



Sutton in Craven C.E (V.C) Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs O Gibbons

Main Street, Sutton in Craven, Keighley, BD20 7JS

Tel: 01535 632181

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8th June 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Rural Schools Opportunity!!!

We have been lucky enough to have the opportunity to be involved in a two-year drama project organised and run by the Coram Shakespeare Schools Foundation. Over the last few months I have been working very closely with Jess Moffat, a Senior Festival Co-ordinator at the Foundation, to ensure that the project comes to fruition at Sutton CE.

Over a two-year period, the staff of Coram Shakespeare will support our children and staff through a highly creative, fun, collaborative process to create Shakespeare plays in our community and embed **Drama** into our **curriculum**. Essentially the project starts with weekly workshops led by the Coram Shakespeare Schools team beginning on Tuesday 22nd June. These workshops will be with **Year 4 - Birch class** and culminate in a facilitated performance at the end of term.

As part of the project there are also:

- Twilight CPD sessions with staff introducing the project, their methodology and a toolkit of exercises that can be used in the classroom
- Award winning curriculum resources and training to take the Shakespeare Schools pedagogy into the classroom.

Outcomes

The idea behind the project is to bring professional artists and our drama practice into schools that aren't able (because of size/location) to take part in our [Festival](#), which is very city-based. Our projects aim to improve:

Vital life skills;

- confidence
- teamwork
- communication skills

The funding is for a two-year project, i.e. we would repeat the whole thing with a second series of workshops and second performance outcome in the next academic year. The idea is this would build on and develop the project and outcomes from the first round.

We will be working with other local primary schools to make it a real community project, and a way for our students to connect with each other before they transition to their Secondary school, potentially at South





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Craven School. South Craven has been a part of the Shakespeare Schools Festival since 2013, with students performing at the Victoria Theatre in Halifax and the Carriageworks Theatre in Leeds.

We will be in touch with further details of the end performance date, time and location, as due to current circumstances will have to await further guidance in terms of COVID restrictions.

As I am sure you will agree this is a very exciting and wonderful opportunity for Sutton CE School, not only for our Year 4 children but for all our children and staff across school.

If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to get in touch with the school office.

With very best wishes,

Orla Gibbons

Mrs Orla Gibbons

Headteacher

