

Stormont House School Matters



Our vision

Achievement for all in a unique world-class school

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ABBA Mania

The chance to experience a live theatre performance is an important and special opportunity, a chance to fire the imaginations of our young people, and to expose them to the creativity of musical theatre, to experience a different world. The students from 10M and 11H were very lucky to have this opportunity last Thursday on a trip to Mamma Mia at the Novello Theatre – who were impeccably well behaved. The performance is advertised with the slogan “You already know you’re gonna love it!” and love it we did as you can see from the students’ comments!

“Lay All Your Love on Mamma Mia”

A Report by Niccole - 10M

You could not have watched ‘Mamma Mia’ and not sung along to every single song! We were able to see all our favourite characters from the movie - Donna, Sky and Sophie. 10M and 11H had the privilege of attending the Novello Theatre in London’s West End to see ‘Mamma Mia’. Throughout the performance we were treated to our favourite ABBA songs such as ‘Dancing Queen’, ‘Super Trooper’ and of course, ‘Mamma Mia’. On our way to the theatre, we took part in a ‘pop up’ video diary talking about what each person was looking forward to seeing and hearing.

Everyone was very excited and full of anticipation, we were not disappointed.

When the show began, the first song started, ‘I Have a Dream’, many students started to sing along. As the show went on, everyone in the audience sang their hearts out – especially for the power ballads, like ‘The Winner Takes it All’. By the time the show finished everyone in the theatre wanted to watch it again! Everyone felt they had had the time of their lives! What made the experience so enjoyable was when everyone in the audience, including the students and staff from Stormont House got up and sang the ‘Dancing Queen’ finale. It was so much fun that night and we hope the actors had fun too. Thank you to Mousetrap Theatre for providing us with such an enriching experience; thank you to Mr McDonnell for allowing us to attend, and to Miss Matthews, Ms Osbourne, Miss Andrysewicz, Miss Tripp, and Ms McKell for seeing us safely there and back.

Some of the comments from 11H:

“It was EXCELLENT! I loved Donna and the dads and ALL the singing!”

“I loved singing ‘Mamma Mia’! And the three men were very funny.”

“I loved the hair styles with the flower garlands – I am going to make one of them! And, I loved the wedding hats!”

“I loved all of it because everyone was pretty and gorgeous!”

“I loved all the boys doing the Flipper Dance!”

“I think everyone should see it – it was a very good show, funny with good music. We actually want to see it all over again!”

This experience was definitely enriching. Everyone loved the performance and have been buzzing about it ever since, and the ‘follow-on’ class work that has stemmed from it. Already the students have done some Speaking and Listening work, some research, created ‘newspaper Super Trooper costumes’, drama-based freeze frames, a hair garland, and some cardboard theatres. What a wonderful experience!!!!



Romeo and Juliet - The Stormont House Version

On Tuesday 6th November Year 8 performed Romeo and Juliet at Stratford Circus Arts Centre in front of a packed house. Together with pupils from four local Primary schools, they took part in a nationwide Arts festival celebrating Shakespeare involving 30,000 students bringing plays to local theatres across the country. Members of 8C and 8W worked very hard to prepare for their performance, during English lessons, drama workshops and rehearsals with Miss Cross, Ms Minhas and Ms Swaffield.

Our version of the play began with Romeo and Juliet, lying on their tombs in the centre of the stage. From there they rewound to the beginning of the story to discover how they came to be there as a result of the hatred between their feuding families. Our students introduced the story through songs, ably led by Jose who had previously recorded our sound track. The five songs were written by Miss Cross, with some help from Year 8, in their music lessons. They sang and acted out the fighting in the streets and recounted how Romeo met Juliet at a masked party, where they fell in love. Gaby, as Juliet and Tyshan as Romeo did very well in their roles, to tell their tragic love story. It was a demanding task which they performed with confidence. Anthony made a menacing Tybalt, with support from Kishone, Kenneil and Joel. The whole cast stayed on stage throughout the performance as a chorus, as well as providing the colourful back drop to each scene. Every member of the two classes played his or her part with confidence. The students looked resplendent in their vibrant costumes, dressed in silks and velvets with colourful masks. Callum provided the narration, and also stepped in at the last moment, to play another role, when needed.

Off stage, all of our students behaved impeccably, making room for each other in the very small dressing room and politely holding the doors open for students from other schools. Their good manners were remarked upon by a teacher from another school. The Theatre Director, who worked with us, commented on our students excellent team work and he noticed how everybody helped out when someone needed a prompt.

Ms Cross was very proud and happy to have directed Year 8 in this year's festival. She felt it was a pleasure to see everyone grow in confidence. Everyone was nervous to perform in front of a huge audience, but everybody supported one another no matter how big or small their role. Thank you to all the staff who made this performance possible - to David Harries for arranging and mixing our music tracks, and to all those who helped back stage. Above all thank you to the students in Year 8. Well Done.



More pictures will be available on the school website

Term Dates for your Diary

School Photographs
End of Autumn Term
Spring Term Start
Spring Half Term
Staff Training Day
End of Spring Term
Staff Training Day
Summer Term Start
Summer Half Term
End of Summer Term

Monday 26 November 2018
Friday 21 December 2018 - School closes at 1.15pm
Monday 7 January 2019
Monday 18 to Friday 22 February 2019
Monday 18 March 2019 - School closed to students
Friday 5 April 2019
Tuesday 23 April 2019 - School closed to students
Wednesday 24 April 2019
Monday 27 May to Friday 31 May 2019
Friday 19 July 2019