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PERFORMANCE LICENCE APPLICATION FORM

For any performance of any part of **Bethlehem's Buzzin'** to an audience other than staff and children (eg. to parents), a valid performance licence from Edgy Productions must be held. Please note, your PRS, MCPS, CCLI or similar local authority-issued licence does not cover you for this. **Unless you purchased an instant performance licence and/or a recording & duplication licence when you bought this production pack, please ensure you complete and return this form at least 28 days before your first performance:**

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The performance licence will permit the holder to do the following:

- Perform a musical up to 5 times in one academic year, to a public audience, within your school.*
- Reproduce song lyrics on paper or for display on interactive whiteboards or similar screens.
- Photocopy the script and score for the cast to learn lines, and musicians to play the songs.

Contact name:

Name of school / organisation:

Address:

..... **Postcode:**

Tel: **email:**

Number of performances: **Performances Dates: from** **to**

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or

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Please ensure they receive their dues.**



INTRODUCTION

Jacob, Rebecca and Samuel are stall-holders in Bethlehem's busy, bustling market. However, always looking to make easy money, their way of doing business is a little less-than-honest! They shamelessly sell cheap and fake items, passing them off as genuine, quality goods!

One day, lots of visitors arrive in town (**song – Bethlehem's Buzzin'**) and the three friends are eager to cash-in! Convinced they'll be 'rolling in it' by the end of the day, (**song – Business Is Booming**) they give it the hard sell! After a day's record-breaking takings, just when they think it's time to pack up, a tired man and woman (Mary and Joseph) approach Jacob, Rebecca and Samuel, (**song – A Long, Long Way**) and ask if they know of a place to stay. Annoyed that the couple haven't come to shop, the friends reply that they can lead them to a nearby inn, but will charge them to do so! As Mary is about to have a baby, they accept the offer and hand over what little money they have on arrival at the inn. However, it's yet another dishonest trick. As the friends scarper with the money, Mary and Joseph discover there is no room at the inn, and the baby has to be born in a stable. (**song – A Baby Is Born Tonight**)

Back at their stall, about to pack up for the second time, Rebecca notices a bright light on the hillside. This is followed by the arrival of an excited group of shepherds, whom the three friends think have come to do some late-night shopping! However, to their disappointment, the shepherds tell them of a wondrous visit they've had by a host of angels, who've told them to come to Bethlehem (**song – Hurry Down The Hillside**) to find a baby born in a stable. Guessing which stable they mean, the friends offer to lead the shepherds to it...for a price! The shepherds decline the offer, choosing instead to follow the star that the angels said would show them the way.

About to pack up again, the stall-holders then notice three very distinguished-looking gentlemen, who look like they have a bit of money to spend! However, they are disappointed to hear that these visitors have also come looking for the baby (**song – Follow A Star**), and not to part with their cash! Neither will they be taking up Jacob, Rebecca and Samuel's 'kind' offer to lead them to the stable for a small fee, and they leave!

Curious as to why all these people are so keen to visit this baby, the friends decide to go and see for themselves. On approaching the stable they are overwhelmed with a joyful feeling, and when they are invited to kneel by the manger something changes in their hearts forever! They recognise they have led dishonest lives, and promise to change for the sake of this baby boy. They stop cheating and swindling and instead set up a new business – giving guided tours of Bethlehem to visitors, taking in all the special places and recounting the wonderful story of that momentous night! (**song – A Brighter Place**) And how much will they charge to do this? ABSOLUTELY NOTHING!

CHARACTERS

(Speaking parts in order of appearance)

Narrator/s – *this part could be divided between 3 or 4 children*

3 Travellers

4 Locals

Jacob, Rebecca and Samuel – *dishonest stall-holders*

Mary

Joseph

Inn-keeper

6 Shepherds

6 Angels

The 3 Kings

(Ensemble Characters – for featured songs and choreography)

Bethlehem Locals

Travellers

Stall-Holders

Stable Animals

Shepherds

Angels

Scene 1

*(As **Intro Music** plays (track 8) the cast members take their seats – fade the music when ready. At the back of the main stage market stalls are covered with sheets. A separate stage, representing the stable, is set up to the right of the main stage. Alternatively, the main stage could represent the stable, and the floor space in front be used for the stalls – see staging suggestions/scenery. To one side stands a narrator, or maybe four narrators, reading from an old book.)*

Narrator ~ Bethlehem was a town like any other town, a normal place with normal people doing normal things. But one day lots of visitors started to arrive – hundreds of weary travellers looking for a hot meal and somewhere to stay.

