

# COPYRIGHT AND LICENSING

## PLEASE READ THIS IMPORTANT INFORMATION BEFORE PLANNING YOUR PERFORMANCE

Under the Copyrights, Designs and Patents Act (1988), it is a legal requirement for schools to comply with copyright law, and ensure they hold the correct licences for performing musicals. As experienced teachers ourselves, we understand that time restraints and lack of advice can sometimes mean this aspect of your production is not dealt with, or that the details and requirements are not fully understood. We therefore try to make the process of licensing your performances as simple as possible.

### General Guidelines

You are free to use any of our material for all classroom teaching purposes and for performances within school to only pupils and staff. However, if our musicals are to be performed to an audience other than pupils and staff from your school (eg. parents or other people from the wider community) then a performance licence must be obtained directly from Edgy Productions.

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### Performance of Musicals

The performance of works involving drama, movement, narrative or spoken dialogue requires a title and date specific licence from the copyright holder/publisher – in this case Edgy Productions. The requirement for a licence is irrespective of admission charges. **Your PRS, PPL, CLA or any equivalent local authority-issued licences do not cover you for such performances.**

A performance licence from us will permit the holder to do the following:

- Perform a musical up to 5 times in one academic year, to a public audience, within your school.\*
- Reproduce song lyrics on paper or for display on interactive whiteboards or similar screens.
- Photocopy the script and score for the cast to learn lines, and musicians to play the songs.

\* **If you are performing outside of your school premises, for example in a local theatre, please contact us as further conditions apply. For more information, visit [www.edgyproductions.com/licences](http://www.edgyproductions.com/licences)**

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### Audio and Video Recordings

If you wish to make an audio or video recording of the performance of any of our musicals, you will need an additional **recording and duplication licence** from Edgy Productions. This will also allow you to make and sell copies of your recordings if you wish to do so. We no longer request that you pay a commission to us on the money you raise from the sale of recordings.

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### File Sharing

You are not permitted to share any of our copyrighted material, either in printed form, on disc or in digital file format, with anyone who is not a pupil or teacher within your school or organisation. We will take immediate action should an incident of illegal file-sharing be reported or discovered.

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You can, of course, phone or email us for advice – we are more than happy to discuss all your licensing needs.

# PERFORMANCE LICENCE APPLICATION FORM

For any performance of any part of 'Primary School Christmas Musical' to an audience other than staff and children (eg. to parents), a valid performance licence from Edgy Productions must be held. Please note, your PRS, MCPS, CCLI or similar local authority-issued licence does not cover you for this.

**Unless you purchased an instant performance licence and/or a recording & duplication licence when you bought this production pack, please ensure you complete and return this form at least 28 days before your first performance:**

- by post – please check website for current address details
- by FAX – 0845 833 33 49
- by email – [info@edgyproductions.com](mailto:info@edgyproductions.com)

**The performance licence will permit the holder to do the following:**

- Perform a musical up to 5 times in one academic year, to a public audience, within your school.\*
- Reproduce song lyrics on paper or for display on interactive whiteboards or similar screens.
- Photocopy the script and score for the cast to learn lines, and musicians to play the songs.

**Contact name:** .....

**Name of school / organisation:** .....

**Address:** .....

..... **Postcode:** .....

**Tel:** ..... **email:** .....

**Number of performances:** ..... **Performances Dates: from** ..... **to** .....

By ticking, select one of the performance licence options below:

**Standard Performance Licence** ☐ **£36.00** (including VAT)  
(no admission charged and no tickets sold)

**or**

**Performance Licence with charges** ☐ **£42.00** (including VAT)  
(admission **is** charged and/or tickets **are** sold)

☐ \* Tick if you are performing outside your school premises, for example in a local theatre, as further conditions apply – see [www.edgyproductions.com/licences](http://www.edgyproductions.com/licences)

If you are recording any performance, and/or selling copies of the recording, you will **also** need a recording and duplication licence.

**Recording and Duplication Licence** ☐ **£36.00** (including VAT)

By ticking, select one of the payment options below:

☐ **I enclose a cheque for £..... made payable to Edgy Productions Ltd**

☐ **Please send me an invoice for £.....** (payment terms 30 days)

**Writers rely on payments from public performances for their livelihoods.  
Please ensure they receive their dues.**

# INTRODUCTION

## Plot Summary

As the opening song (*Primary School Christmas Musical*) finishes, Headteacher Miss Bright welcomes the audience. She explains that making it to tonight’s performance has been far from plain sailing, and that the trials and tribulations began as far back as September! In the first of a series of flashbacks we find ourselves witness to a staff meeting, where the Key Stage 1 teachers are relieved to learn that the enthusiastic Mrs Jolly, Mr Keen and Miss Swift will be taking over the reins of this year’s Christmas production, and plan to put on a ‘glitzy’ nativity musical with the Key Stage 2 children.

**(song – *Let’s Get This Show On The Road*)**

Auditions follow, and in typical X-Factor style some children stun the teachers with their over-the-top efforts at securing lead roles! Nevertheless, the main parts are assigned and the children are informed they’ll be performing a nativity. Horrified that they will have to suffer the humiliation of wearing tea-towels and tinsel (something only infants should be doing), rumblings of mutiny can be felt amongst the cast. **(song – *Don’t Wanna Do No Nativity*)** In spite of this lack of enthusiasm, preparations begin in earnest. Letters are sent home informing parents of their children’s involvement in the musical, and asking for help with such things as costumes. This leads to some typical outbursts of parental pride, pushiness and one-upmanship! **(song – *Yours Sincerely*)**

Next, the teaching assistants are drafted in to begin making scenery and assembling props. With skill and determination they set about their tasks.....once they’ve had a cuppa! **(song – *Get In The Groove*)**

As the weeks pass, however, most people in school become fed up with the impact that the constant grind of rehearsals is having. The children complain that the hall is never free for PE, while the other KS2 teachers bemoan the fact that the children are exhausted and that there’s no work in their books to show parents on consultation evening. Even the kitchen staff feel put out – rehearsals are constantly over-running and they’re unable to get into the hall early enough to set up for and serve lunch, resulting in frayed tempers and overcooked sausages! **(song – *When All This Is over*)**

Things come to a head during the dress rehearsal. In the face of un-finished scenery, an under-rehearsed script, ‘diva’ tantrums by lead actors and a general apathy and lack of effort all round, Mrs Jolly, Mr Keen and Miss Swift reach the end of their tethers! **(song – *Rock-Bottom*)**

In the midst of this chaos some unlikely heroic characters emerge, stepping up to the mark with passion and commitment to rally the disgruntled ensemble. **(song – *It’s Time To Put It Behind Us*)** Can the show be brought back from the brink in time for the opening performance?

Well, if miracles can’t happen at Christmas, when can they happen? With a huge final push, a bit of ‘trickery’ and lots of luck, the production is rescued, **(song – *Oh What A Wonderful Night*)** much to the relief of all concerned!

