

Sandgrown Shakespeare

Twelfth Night & The Tempest

Tuesday 7th March – Thursday 9th March 2023

William Shakespeare

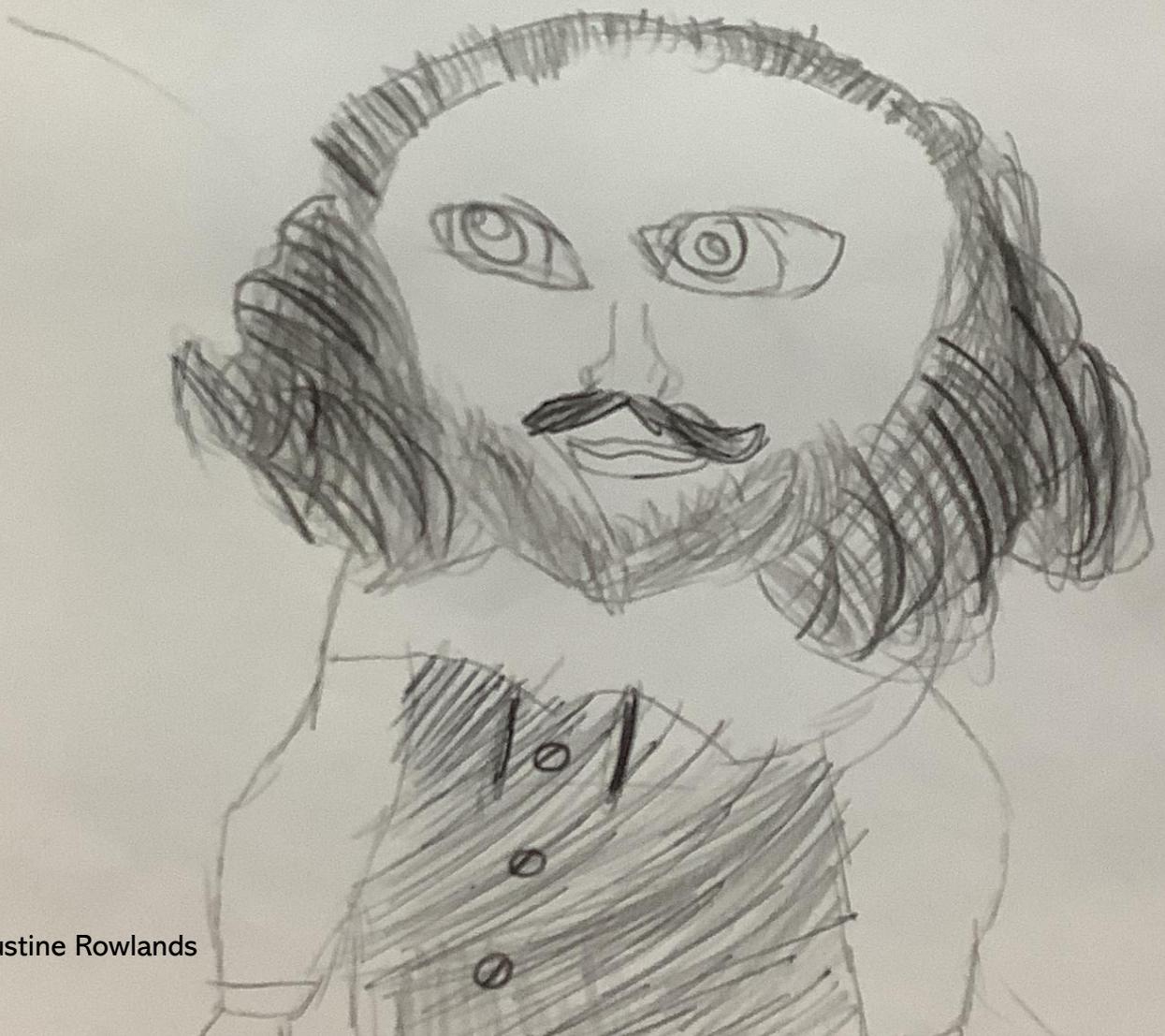


Illustration by Eviee-Justine Rowlands

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Welcome to the Schools Playmaking Festival 2023 made possible with the Associate Schools Programme.

The Associate Schools Programme is our long-term partnership with regional theatres and schools across England.

