

A promotional graphic for Wesley College Theatre. The background is a gradient from light blue on the left to yellow on the right. A large, semi-transparent circle is centered over the image, with a color gradient from blue on the left to yellow on the right. Five students are featured: a young man with short dark hair smiling broadly on the left; a young woman with long dark hair in the center; a young man with curly dark hair on the right; a young man with a beard and curly hair at the bottom left, looking upwards; and a young man with short dark hair at the bottom right, looking upwards. The text 'WESLEY COLLEGE THEATRE' is written in large, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters across the middle. The text 'SEASON 2026' is written in white, sans-serif capital letters vertically on the right side.

SEASON 2026

# WESLEY COLLEGE THEATRE



Millie Rudzki & Tim McCutcheon in *Les Misérables*,  
2025 St Kilda Road Campus Senior School Musical

# TERM ONE

ST KILDA ROAD

SENIOR SCHOOL PLAY  
**THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST**  
MARCH 11TH-14TH | 7PM

GLEN WAVERLEY

SENIOR SCHOOL PLAY  
**ONE MAN, TWO GUVNORS**  
MARCH 25TH-27TH | 7PM  
28TH | 3PM

# TERM TWO

GLEN WAVERLEY

YEAR 5-7 MUSICAL  
**DIARY OF A WHIMPY KID**  
MAY 27TH-29TH | 7PM  
30TH | 3PM

ST KILDA ROAD

MIDDLE SCHOOL PLAY  
**THE LION, THE WITCH & THE WARDROBE**  
JUNE 17TH-19TH | 7PM

# TERM THREE

GLEN WAVERLEY

CAMPUS MUSICAL  
**FOOTLOOSE**  
AUGUST 5TH-7TH | 7PM  
8TH | 3PM

ST KILDA ROAD

SENIOR SCHOOL MUSICAL  
**HADESTOWN**  
AUGUST 25TH-29TH | 7PM  
29TH | 3PM

ELSTERNWICK

CAMPUS MUSICAL  
**MARY POPPINS JR**  
SEPTEMBER 10TH & 11TH | 7PM  
12TH | 5PM

# TERM FOUR

GLEN WAVERLEY

YEAR 8 & 9 MUSICAL  
**FREAKY FRIDAY JR**  
OCTOBER 21ST-23RD | 7PM  
24TH | 3PM

ST KILDA ROAD

MIDDLE SCHOOL MUSICAL  
**CHARLIE & THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY JR**  
OCTOBER 28TH-30TH | 7:30PM

# SEASON 2026

Student theatre at Wesley College flourishes across its three campuses, offering a rich and varied program for students from Year 5 to Year 12. Whether stepping onto the stage for the first time or taking on principal roles, students are immersed in meaningful theatrical experiences that build confidence, discipline and creativity.

Each year, Wesley proudly presents nine co-curricular productions: three plays and six full-scale musicals. These productions provide students with the opportunity to engage deeply in acting, music, choreography, stage management and backstage crews, working collaboratively with staff to bring ambitious works to life. The depth of talent across all year levels is remarkable, with younger students inspired by older peers who model professionalism, generosity and artistic excellence.

Looking ahead, the 2026 season promises to be an exciting and diverse program of plays and musicals that balance comedy and drama in equal measure. Audiences can look forward to much-loved family favourites alongside bold, contemporary works, including *Mary Poppins Junior* at the Elsternwick Campus, *Footloose* at the Glen Waverley Campus and *Hadesown* at the St Kilda Road Campus, to name only a few. It is a season designed to challenge, delight and showcase the breadth of student talent across the College.

The quality of Wesley's theatre program is consistently recognised beyond the College. In 2025, Wesley College productions and performers received awards and commendations from both the Lyrebird Awards and the Music Theatre Guild of Victoria.

Working across the College last year revealed a powerful, shared love of the arts across all three campuses. Regardless of age or location, students are united by passion, commitment and joy in theatre, making Wesley's theatre program both distinctive and deeply rewarding. I am incredibly grateful to all the staff and production teams that help provide our students with such outstanding opportunities. I look forward to seeing you at one of the productions throughout the year.

**MARCUS PINNELL**

**COLLEGE HEAD OF STUDENT THEATRE**



*Seussical Junior*, 2025 Elsternwick Campus Musical



# THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST

BY OSCAR WILDE

ST KILDA ROAD  
SENIOR SCHOOL PLAY

MARCH  
11TH - 14TH | 7PM  
ADAMSON HALL

*The Importance of Being Earnest* by Oscar Wilde is a sparkling comedy of manners that delights in wit, mistaken identities, and the absurdities of social convention. In Victorian England, Jack Worthing lives a double life: a responsible gentleman in the country and a carefree bachelor in the city, using the invented persona "Ernest" to escape his duties. When love, family secrets, and the charming yet formidable Gwendolen and Cecily enter the mix, the tangled web of deception grows ever more hilarious. Wilde's sharp satire skewers the trivialities and pretensions of the upper class, all while delivering a rollicking tale of romance, mistaken identities, and clever wordplay. Bursting with witty repartee and timeless humour, this enduring classic celebrates love, identity, and the joy of not taking life or oneself too seriously. Prepare for a theatrical experience full of laughter, charm, and delightful chaos.

