



### **Into University**

Y6 attended Into University last week. Children learned a lot about university and started to think about a future career. At the end of the week, children then performed in front of parents and family members at their graduation ceremony

### **Rhythm Studio**

Children in Year 6 have been taking part in work at Rhythm Studio. They chose which area they were most interested in out of drumming, guitar, singing and music production. The children then worked with music teachers to learn songs which they had chosen. The children performed for the school on Monday and it was great to see children performing with confidence in front of an audience.

### **Building work**

Work has begun on the two sites adjacent to the school on Middle Row and Southern Row. This will be continuing until 2018. There has been some slight remodelling of our playground space on both sides of the building but otherwise, we should be unaffected.

### **Penalty Notices**

As you will know, lateness and absence by some pupils has been an issue for the school for some time. In our highly successful Ofsted inspection this year, attendance was the only area noted by inspectors as an area for improvement. We have dedicated many hours in efforts to improve this area of the schools performance, with limited success. In light of this, we are advising parents that we will be issuing penalty notices to the parents of children whose attendance and punctuality has been a cause for concern and who have not responded to, or engaged with, the school in trying to address and improve. Circumstances in which a Penalty Notice may be issued are listed below:

1. Persistent unauthorised absence from school
  - persistent unauthorised absence of below 85% over a 6 week period. For leave taken during term time, where the absence has not been authorised by the school.
  - for leave taken during term time, where an authorised leave has been taken but the child fails to return by the agreed date
2. Persistent lateness following the close of the school register, i.e. in cases where the U code is used
3. Excluded Children. Where a child has been excluded from school (fixed-term or permanent), and is found in a public place during school hours without reasonable justification within the first five days of the exclusion period.

We would like to thank parents in advance for their support in helping us to improve this area of the school's performance.

### **Shakespeare for Schools Festival**

A group of Y5 children recently took part in the Shakespeare for Schools Festival. They excelled with the effort and enthusiasm they showed in rehearsing and performing. Their appraisal is overleaf.

**THE SCHOOL WILL BE CLOSED FOR INSET TOMORROW. WE WILL BE OPEN FOR LEARNING ON MONDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> DEC AT THE USUAL TIME.**





**Shakespeare**  
**SCHOOLS FESTIVAL**

**YOUR APPRAISAL**

**“The rest is silence”**

Hamlet

Produced and Performed by  
Ark Brunel Primary Academy  
Shaw Theatre

21 November 2016

Appraised by Tom Mansfield

Many congratulations to the cast and crew of Ark Brunel Primary Academy on their fantastic production! I'd like to highlight a few things from this group that stood out, wowed the audience and made this Shakespeare Schools Festival night an evening to remember.

I really admired the way these young students engaged with Shakespeare's language. They showed real confidence in their understanding of the text.

The performers' sense of ensemble was very good indeed, and there were some great moments of reaction. One particular highlight was the second appearance of the Ghost, when everyone on stage had a moment of fear.



The performances and direction demonstrated an excellent emotional range, with some really witty moments. I particularly enjoyed the death of Polonius, and the relationship between Rosencrantz, Guildenstern and the other characters.

This was a compelling and engaging Hamlet, presented by a young cast of exceptional maturity.

**“It's a significant achievement to do something as difficult and aspirational as perform one of Shakespeare's plays on a professional stage. Everyone who's taken part should be so proud of themselves.”**

**Ruth Brock, SSF Chief Executive**

I would like to congratulate everyone involved in this superb production. I hope to see your school in the Festival again next year.

Tom Mansfield  
SSF Stage Director





# ARK Brunel Primary Academy

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Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2016

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@ARKBrunel

Website: [www.arkbrunelprimary.org](http://www.arkbrunelprimary.org)

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