

2017/2018



Parent Handbook



LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Parents:

This year we are putting on the production *Monty Python's Spamalot young@part Edition!* Myself, and the production team, are very excited to get started on this slapstick comedy that is sure to have rehearsals full of belly laughs. In this handbook you should find all the information you need regarding your child(ren)'s participation in this year's program. If you have any questions, feel free to contact myself (or anyone else on the production team).

As we get started in this rehearsal process, we have to cast the show. Auditions will be held on Saturday, September 30th in the gym at Elk Point Elementary School. More information about the auditions can be found in a separate audition packet that your child should have already if you have registered for the program. It is not an easy task to cast a show. We want to make sure that each student has the best opportunity to shine. Theatre is a collaborative effort but please remember it is my role to see the big picture and guide every aspect of this production. Having your child participate in theatre has little to do with creating a "star," the objective of rehearsing and presenting this musical is to provide children with opportunities to develop life skills and, most importantly, have fun.

I have put together a calendar that shows all the future rehearsal dates, it is on the last page of this handbook. Please review this calendar and if there are rehearsal dates that you know your child will not be able to attend, please let me know ASAP.

Let the show begin!

Sincerely,

Jess Clarke, Director and Choreographer

jessika.clarke@live.ca

1-(780)-714-8026

GENERAL REHEARSAL INFORMATION

Important Dates

Tuesday, September 12th – Popcorn & Spamalot Video Viewing at F.G. Miller Gym @ 7pm

Tuesday, September 19th – Open House / First Rehearsal

Thursday, September 28th – Optional Coaching Rehearsal for audition

Saturday, September 30th – Auditions

Saturday, April 28th – Evening Performance

Sunday, April 29th – Matinee Performance

Saturday, May 5th – Evening Performance

Sunday, May 6th – Matinee Performance

Tuesday Rehearsal Information:

All cast members are called to every Tuesday rehearsal. There is rehearsal on every Tuesday in which there is school. All rehearsals are indicated on the calendar on the last page of this packet. Tuesday rehearsals are from 3:30PM to 5:00PM in the Gym at Elk Point Elementary School. Address: 5410-50 St Elk Point

Saturday Rehearsal Information:

There will be Saturday workshop rehearsals, on scheduled Saturdays as per the calendar, from 1:00PM to 5:00PM in the Gym at Elk Point Elementary School. Saturday rehearsals will be scheduled out so that not everyone is required to be there at all times. These schedules for Saturdays will come out at least 4 days in advance, but I will aim to have them out earlier than that.

We understand that Saturday rehearsals may be more difficult to work into your busy lives and thus we will try our hardest to bring out the schedules in advance. If you know that your child(ren) will be away for any allotted dates for rehearsals, please inform me as soon as you know so that I can try to schedule accordingly.

If rehearsal has to be cancelled for some reason, an e-mail will be sent out to all parents, as well as posted on our Facebook page ([facebook.com/EPtheatreproject](https://www.facebook.com/EPtheatreproject)).

If you have any rehearsal schedule conflicts, please inform Mrs. Clarke or LoAnne.

Absences/Conflicts:

Rehearsal conflicts are difficult on everyone. If your child will have a reasonable and standing conflict (I.E. arriving at 4:00PM instead of 3:30PM on Tuesdays because they are coming from St. Paul) that has been discussed with Mrs. Clarke, then accommodation will be made. Please inform the production team **in advance** of any known conflicts (vacations, appointments, etc). **If your child will be missing any Saturday rehearsals – please inform the production team before the rehearsal schedule for that Saturday has been sent out.** All conflicts approved by the director in advance will be considered excused. **Please make every effort to report absences before the rehearsal time. That way we can adjust the schedule to accommodate.** Long term illnesses or injuries may require some modifications to a child's role.

Actors who have multiple unexcused or unreported absences may be asked to meet with the production team to discuss and/or modify their role in the show.