# CHARACTERS

*Speaking parts in order of appearance*

*(NB. All the adult characters can be either male or female, so feel free to switch the Mr/Mrs/Miss titles. All names themselves can also be changed.)*

**Miss Bright – Headteacher**

## Key Stage 2 Teachers

**Mrs Jolly**

**Mr Keen**

**Miss Swift**

**Mr Thorn**

**Miss Picket**

## Key Stage 1 Teachers

**Mrs Curtly**

**Mr Short**

## Children

**Sonia and Craig**

**Leona and Kyle – pampered villains!**

**Jamie and Lily – humble heroes!**

**Alice**

**Sam**

**Daniel**

**Oliver**

**Megan**

**Charlotte**

## Parents

**8 Parents – not named**

## Teaching Assistants

**Caroline**

**Liz**

**Sally**

**Lesley**

**Sue**

**Julie**

## Kitchen Staff

**2 Cooks**

**2 Dinner Ladies**

*Ensemble characters for selected scenes and songs (if numbers allow)*

**More.....**

**Key Stage 2 teachers**

**Key Stage 1 teachers**

**Children**

**Choir**

**Teaching Assistants**

**Kitchen staff**

**Parents**

# Scene 1

*(The whole cast enters and is on stage the opening song.)*

## **Song 1 – Primary School Christmas Musical** *(CD Track 10, lyrics p18)* *(Whole cast)*

*(Play the backing track to song 1 again (CD Track 10) as all sit. Fade the music when ready. 4 ‘empty’ display boards stand at the back of the stage – see staging suggestions. On stage is an arrangement of chairs to represent a staffroom. Headteacher, Miss Bright, stands in front of the stage. She can use cue cards for this and further addresses to the audience.)*

**Miss Bright** Good evening everyone. My name is Miss Bright, Headteacher, and I’d like to welcome you all to our school’s Christmas musical. I guarantee you’re in for a real treat! The children and staff have worked incredibly hard to put this show together, and I know they’ve found it a thoroughly enjoyable experience.....  
*(pausing, ignoring cue cards).....* Actually, that’s not entirely true! There have been one or two ups and downs.....in fact that’s not entirely true either – there have been **lots** of ups and downs, which all began way back in September.....

*(We hear a Harp (CD Track 11) signifying a journey back in time. Miss Bright sits on the middle chair on stage. 10-20 other teachers, as your numbers allow, enter and sit either side of her, creating a visible divide between KS1 and KS2 staff.)*

**Miss Bright** Well, that’s all the items on the agenda dealt with. Is there any other business? *(Mrs Jolly raises her hand.)* Yes, Mrs Jolly.

**Mrs Jolly** There is the matter of this year’s Christmas play. I know it’s early in the term, but it would be useful to decide what we’ll be doing. I myself, Mr Keen and Miss Swift here, do have a few ideas.

**Mr Keen** Yes, we’ve still got summer tans, and Christmas seems ages away, but it wouldn’t hurt to start planning the production now.

**Miss Swift** I agree, Mr Keen. It’s never too early to start thinking about Christmas. I’ve already bought my presents, and my decorations will be going up no later than October half term!

**Mrs Curtly** Well I don’t care what you decide, as long as we in Key Stage 1 don’t have to do it again. Year after year of ‘Away In A Manger’ is starting to grate a little! Don’t you agree Mr Short?

**Mr Short** I do Mrs Curtly. It’s not helped by the fact that even at the end of Year 2 most of the little dears still don’t have a grasp of melody! I don’t think I can stand another term of their squealing!

*(The other KS1 teachers murmur their agreement.)*

**Mrs Jolly** *(gesturing towards the KS2 staff)* So why not let us in Key Stage 2 handle things this year? I know we’d all relish the opportunity, wouldn’t we Miss Swift?

**Miss Swift** Indeed we would! I’m already quite excited about the prospect!

*(The other KS2 teachers murmur their disapproval, in particular Mr Thorn and Miss Picket)*

**Mr Thorn** Woah! Just hang on a minute! What about the extra work it’ll create? Finding costumes and props, making scenery, sitting through excruciating auditions and excruciating rehearsals!

**Miss Picket** We don’t have the time in Key Stage 2 to do a Christmas show!

**Mr Keen** But Mr Thorn, Miss Picket, if we do a nativity musical we’ll have most of the things we need in school already!

**Mrs Jolly** And with the Key Stage 2 children involved, it’ll be a nativity with a bit of glitz! It’ll be a lot more ‘showbiz’ than the run-of-the-mill productions we usually see at Christmas!

**KS1 Staff** Oh! Thanks a lot!

**Mrs Curtly** Go ahead then, be our guests. At least there are plenty of wigs in the costume cupboard for when you’ve all pulled your hair out!

**Mr Short** *(laughing mockingly)* Well, I for one think it’s a great idea – a Key Stage 2 nativity! It’s revolutionary! Oh, *(to all the KS2 teachers)* and good luck you lot.....you’ll need it.

*(Mr Short and the rest of the KS1 teachers snigger, while Mrs Jolly, Mr Keen and Miss Swift give encouraging smiles to their nervous KS2 colleagues!)*

**Song 2 – Let’s Get This Show On The Road** *(CD Track 12, lyrics p19)*  
*(All Teachers, supported by whole cast)*

*(The backing track is played again (CD Track 12) as all exit, and the stage is made ready for the next scene. Fade the music when ready. Miss Bright addresses the audience again.)*

## Scene 2

**Miss Bright** So it was decided – Key Stage 2 would do a nativity. The enthusiastic teachers didn’t waste any time, and set about holding auditions, which proved.....erm....eventful.....

*(She exits to the Harp (CD Track 13). To one side of the stage Mrs Jolly, Mr Keen and Mr Swift sit at a table. They have clipboards on which their lines could be written as prompts. A sign reading ‘AUDITIONS IN PROGRESS’ stands prominently. )*

**Miss Swift** It’s been a mixed bag so far. We’ve filled some of the lead roles, but I’m worried there’s not enough talent out there to fill the rest.

**Mr Keen** Well, let’s see what the next two are like. It’s Sonia and Craig from Year 5 – they’re certainly not short on.....attitude!

*(Sonia and Craig enter wearing Hip-Hop gear, and strike a ‘gangsta’ pose.)*

**Mrs Jolly** So Sonia, Craig, what do you think you’ll bring to our musical?

**Sonia** We’ll keep it real, yeah. We’ll bring a slammin’ old-skool vibe!

**Craig** We’ll haul out some g-funk, y’all, from the def-jam tip!

**Miss Swift** Errr....yes....very nice I’m sure. Well, would you like to begin?

*(Sonia and Craig perform a short unaccompanied rap – perhaps something current and slightly inappropriate for a school musical audition! The three teachers are stunned!)*

**Mrs Jolly** Ok.....that was very....interesting! Sonia, Craig, we’ll let you know. Please send the next two in.

*(Sonia and Craig exit as the flamboyant Leona and Kyle enter. Kyle whispers to Leona....)*

**Kyle** Our Saturday morning stage school training in singing, drama, and modern dance will give us the edge over that lot out there.

