

# PURCELL PARENT NEWSLETTER

5th July 2024

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we approach the end of yet another academic year (which, once again, seems to have passed in the blink of an eye), I want to thank you for all your incredible support and encouragement for everything the School does. Once again, it has been an extraordinarily busy and high achieving year and we have all enjoyed many incredible musical and academic achievements. I have been so disappointed that Covid has prevented me attending the events of this past week, but it has been no surprise to have heard how much our students have amazed, thrilled and dazzled at all these events. I am so very proud of everything your youngsters have achieved this year and thank you for everything you do to support them to be the brilliant young people they are.

I hope very much to see you at our final Assembly, Prize-Giving and barbecue starting at 11am on 10th July during which we will also say farewell to those students and colleagues who are moving on. It's always a lovely end to the year so do let us know that you're coming, if you haven't already done so. (Please remember that this can only go ahead if the weather is fine. If wet, we have no indoor space large enough to accommodate everyone).

To those whose time as Purcell parents is coming to an end, a special thank you for all your contributions. I hope you have enjoyed your time with us and enjoyed watching your sons and daughters grow and develop in their time here. It has truly been a privilege to play a part in their lives.

Have a wonderful summer!

## Summer Art Exhibition

Between 3pm and 6pm on Tuesday 9th July, the Art Studio will be open to staff and students wishing to view this year's exhibition. Following this, from 6.15pm until the start of the Sound Image Movement concert at 7pm, we would like to invite parents to view the displays while

enjoying some drinks and nibbles with members of the Art Department. The exhibition will also be open to parents from 12pm to 1pm during the end of year barbecue on Wednesday 10th July.

The students have produced beautiful work this year. Their

art is personal and varied, original and collaborative. There are lots of links to their love of music and life here at Purcell, and it would be wonderful if you could take some time to experience their incredible efforts and show your support.

## Goldberg Variations (take two!)

Just a little advance notice that my postponed performance of Bach's Goldberg Variations will now take place during

the first full week of term on Thursday 12th September at 7pm in the CP Hall. This will be a performance of my own

arrangement for organ - not for the purists perhaps, but hopefully colourful and just a bit surprising!

## Parents' Evening Dates: 2024-25

Autumn Term	
Friday 22 November (exeat weekend)	Year 12
Spring Term	
Friday 24 January (exeat weekend)	Year 11
Friday 14 February (Friday before half term)	Year 13
Friday 14 March (exeat weekend)	Year 9
Friday 28 March (non-exeat)	Year 7/8

## Concerts Next Season: 2024-25 Save the Dates

\*\* Please note, three asterisked Monday night concerts will have rehearsals at school the weekend immediately before.

Sunday 22 September 3pm	Wigmore Hall
Schoenberg Pierrot Lunaire Mahler Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen Alexandra Lowe Soprano Claire Barnett-Jones Mezzo Soprano Paul Hoskins Conductor Tickets available <a href="#">here</a>	
Saturday 12 October 12pm	Hatfield House Chamber Music Festival
The Purcell School showcase concert Beethoven Ghost Piano Trio Mozart Hunt String Quartet	

Sunday 13 October 1.30pm	Hatfield House Chamber Music Festival
Pierrot Unmasked with <b>Stephen Johnson</b> and <b>Claire Booth</b> An open rehearsal and discussion	
**Monday 11 November 7.30pm	St John's Smith Square
An evening of music for remembrance <b>Tippett</b> and <b>Britten</b> Fanfares <b>Pärt</b> Fratres directed by <b>Dimitry Sitkovetsky</b> <b>Strauss</b> Capriccio Sextet <b>Karl Fiorini</b> Pentimenti <b>Mendelssohn</b> arr <b>Sitkovetsky</b> Letters in Music <b>Schubert</b> Psalm 23 SSA and piano <b>Strauss</b> Wind Serenade op 7	
Saturday 8 February 2025	Berkhamsted Jazz Club
Purcell School Jazz Concert	
**Monday 10 February 2025 7.30pm	Cadogan Hall
Orchestral Concert <b>Ravel</b> Mother Goose <b>Beethoven</b> Piano Concerto no 3 (Herman Cerisha) <b>Dvorak</b> Symphony no 8	
Saturday 1 & Sunday 2 March 2025	
Purcell Keyboard Department Piano Course <b>Bach</b> Well-Tempered Klavier	
**Monday 7 July 2025 7.30pm	Milton Court
Orchestral Concert <b>Tchaikovsky</b> Romeo and Juliet <b>Sibelius</b> Symphony no 7 <b>Sibelius</b> Violin Concerto ( <b>Dominic-Lucian Drutac</b> )	



# Safeguarding

As we approach the summer holiday, we want to ensure that our students remain safe and supported during the break. Here are some key points and resources to help you keep your children safe:

## Online Safety

- **Monitor Online Activity:** Keep an eye on the websites and social media platforms your children are using. Ensure privacy settings are activated and discuss the importance of not sharing personal information online.
- **Useful Resources:** Websites like [Thinkuknow](#) and [Internet Matters](#) offer great advice on keeping children safe online. Remember we also have a range of factsheets on the parent area of the [School website](#).

## Mental Health and Wellbeing

- **Stay Connected:** Encourage open communication with your children. Ask them about

their feelings and listen to their concerns.

- **Support Services:** Organisations like [YoungMinds](#) and [Childline](#) provide excellent mental health support for children and young people. We also maintain a section on mental health and wellbeing on the [School website](#) with links to organisations and support networks, as well as details on how to access Let's All Talk Mental Health - an online hub for parents, caregivers and family members to support young people through mental health struggles, to understand the issues and to find out more about routes for help.

## Physical Safety

- **Outdoor Activities:** While outdoor activities are great for physical and mental health, ensure your children are aware of road safety, water safety, and the importance of staying

within known areas.

- **Emergency Contacts:** Make sure your children know how to contact you or another trusted adult in case of an emergency.

## Reporting Concerns

- **School Contacts:** Although the School is closed, you can still reach out to our safeguarding team via email at [safeguarding@purcell-school.org](mailto:safeguarding@purcell-school.org) for any urgent concerns.
- **External Help:** For immediate safeguarding concerns, contact your local authorities or the NSPCC Helpline at 0800 800 5000.

We hope you and your children have a safe and enjoyable summer holiday. Remember, safeguarding is a collective responsibility, and together we can ensure the wellbeing of our students.

With all good wishes



Paul Bambrough  
Principal