(The stage starts to fill with travellers and locals – see staging suggestions/costumes. They greet each other with friendly handshakes.)

For the locals it was very exciting, if a little worrying, as their town was nearly bursting at the seams! One thing was for sure, for the first time since they could remember, Bethlehem was definitely buzzin'!

Song 1 – Bethlehem's Buzzin' *(tracks 1 & 9, lyrics p13)* *(Locals and Travellers)*

(As the song ends, four locals stand forward of the crowd.)

Local 1 ~ Looking for a place to stay? Come with me! I have a lovely hotel with excellent food!

Traveller 1 ~ *(moving to stand by Local 1)* Thank you. Just what I need!

Local 2 ~ *(to travellers)* You don't want to go there! They've got a rat problem! I've got clean rooms with great views...and no rodents!

Traveller 2 ~ *(to husband)* That would suit us perfectly. Let's go there. *(bossily)* Grab the bags, Dear! Hurry! *(they move to stand by Local 2)*

Local 3 ~ Well, my place is very up-market, with fine-dining and room service. It's not cheap, but you get what you pay for.

Traveller 3 ~ *(to wife)* That sounds like the place for us – no riff-raff! *(they move to stand by Local 3)* We'd like a room, please!

Local 4 ~ My guest house is so popular I've only got one room left! Who's going to be the lucky person who gets it?

*(To **Intro Music** (track 10) all the travellers pair up with locals and are led off.)*

Scene 2

(Fade the Intro Music when ready. The market stalls are uncovered by the stall-holders – see staging suggestions/scenery. They then stand behind their stalls.)

Narrator ~ The next day was market-day in Bethlehem. Well, every day was market day, but with visitors in town, all with money to spend, this was an extra special market day. Stall-holders, Jacob, Rebecca and Samuel, were keen to cash-in!

(Jacob, Rebecca and Samuel enter, and stand centrally in front of their stalls. They each bring on a sign on a post or sandwich board, and place it next to or behind their stall. Slogans on these signs describe the nature of the goods they are selling, eg. "HALF-PRICE SPICES", "GENUINE SILKS FROM THE EAST" or "REAL EGYPTIAN JEWELLERY – AS WORN BY THE PHAROAHs" etc etc.)

Jacob ~ We'll be rolling in it by the end of the day!

Rebecca ~ All these out-of-towners looking for souvenirs of their visit to Bethlehem!

Samuel ~ They'll never guess all our stuff is fake or knock-off! Easy money! Oh, look! Here comes the morning rush!

(To the opening bars of the next song, some of the locals and travellers enter and begin chatting and bargaining with the stall-holders.)

Song 2 – Business Is Booming *(tracks 2 & 11, lyrics p14)* *(Stall-holders and shoppers)*

(All exit, including the other stall-holders, who first cover their stalls with the sheets. Jacob, Rebecca and Samuel remain, happily counting cash, their stalls still uncovered.)

Samuel ~ I can't believe they fell for it! One man bought a mat 'cause I told him it was from a king's palace. Ha! It's the one I wipe my feet on at home!

(As they laugh, a tired man and woman, Mary and Joseph, approach them.)

Rebecca ~ Look! Two more customers! Sir, Madam, can I interest you in a lovely necklace, once worn by an Egyptian princess?

Joseph ~ I'm sorry, friend, but we have little money to spare. We are tired, and my wife is about to have a baby. Do you know where we can find a room for the night?

Jacob ~ Err...yes! But information like that is gonna cost you!

Mary ~ Oh Joseph, give them something. We must find a room now!

Song 3 – A Long, Long Way *(tracks 3 & 12, lyrics p15)*
(Whole cast led by Mary and Joseph)

Jacob ~ I can see things haven't been easy for you....but I'm afraid it's still gonna cost you! Follow us.

