Dear parent or guardian,

The Compass Creative Dramatics theatre program is all about stretching kids’ creativity and bravery muscles – and **by participating in auditions today, your child stretched their creativity and bravery a little more than usual**! Auditions can be scary and difficult, so please let your student know that you’re proud of them, no matter what part they received.

Let them know that everyone involved in producing a play has a difficult job, including the directors who are casting! They're trained to look for not only the right person for each part, but **how all those people fit together,** like a puzzle, to tell the story.

Theatre is all about storytelling, and your child has an important role in helping us tell a story this week. **Every part in the play is important to the story**. Imagine what Cinderella would be like without the evil stepmother, or what Snow White would be like without any dwarves. Acting is all about teamwork, and your child is a vital part of their team, both as part of their small group and in the cast as a whole.

Compass Creative Dramatics style of adaptation relies heavily on ensemble focused shows that support a team of performers who are a variety of ages and skill levels who are putting on a play together in just 5 short days! That means that though *all* students speak, dance, and sing, not all will do this individually, and some students will only have the responsibility of doing this within their groups. This allows all the students to be supported and have an opportunity to shine while **learning by example from one another**! This also gives us an opportunity to focus on developing **teamwork**, **empathy**, **trust**, and group **responsibility** with our students throughout the week so that students can take these life skills with them regardless of where they head next after their week with us!

The students learned a very small portion of their roles today and will learn the remaining 95% tomorrow. On Wednesday, they’ll get to the watch the rest of the show and see how their part fits into the story as a whole, so there’s lots to look forward to! Regardless of how your child is feeling about the role they received, students often find that their excitement about their part grows once they learn more about who their character is and what they’ll be doing onstage.

You might want to talk to your child about how they thought their audition went. What did they notice? What did they wonder about? Keep in mind that our educators are looking for students who listen well, follow instructions, and are respectful of the other students’ turns. We’re also looking for students to be **brave** and **silly** and **loud**! You can talk your child through these elements of the audition and ask your child what they did well and what they might work to improve for next time.

**The most important thing following the audition is for you, as the student’s adult, to keep a positive attitude** so you can help them to have a fun and successful week of theatre.

Thank you for allowing your student to participate in Compass Creative Dramatics camp. We look forward to working with them the rest of the week!

Sincerely,

Compass Creative Dramatics