

### **Marina Dowden does it again! A fabulous performance by sexta students.**

From time to time, at almost every school, students and teachers gather to produce a play, that is afterwards performed in front of the whole school. I had the opportunity to witness a wonderful school play myself, prepared by the students from Malostranské gymnázium. But is it actually beneficial for the students to work on a performance for such a long time, or is it just a waste of time?

On April 18<sup>th</sup> Malostranská beseda in Prague turned into a fabulous theatre for the students from sexta to perform their long-awaited play called Blackadder: Back and forth. The audience's constant giggles filled up the room, as Blackadder and his right-hand Baldrick traveled through time and took on extraordinary adventures to secure items from the past that their friends wished for Blackadder to bring to the present. Adam, who got casted as the main character, dazzled the audience with his charming English accent and unhinged confidence, however my favorite character had to be the fierce and sassy Queen Elizabeth portrayed by adorable Emma Mikušová. Everyone could feel and see the meticulous hard work that the director must have put into the play and the whole day came off as a huge success.

Speaking from experience, I can imagine that the students must have put their heart and soul into the performance, and it must have taken enormous effort to produce a play like this. It would be an absolute shame to say that the students gained nothing from the experience. Learning your lines not only boosts your memory capacity, but also teaches you new vocabulary. Performing in front of an audience this big is a true ordeal, that only the bravest can weather. Precise pronunciation, clear articulation and many other important rhetorical skills can be learned from performing and acting.

In my opinion, a play can teach you many new life lessons and beneficial skills. I wouldn't expect anything less from a slave driver like Marina Dowden. Afterall, if nothing else producing a play is just so much fun.

Barbora Martínková, 7 AG.