

# PURCELL PARENT NEWSLETTER

6th September 2022

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to a new academic year! It has been lovely to welcome new families to the School over the past weekend and it certainly seems that our new arrivals have enjoyed their first weekend. Of course, there will still be many uncertainties and anxieties, but the message to all students has been (and will continue to be): just ask. That message applies equally to you: should you be uncertain about anything, please ask!

Staff returned to school on September 1st for INSET and general preparation. Because we have a wonderfully diverse school (which is one of our great strengths) our recent INSET sessions have, in part, focussed on matters of equality, diversion and inclusion. This particular training, led brilliantly by the CEO of the Schools Inclusion Alliance (to whom we are affiliated), explored unconscious bias and was both affirming and challenging in equal measure - the signs of first-rate training!

Over the past two years, it has been impossible to build and maintain the closeness of relationships with you all that we would have wished. Many of you have felt rather at “arms length” from the School and we have felt distant from you too because of the restrictions. We all know the reasons why, and the sense of relief and excitement when we started to see you again at various events during the summer term was palpable. Now that all restrictions have ended, we are looking forward to seeing you much more regularly, both formally and informally. I’ve outlined a few ways we hope to make this happen below.

We are really looking forward to the coming year and look forward to seeing you in person very soon.

## Parent Handbook

For new families (and as a reminder for returning families) the [Parent Handbook](#) has a wealth of useful information about timings, routines,

expectations and so on. It also has staff contact details and some helpful advice about who to contact for specific questions. An Email directory

is available at the end of this Newsletter.

## New Staff

A number of new staff have joined the School this term and one or two have had changes to roles. They are as follows:

- **Mr Jim Titmuss**  
(Teacher of Physics)
- **Dr Alberto Martin Entrialgo**  
(Teacher of Academic Music and Musicianship)
- **Miss Tiffany Buxton**  
(Residential Graduate Assistant, Sunley House)
- **Miss Susanna Alsey**  
(Residential Graduate Assistant, NBH)

- **Mr Adam Goldsmith**  
(Guitar)
- **Mr Dan Drury**  
(Bass Guitar)
- **Mr Pete Billington**  
(Songwriting)
- **Mr Chris Draper**  
(Drums)

**Miss Mary-Kate Gill** (Head of Academic Music) has moved on to pursue other opportunities after many years of excellent service to the School. **Mr Andrew Williams** takes over this role for the coming academic

year. **Mr Edward Longstaff** returns following his year-long sabbatical and **Dr Ryan Hepburn** returns in a new, part-time capacity as Head of Brass, Percussion and Voice.

## Formal Communications and Events

The School publishes its [Weekly Highlights](#) on a Friday each week. This is where we celebrate student success and achievement. Do please let us know of any particular successes that your son or daughter has enjoyed and which have taken place outside of school. Details can be sent to [Publicity@Purcell-School.org](mailto:Publicity@Purcell-School.org).

I publish a Parent Newsletter as and when there is key information to share. One is published at least every half term - but often more frequently. Newsletters are published on the [School Website](#) and a link is sent to you when a new newsletter is uploaded.

Occasionally, it is necessary for me to send an urgent and important piece of information. These are sent

directly to you with the title "Principal's Update". Anything with this title will either be of significant importance to the whole community or time sensitive, so please take a look as soon as you are able. I hope not to be sending any of these this year!

Details of School Events can be found by following the link below. Here you will find a calendar overview and (in a few days time) the full Events Guide. You are very welcome to join us for any and all events. Once we are up and running, lunchtime recitals will take place at 1.10 in the CP Hall every day except Thursdays.

[www.purcell-school.org/news/concert-events-guide-calendar/](http://www.purcell-school.org/news/concert-events-guide-calendar/)

In an attempt to bring the whole school community

together and to enable you to share in some of the key messages we promote within the School, a video of each week's Full School Assembly will now be published. This is the only time when the whole school - staff and students - gather together and is my opportunity to explore and underline some of our core values, to reflect on any national or world events, to provide information on important happenings throughout the year, and to remind everyone that we are all working towards the same common goal. Assembly will be available [here](#) and you will receive a notification to say it has been published. I hope you enjoy this regular little "window" into the school.

