



**The Manor**  
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

28 May 2010

To Parents of Years 2 - 6

## MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Starting Instrumental Lessons at The Manor  
Choices for Years 2-6  
Trial Lessons available from 14 -27 June

Dear Parents

As we are now half way through the Summer Term, I would like to draw your attention to the choice of instruments that we have available through the Music Department.

### Choices for Younger Players

From Year 2 we offer lessons on piano, violin and 'cello. These three instruments are particularly appropriate for younger players; the violin and 'cello both come in smaller sizes and the piano offers an excellent introduction to melody, rhythm and harmony and makes a good sound right from the start. It has a range of 52 notes and will teach the player to read in both the bass and treble clefs and so makes an ideal instrument from which to move on to all other instruments.

### Group String Lessons

We offer group violin and cello lessons. This will give young string players the opportunity to study in groups of three at a reduced fee for half an hour's lesson as well as providing them with a chance to enjoy the dynamics of learning and playing together. The fee for 10 shared lessons in a group of three pupils will be £80.

### Individual Lessons

The fees for individual lessons have already been published; from September 2010 they will be £204 for ten lessons.

### Number of lessons given each academic year

We work on the basis that 30 lessons will be given over the academic year. Every effort is made to replace lessons missed through educational outings, but this sometimes proves an impossible task, particularly when a visiting music teacher may spend only one day a week at The Manor. Lessons cannot generally be made up if a child is absent from school through illness. In the unlikely event of less than 30 lessons being taught the summer accounts will be adjusted accordingly.

### Choices Available for Older Children

There is no hard and fast rule as to the right age to start woodwind and brass lessons; a lot depends on the individual size, stamina lip/mouth shape of the prospective pupil. In all cases, it is best to have a trial session with an instrumental teacher to assess individual suitability for an instrument. It is probably best to leave singing until Year 4.

Currently we have on offer;

flute	oboe	bassoon	clarinet
cornet	trumpet	trombone	French horn
guitar	drum kit	harp	recorder
violin	cello	double bass	singing
piano			

### Applying for Instrumental Tuition

It is possible for a short trial lesson to be arranged for a prospective pupil with an instrumental teacher in the fortnight between 14<sup>th</sup> -27<sup>th</sup> June. We also like to make sure that a pupil's Form Teacher is happy for lessons to commence as instrumental lessons are given on a rotating timetable and some academic lessons will be missed as a result. However, there are a certain number of 'protected teaching times' for each form during which no pupil is allowed to have their instrumental lesson.

### Withdrawal from Lessons

All our instrumental teachers are self employed and your contract for instrumental lessons to go ahead is made with them as is any decision to withdraw from lessons. Withdrawal from lessons requires a term's notice in writing otherwise fees for the next term will be charged. The terms and conditions are clearly written out on the invoice that is sent out to parents by the instrumental teacher each term. Please note that all pupils having lessons during the Summer Term are automatically assumed to be continuing in September unless written notice has been received at the beginning of the Summer Term.

### Hire Of Instruments

String instruments can be hired through school at a cost of £38 per term and brass and woodwind at £53 per term. Whilst these instruments are on hire, they are the responsibility of the hirer and any damage sustained will have to be paid for by the hirer.

If you would like to apply for lessons or have a trial lesson, please fill in the attached form. You may of course contact me on 01235 559483 of [sглаisher@manorprep.org](mailto:sглаisher@manorprep.org) at anytime if you would like to discuss any aspect of instrumental teaching at The Manor.

Many thanks  
Yours sincerely

Susan Glaisher  
Director of Music

Please return this page when completed to Ms. Glaiser in the Music Department by **Friday 11<sup>th</sup> June**

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**My daughter would like to have a trial lesson on:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Specify instrument)

*I understand that these trial lessons will take place in the Department between 14<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> June 2010*

**My daughter would like to start lessons on:**

**violin** (*individual lessons*)

**violin** (*group lessons*)

**cello** (*individual lessons*)

**cello** (*group lessons*)

**other**(*chosen from list above*)\_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Daughter's Name and Form \_\_\_\_\_