



January 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

Murder on the Orient Express, Milton Keynes Theatre

The Drama department aims to give students opportunities to see live professional theatre. I am therefore pleased to invite your child to a performance of Murder on the Orient Express, taking place at the Milton Keynes Theatre on Wednesday 26 February 2025. This performance will be used to allow students to write a review on a piece of live theatre, a requirement of the A-Level course; for this reason, we strongly recommend that all students attend the trip.

We will travel to and from the venue by coach, meeting outside the school gates at 5.45pm. We expect to arrive back at Ashlyns at approximately 11.15pm traffic permitting. Parents will need to make arrangements for their child's safe journey home from Ashlyns. As the trip takes place after school, students can wear their own smart-casual clothes for the evening. We would suggest that students eat dinner before attending the trip, however, they are welcome to bring their own money for snacks in the interval.

The cost of the trip will be **£36** per student. Payment may be made by ParentPay by **Friday 17 January 2025**.

Please note that the school's policy is that trips and other activities outside the normal teaching programme should be self-funding. If the trip or activity is linked to the National Curriculum, as in this case, contributions are voluntary, but if contributions are insufficient the trip may have to be cancelled. No student will be denied participation in the trip because of difficulty in meeting the cost. In cases of genuine financial hardship, please contact Ms Stringer in the Finance Office at jstringer@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk, in confidence, by 13 January 2025.

Yours sincerely

Mrs O Mansfield
Head of Drama