

This is a very long message. It contains lots of details about the last days of rehearsal, the performances next weekend, costumes and hair styles. **Please read it carefully.** If after reading it, you have any questions, please feel free to call me. (252) 531-7423

Please be assured that the costume design for the show takes into account, as much as possible, your child's comfort and sensibilities. Sometimes children or parents are unhappy with the "look" of a costume. While a sense of style is a wonderful attribute in the social development of children, please keep in mind that this is a cooperative and integrated effort. **Changes in costumes or hairstyles are not allowed unless cleared through me.**

Smiles and Frowns Playhouse generally provides all the necessary costume items for your children. We ask you to provide socks/tights and underclothing.

Monday night we start our night rehearsals. Please report to the theater no later than 6:45pm. We will run the entire show. The youngest actors, Ellie, Dawson and Nick, will be able to leave at intermission. The call is to 9:15pm. If we finish early, the actors and crew will be able to leave. But this depends entirely on how the rehearsal goes.

Tuesday night (don't forget to wear your pajamas for pajama night!) costumes and shoes will be handed out to the actors as they leave. If a part of an actor's costume is not ready, none of that actor's costume pieces (including shoes) will be distributed. In that case, report to the theater on Wednesday in street clothes for the technical rehearsal. Again, the youngest actors will be dismissed early—after we have rehearsed the curtain call a couple of times.

Wednesday night — You will **wear your costume to the theater** for the technical dress rehearsal. That includes your socks and shoes. Your hair needs to be styled as requested. You do not need to wear your makeup. If the paper sends a photographer, they will be there on Wednesday and we want everyone properly attired!!! Please bring a set of clothes to wear home Wednesday night in case we have to keep your costume to make last-minute alterations.

Thursday, Friday and Saturday— report to the theater in costume with hair styled and make-up completed at your assigned call time. (Information about makeup and call times will be posted separately.)

Costume Stuff:

Shoes:

The shoes you will be given are not designed to be worn outside, especially when it is wet. Please keep their use on exterior surfaces to a minimum and wear other shoes and bring your costume shoes with you if it has been raining or rain is forecast during the performance.

Please do not eat or drink in your costume, except for the snacks and water provided backstage during the show.

Please be sure to wear antiperspirant while in costume. We do not wash the costumes until after the end of the performances.

Hats, aprons, capes, outerwear, hair bows, jewelry etc. are considered props and will not be sent home with you on Tuesday. They will be available for you to put on when you arrive at

the theater. They will be placed for you along the bottom level of the bleachers in alphabetical order on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Wednesday they will be on the front row of seats in the auditorium. Please return them to their correct place before leaving the theater.

Hosiery Notes:

Actors, male or female, need to wear dark trouser socks that do not stand out in contrast with their black shoes and pants or dresses and skirts. I would encourage black ones as they will blend with the dark shoes.

General hair notes:

If your hair will not stay in place when it is pulled back or braided, please use bobby pins and hair spray to immobilize the wandering strands.

Actors playing adult women (peasants, cook, cook's helpers):

Your hair needs to be pulled back into a low, formal bun, if long enough. Otherwise, pull it back into a low ponytail or pin it back from your face and hairspray it in place.

Female actors playing boys and adult men (Coachman, Footmen):

Your hair needs to be restrained in such a manner as to appear like a low ponytail at the nape of the neck. If it is long, the ponytail will need to be put into the back of your shirt. Please use hairspray and hairpins to keep the sides and bangs under control.

Female actors playing courtiers:

Your hair can be made into a high bun, high bun with ringlets, the front pieces pulled back or all ringlets with the front pieces pulled back. It needs to be out of your faces and controlled so pieces don't end up in your face during the show.

Mateus, Jayden, Josh, Pranab, Surya:

Please style your hair so that you don't have bangs hanging down on your forehead. A comb-through while it is wet with a side part and then immobilizing it with hairspray will be fine. It needs to stay back and not fall down into your face.

Cassie, Katie, Anna H:

Your hair needs to be pulled back. Your hair can be in a bun, braids, or with the locks at your temples pulled back and the rest hanging down. It needs to start nicely styled and become disheveled with leaves in it after the first night. No leaves but still messed up in Act 2.

Cody:

We will be styling your hair at the theater. Mrs. Brimhall and I have some ideas, but will make final determinations when we see what happens.

Anna:

Please pull the front of your hair back with hairpins. The back with hang down. You will have ears that will be set into your hair.

Prisoners:

In keeping with your characters, your hair should be mussed and unkept looking, but still pulled back so we can see your faces. Girls with longer hair, please have it in braids, but they shouldn't be perfect.

Actors playing girls (peasants or courtiers):

Your hair needs to be pulled back into single or double French style braids.

Final Costume notes:

Pants must be worn around the natural waist and shirts are to be tucked in. Remember, extra pieces such as hats, aprons, shawls are considered props and will not be sent home. Please do not wear your own jewelry. NO earrings, watches, bracelets, necklaces, etc. If you wear corrective glasses, please consider leaving them backstage during the performances unless you require them to avoid tripping and falling on stage (Safety First).

TO RECAP: Final thoughts/reminders.....

Costumes and shoes will be handed out on Tuesday at the end of rehearsal. Please do not leave until you have received your costume or been told specifically that your costume is not ready.

Come dressed in your costume (no makeup) on Wednesday night with your hair fixed and the right socks and shoes. Please also bring "street" clothes in case there are any problems with your costume. All costumes assigned to you remain the property of Smiles and Frowns Playhouse. As such, they are to be treated with care. We do not launder the costumes during the run of the show. They are cleaned after the show closes.

Thursday night is a full dress rehearsal. Actors will need to report at the theater in full costume and make-up as indicated in a separate communication about call times.

No eating or drinking while in costume. Please be sure to wear antiperspirant while in costume.

Be sure that you come to the final performance on Saturday with "street" clothes. You will not be allowed to leave before returning your costume.

Scripts must also be returned after the final performance. Actors will not be allowed to audition again until scripts and costumes are returned.

Thank you so much for reading all the way to the end of this very long document. Like I wrote earlier, if you have any questions about this information, please feel free to call me. (252-531-7423)

I'm looking forward to another amazing show.

Susan McCrea