



30 November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: Christmas Concerts 2021 – update

I am writing to provide you with an update with regards to our Christmas Concerts, with both events only a week away.

For all parents and carers:

In response to the heightened vigilance across the country due to the uncertainty regarding the emerging 'Omicron' variant of COVID-19, we will now be asking all audience members to wear a face covering. This is not compulsory government guidance; however, we feel that this is a suitable additional preventative measure to implement to ensure that the safety of all involved is maximised.

We will also be ventilating the hall as much as possible with windows opened, and we would recommend that all audience members take a lateral flow test before attending. This is again an extra preventative measure we are taking to ensure everyone is as safe as possible. Please do not attend the event if you have symptoms of COVID-19.

We still have tickets available for both events, however they are selling fast and I would strongly advise booking as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. Tickets can be booked via our Performing Arts Technician and Administrator, Mr Scates, at jscates@st-martins.essex.sch.uk, and are priced at £6 for adults and £4 for students. All money should be paid on the door on the night. Participants will not require a ticket; however, all audience members will require one.

For parents and carers of Year 7 students:

Students have now learnt both songs they will be performing for the concerts in class, 'Dynamite' and 'Santa Claus Is Coming To Town'. We strongly advise students practise both of these songs at home, and learn the lyrics in full as these will not be available to them on the night. Backing tracks with lyrics can be found as follows:

Dynamite - <https://youtu.be/ZL1bmvthjPM>

Santa Claus Is Coming To Town - <https://youtu.be/J8ZE3dzVbl>

All students in the 'X' side of the year group (7R1, 7R2, 7R3, 7Q1, 7Q2 and 7Q3) will be performing in the concert on Wednesday 8 December. Students in the 'Y' side of the year group (7H1, 7H2, 7H3, 7B1, 7B2 and 7B3) will be performing in the concert on Thursday 9 December.

Both concerts will take place in the South Hall, starting at 6pm. Year 7 students should arrive no later than 5.30pm at the boys' gym (next to the South Hall) – this will be their holding room for the evening and they will be under teacher supervision throughout. There will be no catering facilities available on site after school, so students who are unable to return home between the end of school and 5.30pm should bring a packed dinner.

Be The Best You Can Be

I very much look forward to seeing you at one of the concerts, and I hope I have been able to provide you with some re-assurance regarding the additional safety measures we have implemented. Please do not hesitate to contact me on mharris@st-martins.essex.sch.uk or 01277 238353 if you have any queries.

Yours sincerely

Mr M Harris
Head of Music