*(They exaggeratedly ‘flounce’ over to the teachers, and assume theatrical poses.)*

**Mr Keen** Ah, Kyle and Leona, nice to see you. So tell us, why do you want a main part in this musical?

**Leona** To share with the world this unique talent God has given me.

**Kyle** *(with a fake dab of the eyes)* I’m doing it for my dear Grandmother who’s lying in a hospital bed. This is her dream too.

**Mrs Jolly** Ah yes, she’s having an in-growing toenail removed isn’t she? Give her my best when you next visit her. Ok, in your own time.

*(Kyle and Leona perform a cheesy, unaccompanied version of a well-known bland pop or west-end number, complete with even cheesier dance moves. Their vocals are passable, though the whole thing is a cringe-worthy audition. They finish with a ‘jazz-hands’ pose!)*

**Miss Swift** *(hiding a smile)* Thank you very much. That was a very confident audition. We’ll let you know. Please send in the final pair.

*(Leona and Kyle exit, high-fiving each other, as Jamie and Lily enter. As they cross paths, Kyle and Leona do an ‘L for loser’ sign on their foreheads, directed at Jamie and Lily.)*

**Mr Keen** Right! Jamie, Lily, we’re a bit short on time, so let’s hear you.

*(Lily and Jamie take a nervous deep breath, but stumble on their first lines.)*

**Jamie** I’m so sorry. We’re both really nervous.

**Mrs Jolly** Well do try and get over it – we’re in a hurry. Come on!

**Lily** Yes, of course. Sorry.....

*(They both take another deep breath then begin to sing a well-known Christmas song or carol, very sweetly but with little confidence. They finish and look nervously at the teachers.)*

**Mr Keen** Well, it was very pleasant, I’ll give you that. But I do wonder how you’d cope in the glare of the spotlight. We’ll let you know. Please ask all the children to come back in now.

*(Jamie beckons all the KS2 children – as many as your numbers allow – who excitedly enter and gather expectantly as the teachers discuss the auditions, consulting their clipboards. Kyle and Leona push their way to the front, while Jamie and Lily are lost in the crowd.)*

**Miss Swift** Thank you for your patience everyone. We’ve made our final decisions. We’ve given leading roles to those who not only have talent, but to those we feel will be able to perform with confidence.

**Mr Keen** So will the following people pop back here during lunchtime break, and we’ll tell you more about the parts you’ve been given.

*(As their names are announced the ‘chosen ones’ step forward and punch the air.)*

Alice, Oliver, Sam, Megan, Daniel, Charlotte, and... *(looking at Mrs Jolly and Miss Swift)*...if you’re sure about this... *(they nod at him)*...Ok then.....and Kyle and Leona.

**Mrs Jolly** Now the rest of you, don’t be down-hearted. You’ll all be in the chorus line, which is the back-bone of any musical production.

**Alice** But you haven’t told us yet what the actual production is.

**Oliver** Is it something really glamorous, funky and exciting?

**Mrs Jolly** It certainly is. Boys and girls, this year Key Stage 2 will be performing .....a nativity!

**All Children** WHAT! A NATIVITY? YOU MUST BE KIDDING!

**Miss Swift** Now, now! Don’t be like that. It’ll be fabulous!

**Sam** But it means we’ll be wearing tea-towels on our heads!

**Megan** Dressing gowns, white sheets and too much tinsel!

**Daniel** And the songs will be really naff! Stuff that little kids sing!

**Charlotte** Please, not a nativity!

**Mr Keen** Well, there’s no time to discuss it now, and anyway, the decision has been made. We’ll see you lot at lunchtime. Don’t be late.

*(The teachers make a swift exit, leaving the disgruntled children seething on stage.)*

### **Song 3 – Don’t Wanna Do No Nativity** *(CD Track 14, lyrics p20)* *(Children)*

*(The backing track is played again (CD Track 14) as all exit, and the stage is made ready for the next scene. Fade the music when ready. Miss Bright addresses the audience again.)*



## Scene 3

**Miss Bright** Now, in spite of the children’s protests at doing a nativity play, things went ahead as planned. First things first, parents had to be notified of their children’s involvement, so letters were sent home.....

*(She exits to the **Harp (CD Track 15)**. Eight mums and dads gather on the stage, a couple with pushchairs, some with shopping etc. We then hear a **School Bell (CD Track 16)**. The eight children who were given main parts rush towards their parents, waving a letter each. They give the letters to their parents, dump their school bags with them then exit the stage as noisily as they’ve just entered. The parents call after them, all shouting different things, eg.....)*

**All Parents** Am I expected to carry your bag home? / Don’t run off, I need help with this shopping! / Wait for me by the gates etc etc...

**Parent 1** *(looking at the letter)* What do we have here then? *(reading)* Ha! My Oliver is second wise man in the play, ‘with a singing solo’ it says here! Well I never! When I hear him singing in the shower, on the few occasions he actually has a shower, he’s tone-deaf!

**Parent 2** *(looking at the letter with pride)* Oh, she’s made it! My Charlotte’s made it! All she ever managed in previous years was third sheep or fourth donkey-handler! But she’s first Shepherd.... *(reading)*....’a speaking part with three lines!’ It’s the big time!

**Parent 3** *(anxiously scanning the letter)* Come on.....come on.....*(finding the important bit!)*.....Yes! Oh Yes! He’s done it! My Kyle’s got Joseph, **the** leading role! Of course, he’s used to getting leading roles in his stage-school productions, so it’s no real surprise.

**Parent 4** *(pointing smugly at his/her own letter)* Ahem! I think you will find that it’s a **co**-leading role, alongside my Leona as Mary! Great – I can film the performance and use the footage to get her an audition for next year’s Britain’s Got Talent!

**Parent 5** *(looking at the letter)* Oh look, my Alice is going to be first Angel! Now, where does it say about booking seats? *(scanning the letter)* I can’t find any information about it.....I’ll need at least ten if all the family’s going to see her....I wonder if I can reserve the whole of the front row....*(carrying on scanning the letter.)*

**Parent 6** *(looking at the letter)* I don’t believe it! My Megan’s playing an angel too! How about that – my own little angel...is an angel! Oh, I’m so proud....I don’t....I can’t....*(she sobs emotionally into a hanky!)*

**Parent 7** *(looking at the letter)* Third wise man? Why only **third** wise man? Why’s my Daniel not **first** wise man?

**Parent 8** *(waving letter)* Because the teachers, in their wisdom, have given that part to my Sam. *(reading)* Ooh, look! It says here we’ll need to help with costumes and such like.

**Parent 7** Oh we will, will we? The cheek of it! They give my boy the part of third wise man, which is an insult in itself, then expect me to spend my valuable time making his costume! Well they can think again!

**Parent 3** Well I’m going to go to town on my Kyle’s costume – sequins, silk head-dress with diamante headband, patent leather sandals, the whole works! He’ll be the most ‘glam’ Joseph there’s ever been!