# ONE MAN, TWO GUVNORS

BY RICHARD BEAN

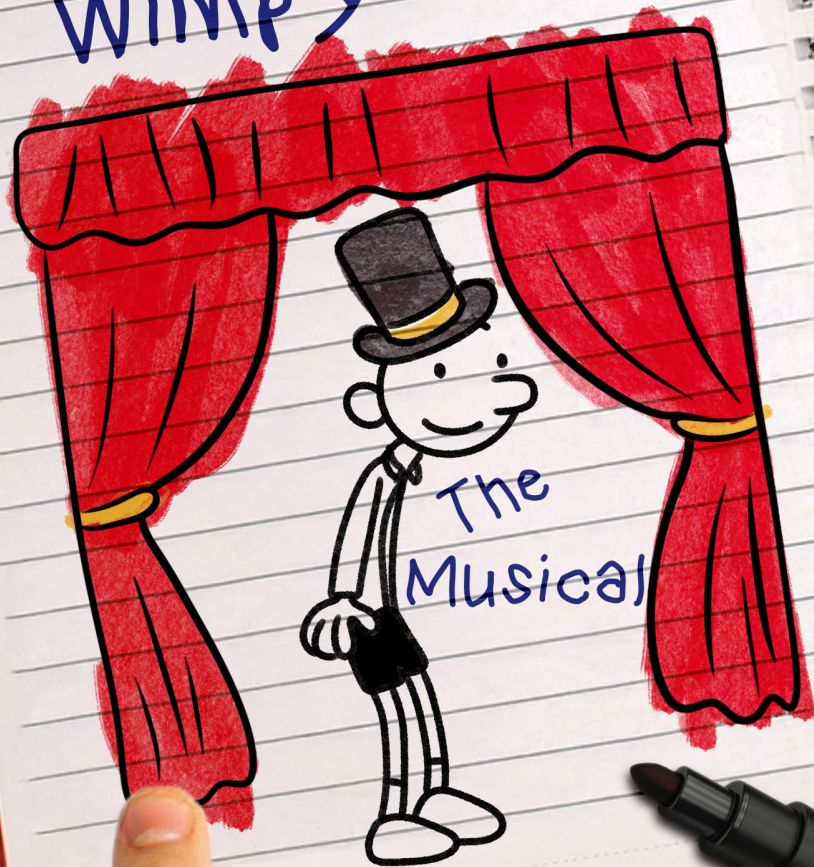
*One Man, Two Guvnors* by Richard Bean is a riotously funny farce that guarantees non-stop laughter from start to finish. Set in 1960s Brighton, the story follows Francis Henshall, a hapless but charming man who finds himself working for two very different "guvnors" at the same time without either knowing about the other. As he juggles impossible demands, secret romances, and a cast of eccentric characters, chaos and confusion escalate to hilarious extremes. Packed with slapstick comedy, clever wordplay, and moments of unexpected tenderness, the play keeps audiences on the edge of their seats while laughing out loud. *One Man, Two Guvnors* is a joyous celebration of love, loyalty, and the extraordinary lengths one man will go to keep everyone happy while hilariously failing along the way.

GLEN WAVERLEY  
SENIOR SCHOOL PLAY

MARCH  
25TH - 27TH | 7PM  
28TH | 3PM  
CATO HALL



# DIARY of a Wimpy Kid



## DIARY OF A WHIMPY KID: THE MUSICAL

BY KEVIN DEL AGUILA  
MUSIC & LYRICS BY  
MICHAEL MAHLER & ALAN SCHMUCKLER

GLEN WAVERLEY  
YEAR 5-7 MUSICAL

MAY  
27TH - 29TH | 7PM  
30TH | 3PM  
CATO HALL

*Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Musical* brings Jeff Kinney's bestselling books to life on stage with humour, heart, and catchy tunes. Follow middle-schooler Greg Heffley as he navigates the hilarious highs and lows of adolescence: awkward friendships, embarrassing moments, and the eternal struggle of trying to survive school and family life. With his trusty journal as a guide, Greg shares his funny, relatable, and sometimes chaotic adventures, from misadventures with his best friend Rowley to schemes gone spectacularly wrong. Packed with witty lyrics and laugh-out-loud physical comedy, this musical captures the spirit of growing up in all its messy glory. Perfect for audiences of all ages, *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Musical* is a heartwarming, rollicking celebration of friendship, family, and the trials and triumphs of being a kid in a world that never seems to make sense.

