



St. Mary's Cockerton C of E Primary School,
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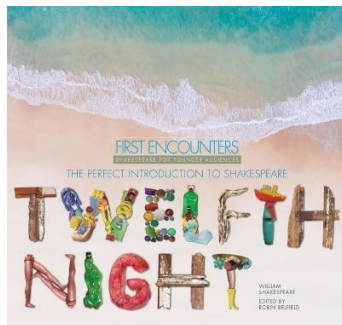
'IF YOU BELIEVE YOU CAN ACHIEVE'

23rd September 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are absolutely delighted to be part of this year's **First Encounters with Shakespeare production of Twelfth Night**. This Royal Shakespeare Company (RSC) performance has been directed by Robin Belfield and has been created in collaboration with the RSC Regional Theatre Partners and Associate Schools, with High Coniscliffe CE Primary School and St Mary's Cockerton CE Primary School both playing a vital part.

A small group of children in Year 5 and Year 6 across the two schools have already taken part in a workshop to rehearse their roles to join in the performance alongside the actors from the RSC. The rest of the children will be getting creative to make festival bunting that will enhance the festive world of the play whilst on tour (this will later be used in Stratford-Upon-Avon theatre workspaces).



About the play...

Shipwrecked and separated from her twin brother, Viola washes up on a strange shore and into an even stranger situation.

Disguising herself as a man called Cesario, Viola finds work with Duke Orsino, only to fall head over heels in love with him. But Orsino is in love with Olivia, who is grieving for her brother and refusing all offers of romance. Until, that is, she sees Cesario for the first time.

Add one ambitious butler and some practical joking servants and you have a hugely entertaining story of hoaxes, heartbreak and hidden identities.

This First Encounters production has been created to give 7-13 year olds a fantastic first experience of Shakespeare whilst also being brilliant introductions for anyone new to his work. Using edited versions of the original language, the RSC bring the plays to life on stage in just 90 minutes.





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The children and our families have the amazing opportunity to watch this performance by the Royal Shakespeare Company which will take place in the hall **at St Mary's Cockerton CE Primary School on 5th October.**

We are offering two performances; one performance will be throughout the school day and will be available for all KS2 children from High Coniscliffe and St Mary's (we have organised transport for High Coniscliffe children to take them and return them back to school).

Then an evening performance at 6:30pm, for our children (although they will have seen it in school they can come again to share the Shakespeare experience with you), their families and anybody else who may like to join us! We have the capacity to hold an audience of 200 people, so the more the merrier! The performance duration is approximately 90 minutes.

We are offering priority tickets for the evening performance to our children (if they would like to see it again!) and families before these go on sale to the wider public. Please return the slip below and the tickets will be added to ParentPay by Wednesday 28th September as this will allow us to organise and allocate tickets for the event and offer any remaining spaces to the wider community. This production is suitable for ages 7 years and above, so please do not bring younger children. Don't miss out on this amazing opportunity to see a performance by the Royal Shakespeare Company, right on your doorstep!

Please return the attached ticket request as soon as possible to secure your tickets.

Please scan the QR Code to find out more about RSC First Encounters.

Kind Regards,

Miss Todd (Shakespeare Lead Teacher, High Coniscliffe CE Primary School)

