTIONS 2023

This month Mr Jones and Miss Locke have been busy putting together the final touches for our forthcoming production of Tuesday. This is part of the National Theatre Connections project, an annual youth theatre festival, bringing together some of the UK's most exciting writers with the theatre makers of tomorrow. Last year the National Theatre worked with 260 youth companies and over 8000 young people, maintaining it's history of championing and nurturing talent all across the UK.

This will be our third collaboration with National Theatre Connections and we are excited to be able to provide our students with the fantastic opportunity of working with industry professionals, including directors from the National Theatre.

As well as our 'Home' show on Tuesday 21st March we will also be performing at the Theatre Royal, Plymouth on Tuesday 28th March, such an amazing

experience for them all.

The Theatre Royal performance also includes a day of workshopping and meeting other youth organisations who are involved in the Connections project.

TUESDAY is light, playful and nuanced in tone. And a little bit sci-fi. Tuesday centres on an ordinary day that suddenly turns very weird indeed when a tear rips across the sky over the school yard.

"It Happened on a Tuesday. Which is weird, cos nothing interesting ever happens on a Tuesday. Everyone knows that"

Not only that, but it starts sucking up pupils and staff while at the same time raining down a whole new set of people. But then, that's what happens when parallel worlds collide!

The play explores friendship, sibling

love, family, identity, grief, bullying, loneliness and responsibility. And in the process we might just learn something about ourselves as well as some astronomical theories of the multi-verse!

Tuesday is written by Alison Carr, who is from Newcastle-upon-Tyne. She is committed to telling bold, entertaining and energetic stories with women at their heart. Her work has been performed on stages and non-traditional theatre spaces across the UK and around the world including America, Australia and Singapore.

If you would like to find out more about the National Theatre Connections, their website details are below.

www.nationaltheatre.org.uk/learn-explore/young-people/connections/



Focus On.....



Clay Club

Every Thursday 3-4pm



Clay Club is open to Year 7's to come along and get creative with clay!

Clay Club has been running at Hele's School for 10 years under the expert guidance of Mr Whitehead, students learn how to manage and sculpt the clay into pieces of art. Mr Whitehead said "we will often use seasonal events such as Easter or Christmas to produce and explore creative opportunities in clay."

Students get the chance to try many different aspects of clay work including slab building, coil pottery and using the potters wheel. Our year 7's have been introduced to glazing and kiln firing, in fact everything that a aspiring ceramicist needs to know.

The Art department have been making their presence known throughout the land over the past few months. Year 10 have been to Exeter, visiting the Cathedral and The Royal Albert Art Museum, Year 11 went to London and had a fantastic day out at the Tate Modern and Tate Britain, managing to squeeze in a boat trip on the Thames too. Year 7 recently went en-mass to The Eden Project for a combined Art and Geography trip, and more locally, Year 12 visited The Box and The Art University in Plymouth. All these trips provide students with opportunities to experience art first hand, and gain a real insight to a range of different artists and art styles.

Reasons why it is beneficial to visit an Art Gallery

- Awakes your visual imagination and gives inspiration
- Teaches you about your favourite artists and their thought processes
- Helps you discover new artists
- Breaks down language barriers
- Has a positive effect on your well-being

We would also love to hear of your experiences of art galleries, you can email us on parkerg@heles.plymouth.sch.uk



Hele's Art Dept on Tour