

Movie Reflections

Nativity (U)

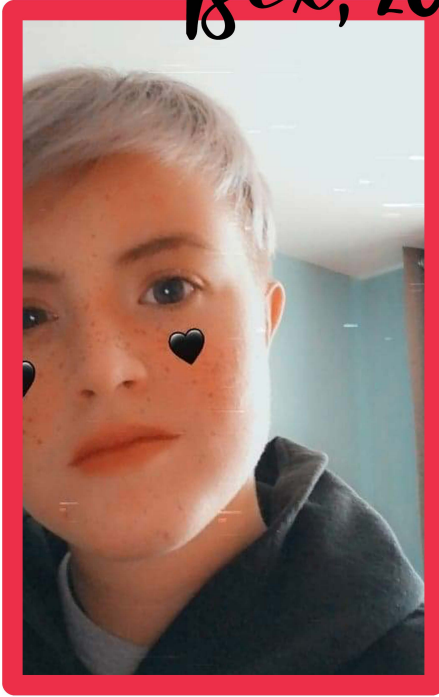
Max, 18



One particular moment in 'the Nativity' that stands out to me is the scene in which we see Mr Madden sitting in his classroom reading the letters that the class have written to Santa. Through reading the letters we see a real development in Mr Maddens character as we begin to see his encouragement and effort to perform for Hollywood. This heart-warming scene is perhaps one of my favourites as it clearly highlights many underlying themes in the film, including the ideas of encouragement and self-belief, support for others, team work and perhaps most importantly, overcoming fears to achieve their goals on a collective and personal level. From the beginning of the film, Mr Madden dislikes Christmas as a result of issues of the past, he also struggles to work alongside Mr Poppy, but we see that Mr Poppy himself and the children in his class offer their support to him through not only their meaningful letters to Santa, but their ability to work and their motivation to produce a good performance of the nativity. From the alternative perspective, we see that both Mr Poppy and Mr Madden offer a sense of hope and encouragement to the class as they worry about being 'laughed at' or outperformed by Oakmore, who they had always viewed as 'better' than them. It teaches us that despite what we may think about ourselves or where we come from, we can achieve what we work towards and we can help each other to overcome our difficulties and setbacks to ultimately exceed expectation.

What difficulties might you be facing at the moment? Are there any steps that you can put in place to help you overcome these?

Bex, 20



My favourite character in the Movie Nativity is Mr Poppy, the Classroom Assistant. I love how he is not afraid to show his true self, no pretending to be something he is not, just funny, silly, unashamedly Mr Poppy. My favourite part was when he ran into the playground pretending his coat was a superhero cape.

For me, he reminds me you don't have to fit the norm, to leave your mark! It means a lot to me, because I have tried so hard to fit in and be seen as 'normal' and found I didn't quite make it. It was exhausting and lonely! Since being myself, I have found my tribe, friends

that like me for being me! It has been freeing, I'm happier and so much more relaxed!

How often do you go with the social norm rather than be yourself?!

Tom, 13



My favourite part of the Nativity movie is when the Angel Gabriel is coming down from the top of the church spire. I like this part as it is funny when all the parents are scared and he is just coming down fearless and singing.

What type of things make you sing out fearlessly?