# THE LION, THE WITCH & THE WARDROBE

FROM THE STORY BY C.S. LEWIS  
DRAMATISED BY JOSEPH ROBINETTE

ST KILDA ROAD  
MIDDLE SCHOOL PLAY

JUNE  
17TH - 19TH | 7PM

ADAMSON HALL

*The Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe* whisks audiences into the magical world of Narnia, where adventure, courage, and wonder await at every turn. When four siblings Peter, Susan, Edmund, and Lucy discover a mysterious wardrobe, they are transported to a land under the icy rule of the White Witch. There, talking animals, mythical creatures, and a majestic lion named Aslan inspire them to find bravery they never knew they had. As the battle between good and evil unfolds, loyalty, forgiveness, and hope prove more powerful than fear. This enchanting stage adaptation captures the spirit of C.S. Lewis's beloved tale, blending captivating storytelling, imaginative sets, and thrilling theatrical magic. Perfect for families and audiences of all ages, *The Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe* invites you to step through the wardrobe, believe in the extraordinary, and experience a timeless story of heroism, wonder, and the triumph of light over darkness.





# FOOTLOOSE

MUSIC BY TOM SNOW

LYRICS BY DEAN PITCHFORD

BOOK BY DEAN PITCHFORD & WALTER BOBBIE

GLEN WAVERLEY

CAMPUS MUSICAL

AUGUST

5TH - 7TH | 7PM

8TH | 3PM

CATO HALL

*Footloose* is an energetic and heartfelt stage musical that explores teenage rebellion, grief, faith, and the transformative power of music and dance. The story follows Ren McCormack, a teenager from Chicago who moves with his mother to the small town of Bomont after his father leaves the family. Struggling to adjust to a conservative community, Ren is shocked to discover that dancing and rock music have been banned following a tragic car accident that killed several local teenagers, including the son of Reverend Shaw Moore.

As Ren befriends the good-natured but awkward Willard Hewitt and develops feelings for the Reverend's strong-willed daughter Ariel, he begins to challenge the town's strict rules. His push to hold a senior prom becomes more than a fight for a dance; it forces the community to confront its grief, fear, and control. Through lively musical numbers and emotional moments, *Footloose* ultimately celebrates courage, compassion, and the healing power of music, culminating in a joyful return to the dance floor.

# HADESTOWN

BOOK, MUSIC & LYRICS BY  
ANAÏS MITCHELL

ST KILDA ROAD  
SENIOR SCHOOL MUSICAL

AUGUST  
25TH - 29TH | 7:30PM  
29TH | 2PM  
ADAMSON HALL

*Hadestown* is a spellbinding, genre-defying musical that reimagines the ancient Greek myth of Orpheus and Eurydice. In a world where love, hope, and ambition collide with hardship and power, young lovers Orpheus and Eurydice embark on a perilous journey that will test their courage, trust, and devotion. Down in the industrial underworld, the charismatic and cunning Hades rules with iron control, while his wife Persephone negotiates between light and darkness above. With a hauntingly beautiful score blending folk, jazz, and blues, *Hadestown* weaves a story of love, resilience, and the choices that define us. This Tony Award-winning musical combines mesmerizing storytelling, lush visuals, and unforgettable songs to transport audiences to a world where passion and peril are intertwined. Bold, tragic, and triumphantly hopeful, *Hadestown* is a timeless tale of love against all odds, where every note carries the power to stir hearts and ignite imaginations.





# MARY POPPINS JR

ORIGINAL MUSIC & LYRICS  
BY RICHARD SHERMAN &  
ROBERT SHERMAN  
BOOK BY JULIAN FELLOWES

ELSTERNWICK  
CAMPUS MUSICAL

SEPTEMBER  
10TH - 11TH | 7PM  
12TH | 5PM  
ADAMSON HALL

*Mary Poppins Jr.* brings the beloved magic of P.L. Travers' classic stories to the stage in a charming, family-friendly musical adventure. When the Banks children's nanny leaves unexpectedly, Mary Poppins appears practically perfect in every way with her magical umbrella and a heart full of wonder. Together with the lovable Bert, she turns everyday life into a world of song, dance, and delight, teaching lessons about imagination, kindness, and family along the way. From rooftop dances to magical adventures in the park, the story sparkles with unforgettable songs, playful choreography, and moments of pure theatrical magic. Perfect for young performers and audiences alike, *Mary Poppins Jr.* celebrates the joy of childhood, the importance of family, and the power of a little bit of magic to change the world. Step into this enchanting tale and let Mary Poppins lift you up on a journey you'll never forget!

