

# HOCKERILLNEWS

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## EQUIPE PERFORMING ARTS SPECIAL

The Equipe Performing Arts competition challenges our students to create, develop and stage a twenty minute musical in which they are responsible for the scripting, staging, composition, design, rehearsal, organisation, promotion and performance!

The students can choose to create their own musical or retell a classic tale but they must follow a few simple rules, 1- they must involve the key arts elements of music, dance, drama and design. 2- they should find a way to incorporate students from a range of year groups and make roles available to all. 3- they should have two full musical numbers... Simple ?

Although supported and guided by the Heads of Equipe this is a completely student led and driven project and students have been working on their shows since September 2015. Dedicated teams of year 12 CAS students have been planning and preparing the organisation of the project from auditions to rehearsal to promotion and performance. This year has seen four fantastic contrasting shows created, which demonstrates the diversity of ideas and approaches to the brief. A tremendous amount of work has gone into every moment of these performances and every student involved is to be commended for their professional and committed approach.

### THE AWARDS:

#### Whole Equipe Awards:

- Best dance - Goethe (Mary Poppins)
- Best drama - Pascal (The Jungle Book)
- Best music/singing - Goethe (Mary Poppins)
- Best costume/set design - Pascal (The Jungle Book)
- Best production organisation - Pascal (The Jungle Book)

#### Individual awards:

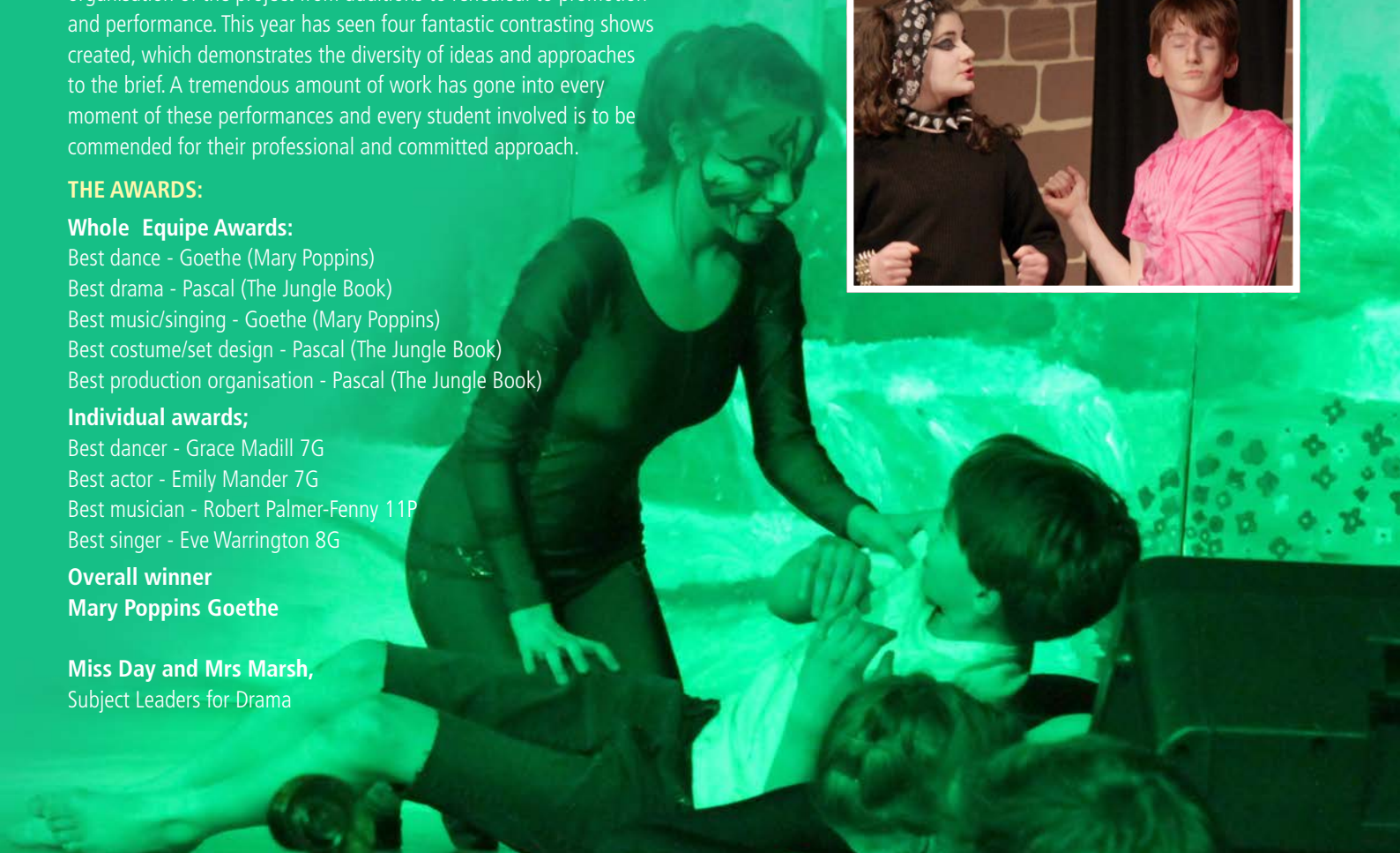
- Best dancer - Grace Madill 7G
- Best actor - Emily Mander 7G
- Best musician - Robert Palmer-Fenny 11P
- Best singer - Eve Warrington 8G

#### Overall winner

**Mary Poppins Goethe**

#### Miss Day and Mrs Marsh,

Subject Leaders for Drama



## BRUNEL'S MEAN GIRLS

It has been such an amazing whirlwind of activity and excitement to be part of Brunel's production of Mean Girls this year. My sixth form team have been incredible and each one has stepped up of their own accord and at no time has I had to ask any of then to fulfill any role. Vanessa Igoe as both producer and director has held the show together and galvanised the entire Equipe. My Equipe Prefects Tom Lewington and Jessica Goebel have been so willing and enthusiastic and have worked beautifully with even the youngest students. There were no mean girls or boys in this cast!

