



## Learning at JIS – from Cath Wan, Deputy Principal/ PYP Coordinator

### Promoting 'agency' through our school production: *Cinderella Rockerfella*

For the past 8 years, JIS has been proud to present a full scale musical production. This year, we are excited to announce that on Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup> we will perform the musical *Cinderella Rockerfella*. However, this year, the process will be a little different. As a result of careful reflection, including asking the students to feed back on the process of last year's production, *Jungle Book*, we have decided to include more 'student agency' in the process.

The IB defines the term 'agency' as "voice, choice and ownership".



Students demonstrate agency when they: "make choices, voice opinions, ask questions, participate in and contribute to the learning community". Strategies to support agency include "involving students in making decisions about what, why and how they learn – as co-collaborators in the learning community." (IB, 2019. *PYP Principles into Practice: The Learner*).

In past productions, students from P4 – P6 had the choice to audition for main parts in the show reflecting some agency. Students who did not wish to audition were 'given' a class song and had, depending on their age, some input into its presentation. This year, we are being risk-takers and taking agency further. This is how it works:

All members of P4 – P6 are expected to have a responsibility in the show. However, these students were given a choice in how they would like to collaborate. We co-constructed a list of responsibilities, all of which have equal importance and opportunities for learning. Our final list

