



Sedbergh

SCHOOL



Performing Arts Report

6th January - 17th January

2024-2025



We have enjoyed a buoyant start to 2025, spurred on by a number of exciting events and bits of news – not least the upcoming concert at the Bridgewater Hall on Monday 3rd February. It is not too late to secure a ticket! Do visit the school's events page on the school website.



CHAPEL CHOIR RETURN TO GRAND FINAL OF THE NATIONAL CHOIR COMPETITION

Just after the Michaelmas term had finished, we received the incredible news that our Chapel Choir have once again secured a place in the grand final of the National Choir competition, meaning that they are in the last few from an original entry of hundreds. Readers may be aware that the choir participated in the competition in 2024, placed runners-up and the best mixed-voice choir in the country. Whilst some of our existing members were in that choir, we have taken on more new members than ever before in the months since, so we are especially delighted for all of our choristers with this achievement.

MUSIC AT GCSE?

Our Year 9 Music programme continues, with a fresh batch of pupils coming over from the Drama department as part of our half-termly rotation system. At the moment, they are studying Film Music and Ground Bass, and later in the year will be exploring the Blues & Popular Music, as well as some Music Technology.

It is also that time of year when our Y9 are considering their GCSE options, and we have been explaining why Music is far more than just an enriching and fascinating hobby, but also a subject that is rated very highly by universities and employers as an academic option. One of the reasons for this is the very high number of transferable skills that it nurtures, and developing the brain as the course covers history, language and maths in amongst the sheer creative beauty and energy of music.

It is a myth that pupils need to be advanced musicians to study Music at GCSE! Whilst those pupils who perform (singing or play an instrument) at a Grade 5 level by the end of Y11 will be in line for the very highest marks, only small numbers of marks are lost by performing at a lower standard.

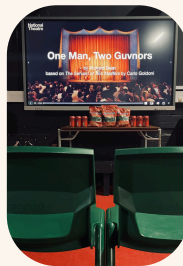
If you have any questions about studying Music as an academic subject, get in touch with Mr Allinson, Miss Parker or Mr Seymour!





Production News

Last week the Drama Department held auditions for the Lent Term production. It has now been cast, and rehearsals are under way! Stages Through The Ages has been created especially for the Sedbergh 500 gala celebrations taking place over the weekend of 3rd and 4th May. Audiences will be taken on a theatrical journey through time, starting in 1525 - Sedbergh School's founding year. Each scene will represent a different style and era of theatre, including Commedia Delle'Arte, Shakespeare, Restoration Comedy, British Music Hall, Radio Drama, Contemporary Drama, plus musical performances from the current West End. The scenes will be performed in multiple locations across the school site (inside and outside - please, weather, be kind!), and audience members will move locations for each new scene. There are 25 pupils involved on stage from Years 9, 10, and 12, as well as a backstage crew. We are very excited to work on something a little bit different!



Sixth Form Trips

Years 12 and 13 are looking forward to their upcoming residential trip to London. They will be seeing three quality shows in the West End: Ballet Shoes at the National Theatre, Hometown at the Lyric, and The Tempest (staring Sigourney Weaver as Prospero - a fact sadly wasted on sixth form as they have never heard of her!) at Drury Lane. They will also be taking a backstage tour of the National Theatre, and visiting the theatre gallery at the Victoria & Albert Museum. Of course it was only just before we broke up for Christmas that we were in London on a day trip to see Guys & Dolls at the Bridge Theatre - a fantastic immersive show with a string of 5 star reviews and coveted awards to its name. The Theatre Studies A Level requires pupils to see a wide range of live theatre shows as part of the course and it is always a pleasure to help them meet that criteria!

Drama Scholars

Last Friday evening saw our first Drama Scholar's Film Night. We met up in the Boathouse drama studio to watch the National Theatre Live recording of One Man Two Guvnors, starring James Cordon. The pupils (mainly Years 9 and 10) loved the comedy of the farce, especially the use of audience participation.

Upcoming Events



Sedbergh
1525 **500** 2025

Bridgewater Hall

3rd February

Tickets available on the Bridgewater Hall website

Collegium Musicum Recital Series

6th February

Thornely Studio

Sedbergh
SCHOOL
MUSIC

DO YOU FEEL
NERVOUS ABOUT
PERFORMING?

DO YOU HAVE A
NEW PIECE TO TRY
OUT?

*Play & Listen
concerts are a small
and informal
performance
opportunity, ideal
for first-time
performances and
for developing your
performance skills*

Tuesdays

12:55PM

PLAY

&

LISTEN