The Associate Schools programme is open to colleges, secondary, primary and special state schools in England and we seek to recruit schools that serve areas of high socio-economic deprivation.

The programme is built around the principle of schools working in local partnerships to develop communities of practice.

The fundamental ambition of the Associate Schools Programme is to bring about a significant change in the way young people experience, engage with, and take ownership of the work of Shakespeare. Teachers learn to explore Shakespeare with their students in the way actors do in a rehearsal room, using dynamic, active approaches.

The Grand Theatre, Blackpool, has been working in partnership with the Royal Shakespeare Company, the Lead Associate school Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Primary school, and other local schools for over 10 years.

Blackpool Grand Theatre has been delighted to work with over 35 schools over the past ten years and has seen so many magnificent performances on our stage by such talented local children and young people.

Over 2000 young Shakesperean actors have performed on the stage. These young actors own Shakespeare, they embody his language and give new insights into his plays and characters.

Their performance and life skills that have developed through this programme are immense. Increased confidence, stronger resilience, speaking and listening skills, group work and problem-solving, stage-craft, using complex language and, of course, acting!

Credits

Producer – Jo Cleasby

Director Mentor – Mykey Young

Assistant Director Mentor – Adri Key

Musicians - Cath Stevenson

Drummer – Phil Wheatly

Runners – Saffron Pye & Lenny Ryan

Tech – Blackpool Grand Tech

With Thanks To...

Blackpool Illuminations for the amazing Tower and the 'lights'.

Blackpool Way – Showtown, House of Wingz and LeftCoast.

All staff, teachers and schools for your ongoing support.

Twelfth Night

SYNOPSIS

Viola and her twin brother Sebastian have been shipwrecked; each believes the other to be drowned. Viola disguises herself as a young man and, under the name of Cesario, gets a job as a servant for the Duke, Orsino.

A LOVE TRIANGLE

Orsino is in love with Olivia, but she's mourning for her dead brother, so has rejected all his advances so far. He sends Cesario (who is really Viola) with love letters to woo Olivia on his behalf. Unfortunately for the Duke, Olivia is taken in by Cesario's disguise and falls in love with him.

TRICKING MALVOLIO

Olivia's butler, Malvolio, disapproves of all the other members of her household – her drunken uncle Sir Toby Blech, his friend Sir Andrew Aguecheek and her servants, Maria, Feste and Fabia. Fed up with Malvolio constantly spoiling their fun, they decide to play a practical joke on him.

Malvolio is secretly in love with Olivia, and the others trick him into believing that these feelings are returned. Maria forges a letter to Malvolio, supposedly from Olivia, suggesting that she loves him and he should wear yellow stockings and smile all the time. Malvolio does as the letter suggests, and Olivia thinks he has gone mad, so has locked him up.

SEBASTIAN RETURNS

Viola's brother, Sebastian, who believes his sister is dead, arrives with his friend and protector, Antonio, who rescued him from the shipwreck.

Sebastian meets Olivia. She mistakes him for Cesario and asks him to marry her, he agrees.

CONFUSION, COUPLING AND A HAPPY ENDING

Spoilers ahead! Stop reading if you don't want to know how it ends.

Lots of confusion follows around the mistaken identity of Sebastian and Cesario, and exactly who is promised to whom. Eventually all is revealed, the brother and sister are reunited and the love triangle is resolved into two couples, Sebastian and Olivia, and Viola and Orsino.

Finally, Viola discovers the trick that has been played on Malvolio, and he's released from confinement

The Tempest

SYNOPSIS

Twelve years ago, Prospero was Duke of Milan. With an aptitude for books, Prospero withdraws deeply into his studies, leaving the management of the state to his brother, Antonio. Eventually, with the help of Alonso, King of Naples, and the King's brother, Sebastian – inveterate enemies of Prospero – Antonio usurps the dukedom for himself. Prospero and his baby daughter Miranda are cast away to a remote island once ruled by the witch Sycorax but now inhabited by her only son, Caliban, and Ariel, a spirit.

MAGIC ARTS

Prospero rules the island and its two inhabitants by using magic arts derived from his studies. Miranda grows up without seeing another human being.

