Year 8 Drama – Pantomime Knowledge Organiser
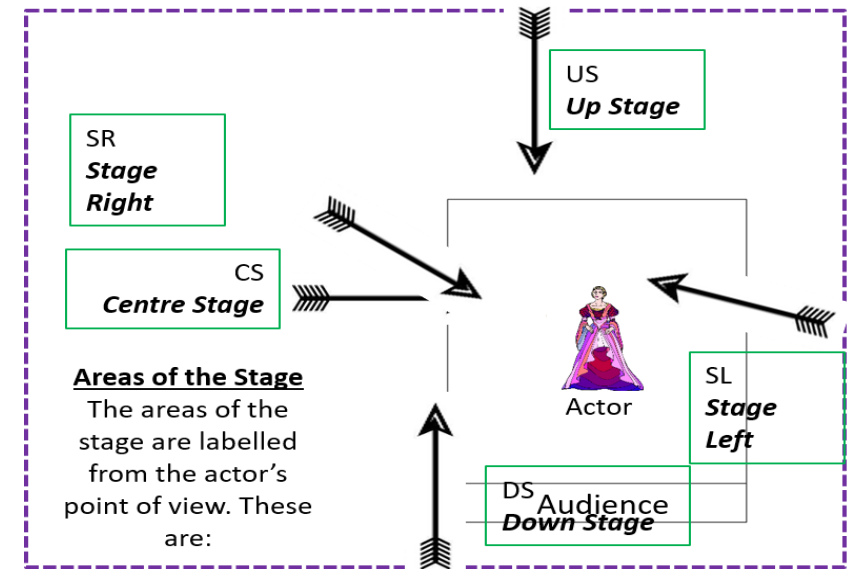
Background Information

Pantomimes are mostly performed at Christmas time.
Pantomime's are based on fairy tales and nursery stories.
Pantomime is a type of musical comedy designed for families. Modern pantomimes include songs, gages, slapstick comedy and dancing.
Pantomime stock characters include: the Evil Villain, the Damsel in Distress, the Hero, The Principle Boy (a male character played by a female), and the Pantomime Dame (a female character played by a male).

What tasks will I be completing?

- Researching the history of Pantomime
- Creating your own storyboard and script
- Creating your own set design
- Creating your own costume design
- Looking at the role of song within pantomime
- Analysing and Evaluating a live pantomime

Key terms and Skills	
Pantomime	Also known as 'Panto#'. This is a musical comedy style of theatre usually performed around Christmas time and including celebrities within the cast to engage audiences.
Exaggeration	Over the top vocals, movement and characters, often aimed at younger audiences
Areas of the Stage	The different sections of a stage which tells the actor(s) where they should be stood or enter the stage.
Stock Characters	Stereotypical characters that you would expect to find within a certain genre of theatre.
Set Design	Creating the props and objects on a stage that help to set the scene and show the audience where a certain scene/play is taking place,
Costume Design	Creating the different items of clothing that characters would wear within a performance.
Evaluating Live Performance	Watching a live theatre production and then look at what is good, what could be developed and how close it is to achieving it's aims.

US
Up Stage

SR
Stage Right

CS
Centre Stage

Actor

SL
Stage Left

DS
Down Stage

Audience

Areas of the Stage
The areas of the stage are labelled from the actor's point of view. These are:

Vocal Skills
- Exaggeration
- Projection
- Tone/Pitch
- Pace & Pause

Physical Skills
- Freeze-frames
- Gesture
- Facial Expressions
- Body Language