**Parent 4** And I’m going to dress my Leona up like the star she truly is. I can’t wait! Right, let’s double-check the details.....(*scanning letter*)

*(All the parents read their letters as the music to the next song starts. If your numbers allow, more letter-toting parents can join the eight on stage to sing.)*

**Song 4 – Yours Sincerely** (*CD Track 17, lyrics page21*)  
(*Parents, supported by whole cast*)

*(The backing track is played again (CD Track 17) as all exit, and the stage is made ready for the next scene. Fade the music when ready. Miss Bright addresses the audience again.)*

## Scene 4

**Miss Bright** So, with the parents informed, the next thing to do was get the teaching assistants on board. Everybody knows that the success of a school play is dependant on the back-stage team, and our ladies are the best team you can get!

*(She exits to the Harp (CD Track 18). Six teaching assistants enter, carrying rolls and sheets of backing paper, paints and brushes, staple guns, scissors, boxes of materials, a step ladder etc etc. They each wear a painting apron. Mrs Jolly then enters with a clipboard and rolled-up piece of paper. As she names each TA they stand to attention!)*

**Mrs Jolly** Right! Caroline, Lesley, Liz, Sue, Sally, Julie! We’re on a tight schedule here, so we need to crack on! Now, I’m sure I can leave this ‘to-do’ list in your capable hands. (*She unfurls the very long list she is holding.*)

**All TAs** (*saluting in a slightly mocking fashion*) Yes ma’am!

**Mrs Jolly** Good! Carry on ladies.

*(Mrs Jolly exits, leaving the list, and the TAs kneel by the assorted items on the floor.)*

**Caroline** So, you lot, here we are again!

**Lesley** The calm amongst the chaos!

**Liz** With a list as long as your arm to plough through! It looks like they’ve really gone to town with their ‘demands’ this year!

- Sue** It’s ’cause it’s Key Stage 2 doing it this time. They want to make an impression – y’know, get one up on the Key Stage 1 lot!
- Sally** Well, I must admit I’m quite relieved to be on ‘day-release’ from the Year 1 classroom to do this. Most of the kids have got stinking colds in there, and all I seem to be doing is wiping noses and getting sneezed on!
- Julie** And I’d rather be doing this than sorting out squabbles about who’s taken whose pencil, or whose turn it is in the sand pit!
- Caroline** Right then, let’s see exactly what’s on this list of Jolly’s jobs! (*scanning the list*) Yep...right....hmmm.....Ok! Well it’s a pretty standard itinerary, girls, if a little weighty. The usual stuff, scenery, props, costumes etc.
- Lesley** Yeah, it’ll be a breeze. We’ll get it done in half the time they’re expecting us to.
- Liz** But we don’t want to finish too quickly, or else we’ll be back amongst the squabbles and sneezes in the classroom.
- Sue** So the trick is to look busy enough not to arouse suspicion, whilst not working so hard that we finish before we need to.
- Sally** I’m sure we’re up to the job. Right, we’d better get started. First things first.....who’s putting the kettle on?

**Song 5 – Get In The Groove** (*CD Track 19, lyrics p22*)  
(TAs, supported by whole cast)

(During the instrumental the TAs turn round the display boards at the back of the stage to reveal scenery – see staging suggestions – which they touch up with paint brushes or by sticking extra bits onto it. This could be accompanied by some funky choreography!)

(After the song repeat the backing track (**CD Track 19**) as all exit and the stage is made ready for the next scene. Fade the music when ready. Miss Bright addresses the audience.)

## Scene 5

- Miss Bright** So, although there had been some early grumblings in various quarters, things were progressing. The hall was starting to look festive, despite Christmas being nearly two months away, and rehearsals began in earnest. However, as the weeks passed it became clear that all was not well.....

(She exits to the **Harp (CD Track 20)**. A group of KS2 children enters. This includes all eight of the ‘chosen ones’ plus a few extras – but **not** Jamie or Lily.)

- Kyle** I can’t believe how unprofessional this production is. Mrs Jolly is nowhere near the standard of director I’m used to.

- Leona** And the script! It's drive! I mean, where is my inspiration? But hey, what can you expect from a daft nativity play?
- Oliver** The thing that bothers me is that all we're doing is rehearsing! It's non-stop! I never thought I'd say it, but I miss Maths lessons!
- Megan** And because the hall's always in use, we've not done PE for ages.
- Daniel** I know! Aren't we supposed to be a 'healthy' school? This lack of PE has led to me gaining weight! So much so my mum's rationed my sweet allowance 'til I lose a few pounds!

*(The children sit grumpily to one side of the stage. The cooks and dinner ladies enter.)*

- D. Lady 1** How are we supposed to work under these conditions? That lot didn't get out of the hall until 5 to 12 today.
- D. Lady 2** Tell me about it! I've put my back out trying to get these tables up and laid before the lunchtime rush!
- Cook 1** It was worse last week. Their rehearsals over-ran so much we didn't get the food out 'til nearly 1 o'clock! Everything was overcooked or burnt from being kept in the oven for so long!
- Cook 2** Well, the parents needn't come complaining to us. If they do I'll send them straight to Mrs Jolly. It's all her fault.

*(The kitchen staff sit grumpily on the other side of the stage. The KS2 teachers enter – **not** Mrs Jolly, Mr Keen or Miss Swift.)*

- Mr Thorn** I've had enough of this! For the little time my lot actually spend in the classroom these days, most of them are too tired to work!
- Miss Picket** I know! I've got diddly-squat out of my lot since this wretched musical began. There's nothing in their books to show parents when we have our consultations. They'll think I've been slacking!
- Mr Thorn** Well I've never worked so hard in my life! Mrs Jolly, Mr Keen and Miss Swift are really cracking the whip with this production. I spent last night doing an audience seating plan of all things, because they insisted! Can you believe it?
- Miss Picket** I **can** believe it, especially from those three. This play's become an obsession for them! I tell you, when all this is over I'll be glad!

**Song 6 – When All This Is Over** *(CD Track 21, lyrics p23)*  
*(Children, Kitchen Staff and KS2 teachers, supported by whole cast)*

*(The backing track is played again (CD Track 21) as all exit, and the stage is made ready for the next scene. During this music the children need to change into their costumes - see staging suggestions. Fade the music when ready. Miss Bright addresses the audience again.)*

## Scene 6

**Miss Bright** By now there was mutiny in the air! Everybody involved in the musical was just about at their wits’ end. It all came to a head at yesterday’s dress-rehearsal.....

*(She exits to the **Harp (CD Track 22)**. All the KS2 teachers and children enter. Miss Swift sits at a piano /keyboard. Mrs Jolly and Mr Keen, the strain showing, anxiously discuss things written on their clipboards. The TAs are busy touching up the scenery. Everyone else slouches around, fed-up. The children are in their costumes – see staging suggestions.)*

**Mrs Jolly** Right! Ok everyone! Please take your positions for scene 5. *(The TAs are still busy. Nobody else moves.)* Please, everyone, can we have some effort here. The first performance is tomorrow and we’re nowhere near ready!

**Mr Keen** *(harshly to the TAs)* Ladies, please! We’re trying to rehearse. You should have finished those boards days ago! You’ll have to stay after school now, and finish them in your own time. *(angrily)* Now children, for the last time, all of you get into your positions!