Closed Rehearsals

Family and friends are asked to wait outside of the rehearsal area until rehearsal is over, and to not enter the rehearsal area during rehearsal time. This keeps our noise level and distractions to a minimum. This, of course, is voided if you are signed up to volunteer to supervise a rehearsal. If you would like to help out during rehearsal, or if you have questions about the rehearsal format, please contact our production team.

Rehearsal Downtime

The main focus of rehearsal will always be to progress in the play, and prepare for performance; however, with a large cast there will be times when some kids will not be working on the play due to them not being a part of the scenes or songs being worked on that day.

Though the focus of Elk Point Theatre Project is the production, it is also a drama club. This means that if there is down time for groups of students, they will be doing theatre games and activities in this time. We understand that older participants may not wish to play theatre games if there is downtime. In the past we have allowed teenage members, with permission from their parents, to miss rehearsals in which we are not working on scenes they are in. This always has to be communicated to, and agreed upon, by the director or else the absences will be unexcused.

Bring to Rehearsal

Scripts and pencils are needed for every rehearsal. We also strongly suggest kids bring a bottle of water and snacks to every rehearsal. It is also not a bad idea to have indoor shoes to wear during choreography as the gym floor can be slippery in just socks.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Spamalot – Synopsis:

The story centers around King Arthur and his search for the Holy Grail. After a rather silly bit of miscommunication leads us briefly to Finland, our king and his ever faithful squire Patsy begin to search for knights to accompany him on his Quest. He finds his first in the unlikely guise of Dennis, a local mud farmer. After convincing the locals that he is the king by conjuring the Lady of Lake to prove it, Dennis is transformed into Sir Galahad. The rest of the knights are found far and wide and The Lady of the Lake and her Laker Girls, send our stalwart band on their way. They meet up with an unforgettable slew of outrageously kooky characters and musical hilarity ensues as Arthur and the Knights make their journey.

Volunteer and Fundraising Opportunities

Putting on a play takes a great deal of work, organization, and time. In order for us to be able to put on the great productions that we are known for, we must have the help of parents (or family members, or even friends of the family) to make the show a success.

To ensure that we are not scrambling for help last minute, we have set up a volunteer bond cheque system in which you sign (bond) cheques to Elk Point Theatre Project (above the registration cost) and we hold on to them until you fulfill the volunteer requirements for our program. The bond cheques will only be cashed if your volunteer requirements are not met.

There will be volunteer slots that will need to be filled as well as an additional agreement form that will need to be signed along with your cheques. More details about this will be given at a later date, or you may inquire about this to LoAnne.

Contact Information:

For more information about the program, visit our website: <http://eptheatre.atspace.tv/>
You can also e-mail us at EPtheatre@outlook.com – Please feel free to contact any member of our production team if you have any questions.

Jess Clarke	Director / Choreo.	780-714-8026	jessika.clarke@live.ca
Kelsey Taylor	Music Director	780-656-0633	kelsey.taylor.2984@gmail.com
LoAnne Smith	Producer / Treasurer	780-645-8236	loannesmith@gmail.com

2017-2018 Rehearsal Schedule

September 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

October 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

November 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
		4	5	6	7	8
	9	10	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20
	21	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28	29	30		

December 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

January 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

February 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			

March 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

April 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

May 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Legend:						
	Tuesday rehearsals					
	Saturday rehearsals					
	No Rehearsal					
	Special Date [see notes]					
	Special Rehearsals					
	Performances					

Notes:						
	Tuesday, September 5th - Registration Night					
	Tuesday, September 12th - Popcorn & Spamalat Viewing					
	Tuesday, September 19th - Open House (free) Rehearsal					
	Thursday, September 28th - Optional Audition Coaching					
	Saturday, September 30th - Auditions					

Tuesday Rehearsals are full cast, 3:30pm - 5:00pm
 Saturday Rehearsals are specific cast, 1:00pm - 5:00pm