



ST. FRANCIS DE SALES  
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K7A 4L5  
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Dear St. Francis Students and Parents,

St. Francis de Sales School is pleased to announce that we will be staging our first musical production at our new school, which will be the Broadway Junior version of the musical *Seussical*. The show is a one-act version of the original Broadway production which has been adapted to perform with elementary students.

Auditions will be arranged after school the week of December 3<sup>rd</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>. Students will be notified of their audition date the week before their scheduled day. Auditions will be open to students from grades 1-8. There are a wide range of parts, including a large chorus. During the audition, students will learn and present a song and a dance from the play. Students may prepare in advance by visiting [www.broadwayjr.com](http://www.broadwayjr.com) and clicking the 'audition central' link. Students may also wait and learn material at the audition. Please decide which part you are interesting in being considered for before your audition. See the back of this note for more information about the parts. Students who are being considered for larger parts may be booked for a call-back the week of December 10<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>. They will be given material to prepare ahead of time for their call-back. If students are being considered for more than one part, they may be asked to prepare multiple pieces for their call-back. The cast list will be posted Monday, December 17<sup>th</sup> and students will receive their scripts/CDs before the Christmas break.

Rehearsals will take place at a variety of times, including during recess, after school, and possibly before school (depending on schedules for sports teams and other school activities). Students will need to be picked up/dropped off for before/after school rehearsals. Please fill out any times you/your child are **not** available for rehearsals and efforts will be made to schedule rehearsals at times which are most convenient to cast members.

This will be a much bigger production than any other ones I have put together over the last few years, especially given the increase in our school population and the likelihood that we will have a very big cast. Assistance will be needed from both students and parents in areas including props, costumes, sets, lighting and sound. While we are having several fundraisers for the show, the costs will be higher. This year, participating students will pay a \$12 activity fee. This activity fee will cover the script, rehearsal CD and most of their costume.

In order to make a production this large work, students will need to demonstrate respectful behavior at rehearsals and attend scheduled rehearsals. Should students be unable to meet these expectations, activity fees will not be returned, but students will be able to keep the book and CD they purchased.

If you/your child are interested in participating in *Seussical Jr.* please complete and return the bottom of this note by Friday November 23<sup>rd</sup>.

For more information, please contact Kristy Tait-Angel at 283-6101, [Kristina.tait-angel@cdsbeo.on.ca](mailto:Kristina.tait-angel@cdsbeo.on.ca) or visit <http://seussicaljr.sf.weebly.com>.

Thanks!

-Kristy Tait-Angel

I \_\_\_\_\_ (parent signature) give my child \_\_\_\_\_ (please print), in grade \_\_\_\_\_, permission to audition for and participate in *Seussical Jr.* I have enclosed their \$12 activity fee/paid through cash online.

My child has time commitments after school the following days/times :

I \_\_\_\_\_ (parent or student name) am interested in helping with prop/costumes/sets/lighting/sound (circle any that apply).

## Character Descriptions from [www.broadwayjr.com](http://www.broadwayjr.com):

### **THE CAT IN THE HAT**

THE CAT IN THE HAT is the essence of mischief, fun, and imagination. THE CAT stirs things up, causes trouble, but always sets things right again, helping JOJO to discover the power of his own imagination as they create the story for the show together. Look for a physically adept actor (male or female) to play THE CAT, one who will be able to play many comic cameos and is comfortable improvising with an audience. THE CAT does not need to be your strongest singer, but should still have good rhythm and timing.

### **JOJO**

JOJO is a "Thinker", a smart child with a wild imagination. He/she can be played as being a little bit awkward, a little bit of a loner, or simply a rambunctious kid whose Thinks get him/her into constant trouble. By the end of the show, he/she learns what it means to be a responsible member of his world, using the power and possibilities of his/her own Thinks. He/she should be one of your stronger singers (male or female).

### **HORTON THE ELEPHANT**

HORTON THE ELEPHANT is a gentle giant. Think of him as a big-hearted blue-collar guy who is steadfast, responsible and always tries to do the right thing for his friends. He is imaginative and receptive to the world around him. He is very unselfconscious. Horton's view of the world never changes - he believes in its goodness. By the end of the show, without even realizing it, he is ready to become a parent.

### **GERTRUDE McFUZZ**

GERTRUDE McFUZZ is very self-conscious and aware that her one-feather tail isn't perfect. Gertrude changes during the show from a neurotic, nervous and shy bird into one with the power to protect and care for a baby elephant bird and commit herself to Horton. In other words, she stops worrying about her looks and grows up.

### **MAYZIE LA BIRD**

MAYZIE LA BIRD is self-centered, selfish, and vain. Mayzie will never admit to her own flaws. She manipulates anyone she can into doing what she wants. But Mayzie isn't all bad. In giving up her egg to Horton once and for all, she has a moment of generosity—she realizes she isn't the kind of person who would be a good parent, and she does the best thing she can for the egg.

### **SOUR KANGAROO**

SOUR KANGAROO isn't really sour at all. She's just got a lot of attitude. She's loud, brassy, and a lot of fun.

### **THE WICKERSHAM BROTHERS**

THE WICKERSHAM BROTHERS are not bad guys! They're simply a lot like kids who tease, play pranks, and get a kick out of making mischief, although often at others' expense. They enjoy hanging around with one another, making music together on the street corner, and playing off on another. Encourage each of your actors to find their own Wickersham persona.

### **THE WHOS**

THE WHOS are a lot like you and me, only so small as to be invisible. Don't think of them as weird little aliens. They should be played for their inherent humanity. Encourage everyone playing a Who to try and create his or her own unique character.

### **THE BIRD GIRLS**

THE BIRD GIRLS are Mayzie's 'clique'. They follow her around, support what she says and does and act as back-up singers on several of Mayzie's songs.

### **MR. AND MRS. MAYOR**

MR. and MR. MAYOR are WHOS who are parents trying hard to raise a difficult child in a difficult world. They may get aggravated with JOJO, but they love him dearly and try to do the right thing, even if it turns out to be a mistake.

### **JUNGLE CREATURES**

JUNGLE CREATURES - The Jungle Creatures are real people at heart, just like us, even though they may be described as animal characters. We discourage masks and literal "animal costumes." Each student should be encouraged to create his or her own individual character with human characteristics.