*(To **Intro Music** (track 13) they all exit. Fade Intro Music when all have exited.)*

Scene 3

*(As **Soft Music** quietly plays (track 14), they all re-enter and stand in front of the stable stage. The music plays throughout - fade when ready for the next song.)*

Narrator ~ So Jacob, Samuel and Rebecca took the man and woman, whose names were Joseph and Mary, to a nearby inn.

Rebecca ~ Here we are. So, if you'd just like to...err...*(holding out her hand)*...settle up, we'll be on our way.

Joseph ~ Yes, of course. Here...*(handing her money)*...and thank you.

Jacob, Samuel & Rebecca ~ And thank **you**! Sleep well!

(The three friends exit happily. Joseph knocks and the Inn-Keeper appears.)

Inn-Keeper ~ Not more travellers! Yes, hello. How can I help?

Joseph ~ We need a room. My wife is about to have her baby.

Mary ~ But I'm afraid we haven't much money. We had to pay some people from the market to show us the way here.

Inn-Keeper ~ Oh, those villains! They'll do anything to make money! Well, I'm sorry to say my inn is full, just like every other one in town.

Mary ~ What are we to do?

Inn-Keeper ~ Well, I do have a stable at the back. It's warm, with fresh hay, and it won't cost you a thing.

(He leads them to the stable. The animals take their places at the back.)

Narrator ~ The kind innkeeper led Mary and Joseph to the stable, where they soon settled down on the warm hay, watched by the animals. That night Mary had a baby boy. She called him Jesus, as God had told her, and wrapped him up and laid him in a manger, because there was no bed for him to lie on.

Song 4 – A Baby Is Born Tonight *(tracks 4 & 15, lyrics p16)* *(Whole cast)*

Scene 4

(Jacob, Rebecca and Samuel enter and stand in front of their stalls. Rebecca is looking into the distance.)

Samuel ~ That last couple were generous, weren't they Rebecca.

Rebecca ~ Eh...what? Sorry, I wasn't listening. I've been watching a strange light up on the hillside. It's just faded. I wonder what it was.

Jacob ~ I don't know.....but here come some more customers! Today just gets better and better!

(A group of shepherds excitedly enters.)

Samuel ~ Well, hello to you all. We are still open for business. I'm sure even shepherds need to do late-night shopping now and again!

Shepherd 1 ~ I'm sorry, but we've not come to shop.

Shepherd 2 ~ We're looking for an inn with a stable.

Jacob, Samuel & Rebecca ~ Why?!

Shepherd 3 ~ Something wonderful has happened! Listen....

*(As **Harp Music** plays, (track 16) the shepherds congregate at the front of the stage, some sitting, some standing, looking out in different directions.)*

Narrator ~ The shepherds described how a normal night, watching over flocks of sheep, suddenly turned into something extraordinary!

Shepherd 4 ~ There's something the matter with the sheep tonight.

Shepherd 5 ~ It's near shearing time, that's why. They always get nervous when they see us sharpening the clippers!

Shepherd 6 ~ *(pointing)* Or it could be something to do with that great ball of light that's heading straight for us!

All Shepherds ~ *(cowering)* WHAT IS IT?!

Narrator ~ The shepherds covered their eyes in fear, as a host of heavenly angels appeared to them on the hillside.

(The shepherds fall to their knees as six angels enter and stand around them.)

Angel 1 ~ Don't be afraid. We bring wonderful news.

Angel 2 ~ A baby boy has been born tonight.

Angel 3 ~ His name is Jesus, and He is a new king.

Angel 4 ~ He has been sent by God to save you all.

Angel 5 ~ Go quickly to Bethlehem. Look for a stable lit by a star.

Angel 6 ~ He will be wrapped up and lying in a manger. Go to Him, and when you find Him, kneel at His side and give thanks.

Song 5 – Hurry Down The Hillside *(tracks 5 & 17, lyrics p17)*
(Whole cast led by Shepherds and Angels)

(The angels then join the stable scene. The shepherds return to the stalls.)

Shepherd 3 ~ So, do you know where we can find this baby?

Jacob ~ Oh yes.... but information like that is gonna cost you!

Shepherd 1 ~ Do we look like we have any money?

