

ALL RISE, ALL RISE, ALL RISE!

THE COURT OF JUDGE KNOX IS NOW IN SESSION.

This term, Year 7 students have been studying Shakespeare's 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. Earlier this week, Miss Scott and pupils in 7E3 transformed MF4 into a courtroom fit for Oberon and Titania, King and Queen of the Fairies. The dispute: who should have custody of the changeling boy?

After welcoming Judge Cavalli Knox to the courtroom, jurors Joshua Harris, Freddie Jeyes and Leon Tong were sworn in, and their majesty's legal teams shared their opening statements with the court.

Queen Titania's legal team – expertly led by Riley Langford, Kai Crosbie, George Simpson and Brodie Stewart – began proceedings with an impassioned opening statement in defense of their Queen. Congratulations, in particular, to George Simpson and Kai Crosbie for their impressive vocabulary in referring to King Oberon's behaviour as 'scheming', 'liable' and 'deeply unjust'.



King Oberon's legal team – skilfully led by Harley Yates, Alfie Inwood, Gabriel Karalimo and Joseph Falkner – were worthy opponents in what became a heated custody battle. Their rebuttal was fair and carefully considered, with the wellbeing of the changeling boy at the heart of their response. Congratulations to Alfie Inwood for his use of legal jargon, including 'exhibits' and 'justice'.

Mrs Morrell, who had been invited to preside over the court, was impressed by the legal team's knowledge of the play and the formal language used by both legal teams.

Having heard each legal team's final rebuttal, Judge Knox and his jurors retired to deliberate on all they had heard. It was a swift deliberation. The court waited anxiously for the final verdict, with the room and still as Judge Knox and his jurors made their entrance. Unanimous in their decision, they found in favour of Queen Titania holding full custody of the changeling.



Judge Knox shares his final verdict

Mrs Morrell and Miss Scott were delighted by the focus and determination all students displayed throughout the court hearing. Students relished this opportunity to develop their ability to engage with rhetorical language, legal jargon and public speaking. Year 7 have a number of budding lawyers in their midst and we cannot wait to hear them represent literary characters across the rest of our curriculum. Professor Moriarty had better watch out when these legal teams reach Year 8!