REVENGE

Prospero divines that fortune has brought her enemies close to the island and she sees an opportunity to exact her revenge. She uses her powers to raise a storm which shipwrecks them. When Miranda questions this, she tells her the story of their arrival on the island and assures her that no real harm will come to the survivors.

The shipwrecked travellers are separated. At Prospero's bidding, the invisible Ariel directs their wanderings. Ariel leads Ferdinand, the King's son, to Prospero's cell, where he and Miranda fall instantly in love. Prospero sets heavy tasks to test Ferdinand.

BLESSINGS OF MARRIAGE

Satisfied that Ferdinand has met all his challenges, Prospero presents the young couple with a betrothal masque celebrating their love and the blessings of marriage. She is distracted from this, however, when she remembers Caliban's plot.

THE ENDING

Spoilers ahead! Stop reading if you don't want to know how it ends.

As Prospero's plan draws to its climax, he vows that upon its completion he will abandon the magic arts. Ariel brings Alonso and his followers to the cell, Prospero confronts his enemies and forgives them. In the betrothal of Ferdinand and Miranda, the rift between Naples and Milan is healed.

Finally, Prospero grants Ariel freedom and prepares to leave the island for Milan and her restored Dukedom.

Our Playmaking Festival

For our 2023 Playmaking Festival, children, young people and teachers across Blackpool, Wyre and Fylde were invited by the Royal Shakespeare Company and Blackpool Grand Theatre to be inspired by not one of Shakespeare's texts, but two!

Across the last few months our schools and colleges have been busy exploring both *'The Tempest'* and *'Twelfth Night'* whilst drawing some very interesting comparisons in the settings and happenings of both plays to our very special, unique, and beloved hometown, Blackpool.

In *'The Tempest'*, most of the plays action takes place on a small, remote island, - a place filled with magic and illusion where strange things happen on a daily basis.

In *'Twelfth Night'*, the action takes place on an island called 'Illyria' – a place filled with music and romance, where cheerful and often comical stories *'play on'*.

(You don't have to think too hard to see where some of those similarities could be drawn!)

Together with their teachers, our young people have created *'Sandgrown Shakespeare'* their original production which fuses Shakespeare's original text with their own, original, contemporary writing and re-imaginings - all in celebration of the 400th anniversary of the publication of 'Shakespeare's First Folio' – the first time his plays were brought together in one book.

As a 'Blackpool Boy' myself, it has been both a pleasure and a privilege to work with young people from across my hometown, to hear their brilliant ideas, see their wonderful work and watch them create such brilliant, original pieces.

Through being inspired by Shakespeare's plays they have not only been able to work collaboratively to find new, interesting, and innovative ways to re-tell his stories, but they have also been able to explore how some of their central plots and themes are still as relevant to contemporary society as the day they were first written.

We hope you enjoy this year's very Blackpool-inspired Playmaking Festival and thank you for supporting our fantastic, local young people (and our very special guests, the Blackpool Shakespeare Nation Group).

