

P.L. Robertson Public School presents



AUDITION LETTER and FORM

Dear Students, Parents, and Guardians,

Thank you so much for your interest in P.L. Robertson's 2025-2026 production of Shrek The Musical Jr.! The musical is an adaptation of the movie, "Shrek". Our show will be performed in our very own gymnasium this coming April. Shrek has a HUGE cast of characters, so any students in grades 6-8 are welcome to audition. There will also be a Junior Chorus, made up of students in grades 4 and 5. This is an incredible opportunity for students to develop their abilities in drama, dance and music. Being part of a musical is also great for building confidence, character, teamwork, and experience with long-range goal setting.

This letter is intended for the families of students in grades 6-8 who are interested in performing in the musical. If you'd like to help out backstage (stage crew, lights, sound, costumes, props, etc...) you can look for sign-ups in the new year.

All members of the cast are required to complete an audition. The requirements of the audition depend on the kind of role you want.

1. **Big Roles** - These roles have multiple solos and lots of lines to memorize, so make sure you're comfortable and have the time to commit (*Shrek, Fiona, Donkey*). For the audition, you will be required to practise a few lines and prepare a song from the show.
2. **Medium Roles** - Still quite a few lines and maybe a solo (*Farquaad, Gingy, Dragon, Pinocchio*). For the audition, you will be required to practise a few lines and prepare part of a song from the show.
3. **Smaller Roles** - Less than 10 lines (if any), and either no solos or maybe a tiny little 'one sentence' solo (*Storyteller 1, Storyteller 2, Storyteller 3, Mama Ogre, Papa Ogre, Big Bad Wolf, Pig 1, Pig 2, Pig 3, Wicked Witch, Peter Pan, Ugly Duckling, Mama Bear, Baby Bear, Young Fiona, Teen Fiona, Knight 1, Knight 2, Knight 3, Knight 4*). For the audition, you will be required to practice a few lines and sing a song of your choice - either something from the show, O Canada, Happy Birthday or something similar.

4. **Non-Singing** - *Captain of the Guards, Pied Piper/Gnome, Bishop*. These 3 parts do not require the actor to sing, but you will be required to prepare some lines for your audition.
5. **Chorus / Ensemble** - If you don't wish to have any lines, you can audition to be part of the ensemble. This means you will likely play a fairy tale character, a woodland creature and/or a townspeople. You won't have any lines, but will sing with the cast for the big ensemble numbers. For the audition you can sing either a song from the show or any other song of your choice (O Canada, Happy Birthday, etc...)

Audition Preparation

In preparation for auditions, please visit www.plrmusic.com to find summaries and audition materials for each character. You are encouraged to listen to all of the songs first and then decide which character(s) best fit your abilities. Students should practice with both the 'vocal demo' as well as the 'accompaniment track' which is what will be used for the audition. Memorization of the audition materials is **not** required, but is strongly encouraged as it will help 'get in character'. If you are having difficulties with the audition song, you may also choose to sing another song you know well, like Happy Birthday or O Canada.

Audition Form

Students should list their top 2 choices on the attached audition form but **only need to prepare the dialogue and music selection for their first choice**. Student preference will be considered, but the casting team may offer a role that is not one of their choices.

Completed forms must be returned to Mr. Hall by Monday, October 20th.

Audition Process

Students will need to sign up for an audition time during the weeks of October 20th, 27th, and November 3rd. At the audition, you'll be asked to sing about 30 seconds of your prepared song (We don't have time to hear the whole thing). You'll also read your prepared lines (teachers will read the lines of the other characters). Finally, you'll be asked to sing back a few exercises so we can get a sense of your vocal range. Some students may be asked to attend a 'call-back' to either try their song a second time or perhaps try out a different part. Don't worry if you don't get a call back. You may still be under consideration for a role. The final cast list will be announced by mid-November.

Rehearsal Commitment

It cannot be overstated that a high level of commitment is required by all members of the cast and crew. If selected to be a cast member, students will be required to attend a variety of rehearsals during nutrition breaks and after school, as well as one, all-day rehearsal on Saturday, April 18th in order to be ready to perform. Details and specific dates can be found below. The success of the show depends on your work at practices and at home. Students who miss too many rehearsals may be asked not to continue in the production.

Rehearsal Schedule

November - December: Weekly rehearsals during nutrition breaks

January - April: Nutrition break rehearsals continue with one additional rehearsal after school every Wednesday (3:05 - 4:30)

Show Week - Mandatory Dates

(If you know you won't be able to attend these important dates, please do not audition for the show.)

Saturday, April 18th - Tech run 9:30am - 3:00pm

Monday, April 20th - Dress Rehearsal 3:15-5:00

Tuesday, April 21st - Dress Rehearsal 3:15-5:00

Wednesday, April 22nd - School show during the day, Family show in the early evening

Thursday, April 23rd - School show during the day, Family show in the early evening

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact Mr. Hall at hallrob@hdsb.ca.

Thank you for your interest and support for this incredible opportunity,

Mr. Hall
Director

Ms. Woods
Stage Manager

Shrek The Musical Jr. Audition Form

Student Name: _____ Homeroom Code: _____

Desired Roles:

Please make 2 selections from the "Character Summaries" page. Then, check the "Audition Chart" and prepare the required materials for your first choice only. Available at www.plrmusic.com

First Choice: _____ Second Choice: _____

Parent/Guardian Permission:

In order for your child to be offered a role in Shrek The Musical Jr., you must read and agree to each of the following:

1. I have read over my child's audition letter and request form.
2. Should my child receive a role in the musical, I will make sure that they can attend all required rehearsals. A detailed rehearsal schedule will be sent home in November. Upon reviewing the schedule, I will notify the directors immediately if there are any dates or times that my child is unavailable. I understand that too much missed rehearsal could result in my child being removed from the cast. *(Students WILL be required to attend rehearsals after school beginning in January. Emergencies and illness are understandable, however a commitment to be in the show means that you should not accept or take on other activities which occur during posted rehearsal times. Please let the directors know, in advance, of any conflicts.)*
3. My child will be available for the mandatory tech/dress rehearsals on **Saturday, April 18th** from 9:30 - 3:00, **Monday, April 20th** from 3:05 - 5:00, and **Tuesday, April 21st** from 3:05 - 5:00.
4. My child will be available for the day and evening showtimes on **Wednesday, April 22nd** and **Thursday, April 23rd**.
5. I acknowledge the time commitment required to practice at home for the roles my child has selected.

Parent/Guardian Name (please print): _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____