



23rd May 2022

Dear Students, Parents/Carers and Staff

Whole School Musical – Little Shop Of Horrors

We are excited to announce that in January 2023, Ely College will be presenting its second whole-school musical. The chosen musical is *Little Shop Of Horrors* (music Alan Menken; lyrics and book by Howard Ashman). We will be performing this show across three evenings: Thursday 19th January, Friday 20th January and Saturday 21st January 2023.

We will be holding auditions for all principal and ensemble roles for *Little Shop Of Horrors* on **Wednesday 15th June 2022**. Students who are currently in Yr 7-10 (of this current academic year), along with any Yr 11 students who are returning to study at Bishop Laney in September 2022 and any students currently in Yr 12 at Bishop Laney are invited to audition.

Please continue to read below to learn more about the production, roles available, and further information regarding the audition process and key dates.

What is the production about? (Synopsis)

Seymour Krelborn is a meek and dejected assistant at a flower shop, who discovers a strange plant he affectionately names 'Audrey II' – after his crush. Knowing very little about this plant, Seymour's world spirals out of control with some deadly consequences....

What are the roles available?

Principals

- Seymour Krelborn
- Audrey
- Mr Mushnik
- Orin Scrivello
- Audrey 2 (the Plant)
- Crystal
- Ronnette
- Chiffon

Ensemble/Chorus

- Students will be involved in singing in any chorus numbers, and as additional actors in scenes within the show.
- There will only be 20 spaces available in the ensemble/chorus.

What will students need to do in order to prepare for the audition?

If you are applying to audition for a principal role, you will need to learn to sing the following extract of music:

- Female principal: Somewhere That's Green
- Male principal: Grow For Me

If you are applying to audition for an ensemble/chorus role, you will need to learn to sing the following extract of music:

- Ensemble/Chorus: section from Finale Ultimo (Don't Feed The Plant)

All instructions and resources (backing tracks, support document) are provided in the following OneDrive folder:

[https://cmat-](https://cmat-my.sharepoint.com/:f:/g/personal/jnewsome_elycollege_co_uk/EhfMOwtPZzpHsfmozWU014QByRQyi-A4LTnUwUtzG_UVJA?e=lvglvz)

[my.sharepoint.com/:f:/g/personal/jnewsome_elycollege_co_uk/EhfMOwtPZzpHsfmozWU014QByRQyi-](https://cmat-my.sharepoint.com/:f:/g/personal/jnewsome_elycollege_co_uk/EhfMOwtPZzpHsfmozWU014QByRQyi-A4LTnUwUtzG_UVJA?e=lvglvz)

[A4LTnUwUtzG_UVJA?e=lvglvz](https://cmat-my.sharepoint.com/:f:/g/personal/jnewsome_elycollege_co_uk/EhfMOwtPZzpHsfmozWU014QByRQyi-A4LTnUwUtzG_UVJA?e=lvglvz). Please do listen to the original tracks on YouTube. Only students will be able to access the resources in this folder.

When and where are the auditions taking place?

- Auditions will be taking place on Wednesday 15th June 2022, in the Music Department.
- If you are auditioning for a 'principal' role, you will attend auditions between 10.00am to 1.30pm. We kindly ask that these students bring a packed lunch with them on this day, and we will provide an appropriate break for students as part of the audition process.
- If you are auditioning for a 'ensemble/chorus' role, you will attend auditions between 2.00pm to 4.00pm.
- If a student catches a school bus home, we will ensure that their audition has taken place early in the session to ensure that their normal transport provision takes place.

What will happen during the auditions?

- Undertake some vocal warm-ups and range tests (to see how high/low you can sing).
- Perform your pre-prepared musical performance (individually if going for a principal role, or with other students if going for a chorus role).
- Engage in a drama workshop.

When will you find out if you have been successful following auditions?

The full cast list for *Little Shop Of Horrors* will be available on the noticeboard in the Music department, and in each House office, from 8.00am on Friday 17th June 2022.

How do the students sign up for the auditions and what is the deadline?

In order to sign up for an audition, students will need to complete the following Microsoft Forms document: <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=KbjZ4RaYVEydnK3i2OOqbrLut46ecXpLmV1vsdDSLW1UNjILRE1aUFNFVVBBEREdKUVFWN041TktWTS4u>. Please read the form carefully and answer all questions accurately.

All students must **sign up for their auditions by Friday 10th June (5.00pm)** through the above Microsoft Forms link, in order for the final audition schedule to be created and details shared with students.

Please note when students sign up for their audition via the Microsoft Forms document, they will be asked to confirm that:

1. They are able to attend all rehearsals and performances outlined in this letter, and
2. They may be offered a different role in the school show to the one they were hoping to secure.

All students are expected to have strong attendance, behaviour and make strong progress at Ely College. The school has the right to reconsider students' involvement in the school musical if these standards are not upheld.

Final key information

A detailed rehearsal schedule for the show will be confirmed once casting has taken place and circulated to students and parents/carers. However, it is likely to involve the following:

- Principals – individual/small group rehearsals will start in late June 2022 focusing on script read through and initial learning of songs.
- Ensemble/Chorus – one rehearsal prior to the summer break, to be confirmed via email.
- We will circulate a full rehearsal schedule in late August to all principals and ensemble/chorus detailing the rehearsals they are required to attend from September.



- There will be a weekend technical rehearsal on Saturday 14th January and Sunday 15th January 2023 that all students must attend.

The performance dates are:

- Thursday 19th January 2023 (evening performance)
- Friday 20th January 2023 (evening performance)
- Saturday 21st January 2023 (evening performance)

We fully appreciate that the audition process might seem to be a scary prospect, but we strongly encourage every one of you to apply and audition if you would like to be involved on the stage in this show.

We are incredibly excited about having the opportunity to run a whole-school musical again, and to involve as many students as possible in this opportunity. Further opportunities to be involved in the pit band, sound/lighting, backstage, hair and make-up (and many more) will follow soon.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact either Mr Newsome:

jnewsome@elycollege.co.uk or Ms Seymour: cseymour@elycollege.co.uk

Yours faithfully

Mr J Newsome
Music Subject Lead

Ms C Seymour
Drama Subject Lead