

Hello,

Welcome to the new year. I hope you had a restful break.

The headline news for the music hub, is that we're not a hub anymore! The government decided that there were too many in the country (116) so every hub has had to team up with others to reduce the number to 43. We are now part of the Black Country Music Hub (with Sandwell, Dudley and Wolverhampton) so our title returns to "Service" rather than "Hub and Service" (Walsall Music Education Service - WMES)

We kick off this year with lots of events - Piano Spotlight, High Scorers Concert, WYMS competition, Composing to Pictures, the usual Music Centre Concerts and of course our vocal celebration, *Past and Present* in the wonderful Walsall Arena.

With updates from Ofsted, Health and Wellbeing, getting involved with opera, and much, much more, there is something for everybody in this terms briefing.

With best

National Music Day June 21st 2025

With the pilot last year going so well, we will be looking to expand.

We trialled with Bob Marley's Classic *Three Little Birds* and had whole class singing, guitars, bass, drums and string orchestra, so will be looking for another great song that's accessible to all. Any suggestions, please get in touch with [Glen!](#)

[Here's the video](#)

Ofsted Update on Music in Schools

15th October, 4pm - 5pm

Join Music Mark at the East Midlands Conference Centre in Nottingham to learn, share expertise, network, and be inspired as they focus on sustainability in music education. Covering all aspects of sustainability this conference will provide insight, inspiration and tangible actions for all those working across the music education ecology.

[Register now.](#)

Xmas at the Arena - Christmas Past and Present

We are now fully booked for schools wanting to take part. Tickets for the show are available via the Arena's website

[Book here](#)

The Nuts and Bolts of Behaviour in the Music Room

The Secondary Music Teaching Series

16th October, 4.45pm - 6pm

Part of The Secondary Music Teaching Series with Jenetta Hurst, this first session dives into the nuts and bolts of behaviour in the music room to help you get the best from your students. We'll look at the theory of classroom management, the realities of managing behaviour in practice, what happens when things go wrong and how to use the power of engagement whilst aligning with your school behaviour policy.

[Book your place](#)

Music Mark Conference 2024

18th - 19th November

Join Music Mark at the East Midlands Conference Centre in Nottingham to learn, share expertise, network, and be inspired as they focus on sustainability in music education. Covering all aspects of sustainability this conference will provide insight, inspiration and tangible actions for all those working across the music education ecology.

Early bird ticket prices end this Sunday, 15th September, so don't hesitate to [book your ticket now!](#)

Piano Spotlight

25th September

With a high number of piano entries at last years WYMS competition, and the standard being so high, we decided to hold a spotlight concert featuring those entrants - and others, in association with the Birmingham Royal Conservatoire of Music. It would be lovely to see you supporting this inaugural event

There is also opportunity to learn about the Conservatoire as a higher education pathway as well as information on the Junior Conservatoire at Birmingham.

[Book here](#)

Sing for Pleasure Diamond Jubilee Conference 2024

A national singing conference celebrating SFP's 60th anniversary.

The conference has something for everyone, with an outstanding line-up of workshop leaders, speakers and panellists made up of diverse and influential figures from across the arts sector.

They look forward to welcoming everyone for an exciting, thought-provoking and impactful day exploring the role of choirs and singing in society today.

[Book](#)

Hullabaloo! Music

Are you looking for a new Primary Music Curriculum? 'Look no further! 'Hullabaloo!' is a revolutionary primary music curriculum designed to bring the joy of music to classrooms everywhere. Comprehensive, engaging and fun, this music scheme is crafted to hit the right notes with both pupils and teachers alike.

Visit www.teachhullabaloomusic.com for a FREE trial.

Black History Month Listening Calendar #2

Can Compose has launched a new version of their popular Black History Month Listening Calendar with 31 inspiring composers and playlist. The resource can be downloaded free or a full-colour A2 poster is available to purchase.

[Explore the resource.](#)

Exam results show further collapse in arts enrolment, deepening a 15-year decline

New analysis by the Campaign for the Arts shows that arts subjects now account for a smaller proportion of GCSE and A-level entries than at any time since 2010.

[Read more](#)

Role-modelling wellbeing as a busy leader

Role modelling good staff wellbeing is about building relationships, showing you are human, admitting you are wrong and seeking your own support when needed.

If mental and emotional health becomes a cultural priority at your school, then everyone learns, works and grows together. And cultural change has to start from the top.

[Read more](#)

High Scorers Concert

16th October

In a celebration of students' hard work, and for those attaining the very best marks, we present our high scorers concert

Nothing brings people together like music and we're delighted to invite you to this celebration of wonderful music-making from performers who scored distinctions or high merits in ABRSM exams, at all levels, in exams taken at our exam centre.

ABRSM held their first concert of this kind in 1989 as part of their centenary celebrations. Since then, hundreds of concerts have taken place all over the world, each helping to inspire a love of music.

Contact [Helen Miller](#) or [Lizzie Sale](#) for more info and to book tickets

AbracaOpera

ENO Engage exists to open up new possibilities for opera in people's lives. They work with health trusts, schools, community organisations and partners across the country to deliver projects and activities that matter to people. And they do it through opera.

Take a look at their [collaboration with Sky Arts video](#) (30 secs) to see what great work they are doing

Young people are excited by the prospect of music discovery

8 IN 10 STUDENTS WANT TO LEARN AN INSTRUMENT

The RPO's latest report reveals a high level of interest in learning an instrument, despite one in five parents reporting a lack of opportunity for their child

[Read the full report here](#)

WMES offers increased availability for instrumental and vocal tuition at the Arts Centre

Did you know that we offer instrumental lessons at the Arts Centre? In fact so popular is this option that we have just expanded our availability to include a new Music Centre held at Blue Coat Academy on a Thursday evening.

[Find out more here](#)

Sources for selected items in this Newsletter include:

[Music Mark](#)

[Campaign for the Arts](#)

[Walsall Music Education Hub](#)

[Education Support](#)

[Classical Music](#)

[ENO Home | The Home of English Opera | ENO](#)

Email addresses:

[Steph Dufty](#) [Monica Hollins](#) [Glen Taylor](#)

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Dates for your diaries

- Christmas Vocal showcase *Christmas Past and Present*: 26th, 27th, 28th November
- Walsall Young Music star (WYMS) music competition now open
- Piano Spotlight: 25th September
- High Scorers Concert: 16th October
- Music Centre Concerts: Dec 3rd, 10th
- Watch out for dates for the Jazz Combo