

Lower 2 triumph in Opera North's Big Sing project



Lower 2 have been working very hard for the past few months, learning some difficult music and loads of complicated words! Last night was the culmination of all their hard work, as they joined five opera singers from Opera North (pictured above), and a selection of instrumentalists from the Opera North Orchestra. The short one-hour opera was Rachel Portman's *The Water Diviner's Tale*, written specially for this amazing children's project. We were joined by a much larger group of children from Allerton Bywater, and the Gateways children were absolute super stars, so well prepared and confident, and obviously enjoying every minute. The director, professional singers and even the teachers from the other school all commented on how wonderfully they all sang and performed.

The message of the opera was a very powerful one – it was all about climate change and how one generation can change the future of our planet. The pupils were an integral part of the action and played a group of lost children who promise to heal the planet and to do whatever they can to heal the damage that using fossil fuels has caused.

Prep School



GATEWAYS
SCHOOL

A great big thank you to Mr Lenihan and Mrs Shaw, who joined us for the afternoon of rehearsals and the performance. Miss Adamson helped the children make some amazing posters, so a big thank you to her too. The children were thrilled to see Mr Arnold, Mr Grasby, Mrs Wallis, Mrs Bartle and Miss Preston in the audience. I know that they, like me, were blown away by the effort and dedication of the entire group.

Thank you to all the parents for coming to support us also. It really was a very special evening. I could not be prouder, and I will admit to having been moved to tears at certain points during the day. Well done Lower 2!

Mrs Julianne Coates

