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SpotLight

:: Drama Week at Froebel's International School ::

Mehvish Haroon

Rawalpindi: Froebel's International School, Rawalpindi Campus, recently held a play entitled Raj's Ears, as part of its Annual Drama Week.



The aim of this drama week is to encourage participation of students from each grade level starting from their elementary school, Junior High upto High School. These festivals are held to build confidence and develop talent among the students. All the 50 member cast of the play were elementary level students and they certainly presented an impressive performance. The play



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Mathieu Flamini (French footballer)

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was held at the school auditorium at 11:00 am.

The play Raj's Ears was a comedy based on a children's story which is part of the Froebel's syllabus book of the Reader's Series. The play was directed by the school English teacher Farah Shahid, assisted by Tasneem Asif, Munaza Zahoor, and Tehmina Usman. The script was penned by Amna Mogul.

The opening scene of the play shows an Indian darbar of the olden days. The Raja of this darbar has huge ears. The Raja feels embarrassed about his ears and always keeps his head covered. He is afraid someone may learn of his precious guarded secret. One day the Raja goes to get a haircut from a barber, who is the biggest gossipmonger of the kingdom. He gets all his rumours from talking to people who come to his saloon. By accident he discovers the Raja's closely guarded secret and Raja threatens the barber with dire consequences if he ever reveals this secret to anyone. The barber is distraught because he cannot tell this piece of gossip to anyone – not even his wife! So one day when keeping this secret is beyond bearing, the barber ventures into a forest and screams and shouts to a tree "The Raja has big ears!" Finally at peace he then goes back to his shop without a care in the world. Unknown to him there are woodcutters in the forest who go and cut down that very tree to make musical instruments out of them. In the mean time there is news of the Raja's imminent marriage. The marriage scene is displayed with an elaborate dance sequence, where the musicians will play the same musical instruments that have been made from the wood of that tree. However, when the musicians start playing these instruments instead of music the instruments start singing, "The Raja has Big Ears, The Raja has Big Ears!" in front of all the guests. Angry beyond words, the Raja is ready to kill the barber, who pleads his innocence, but at end the Raja realizes something: so what if he has big ears, some people have big feet, others big noses; no one is perfect, but beauty lies inside a person and not in the external makeup. This is the moral of the story.

The lead characters of the Raja and barber were played by class 4 students Amar Shayan Ali Meer and Hussam-ullah-Khattak respectively. An outstanding performance was given by the barber who captivated the audience with his swift movement and brilliant use of body language. The music of the play added to the overall effects and was a testament to the exceptional skills of the



A woman player in action during the TEVTA annual sports tie

school music teacher, Ashaffer Ghafoor. The narration was done by Hina Salman.

It is not everyday that one comes across entertaining comedy productions, as they are always a greater challenge compared to more serious plays. The half hour long play was highly entertaining and was thoroughly enjoyed by the guests, which included parents and all the junior level class students.

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