



Hiltingbury Road
Chandlers Ford, Eastleigh
Hampshire, SO53 5NP

Telephone: 02380 261808
Facsimile: 02380 273401
adminoffice@hiltingbury-jun.hants.sch.uk

Headteacher: Miss R Philip

Wednesday 9th January

Dear Parents,

We are very excited to announce that our production this year will be... Mary Poppins! This has been shared with the whole school in today's assembly, along with a demonstration of how each audition will work and what makes a really successful audition.

We are now writing to let you know the plans for the auditioning process. If your child is interested in taking part, please read the following information:

- The audition days are **Wednesday 13th** and **Thursday 14th February** and s/he will need to be in school on both of those days.
- S/he will need to be available for the afternoon and evening performances during the week of the 8th July (1.30pm on Tuesday 9th and Wednesday 10th, 6:30pm on Tuesday 9th, Wednesday 10th and Thursday 11th, as well as a technical and dress rehearsal all day on the 8th).
- S/he will need to be in school for the weeks commencing the 17th of June and the 1st of July as this is when the bulk of rehearsals will be.
- S/he will need to be prepared to attend after school rehearsals if we feel this is needed nearer the time. It is likely that they will need to attend at least one.
- Your child will miss out on curriculum time during those two weeks and this will be more significant for those children with larger parts.
- S/he will need to be committed to learning their lines and song words before the two weeks of rehearsals so we are ready to hit the ground running.
- For children with songs to learn, we will create a lunch time rehearsal timetable which we will aim to begin as soon as we have allocated parts. This will be displayed in classrooms and sent home. The children will need to attend the relevant rehearsals in order to know what they need to practise for their song/s.
- Once we know how many children are auditioning, we will decide what we want them to do for their audition. We will give this information to the children, with full instructions, on Monday 21st January so that they have at least three weeks to practise and prepare.

We appreciate that for many children going to an audition can be a bit daunting. Please be reassured that we will make these as fun and relaxed as possible. We also want to stress that every child who auditions will have a part.

I am sure you can appreciate that there are many children who are keen to take on certain roles and that we will have a mixture of excited and disappointed children once the casting has taken place. I would ask you to support us with our decisions.

If you are still happy for your child to be part of the production, can you please sit with them to talk through the bullet points above and then to fill in the attached slip and return it to school by **Wednesday 16th January**.

Should your child wish to be involved in the performance in a different way, look out for information to follow at a later date including opportunities for a percussion ensemble and stagehands. There is no need to send in the reply slip in this case.

Thank you for your support.

Team Poppins



REPLY SLIP: School Office – Mary Poppins Auditions

Child's Name Class

would like to audition for Mary Poppins on the 13th and 14th February.

They are interested in (please tick 1 option):

Bigger Part	
Smaller Part	

They would like to audition for (please tick up to 3 options):

Speaking	
Singing	
Dancing	

Last year, we introduced an extra dance audition, which was a great success! (*Please see the guidance about this below.*) If your child would also like to do this audition, please tick below:

Optional extra dance audition	
--------------------------------------	--

Important Guidance – please note:

- **If your child would like to be considered for a main character part, they will need to choose to audition for singing, dancing and speaking.**
- For example, a child with their heart set on a main character, such as Mary or Burt, would need to select to audition for all 3 disciplines.
- If, for example, your child selects 'bigger part' and then ticks 'singing' and 'speaking', they will be given instructions to audition for a large singing and speaking part.
- A child who would like a smaller part could select to audition in 1, 2 or 3 of the disciplines. For example, a child who select 'smaller part' and 'singing' will only be given instructions to audition for a small singing part.
- The 'optional extra dance audition' is for those children who learn a particular style of dance (e.g. modern, jazz, ballet, street, tap, gymnastics etc.) and would like the chance to prepare an additional 1-minute audition piece in advance to a given song. This is a great opportunity if your child thinks we could use their style of dance as a solo or in a small group during our production. *This is entirely optional.*
- **Please note that ticking the boxes above does not guarantee the type of part your child will receive. It just helps us to support them auditioning for a part best suited to their particular talents.**