*(The TAs look hurt, and retreat to the back corner. The children assemble in a very ‘loose’ nativity tableau, the eight ‘chosen’ children placed according to their characters outlined in scene 3. The other children make up extra shepherds, angels and, if numbers allow, a small choir who stand grouped in front of the stage, to one side. There is a pantomime donkey, front and back part, played by Jamie and Lily. The other KS2 teachers sit on chairs to the other side of the stage, twiddling their thumbs!)*

**Mrs Jolly** You look a shambles. This is the birth of Jesus you’re attending, not a first-aid demonstration by the school nurse!

**Mr Keen** And what are those horrendous costumes you’re wearing, Kyle and Leona? As Mrs Jolly said, this is the birth of Jesus. You look like you’re auditioning for the Village People! Honestly! Right, Leona, let’s have your line please.

**Leona** *(standing in a theatrical pose.)* Welcome shepherds, and wise men from the east. I am Mary, most beautiful amongst women. My talent shines from me like a beacon, as bright as the stars.....

**Mrs Jolly** *(interrupting)* Errr....hang on! That’s not in the script! Leona, have you been making up your own lines?

**Leona** *(indignantly)* Well you can hardly blame me can you? Your script didn’t show off my acting ability at all. This is going to be filmed as my audition for Britain’s Got Talent! It’s got to be special!

**Mr Keen** You can’t go messing with things this late on! We’ve not been through the **original** script once yet! Now’s not the time to start adding bits to make yourself look good!

**Miss Swift** Might I suggest we take a break from the script, and concentrate for now on the songs? They need a fair bit of attention too.

**Mrs Jolly** Yes, Ok. We’ll run through the script after lunch. Right children, stand up straight for the song.... when you’re ready, Miss Swift.

*(Miss Swift begins playing – **Piano Mistake 1 (CD Track 23)** – and the children mumble the first few words of ‘Away In A Manger’ before we hear the piano mistake. When the mistake happens, the children, TAs and other KS2 teachers laugh out loud!)*

**Miss Swift** Oops! Silly me! Fingers slipped. Let’s try that again.

*(Miss Swift begins playing again – **Piano Mistake 2 (CD Track 24)** – and the children get a fraction further in the song before we hear the piano mistake. Again, all laugh out loud!)*

**Miss Swift** *(annoyed)* It’s not funny! I can play these songs perfectly I’ll have you know! I’ve practised every night ’til my fingers ache! Right....

*(Miss Swift begins playing again – **Piano Mistake 3 (CD Track 25)** – and the children mumble the words. After this third mistake we hear Miss Swift bang the piano keys in temper!)*

**Miss Swift** *(incensed)* NOW SEE WHAT YOU MADE ME DO!

**Kyle** Don’t blame us. It’s this silly nativity play – it’s so childish! I’m not surprised no-one wants to sing, or that Leona wanted to change her lines.

**Leona** In fact, if it wasn’t for my Britain’s Got Talent audition, I wouldn’t have lowered myself to star in this thing.

**Mr Keen** But I don’t understand. All of us – well most of us – have put everything into this show. Is this how the rest of you feel?

*(The children murmur awkwardly.)*

**Mrs Jolly** Well that’s just super! Thanks for nothing! If you lot aren’t going to bother then.....then neither am I!

**Mr Keen** Me neither!

**Miss Swift** Nor me!

**All Three** THAT’S IT! WE QUIT!

**Song 7 – Rock-Bottom** *(CD Track 26, lyrics p24)*  
*(The three teachers and whole cast)*

*(The three teachers storm off just before the final chorus. As the song finishes, Mrs Curtly and Mr Short, the KS1 teachers, cautiously enter.)*

**Mr Short** I hate to say I told you so.....but I told you so!

**Mrs Curtly** Err...does this mean the hall’s now free for Year 1 to do PE?

*(The backing track is played again (**CD Track 26**) as all the adults exit. The children stay on stage. Fade the music when ready. Miss Bright addresses the audience again.)*

## Scene 7

**Miss Bright** Now, I’m not quite sure what happened next, as no adult was around to witness it. But whatever it was, I’m glad it did happen……. *(To the **Harp (CD Track 27)** she exits.)*

**Leona** Great! There goes my one and only chance of getting on BGT!

**Kyle** Well, I wasn’t going to turn up anyway, even if the silly show had gone ahead. Being associated with such rubbish could seriously damage my future on Broadway.

*(Jamie and Lily ‘unmask’ themselves from the donkey and come forward.)*

**Lily** Look at us! What’s the matter with us? Do we really want to throw all this hard work away?

*(Everyone murmurs. Leona and Kyle turn their backs.)*

**Jamie** I know it’s not been the best dress-rehearsal ever, but we can still make this show happen. We just need to pull together.

**Sam** But the whole thing’s been a disaster from start to finish.

**Charlotte** And now the teachers have quit.

**Alice** And Leona’s demanding script changes, and it looks like Kyle’s going on strike.

**Lily** But think of everyone we’d be letting down. Yes, the teachers do go on sometimes, but they’ve worked so hard to give us this experience.

**Jamie** And all our families who want to come and see us perform – just think how disappointed they’ll be if we cancel the show.

**Lily** And think of yourselves. How fantastic are you going to feel if we can pull it out the bag? Imagine that sense of achievement! We can’t leave it like this. We just can’t…….

**Song 8 – It’s Time (To Put It Behind Us)** *(CD Track 28, lyrics p25)*  
*(Children, supported by whole cast – except Leona and Kyle!)*

*(Everyone is looking expectantly at each other – except Leona and Kyle!)*

**Jamie** It’s not too late! We’ll explain everything to Miss Bright and ask if we can rehearse for the rest of the day, on our own, without the teachers. She’ll supervise, I’m sure she will.

*(Everyone murmurs a bit more positively – except Leona and Kyle!)*

**Lily** Come on! We can turn this thing around. We just need to dig deep and give it two-hundred percent. What do you say?

*(Everyone becomes animated – except Leona and Kyle – nodding and saying, ‘Yes! We can do this’ etc etc etc.)*

**Jamie** *(with passion)* We can do this! Repeat after me...We can do this!

**All** *(except Leona and Kyle)* WE CAN DO THIS! WE CAN DO THIS!

*(All excitedly leave the stage, except Leona and Kyle. Also remaining on stage are would-be-rappers Sonia and Craig, who have managed to accessorize their Christmas costumes with baseball caps and ‘bling’! They are enthused, but have something on their minds.)*

**Sonia** Hey bro, they were stirring words from Big J and Lily. We can do this!

**Craig** For real. But what do we do about those two? *(nodding towards Leona and Kyle)*. They could still ruin the show.

**Sonia** Hmmm. Hey, didn’t you tell me your little sister has just got chicken-pox?

**Craig** For real. Her spots started showing this morning. Proper poorly she is, and very contagious. But I’ve already had chicken-pox so I’m Ok. Anyway, why are you asking me about.....*(noticing Sonia’s mischievous grin as she points towards Leona and Kyle)*.....ahhh!

