



INSPIRATIONAL:
Imelda Staunton at
Glebe School.

School film clubs backed by *Harry Potter* professor

BUDDING film-makers quizzed Oscar nominated actress Imelda Staunton at a special event.

Pupils at Glebe School in West Wickham were invited to an exclusive Q&A session with the *Vera Drake* actress last Thursday at an event arranged by **FILMCLUB** and the London Student Awards.

At the event in Kingsdale School, Dulwich, pupils aged 11 to 16 listened to the actress, who plays Dolores Umbridge in the *Harry Potter* series, who gave a talk about her film career.

She also commended **FILMCLUB**, an initiative founded last year by *Bridget Jones* director Beeban Kidron that has attracted more than 2,500 schools, that encourages pupils to watch a variety of non-mainstream and inspirational films for free.

She said: "You really hope that something like this helps expose kids to different films.

We all go and watch films that we like, but actually it's quite good sometimes to watch films that you wouldn't normally watch.

"I think that would be a good thing for a film club to do; to encourage people to watch films that you might not be drawn to.

"It's good to be able to have discussions about films as well."

Youngsters also were told that they have just two weeks to enter the London Student Awards, a Department for Children, Schools and Families initiative to highlight creative and talented young people who have been inspired through subjects like the arts, science, ICT and business.

For a chance to win prizes including a day at a celebrity photoshoot and a day in the recording studio with a top DJ, students can go to www.desf.gov.uk/citychallenge/studentawards to download an entry pack.