



Mary Whelan Fox

Elocution, Speech & Drama,

Communications & Presentations

The Junior School programmes at MARY WHELAN FOX SCHOOL OF ELOCUTION, SPEECH AND DRAMA, *opened in*

April 2006 due to a fast-growing demand from parents wishing their children were involved with a Drama group that would improve their speech and build confidence in their presentation skills, rather than focusing on an end of year production.

The school provides engaging and highly interactive programmes in speech, diction, presentation skills and drama, for children and young people between the ages of 4 – 20.

'Little People, Big Voices', for ages four to ten, focuses on developing skills and talent through role play, fun and games.

'Acting Up' for senior students aged between eleven to twenty, continues the education using more sophisticated techniques and emphasis on public speaking, presentation and communication skills, offering a great advantage when it comes to presentation and communication within a school environment, and classroom-based assessment (CBA).

All classes take place in excellent secure facilities. All Mary Whelan Fox teachers are fully Garda vetted, have my child protection policy, risk assessment response plan, Covid19 policies and procedures in place.

Usually we have a presentation each year for family and friends at our annual 'Halloween Party' to demonstrate class work and provide students with an opportunity to write, produce and enact their own material if they wish. This programme is enormously helpful for children overcoming stage fright and a lot of fun for all who attend and participate! Due to Covid 19 restrictions, the 'Halloween Party' will not take place in 2020. The other presentation which we present is a recital of group work at Christmas, which is the highlight of the year for many students and their families. In prior years, we have participated in the Christmas Lights ceremony at the invitation of Athlone Co. Council and the Mayor of Athlone. Annually, our Class Speech and Drama Feis takes take

place before Easter. Here, students get the opportunity to perform on-stage, in advance of the exams that take place later in the year. All students participating in the Feis will receive one or more awards, and bursaries are also awarded for high achievers at the event.

Our school programmes are delivered based on an internationally recognized curriculum, and accredited by Leinster School of Music and Drama, Griffith College, Dublin (LSMD). The LSMD exams serve as motivation and inspiration for the learner. Candidates work from a carefully structured syllabus towards a definite goal. The exam and certification are not mandatory, but most students do avail of the exam and certification process offered by our school, which can be added as a recognised accomplishment to their curriculum vitae in future years.

The fee for each term is €140 and this is paid at the beginning of term. During class the emphasis is on enjoyment and confidence building. The classes are a fun way for children to express themselves and gain confidence while developing performance skills through the various disciplines of drama. The classes will encourage and enhance a love of poetry and drama in an interactive, encouraging and non-competitive environment for children. The classes will also improve children's ability to communicate through the use of mime, movement, improvisation, public speaking, breathing exercises and theatre games.

All classes are subject to availability, and ages are given as a guide. We will do our best to accommodate any parents with siblings attending our school. Since class size is limited, classes are also on a first come, first served basis. The reason for small numbers is that we can concentrate on diction and individual attention while having enough to do group work and games!!

Director Mary Whelan Fox

I have been teaching Speech and Drama since 2006. I studied in Griffith College the Leinster School of Music, Speech & Drama. I have both Associate and Licent along with a proficiency in teaching. I examine and adjudicate Speech and Drama country.

I am a member of The Speech and Drama Teachers of Ireland, I have served on the board since 2014 and am currently the Chairperson/President.

I love teaching and hope my passion shows in my work. I try to make learning fun and my students have enjoyed success in the Leinster School of Music & Drama Examinations including the excellence awards, Irish Board of Speech and Drama Public Speaking exams, Poetry Ireland Annual Competition, Speech & Drama Teachers of Ireland Feis and Festivals.

Any enquiries contact me on 087 8941197 or my email

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Timetable as follows:

All times are subject to change depending on class sizes. We will do our best to accommodate siblings. (During Covid 19 we are implementing a 15 cleaning routine between class)

MONDAY: ATHLONE

ATHLONE GAA CENTRE Ballymahon Road, Athlone

3:45-4:30 Ages 4-6

4:30-5:15 Ages 7-9

5:15-6:00 Ages 10-12

6:00-6:45 Secondary School



TUESDAY:MOATE

TUAR ARD, THEATRE Main Street, Moate.

3:45-4:30 Ages 5-7

4:30-5:15 Ages 8-11

5:15-6:00 Ages 12+

WEDNESDAY:GLASSON

GLASSON HERITAGE CENTRE, Glasson

3:45-4:30 Ages 4-6

4:30-5:15 Ages 7-9

5:15-6:00 Ages 10-12



THURSDAY: BALLINASLOE

BALLINASLOE GAA

4.00-4.45 Ages 4-7

4.45-5.30 Ages 8-11

SATURDAY:ATHLONE

ATHLONE GAA CENTRE Ballymahon Road

11.45 to 12.30 Ages: 4 -6

12.30 to 1.15 Ages 7 to 9

1.15 to 2.00 Ages 10 to 13