Shepherd 2 ~ *(pointing to the sky)* We don't need to pay these people! Look! The star! We're so close.

(The shepherds leave Jacob, Rebecca and Samuel and approach the stable.)

Jacob, Samuel & Rebecca ~ *(shouting at the shepherds)* Skin-flints!

Narrator ~ Just as the angels had said, the shepherds found the stable where Jesus lay. They each knelt by Him and gave thanks.

(Soft Music quietly plays, (track 18), and the shepherds kneel at the manger, then sit in front of the stable stage. When all are seated, fade the soft music.)

Scene 5

Narrator ~ This was turning out to be rather an unusual night. Excited shepherds, angels, bright new stars and talk of a baby king had unsettled the three friends. But they'd not seen the half of it!

Samuel ~ Come on, let's pack up the stalls and go home. There'll be nobody else coming now.

(They begin to throw sheets back over their stalls, when the three Kings enter.)

Rebecca ~ Wow! Look at the threads on these guys! They must be rolling in it! *(They hurriedly uncover their stalls again.)* Gentlemen, can I interest you in.....

King 1 ~ *(interrupting)* Before you ask, we do not wish to buy anything.

King 2 ~ We already have everything we need. Gold, frankincense, and myrrh, *(they hold up their gifts)* gifts for the baby we've come to visit.

Jacob ~ Aah! The baby! Well we know where he is....but information like that is gonna.....!

King 3 ~ *(interrupting)* We do not need help, thank you. *(pointing)* For weeks we have been following that star – it is all we need. It will guide us to him.

Song 6 – Follow A Star *(tracks 6 & 19, lyrics p18)* *(Whole cast led by the three Kings)*

*(The song ends and, as the **Soft Music** again quietly plays in the background (track 20), the Kings cross to the stable and present their gifts, then stand to one side of the manger. Jacob, Rebecca and Samuel stay by their stalls. Fade the soft music when cued on the next page.)*

Narrator ~ Guided by the star, these three travellers had found their way to the baby Jesus. Because he was so special, they had journeyed a long way and brought him precious gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Jacob, Rebecca and Samuel were now very curious. What was so special about this baby? Why was everybody so keen to visit Him? They decided to see for themselves.

Rebecca ~ Come on! Let's find out what's so important that it's stopping people shopping!

(They cautiously approach the stable, but stop short of going in. Mary and Joseph see them.)

Mary ~ Look Joseph, it's the kind people from the market who showed us the way here.

Joseph ~ Hello friends. Please, don't stand out there in the cold. You're very welcome to come inside and see the baby.

Samuel ~ Oh no, that's alright. We were just....

Mary ~ Please come in. If hadn't been for your help we would never have found this place.

(They nervously come into the stable and kneel by the manger.)

Narrator ~ So they came to the manger, and straight away they knew why this baby was so special. When they looked into his eyes something changed inside their hearts.

Rebecca ~ We've led dishonest lives. We've cheated and lied just to make money.

Jacob ~ Not anymore. From now on we'll lead good lives.

Samuel ~ And everything we do will be for Him – this new baby king.

(They leave the stable and return to their stalls. They cover them with sheets, then turn round their signs/sandwich boards to reveal their new business – "GUIDED TOURS OF BETHLEHEM!" All the travellers and locals enter and gather round them. Fade the soft music.)

Narrator ~ So Jacob, Rebecca and Samuel did change their lives. From that day on they stopped cheating people out of their money, and instead they gave guided tours of Bethlehem to all the town's visitors. They showed them the hillside where the angels had spoken to the shepherds. They led them through the narrow streets where the three kings had walked, following the star. And they showed them the stable where Jesus had been born. And all the while they would tell the visitors the story of that wonderful night, spreading a message of love and hope to everyone they met.

Rebecca ~ Guided tours of Bethlehem! Get your tickets here!

Jacob ~ Come and listen to the greatest story ever told!

Samuel ~ And see for yourselves the places where it all happened!

Traveller 1 ~ *(to Traveller 2)* Sounds great, but something like that is gonna cost us!

Traveller 2 ~ *(to Traveller 1)* I know, but how much? *(to Jacob, Samuel and Rebecca)* Hey, how much is it gonna cost us?

