



MUSIC MATTERS Edition 3: July 2019

Dear All,

The Music Department continues to be a real 'hub' of activity with a wide range of opportunities on offer for students of all ages each and every day. We pride ourselves on being a department which promotes an ethos of 'excellence and inclusion', striving to continually offer high quality, enriching musical experiences for all. Music at St. Wilfrid's is dedicated, dynamic and diverse and we are justifiably proud of the accomplishments of all our students. There are many instrumental lessons and extra-curricular activities on offer at our school; this newsletter will give you a flavour of what has been going in the department over this past term.

The King and I

Our GCSE and A-Level musicians joined their colleagues from the Drama department in attending a performance of the professional touring production of *'The King and I'* at Sunderland's Empire Theatre.

South Tyneside's Got Talent

Congratulations to Rebecca Brown and Jade Wilkinson (both Year 12) who represented St. Wilfrid's at 'South Tyneside's Got Talent'. The girls gave an outstanding performance of the vocal duet *'For Good'* from the musical *'Wicked'*.

Music Transition and Development Day

Over 100 students took part in our inaugural 'Music Transition and Development Day'. This took the format of an instrumental workshop in the morning, followed by a singing workshop in the afternoon. The day culminated in a showcase which was well attended by parents, friends and staff. This featured some well-known titles including: *'Star Wars'*, *'La Bamba'*, *'Stand by me'* and *'Hallelujah'*. We were delighted to be joined by students from St. Joseph's Catholic Academy, along with year 5 and 6 students from St. Bede's South Shields, St. Gregory's, Mortimer and Stanhope Primary Schools. We look forward to welcoming a number of these musicians to St. Wilfrid's in September!

The Gary Bonner Singers

The department was delighted to host a visit from the world-renowned Gary Bonner Singers. This Christian gospel choir wowed years 7 and 8 as they presented engaging concert featuring a wide range of music. The choir originate from Los Angeles and were undertaking a tour of Salvation Army churches in England; St. Wilfrid's was the one and only school they visited during the tour.

Primary Cluster Mass

Once again St. Wilfrid's led the music at the South Tyneside Catholic Schools Primary Cluster Mass. The mass was presided over by our newly appointed Bishop. A choir was specially formed for the occasion comprising of students from all year groups. They joined colleagues from St. Joseph's Catholic Academy to presented the well-known Irish blessing *'May the road rise to meet you'*. Joshua Warrington (Year 10) presented a beautiful rendition of Schubert's *'Ave Maria'* as people took communion - well done Joshua!

Soloist Evening #3

Our third and final 'Soloist Evening' was a resounding success with an eclectic mix of high quality instrumental and vocal performances. We are delighted how successful this new series of concerts has been and look forward to presenting more from September.

Steel Pans

Mrs Watson has been busy re-establishing the Steel Pan group for years 7 and 8. Please see her for more information if you are interested in joining.

Music Examinations

We have had over a dozen students undertake practical music exams either for the Associate Board of the Royal Schools of Music or Trinity Guildhall. All of our students worked hard to prepare for these demanding examinations and we look forward to receiving their results over the summer holidays.

Staff Choir and Staff Band

St. Wilfrid's now has a Staff Choir and Staff Band! Our musicians rehearsed and performed '*All you need is love*' as part of our 'Pink and Blue Day' activities. A big congratulations to all the staff involved!

Peripatetic Music Lessons

There are spaces for students to start peripatetic music lessons in all instruments. We have an excellent peripatetic music programme at St. Wilfrid's with us currently offer tuition in: brass, drum kit, guitar, piano, singing, strings (upper and lower) and woodwind. Please contact me should your child be interested in commencing instrumental/singing lessons.

Follow us on Twitter

We are on Twitter! Follow us to keep up to date with our latest news @wilfridmusic



Thank you for your ongoing support for all things musical at St. Wilfrid's!

Yours faithfully,

Mr Andrew Mair
Head of Music

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St. Wilfrid's R.C. College Music Department

Mr A Mair	Head of Music	Mrs R Watson	Teacher of Music & Lead Practitioner
Mr D Bird	Percussion	Miss E Clinch	Vocal
Miss C Freeman	Woodwind	Mrs S Lane	Lower Strings
Mr A Nyberg	Upper Strings	Mr J Peacock	Piano
Mr A Storey	Brass	Mr A Watt	Guitar



What's on in the local area?

What?	Where?	When?
The Bodyguard	Newcastle Theatre Royal	Tue 23 July – Sat 3 Aug
Grease	Sunderland Empire	Tue 30 July – Sat 3 Aug
Sing-a-long 'Bohemian Rhapsody' (The smash hit film as you have never experienced it before)	Newcastle Theatre Royal	Sun 4 Aug
High School Musical	The Customs House	Fri 9 – Sun 11 Aug
Les Misérables	Newcastle Theatre Royal	Thurs 15 Aug – Sat 5 Oct
The Book of Mormon	Sunderland Empire	Wed 28 Aug – Sat 14 Sept
Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone in Concert (The film in full accompanied by the Czech National Symphony Orchestra)	The Sage	Mon 9 Sept

