**Transition work Y11 – Y12 ‘A’ level Drama and Theatre**

**Commedia dell’arte Research Assignment – Mrs Grattan**

**To prepare for the A level set text, ‘A Servant to Two Masters’, you need to research the style and characters of Commedia dell’arte as the play is based in this style and the characters are derived from Commedia types.**

**Commedia dell'arte was an early form of professional theatre, originating from Italy, that was popular in Europe from the 16th to the 18th century.**

**Watch these clips from The National Theatre**

**Commedia dell’arte – A Historical Overview:**

[**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mqlfTG40RUI**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mqlfTG40RUI)

**The World of Commedia dell’arte**

[**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h\_0TAXWt8hY**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h_0TAXWt8hY)

**Using your body: BBC Bitesize section on Commedia dell’arte**

[**https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zpfk6sg/revision/5**](https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zpfk6sg/revision/5)

**Characters needed in your research for the set text:**

* Arlecchino/Harlequin
* Pantalone
* The Innamorati (Innamorato and Innamorata)
* Il Dottore
* Brighella
* Colombina

In your research you must also explain the following terms:

* Vecchi
* Lazzi
* Zanni

You will need this research information for the start of Y12. Create a project with images and information about Commedia. Use your own words as much as possible rather than just copying chunks of Wikipedia!! If you watch the videos, these will help you to add your own notes to the characters rather than just reading about them.