(Jacob, Samuel and Rebecca smile at each other and throw open their arms....)

Jacob, Samuel & Rebecca ~ ABSOLUTELY NOTHING!

Song 7 – A Brighter Place *(tracks 7 & 21, lyrics p19)*
(Whole cast)

THE END



Bethlehem's Buzzin'

Verse 1

(Locals)

Our town is quiet, usually,
Not today, as you can see!
Each visitor will be our friend,
'Specially if they've come to spend!

Chorus

Bethlehem's buzzin'!
Bethlehem's buzzin'!
Streets packed everywhere!
Something special is on its way,
There's excitement in the air!

Verse 2

(Visitors)

We like this spot – we have to say,
It's like we're on holiday!
We've journeyed here to pay our tax.
We're so tired, we must relax!

Chorus

Bethlehem's buzzin'.....

Verse 3

(Locals)

You're going to need a place to stay,
Food, a bath, a bed – but, hey,
It's first things first, you're welcome here!
Nicest crowd we've seen all year!

Chorus

Bethlehem's buzzin'.....

Repeat chorus

Business Is Booming

(During the introduction the locals and travellers chat and bargain with the stall-holders.)

Verse 1

(Stall-holders) Roll up! Roll up! Roll up! Roll up!
Come along and see what we've got here!
There's something for everyone,
Don't leave till it's all gone.
You can't miss out on such amazing gear!
(Rebecca) Shiny silk – it feels so fine!
(Samuel) Nicked from someone's washing line!
(Rebecca) Herbs and spice – who could want more?
(Samuel) Grass and dust swept off the floor!

Chorus

(All) Business is booming and profits are zooming!
You might want to know the reason why!
You can browse, you can touch,
But don't ask us too much
Before you get your cash out and you buy!

Instrumental *(during which there is more chat and bargaining.)*

Verse 2

(Shoppers) Look out! Look out! Look out! Look out!
Move aside so we can see what's here!
There's something for everyone
Won't leave till it's all gone!
We must take home a lovely souvenir!
(Rebecca) Hats to shield you from the sun!
(Jacob) All these holes are just for fun!
(Rebecca) Diamond jewellery – works of art!
(Jacob) Made of glass – fell off a cart!

Chorus Business is booming.....

Repeat chorus

A Long, Long Way

Verse 1

(Group A)

Joseph was a carpenter,
Carpenter, carpenter.
Joseph was a carpenter,
Mary was his wife.

(Group B)

Gabriel had brought good news,
Brought good news, brought good news.
Gabriel had brought good news,
News to change their life.

Chorus

Mary, Joseph – you have come a long, long way!
Walking, riding, travelling for many a day.
You're both tired, you need a rest,
You also need a friend!
And some help to reach your journey's end.

Verse 2

(All)

She's to have a special child,
Special child, special child,
She's to have a special child –
He will be God's son.

*(Joseph
and Mary)*

Call him Jesus, we've been told,
We've been told, we've been told,
Call him Jesus, we've been told –
God's will shall be done.

Chorus

Mary, Joseph.....

Verse 3

(Group A)

They've arrived in Bethlehem,
Bethlehem, Bethlehem,
They've arrived in Bethlehem –
Joseph was born here.

(Group B)

They need shelter very soon,
Very soon, very soon.
They need shelter very soon –
Mary's time is near.

Chorus

Mary, Joseph.....

Repeat last two lines

A Baby Is Born Tonight

- Verse 1** Little Jesus, you sleep in a manger,
At the inn there's no bed.
Son of God, tiny infant, so peaceful,
A pillow of hay for your head.
- Chorus** Softly, gently, by the candlelight,
In a stable, a baby is born tonight.
- Verse 2** Ox and donkey both join in the worship,
Wide eyes witness the joy.
Mary sings in a voice warm and tender,
A sweet lullaby to her boy.
- Chorus** Softly, gently.....
- Verse 3** One bright star has appeared and is shining,
Resting over the scene.
Silver beams round a beautiful picture,
With quiet and stillness between.
- Chorus** Softly, gently.....
- Repeat last line**

Hurry Down The Hillside

Verse 1

(Angels)

We have brought such wonderful news,
A baby boy's been born tonight.
His name is Jesus and he's going to be a king.
He's been sent by God to save you all.

