



MCA TODAY

THE DRAMA EDITION



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE MOMENT?



YEAR 7

Year 7 students are currently exploring Physical Theatre in Drama, creating imaginative movement-based stories inspired by the book, Jeremiah and the Dark Woods.

YEAR 8

In Year 8, students are exploring the musical, Little Shop of Horrors, studying the play and bringing key scenes to life through performance and character work.



YEAR 9

Developing their Physical Theatre skills is also the focus for our Year 9 students at the moment. They are using a stimulus to devise their own original performances without a script or set text.

YEAR 10

Year 10 students are exploring the stage adaptation of Noughts and Crosses, developing their understanding of their chosen set text in preparation for their Drama exam.





YEAR 11

Our Year 11 students have begun Component 3 of their GCSE Drama, Exploring Scripted Performance, working in groups to rehearse and perform play extracts for assessment by an external examiner.



STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Mr Gavin teaches Drama and is the Lead of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion at MCA.

He is currently reading **Frankie** by Graham Norton. The novel follows 84-year-old Frankie Howe as she recounts her extraordinary life—from her childhood in Ireland through vibrant decades in London and 1960s New York—exploring friendship, love and resilience across time. Mr Gavin thoroughly recommends this book!



FAMILY FOCUS

We encourage parents to support Drama learning at home by helping students practise simple but effective performance skills. One great activity is practising facial expressions in the mirror, as this helps students become more aware of how emotions can be communicated clearly to an audience. Exploring different feelings such as happiness, fear, anger or surprise builds confidence, expression and performance skills, all of which are essential in Drama lessons and assessments.

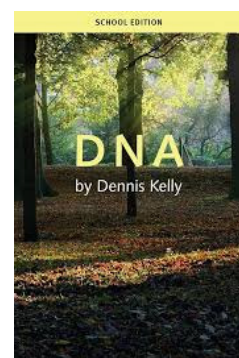
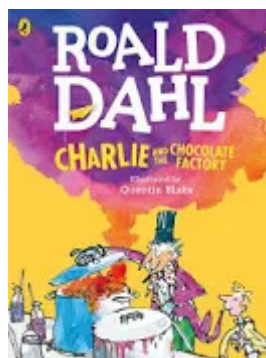
BOOKS WE'RE LOVING THIS WEEK

Here are some great books that relate to the Drama curriculum at MCA. They are all available at the MCA Library:

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory– Roald Dahl

DNA– Dennis Kelly (older students)

Noughts and Crosses– Malorie Blackman (older students)



WHAT'S COMING UP?

A group of Year 10 students will be visiting the Lowry Theatre in April to watch Noughts and Crosses. This exciting trip will give them the chance to see their GCSE set text brought to life on stage, helping them to understand the characters, plot, and themes more deeply. Experiencing the play live will also inspire their own performance ideas and give them a greater appreciation of how professional actors interpret a text, making their classroom learning even more engaging and meaningful.



CELEBRATIONS

In the Autumn term, fifty GCSE students and ten staff enjoyed a theatre trip to watch Mr Gavin perform in Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, where he delighted audiences in the role of Mr Beauregard, Violet's father. It was a fantastic opportunity for students to see a member of staff performing in a professional production, helping to inspire their own creativity and showing them how the skills they learn in Drama can be used beyond the classroom.



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

CHLOE M - YEAR 11

Chloe, a GCSE student, has produced some fantastic costume design work for the play Bouncers. Her designs show a strong understanding of character, mood and social context. Through thoughtful choices of colour, style and detail, Chloe's work enhances the tone of the play and demonstrates creativity, research and excellent attention to detail.

