

July 2017

Dear Parents,

As we approach the end of term I would like to thank students for all their hard work and parents for your support throughout the year. A particular thanks should go to everyone who has performed recently at St James, Government House, the Open Morning and at Les Cotils. **There will be no further Music Centres this term.**

**Any outstanding printed sheet music should be returned to the Music Service office by Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> July, after which time the office will be closed until the beginning of September.**

### Registration Forms

Registration forms have been included in this mail-out.

**Please could parents take careful note of which groups their child is in, as these may have changed. Details of the rehearsal times are given in the accompanying prospectus.**

### Reports and Parent Consultations

Parents of pupils who have lessons with the Service will find a report enclosed. If you wish to discuss this with your child's teacher, please ring the Music Service office to make an appointment.

### Lessons

The last day of instrumental teaching in States schools was Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> July so, unless pupils have been informed to the contrary, please assume that lessons have finished for this academic year.

The Music Service fees from September 2017 will be as follows: Music Centre registration will be £93 per year (£62 for the older choirs and £31 for the younger choirs) and fee-payers' lessons £93 per term. The rate for hire of violins and violas for beginners is unchanged at £45 and £70 for brass, woodwind and the lower stringed instruments. These instruments hired beyond the normal hire period will be charged at £100 per annum. Grant Aid is available in certain circumstances.

### Developments at Music Centre

Each year we review the operation of Music Centre. We have been very grateful for student helpers at Music Centre who have assisted younger ensembles at Music Centre, sometimes as part of the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme. Recently a few senior players received some help and advice in developing their conducting skills, so we hope that some will now feel able, if asked, to take sectional and small group rehearsals, both in schools and at Music Centre. We also hope to re-introduce some string quartet playing to Music Centre as another way of pupils taking more responsibility for their learning.

### Year 13 Leavers

The staff of the Music Service would like to pass on their very best wishes to all our Y13 pupils who will be leaving us at the end of this term, thank them for their commitment to Music Centre over many years and hope that they will continue with their music-making in adult life.

Some of these Leavers will have the opportunity to take part in one more important Island event before they leave for university or perhaps start work. This is the Service of Reconciliation (see below).

### Future Diary Dates

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September, 7:30pm Town Church** - Youth Choir rehearsal with other choirs for "*Celebrating Spiritual Friendship*", a Reconciliation Service which takes place at **3pm (tbc) on Sunday, 10<sup>th</sup> September at the Town Church.**

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September, (evening, time tbc) 'Peace for The World' concert** at the Town Church for the Girls' Choir. There is free entry with a retiring collection.

It is our policy to give as much advance notice as possible of important Music Centre performances. Parents and pupils are asked to take careful note of these and remember that it is a condition of registration for Music Centre that six weeks' written notification is required for absence from performances.

Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> December 2017	<b>Christmas Open Morning</b>
Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup> January 2018	<b>Jazz Concert</b>
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> January 2018	<b>Youth Wind Band, Youth Training Orchestra, Intermediate Choir Concert Wind Band, Youth Orchestra, Youth Choir</b>
Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup> January 2018	
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> or 22 <sup>nd</sup> June 2018	<b>Youth Wind Band, Youth Training Orchestra, Intermediate Choir, Girls' Choir Concert Wind Band, Youth Orchestra, Youth Choir</b>
Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> or 23 <sup>rd</sup> June 2018	
Saturday 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2018	<b>Summer Open Morning</b>

### **Dates for September**

Staff will spend the first few days arranging timetables and pupils should check school notice boards regularly for the days and times of their lessons with a view to these commencing on Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> September.

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September**  
**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September**  
**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September**  
**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September**  
**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September**  
**Wednesday 13<sup>st</sup> September**

Guernsey Girls' Choir starts  
Jazz Orchestra and Electric Quartet rehearsals start  
Saturday Music Centre starts  
Primary and Junior Choir start  
Boys' Choir starts  
Intermediate Choir starts

### **Staff Changes**

We are very sorry to be saying goodbye to James Hatton who is moving to Brunei to continue his career. We are very grateful for all that he has done for the Service and at Music Centre. Our new brass teacher in September is Neill Hadden. Neil Burton is expected to undertake the brass and woodwind tuition at St. Anne's in Alderney.

*Pupils who would like to pursue their musical interests over the summer period may find the following information useful, but it should not be taken as a recommendation or endorsement by the Guernsey Music Service or Committee for Education, Sport and Culture.*

**Elizabeth College Summer Orchestral Course** – 21<sup>st</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> August 2016. Players are still welcome. [www.ecsoc.com](http://www.ecsoc.com)

### **Prospectus 2017-18**

Our updated prospectus once again stresses the importance of commitment and teamwork for successful music-making. I would like to draw your attention in particular to the conditions of registration for Music Centre on page 4.

With best wishes for the summer period,

*Mengh C Grand*

**M. Grand**  
**Head of Guernsey Music Service**