Burwell Village College Primary

Vocabulary

dame	an exaggerated funny female character played by a male actor
diegetic	sound that the characters in the pantomime can hear
non-diegetic	sound that the characters in the pantomime cannot hear added by the production, such as happy or sad music
gobo	a black screen placed around and on a light to create an effect or picture, like waves or trees
lighting	the deliberate use of light to suggest time of day, character feelings or stage atmosphere
make-up	a special use in performances to exaggerate facial features and characters
mood and atmosphere	the feeling that the pantomime creates for the audience when watching a scene
slapstick	funny actions based on being deliberately clumsy or embarrassing
sound	specially chosen noises and songs used to create mood and atmosphere

Characters

- Every pantomime has a hero, a villain and a dame.
- To make it funnier, pantomimes have gender role reversal. This means that men pretend to be women and women pretend to be men.
- The hero is usually a male character but they are played by a female actress.
- The dame is always a female character but they are played by a male actor.
- The villain may be a male or female character depending on the pantomime. They do not usually have gender role reversal. They are the baddie who tries to stop the Hero succeeding.

Sound

- The production team choose sound effects to create mood and atmosphere.
- This tells the audience how they should react when they meet a new character or should feel about the actions and emotions in a scene.
- The production team sometimes choose sounds that only we can hear and the characters cannot. This is called non-diegetic sound.

Lighting

- The production team choose lighting to highlight and distinguish between different characters.
- They also show us the time of day and changes of setting and scene.
- Gobos are used to add detail and create effects.
- Different coloured lights can be used to make the audience feel different emotions.

Make-Up

- The production team design each character's make-up so that each character looks very different to each other.
- The production team also choose different make-up designs to highlight to the audience how they should feel about a character.

Villain make-up   Dame make-up