Mykey Young, RSC Director Mentor

Characters

Twelfth Night

Orsino

Olivia

Sir Toby Belch

Sir Andrew Aguecheek

Maria

Malvolio

Viola

Sebastian

Feste

Tempest

Prospero

Ariel

Ferdinand

Caliban

Miranda

Trinculo

Stephano

Wednesday 8th March 2023 Performance



Adam

Anna

Donia

Jess

Timae

Alexis

Chloe

Harry

Kaidy



Our Lady of the Assumption Primary



Year 3

Charlotte Abberley

Natalia Barcz

Alexander Boguta

Eleena Dacre

Luna Davenport

Willow Febland

Laura Grochal

Hallie-Jayne Hall

Ellenie Jackson

Oscar-James Jarman

Beaux Jones

Matilda Ladley

Emily Meikle

Nevaeh Palmer

Olivia Pearson

Year 5

Amelia Ayres

Emma Burgess

Joseph Flanagan

Riley Harrison-Raynor

Hallie Havill

Jack Lee

Emelia Marshall

Ola Marzec

Oscar Openshaw

Year 6

Idana Cirillo

Malachy Dacre

Livia Debowska

Alisha Grainger

Francesca Hough

Isobel Issitt

Sam McDermott

Max Meikle

Ebony Ogier

Kyran Scanlan

Gabriella Templeton

Dainton Thompson

Maia Vernon

Maisy Waddington



Prosperos

Riley Burkin

Tharini Ragesh

Brooke Morrison

Gracie Shanks

Senna Smith

Calibans

Jethro Gillott

Karson Binns

Molliemae Heap

Layla Johnston

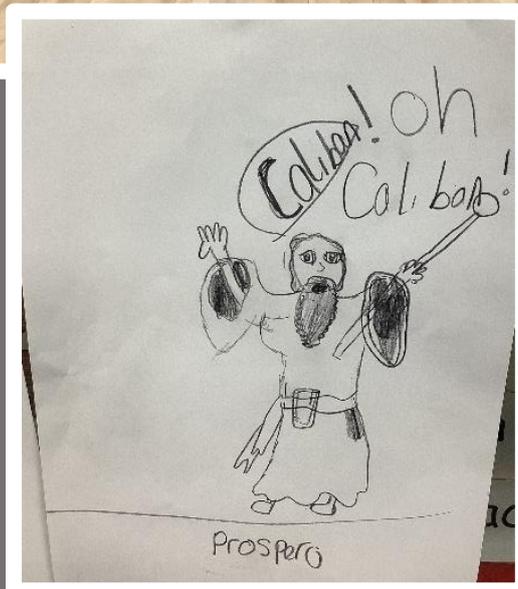
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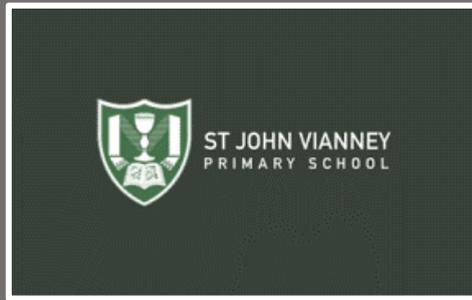
Mylie-Rai Demery

Harley McHale

Voice

Tais Santos





Lily Cookman

Daisy Bonell

Rosaleigh Rutter

Ava McPherson

Billie Davies

Ruby Unsworth

Ellie-Maye McPherson

Aoife Burgess

Arthur King

Amelie Westhorpe

Liliana Jasinska

Delilah Parker





Tempest

Caliban – Josef Mottershead

Trinculo – Marc Foley

Stephano – David Cleasby

Twelfth Night

Malvolio – Brooke Hamblin

Sir Toby – Cameron Murgatroyd

Sir Andrew – Helena Jackson

Maria – Rebecca Whyte

St John's Catholic Primary School



Sebby Bale

Millie-Mai Beattie

Amy Connor

Lucia Higgs

Millie Lane

Erin McAnulty

Phoebe McGrath

Francesca Muldoon

Isabelle Sherwood

Pearl Shorrocks

Tilly Thompson

Izzy Weaver



Charles Saer Community Primary School



Daniel Dadson

Bettie Giddings

Ray Porter

Charlotte Dawson

Charlie Greenwood

Teddie-Mae Salthouse

Isla Dawson

Kenzie-Morrell Payne

Mila-Rai Stead

Kyle Dewett

Lyla Osborne

Tiana Stephenson

Layla Dewett

Rosie Phillips

St Bede's



Gabriella Arciniega

Jakub Drzewiecki

Sebastian Jones

Theresa Barrow

Sophie Eliot

Daisy Lamb

Brody Breslin

Ava Everton

Frankie Lyons

Jenson Breslin

Laila Grundy

Ben Perryman

Francesca Burrough

Raphael Hall

Chloe Tidswell

Bella Callaghan

Patrick Kesketh

Louis Varley

Ethan Cassidy

Gabriella Heys

Adam Wareing

Emily Craddock

Phoebe Higham

Finley Watts

Amelia Donnelly Nelson

Analise Jackson

Freya Wilson

Montgomery Academy



Maddison Ford

Jacob Sykes

Courtney Grayson

Chelsea Cooper

Chloe Grayson

Mia Dodson

Lucy Tarpey

Mia Brotherton

Lily Johns

Thursday 9th March Performance



Alfie Clements

Jessica Kirkby

Keira Wright

Thomas King

Fred Emery

Tyler Wraith Kenyon





Our Lady Star of the Sea
Catholic Primary School

Ariels	Prosperos	Ferdinand	Seagulls	Scene Setters
Ella	Arthur	Dominic	Elsie	Sophia
Niamh	Esther		Cora	Benjamin
Rose			Ola	Erin
Millie			Pippa	Rex
Roseanna			Ben	Michael
Bella			Archie	Liam
Faye			Luke	Jacob
Rafe			Riley	Theo
Gabriella			Isaac	
Layla				
Old Lady	Old Man			
Layla	Sophia			



