

Polwhele pupils fly through a time warp to 1966

A local school is thrilling audiences this week with an unusual school production to mark the end of the summer term.

Polwhele House, a preparatory school based in Truro, is now staging their production of '1966'. It celebrates the 50th anniversary of two seemingly unrelated events; England's 1966 World Cup victory and the television premier of Star Trek.

The action packed musical production will transcend time and space as an elaborate plot unfolds when Star Trek's Klingons and Romulans travel back in time to sabotage the 1966 world cup.

The crew of the USS Enterprise follows them back through the space-time continuum to help Elf Ramsey and the England players complete one of the greatest achievements in English sport. This leads to Mr Spock having to take on the role of Pickles – the dog who found the stolen trophy – and Scotty – the proud Scotsman – finds himself having to help the England squad, much to his shame.

Polwhele House's Head of English and Drama, Keith Caddy, creates the school's theatre productions and has written the original script for this year's production.

Keith Caddy and the Head of Music, Nick Hawker, have been putting on plays at the school for many years, with a unique ability to produce stories that capture the children's imagination and entertain their families and friends.

Keith said:

"The beauty of writing an original script is that we can create parts to suit our children rather than trying to fit our pupils to a pre-existing production. We often look to history and popular culture to inspire exciting original stories where the pupils' talents and individuality can shine."

Often inspired by unique pop-culture fusions, stage highlights from previous years have included James Bond: The Musical, Which Doctor?, The Sampsons, and The Sound of Muesli.

As the choir school for Truro Cathedral's boy choristers, the performance would not be complete without its fair share of musical numbers. Keith has also written new lyrics for songs that were originally hits in 1966 from artists including the Beatles, Cilla Black, The Who and The Kinks, giving a real flavour of that special year.

The entire prep school is involved in the production with the oldest students from year seven and eight taking the leads, and plenty of supporting roles for the younger children. Other pupils feature in the chorus and band, or are getting technical behind the scenes in charge of lighting and sound.

Headmaster Alex McCullough said:

“It is vitally important to us that the children play their part in the creation of our school productions as we want to celebrate and showcase their talents. At Polwhele House we recognise that all children are individuals and it is often through the arts that their hidden talents are discovered. Our children love discovering new concepts and ideas through the platforms of music, drama and art.”

The evening performances take place on the 7th and 8th July with a 7pm kick off.

For more information on Polwhele House and their specialisms, including music and drama please visit www.polwhelehouse.co.uk