



October 3, 2011

Dear Parents/Guardians:

It is with enormous pleasure that we are writing to inform you that your daughter has been chosen to participate in the Middle School Musical: MULAN. Mulan is the retelling of an old Chinese folktale of a young Chinese maiden who, in order to save her ill father, disguises herself as a man and goes off to fight in the war against the invading Huns. Her ancestors send one their own, a disgraced dragon, Mushu, to help her with quest, because if the army finds out that she is a girl, she will be put to death.

Performances include a late afternoon and evening performance on **Thursday, December 8** (with the possibility of an open dress rehearsal for local public schools on Wednesday, December 7) and a performance for Middle School students on **Friday, December 9** in the morning. Rehearsals will require that cast members be able to commit a significant amount of time and energy over the next several months. **Rehearsals** typically take place on **Monday** and **Thursday** after school from 3:45 p.m. to 6 p.m.; **as we near the time of production towards the end of November, rehearsals** will also be scheduled on **Saturday and/or Sunday**. While we make every effort to accommodate the many other extra-curricular activities that the students are involved in by balancing the rehearsal schedule so that **not all of the students are called all of the time**, it should be noted that mounting a theatrical production is a collaborative experience: the full commitment on the part of everyone involved is essential. Students are asked to provide a letter from home if they are unable to attend a rehearsal; two missed rehearsals, without proper notice, will result in that student having to relinquish her place in the production.

Rehearsal schedules will be provided on a monthly basis; I would please ask that students arrive promptly so that we may begin on time. In the event of an emergency, a message may be sent to me via email at tnoon@elmwood.ca. You can also reach Mr. Gummeson by email at ngummeson@elmwood.ca

With our security system it is important that students follow the same procedure on weekends, as they do during the week. They will be expected to sign in upon their arrival and to sign out as they depart. It is important for the staff on site to know who is in the building at all times. Parents will be responsible for delivering their children and making arrangements to collect them again at the end of rehearsals. Students who leave the school independently to travel home on foot or by public transport must inform their parents at all times precisely when they are needed at rehearsal and what time they can expect to finish. If parents would like to receive their own copy of the schedule I would please ask that you forward to me by email your request and I will be more than happy to include you on our electronic mailing list.

If you would like to grant your daughter permission to appear in this production, I would please ask that you complete the form and return it by **Thursday, October 6, 2011**. Thank you in advance for your kind support of this exciting event and we look forward to working with your daughter over the next several months.

Yours sincerely,

Ms. Noon
Stage Director
Teacher, English and Integrated Arts

Mr. Gummeson
Music Director
Director of Music



**MULAN
PERMISSION FORM**

I (**please print**) _____ do hereby (parent/guardian name) grant my daughter, _____ in Homeroom _____ permission to participate in the Middle School Musical production of **Mulan**. I will make every reasonable effort to ensure that she attend all scheduled rehearsals on **Monday and Thursday afternoons after-school**, and **on one or both days of the weekend in November**, as the production nears opening (December 7, 8 and 9).

PLEASE TICK ONE BELOW

- We live in the neighbourhood and my daughter will be able to walk to and from rehearsals during the week and on the weekend.
- We do not live within walking distance so we will make travel arrangements for our daughter to and from rehearsals during the week and on the weekend.

(Parent/Guardian Signature)

(Date)

Email Address (*optional*) _____ Telephone # _____

**PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM
TO THE ATTENTION OF MS. NOON OR MR. GUMMESON
BY Thursday, October 6, 2011**