

More bands, great songs and fantastic musicians! What more could anyone ask, for the EIC Battle of the Bands 2006. With participants from Year 7 right through to the Sixth Form and many from last year's 'Battle of the Bands' event, it was sure to be another tough decision for the judges. To our surprise, students had already started to decide what songs they were going to do and were starting to practice at the beginning of the school term and were also thinking up their band names! There were ten bands competing in this year's event performing a variety of material from slow acoustic tracks to upbeat rock songs. Our lovely panel of judges consisted of Mrs Whittaker, Mr Cale, Ashton Easter (Yr 13) and Danny South (Yr 12) who had the difficult task of judging the performances based on stage presence, band performance and technicalities such as harmony and melody and of course the overall performance.

The event kicked off with our very own EIC teacher's band introduced by our lovely host of the show, James Lavelle. Who would ever think that our teachers could be so groovy, rocking and rolling on the stage like that! The adrenaline was pumping and nerves were as high as usual, but all the students pulled off great performances, many being on stage for the first time in front of more than 200 people!! Also special thanks to George Eason and Mr Geoff Lawrence who went around interviewing the nervous but excited performers whilst waiting backstage to go onto the stage and these extras are featured on the "Battle of the Bands 2006 DVD"!

Many congratulations to the runners-up, Hayley Cowan and Ricardo Bocanegra who sang "She will be loved" by Maroon 5 beautifully, and the Winners of the EIC Battle of Bands 2006; Ollie Zabell, Charlie Barnes, Candice Fox and Alex Maybrey with their number "Let me entertain you" by Robbie Williams got the crowd cheering and singing throughout the performance.

A tremendous, round of applause to everyone who took part, you were all stars and it was certainly an entertaining and unforgettable night. The event managed to raise over 1000 euros for the Sue Ryder Hospice trust so thank you once again for your support. I'm sure that next year's Battle of the Bands will be just as successful. Or even better!

Sheen Yap - Year 13

