WHITCHURCH HIGH S OOL PRODUCTION OF

# ROALD DAHL'S A THE MUSICAL D





JUNE 27 - 29, 2023

DRAMA STUDIO I GLAN-Y-NANT TERRACE I WHITCHURCH I CF14 1WL













## Matilda JR.

Matilda The Musical is a multi-award-winning musical, inspired by the beloved 1988 novel by the incomparable Roald Dahl which won the Children's Book Award and first commissioned by the Royal Shakespeare Company and premiered at the Courtyard Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon, England on November 9th, 2010. It transferred to the Cambridge Theatre in the West End of London on October 25th, 2011, and received its US premiere at the Shubert Theatre, Broadway, USA on March 4th, 2013.

With book by Dennis Kwelly and original songs by Tim Minchin, Matilda The Musical is the story of an extraordinary little girl who, armed with a vivid imagination and a sharp mind, dares to take a stand and change her own destiny.

Winner of over 100 international awards, including 24 for Best Musical, Matilda has been delighting audiences in London's West End for over a decade and now Matilda Jr. can be performed and enjoyed by school and community theatres across the world with this licenced version from Musical Theatre International. A smash-hit film adaptation made by the same core creative team received its World Premiere in October 2022, opening the BFI London Film Festival to rave reviews.

Rebellion is nigh in this gleefully witty ode to the anarchy of childhood and the power of imagination! The story of a girls who dreams of a better life and the children she inspires will have you rooting for the "revolting children" who are out to teach grown-ups a lesson. Matilda has astonishing wit, intelligence... and special powers!

Matilda is unloved by her cruel parents but impresses her schoolteacher, the loveable Miss Honey. Matilda's school life isn't completely smooth sailing, however the school's mean headmistress, Miss Trunchbull hates children and just loves thinking up new punishments for those who don't abide by her rules. But Matilda has courage and cleverness in equal amounts and could be the schools' saving grace!

Packed with high-energy dance numbers and catchy songs, Matilda JR, is a joyous girl and kid power romp.

"Never do anything by halves if you want to get away with it. Be outrageous. Go the whole hog. Make sure everything you do is so completely crazy it's unbelievable."



### **Director's Notes**

Welcome to our production of Matilda JR.! We are thrilled to present this delightful and magical show to you. Matilda's story is one of resilience, courage, and the power of knowledge. Our talented cast and crew have worked tirelessly to bring this beloved tale to life, and we hope you enjoy the performance. Sit back, relax, and let us transport you to a world of wonder and imagination.

Matilda JR. is based on the beloved children's book by Roald Dahl. It tells the story of Matilda, a precocious young girl with extraordinary powers of intellect. Despite facing adversity and an unkind headmistress, Matilda discovers her own strength and learns to embrace her uniqueness. With memorable music, witty dialogue, and captivating characters, Matilda JR. is a show that will captivate audiences of all ages.

In this production, our aim was to capture the enchanting and whimsical nature of Matilda's world. We wanted to create a visually stunning and magical experience for the audience. Through dynamic choreography, expressive performances, and attention to detail, we sought to transport viewers into the imaginative realm of Matilda's journey. We hope that our interpretation brings joy and inspiration to all who watch.

Each character in Matilda JR. is unique and memorable. Our cast members have worked diligently to bring these characters to life, staying true to the essence of Roald Dahl's original creations. From Matilda's determination to Miss Trunchbull's terrifying presence, every character has been carefully crafted to showcase their distinct personalities and motivations. We are immensely proud of our cast's commitment to their roles.

The music in Matilda JR. is an integral part of the storytelling. From the catchy and exuberant "Revolting Children" to the heartfelt and inspiring "Quiet," the musical numbers add depth and emotion to the production. Our talented performers have dedicated countless hours to perfecting their vocal performances, and we are thrilled to present a dynamic and memorable musical experience.

Putting together a production of Matilda JR. has been a true collaboration. We would like to extend our gratitude to our dedicated cast, crew, and production team for their hard work and passion. Their commitment to excellence and their creative contributions have made this production truly special. We hope that you enjoy the fruits of their labour as much as we have enjoyed bringing this show to life.

"I'm right and you're wrong, I'm big and you're small, and there's nothing you can do about it."



Evie Giles is a talented young actress who brings her passion for performing and love of storytelling to the role of Matilda in our production here at Whitchurch High School. At just 13 years old, Evie has already shown remarkable dedication and skill in her theatrical pursuits.

With her infectious enthusiasm and vibrant stage presence, Evie embodies the spirit of Matilda. Inspired by the beloved film adaptation, Matilda has always held a special place in Evie's heart, and she feels incredibly honoured to bring this iconic character to life on stage.

Beyond her love for acting, Evie is an accomplished musician. She plays both the guitar and piano, and her musical talents shine through in her performances. With a particular affinity for The Beatles, she finds inspiration in their timeless music and incorporates their melodies into her own creative endeavours.

Evie is an active member of the esteemed Orbit Theatre Group, where she has honed her skills and nurtured her love for the performing arts. She recently showcased her talents in their production of School of Rock, where her dynamic stage presence and musical abilities were met with great acclaim.

