



## Hansel and Gretel



In the Michaelmas Term the traditional tale of *Hansel and Gretel* was retold in pantomime verse with new twists to the story and seven brilliant songs. The whole of Year 4 worked well together and there were many outstanding performances, especially Max Bevacqua as Spencer the cat, Cordelia Brown as the witch and Arla Critchley as the narrator. There was great support from the Year 3 chorus.

*The first play directed by Mr Young was a great success. This was a splendid colourful performance. Hansel and Gretel were played in the first half by Benedict Meehan and Natasha Govett and in the second half by Xavier Yeats-Brown and Maddie Jones.*

*The pantomime 'Hansel and Gretel' was a great play about two Bavarian children who are abandoned by their parents, one who is an evil stepmother, (Emily Gray, Annys Rogerson) and together they encounter the evil witch. Cordelia Brown was certainly a witchy character. Perdy Knight in the second half arrived in a cloud of smoke from the house made of sweets. A comedy appearance of Hansel and Gretel in a cauldron (actually a rubber paper bin), a good supportive band and excellent singing by Year 3 put us all in the festive spirit.*  
**Ethan Archer, Year 5**

*An all time classic! Every single person in this play had put in a lot of effort. With the amazing costumes and talent the stage came to life! Mr Young (Drama) was assisted by the very talented Mrs Glossop and Mr Lakin played the piano. This isn't just one person but many people working together. The makeup was excellent and made the faces of the cast sparkle and shine.*

*Year 3 is also in this production singing as a chorus. They looked sensational. What great, young talent! Mrs Holt did a brilliant job with the costumes.*

*Percussion was played by Mrs Sigsworth and, as always, she was fabulous. Arla Critchley was a great narrator. I liked the humour. Mr Robinson took lots of photographs and created lovely reminders of this show.*

*What great lines from Cordelia Brown! I am so jealous that the witch has got a crystal ball. I think this play is extremely entertaining. The rhyming script is very funny and the lighting is just perfect. The Drama Department has been working hard and everything and everyone together managed to captivate the whole audience.*

*This year Vinehall, next year London, West End!*

**Saffia Dalton, Year 5**





# Scary Play

*The Scary Play*, originally a National Theatre Connections Youth Theatre project, contained a chorus of horrific clowns and bloodthirsty vampires which Years 7 and 8 really got their teeth into! The Year 8 cast was brilliantly led with a powerful performance from Charles Killick.





## *Voices of Children*



The Lent Term brought the world stage premiere of *Voices of Children*. This was a shorter version of Michael Morpurgo's radio series on the history of childhood from the middle ages up till now. It was a very challenging ensemble production, performed by 6H and was led by Isabelle Powell, who rose to the challenge of countless costume changes to go with each period of history that was dramatised.

The evening was completed by the musical play:

### *Jeremy and the Thinking Machine*

about a young boy who didn't know how to think. Forms 6B and 6D played the main roles and they were supported by 6H as a chorus.





## CALAMITY JANE



The summer musical was *Calamity Jane*, originally a Warner Bros film starring Doris Day. This included outstanding performances from Claire Macfadyen, who sang the role beautifully, Joshua Huntington-Rainey as Wild Bill Hickock, and a dazzling performance from Annie Caffyn as Katie Brown. It was a perfect choice for this cohort because it contained innumerable opportunities for Wild West shenanigans! PY

