

“SOMETHING WICKED THIS WAY COMES”

Macbeth

**by St Richards Primary School
at The Z Arts, 10-May-19
appraised by Nuala Maguire**

I would like to extend my most sincere congratulations to St Richards Primary School for your tremendous production of Macbeth as part of the 2019 Shakespeare Schools Festival. It was an excellent night of theatre, and I'd like to highlight a few aspects that really stood out.

This cast displayed an intelligent understanding of this harrowing story, and the audience were able to follow the plot with ease and clarity. The cast clearly had a really strong command of the language as they gave beautiful delivery of Shakespeare's words and handled the complex emotions, and intense drama with so much power.

I loved the heavily militant feel to this adaption of Macbeth thanks to your brilliant design choices. The design created a dark, menacing and dangerous atmosphere throughout your play. This fantastic setting was well matched by incredible performances from every single cast member – I was blown away by the commitment every actor showed on stage.

I was thoroughly impressed by how well you worked together as a team to transport your audience to different settings within the play. Your well-crafted stage pictures and violent deaths transported the audience to a bloody, brooding battlefield, ready for a dramatic finish to this play. The collaborative spirit you had as a company was outstanding.

A focused and bold version of the Scottish play told with attitude and conviction!

Performing Shakespeare's words on a professional stage takes bravery, resilience, and creativity. You should be immensely proud of what you and your teachers have achieved in this Season of Infinite Variety.

I hope to see St Richards in the 2020 Festival!

Nuala Maguire

**“A FOCUSED AND BOLD VERSION OF THE SCOTTISH
PLAY TOLD WITH ATTITUDE AND CONVICTION!”**