



## Clitheroe Royal Grammar School Music Department

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June 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a busy year for the Music Department at CRGS. In the classroom, new schemes of work have been introduced and music resources have been expanded. We have purchased a full class samba kit, several classical, acoustic, and electric guitars, refurbished a drum kit for classroom use, and bought a class set of boomwhackers (I encourage you to find a YouTube video of these!). The music office has been converted into a second practice room, providing more space for peripatetic (instrumental and vocal) tuition as well as an extra room for students to rehearse outside of lesson times.

Peripatetic lessons have increased significantly. In September we had 55 students taking instrumental or vocal lessons each week. We now have 114 students, and this continues to grow. Mrs Ismail has joined the peripatetic staff to teach piano. This takes the total number of peripatetic staff to 8, providing tuition for strings, woodwind, brass, percussion, keyboards, and voice, as well as a number of peripatetic staff leading school ensembles. If you are considering instrumental or vocal tuition for your son/daughter then please do get in touch; information is available from the Main School Reception regarding costs and how the lessons are organised.

The introduction of music badges appears to have been very successful, with a considerable number of students wearing these on their blazer. In order to qualify for a silver badge, students need to have taken part in at least 3 music events (concerts or other performances). For the gold badge, students need to have taken part in at least 15 music events or to be studying Music at GCSE or A Level. I know of some Year 7 students who are already close to receiving their gold badge. Thank you to the Friends of CRGS for supporting the purchase of the badges.

Since joining CRGS in September I have been astounded by the enthusiasm of students and their dedication to Music. The opportunities provided for students would simply not happen without the support of parents and staff alike.

Thank you ever so much for your continued support, it is greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,  
Dr P J Allcock  
*Director of Music*

## Events so far this year...

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November:	Year 7 - Goldilocks Swing Band - St James Institute, Lostock Hall
December:	CRGS Choir - Clitheroe Christmas Market All Ensembles - CRGS Carol Service, End of Term Service
January:	CRGS Awards Evening
March:	CRGS Spring Concert Swing Band - Slaithwaite Golf Club Charity Concert
April:	Swing Band - Ribble Valley Jazz Festival
May:	Year 8 - Little Red Riding Hood Music Trip to London

## Music Exam Success

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The following students have been entered by CRGS for ABRSM graded music exams this year and all were successful:

Hannah Bettess - Grade 2 Singing  
Shannen Clarke - Grade 5 Flute  
Vanessa Lace - Grade 2 Singing (Merit)  
Thomas Lee - Grade 5 Trombone (Merit)  
Nicholas Malpass - Grade 4 Baritone (Distinction)  
Mary McBride - Grade 5 Trumpet (Distinction)  
Michael Popadiuk - Grade 2 Trumpet  
Kara Rhodes-Gilrane - Grade 4 Flute (Distinction)  
Sinead Sutcliffe - Grade 5 Flute (Merit)  
Elspeth Tolan - Grade 3 Tenor Saxophone (Distinction)  
Ingrid Willett - Grade 1 Alto Saxophone (Merit)



In addition, there are a number of students who have been entered by their teacher or parents. Congratulations to all of the students for their hard work and fantastic results. Keep up the good work! Thank you to all of the peripatetic staff who have prepared students for their exams.

Best of luck to all students taking music grade exams this summer. And of course, good luck to all of our students taking their GCSE Music exams this month.

## Forthcoming Events

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<b>School Musical: Little Shop of Horrors</b>	Monday 3rd July-Wednesday 5th July, 7pm (Main Hall).
<b>CRGS Summer Concert</b>	Friday 7th July, 7pm (Main Hall).
<b>German Music Exchange</b>	German partners arrive Wednesday 5th July. CRGS students in Germany Sunday 9th July - Thursday 13th July.
<b>Commemoration Day</b>	Tuesday 18th July (Clitheroe Parish Church).

## Looking Ahead...

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### **Little Shop of Horrors - Monday 3rd July-Wednesday 5th July, 7pm (Main Hall)**

Come and see this year's school musical, Little Shop of Horrors. This is a joint venture between the Music and Drama departments featuring a cast of students from all year groups and live musical accompaniment. Students have been working very hard learning lines, songs, and dances and it will be a fantastic show. Tickets are £5 each. Please book early to avoid disappointment.

### **CRGS Summer Concert - Friday 7th July, 7pm (Main Hall)**

The Summer Concert will showcase a range of soloists and students groups as well as CRGS Small Groups and Ensembles. This will be a great opportunity to see our extremely talented students perform a variety of music. Tickets are £5 for adults and £3 for concessions, and they are available from Main School and 6th Form Receptions.

### **New Ensembles**

There are two new ensembles which have recently started to rehearse. The Samba Group rehearses on Wednesdays at 12:30pm. New members are always welcome so please do encourage students to come along and give it a try. The School Band rehearses after school on Wednesdays 2:30pm-4pm. This ensemble is open to all instruments and all abilities. Whether students have taken grade 8 or have only had one lesson so far, there is a tailored part. Equally, if students played an instrument in the past and would like an opportunity to play again then they are more than welcome.



## From September 2017 students will have the opportunity to...

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### **Perform in lunchtime concerts**

A series of informal concerts will be established both at the Main School and 6th Form sites to provide students with the opportunity to showcase their musical talent. The concerts will last approximately 20 minutes and feature students performing music from a variety of styles and genres.

### **Lead and manage ensembles**

Students will be able to put themselves forward to help with the running of certain ensembles. Ensemble Administrator roles will enable students to assist with the selection of repertoire, monitoring resources, and advertising the ensemble to the CRGS student community. Older students will also be able to apply for Assistant Conductor roles with specific ensembles. Assistant Conductors will lead the ensemble during sections of rehearsals and concert performances. These roles are being created to provide students with an opportunity to expand their understanding of the creative music process and to enhance their musicianship. Staff will always be present to offer support and guidance.

### **Take part in the recording of a CRGS Music CD**

With such a wealth of musical talent at CRGS it seems only right to showcase the students through the production of a CD. This will feature tracks from all of the CRGS ensembles as well as performances by individual students and student groups. Further information about this will be provided early on in the next academic year. There will also be opportunities in class for students to use music software packages to create and record their own compositions.

## **Ensembles and Rehearsal Times**

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<b>Monday:</b>	Guitar Ensemble 12:30pm - 1pm CRGS Orchestra 4-5pm*
<b>Tuesday:</b>	String Ensemble 12:45pm - 1:15pm
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Samba Group 12:30pm-1pm Flute Group 12:30pm-1pm School Band 2:30pm-4pm
<b>Thursday:</b>	Junior Brass Ensemble 12:30pm-1pm Wind Ensemble 12:30pm-1pm Senior Brass Ensemble 1pm-1:25pm Swing Band 4pm-5:30pm
<b>Friday:</b>	CRGS Choir 12:45pm-1:25pm

\*Rehearsals recommence in September.