



Our Day Out

By Willy Russell

Our Day Out



- Dates: 6th – 9th May
- Location: Wellington Rooms

Background – Willy Russell

- Willy Russell was born in 1947 and grew up in Knowsley, a village just outside Liverpool.
- He became a ladies' hairdresser after leaving school and then went on to train as a teacher.
- He began writing plays in 1971 and wrote *Our Day Out* in 1977.
- In 1973 he accompanied the teacher of the remedial class in the school he taught, on a trip to Conway Castle. It was doing this trip that gave him the idea for *Our Day Out*. The play therefore reflects his own experiences and represents school trips of that nature whilst also using it as a platform for the serious issues that he wanted to raise with the audience.



Accents?



Cast

- Teachers (4 main teachers + Headmaster)
- Kids (10 - Some of these can be played by the same actor)
- Lollypop Man
- Coach Driver
- Shopkeepers
- Café owner/Waitress
- Animal Keeper



Cast – Teachers:

- Mrs Kay: Teacher of the Progress Class. She is kind and caring. Very different educational philosophy to Mr Briggs; in her early forties.
- Mr Briggs: Deputy Headmaster; he is very strict and tries to discipline the children. Very unsympathetic; early thirties.
- Susan: Helps Mrs Kay look after the children. Very calm and caring but needs to be able to hold her own; early twenties.
- Colin: Another helper of Mrs Kay; he is teased by Reilly & Digga because he is dating Susan; early twenties.
- The Headmaster: Minor part - Sends Mr Briggs to supervise the children.

Cast - Kids:

- Carol: First and last character seen in the play. Feels trapped by her background. Can come across as weak but needs to portray strength towards the end.
- Reilly: Class bully. Older than the other children. Likes to smoke and voice his opinions.
- Digga: Reilly's friend (assistant). Similar attributes to Reilly but not quite as vocal (he's the follower, not the leader).
- Linda: Cheeky girl, flirts a lot. Not afraid to voice her opinions. In love with Colin.
- Karen: Linda's friend. Similar attributes to Linda. Also in love with Colin.

Cast – Kids (Minor characters):

Andrews: Andrews is addicted to smoking and does not have a very good life at home. He is often picked on by the older boys.

Ronson: One of the younger children and often picked on. Portrays some intelligence at the zoo.

Maurice: Easy target as one of the younger children. Is often ordered around by Briggs.

Kevin & Jimmy: Younger children. Odd lines throughout

Cast – Other Parts

- Les: The lollipop man. Fed up of children not listening to him.
- Ronny Suttcliffe: Driver of the coach who gets tricked by Mrs Kay. Grumpy but has a good heart.
- Mrs Roberts: Foresees what might happen to her if she lets the children into her café and forbids them from entering.
- Waitress: Works in the café.
- John: Shop owner who gets robbed by the kids.
- Mac: Shop owner who gets robbed by the kids.
- The Animal Keeper: Shouts at the kids for stealing animals from the zoo.

Our Day Out - Rehearsals

- First rehearsal - read through: Thursday 27.02.20, (depending on availability of cast).
- Rough guide of rehearsals: The play only lasts an hour, therefore shouldn't take too long to set (Roughly 10 - 12 rehearsals)
- The schedule will be worked around the cast.
- Rehearsals will involve a lot of people and there will be lots of hanging around in between but that is the nature of the play and cannot be helped.
- The rehearsals will be quick and the whole process should hopefully feel quite 'intense' - not drawn out.

Our Day Out - Being Involved

- If you would like to be involved then please speak to Kayleigh tonight or you can email:



smithkayleigh286@gmail.com



- Please specify if there is a particular character that you would like to be considered for. If there is a big interest then we may need to hold auditions for some of the parts.