Anchorsholme



Calibans

Blackpool Donkeys

Grayson Grundy

Sophia Halpin Benson

Izzy Holloway

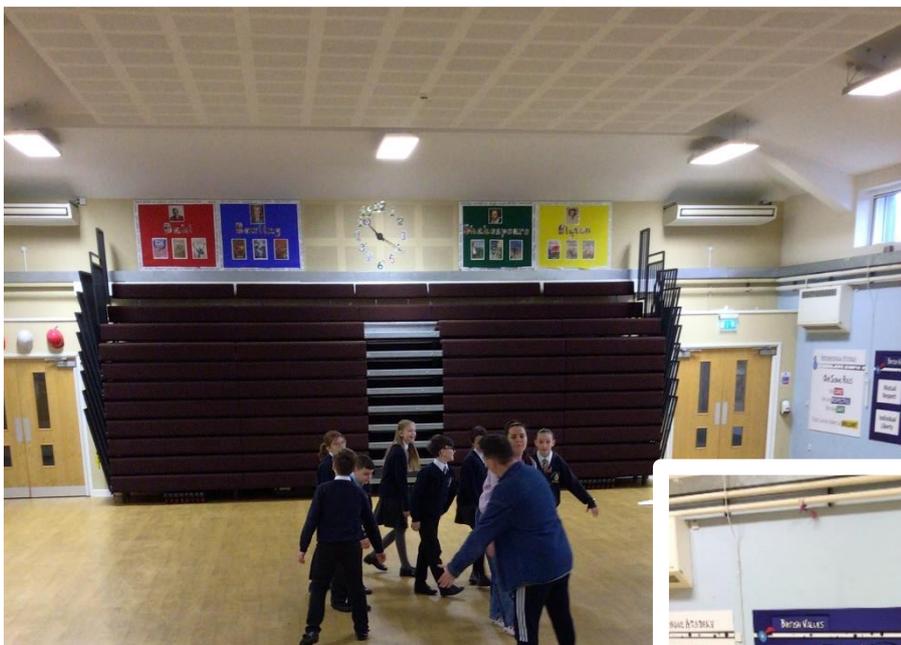
Kaitlyn Nicholls

Faith Whitehead

Evie-Mae Miller

Jakobi Little

Oliver Wilson





Brianna Panteli

Max Dundavan

Jayden Russell

Riley Hill

Drake Edwards

Tianna McDonald

Ellie Smith

Harrison Taylor King

Willow Garwood

Mylee Ruane

Shanequa Osesiam

Lacey Hughes

Logan Thompson

Gabriella Wroblewska

Amber Kelly

Kelsey Simms





Cheri Webb

Jasmine Seel

Tyler Hitchon

Olivia Reid

Crystal Seel

Kacie Glover



Kenji T

Jack B

Faye B

Mia H

Mallory R

Molly J

Jack M

Luca E

Nathan M

AJ R

Hannah W

Emily H

Riley R

Ethan H

Frazer L

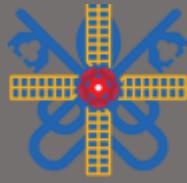
Summer W

Harrison H

Nieve B



St Peter's Primary School



Elsie	Zach	Henrietta
Freya	Sophia H	Ben
Caoimhe	William	Rhea
Jacob	Ingrid	Henry
Florence	Wren	Lucia R
George	Hugo	Flynn
Frazer	Miles	Lana
Piper	Harriet	Joseph
Darcy	Madeleine	Elena
Sophia G	Lucia L	Lyla



Jordan Cunningham

Ryan Roper

Jorja Hanna

Jake Page

Faith Shaw

Olivia Reid

Sophie Warden



RSC

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16 - 20 MAY 2023



**JULIUS
CAESAR**
WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

DESIGN: RSC VISUAL COMMUNICATIONS ©RSC

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