



From: QMS Music Department
January 2010

Dear Parents,

May I wish you a Happy New Year from the Music Department. We hope to tempt you to attend some if not all of the following musical events. All the currently planned musical activities can also be found in the Blue Book with updates on the website if required. A full Music Diary can also be found in the Music Dept menu on the webpage. In the meantime can I draw your attention to the following main events:

Sunday February 7th at 7.30 pm –

Chapel Choir is honoured to have been invited to sing the off stage chorus in the St Cecilia Orchestra's concert in Ripon Cathedral in a performance of Holst's *The Planets*. **Chapel Choir parents** please note that there is a rehearsal for this in the afternoon, the time of which will be confirmed later. Tickets are at discounted prices of £13 (concessions £10 or £5 for children), available from the Office. Please see the parents webpage for further details and a downloadable form. Please note that cheques sent with ticket requests should be payable to '**Ripon St Cecilia Society Ltd** and that the closing date is January 30th.

Friday, February 26th at 7.00 pm

Evening Concert in the Great Hall. (Drinks/nibbles from 6.30)

Friday, March 6th at 7.00 pm

Finals of the Armour Chamber Music Competition in the Chapel (Drinks/nibbles from 6.30 pm)

Wednesday, March 10th at 5.30 pm

Senior Choir sings Evensong in Ripon Cathedral. This will end about 6.10pm

Thursday, March 11th at 7.00 pm

13th Battle of the Bands competition. (Drinks/nibbles from 6.30pm)

Friday, March 19th at 2.30 pm

End of Spring term Ensembles' Concert Please also note that the end of term concert takes place early, to allow the skiers to take part

Music Lessons

If your daughter would like to start playing an instrument, or would like to have a trial on one, please do contact me. Currently, and rather unusually, we are short of flute players, but also lower strings. If your daughter already has individual music lessons may I remind you that the peripatetic teachers would appreciate settlement of their accounts within *one month* of receipt of the bill. Charges are currently based on £179 for 10 lessons, with 30 lessons to be taught during the year. As this term is very short lessons outstanding will be made up during the Summer term – many teachers will in fact have taught more than ten lesson in the Autumn. Instrument hire is £25 per term; membership of a rock band continues at £20 per term. The music staff are very happy to speak to you either on the phone or in person at a suitable time, should the need arise. Should you need it my direct number is 01845 575012, or email: n.carter@queenmarys.org. One term's notice, *in writing*, is required if your daughter is to stop having lessons. Would you please also let the teacher know if your address changes.

Yours sincerely,

Nicholas Carter
Director of Music

Music Award auditions 2010

The Music Award auditions will take place on Friday, January 29th. There are awards of up to 1/3 fees available at 11+, 12+ and 13+. We are delighted to continue to offer a special award of up to 80% for an outstanding candidate; we have two such award holders in school at present. If you happen to know of any external likely candidates for any of these awards I would be most pleased to hear from you (n.carter@queenmarys.org) deadline Wednesday, 27th January. We try to arrange a pre-audition for potential candidates to give them a flavour of what might be involved, though this is by no means a pre-requisite for entry. Details of expected standards and audition requirements may be obtained from the Head of Admissions, Mrs Victoria Robeson (v.robeson@queenmarys.org)