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Cartoon pig girl nets Bafta

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Harley Bird won a Bafta for her portrayal of Peppa Pig

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A YOUNG Chinnor rugby player has scooped one of the top awards in television for her portrayal of a popular cartoon pig.

Nine-year-old Harley Bird picked up a Bafta on Sunday after impressive performances as the voice of children's TV sensation, Peppa Pig.

Harley won the best performer gong at the British Academy Children's Awards.

She beat some of the country's finest young talent, including Just William star Daniel Roche, and Horrible Histories' Martha Howe-Douglas.

She said: "It was amazing. I didn't think I'd win because the guy from Just William is a really good actor.



"It was very exciting, but it was also a bit scary."

The youngster, a pupil at Pipers Corner School in Great Kingshill, says she wants to continue her acting dream, although she would also like to turn her hand to comedy.

But starring as one of the best known cartoon characters isn't without its pitfalls.

She said: "When I tell people what I do, no-one really believes me at first."

Harley's proud mum Gill Riley said: "It was absolutely brilliant.

"We had no idea she was going to win. She was up against some very talented actors, it was amazing.

"We didn't realise how famous Peppa Pig really is. It was such a shock that it made the night even better."

And Gill, who runs Long Crendon firm GGR, added that the trophy is unlikely to take pride of place on the mantelpiece.

Gill said: "She wants to put the trophy up in her bedroom. It's her trophy, so she can put it wherever she wants."

The youngster has been voicing the popular cartoon pig for the past three and a half years.

Peppa Pig is popular in the UK, but also enjoys a big following in America.

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