

# THE BRITISH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Puxi, Shanghai

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NORD  
ANGLIA  
EDUCATION

HELPING OTHERS  
TO BE THE BEST  
THEY CAN BE

11 March 2014

RE: SCHOOL PLAY, THE CRUCIBLE

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The BISS Puxi Department of Drama enthusiastically invites you to our Spring production of Arthur Miller's *The Crucible*. Set in the Puritan colonies of 17 Century America, the play chronicles the famous Salem Witch Trials, which saw 19 people hanged for imaginary offenses in the early spring of 1691. Miller's play dives into the historical and court records, bringing to life the cauldron of oppressive theocracy, restrictive society and the fetid swamp of petty greed and grievances that resulted in one of America's most shameful interludes.

Written as an allegory of the "witch hunt" carried out in the 1950s by Senator Joseph McCarthy and similar to myriad moments where propaganda and false piety have led people to "eat of the insane root that takes reason prisoner". Hysteria, propaganda and the individual's fight to maintain honor and integrity in a world turned upside down – these are themes that permeate human existence unto today; and the cost of standing up for one's beliefs, for sacred truth, is as dear as it was 300 years ago.

Over the last months our students have struggled themselves – fought to understand and recreate the conditions, fear and desperation of a society cannibalizing itself. Through their efforts they have come to see a period of history in greater detail and empathy, as well as understand new perspectives on the world they will take over from our generation in the not too distant future. They have also committed themselves to the worthy entertainment of their community, and so we offer this invitation to the community at large, be you student, parent or neighbour, you are welcome.

The play will run from 17 March – 21 March inclusively; performances will begin at 7:00 pm (with refreshments served from 6.30pm and during the intermission) and will run about 2 hours. Due to the subject matter of the play and its depiction, we do not recommend it as suitable for children under the age of 10.

Please fill out the form below, indicating which performance and how many tickets you would like, and then return the reply slip to Secondary Reception with your cash payment.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Kind regards,

Justin Lenderking  
Head of Drama

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[www.bisspuxi.com](http://www.bisspuxi.com)

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## REPLY SLIP: SCHOOL PLAY, THE CRUCIBLE

Please return to secondary reception by Friday 14 March, with your cash payment, in a sealed envelope, clearly labeled "Play Tickets".

### Performance Date

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> Friday 21<sup>st</sup>

1<sup>st</sup> Choice \_\_\_\_\_

2<sup>nd</sup> Choice \_\_\_\_\_

### Number of tickets

Tickets 30 RMB each \_\_\_\_\_

Total amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

- I will pick up our tickets from secondary reception
- Please send our tickets home with my son/daughter \_\_\_\_\_  
in class \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardians name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone no \_\_\_\_\_