In addition to her artistic pursuits, Evie has a genuine enthusiasm for making new friends and connecting with others who share her love for the stage. She believes in the power of collaboration and cherishes the friendships she has formed within the theatrical community.

Evie's dedication, talent, and vibrant personality make her an exceptional choice for the role of Matilda. She has poured her heart and soul into bringing this character to life, and we are delighted to have her as the leading actress in our production.

Please join us in applauding Evie Giles for her exceptional talent, her love for performing, and her commitment to the arts. We are confident that her portrayal of Matilda will captivate and inspire you.

"Somewhere inside all of us is the power to change the world"



# **Our Cast**



Miss Honey Amelia Diamond



Tommy Sammy Shepperd



Alice Ava St Louis



Mrs Wormwood Izzy Roberts



Trunchbull Nancy Reeves



Amanda Isla Trelawny



Little Kid Principal Gracie Kirby-Jones



Michael Connor Fry



Eric Tom Hunter



Bruce Jaxon Crory-Hunt



Little Kid Principal Jenna Cobner



Rodolpho Oliver Sayers



Nigel Harvey Marshall



Lavender Chloe Rice



Little Kid Principal Eve Lewis

"Make sure everything you do is completely unbelievable"



Caitlin Evans



Mrs Phelps Kritika Pathmaranjan



Escapologist Eliza Clarke



**Acrobat** Millie Pritchard



Sergi Jack Whiteley



Big Kid 1 Evie Hatch



Big Kid 2 Arianne Prince



Big Kid Una Lewis



Big Kid Luca Revill



Big Kid Alex George



Big Kid Lowri Mahoney



Big Kid Iola James



Big Kid Nathan Tacuri



Big Kid Evie Morgan



Big Kid Anuka O'Hare



Big Kid Seren McCallum-Weller



Big Kid Katie Snook



Big Kid **Eve Carter** 



Little Kid Oliver Murphy



Little Kid Ffion Nel



Little Kid Sophie Milton



Little Kid Lily Randall



Little Kid Gracie Roberts



Little Kid Carys Oates



Little Kid Abigail Bourke



Little Kid Seren <u>Mort</u>



Little Kid Arwen Morgan-Smith



Little Kid Megan Dutton



Little Kid Grace Smith



Little Kid Robyn Milton



Little Kid Holly Brown



Little Kid Ameliah Gauci



Little Kid Belle Lebar-Hill



Little Kid Lucy Hallett



Little Kid Charlie Tugwell



Little Kid Rosie Grove



Little Kid Liv Williams

"Sometimes Matilda longed for a friend, someone like the kind, courageous people in her books."

#### **Full Cast**

Seren Bowen Izzy Roberts **Connor Fry** Oliver Sayers **Evie Giles** Amelia Diamond Nancy Reeves Tom Hunter Harvey Marshall Sammy Shepperd Isla Trelawny Jaxon Crory-Hunt Chloe Rice Ava St Louis Gracie Kirby-Jones Jenna Cobner **Eve Lewis** Caitlin Evans Kritika Pathmaranjan Millie Pritchard

Lola James Nathan Tacuri Evie Morgan Anuka O'Hare Seren McCallum-Weller Katie Snook **Eve Carter** Oliver Murphy Ffion Nel Sophie Milton Lily Randall **Gracie Roberts** Carys Oates Abiaail Bourke Seren Mort Arwen Morgan-Smith

Megan Dutton **Grace Smith** Robyn Milton Holly Brown Ameliah Gauci Belle Lebar-Hill Lucy Hallett Charlie Tugwell Rosie Grove Liv Williams

#### **Production Team**

Jack Whiteley

Lowri Mahoney

**Arianne Prince Una Lewis** 

Luca Revill Alex George

Evie Hatch

**Director - Anna Capstick** Musical Director - Charlotte Cobner / Celi Johnson Stage Manager - Hali Simmons Production Assistant - Rachel Leonard Programme and Photography - Andrew Rooke

#### Crew

Phoebe Armitage, Emma Slocombe, Ruby Thomas, Heulwen Barker, Evangeline Orrell, Ryan Noble, Samuel Reviriegs-Casado, Summer Taylor, Renaya Lyon, Nicole Baah, Megan Smeeth, Henry Smith, Stevie Lee Weeks, Josh Reddy, Sam Edwards, River Hembury, Charis Wu, Alice Hunt, Edward Smeeth, Megan Smeeth, Molly James, Izzy Lawley, Isabella Tibbs, Liam Welton, Ffion Fraser, Ashmi Ghoshal, Emily Coates, Bronwen Pitman

Special Thanks to the Whitchurch High **School Estates Team for their constant** support during rehearsals and the week of production.

#### Band

David Thomas - Keys 1 Charlotte Cobner - Keys 2 / Conductor Alun Horgan - Drums Celi Johnson - Percussion Luca White - Bass Dan Whitting - Bass Guitar

#### **Support Choir**

Carrie Taylor Lauren Taylor Alys Fraser Lucy James Lauren Price Lara Sayers Grace Hatch Ellie Williams Eva Jazani Reuben Turpy





#### **Stage Lighting Services** www.stagelightingservices.com



**Stage Sound Services** www.stagesoundservices.co.uk

#### www.whitchurchhs.wales



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www.instagram.com/whs\_cardiff

#### **Acknowledgements**

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