

JAMES'S BRILLIANT IDEA

Year 1's Sizzling Start:

'Stop the bus!' James called out to Mr Hogg.

It was Thursday March 7th and Year 1 & 2 were on the way to Waterstones to celebrate World Book Day. Whilst some people were busy chatting to each other, James noticed a family huddled together in the doorway of St Mary's Church. 'I wish I could help them' thought James, 'but I am only 5 years old, and I don't have enough money'. Just then, he had an incredible idea.....

Year 2

He turned to Max and asked him how he could possibly raise money to help the family. 'We are a caring and creative school,' said Max. 'We could put on a show and charge people to come and see it! That could raise a lot of money to help the family.'

Everyone on the bus thought this was a great idea. The only problem was, they could not agree on the sort of show to put on.

Harrison suggested a Rock Band, Sameehan suggested a Charity Show, Karam suggested a Talent Show. Everyone discussed their ideas and finally agreed that a 'St Edward's Got Talent Show' would be the best solution.

The boys worked together and started to make a list of all the things they would need - a stage, lights, costumes, judges, seating, props, refreshments, buzzers, advertising and charges.

They set to work at once to use their various talents to make posters to advertise their show...

Reception:

The Reception boys took the posters and put them all around reading and they also sent them to the local newspaper and TV stations to let everyone know what the school was planning.

Year 3:

They were all really excited about it. Jishnu offered his acrobatic skills to open the show, while Thomas showed off his football "kicky-uppies". Atharva, Callum and Taig practised performing their Street Feet routine with flair. Oliver chose a selection of his best jokes to make the audience roar with laughter.

Toby, Alex and Aryan offered to create healthy snacks for refreshments. They carefully cut up slices of pitta bread and carrot and celery sticks to serve with hummus. They even baked a healthy beetroot brownie!

Anirudh, Mert and Darsh, however, had other ideas. They were disgusted by the school's decision to ban sweet treats.

So, at night time, they jumped over the school wall and gained access to the kitchen. "Beetroot brownie? How revolting!" commented Mert. "Let's liven it up a bit!"

"I know," said Anirudh, "Let's put some hot sauce into the hummus!"

"What about that disgusting beetroot brownie?" asked Darsh impatiently.

"Let's make another brownie instead. We could put in loads of yummy treats like chocolate-coated marshmallows and gummy bears!" suggested Mert.

The boys quickly and sneakily got to work, putting their plan into action. Unfortunately for them, Isaac's mum was on a midnight run, doing laps around the school, and she heard the three boys causing chaos in the kitchen. She quickly pinged out a message on the Year 3 Mums' WhatsApp group...

Year 4:

In assembly, the next morning, a stony-faced Mr Suttie looked out at the St Edward's family waiting for the Headboy to turn off the music so that assembly could begin. The Midnight Kitchen Gang, knew straight away that things were looking rather grave. It seemed that during the early hours of the morning, every WhatsApp group in the school had been pinging away with the news of last night's kitchen capers. Luke gave Mert a nudge and surreptitiously tried to find out if they had been caught out.

"Oi! Do you think Mrs Swift (Thomas's mum and a member of the Year 3 WhatsApp group) has told Mr Suttie about last night?" whispered Luke.

"Well, I know my mum didn't spill the beans" replied Mert as quickly as he could as Mr Parson's was giving him a 'look'.

"What about your mum, Daniel?" asked Rohan, "She's on the Year 4 WhatsApp group, isn't she?"

"I reckon it was Dr Cane-Honeysett," said Nathan.

"No ways!" said Aedan who had overheard the whispers, "my dad is too busy for WhatsApp groups!"

The music began to fade and Mr Suttie greeted the boys and the parents who were sitting at the back of the hall. Mrs Hagyard had chosen Year 4's favourite hymn, "We are the Children of St. Edward's School". After a rousing rendition of the hymn, the boys sat down ready to face the music. A deafening silence filled the room. It's about to kick-off thought Kai, The Midnight Kitchen Gang have definitely been found out. Mihai nervously chewed his fingers and Baichen looked a little sheepish (as he knew what the Year 3's had been plotting). Jordan, who had been practising his back-flips for the talent show, was feeling a little annoyed at the thought that the talent show could be stopped. Dylan, Ronit, Luca and Eric sat as still as they could, crossed their fingers and hoped that the show would still go on

Year 5:

"Boys," Mr Suttie began in a deep, stern voice, "It has come to my attention that many of you (despite not liking beetroot brownies) have been inspired to collaboratively serve the St Edward's Family and Community. Would some of you like to tell me about your plans?" he continued.

Joseph eagerly raised his hand to tell Mr Suttie about the wonderful idea the St Edward's family had come up with. Sanay quickly added that it was all for a good cause and Adhrit reminded everyone that it had all begun in the Pre. Prep. The boys held their breath. Would Mr Suttie agree with them? Would the show still go on?

Mr Suttie listened intently and then a huge smile broke out over his face.

"What a brilliant idea!" he exclaimed. "But, I have one condition - I would like to be in the talent contest, too!"

The boys all nodded in agreement, relieved that he had not put a stop to things, and looked forward to seeing their Headmaster in action!

The next day, all the boys eagerly got their acts together. A penalty shoot-out challenge, a magic trick, dangerous stunts, a Connect Four tournament and a pizza eating competition were added to the list of acts. After many auditions, the best were chosen and the contestants worked hard to make their acts even better. It seemed the antics of the Midnight Kitchen Gang had been forgiven!

Year 6:

At long last the day of the show had finally arrived. By unanimous agreement, Isty had been chosen to be the presenter and Mr Parson's had kindly agreed to judge the talent competition and had even designed, using a special code, a voting app for everyone to use! As soon as the Western Elms gate was opened, a stampede of eager parents, grandparents and friends filled the hall. The big, glass jar, into which contributions were being collected, was filling up fast. Excitedly, James watched his plan coming together.

Lights! Camera! Action! The show had begun. Jishnu was an acrobatic sensation, Ollie's jokes were a great hit but it was the Year 6's impressions of teachers that were a huge success, especially their impersonation of Mr Bovingdon's 'thug-life' gesture! However, the best was saved for last. A hush descended and everyone looked on expectantly. A spotlight waited in the darkness to be filled and the room appeared to hold its breath. The familiar notes of an Elvis Presley song broke out and there stood Mr Suttie, in his Elvis attire (turned up collar and all) singing, 'Love me Tender'. But wait! What was this? The tune had changed and the sound of 'Bohemian Rhapsody' took over from Elvis's famous ballad. Now, not only was Elvis on the stage but was that Posh Spice (aka Mrs Burton) strutting her stuff? Beyonce, better known as Mrs Hagyard along with Jay-Bov? Both joined by Rosemary-Barbara Streisand? The crowd went wild, whistling and cheering and holding the lights of their mobile phones aloft. The rest of the St Ed's staff belted out the familiar sounds of the song that burst from the speakers. They really

were the champions of the show and contributions for the homeless family trebled.

The next day, James proudly handed over a substantial amount of money to a charity that helped the Homeless. The newspapers had got hold of the story and the headlines read

"SCHOOL TALENT SHOW RAISES THOUSANDS"

James wish had certainly come true.

And what of those beetroot brownies, Dear Reader? Well, they were so well-received by the St Edward's community that even Gordon Ramsay heard about them and bought the rights to the recipe!

The end.