



EST. 1525

Sedbergh

SCHOOL



Performing Arts Report

28th October - 10th November

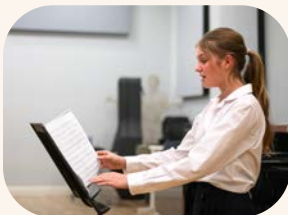
2024-2025



There was a real buzz around the department as we returned from the half-term break ready for a veritable conveyor belt of concerts and events to see us up to Christmas. Over the past fortnight we have had a true variety of events to prepare for.

Night at the Movies

This long-running concert series is an early opportunity for our ensembles to work towards, and it was fantastic to be back in Powell Hall on 1st November. The space had been transformed, and it was wonderful to hear several pupils simply exclaim 'Wow!' as they entered! Thank you to Will B, and also to Freddie F-P, for their incredible work with the lighting and technical requirements. It set the scene for a wonderful selection of performance from Orchestra, Big Band, Show Choir, Male Voice Choir, Percussion Ensemble, several of the bands from our Pop Collective, as well as a couple of beautifully-performed solos. We also saw our first 9Inspire contribution of the year, with every single Y9 getting up on stage to sing and dance from highly entertaining songs that they have been working on. There is not enough space here to list names, but a huge congratulations to all involved.



Collegium Musicum Recital

Thursday saw some of our younger musicians take to the stage for their first Collegium Musicum Recital in Thornely Studio. Many congratulations to India, Hetty, Olivia, India, Barney, Izzy and Daisy for their excellent contributions to this recital. We had an impressive array of musical theatre songs as well as John Rutter's *Suite Antique*, performed by year 10 pupil Daisy in preparation for her Flute diploma.

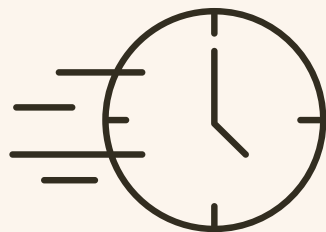
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This year's Michaelmas production of Chicago is being held in the Hirst Centre. This is the first time we have attempted to host something as large scale as this in the sports hall, and it is proving a huge challenge albeit an exciting one. As well as all the usual tasks associated with directing a large cast, setting choreography, learning music, designing set, costume, gathering a backstage team together etc. we have also had to think carefully about how to create a theatre space designed for netball tournaments (huge thanks to the Games department for vacating the Hirst!). So as well as having conversations about sparkly trilbys and rhinestone buckle shoes, we are also discussing what sort of PAV lift to hire, and what grade of rubber matting to source – all new to me! At the time of writing we are 2 weeks from opening night, and it is all feeling very real – the cast are (almost) all well rehearsed, the band is coming together, and every day it seems another exciting delivery arrives – a piece of backcloth, a giant light-up heart, or a roll of sequins.

Away from Chicago, sixth form are looking forward to a day trip to London to see Guys & Dolls on 5th December. The show at the Bridge Theatre has won a plethora of awards, and enjoyed numerous extensions due to its popularity. Y12 and Y13 will be looking particularly at the set design of this truly immersive spectacle. They are also looking forward to soaking up the pre-Christmas atmosphere of London so I am expecting various renditions of Wham and Mariah on the train down!



And the countdown begins...

27th, 28th, 29th November - Chicago
Hirst Centre

 Coming soon...



Remembrance Day

An immediate change of atmosphere was established the following week, when our focus was on a number of events during Remembrance week. Firstly, our orchestra accompanied the school in Wednesday's assembly – a rousing rendition of 'I vow to thee' as they supported the whole school, was one way in which our pupils could all recognise sacrifice and express their pride in Old Sedberghians who had made the ultimate sacrifice. The orchestra then also accompanied the hymns during the school's service on Remembrance Sunday. As ever, this took place on the upper deck of the memorial cloisters, which this year are 100 years old. Either side of the service, our Bagpipes & Drum Corps helped to set a stirring scene. Thank you to Angus A and to Lewis S for their solo pipe & bugle contributions, (as well as to Ted M for playing the Last Post on Armistice Day the next day)

In the afternoon, our current Chapel Choir were central to a performance of Fauré's Requiem, in Chapel, which never fails to evoke a wide range of emotions from sorrow and contemplation to hope and serenity. Well done to our soloists Tamsin, Marlow and Nathan. We shall next perform it in Ypres as part of a special 2025 Battlefields trip next September.



Upcoming Events

Chicago

27th November
Hirst centre, 7.30pm

28th November
Hirst centre, 2.00pm

28th November
Hirst centre, 7.30pm

27th November
Hirst centre, 7.30pm

Ceremony of Carols

6th December
Chapel, 8.00pm

Guest Carol Service

8th December
Chapel, 5.00pm

School Carol Service

12th December
Chapel, 4.00pm (Pupils only)

For further information about our events and tickets, please visit our website

<https://sedberghschool.org/senior/news/events/>

