



ST ALBANS MUSIC SCHOOL

Newsletter - Christmas 2011

A Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all.

A big thank you to all involved in the open rehearsals and concerts over the term. There have been some special performances and enjoyable music making here at SAMS.

Commitment to rehearsals and concerts.

If you belong to one of the SAMS groups then please try and attend as many of the rehearsals as possible. The groups are like a team. Just one player missing can seriously effect the rehearsal sound, development and improvement of the group over the term. The conductors plan their repertoire around the number of players they have. **Please note all rehearsals and concert dates.** Information is on the Music Service website. See below.

Dates to look out for next term:

Philo Concert 28th Jan St John's Boxmoor
Chamber Course 5th & 11th Feb
Beginner String Days 8th Feb/1st March
TSB/Big Band Concert 11th March
Soloist Comp 16th/23rd/29th March
West Herts Wind Course 12th/13th
WHYT 'Hairspray' Sandpit theatre 31st March

The Music Service website, hertsmusicservice.org.uk/st-albans-music-school/ has all the up to date information regarding our activities. It will be our main method of communication for newsletters, calendar of events and all group rehearsal and concert schedules. It's worth checking regularly for any amendments or latest news. Copies will be on our notice boards.

IF IT SNOWS.....as we now know, St Albans is thrown into gridlock and Townsend Drive is very icy.

We will change the message on the answering machine if we are closed. We are using HCC Snowline, so please check the Herts Direct Website (hertsdirect.org), Hertfordshire Music Service website (hertsmusicservice.org.uk), Three Counties Radio. In general, if the local schools are closed, St Albans Music School will be closed too.

The 'Friends' of SAMS are having a **recruitment evening on Tuesday 17th January at 7.15pm** at the music school. If you are happy to help serve drinks, sell tickets and fund raise, then please do come along. They are looking for a representative parent from each group and are hoping to raise funds to support the popular Pupils' concerts, Soloist Competition and prospective tours which all have costs and need to be covered if they are to happen. Please do come along, a glass of wine will be on offer!

Pupils' concerts.

These have been extremely popular over the past year and this terms' saw very high standards from all players. If you want to try out a piece you have been working on or use the concert as a practice run through for a grade, then this is the concert for you. The spring term sees the return of the Soloist Competition and it is divided into 3 categories and over 2 rounds. Speak to your teacher or conductor if you are interested in taking part.

Thinking of stopping? If so please remember that if you wish to terminate your lessons we require written notice, sent to St Albans Music School, at least 6 weeks in advance of the end of a term or half term. Please contact St Albans Music School if you have any queries concerning lessons or invoicing

Please remember to notify the office if your child is going to be absent from an individual lesson. If you are delayed in picking up a pupil please let the Music School know (perhaps you could put our number into your mobile phone 01727 860941.