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Dear Parents and carers,

After the great success of the "Wizard of Oz" last summer, our junior children are looking forward to this year's production, which will be "Mulan". Set in ancient China it holds some exciting opportunities for cross curricular links and the art department is already very excited!

All junior school pupils will be involved in the production, many of them in the actual performance but those who choose not to perform will be contributing in other ways such as stage design, prop making, costume and make up design, script prompting, lighting and special effects .

We are just in the initial stages of the casting process, which will take place over the next few weeks. All pupils have been taught two big solo songs from the show. Those who wish to audition will be required to sing one song (or both if they prefer) to me. The children may choose to have friends in with them during auditions, for support if they wish or just to sing to me individually.

We are not expecting perfection in the auditions! I have told the children that they can use the words and if they go wrong we simply start again. I want it to be an enjoyable experience not a stressful one. I am however looking for the children to sing with enthusiasm and confidence. They need to be able to sing in tune ( though I have told them that if the song is not in their range I will of course raise or lower it for them ) and with sufficient projection.

Every pupil who wishes to take part in the performance will be included in the production. One of the joys of this particular production is the vast amount of chorus singing and acting; far more than in many other school productions.

Once I have heard everyone sing I may ask some to try acting out a small scene from the show. They will be provided with scripts and will be given plenty time to practice.

I want to encourage the children to realise that every single member of the cast is of equal importance. Without the chorus parts there would be no production. Children may not always get the particular part they desire, but we hope that the enjoyment of being part of a school performance will be rewarding and memorable.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions about the production and many thanks for your support in advance.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Keenan  
Head of Music & Performing Arts