The Equipes were first set up to bring different sections of the College together, especially between year groups and nothing does that better than the Performing Arts Competition. This year was no different and it has been a pleasure to see such a diverse cast working with large parts going to Lower College performers as well as sixth formers. Both Dewi Chappel and Lucy Womack were outstanding and we found some great Year 7 actors and singers and they will all have very bright futures ahead. It was during rehearsals that it struck me how good our two leads, Penny Darling and Bashi Tingey, were at projecting their characters and making the audience love and loath them. Add a dashing hero, Sonny Dewhurst, and Taha Alibhai and Will Speed in drag and we had one mean show! Thank you to all those involved, mentioned here nor not, I have had a ball and am so proud of all of you.

**Mr Dinwiddy**, Head of Equipe



## DA VINCI'S HARRY POTTER

The Magic of Laughter..

Da Vinci beautifully showed off what they are all about in their very original adaptation of Harry Potter. It was magic and chaos wrapped up in laughter which the audience lapped up right to the end. The script was put together by Meg Gibby with her very own spin on the well-known characters from Hogwarts and transported them into Hockerill with opposing character traits. Harry Potter, played by Kristian Peters, was portrayed as a cowardly geek forced to fight the over dramatic Lord Voldemort (Peru Eizagirre Barker).

The two battled it out on the drums before Ron (Jasper Hopkins) threw the famous golden snitch to outdo Harry as the hero. The rest of the cast also had their very own quirks, the flirty Hermione (Giulia Sessich), short Hagrid (Eleanor Hewins), Hippy Snape (Jude Merritt) and oblivious Dumbledore (Meg Gibby) who all kept the laughter coming. The students put together a piece that showed off their wonderful talents brought together in the music, costumes, scenery and reinvention of well-known YouTube clips. This showed Da Vinci at their stunning best – their creativity, uniqueness, hilarity and really amazing personalities shone through.

I was overwhelmed by the way the students worked together across the year groups and their two phenomenal performances were truly down to their admiration for each other, their allegiance to Da Vinci and their ability to improvise. We had a lot of fun and will now miss the weekly meetings, rehearsals and madness and look forward to doing it all again in the future.

**Miss Swann**, Head of Equipe



## GOETHE'S MARY POPPINS

During the Goethe adaptation of the children's classic Mary Poppins, the story begins with the Banks children deciding to write an advertisement for the "Perfect Nanny". George Banks has a very different idea of what constitutes the perfect nanny and sends the children to bed. Within moments Mary Poppins arrives and takes charge of the Banks children, using her magical dancers to tidy up the nursery and ensuring everything is Spit-Spot.

The magic continues, along with their friend Bert. They jump inside a beautiful chalk drawing and have a "supercalifragilisticexpialidocious" time. Sadly all good things must come to an end and the children are taken home and tucked up in bed. Mary Poppins explains to the children why they must continue their adventure in life without her and a beautiful lullaby "feed the birds" is sung to the children to send them to sleep.

The children wake up from their dream to the sound of their father calling them. However he sounds so different, so very happy. They realise that maybe the magic has found its way to their father too and Mary Poppins wasn't a dream, or was she? Love and happiness fills the Banks household and the entire family "go fly a kite".

**Mrs Lumbers, Head of Equipe**



## PASCAL'S THE JUNGLE BOOK

Our adaptation of this timeless classic takes key elements from the original Disney production, paying homage to its style and humour while updating the language to appeal to modern audiences. It tells the story of man-cub Mowgli (Brett Rushman) and his guides and protectors, Bagheera the panther (Georgina Priest) and Baloo the bear (Lincoln Delhomme), in their encounters with the dangers of the jungle in the form of the sinister snake Kaa (Natasha Feltham) and big scary tiger Shere Khan (Lucie Beaufort). After escaping from the clutches of unhinged orangutan King Louie (Celestya Riva), Mowgli is pounced on by Shere Khan, leaving Baloo wounded, presumed dead...

This was an entirely student-led production, produced and managed by Kirsty Winship and written/directed by Celestya Riva, assisted by Sean Grant, with Lily Hamer and India Gill leading the choreography and Kadiatou Diallo and Grace Mitchell in charge of the artwork. Music was arranged by Katherine Lewington, Robert Palmer-Fenny and Samuel Tatchell and sound provided by Olivia Cacciatore, Oliver Chivers and Edward Braeckman. Many thanks also go to the rest of the incredible Year 12 team and to Mrs Garland, her Year 11s and all the other face-painters for hours of hard work over the two nights which made the production look so vibrant.

**Mr Michel**, Head of Equipe

