



Newsletter February ~ April 2011

Music Centre Term Dates 2011

Spring Term:	Half term:	19 th – 27 th February inclusive
	Last AMC session:	Saturday 2 nd April
Summer Term:	Commences:	Saturday 30 th April

PLEASE PUT 3rd JULY IN YOUR DIARY NOW!
AMC SUMMER SHOWCASE @ AMC and AHS
ALL MUSIC CENTRE GROUPS WILL BE TAKING PART.

Government Spending Review

The government asked Darren Henley from Classic FM to do a review into music education last October. This review has now been published. The main points from the review are:

- The annual Music Grant for music services will remain the same for April 2011-12.
- This grant remains protected for music education.
- The DFE, DCMS, Arts Council and FMS are to prepare a National Plan for Music Education, to come into effect from 2012 - 2013.

Virginia Haworth-Galt, Chief Executive of the FMS, said: "I believe this is a landmark report. As music teachers, we see every day the outstanding contribution music makes to a child's development. Darren Henley has argued passionately for the value of music education and has provided clear recommendations to ensure that children, wherever they live in England, can benefit from it. We congratulate the government for responding so positively and listening to FMS and others from across the sector. By backing the report's recommendation for a 'National Plan for Music Education' the government has shown its commitment to us, schools and all music educators to make Darren Henley's vision a reality – to provide all children with the music education they deserve"

We are delighted with the results of this review and we look forward to responding to the challenges that lie ahead.



Merry Music Making at Winslow

Christmas Concerts

It all seems so long ago now! There were packed performances for 11 concerts. Your generous donations made it possible to give MacMillan Cancer Support £879.78 and The Gambian Schools Project £183. Fantastic! Many, many thanks for your generosity.

A message from 'The Friends of Aylesbury Music Centre'

"The friends have had a busy autumn term with a very successful craft fair and the new refreshment stalls on Tuesday and Thursday nights. We would like to give a big thank you to everyone who has helped with these. We have purchased various instruments for the AMC including a vibraphone and drum kit. We are planning a fundraising quiz night 14th MAY, so please put this in your diaries. We are still looking for volunteers to help with refreshments and events, please let us know if you can help."

Chamber Music Concert

Took place on 4th February. The evening was a resounding success. Eighteen groups gave inspiring performances. Congratulations to all the performers and many thanks to their teachers.

AMC Big Bands Extravaganza

It has been a very busy time for our brass players !

The 4 Big bands: Dance band, Training dance band, Jazz 3 and 4 took part in a special day on January 22nd. They worked with Mike Lovatt, who is one of this country's most outstanding trumpet players. It was a real privilege for them and an exciting day was had by all.

Monster Brass Day

Took place on Sunday 6th February at the Pendley Theatre, Tring and was a huge success. They performed to a full house together with special guest, Andy Fawbert.

Many thanks must go especially to Nick Care, Kathy Gifford and Steve Kitchen who work so hard on behalf of their students.

Soloists Competition

Our annual 'Soloists Competition' is open to any **Music Centre Member** and will be held in March at The Roblin Hall at AYMC. The competition is in three age categories:

An external adjudicator will make a written adjudication on each performance and choose 5 players from each age-group to perform in the '**FINALS**' Concert.

Entry Forms are available from AYMC teachers and the AYMC foyer. DEADLINE: 16th February 2011 - 4pm
Only fully completed forms accepted – no late entries will be accepted.

Junior (Year 7 and below)	Monday 7 th March
Intermediate (Years 8- 10)	Wednesday 9 th March
Senior (Years 11 and above)	Friday 11 th March

FINALS - Friday 18th March @ 7.00pm

National Festival of Music for Youth

Will take place here at AMC on Sunday 27th March. The clocks go forward the night before so don't be late! Come and listen, even if you are not directly involved!

Quiz Night Saturday May 14th

Put this date in your diary. There will be tables of 8. Come on students, come and challenge the oldies! Tickets will be on sale after half term.

Student Council

Nominations and voting will take place in the coming weeks.

Wanted! Exam Stewards.

We need exam stewards for the exam sessions held at AMC. The steward is the person who greets students as they arrive, and shows them to a warm up room. The steward also makes tea/coffee for the examiner. Exam sessions vary in length and exams usually take place in last week of autumn term, mid May and the first week in July. There is a small remuneration for this.

DATES for your diary:

February

- 13th Guitar Festival @ AYMC
- 16th Closing date for Soloists Competition – 4pm
- 18th Schools and Music Centre break up for Half Term
- 28th Schools and Music Centre restarts

March

- 7th Soloists Competition – Junior - Roblin Hall: 6pm Free admission
- 9th Soloists Competition – Intermediate – Roblin Hall: 6pm Free admission
- 11th Soloists Competition –Senior – Roblin Hall: 6pm Free admission
- 18th Soloists Competition – Finals – Roblin Hall: 7.30pm Free admission
- 19th Clarinet Choir / Concert Band Concert - Harding Hall: 7.00pm
- 27th *Regional* National Festival of Music for Youth – Roblin / Harding Hall (*National Festival dates 4th – 9th July 2011*)
- 28th Echoes 4 Royal Albert Hall KS2 pupils.
- 28th & 29th Trinity Guildhall Exams
- 31st Mar – 6th Apr Spring Concerts @ AMC - please see aymc.shutterfly.com if you need to check details .
- April 6th & 7th Trinity Guildhall Guitar Exams
- 2nd Last Music Centre
- 8th Last day of School Term

- 17th [Charity Concert in the Roblin Hall @ AMC](#)
St John Passion - JS Bach @ 6.00pm - The St Osyth Academy Orchestra and Choir.
Soloist: Simon Berridge, Choir Master: Stephen Johns, Conductor: Thomas Molloy
Tickets: £10 Bookings: 01296 437392 or mollovzz@tiscali.co.uk All proceeds will go to The Alzheimer's Society & Amnesty International.

PARKING Reminder

On Tuesday/Thursday evenings and Saturday mornings please use the AHS main car park (**NOT** the AMC car spaces). When using the AHS car park please **observe the double yellow lines** and the **disabled markings**. It is important that there should be no parking or waiting in these restricted areas. **Even if just dropping off, please proceed to AHS CAR PARK.**

Suzanne Hopkins

Head, Aylesbury Music Centre

