

GRACENOTES

Autumn 2023

*Welcome to the latest edition of **Gracenotes**, the newsletter of Haberdashers' Adams Music Department. Find out about what has been happening in the Music Department over the last few months.*

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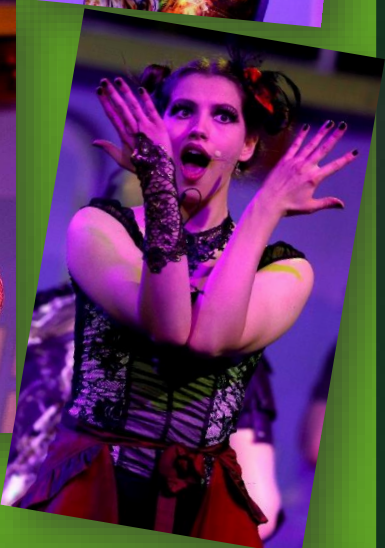
A new piano at long last!

Adams' FM, friends of the Music Department, have worked tirelessly over a number of years to raise the money to purchase a concert upright piano for Hamilton Hall. ON Adam Harper, who now runs a piano sales business, kindly sourced an excellent piano for us at a very reasonable price. Mr Wysome and our piano teachers went to try it out, and in the Summer term we took delivery of a beautiful new instrument. Enormous thanks to Adam, and to all the members, past and present, of Adams' FM for all their hard work. As you can see, the piano was well protected in transit! ON Dan Haves was the first student to try it out.



Return to the Forbidden Planet

Haberdashers' Adams journeyed to new frontiers in July, as we stepped on board the spaceship Albatross to join Captain Tempest and the crew on their journey into space. Loosely based on Shakespeare's *The Tempest* and the 1956 sci-fi classic film *Forbidden Planet*, this juke box musical featured rock 'n' roll hits from the 50s and 60s, a B-movie atmosphere and dialogue in iambic pentameter. With a roller-skating robot, unrequited love and a scary space monster, this was a fun, colourful and entertaining show. Congratulations to all who took part! Our cast were joined each night by singers from Year 7, one House each night, and we hope this gave them a taste of how enjoyable it can be to get involved in the summer production.





Groups & Ensembles

There are many opportunities to get involved in extra-curricular Music at Haberdashers' Adams, and there really is something for everyone, whatever music you enjoy playing.

Mondays

Brass Ensemble in CH3 from 13.00-13.30 with Mr Frost. For brass players at Grade 3 and above.

Soul/Swing Band in Hamilton Hall from 16.00-17.00 with Mr Wysome. For brass, woodwind, keyboard, percussion, bass and guitar players at Grade 4 and above who enjoy playing soul, jazz and big band music.

Tuesdays

Chamber Choir in the Ensemble Room from 13.00-13.30 with Mrs Thomas and Mr Wysome.

Folk Group in CH3 from 13.00-13.30 with Mrs Beynon. String players welcome.

Wednesdays

Training Orchestra in CH3 from 13.00-13.30 with Mrs Beynon & Mr Massey. For musicians at Grades 1-3. This is an opportunity for musicians at the lower grades to play together, with the aim of preparing them for joining the main Orchestra in due course.

Junior Taiko in Hamilton Hall from 16.00-17.00 with Mr Barrow & Mr Brown. Students in Years 7-10 are welcome to come along to learn the art of Japanese drumming.

Bandmaker in various rooms in the Coach House from 16.00-17.00 with Mr Jones. Aspiring rock musicians in Years 7-10 have the opportunity to learn how to play in a rock band. (There is a charge for this activity to cover the cost of the necessary equipment).

Groups and Ensembles continued

Thursdays

Mixed Choir in Hamilton Hall from 13.00-13.30 with Mr Wysome.

Flute Choir in CH2 from 12.45-13.15 with Mrs Brown. If you play the flute and you are at Grade 3 or above, Mrs Brown would be delighted to welcome some new musicians to join her choir.

