

# Teachers: The Report

By Miss. Smith, Head of Drama

This year's Senior School play, *Teachers* by John Godber, was professionally staged by a talented group of Abbotsholme pupils in February. Auditions took place in September and rehearsals began the following week. A technical crew was assembled shortly after followed by a dedicated bunch of helpful volunteers in other areas. All of those involved worked extremely hard over the months to come and were extremely committed to the large number of rehearsals.

The weeks flew by and with the support of various tutors, we managed to get the majority of students at the majority of rehearsals at exactly the right time! The play was coming together; the characters starting to develop, the scenes coming to life and the set getting jazzier and jazzier by the day.

On opening night, everyone was nervous: would the show be a success? Of course it was! In spite of the tiniest of mistakes on opening night – this is live theatre, it's going to happen – the cast professionally realised a fantastic production and learnt from their experiences. This meant that Thursday and Friday night were even more brilliant and the audience laughed even harder. The technical crew did a fantastic job with the lights and the backstage crew worked tirelessly in spite of my many changing instructions! The students worked together to support and encourage each other.

As usual, the teachers and support staff of Abbotsholme School were superb in their support and encouraging comments. Without you, this production could never have happened.

I'd like to say a huge congratulations to all of the students who had their audiences engaged and laughing on all three nights; it was a fantastic production and I am so proud of each and every one of you! Here are just some of the comments from staff members, parents and Old Abbotsholmians:

*"Well done to the cast for all of their hard work – it certainly paid off!"*

*"Just wanted to say how much the Orchard ladies and I enjoyed Teachers. Please pass on our thanks and congratulations to your whole cast and crew."*

*"The best I've ever seen!"*

*"I thought it was really well staged, slick and lively with some convincing performances by the main characters. They all looked like they were having fun doing it."*

*"Went to see Teachers tonight and really enjoyed it, the cast did well... Go and see it!"*

*“Well done! A very enjoyable evening!”*

*“Very well done with the play! From the start, I felt in safe hands as the cast obviously knew what they were doing, believed in what they were doing and worked well together as an ensemble – despite there being so many of them and of such varied ages too. The evening was a real success... I thoroughly enjoyed myself.”*

*“I hate drama and the theatre, but this production was just amazing. The cast were spot on, the show lively and buzzy, the tech side fantastic – all in all – a great night of entertainment!”*