



The Happy Prince

New Forest Academy students are proud to have been selected to perform in 'The Happy Prince.' The performing arts team led by Rosemary Newman and Dawn Hall have an outstanding reputation within the musical arena.



Following on from the success of 'The Mary Rose' performance at The Royal Albert Hall, New Forest Academy was approached by Hampshire Music Service to become one of four secondary schools in Hampshire to showcase 'singing ambassadors.'

This year's 'Giant Sing' was held at the Anvil in Basingstoke on 13th and 14th March for the performance of 'The Happy Prince,' a musical adaptation based on the story by Oscar Wilde, with a musical score composed by Jan Stroud.

For six weeks leading up to the performance Nick Duncombe from Hampshire Music Service visited the academy, leading vocal workshops when students learned the songs, followed up by extra rehearsals after school led by the music department.

Over the two days the singers performed to audiences of 3,000 primary school children from around Hampshire; their parents and Hampshire dignitaries

New Forest Academy students received many congratulations on the standard of their vocal performance and on their professionalism on stage.

One parent contacted the school to say how proud she was of her daughter who took part. She said, *'I went to watch the performance on Monday and really enjoyed it; they all did the school proud. I think it's good to encourage children to take part in the performing arts as so much time is spent on the core subjects that these things can be missed, it is good for them to have the confidence to stand up and perform in front of so many other schools, teachers and parents. I'd like to thank all the teachers involved in this who also gave up their time for practices, and for the school for supporting this important activity.'*



On the 5th April New Forest Academy students will be performing their version of 'The Happy Prince' at New Forest Academy. This performance will be held in support of the Rowcroft Hospice as suggested by the composer Jan Stroud from 'Firesticks and Sing' who has waived the usual licensing and hire fees to make this possible. We hope that members of the local community will join us for what promises to be an enjoyable performance. This event opens at 7pm.