

Polwhele House, in Truro, is now staging their production of *'The Sampsons Musical - 25th Anniversary edition'*, celebrating the 25th anniversary of popular American sitcom 'The Simpsons'.

The play was written by Keith Caddy, Head of English and Drama at Polwhele House, highlighting the school's ability to combine traditional teaching techniques with modern culture.

The music has been arranged by Deputy Headmaster and Director of Music at Polwhele House, Nick Hawker, featuring some reworked pop hits from the last 25 years, including 'My Birt Will Come Home' ('My Heart Will Go On' by Celine Dion), 'Virgil's On a Diet' ('I Predict a Riot' by The Kaiser Chiefs) and 'The Sampsons Are Best' ('Simply The Best' by Tina Turner).

Alex McCullough, Headmaster of Polwhele House, is thrilled with the success of this year's production saying:

"The end of year play is an important part of the school year for everyone. It is the perfect opportunity for the whole school to come together and showcase all of the children's talents in performing arts - an area in which we excel."

Alex continued:

"Our Doctor Who themed play last year was hugely successful and this year's Simpsons theme is proving to be just as popular. Keith Caddy and Nick Hawker have the ability to produce stories that capture the children's imagination and entertain their families and friends."

The plot revolves around lucky members of the Summer Meadow community from the USA, who are selected to go on a special trip to Cornwall - including Virgil Sampson, his wife Marcia and their children Birt, Lucy and Maisie - amongst other familiar sounding characters.

Once in Cornwall, the Sampsons visit some of the county's top attractions including the Eden Project, stunning Cornish beaches (where Virgil has a nasty encounter with an ice cream loving seagull), historic engine houses and even Polwhele House itself.

A famous Cornish delicacy starts a family feud, as Virgil Sampson becomes addicted to the humble Cornish pasty, leading to Birt putting him forward for the Jeremy Tryle show.

The entire prep school is involved in the production with the oldest students from year eight taking the leads, whilst other pupils feature in the chorus and band, or are getting technical behind the scenes in charge of lighting and sound.