*(Sonia follows Craig over to Leona and Kyle. Craig stands between Leona and Kyle, arms around their shoulders like they were his best friends.)*

**Craig** Leona, Kyle, it’s been a while since we hung out. *(moving them slowly off stage)* You should come round my house for tea tonight. My little sister’s interested in....*(thinking quickly)*....stage school, and would really dig talking up-close and personal to a couple of proper ‘stars’ like you. What do you say?

**Leona** *(fading as they all exit)* Oh, we’d love to. I’ll bring my make up box and my Annie DVD which I’ve watched a hundred times at least since I bought the limited edition box set.....

*(The backing track is played again (CD Track 28) as all exit. During the music some final glitzy additions are made to the scenery, which make it a marked improvement from how it appeared previously – see staging suggestions. Fade the music when ready. Miss Bright addresses the audience again. She has a lot to say so could again refer to cue cards.)*

## Scene 8

**Miss Bright** So, all I know is that Lily and James came to me and asked if I’d supervise their final rehearsal, while Mrs Jolly, Mr Keen and Miss Swift ‘relaxed’ in the staffroom. And I must say that the enthusiasm the children showed was inspiring. As our teaching assistants added the finishing touches to this wonderful scenery, the children gave their all to put together a Christmas performance that our school could be thoroughly proud of. And I



If you require a shorter, simpler version of this script, one can be obtained free-of-charge by contacting Edgy Productions directly.

think it's fair to say that some real stars have emerged during the trials and tribulations of the last few weeks.

Now, before we hear from the children, I must tell you of a slight change to the details shown in your programmes tonight. Unfortunately (and I've no idea how this could have happened) our original leads, Kyle and Leona, fell foul of a freak dose of chicken-pox within the last 24 hours, so their parts will now be played by two last-minute replacements. I'm sure you'll join with me in wishing Kyle and Leona a speedy recovery.

So, all that's left for me to do is once again say how lovely to see all of you here tonight, and without further ado introduce our, and your, wonderful children.....

*(She leads the audience in applause as the children enter in an organised fashion, arranging themselves into a tidy nativity tableau. The small, smartly-dressed choir (if numbers allow) again stands to one side of the stage. **Jamie and Lily** now sit centre stage as Joseph and Mary, with more tasteful costumes than Kyle and Leona had worn. **Craig and Sonia** sit at the piano/keyboard. **Kyle and Leona** are in fact now hidden beneath the two parts of the donkey costume, and their spotty faces can be unveiled during the final reprised song or during your bows at the end. All teachers, parents (each with a camcorder), TAs and kitchen staff sit with Miss Bright in the seating area to the side of the stage not occupied by the small choir.)*

**NB.** The next song should be especially well-rehearsed, as it is the supposed result of the children's hard work to bring their nativity musical back from the brink. Jamie and Lily sing the first verse sensitively but with confidence, and the second verse should be sung by a small group of your best singers (possibly the choir if you have elected to have one), incorporating the harmony as scored if you feel confident it can be taught, and learned. If not, then ensure the melody is sung as well as possible. All the 'children' should join in for the third verse, and the whole cast should stand and try to raise the roof with the final verse. Of course, if there is an alternative nativity song or carol that your cast enjoy and can perform well, feel free to use that instead of this one.

### **Song 9 – Oh What A Wonderful Night** (CD Track 29, lyrics p26) (Whole cast)

**Jamie & Lily** To all of you, from all of us.....

**All** MERRY CHRISTMAS!

*(As Miss Bright initiates more applause amongst the audience, begin playing the backing track to the next song – a reprise of the opening number – which should end the performance on a 'bouncy' high. During the singing the cast can take their individual or group bows. Encourage your audience to clap, or preferably get up and dance!)*

### **Song 10 – Primary School Christmas Musical** (CD Track 30) (Whole cast)

# THE END

## **Primary School Christmas Musical**

**Verse 1** We finally made it!  
We thought this show was sinking fast,  
But we saved it!  
'Cause when the going got quite tough  
We gave it everything we had and more.  
We pulled ourselves up off the floor,  
And now we're standing tall!

**Chorus** We've been in panic mode for days,  
But at last the curtain's raised on our  
Primary school Christmas musical!  
It's been a rollercoaster ride,  
But we're together, here tonight for our  
Primary school Christmas musical!

**Verse 2** We finally made it!  
We thought this night would hit the dust,  
But we saved it!  
'Cause when we felt like giving up  
We gave it our best and final shot  
To pack a punch and hit the spot,  
And now we're standing tall!

**Chorus** We've been in panic mode for days....

**Middle 8** And nothing beats the feeling  
Of seeing you all here!  
We bring you season's greetings, everyone,  
And wish you a happy new year!

**Chorus** We've been in panic mode for days....

*Music and lyrics by Andrew Oxspring*

## **Let's Get This Show on The Road**

**Verse 1** It's time you know,  
We need to start to think about our Christmas show.  
The stress, the strain,  
Digging out the costumes and the props again,  
And lots of auditions – the good and the bad,  
The quirky and often outrageous!  
Let's get this show on the road!

**Verse 2** We'll heed the call  
To put on something totally original.  
OK, let's see,  
It's Christmas so we'll do a new nativity.  
With staff on the lights and the caretaker too,  
And the singers and dancers from Key Stage 2!  
Let's get this show on the road!  
  
We'll get the staging up as soon as we can.  
We'll all lend a hand.  
There will be no PE activities planned!

**Verse 3** It's going to be  
The greatest little show in all of history.  
We raised the bar  
For Jesus, Mary, Joseph and the wandering star.  
With donkeys and angels, shepherds and sheep,  
And innkeepers trying to get some sleep!  
Let's get this show on the road!  
  
And all the VIPs we need to invite  
With letters to write...  
And how much to charge for a seat on the night!

**Verse 4** The stage is set,  
A radical experience you won't forget!  
The 'oohs', the 'aahs',  
Photo opportunities and Razzamatazz!  
So charge up the cameras, find the best seat,  
Turn off your brain and rest your feet.  
Let's get this show on the  
Let's get this show on the  
Let's get this show on the road!

*Music and lyrics by Mick Riddell*

## **Don't Wanna Do No Nativity**

**Verse 1**    We're big fish, the cream of the crop!  
              We climbed high, straight to the top,  
              And now we've reached a mighty 10 years old!  
              So it's to our dismay  
              That this year's Christmas play  
              Won't be quite what you'd call 'rock and roll'!

**Chorus**     Don't wanna do no nativity,  
              We're far too hip and cool.  
              It'll ruin our street-credibility –  
              We'll be a laughing stock at school!

**Verse 2**    We're too old to wear such things  
              As tea-towels and angels wings,  
              Tinsel halos, silver paper crowns.  
              We've lost our sense of pride,  
              It's so undignified  
              To stand in public in our dressing gowns!

**Chorus**     Don't wanna do.....

**Middle 8**   We can't believe it's true,  
              They're asking us to do  
              Things that only 5 year-olds should do!

