



“A Magical School Year”

By
Tracy Wells

What In this humorous parody, two adults are whisked away to a certain school of Wizardry. As they encounter students and teachers from each of the four “houses” they learn some special skills and a few Bible verses that will make the new school year truly magical. Perfect for a back to school service, family night or fall Sunday School kickoff.

Themes: Back to School, Fall, Teachers, Students, Bravery, Determination, Helping Others, Hard Work, Patience, Loyalty, Knowledge, Wit, Resourcefulness, Kindness,

Who Kelsay/Kellen*
Dave/Dana*
Honey Badger Student(s) 1+ (may assign lines as desired to multiple actors)
Lionheart Student(s) 1+ (may assign lines as desired to multiple actors)
Blackbird Student(s) 1+ (may assign lines as desired to multiple actors)
Serpentine Teacher
*Feel free to change character names to your actor’s names.

When Modern Day

Costumes Modern Day attire with the addition of wizard’s robes for all except Dave. For the three Students and Teacher, you will need to distinguish their robes in some way to easily identify their house, perhaps with colors or badges.

Why Galatians 6:9, Joshua 1:9, James 1:5, Hebrews 10:24

Props

Phone
A letter in an envelope
Suitcase
Six Wands
Books
Four Banners on poles or a stone wall

How

This play can evoke well known pop culture wizards but also feel free to make it your own. The set can be simple, using tables and chairs, whiteboards or chalkboards, bookcases, etc. or you can go all out with floating candles, moving paintings (using frames with actors behind them) and other magical decor. If using stone walls, you can easily find stone wall scene setters which is an inexpensive disposable backdrop that you can adhere to just about any surface. In the end, it's the message that matters, not the spectacle, so make sure that no matter what, the characters and dialogue are front and center. For the magic tricks, see below:

Magic Envelope: You will need a standard envelope on which Kelsay and Dave's names (or your actors' names) are present. Then using paper in the same color as the envelope, write just Kelsay's name and affix it loosely over the top of the other two names. When Kelsay reveals both their names, she removes and hides the extra slip of paper.

Banners: At Woghorts you will have four poles or a stone wall. Four colored banners will hang on the poles or wall and will be rolled up or turned around so the audience can't see the words on the other side. If using a wall you will cut a small hole behind the banners. Someone will stand behind the wall and will reach through the hole to release the banner or turn it around. If using a pole, attach clear fishing line to one end of the banner. Offstage or obstructed behind poles you will have someone pull the line to unravel the banner.

Time

Approximately 15 minutes

Dave enters, looking at his phone, which has a to-do list on it.

Dave: Okay. I've got the backpacks and the school supplies... *(swipes on his phone)* I've done the grocery shopping and gotten everything I need for lunches. *(swipes on his phone, then thinks)* That should be just about everything. *(smiles, satisfied)* The kids are ready to go back to school! *(puts the backpack down)* Now it's time to kick back, relax, order a pizza and watch an insane amount of YouTube shorts.

Dave holds up his phone, hits a button, then swipes, and selects a video which plays loudly as **Kelsay** enters, excitedly, holding a suitcase. In the other hand she's excitedly shaking a letter in an envelope.

Kelsay: It's here! It's finally here!

Dave: *(looking up, excitedly)* The pizza's here already? *(looks at his phone)* I just ordered it.

Kelsay: No, it's not pizza!

Kelsay stands in front of **Dave**, excitedly bouncing and waving her letter until he looks away from his phone.

Dave: What's with the bouncing? And why do you have a suitcase?

Kelsay: *(beyond excited)* I got my letter from Woghorts!

Dave: Woghorts?

Kelsay: You know—the famous school of wizardry! See?

Kelsay shows him the envelope which has her name on it in large letters.

Dave: Oh, you mean Hogwar—

Kelsay: *(quickly stops him)* Don't say it.

Dave: Why not?

Kelsay looks around, nervously.

Kelsay: *(whispering)* It must not be named *(leans in, aside)* for copyright reasons.

Dave: Oh, got it.

Kelsay: So yeah, it looks like I'm going back to school at Wogwarts!

Dave: You mean Woghorts.

Kelsay: Right. That's what I said.

Dave: I think I should tell you, Kelsay... and um, I don't know how to say this exactly, but... I think you're a little old to be going back to school.

Kelsay: Ok, first of all, no one is too old to go back to school. Education is for everyone.

Dave: That's true. My apologies.