(solo) Too right!

Go now to Bethlehem, you must track down an inn,
With a little stable, right next door.
If you don't know where you are,
Try and spot the brightest star,
And you'll find the child to worship and adore!

Chorus

Hurry down the hillside, hurry down the hillside,
Hurry down the hillside is the message that we bring.
Hurry down the hillside, hurry down the hillside,
Hurry down the hillside to find the baby King!

Verse 2

(Shepherds)

Wow! That is incredible news!
A future king's been born tonight!
We'll go and see him and we're going to take a gift.
Something from a shepherd – hey, a lamb.

(solo)

Too right!
Let's go to Bethlehem, we must track down that inn,
And that little stable right next door!
If we don't know where we are,
We will spot that brightest star!
And we'll find the child to worship and adore!

Chorus

Hurry down the hillside.....

Repeat chorus

Follow A Star

Verse 1

(Kings)

We have travelled from the East,
Following a star.

(clap, clap)

We have travelled from the East,
And have ridden fast and far.

(clap, clap, clap, clap, clap, clap, clap)

Chorus

(All)

Follow a star, follow a star.
Head towards the west and keep your eyes on the skies!
Follow a star, follow a star.
It will guide you to the place where this new baby lies!

Verse 2

(All)

You have brought rich gifts with you.
Show us what they are.

(clap, clap)

You have brought rich gifts with you.
Gold and frankincense and myrrh!

(clap, clap, clap, clap, clap, clap, clap)

Chorus

Follow a star, follow a star.....

Verse 3

(All)

You will see the Infant King,
On this holy night.

(clap, clap)

You will see the Infant King,
Born to be the world's delight!

(clap, clap, clap, clap, clap, clap, clap)

Chorus

Follow a star, follow a star.....

Repeat last two lines

A Brighter Place

Verse 1 Hallelujah! Jesus is born!
 Take Him straight into your heart.
 This great story will never end.
 We knew that right from the start!
 So, praise Him, all you angels
 And praise Him all you shepherds!
 Praise Him all you wise men – one, two, three!!
 But the most important thing,
 Is to wear a smile and sing
 Praise to Jesus Christ from you and me!

Chorus Celebrate! Celebrate!
 Put a big smile on your face!
 Come on and celebrate, celebrate!
 'Cause the world is a brighter place.

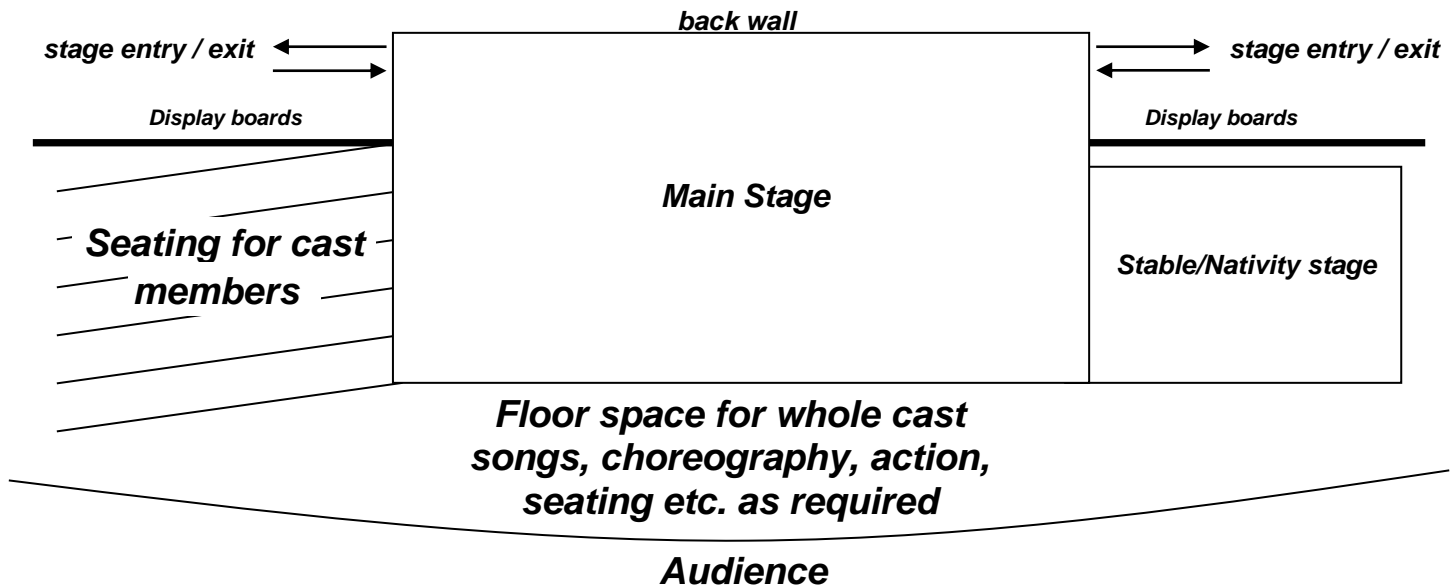
Verse 2 Love and peace and joy to the world!
 That is the message He brings.
 One small child, new-born on this day
 Will be the King of all Kings!
 So, praise Him, all you angels
 And praise Him all you shepherds!
 Praise Him all you wise men – one, two, three!!
 But the most important thing,
 Is to wear a smile and sing
 Praise to Jesus Christ from you and me!