# Instrumental Lessons

Just a reminder that instrumental lessons are not

scheduled to start until next week.

## Term Dates 2023-24

We are just in the process of finalising the term dates for the next academic year (2023-24). Because of the difficulty of peak-time travel on a Friday afternoon/evening, a question has arisen about preferred collection times when we have two day exeat weekends.

There are two proposals:

1. Retain the current position with collection on a Friday between 4-6pm with a year group Parent Consultation Evening allocated within these times.

2. Move the collection time forward to between 1pm-3pm, also moving the Parent Consultation session to between these times. In this scenario, the missing teaching time would be made up by adjusting the end times of the terms.

Before we make a final decision, I would be very grateful if you could indicate your preference if your daughter or son will still be with us next academic year. To register your preference, please

go to the following link by **Monday 12th September**.

[www.purcell-school.org/school-life/current-parents/](http://www.purcell-school.org/school-life/current-parents/)

The survey is mid way on the web page. Please scroll.

## An Evening with Paul and Paul: Tuesday 4th October

We will be hosting an opportunity for any parents who wish to attend an informal session with myself and Paul Hoskins, Director of Music, on Tuesday 4th October, 6.30-7.30pm, where you can find out a bit more about us, we can talk through some of the

anticipated highlights of the year, and answer any general questions. We hope it will offer an opportunity for new parents, those who joined during Covid and whose access to the School (and us) has been rather limited, and any others who wish to, to

get to know us a little better and for Paul and I to hear your thoughts on the year ahead. We will send out an RSVP nearer the time.



## Time with Paul Bambrough

I am very happy to host any parents who wish to come in for a coffee, chat and/or walkabout. Parents often feel that they cannot request a meeting unless they have a serious concern that has not

been addressed elsewhere in the school. This is, of course, important. But equally important for some is the opportunity to talk about what works well, share experiences and talk without a specific

agenda. Should any of you wish to meet in such a way, please contact my Executive Assistant, Ms Sarah Graham: ([S.Graham@Purcell-School.org](mailto:S.Graham@Purcell-School.org)) who will be happy to find a time.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch with us if we can help with anything.

Looking forward to a wonderful year ahead,



Paul Bambrough  
Principal





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## Staff Contact List for Parents/Guardians

- For **academic matters**, please contact your child's tutor or academic teacher.
- For **musical matters**, please contact the Head of Department of your child's first instrumental study.
- For **general school matters** during the school working day, please contact the School Office.

### Student Absence:

- Any requests for student absence should be emailed to [studentabsence@purcell-school.org](mailto:studentabsence@purcell-school.org) 14 days in advance.
- Any absences due to illness should be reported to [studentabsence@purcell-school.org](mailto:studentabsence@purcell-school.org) and also to the houseparent immediately

SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM	ROLE	EMAIL ADDRESS
Paul Bambrough	Principal	principal@purcell-school.org
Emma Bantock	Director of Operations	e.bantock@purcell-school.org
Thomas Burns	Vice Principal	t.burns@purcell-school.org
Kate Cayley	Director of Boarding	k.cayley@purcell-school.org
Paul Hoskins	Director of Music	p.hoskins@purcell-school.org
Michael Long	Director of Teaching and Learning	m.long@purcell-school.org
Ziggi Szafranski	Head of Sixth Form	z.szafranski@purcell-school.org
Adam Wroblewski	Bursar	a.wroblewski@purcell-school.org

