



WELCOME TO DARK ARTS

During visits to the Studio Tour between 13th September and 10th November 2024, there will be some additions specifically for our Dark Arts feature.

Every half an hour (on the hour, and on the half-hour) there will be two processions of Death Eaters, one starting by the Prefects' bathroom taps and the other by the Defence Against the Dark Arts classroom, meeting at a stage by Hagrid's Hut. Throughout the procession, there will be thunder, lightning and water-based smoke simulations with SFX explosions at the Leaky Cauldron, Dumbledore's office, the Potions classroom, Hagrid's hut and Hagrid's bike. There will be a second procession on Platform 9 ¾ every half an hour (quarter past and quarter to the hour). Throughout this procession, there will be SFX explosions on the Hogwarts Express train and train tracks. Both processions will have a 10-minute countdown projected in the area and an announcement one minute before it begins. All video screens will change to show an image of the Dark Mark and an announcement of the Death Eaters will be made with a thunder sound and flickering lights. The processions will be accompanied by music, and you will also be able to hear a voiceover giving details about the costumes and choreography.

Due to the popularity of the procession, areas around the Potions classroom, special effects area and Platform 9 ¾ may become crowded. If you wish to avoid seeing the Death Eaters, please look for a team member who will be happy to help you. Shortly after the procession, there will be a demonstration in the Defence Against the Dark Arts classroom featuring two Death Eaters and some audience participation.

There will be a giant jack-in-the-box clown displayed near the Defence Against the Dark Arts classroom, which will tilt towards you when triggered by a motion sensor. This featured in *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban* as the Boggart which Parvati Patil turned from a snake into the jack-in-the-box.

In the Forbidden Forest, every three minutes there will be a show of Dementors approaching with an Interactor explaining the process of how these were made.

On Diagon Alley, there is a demonstration simulating a working set. This will show the actors coming in unmasked and you will watch them mask up and become a Death Eater. There will then be a simulated explosion involving lighting and water-based smoke effects as well as sound effects and music.

Finally, in the model room, roughly every 10 minutes there will be a dim in the lighting before a projection of rain, thunder and lightning throughout the area.

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