Chorus Celebrate! Celebrate.....

Repeat chorus

STAGING AND PRODUCTION SUGGESTIONS

Bethlehem's Buzzin' has been written to be adaptable to most school hall set-ups, whether you have a stage or not. Below is just one representation of a possible staging layout.



- **Scenery** – The back wall behind the main stage could display a street scene from biblical times – traditional white, flat-topped buildings, archways and side-streets. In the background there could be hillsides with palms and remote stone buildings. The 'stable' stage should be suitably decorated to represent a wooden structure, with bales of hay if possible, and a pen or stall for the animals. A bright star should be fixed to, or suspended above this area.
- **Furniture** – With a bit of imagination your school tables can be transformed into market stalls. Upright batons will enable 'fronts' to be attached, with the suggestion of a roof or awning. Signs could also be attached to the fronts, or onto free-standing poles, to advertise the wares being sold. Alternatively, sandwich boards could be positioned in front of the stalls to fulfil the same purpose. Sheets will be needed to cover the sale items when the stalls are 'closed'.
- **Props** – Apart from the three kings' gifts, shepherds' crooks and toy lambs/sheep, and the obligatory 'Jesus doll' in a crib, the only new props you'll need to acquire or make are those for the market stalls. Furnish the main characters' stalls with long bits of material, large jars, costume jewellery and general bric-a-brac, which should be arranged on and in front of the tables you use. Items in baskets and pots will look effective. If you're feeling adventurous then fruit, veg, cages containing small animals (not real!), loaves of bread etc, will

add authenticity to the other stalls. Refer to the lyrics in song 2 (Business Is Booming), and the dialogue in Scene 2 for ideas. Use toy coins or cut card discs for the money that is exchanged between certain characters

- **Costume** – Nothing revolutionary to suggest here! We're sure nativity costumes are a staple part of your school's collection. Tea-towels, white sheets, old curtains, animal masks and lots of tinsel should give your characters that traditional nativity look!
- **Use of Space** – The whole cast will probably want to be involved in the performance of most of the songs. A space on the floor in front of the main stage could be used to accommodate extra bodies. In this space, for some songs, the cast could perform dance routines or act out the lyrical content. A seating area for resting performers could be allocated to one side of the stage. This lets them enjoy the performance as part of the audience, allows easy movement on and off the stage, and of course eliminates the need for back-stage supervision.
- **Content** – You can personalise your performance by adding or changing character names, and re-writing any parts of the script to make them more appropriate to your particular school. Different songs that the children know and enjoy could replace, or be added to those on the CD. Don't feel restricted; make the show your own.
- **Audience seating** – The audience could be in one block facing the stage, or maybe in two blocks separated by an aisle wide enough for perhaps the entrance of some characters from the back, or to allow some of the drama and choreography to be performed on the floor.
- Our final suggestion, as always, is to have fun and enjoy your Christmas at school!