

**Dr. Eric Jackman Institute of Child Studies
Curriculum Night 2017**



DRAMA

*"Art is the place where you understand your whole life from."
-Lee Hall (The Pitmen Painters)*

No art form is more collaborative than Drama. The Jackman ICS Drama Program is designed to stimulate the imagination of students from Nursery to Grade 6, while encouraging the growth of artistic and collaborative skills. Students are challenged to accept the viewpoint and contributions of others, as they create a dramatic structure in which conflict is developed and the thoughts and feelings of dramatic characters are explored. Language skills are enhanced at every stage in Drama, as students learn to effectively communicate their ideas, and later, to communicate the ideas of a dramatic character. Each week students create and share imagined environments through which they can build social, emotional, physical, and cognitive skills, and best of all, they have a lot of fun doing it!

GRADE 3

The Grade 3 Drama Program emphasizes characterization, roleplaying, and perspective. "Point of view" is explored as students are challenged to craft monologues that present the unique perspective of characters with shared experiences. Fairy tales, nursery rhymes, myths, and folk tales, provide students with characters whose motives and values are examined and questioned. Later, the role of conflict is explored as original characters share their opposing viewpoints through duet scenes that escalate in anger. The grade 3 students learn to collaborate on stories that become the basis for sketches and vignettes, all the while focusing on the role of narrative in dramatic works.

GRADE 4

In Grade 4, students refine their understanding of characterization by creating original, dramatic characters with individual histories and unique perspectives. Students

collaborate to create drama works that establish the motives, gestures, values, and experiences of these characters while emphasizing the relationships among them. The Grade 4 students create works that examine the plots, characters, and dialogue associated with specific film genres, and they take inspiration from many literary genre as they collaborate on increasingly complex stories. Students regularly perform their finished sketches, advertisements, tableaux, and skits, for their classmates. Monologues present an opportunity to perform individually, and improvisational games require students to perform spontaneously.

GRADE 5

In grade 5, the focus of the Drama program changes from characterization to dramatic structure. Students begin to examine the elements and conventions of dramatic works as they create sketches and vignettes based on literary genres, and historical events. The role of conflict is integral to the creation of grade 5 drama works, and it is explored again and again. Whether they are focusing on Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*, 19th century cautionary tales, or politically correct fairy tales, the challenge for the grade 5's is to present well organized, compelling dramatic pieces, with well-defined characters and dialogue that moves the plot forward.

GRADE 6

The Grade 6 Drama Program emphasizes the collaborative exploration of dramatic elements, techniques, and conventions. Students examine the role of perspective, experience, and power in conflict development. Students also look at how action, tension, role, and mood, influence dramatic works. After collaborating on a story, students must divide it into scenes, and each scene must be presented using a different dramatic convention, e.g. tableaux, choral speaking, pantomime, monologues, flashbacks. The Grade 6 Drama year culminates with the Graduation Play, which provides students with an opportunity to display the artistic and collaborative skills that have been acquired after many years of Drama classes.

DRAMA SCHEDULE

Grade 3's – 2:15 – 3:00 Tuesdays

Grade 4's – 9:45 – 10:30 Thursdays

Grade 5's – 2:00 – 2:45 Thursdays

Grade 6's – 9:00 – 9:45 Thursdays