

Dear parents/guardians,

This week we were able to introduce your sons to our fourth Orchestral Challenge. All the boys in school were given their instruments and I expect they brought them home to show you and play them to you. There were a significant number of boys absent through illness and I can assure you that we will assign their instruments to them next Tuesday. Through the rest of the year, the boys will have 30 lessons to help them to develop their skills. Following on from our initial letter in the new parent pack, I would like to confirm that the majority of the boys have been offered their first-choice instrument: for those who do not get their first choice this has been due to staffing availability and the numbers involved.

What next?

- The lessons and rehearsals are provided free to all boys.
- There will be 30 lessons through the year, so be aware that not every week will be a challenge week. We will keep the boys up to date and the school calendar says when the challenge is on.
- Expectations are clear and concise, and your son will receive incentives. Each week there will be a prize awarded for the boy who has made the most progress, including "The Star of the Week!"
- The instrument is loaned to you and your son to facilitate instrumental lessons through Victoria College. You have already been billed for the hire: this is to ensure that we can pay for minor repairs and to help keep them in top condition. By accepting the instrument, you understand that you are fully liable for any damage, theft or loss and will reimburse Victoria College accordingly.
- All instruments are fragile and some of them are expensive. We would please ask that you ensure the instrument assigned to your son is named on your home insurance.
- Many of the instruments are new: any problems through general use or wear and tear will be repaired by the school. Please do not attempt repairs at home!
- We will drop a formal notification of the instrument which is assigned to your son in the next week, with an online form for you to confirm the hire conditions.

I hope this will answer a few more questions that you may have: we were very impressed by the positivity from the boys and if you would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Kind regards,

Mr F Murton Director of Music

Building successful futures

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