



All the world's a stage,
And all the men and women merely players:
They have their exits and their entrances;
And one man in his time plays many parts...

Welcome to the 2011 -2012 season of **F**orensics and **D**rama Club!

I myself am entering Overbrook's stage once more, and will be reprising my role as forensics coach. Joining me again is Ms. Katie Marotta, who teaches first grade. Both of us are looking forward to a very exciting year.

All 5th through 8th graders are invited to take part in the fun and competition that is forensics. Forensics encourages students in the development of public speaking abilities, interpretation of various literature genres, and overall self-confidence. Our team will participate once-twice a month in tournaments at various schools in the Nashville area, fostering a friendly spirit of competition among middle school students. Students have the chance to perform in a variety of areas: *Audition Monologue, Duet Acting, Duo Interpretation, Duo Improvisation, Dramatic Interpretation, Humorous Interpretation, One Act Play, Original Oratory, Pantomime, Poetry, Prose, Impromptu, and Storytelling.*

Most (if not all) team members will participate in two categories. **Practices will take place in the library on Mondays and Thursdays from 3:00-4:15.** Students are required to attend either Monday or Thursday practices, **but not both.** (**All team members** should participate in **Friday practices** when these occur, as these serve as dress rehearsals for the tournaments; these occur from **3:00-5:00** on the Fridays before tournaments.) We have two days' worth of regular practices for flexibility's sake, and to allow as many potential actors as possible to participate. Of course, any team member who wishes to attend both weekly practices is more than welcome to do so.

Auditions for our forensics team will be held from 3:00-4:30 on Monday, August 29th; potential team members should be prompt, and should prepare a short piece to perform. Pieces should be no more than approximately one-two minutes in length, and can be poetry, a monologue, or a selection from a short story.

4th through 8th graders are also invited to participate in our drama club. The club will provide students with an opportunity to learn the various facets of theater (e.g., acting, costume and set design, props, etc.) in a collegial and non-competitive environment. Over the course of many weeks during the fall and winter, club members will work together to put on a production, which will be presented to the school at large. Students will have a chance to explore and develop their artistic gifts

and put them to wonderful theatrical use. **Practices for the drama club will take place in the library on Mondays and Thursdays from 4:15-5:15.**

Auditions for our drama club will also be held from 4:30-5:30 on Monday, August 29th; potential club members should be prompt, and should prepare a short piece to perform. Pieces should be approximately one-two minutes in length, and can be poetry, a monologue, or a short story.

There is a \$80.00 fee for each team/club, which helps to offset the costs of participation in the tournaments, holding Overbrook's invitational event, and putting on a production. Checks may be made out to Overbrook School.

The first practice for the forensics team will occur at 3:00 on Thursday, September 1st in the library.

The first practice for the drama club will occur at 4:15 on Thursday, September 1st in the library.

Attached are important materials for your review, including a schedule of this year's forensics tournaments, permission and payment slips, a parental participation sheet, and an audition and commitment form for each team/club. Please be sure to look at and submit these as indicated.

Ms. Marotta and I look forward to seeing all of you very soon, and cannot wait to begin! Here's to playing our parts to perfection!

God bless,

Mrs. Fisher-Janosz

Forensics Tournament Schedule



Oct. 15th -- JPII

Oct. 29th -- St. Joseph

Nov. 19th -- St. Edward

Dec. 2nd -- Christ the King 5th and 6th grade tournament

Jan 14th -- St. Cecilia Academy Invitational

Feb. 4th -- Father Ryan

Feb. 11th -- Overbrook Invitational

Feb. 25th -- Coaches' Choice @ Holy Rosary Academy

March 3rd -- Championship @ St. Ann

(Note that the 5th and 6th grade tournament takes place on a Friday; of course, no Friday practice will occur that week.)

Permission and Payment Slip - Forensics Team



Please indicate your permission by completing the form below; fill in your child's name and sign your name where requested.

My child, _____, has my permission to participate in the Overbrook School forensics program during the 2011-2012 season.

I understand that being a part of the forensics team entails weekly practices on Monday and Thursday afternoons, with additional practices occurring on Fridays before tournaments. I also understand that tournaments occur on Saturdays, with one-two tournaments being held per month from October through March.

(Parent signature)

To further indicate that I permit my child to participate in forensics this season, I have attached a payment of \$80.00.

Payment attached.

Permission and Payment Slip - Drama Club



Please indicate your permission by completing the form below; fill in your child's name and sign your name where requested.

My child, _____, has my permission to participate in the drama club for the 2011-2012 season. I understand that participation includes approximately ten weeks of practices on Monday and Thursday afternoons (in the fall and winter) and a performance on a date to be determined.

(Parent signature)

To further indicate that I permit my child to participate in drama club this season, I have attached a payment of \$80.00.

Payment attached.

Parental Participation Sheet



Please indicate below whether you would be willing to be a judge at any of this season's tournaments; please note that you will be provided with judging tips, etc., should you need them. **Place a check mark next to the tournaments for which you could be available.**

I, _____, would be willing to judge for the following tournament(s):

- Oct. 15th -- JPPII**
- Oct. 29th -- St. Joseph**
- Nov. 19th -- St. Edward**
- Dec. 2nd -- Christ the King 5th and 6th grade tournament**
- Jan 14th -- St. Cecilia Academy Invitational**
- Feb. 4th -- Father Ryan**
- Feb. 11th -- Overbrook Invitational**
- Feb. 25th -- Coaches' Choice @ Holy Rosary Academy**
- March 3rd -- Championship @ St. Ann**

It's never too early to plan for Overbrook's own invitational! Our event will take place on February 11th, 2012. Please indicate below if you would be willing to help us prepare for and hold our invitational; possible areas of participation include providing food for the judges' lounge, judging, tab room, tab table, registration, decorations, concessions, duo improvisation area monitoring, and general crowd control and help in the hallways.

I, _____, would be willing to help with the Overbrook Invitational.

I can help in the following area(s):

Audition and Commitment Form— Forensics Team

Please complete this form and bring it with you to the audition on Monday, August 29th at 3:00.

Please print and place a photo
of yourself here.

NAME:

Address and Phone Number:

Categories in Which You Hope to Perform:

As a dedicated member of the Overbrook Forensic Team, I pledge to uphold the following commitments:

1. To attend weekly practices and to rehearse as scheduled.
2. To practice on my own and/or with teammates.
3. To keep my script and binder in excellent condition.
4. To have all permission slips, forms, etc., signed and returned when requested.
5. To attend all tournaments.
6. To give conflict notice at least two weeks in advance of any tournament.
7. To dress in a professional manner for tournaments.
8. To arrive on time for practices and tournaments.
9. To be respectful to any adults and students on our team and other schools' teams.
10. To maintain a positive attitude, work well with other team members, be a mentor to younger performers, and serve as a leader at Overbrook.

Signed:

Audition and Commitment Form— Drama Club

Please complete this form and bring it with you to the audition on Monday, August 29th at 4:30.

Please print and place a photo
of yourself here.

NAME:

Address and Phone Number:

Areas in Which You Most Wish to Participate:

As a dedicated member of the Overbrook Drama Club, I pledge to uphold the following commitments:

1. To arrive on time for and attend weekly practices.
2. To practice on my own and/or with other club members.
3. To participate fully in all aspects of our theatrical production(s).
4. To keep my script in excellent condition.
5. To have all permission slips, forms, etc., signed and returned when requested.
6. To arrive on time for and attend all performances.
7. To be respectful to any adults and students in our club.
8. To maintain a positive attitude, work well with other club members, be a mentor to younger performers, and serve as a leader at Overbrook.

Signed:
