

### Our Day Out by Willy Russell

The play is about a group of **disadvantaged schoolchildren** from Liverpool who are taken on a **school trip** to Conwy Castle and the beach by their teachers. The children, called **the Progress Class**, normally struggle in school and come from difficult backgrounds.

#### Key events:

**The trip begins:** The kids are excited because it's a rare chance to have fun outside school.

**Fun and mischief:** They enjoy themselves, play games, and some get into minor trouble, showing their mischievous but playful side.

**Confronting reality:** The teachers, especially **Mr. Briggs**, see the challenges the children face and start to understand their lives better.

**Important lessons:** The play mixes humour with serious moments, showing how the kids' lives are affected by poverty and lack of opportunities.

**Ending:** The children return to school, but the day leaves both them and the teachers with **new insights about each other**.

The play is funny but also highlights social issues, like **inequality, education, and understanding people's different lives**.

The **Hillsborough Disaster** happened on **15 April 1989** at **Hillsborough Stadium** in Sheffield, England, during an FA Cup football match between **Liverpool and Nottingham Forest**.

#### Key events and facts:

**Crowd crush:** Too many fans were let into one part of the stadium (the Leppings Lane stand), causing a **crush**. People were trapped against barriers and could not escape.

**Deaths and injuries:** **96 Liverpool fans died** and hundreds were injured. Most victims were young men.

**Cause:** The disaster was caused by **poor crowd control and unsafe stadium design**, not by the fans themselves.

**Emergency response:** Police and stadium staff were criticized for their slow and uncoordinated response.

**Aftermath:** The disaster led to **changes in football stadium safety**, including the removal of standing terraces in top-level stadiums in England. Families campaigned for years for justice for the victims, and in **2016 the victims were officially cleared of blame**.

It's an important event in British history because it shows the need for **safety at large events** and how the media and authorities can sometimes get things wrong.

### PHYSICAL SKILLS

TERM

**B** Body language

**F** Facial expressions

**G** Gesture

**P** Posture

**E** Eye-contact

**G** Gait

### VOCAL SKILLS

TERM

**V** Volume

**E** Emphasis

**T** tone

**A** accent

**P** pitch

**P** pace

**P** pause

### Drama techniques

**Still Image:** A still image is like a photograph — a frozen moment in time created using actors.

**Thoughts Aloud:** When a character speaks out loud what they are thinking.

**Mime:** Acting without words, using only **movement, gesture, and facial expression**.

**Cross-cutting:** where the action moves **back and forth between two or more scenes** that are happening **at the same time**.

A **monologue** is a **long speech by one character** in a play

**Role-on-the-wall** is where you draw a **person's outline** on a sheet of paper or board and write **facts, feelings, thoughts, and personality traits** inside the outline. Outside the outline, you write how **other people see them**. It helps actors understand a character better.

**Flashback** A **scene that shows something that happened in the past**

YEAR 8  
Drama KO  
TERM 2

