

HARRI JOSE - RAVENCLAW

Hi my name is Harri Jose and I am representing the Ravenclaw team.

Our group was made up of 7 people selected from English, Drama, Art and Music based on our strengths and I was picked for the storyboard I created in English. I was then nominated by my team to be the lead animator which meant I was in charge of taking the photos and making the transition between pictures look smooth.

Our group won best cinematography. Our short film shows how well we considered the camera angles and lighting for dramatic effect to draw the audience's attention to things that are important by making them more interesting.

The whole project took three days to complete it was stressful because everyone had their own ideas they wanted to include in the animation and it was difficult to bring all of them together but we did our best to compromise and to make sure everyone's ideas were included. We also had different teachers there throughout the day if we needed help or advice, although we were good at finding solutions ourselves. For example, it was very hard to find a space where we could control the lighting and avoid shadows which was affecting the quality of our film as it was making the images grainy. We decided to move our set to a new location and placed it on a table which made it easier to film from different angles as it was raised instead of on the floor. We also used the torches on our phones to help balance the light. On the third day we only had to take a couple of pictures to finish the last scene in our short film which meant we could then focus on the editing, music and final presentation.

Everyone in our group worked well together because on the first day we all sat down and decided on what jobs needed done and who would be responsible for them. We tried to give everyone a job they wanted to do so they could have fun with it but get it done at the same time. We all had a good laugh and had fun doing the project and ended up with a great short film that we all love. The whole project helped us to bond as a group.

We developed tons of new skill while having fun such as IT skills when working on our animation, problem solving skills when trying to find a space to film without any shadows in the way, team work skills where we had to tell each other that something wasn't working and finally communication skills to not be afraid to share your own ideas to the group and for the group to mix them into everyone else's ideas.

As well as input from the teachers we also had prop designer Amelia Bennet talk to us about what she did when working on different film projects. She also recently worked on the animation 'Isle of Dogs' painting backdrops which gave us the idea to help tell the story by changing the background. Amelia worked with us over 2 of the days giving us some pointers for our film. She was very helpful and gave us some ideas that we had not thought about.

The part I most enjoyed about the project was seeing the final film and adding music and sound effects to it because you can see it finally coming together after all those hours we put into it. It was an amazing experience and it helped me decide what I want to do in the future and I hope other kid get this amazing experience like I did. The experience I gained is very valuable and I made new friends and would not change it for the world. I will remember this for the rest of my life!