Kelsay: And second, this is not an ordinary school we're talking about. This is Wogshorts!

Dave: Woghorts.

Kelsay: Yes, exactly! It's a magical school. And I can't wait to get started. *(rifles through suitcase/trunk, and holding up items)* I've got my textbooks right here... History of Magic, Herbology, How to Train Your Dragon...

Dave: *(worried)* You're going to train *dragons* at this school?

Kelsay: *(chuckles)* Oh, no. That's just the name of my favorite novel. It's a great movie too. You should see it sometime.

Dave: Right.

Kelsay puts books away except *History of Magic* and looks through her suitcase.

Kelsay: I've got a toothbrush and my clothes. *(pulls out a robe)* Can't forget my robe! *(puts it on)* What do you think?

Dave: Very... wizard-y.

Kelsay: Thanks! *(turns back to suitcase)* Now all that's left to do is find... my... *(finds wand and holds it up)* wand!

Dave jumps back, worried.

Dave: Whoa! Watch it with that thing. You don't know what you're doing.

Kelsay: Don't worry. The letter explains everything. Besides, how else are we going to get to Dogsnorts?

Dave: Woghorts. And *we*? Who said anything about *we*?

Kelsay: C'mon, Dave. I know going back to school can be scary, but I promise you it'll be fun and you'll learn a lot.

Dave: Thanks, but the letter has your name on it. I wasn't invited.

Kelsay: That's where you're wrong!

Kelsay shows the letter again. It now says both their names on it.

Dave: But... how?

Kelsay: *(smiles)* Magic.

Kelsay tucks the *History of Magic* book under her arm, picks up the suitcase and hands it to **Dave**, roughly.

Kelsay: Here, take this.

Dave: *(lifting the suitcase)* Oof!

Kelsay grabs **Dave's** hand and holds her wand up in the air.

Kelsay: And away we go!

*Blackout or magical lighting. Perhaps magical sounds, wind, or music plays. When lights come back up, **Kelsay** and **Dave** are now at Woghorts. Behind them are four poles or a stone wall on which are four banners, each a different color. They are rolled up or turned around.*

Dave: *(looking around)* Whoa! That was weird.

Kelsay: *(sighs happily and looks around)* Ah, Hortswog. Home sweet home.

Dave: Woghorts.

Kelsay: Right. That's what I said.

Honey Badger Student enters, carrying a wand.

Dave: Actually, what you said was—

Kelsay: *(interrupting)* Oh, look! It's a Honey Badger! *(indicates Badger)*

Dave: I'm pretty sure that's a human child, and not a small, burrowing animal, Kelsay.

Kelsay: I know that's a human child. But as you can see from her badge *(or robe)* she's part of House Honey Badger. All the students here get sorted into houses based on their character traits. We'll get sorted too! *(thinks)* I can't wait to find out what house we'll be in!

Dave: How do you know all this?

Kelsay: *(holds up book)* It's all here in my History of Magic textbook. *(scolding)*
You really should've read it before we arrived, you know.

Dave: I didn't know we were coming here until two minutes ago!

Kelsay: That's no excuse, Dave.

Kelsay crosses to **Badger Student**. *Dave follows.*

Kelsay: Hello, Honey Badger!

Badger: Oh, Hello. And welcome to Woghorts!

Kelsay: Thank you! We're new here and we have just a few questions.

Dave: *(leaning in)* She's the one who has questions, not *we*.

Badger: *(chuckles)* Ask away.

Badger looks on patiently.

Kelsay: Great! *(takes a deep breath, then rapid fire)* Where are our dorms? Are we sorted into houses? How do they do the sorting? How do they know what house we want to be in? Will I like my house? Do we all eat dinner together? Is the food good? Are the beds good? Are the teachers good?

Dave puts a hand on **Kelsay's** shoulder to stop her.

Dave: Whoa, there, Kelsay, slow down! We've only been here for a few minutes and you just threw out a huge list of questions... like, *all* the questions. We don't want to rattle our new Honey Badger friend.

Badger: Oh, that didn't scare me.

Dave: No? *(leans in, aside to Badger)* Because it scares *me*.

Badger: Honey Badgers are known for our kindness and patience. It takes a lot to rattle us.

Kelsay: Kindness and patience are great tools to have when you're learning the ropes at the start of a new school year.

Badger: They sure are! It's like the Bible says in Romans 15:5, "So we must not grow weary in doing good, for in due time we will reap, if we do not give up."