**Chorus**     Don't wanna do.....

**Repeat chorus**

*Music & lyrics by Andrew Oxspring*

## **Yours Sincerely**

**Verse 1** Dear Mrs Green, your child has been  
Chosen to play a scene  
In our annual Christmas show.  
He will need to read the script,  
Learn his lines, dance a bit,  
At our annual Christmas show.  
Please send in some angel wings,  
With safety pins and a blanket for the baby,  
A cardboard crown of golden brown, a dressing gown  
For Joseph and for Mary.  
Yours Sincerely....

**Verse 2** Dear Mr Dean, your child has been  
Chosen to sing the lead  
In our annual Christmas show.  
She'll learn the words, sing in key,  
Sharp or flat, in 'B' or 'C'  
At our annual Christmas show.  
She will sing about the king,  
A solo thing – there's no need for a chorus.  
All alone, on her own with a microphone.  
There's no need to be nervous.  
Yours Sincerely....

**Verse 3** Dear Mrs Sheen, your child has been  
Chosen to play a scene  
In our annual Christmas show.  
He will be a Christmas tree,  
And help to paint the scenery  
At our annual Christmas show.  
May I suggest a silver vest  
Across his chest, with branches and red berries.  
And on the tree, we'd like to see some greenery,  
An angel or a fairy!  
Yours Sincerely....

***spoken*** Please sign and return. Thank you!

***Music and lyrics by Mick Riddell***

## **Get In The Groove**

**Verse 1** We're busy ladies with a never-ending  
List of things to do,  
But with skill and determination  
We will push on through.  
Well, who knows, it might be fun –  
And better than wiping noses  
In key stage one!

**Chorus** We've gotta get in the groove,  
We've gotta get on the move,  
There are mountains to climb!  
We've gotta pull out the stops,  
Making scenery and props -  
It's gonna take a long time!

**Verse 2** We're diamond divas who are talented  
With scissors, paint and glue,  
And our skills with a staple gun  
Will blow the socks off you!  
And our lesson here today  
Is if a job's worth doing,  
Give it to your TA!

### **Instrumental**

*During which the TAs turn round the display boards at the back of the stage to reveal scenery, which they touch up with paint brushes or by sticking extra bits onto it. This could be accompanied by some funky choreography!*

**Chorus** We've gotta get in the groove....

### **Repeat Chorus**

*Music & lyrics by Andrew Oxspring*

## **When All This Is Over**

**Verse1**     *(KS2 Teachers)*

Our children's concentration spans are at an all time low,  
Which leads to much frustration with rehearsals on the go.  
These showtime preparations seem to take up all the day.  
At parent consultations we won't have a lot to say!

**Verse 2**     *(Children)*

We haven't had a chance to dance, the hall is out of use.  
It's pointless even asking 'cause they'll only blow a fuse.  
This Christmas show obsession is a lesson for us all.  
Who'll pick up all the pieces when the jigsaw starts to fall?

**Chorus**     *(All)*

We can't put up with this disruption  
This whole show is such a pain,  
And how much longer do we have to wait?  
Just one more day will be too many,  
One more song will drive us mad....  
And when all this is over we'll be glad!

**Verse 3**     *(Kitchen Staff)*

We never seem to have much time to set the hall for lunch.  
These ne'er do well theatricals are such a tardy bunch.  
The eggs are hard as concrete, and the sausages are black.  
We'll all know who to blame  
When parents want their money back!

**Chorus**     We can't put up....

**Verse 4**     *(Children)*

We're looking pale, our bodies frail, our brains are on the slide.  
We're always told 'It's far too cold for games to be outside'.  
It's either that or getting fat through lack of exercise.  
The hall will seem just like a dream – a PE Paradise!

**Chorus**     We can't put up....

**Repeat**     And when all this is over we'll be glad! **x2**

*Music and lyrics by Mick Riddell*

## **Rock-Bottom**

**Verse 1**     *(Mrs Jolly, Mr Keen, Miss Swift)*  
So, it appears that the fact is  
We're in need of more practice,  
But we've run out of time!  
All of the singing is dismal,  
And the acting's abysmal!  
It's the end of the line!

**Chorus 1**   That's it! We quit,  
'Cause we've hit our limit!  
Seems we bit off more than we can chew.  
It's come undone.  
As for fun, there's been none!  
And we've all hit rock-bottom, it's true!

*(Mrs Jolly, Mr Keen, and Miss Swift sit in a huff at the front of the stage!)*

**Verse 2**     *(All)*  
Who would have thought this production  
Could have caused such a ruction?  
We can't comprehend!  
It's been a tragic rehearsal,  
Will there be a reversal?  
Or is this the end?

**Chorus 2**   *(All except Mrs Jolly, Mr Keen, and Miss Swift)*  
That's it! They quit,  
'Cause they've hit their limit!  
Seems they bit off more than they can chew.  
It's come undone.  
As for fun, there's been none!  
And we've all hit rock-bottom, it's true!

*(Mrs Jolly, Mr Keen, Miss Swift)*  
That's it! We quit! **x4**

*(Mrs Jolly, Mr Keen and Miss Swift storm off stage!)*

**Chorus**     *(All)*  
That's it! They quit....

***Music & lyrics by Andrew Oxspring***



## **It's Time (To Put It Behind Us)**

### **Verse 1** *(Jamie and Lily)*

What have we done? It seems we've gone too far.  
The show is all but over before the music starts.  
This is what Christmas is not about.  
We'll have to sort it all out!  
We can't give in. We've got so much to lose  
A pantomime rebellion is really no excuse.  
This is what Christmas is not about.  
We'll have to work it all out!

### **Chorus** *(All)*

So it's time, time to put it behind us,  
Time to get on with the show,  
Time to see what's inside us,  
Time to let it all go,  
And show them all we're sorry,  
And together we'll put on a show.

### **Verse 2** *(All)*

How hard we've worked. It's now become a joke!  
Our reputation has all gone up in smoke!  
This is what Christmas is not about.  
We'll have to work it all out!  
So come together to make it all worthwhile,  
And give it all the best we have with confidence and style.  
That is what Christmas is ALL about.  
We'll have to work it all out!

