Fable brought to the stage

OSCAR Wilde's timeless fable, the Selfish Giant had a modern-day makeover last week when the students and staff of Shoalhaven Anglican School brought their 21st century musical adaptation to the Milton Theatre stage.

Inspired by one of her favourite childhood stories, English teacher Anne Pickering wrote the script, explaining, “It is a beautiful story with an important message”.

Anne’s adaptation centred on the rise and fall of rock legend Chad Swagger.

Students delighted audiences over four performances with boundless enthusiasm, impressive vocal talent and brilliant characterisations to share the ageless moral “that a selfish heart will hinder lifelong happiness”.

Head of campus Craig Mansour provided many humorous moments in his portrayal of Ashley the bouncer, however for many of the students who ranged from kindergarten to year 11, it was their first theatrical venture, and you could tell from the smiles on their faces they loved the experience.

The production was a collaborative process, with Amy Smith providing musical directions.

The musical score saw the audience take a trip down memory lane, back to the 60s and 70s with classic songs from Cat Stevens, Elvis, The Beatles and Carole King.

Parents, students and staff formed the backing band, and imaginative yet simple set and costume design provided a wonderful backdrop for the musical.

The production was a wonderful celebration of the many talents of the staff and students of Shoalhaven Anglican School.

LEAD: Zeke Cameron as Chad Swagger

COLD: Lachlan Congram, Lachlan Tamasini and Emily Whitney as Frost, Winter and Ice.