# FREAKY FRIDAY

## JR

BOOK BY BRIDGET CARPENTER

MUSIC BY TOM KITT

LYRICS BY BRIAN YORKEY

GLEN WAVERLEY

YEAR 8 & 9 MUSICAL

OCTOBER

21TH - 23RD | 7PM

24TH | 3PM

CATO HALL

*Freaky Friday Junior* is a fast-paced, laugh-out-loud musical full of heart, chaos, and a little bit of magic. When teenage Ellie and her mother, Katherine, magically swap bodies, their world is turned upside down! Suddenly, Ellie must navigate her mother's busy life, and Katherine is thrown into the confusing world of high school. As they experience each other's challenges and perspectives, they discover the importance of empathy, understanding, and family. Packed with hilarious mishaps, clever songs, and spirited dance numbers, this musical brings Jeff Whitty's book to life for audiences of all ages. *Freaky Friday Junior* is a relatable, entertaining, and uplifting story that celebrates the love, patience, and laughter that help families grow closer even when everything seems topsy-turvy. Get ready for a rollicking ride where magical mix-ups lead to heartwarming lessons and unforgettable fun!





# CHARLIE & THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY JR: THE MUSICAL

ST KILDA ROAD  
MIDDLE SCHOOL MUSICAL

OCTOBER  
28TH - 30TH | 7:30PM  
ADAMSON HALL

BOOK BY DAVID GREIG  
MUSIC & LYRICS BY MARC SHAIMAN  
LYRICS BY SCOTT WITTMAN

*Charlie & The Chocolate Factory: The Musical* is a dazzling, deliciously fun stage adaptation of Roald Dahl's beloved classic. Join young Charlie Bucket, a kind-hearted boy from a humble family, as he wins a golden ticket to tour Willy Wonka's magical chocolate factory. Alongside four other lucky children, Charlie explores fantastical rooms filled with chocolate rivers, candy gardens, and wondrous inventions each more surprising than the last. But the factory is full of mischief, lessons, and unexpected twists, where greed and selfishness meet hilarious consequences. With spectacular sets, vibrant costumes, and a toe-tapping score, this musical brings Dahl's world to life in vivid colour and infectious energy.

*Charlie & The Chocolate Factory: The Musical* is a treat for audiences of all ages, celebrating imagination, wonder, and the rewards of kindness. Step inside Wonka's world and discover the magic, mystery, and mouth-watering fun waiting behind every chocolate door!

# LYREBIRD AWARDS 2025

The Lyrebird Awards are annual celebrations of excellence in school and community theatre and performing arts, recognising outstanding youth productions, performances, direction, choreography and design across a variety of categories in the eastern and south-eastern suburbs of Melbourne. The Youth Lyrebird Awards bring together young performers from schools and youth companies to acknowledge their creativity, collaboration and achievements on stage each year.

In 2025, Wesley College enjoyed remarkable success at the Youth Lyrebird Awards, with the Glen Waverley Campus production of *The Addams Family* taking home six major awards — including Best Production, Youth Musical, Best Ensemble, Best Director, Best Choreographer, along with a Highly Commended Performer award. Additionally, Glen Waverley's Senior School Play, *Black Comedy*, earned Best Comedic Performer – Youth Play, highlighting the strength and diversity of student theatre across our College.

This outstanding achievement reflects the passion, talent and teamwork of our students and staff who bring these stories to life and contribute so vibrantly to the youth performing arts community.



2025 Glen Waverley Campus Senior School Play, *Black Comedy*



Ethan Russell as Javert in *Les Misérables*,  
2025 St Kilda Road Campus Senior School Musical

# MUSIC THEATRE GUILD OF VICTORIA AWARDS

The Music Theatre Guild of Victoria (MTGV) Awards celebrate excellence in non-professional music theatre across Victoria, recognising outstanding productions, performances, direction, musical direction, design, and technical achievement. Around 70 schools enter the awards each year across the state.

In 2025, Wesley College was proudly acknowledged with numerous nominations and commendations across its three campuses – including 10 nominations for awards and 21 commendations. The recognised shows were *Les Misérables* at St Kilda Road, *The Addams Family* and *Mary Poppins Jr* at Glen Waverley and *Seussical Jr* at Elsternwick. Our students' talent was celebrated across categories including Production of the Year, Lead and Supporting Performers, and Ensemble, reflecting the creativity, dedication, and outstanding skill of our young performers from Year 5 to Year 12.

Congratulations to Year 12 student, Ethan Russell, from St Kilda Road Campus who was awarded Outstanding Actor in a Male Presenting Role for his performance as Javert in *Les Misérables*.

This recognition from the MTGV is a testament to the thriving culture of music theatre at Wesley College and the exceptional commitment of our students and staff to bringing these stories to life on stage.



2025 Glen Waverley Campus Musical, *The Addams Family*



WESLEY COLLEGE

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