

# Musica Batley News



## Summer 2019

### Welcome

Welcome back everyone! I hope everyone has had a relaxing break over Easter and you are all raring to go for another term of fantastic music making. Last term was a busy one: several of our pupils took part in the Music for Youth Local Festival - the 'Big Bang' percussion concert - at Huddersfield University on February 1. Our Youth Choir and Rock School performed along with over 150 school children at the annual Batley Big Sing on March 27, and in April our two end of term concerts, at Oakwell Hall and St Thomas the Apostle Church, were a great success! Thank you to all the pupils who put on such wonderful performances and to the audiences for supporting all our ensembles.

All our most up-to-date information can be found on our social media pages so please like us on Facebook (@musicabatley) and follow us on Twitter (@musica\_batley).

### Exam Success!

Congratulations to all our students who passed their music examinations last term! There were some very pleasing and well deserved results. Good luck to all those students who will be sitting GCSE, A-level and BTEC exams this term.

### New Group: The Jazz Bats

Our newest ensemble, The Jazz Bats, has been formed for a performance at the Musica Kirklees Big Band Festival on May 11 at Shelley College. We are hoping that this ensemble will have enough support to continue after the event, so if you play saxophone, trumpet, trombone, bass guitar, electric guitar, piano or drums to approximately grade 4+ standard please come and join our rehearsals! The group currently rehearses 5.15 - 6.00pm, opposite the Strings and Choir rooms.

### Grade-one-athon

Everyone is invited to watch our teachers perform their exam pieces on their chosen instruments on May 16 at 5.30pm in Graves Hall. Each member of staff has chosen a new instrument to learn to grade 1 standard in the space of a term to raise money for our centre. The teachers have been practising over the Spring term and Easter break on their new instruments, and will be performing scales and pieces in front of an audience and a panel of students. If you want to sponsor us (to keep practising, or to be quiet!) please speak to any member of staff.

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## Dates for your Diary

### **Rehearsal dates for Summer 2019**

May - 2, 9, 16, 23

June - 6, 13, 20, 27

July - 4

### **Extra Dates**

**May 11** - The Jazz Bats perform at Musica Kirklees Big Band Festival, Shelley College, Huddersfield Road, Shelley, Huddersfield, HD8 8NL. Performers please arrive **4.30pm** to perform at **5.00pm**.

**June 9** - Wind Band will be performing at Greenhead Park, Trinity Street, Huddersfield, HD1 4DT, **2.00 - 4.00pm**. Please arrive **1.30pm**.

**July 3** - Dewsbury Big Sing - details to follow.

**July 11** - **End of Year Concert** featuring **all ensembles** at Batley Grammar School. Performers please arrive no later than **6.45pm**. Performance time **7.00 - 9.15pm** (end time approximate).

**July 13** - Wind Band to perform at Thornhill Village Fete, Thornhill Parish Church, Church Lane, Thornhill, Dewsbury, WF12 0JZ. Please arrive no later than **11.45am** to perform between **12.15 - 1.45pm**.

All concerts require full band uniform. Please make every effort to attend all performances and let your group leader know as soon as possible if you cannot attend for any reason. Please let your group leader know if you have to leave a concert earlier than the official finishing time.

**Tom Merry**

**Acting Area Manager - Batley**