



## **West of Scotland school delivering new Drama Units**

### **Choice of Units**

Our school has been delivering two of the new Drama Units - *Creative Project* and *Writing Dramatic Text: An Introduction*. Both Units are SCQF level 6 - which is equivalent to Higher level.

We felt that a number of pupils would benefit from a two year Higher, which would give them the chance to hone their drama skills while preparing for the Higher Course.

### **Delivery of Creative Project Unit**

The Unit *Creative Project* was chosen because it is a Unit that articulates well with Intermediate 2. Pupils decided that they wanted to put on a pantomime and used this Unit to create everything but the text.

Pupils covered each production role – costume, set, lighting, sound, front of house and props. Make-up students from the HND Course at a local College were involved in doing the make-up for the pantomime.

The students decided on a primary three and four audience and all primary schools in the area were invited. Four performances took place on one afternoon in the drama studio to audiences of around 80–100.

Pupils maintained their folios using the pro forma from the *Creative Project* Assessment Support Pack (ASP) for record keeping – including log books and gant charts. The ASP for *Creative Project* is available from SQA's secure site (via your SQA Coordinator).

### **Delivery of Writing Dramatic Text: An Introduction**

This Unit was used to create the script for the panto. Students researched the History of Pantomime and studied various pantomime scripts. Each then wrote a scene for the pantomime, choosing a different story for each scene. This formed the basis for the end of Unit assessment. They wrote about:

- ◆ history of pantomime
- ◆ common elements of more modern pantomime
- ◆ and they identified those elements in the pantomimes they had been studying

Both Units prepare candidates for the Higher Investigative Drama Unit and also help to improve their acting skills and confidence

## **In Conclusion**

We chose to offer two of the new Drama Units this session in order to help prepare candidates for the Higher Drama Course, and also to offer progression to those students who had already done Higher and for whom Advanced Higher was not a suitable option.

Feedback from teaching staff and students has been very positive. They have been creative with the Units, integrated activities and are already thinking about other possibilities for using the new Units or National Progression Awards next session. It has been an enjoyable experience for all.