HEADS OF MUSIC DEPTS.	ROLE	EMAIL ADDRESS
Simon Allen	Head of Jazz	s.allen@purcell-school.org
Alison Cox	Head of Composition	a.cox@purcell-school.org
Joy Farrall	Head of Woodwind	j.farrell@purcell-school.org
William Fong	Head of Keyboard	w.fong@purcell-school.org
Aidan Goetzee	Head of Music Tech	a.goetzee@purcell-school.org
Ryan Hepburn	Head of Brass, Percussion and Voice	r.hepburn@purcell-school.org
Paul Hoskins	Director of Music	p.hoskins@purcell-school.org
Charles Sewart	Head of Strings	c.sewart@purcell-school.org
Andrew Williams	Interim Head of Academic Music	a.williams@purcell-school.org

ACADEMIC STAFF	ROLE	EMAIL ADDRESS
Adriana Blond	English Teacher/Assistant Houseparent Sunley	a.blond@purcell-school.org
John Brookes	Head of PE/Assistant Houseparent Avison	j.brookes@purcell-school.org
Margaret Brookes	Head of Science/ Avison Houseparent	m.brookes@purcell-school.org
Svetlana Emelianova	Biology Teacher	s.emelianova@purcell-school.org
Panos Fellas	Science Teacher	p.fellas@purcell-school.org
Kinga Kozak	EAL Teacher	k.kozak@purcell-school.org
Michael Long	Head of English	m.long@purcell-school.org
Ed Longstaff	Academic Music Teacher	e.longstaff@purcell-school.org
Alberto Martin Entrialgo	Academic Music Teacher	a.martinentrialgo@purcell-school.org



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**Staff Contact List for Parents/Guardians**

<b>ACADEMIC STAFF (cont)</b>	<b>ROLE</b>	<b>EMAIL ADDRESS</b>
Robert Matthews	Head of German and MFL	r.matthews@purcell-school.org
Stevie Mitchell	Maths Teacher	s.mitchell@purcell-school.org
Craig Nunes	Drama & English Teacher	c.nunes@purcell-school.org
Ashvin Patel	Science Teacher	a.patel@purcell-school.org
Darrell Pigott	Head of History	d.pigott@purcell-school.org
Victoria Samuel	Head of Art	v.samuel@purcell-school.org
Jyoti Shah	Maths Teacher	j.shah@purcell-school.org
Alexandra Stone	Head of Maths	a.stone@purcell-school.org
Martina Swift	EAL and PHSEE Lead	m.swift@purcell-school.org
James Titmuss	Science Teacher	j.titmuss@purcell-school.org

<b>BOARDING &amp; PASTORAL</b>	<b>CONTACT / TELEPHONE NUMBER</b>	<b>EMAIL ADDRESS</b>
Lady Kate Cayley	Director of Boarding	k.cayley@purcell-school.org
<b>New Boarding House</b>	Office: 01923 331 155; Mobile: 07340 998 670	newboardinghouse@purcell-school.org
Lorna Griggs	Houseparent	
Katharine Da Costa	Day Matron	
<b>Sunley House</b>	Office: 01923 331 142; Mobile: 07340 998 436	sunleyhouse@purcell-school.org
Rachel Price	Houseparent	
Susie Hunter	Day Matron	
Adriana Blond	Assistant Houseparent	
<b>Avison House</b>	Office: 01923 331 122; Mobile : 07531 361 404	avisonhouse@purcell-school.org
Margaret Brookes	Houseparent	
Annette Cook	Assistant Houseparent	
John Brookes	Assistant Houseparent	

<b>SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION</b>	<b>CONTACT / TELEPHONE NUMBER</b>	<b>EMAIL ADDRESS</b>
Main School Office	Telephone: 01923 331 100	schooloffice@purcell-school.org
Sarah Graham	Executive Assistant to the Principal	s.graham@purcell-school.org
Natasha Vallance	Executive Administrator / Admissions	n.vallance@purcell-school.org admissions@purcell-school.org
Caroline Fletcher	Overseas Student Coordinator	c.fletcher@purcell-school.org
Lisa Canosa	Exams Officer	l.canosa@purcell-school.org