

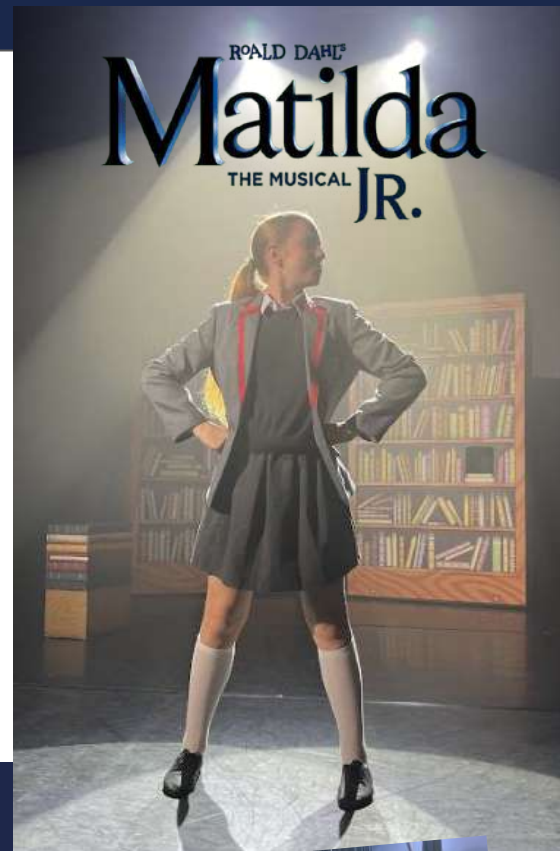
Highlands School presents Matilda!

K It is with great excitement and pride that we introduce you to our special feature newsletter, celebrating our school's magnificent production of *Matilda Jr the Musical*. Our talented students have worked tirelessly to bring this enchanting story to life, showcasing their incredible acting, singing, and dancing skills. The journey from auditions to opening night has been a testament to their dedication and passion for the arts. **e**

Bringing Matilda to life!

Over months and countless hours of rehearsals, the cast tirelessly honed their performances, perfecting every line and dance move. Their commitment was evident as they balanced schoolwork with practices, always pushing through with enthusiasm and determination.

This relentless effort not only built a strong team spirit but also ensured that every scene was performed with precision and passion, leading to a truly magical show.



Rehearsals



The story of Matilda

Matilda tells the inspiring tale of an extraordinary little girl with a vivid imagination and a sharp mind. Despite facing numerous challenges at home and school, Matilda Wormwood discovers her incredible telekinetic powers and uses them to stand up to her oppressive headmistress, Miss Trunchbull, and to bring happiness to her kind-hearted teacher, Miss Honey.

Our performances

Last week was an incredible time for Miss Brown, Mrs Miller and Miss Cazeau and all the students and staff involved in our school show, *Matilda*. They spent the week performing the show at the Millfield Theatre.

They started off the week by building the set on Monday, then progressed to a full technical rehearsal on Tuesday and then on Wednesday began their performances.

They performed one matinee performance on Wednesday 3rd July to an audience of students from local schools. This was a huge success and everyone was delighted with how the performance went. All the cast then enjoyed a pizza party in the cafe at the Millfield Theatre and then prepared for the evening show.

It was wonderful for staff and students on Thursday morning coming into school and hearing all the amazing comments and feedback about the show. The cast then went on to perform to a sold out audience on Thursday and Friday.

To watch our *Matilda* highlights follow our [Instagram](#) page or watch the reel [here](#) or on our [YouTube](#) channel.

Miss Brown



A successful show

One of the main reasons that the show was such a success was because of the energy and professionalism the students brought to the show. They had committed themselves to rehearse after school for months and months and this was the final result of hours and hours of practice and commitment.

Not all the students who started in the cast showed the resilience to remain part of this incredible process and the production ended up with an inspirational cast of around 60 students.