Orchestra in Hamilton Hall from 16.00-17.00 with Mr Wysome. For musicians at Grade 3 and above. This is our main Orchestra and we play a wide variety of music from classical to film and popular music.

Fridays

Soul Band Rhythm Section & vocals in Hamilton Hall from 13.00-13.30 with Mr Wysome.

(Rehearsals for the summer production take place on Tuesdays and Fridays after school and all those taking part will have received a timetable for the whole year).

New members are welcome at all of our groups and ensembles. Music is a social activity – if you play an instrument, we would encourage you to take up the opportunity to enjoy playing with others. We expect all students taking GCSE, AS or A Level, and those having instrumental/singing lessons to join at least one ensemble. With our wide variety of groups and ensembles, we have something to suit all musical tastes. For more information, please speak to Mr Wysome, Miss Deacon or Mrs Coomer.

Practice Pal

We are using a new system for timetabling the weekly lessons for students receiving instrumental/singing lessons at Haberdashers' Adams. Parents of those students should have received an invitation from Practice Pal to register. If you have not already done so, please do register. This will enable you to look up when your son/daughter has a lesson each week. After half-term, Practice Pal will become the default way of finding out lesson times and the notice board will only be a back-up. For technical issues with Practice Pal, please contact Mr Hurst tom.hurst@adamsgs.uk.

Grease is the word...

and it is coming to Haberdashers' Adams in July 2024!

Over 80 students came along to audition for our summer production and what a wealth of talent we have. In order to offer more students the opportunity of a principal role, we have double-cast some of the main characters. One cast will perform on Wednesday & Friday and the other cast will perform on Thursday & Saturday. On the night these students are not playing a principal role, they will perform in the ensemble. Look out in the Spring for information on how to purchase tickets.

Adams' FM -friends of the Music Department

Adams' FM is a group of parents and friends of the Music Department, who volunteer to support music at Haberdashers' Adams. They provide bars and refreshments at music events, raise money to benefit the students, repair costumes and volunteer whatever other help they can to promote music at Adams. We would love to welcome some new members. You do not have to join the committee unless you would like to do so. We need parents we can call on to come along and help for an hour or so at specific events. If your son or daughter is involved in music at Haberdashers' Adams, do consider joining the friendly group. If you would like to get involved in helping the Music Department and the students, Adams' FM would love to hear from you. Please speak to Mr Wysome, Miss Deacon or Mrs Coomer and they will pass your details on to the Adams' FM committee.



Dates for your diary

19 th October 2023	New Pupils' Concert	Hamilton Hall	19.30
22 nd November 2023	Piano Concert	Hamilton Hall	19.30
7 th December 2023	Year 7 Group A Performance	Hamilton Hall	18.00
7 th December 2023	Year 8 Group A Performance	Hamilton Hall	19.30
21 st December 2023	Family Carol Service	St Nicholas Church	18.00
31 st January 2024 (For students receiving instrumental/singing lessons at Haberdashers' Adams)	Music Parents' Evening	At pre-arranged times	
8 th February 2024	House Music Competition	Sports Hall	17.00
6 th March 2024	Spring Recital (AS/A Level)	Hamilton Hall	19.30
14 th March 2024	Spring Recital (Year 11)	Hamilton Hall	19.30
19 th March 2024	Year 7 Group B Performance	Hamilton Hall	18.00
19 th March 2024	Year 8 Group B Performance	Hamilton Hall	19.30
20 th March 2024	Spring Concert	Hamilton Hall	19.30
2 nd May 2024	Music Colours Evening	Hamilton Hall	19.30
10 th -13 th July 2024 (Summer musical production)	<i>Grease</i>	Sports Hall	19.30
17 th July 2024	Hamilton Concert	Hamilton Hall	19.30

For more information about any of the above events, please speak to Mr Wysome, Miss Deacon or Mrs Coomer.
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