

YOUR APPRAISAL



“Our play is preferred!” An Amazing Midsummer Night’s Dream!

A Midsummer Night's Dream

Produced and Performed by Pipers Corner School

The Old Town Hall, High Wycombe

15 November 2016

Appraised by Andrew Pritchard

Many congratulations to the cast and crew of Pipers Corner School on their fantastic production! I'd like to highlight a few things from this group that stood out, wowed the audience and made this Shakespeare Schools Festival night an evening to remember.

It's not always easy to make a truly funny Shakespearean performance, but your production of A Midsummer Night's Dream absolutely succeeded! The whole cast had bundles of energy and appeared to really enjoy being on the stage, which meant your audience really enjoyed watching you and had a great time during your show.

From a technique perspective, one of the most impressive elements of your production was the fantastic vocal work, which was strong throughout. You could be heard right from the back of the theatre, demonstrating excellent

resonance and articulation. But this was never at the expense of character, which was fully evident in your understanding of the text and your interactions with other actors.

There were so many effective moments throughout the play, Bottom's rendition of *The Circle of Life* was a particular highlight, as was Titania waking up and falling in love with Bottom as an ass. The music choices were excellent, and added to a bright, vibrant performance from the whole ensemble.

This was a colourful and enjoyable production of A Midsummer Night's Dream performed by a lovely, supportive cast.

“It's a significant achievement to do something as difficult and aspirational as perform one of Shakespeare's plays on a professional stage. Everyone who's taken part should be so proud of themselves.”

Ruth Brock, SSF Chief Executive

I would like to congratulate everyone involved in this superb production. I hope to see your school in the Festival again next year.

Andrew Pritchard
SSF Stage Director