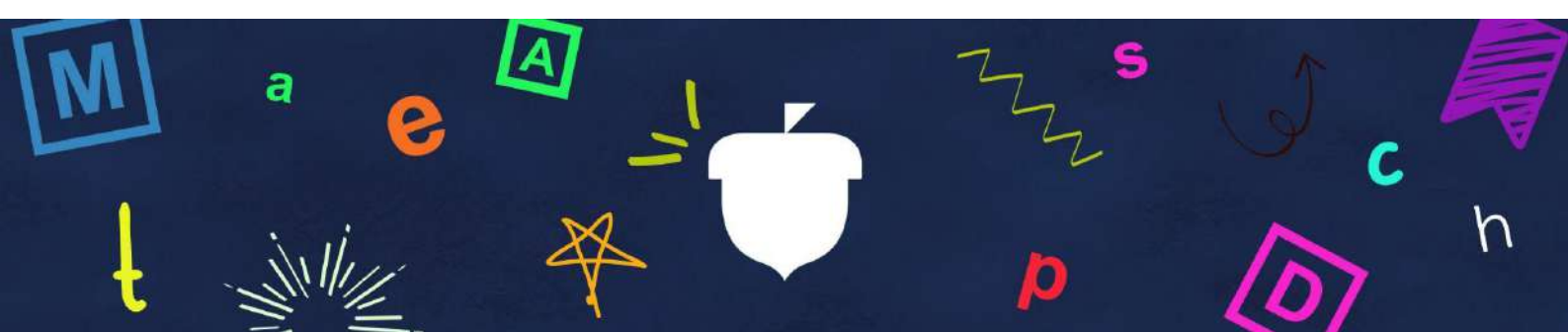
It didn't matter whether they were moving a block on stage like Aarav, or spent half the show slumped in a chair like Evie playing Michael, set the stage alight with their moves like our dance captains Amelie and Evie or took a starring role like Jahan as Mr Wormwood, Charlie as Miss Trunchbull or Sena and Ruby as Matilda. Every single one of the students pulled together as a team.

They deserve enormous credit and they will be celebrated with an after party during period 5 on Friday 19th July to celebrate the success of the show. Talent such as the beautiful voices of Estelle and Victoria as Miss Honey and Betsy and India's funny and firey rendition of Mrs Wormwood, deserve to be commemorated.

As teachers we lit the fire to inspire them but they burned brighter than we ever hoped they could.

Miss Brown

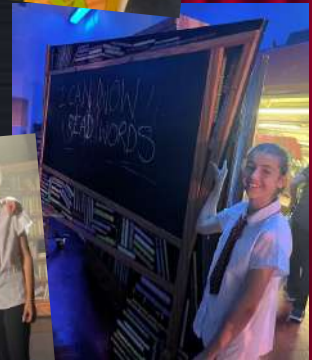




Behind the scenes

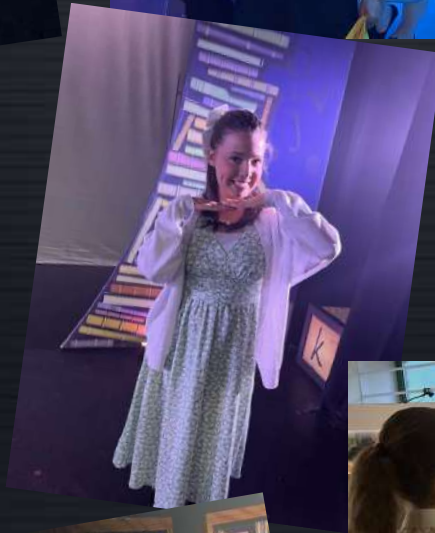
The journey to opening night was filled with hard work and dedication. Our student actors, musicians, and staff members spent countless hours rehearsing lines, perfecting dance routines, and honing their musical numbers. Led by our passionate and talented producer, Miss Brown, Musical director Mrs Miller, Director Ms Cazeau and Assistant musical director Mr Weddell, the cast and crew poured their hearts into every rehearsal, ensuring each performance was polished and professional.