Dave: *(nods and smiles)* I like that. Good things come to those who are patient and show kindness to one another.

Badger: That's right! That's the Honey Badger way.

Kelsay: Maybe we'll be Honey Badgers!

Dave: *(leans into Badger)* And if not, you're gonna have to show me that patience trick of yours.

Badger: *(laughs)* Will do. *(turns to exit, then stops)* And don't forget— *(holds up her wand and smiles)* kindness is magic.

Badger flicks her wand at the first banner. It unravels or turns around to face the audience. On it is the word, "Kindness". **Badger** exits.

Dave: Wow! That was really cool!

Kelsay: Yes it was! *(thinks)* I wonder if all the students at the school can do magic like that.

Dave: Maybe. At least a little bit.

Kelsay: I can't do magic... not yet anyway. Do you think they'll like me if I can't do magic?

Dave: I’m sure they will. You’re a likeable person, Kelsay.

Kelsay: That’s true.

Dave: *(mimicking Kelsay)* And you’re a likeable person too, Dave.

Kelsay: *(dismissively)* Yeah, sure of course. *(moving on)* But I bet they’re all friends here. They might not want a new friend.

Dave: I’m sure they do. But if you want to go home, I’m good with that.
(indicates wand) Now how does that thing send us back home?

Dave tries to get the wand from Kelsay, but she paces around as she says her next line and the wand is always out of reach. During the next line, Lionheart Student enters, holding a wand.

Kelsay: *(nervously)* That’s really intimidating when you think about it. They have their friends and their clubs and their activities and their classes and their—

Dave: *(stopping her)* You’re doing that thing again with the lists.

Kelsay: Sorry. I was so excited to come to Warthogs—

Dave: Woghorts.

Kelsay: Right. But now that I’m here I’m just afraid that I won’t make any friends, and I’ll feel left out.

Lionheart: A lot of people are afraid when they start something new.

Kelsay: Hey! It’s a Lionheart! *(excitedly)* Maybe we’ll be Lionhearts, too!

Dave: I’m going to guess that’s another one of the houses here at Woghorts.

Lionheart: That's right! Lionhearts are known for their courage and determination. When we encounter something that scares us, we face it head on and know that we will get through it.

Kelsay: Courage and determination are great tools to have when you're starting a new school year.

Lionheart: They sure are! It's like the Bible says in Joshua 1:9, "Be strong and brave! Don't be afraid and don't panic for I, the Lord your God, am with you in all you do."

Dave: *(leaning in)* Did you hear that, Kelsay? She said, don't panic.

Kelsay: *(with a rueful smile)* I heard.

Dave: I really like that Bible verse. I think it would help kids a lot to know that God is right there with them everyday at school.

Lionheart: He sure is! He's given them all the courage they need to face anything that comes their way. *(leans toward Kelsay)* And you have it too.

Kelsay: You think so?

Lionheart: I do. *(turns to exit, then stops)* And don't forget— *(holds up her wand and smiles)* courage is magic.

Lionheart flicks her wand at the second banner. It unravels or turns around to face the audience. On it is the word, "Courage". **Lionheart** exits.

Dave: Okay, this school is really cool.

Kelsay: Isn't Hartwogs the best?

Dave: WogHORTS. And yes, I can see why you were excited to come here. I can't wait to learn to do magic like that. *(points at banner)*

Kelsay: *(nervously)* Oh, right... the magic. We're going to have to learn how to do that.

Dave: That's true.

Kelsay: *(worried)* There's the charms and the potions and transfiguration and magical creatures and—

Dave: *(stopping her)* Let's not get carried away with the lists again.

Blackbird Student enters, carrying books and a wand.

Kelsay: But there's just so much to know and it's all new to me. How am I going to learn it all?

Blackbird: Teachers will help you.

Kelsay: Hey! It's a Blackbird! Maybe we'll be Blackbirds!

Dave: Okay, now I *know* that must be another one of the houses here at Woghorts.

Blackbird: That's right! Blackbirds are known for their motivation and love of learning. When we don't know something we read a book, look up information online from trusted websites, or talk to our amazing teachers.

Kelsay: Motivation and a love of learning are great tools to have when you're learning new lessons at school.

Blackbird: They sure are! It's like the Bible says in James 1:5, "If anyone is deficient in wisdom, he should ask God, who gives to all generously and without reprimand, and it will be given to him."

