



## **“OUR PLAY IS PREFERRED”**

**A Midsummer Night's Dream**  
**by St. Joseph's RC Primary**  
**at The KLCP, 21/11/2018**  
**appraised by Lisa O'Hanlon**

I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to St. Joseph's RC Primary for your fantastic production of A Midsummer Night's Dream as part of the 2018 Shakespeare Schools Festival. It was a brilliant night of theatre, and I'd like to highlight just a few elements that really stood out.

I really enjoyed your performance of A Midsummer Night's Dream, particularly how you embraced the 80s theme! Your attention to detail in the music choices, costume and characters was remarkable and it really brought back memories of my youth...and SSF company manager Emma got a pang of nostalgia too!

Your behaviour and attitude all day was very disciplined and professional. You really worked as an ensemble and it was clear that you have been working hard on your performance...and enjoying it too! You handled the tech equally professionally and obviously know your lines and the play really well.

Characters were cast perfectly and the actors' interpretation of the roles were fun and interesting. As a female actor myself, I particularly appreciated Titania's strong and sassy fairy entourage – a great twist on the more common ethereal fairy types. It was clear that you understood the text and you spoke with expression, emotion and characterisation. Throughout the day you did great work at improving your projection (landing your lines) and adapting to the new stage space, resulting in a strong and very entertaining performance.

Your mimed sequences that supported the narration illustrated the story perfectly and it was lovely to see the actors in character and fully focused and committed to this movement work. This convention really clarified the narrative and also brought out the humour/drama in the text.

Overall, this was a super, smashin' lovely Midsummer Night's Dream performed by an energetic, focused and friendly cast. Great work!

Performing Shakespeare's words on a professional stage takes courage, resilience, and imagination. You and your teachers should all be incredibly proud of what you have achieved.

**I hope to see St. Joseph's RC Primary in the Festival again next year!**

**Lisa O'Hanlon**

**“A SUPER, SMASHIN' LOVELY  
A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREM”**