### **Chorus** So it's time.....

### **Instrumental**

### **Chorus** So it's time.....

*Music and lyrics by Mick Riddell*

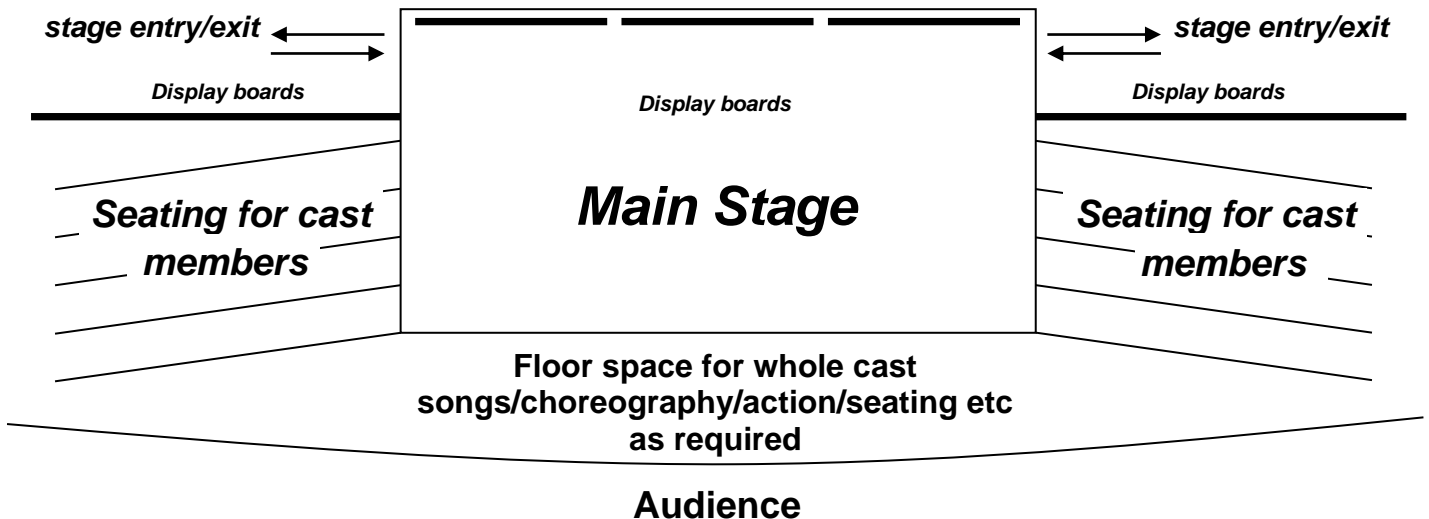
## **Oh What a Wonderful Night**

- Verse 1**     *(Jamie and Lily)*  
Oh what a wonderful night.  
See how the sky is alight.  
The voices of angels  
Tell of a babe who'll  
Be born to make everything right.  
Oh what a wonderful night.
- Verse 2**     *(small group)*  
Under the light of a star  
Wise men arrive from afar.  
Eyes full of wonder,  
Shepherds have come to show  
Jesus how happy they are,  
Under the light of a star.
- Verse 3**     *(all children)*  
Oh what a beautiful place,  
Smiles shine on every face.  
Born in a stable,  
A manger His cradle,  
Lowly yet so full of grace.  
Oh what a beautiful place.
- Verse 4**     *(whole cast)*  
Let every joyful heart sing,  
Give thanks for our new baby king.  
'Love one another  
As sister and brother' –  
This is the message He'll bring.  
Let every joyful heart sing.  
*(Jamie and Lily)*  
Let every joyful heart sing.

***Music & lyrics by Andrew Oxspring***

## STAGING AND PRODUCTION SUGGESTIONS

‘Primary School Christmas Musical’ has been written to be adaptable to most school hall set-ups, whether you have a stage or not. Below is just one representation of a possible stage layout.



- **Scenery and furniture** – Three display boards lined up side by side at the back of the stage should be covered in black or white backing paper on one side – this side will be facing the audience at the beginning of scene 1. In scene 4, during the instrumental part of the song ‘Get In The Groove’, these boards will be turned round to reveal nativity scenery on the reverse side. When placed side by side they should depict a simple stable, with wooden uprights and a roof, using brown or ‘wood-effect’ paper. During the music between scenes 6 and 7, some noticeable additions can be made, for example the fixing of a bright star above it, and perhaps angel cut-outs, tinsel trimmings to the uprights and roof etc. Alternatively, if you have room for four or five display boards along the back, only the centre two or three could be turned round during the scene 4 song to show the simple stable, leaving the outside two blank. These could then be turned round (and moved slightly away from the stable) after scene 6 to show other glitzier festive imagery such as decorated Christmas trees, Santa, presents, snowmen etc. The back wall behind the display boards could depict a large simple mural of silver stars against a black background. Display boards behind the seating areas to the side of the stage could depict the same. Furniture requirements are quite straightforward. In scene 1 you’ll require as many chairs as you have teachers, which could be classroom chairs or the ones from your staffroom. If possible a low coffee table would add to the realism of the staffroom effect. In scene 2 all that is needed is one classroom table, three chairs and a sign reading ‘AUDITIONS IN PROGRESS’. A make-shift manger and a couple of straw-bales will finish off the nativity look in the final scenes.
- **Props** – As Miss Bright has quite a number of lines, these could be read from cue cards. Clipboards for Mrs Jolly and Mr Keen in the later scenes will

enable them to also have prompts for their larger number lines if necessary. All teachers in scene 1 will need an A4 meeting agenda. Parents in scene 3 will need an assortment of pushchairs and shopping bags, while their children will each need a school bag and an enveloped letter to give them. The TAs in scene 4 will need a box of ‘bits’ including rolls of backing paper, paints, glue, staple guns etc etc. A keyboard and stand will be required for the final scenes, along with a stool or chair.

- **Costumes** – All teachers should be smartly dressed, or in a way which makes them representative of and recognisable as the teachers in your school. This should also be the case with the parents, though they should wear coats and hats/scarves/gloves etc, to show they’re waiting outside. TAs could wear casual adult clothes over which they have painting aprons. One or two could wear rubber gloves. The cooks should wear chef’s whites while the dinner ladies could wear tabards, all of which could be ‘borrowed’ from your own kitchen staff. All children prior to scene 6 should simply wear their school clothes/uniform, though Craig and Sonia should have baseball caps and if possible some large flashy trainers. The nativity costumes should all be ‘standard issue’ – those traditional items that have been used for years; tea-towels, white sheets, cloaks etc. However, for Kyle and Leona’s Joseph and Mary costumes, extra glamour and sparkle should be added, so they appear very over-the-top compared to everyone else. Jamie’s and Lily’s Joseph and Mary costumes should be traditional outfits. For the front and back of the donkey, a mask and grey or brown sheet will suffice. Note – all nativity costumes need to be easily put on during the break between scenes 5, 6 and 7. Items that can be simply slipped over the polo shirt and trousers/skirt of the uniform should be used. If you are having a small choir, simply add a black tie or bow tie to their white polo shirts. This change will require a bit of back-stage supervision to ensure smooth running.
- **Use of space** – The whole cast will probably want to be involved in the performance of all the songs, or at least the choruses. A space on the floor in front of the main stage could be used to accommodate extra bodies. In this space, for some songs, the cast could perform dance routines or act out the lyrical content. A seating area for resting performers could be allocated either side of the stage. This lets them enjoy the performance as part of the audience, and allows easy movement on and off the stage.
- **Content** – Feel free to incorporate songs the children like, if these can enhance the production. Script changes are permitted if they do not alter the storyline. If you wish to make storyline changes, or use the songs as part of a script you have written, permission must be sought in writing from Edgy productions. Under these circumstances you will still be obliged to obtain a performance licence (see p2).

Our final suggestion, as always, is that you have lots of fun! We wish you good luck, and a very merry Christmas at school.