The vibrant costumes and intricate set designs transported audiences straight into Matilda's world, from the Wormwood household to Crunchem Hall Primary School. The technical team worked tirelessly to create seamless transitions and special effects that added an extra layer of magic to the performances.



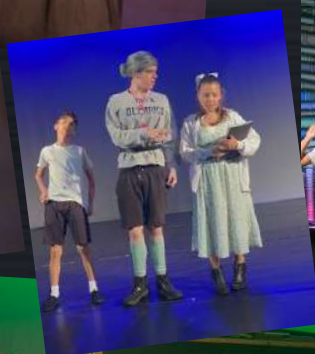


Behind the scenes





The show





Audience reception

The response from the audience was overwhelmingly positive. Many praised the professionalism and talent of our students, noting how the production rivaled those of professional theater companies.

Such an incredible show...could have easily been sat in a West End theatre watching it. So professional in every way...we absolutely loved it, thank you to the teachers that made this all happen and to Highlands for giving the children the opportunity to experience this.

When's the next one?

It was such a delight to watch. The students' dedication and talent truly shone through in every scene.

*One word...
PHENOMENAL!*

What an incredible show, it was just so amazing!

Quite easily one of the best school productions I have ever seen!

Its was brilliant, well done everyone at Highlands!



Thank you for your support

We are excited to offer parents and carers the opportunity to purchase the official programme from our spectacular production of *Matilda* for just £5. If you are interested, please visit the music office. This beautifully designed keepsake includes cast photos, rehearsal photos, and special messages from the directors.

Additionally, professional photos and a film of the entire production will soon be available for purchase. Stay tuned for more information on how to order these wonderful mementos and relive the magic of our unforgettable show! All money raised will go towards the school's next production. Thanking you all for your support.

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Matilda JR.

On behalf of the entire Highlands School community, it is my great pleasure to welcome you to our production of *Matilda Jr.* We are thrilled to present this heartwarming and magical story, brought to life by our talented students and dedicated production team.

Matilda Jr., inspired by Roald Dahl's beloved book, tells the extraordinary tale of an extraordinary girl who, armed with a vivid imagination and a sharp mind, dares to take a stand and change her own destiny. It's a story about bravery, the power of education, and the magic that lives within us all.

Over the past months, our students have poured their hearts into rehearsing, learning, and growing as performers and as individuals. Their enthusiasm, hard work, and creativity have been truly inspiring. We are incredibly proud of each and every one of them, and we are delighted to share their achievements with you tonight.

Producing a show of this calibre is no small feat, and it would not have been possible without the unwavering support of our dedicated staff, volunteers, and families. I extend my deepest gratitude to our wonderful staff and all those behind the scenes whose passion and commitment have brought this production to life.

I also want to thank you, our audience, for your continued support of the arts at Highlands School. Your presence here tonight is a testament to the value of fostering creativity and providing our students with the opportunity to shine on stage.

So sit back, relax, and let the magic of *Matilda Jr.* transport you to a world where anything is possible, and where the least person can make the biggest difference.

Enjoy the show!

Mr McInerney

The children have had to work hard, singing songs at the same time. There have been many challenges in difficult harmonies.

Students need to be able to add movement and sing in two or more different parts at the same time. I have found that the atmosphere in the rehearsals has been great and it is so nice to see pupils in different year groups working well together. I have always been confident that we can pull it off and the show be a wonderful success.

Mrs Miller



Director: Ms Cazeau

It has been an absolute pleasure working on this show with such a fantastic team in Mrs Miller and Miss Brown, and it is always amazing to have the opportunity to work with a group of such talented students! All the students have given their all and always translate into four excellent shows! It has been a pleasure to watch the students bond and work together throughout the process, and even though at times it can seem like a barrier as they are all from different year groups, it has been lovely to watch them develop such strong friendships.

I hope you all enjoy the show, the students have worked so hard and they deserve the biggest applause (and standing ovations galore!)

Ms Cazeau

