

KS2 Outdoor Production – A Midsummer Night’s Dream

This week marked a truly historic moment for our school, as KS2 performed our very first open-air production - a magical and memorable staging of *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*. Making full use of our beautiful outdoor environment, the children embraced the exciting challenge of performing beyond the traditional stage, discovering how to use natural scenery, open space and new projection techniques to bring Shakespeare’s woodland world to life.

Transforming the EYFS area into an enchanted forest was a joy. The children relished the opportunity to weave in and out of natural features, using trees, pathways and open sky as part of their storytelling. Parents were warmly welcomed to Aston Rowant’s very own outdoor theatre, where they enjoyed refreshments — including Pimms and other beverages - before settling in to watch what many described as an “almost professional” performance.

A Magical Journey to Athens

What a privilege it was to be transported to ancient Athens and the mystical forest beyond. The KS2 production was nothing short of extraordinary. The talent, teamwork and joy on display were a testament to the children’s dedication and creativity. Every cast member - from fairies to nobles, lovers to craftsmen - played a vital part in making the dream come alive.

We are enormously proud of each and every pupil. Their confidence, clarity, expression and commitment shone through, creating a performance that will stay in the hearts of pupils, staff and families alike for many years to come.

Adaptability and Team Effort

Despite the challenges of unpredictable weather, the children, and staff, showed incredible adaptability as timings were adjusted. A huge thank you must go to Mrs Healy and the entire KS2 team for their vision, determination and unwavering hard work. Their creativity, leadership and encouragement provided the children with an outstanding opportunity for enrichment and personal growth.

G.R.O.W.T.H. Through Performance

This production exemplified the powerful learning that comes from the performing arts. Our GROWTH values were visible in every rehearsal and every performance:

G – Gratitude

We have been overwhelmed by the positive feedback from pupils, staff and families. The sense of joy, pride and shared community experience has created memories that will last a lifetime.

R – Resilience

Learning lines, mastering cues, remembering entrances and projecting voices outdoors demanded determination and persistence. Pupils developed confidence that will support them not only in school, but in life beyond.

O – Outreach

Acting encouraged pupils to communicate clearly, work collaboratively and adapt to the needs of their audience. They developed interpersonal skills in a fun, creative and meaningful context.

W – Wonder

Stepping into character allowed pupils to imagine, empathise and explore new perspectives. The magic of Shakespeare’s world sparked curiosity and inspired awe.

T – Trust

From casting to choreography, stage directions to musical cues, pupils learned to trust one another — and themselves. They supported their peers, listened carefully and worked as a unified ensemble.

H – Harmony

Producing a performance of this scale required teamwork at every level: learning lines, staging, designing the set, moving props, supporting younger pupils and collaborating across classes. Harmony was at the heart of the entire process.

GRATITUDE RESILIENCE OUTREACH WONDER TRUST HARMONY

Growing together, rooted in God, enjoying fullness of life. (Colossians 2:7)

A Midsummer Night's Dream



Our open-air *Midsummer Night's Dream* showcased everything we value: creativity, courage, teamwork, imagination and joy. It was theatre at its most vibrant - alive with laughter, magic, talent and togetherness. These performances will stay with the children and the wider school community for many years to come, embodying not just Shakespeare's dreamlike wonder, but the spirit and heart of our school.

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