



Birchwood High School

your dreams, your future, our challenge

5th February 2024

Re: **Machinal –The Old Vic, London**

'How can that be? A great sin – a mortal sin – for which I must die and go to hell – but it made me free! One moment I was free!'

From the outside, Helen Jones and her husband had a 'happy marriage'. Until she murdered him. Based on the true crime story of **Ruth Snyder** in 1928 that shook a nation, **Sophie Treadwell's** seminal *Machinal* is a pulse-pounding journey of someone pushed to breaking point by the relentless machinery of life, expectation and convention.

Dear Parent/Carer

I am organising a trip to the Old Vic Theatre, London - to see a production of 'Machinal' on **Wednesday 17th April 2024 at 7.30pm**. This will be an invaluable experience to see one of our set texts come to life and will inspire students when considering their own staging and design ideas for the written exam.

We will be meeting students at 4.30 pm at Bishops Stortford railway station and will travel by train to London returning to Bishops Stortford at 10.30pm approx, accompanied by two members of staff. Students can contact you on the evening with final arrival times for the return so that they can be collected from the station.

The cost of the theatre ticket including booking fee will be £36.50. Tickets are limited as it is a very popular performance and we were only able to secure 11 tickets at this reduced price in the stalls. Students will need to pay their rail fare on the evening and usually this is at a group rate of approximately £16. The full adult fare is a maximum of £25.00. We hope to arrive in London in time to stop for food before we reach the venue so they will need money for food or will need to bring a packed lunch with them.

Payment for the ticket can be made using Parentpay, and should be received in full by **Friday 15th March 2024**, to secure the tickets at the theatre for this price.

Please contact young@birchwoodhigh.org.uk if you require a ParentPay login.

If you have any questions or concerns relating to any of the above information please don't hesitate to contact me at school or by email on chassani@birchwoodhigh.org.uk

Yours sincerely

Mrs C Hassani

Expressive & Performing Arts

Principal - Mr Sam Griffin

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