

St Francis Catholic Primary School

## The Yellow Chair



by Mary Benzies



Performed by the Year 6 children, class  
2019/20.

## Welcome to St Francis Catholic Primary School.

We are so proud to present our Heritage Play, 'The Yellow Chair'.

The Play is performed by our Year 6 children, with a shadow scene performed by one of our teachers, Miss Curley and some younger children. It tells the story of the Franciscan Sisters Minoress who came to Melton Mowbray following a request from the Bishop of Nottingham to serve the community of Melton Mowbray.

And serve the community they did! With humility, kindness, compassion and love, the sisters won the hearts and minds of the town and we are so thankful to them for building our wonderful school. They continue to be a prominent presence in our school community and we are delighted that some of their voices will be heard during the performance. We will also hear the voice of Memory, a character played by a past pupil, who guides us through the decades as the story of the Sisters, the staff, the families, the children, and not forgetting the animals of St Francis Catholic Primary School unfolds!

My sincere thanks go to the whole team who have worked so hard to produce this play. The dedication of many individuals has reflected the strength and generosity of spirit of the Sisters to whom we dedicate this play.

The children, as always, have exceeded all expectations. They have reminded us what drives our passion for Catholic education. We hope that this play is a lasting memory for them all.

**Mrs Gosia Brown**  
**Head Teacher**



*We all get scared, But  
that's God's way Of telling  
us to hold our heads high  
And face our fears*



*And all the while  
Hard work and devotion  
Endless and selfless  
God's wheels in motion*



**Scene 1**

1892 - I Sit

**Scene 2**

1882 - The Beginnings

**Scene 3**

1897- A Calling From the Bishop

**Scene 4**

1927 -Christmas Eve

**Scene 5**

1939-45 - World War 2

**Scene 6**

The 1950's - The Midnight Feast, Joey the bird, Paddy the Dog  
and The New School

**Scene 7**

1960's & 70's Achievements and Pride

**Scene 8**

1980's - Music

**Scene 9**

Make me a channel of your peace

St Francis Catholic Primary School wishes to express sincere and grateful thanks to the following organisations and individuals for their generous support of our Heritage Play, 'The Yellow Chair'.



Written and directed by: Mary Benzies

Costumes: Teresa Woods, Pat Knowles

Technical: Lux Technical

Filming and photography: Woody Kitson





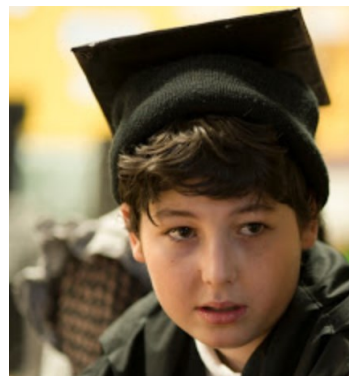
## The Yellow Chair cast

The voice of Memory: Maia Lewin

Sister Francis Murphy (shadow scene): Becky Curley

Aleks Abresz  
Jack Azzara  
Oscar Botello  
Lola Bowes  
Ava Brookes  
Mimi Brown  
Daniel Cockayne  
Matthew Delceppo  
Grace Fawkes-Naylor  
Charlotte Grace-Frisby  
Mollie Garley  
Leona Gilder  
Holly Grant  
Nadia Harkot  
William He  
Cameron Hughes  
Alexandra Inart  
Susanna Janeczek  
Amelia Jarocewicz  
Jakub Kawinski  
Izabela Kudelka  
Julia Kuta  
Hanna Mandziuk  
Katie Manson  
Karol Mazur  
Sam McCarthy  
William McConnell  
Riley Meads  
Sinran Meprathusserril  
Edward Nash  
Isabella Orton  
Megan Owen  
Imogen Pearce-Gough  
Joseph Poller

Cara Quinn  
Nikola Szabla  
Luke Tales  
Alvey Taylor  
Arthur Verity  
Toby Wilson  
Anni Zeng  
Harry Brown



## Designing 'The Yellow Chair'

### Oral recordings

The sisters very generously gave up their time to be interviewed and recorded for our project and their testimonies provided many of the stories and inspiration for the script. Our memory sharing events over the past two years have also led us to find many of the stories and anecdotes which are included in the play and we are grateful to all who came along and so generously shared their recollections of their time at the Convent School and at St Francis.

### Costumes

Designing a play which spans over a Century brings many challenges. The costume department (Mrs Woods and her friend Mrs Knowles) were kept extremely busy trying to ensure the costumes accurately reflect each time period. Thank you to them both for their incredible work.



### Props

You will notice that many of the props look authentic and that is because many of them are. We have been extremely fortunate to have been supplied with many original pieces, including gas masks, evacuee suitcases and 1940's teacups to name just a few. Some props even date back to 1900!