



HELEN O'GRADY
- DRAMA ACADEMY -

A word from the Principal

Dear Parents and Students,

I hope you all had a merry Christmas and a Happy New year! I expect everyone enjoyed the snow and had loads of fun playing in it. Many thanks to all of you who braved the severe weather at the end of last term to make the Parents Day showcases' such a success. Can I also thank everyone who sent cards and presents to me and my staff, we are all astounded by your generosity and very touched by your kindness.

Term 2 is a very important term for the Academy as we are broadening students creatively at every level. We have many new features to encourage children to think, move and speak confidently and imaginatively and I am sure that you will see the results at the end of term when we present our showcases. I really enjoy watching how the all children integrate and communicate in class situations, and am delighted to see how well new students are warmly welcomed by one and all. Truly, drama is a wonderful medium which can access creativity, friendliness and self esteem in even the least confident child. Dressing up days, run throughout Term 1 and 2, are fantastic opportunities for students to develop creative confidence but remember, all the costumes and props we suggest are easily made or brought from home.

I would like to remind all parents and students to look at the website www.helenogradylondon.co.uk as all important information is posted there on a regular basis. From time to time I am approached by casting directors and agents and due to the immediate nature of auditions these are ONLY posted on the website so please keep an eye out if any students are interested in auditioning.

We all look forward to another fun term.

Best wishes

JUDY ADAMS MSc. (Principal)

PARENTS DAY PRESENTATIONS

PLUMSTEAD SATURDAY 2nd April

WELLING (MONDAY) MONDAY 4th April

CRAYFORD TUESDAY 5th April

SIDCUP WEDNESDAY 6th April

DARTFORD THURSDAY 7th April

BEXLEYHEATH FRIDAY 8th April

WELLING (SATURDAY) SATURDAY 9th April

- **Term 3 begins Tuesday 26th April 2011**

ABOUT OUR TEACHERS

Laura Curnick (training supervisor)

Laura joined the HOGDA in 2004 as a teacher, Laura was made training supervisor in 2005. She trained at the Academy of Live and Recording Arts and the Misikin Theatre gaining two diplomas in acting. Laura is a trained teacher in the HOGDA system and teaches at our Sidcup, Dartford and Welling (Saturday) studios. Laura uses her many years of experience as a professional actress to inspire and tutor the Advanced Youth Theatre students and the standard of acting is a benchmark for the Academy.

Francesca White (Franky)

Franky has a BA (Hons) degree in Drama, Theatre and Performing Arts and Human Social Biology from Roehampton University. Francesca was a Kumon Maths assistant for 4 years and is also a contributor at the Erith Youth & Family Centre. She joined HOGDA in 2005. She teaches our Plumstead class at the weekends because during the week she teaches Drama at a Comprehensive School in Biggin Hill.

Flair Brocklebank

Flair taught for the Academy for approximately 3 years until 2000; when, after her marriage, she left to teach English and Drama at a private school. I am delighted that she has decided to come back and teach the Crayford Class because she was always a popular teacher with children and parents and is dedicated to the principles and the ethos of the HOGDA. Flair is a full-time teaching assistant in a Primary School in Bromley and has 2 children, both students of the Academy.

All teachers are CRB enhanced police checked and regularly undergo training in the Academy's unique teaching techniques.