Kelsay: *(excited)* So if I'm having trouble learning something, I can ask God and he will just put the knowledge right in my head?

Blackbird: *(chuckles)* Not exactly.

Dave: I think what it means is that if you truly wish for wisdom, God will make a way for you to achieve it.

Blackbird: Like giving us access to informative books and great teachers.

Kelsay: *(nods)* I think I understand it now.

Blackbird: *(smiles)* Maybe you are a Blackbird after all. *(turns to exit, then stops)* And don't forget— *(holds up her wand and smiles)* learning is magic.

Blackbird flicks her wand at the third banner. It unravels or turns around to face the audience. On it is the word, "Learning". **Blackbird** exits.

Dave: That never gets old!

Kelsay: That's right. *(suddenly dejected)* But you know what is old?

Dave: *(counting them on his fingers)* My favorite song... my blue sweatshirt with the hole in the elbow... *(grimaces)* the sandwich I found in the bottom of my son's backpack from last school year?

Kelsay: Gross.

Dave: You have no idea.

Kelsay: No, it's me! I'm old! I'm starting to think you were right when you said I was too old to go back to school. I don't belong at Wighats!

Dave: Wighats? Really? That's not even close!

Kelsay: Maybe we should just go home.

Kelsay holds up her wand as **Serpentine Teacher** enters, holding two wands and a grade book.

Dave grabs **Kelsay's** hand to stop her.

Dave: Wait!

Kelsay: Why? I'm too old to learn magic. You know it and I know it.

Dave: Then I was wrong. Because the thing is... and I know this is hard to believe... *(takes a deep breath)* but I'm old too.

Kelsay: *(smirking)* You don't say?

Dave: And I learned something today. I learned that school is a magical place where students are kind to one another, where students show courage when they feel afraid and where they love to learn new things so that they can grow their minds. You were right, Kelsay—education is for everyone. And if people open their hearts and minds... if they know that God is right there, by their side, then they can do anything they put their minds to... and so can you.

Serpentine: That's right.

Kelsay: Hey! It's a Serpentine!

Dave: I'm pretty sure this one is a teacher.

Serpentine: Yes, and the faculty advisor for the Serpentine House. Serpentes are known for their encouragement and determination. They never give up, no matter how hopeless something might seem, and they encourage one another, *(to Dave)* just like you were doing a moment ago.

Kelsay: Encouragement and determination are great tools to have throughout the entire school year.

Serpentine: They sure are! It's like the Bible says in Hebrews 10:24, " And let us take thought of how to spur one another on to love and good works."

Dave: I like that. When we support one another, we can accomplish anything.

Serpentine: It sounds like we might have a new member of Serpentine House.

Serpentine Teacher hands **Dave** a wand.

Dave: *(shocked)* For me?

Serpentine: Why don't you give it a try? *(indicates fourth banner)*

Dave: *(excited)* Me? Do the thing with the wand? And the banner? And the magic?

Serpentine: That's right.

Dave: But I don't know how!

Kelsay: *(looking Dave in the eye)* You can do this, Dave. I know you can.

Serpentine: Perhaps we have two new Serpentes! And Serpentes stick together. So why don't we all give it a try?

Kelsay: Really? Even me?

Serpentine: *(smiles)* If you're ready.

Kelsay: *(determined)* I'm ready.

Serpentine: Then hold up your wands.

All hold up their wands at the fourth banner.

Serpentine: And with a swish and a flick!

All swish and flick their wands at the fourth second banner. It unravels or turns around to face the audience. On it is the word, "Encouragement".

Kelsay: Encouragement is magic.

Serpentine: *(smiles)* Yes, it is.

Honey Badger, Lionheart, and Blackbird Students enter, with wands.

Badger: So is kindness.

Lionheart: And courage.

Blackbird: And learning.

Serpentine: And the most important thing to know is that with God by your side, no matter if you're in elementary school or middle school or high school, or a certain school of Wizardry—

Dave: You mean Hogwar—

All except **Dave** put a finger to their lips and shhh him.

All: *(except Dave)* It must not be named!

Kelsay: It's Wogharts, Dave! Everyone knows that.

Dave: *(smiles)* My mistake.

Serpentine: No matter what school you go to, with God by your side every student can have a magical school year!

Kelsay: Then let's have the most magical school year ever!

All raise their wands. Blackout or magical lighting. Perhaps magical sounds, wind, or music plays, followed by a blackout. End of play.