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**Saturday 3rd February (Show time: 8pm)**

Opening night is finally here! I can’t wait for everyone to see Mullingar Voices 2024 and for all schools to see each other’s hard work pay off. Below, you will find the students’ checklist in the lead up to Saturday’s performance in the Arts Centre.

• Make sure to get a good night’s sleep on Friday night. It will be a later night going to bed on Saturday night, so make sure you are well rested!

• Check your rehearsal time below. You should arrive to rehearsal prepared with everything you need for the show.

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| **School** | **Be ready for on stage rehearsal at:** |
| Milltown NS  Scoil an Chlochair, Kilbeggan  St Colmcille’s, Gainstown | 5:30  6:00  6:30 |

**CLOTHES**

• Wear comfortable clothes for rehearsal, ideally layers.

• You must wear your school’s uniform tracksuit bottoms for your performance on stage.

• You will be given a Mullingar Voices t-shirt to wear for the performance. This t-shirt is property of Mullingar Arts Centre and must be returned after the performance.

• You can wear your own choice of runners.

**SUPERVISION**

• TEACHERS, PLEASE NOTE: There will be adult supervision backstage, but please be aware that the primary job of these individuals is to make sure that students from ALL schools get from dressing room to stage and back again. There are not enough volunteers to go around to stay with individual groups backstage. **It is in your best interests to make sure that** **at least one** **staff member from your school (who knows faces and names)** **is there with your students in the dressing rooms at all times.** I understand that it can be difficult to find staff to help with this, but it is in everyone’s best interests that each dressing room has adult supervision who students recognise!

STUDENTS: By the time you have been assigned a dressing room, all you will have to do at any point in the night is wait to be called to stage. You will be led there by a member of staff and back to your dressing room. Please treat these staff members with respect at all times and do what is asked of you – they are there to keep you safe and to help you enjoy the show. It will be a long day for you, so please make sure you have lots of activities to keep you occupied.

**WHAT TO BRING**

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| **YES ✓** | **NO ×** |
| Plenty of water ✓  A snack ✓  Your own change of top/clothing for after the show (the Mullingar Voices t-shirt will be returned to the Arts Centre) ✓  Books/colouring materials/some activities like chess & Scrabble etc. ✓ | Phones/electronic devices (you can live without them for a few hours!) ×  Anything that will make noise (noise unfortunately carries very well in a theatre!) × |

**WHEN YOU GET TO THE ARTS CENTRE**

• Come straight into the auditorium (where the stage/seats are). If you are not sure where to go, ask at reception. DO NOT WANDER AROUND.

• Parents are not permitted anywhere in the auditorium at rehearsals, including balcony. There will be minimal space to wait in the bar area only, for those choosing to stay.

• A supervisor will show you where to sit. If a school is already rehearsing, listen quietly and do not disturb them. Your turn will come soon and you will want the same treatment.

• You will be given a place to stand so that people of similar heights will stand together on the choir risers.

• Sing just like you sang in class.

• When you finish your rehearsal on stage, wait until somebody leads you to your dressing room.

**VIDEO RECORDING**

Normal Arts Centre rules apply: no photography/recording during the show. Ger Gavin will be recording each show. DVD’s and USB sticks will be available for purchase a few days after the final show (€20 for USB, €15 for DVD).

**COLLECTION TIME**

The show will be finished at approximately 10pm each night. With different acts in the line-up, show running times will vary from night to night.

Looking forward to seeing you all on the night!

**Maedhbh Hughes**