

Dear Parents

As you know we are very proud of the girls' musical achievements and encourage these through our Prep orchestras, choirs, concerts and performances.

Orchestra is a compulsory Challenge choice for all girls who play an orchestral music instrument both in and out of school. The exception will be for Lower One, or any older girl who is starting instrumental lessons when they join us. These girls will join Prep orchestra when their music teachers feel they are ready, usually after they have had lessons for one term either in or out of school. If your daughter plays a non-orchestral instrument please let me know if you would like her to join one of the Prep orchestras. All arrangements and organisation for Prep orchestras will happen in school time in September. There is no form to complete.

Prep girls are not offered singing lessons in school as their voices are not sufficiently developed. Prep girls are very strongly advised to only study **one instrument** in school. Prep girls who learn two instruments in school will have their second lesson scheduled outside of lesson time, whenever this is possible. No Prep girl will be encouraged to study three musical instruments in school.

Music lessons rotate feely throughout the whole school. This will mean that lessons will happen at a different time each week in order to avoid the same lesson being missed on a regular basis. It will be essential for your daughter to be organised about remembering when her lesson will be each week. She will be supported in this by her individual music teacher.

Subject lessons missed for a music lesson cannot be retaught by Prep or other school staff. If possible, work will be discussed and sent home but due to timetabling constraints this cannot always be guaranteed. We will encourage the girls to take responsibility for catching up on work missed e.g. copying weekly spellings from their peers etc.

The Visiting Music Staff are supplied with key Prep dates and will take responsibility for avoiding sessions such as exam times and when the girls are involved in a special activity or outing. Wherever possible the music staff will try and avoid taking a Prep girl for a lesson during the first of a double lesson in English and Mathematics but this cannot always be guaranteed. The number of lessons affected in this way should be greatly reduced due to the new rotating music lesson system throughout the whole school.

We strive to encourage and support the girls with their musical endeavours as well as ensuring that lessons are not regularly missed. If you have any queries about your daughter's music lessons they should be directed to Mrs Karen Brown, Music Department Co-ordinator (musicadmin@clsg.org.uk).

Yours sincerely

Jane Rogers

Head of Prep

Steven Berryman

Director of Music