



EST. 1525

# Sedbergh

SCHOOL



# Performing Arts Report

23rd November – 13th December

2024–2025



## Y9 Music

Our Year 9 classes have been doing some great work this half of term, working on a Film Music scheme that amongst other things has seen them explore the importance of music in film and engage in some performance projects.

Pictured here are one of the classes learning about Leitmotifs (a small fragment of music that we associate with a particular character(s) or place).



## Christmas performances

In the final week of term, we enjoyed a host of performances from our musicians in a variety of events.

On Friday 6th December, Chapel Choir were joined by Harpist Maxine Molin for our annual performance of Benjamin Britten's Ceremony of Carols – a highly atmospheric work that captures the mystery as well as the joy of the Christmas story.

Our Pop Collective came to the fore on Saturday 7th December, with a gig as part of the whole-school Christmas social. Three of our bands performed to us, with a wide range of hits including some Christmas classics.

Our first carol service took place on Sunday 8th December, and as ever it followed the 'Nine Lessons & Carols' format, with around four hundred members of the community in attendance. Chapel Choir were on terrific form, really conveying the character of the pieces that Mr Seymour had selected this year – from the quiet intensity of Rachmaninov's 'Bogorodistye Devo' and Lauridsen's 'O Magnum Mysterium', to the exuberant 'Tomorrow shall be my dancing day' and 'Ding Dong Merrily on High'. We were incredibly proud of them, and it was to be repeated for the whole school on Thursday 12th December. Amidst the hard work, we enjoyed the opportunity to share a wonderful lunch at the Highwayman Inn and see several senior members of the choir be awarded their choir colours.





## Chapel Choir at Christmas





## Chicago in the Hirst Centre

From the 27th to the 29th of November 2024, Sedbergh School staged a dazzling production of Chicago, transforming the Hirst Centre into a stunning theatre space for the very first time. This ambitious project brought the world of 1920s Chicago to life, captivating audiences with its blend of drama, music, and choreography.

Directed by Suzie Pye, with Chris Allinson as Musical Director and Helena Lockwood as Choreographer, the production showcased the incredible talents of our students. Tilly (Roxie Hart), CC (Velma Kelly), and Phoenix (Billy Flynn) delivered standout performances, supported by a committed ensemble who worked tirelessly throughout rehearsals.

The live band and backstage crew played a vital role in the production's success, tech students provided slick lighting and sound, and the stage management team ensuring a seamless performance. Parents' contributions to costumes added authenticity and flair to the show, and we are incredibly grateful for their support.

The success of Chicago is a reflection of the hard work, creativity, and collaboration of everyone involved. Over 60 students were involved either on stage or backstage. This was a proud moment for Sedbergh School, demonstrating our commitment to nurturing the arts and creating unforgettable experiences for our students and community.

We look forward to welcoming you back next year as we celebrate Sedbergh School's 500th anniversary with a performance to remember. Thank you to all who supported the production – it was truly a team effort.





## Comments from audience members after the most recent production of Chicago:

“...heartfelt thank you to you and all the Sedbergh team involved in putting together such a fabulous production of Chicago. I was lucky enough to watch it twice and loved every minute as did family and friends who came up to watch. A huge amount of work both on and off the stage was very clear to see as was the enjoyment on the faces of everyone on stage!”

“The production was superbly put together and there were some fantastic individual performances.”

“The enthusiasm and enjoyment of the cast and crew were much in evidence. The delight of the audience reflected the high quality of a slick and sophisticated production.”

“Chicago was an absolute treat. Great job - we loved it. Thank you for a super evening...”

“What a great show with the cast really and obviously enjoying it...”

“What a performance! I can honestly say hand on heart, better than the version we saw in the West End! Thank you for allowing our daughter to live out her dreams...”

Comments from cast members:

“I just wanted to say a huge thank you for helping me regain my confidence on the stage and bringing my love back for drama. Thank you so much for giving me new skills and ways to express myself ... you have made me fall in love with my passion again and I just wanted to say thank you so much” Y13

“Thank you so much for the production this year, I loved every second of it! Drama has always been my safe space and you created that space for me and many others this term...” Y9

“Thank you so much for this incredible experience. These past few days have been some of the best I’ve probably ever had. Just being surrounded by so many people who share the same interests as me in musical theatre is a truly surreal experience, and I am eternally grateful for you creating that environment. It felt great to finally be part of a full team where we all work together to achieve one goal, to put on the best performance possible... “ Y9



# Upcoming Events

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**Sedburgh**  
**1525 500 2025**

**Bridgewater Hall**  
**3rd February**

Tickets available on the [Bridgewater Hall website](#)

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