



February 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians

RE: Music Festival Competition 2018

I am writing to inform you about the 2018 House Music Festival and to invite your son/daughter to participate in this year's competition – the 39th year that it has been staged. I would also like to invite you to attend the evening **Finalé Concert** when all the winners of the advanced disciplines will be competing for the prestigious title of **Musician of the Year**. The competition knockout heats run during the school day from **Monday 5th – Tuesday 13th March** and the evening **Finalé Concert** takes place on **Wednesday 14th March**.

The Festival is an excellent opportunity for all musicians to develop their performance skills, and whether your son/daughter studies music in or out of school, it would be a huge benefit and advantage to him/her to take the opportunity of performing in public as part of the competition. Every competitor will gain 5 House point for entering, with 30, 40 & 50 points being awarded to the **Commended, Highly Commended**, and **Winner** within each category.

Each discipline (brass, woodwind, strings, percussion, classical guitar, acoustic/electric guitar, piano and voice) has a **Beginner, Intermediate** and **Advanced** category. Categories are split as follows:

Beginner – Complete beginner, up to Grade 2

Intermediate – Working on Grades 3, 4 & 5

Advanced – Working on Grades 6, 7 & 8

The winners of each **Beginner** discipline will compete for the **Shield for Best Beginner**. The winner of the each **Intermediate** discipline will compete for the **Joyce Shellard Memorial Trophy**, and the **Advanced** winners will compete for the prestigious title of **Musician of the Year**. This honoured title is celebrated with the awarding of the **Musician of the Year Cup**, as well as the engraving of the winners name on the school Honours Board.

It is very much hoped that you will encourage your son/daughter to enter this unique and original competition. We are asking for a **£1 contribution** per entry in order to cover some of the adjudicator costs. **It is expected that all students studying GCSE and A Level Music take part in the festival, as part of their performance preparation for their examinations.**

The Finalé Concert will be judged by the renowned Italian concert pianist and conductor **Gabriele Baldocci**. Baldocci is known worldwide for performing with the legendary Argentinean pianist Martha Argerich, as well as for his concert tours in musical centres such as Tonhalle in Zurich, Parco della Musica in Rome, Teatro Colòn in Buenos Aires and Sala Verdi in Milan,



TBSHS: A truly all-round education



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



UNESCO Associated Schools



All students entering the Beginner category will receive a free ticket to the concert, as well as a certificate to acknowledge their effort and participation in the event. It is my sincere wish that every one of our younger participants will attend the concert to receive their certificate, and to witness some of our most talented students perform. I hope that they too will one day compete for the title of Musician of the Year.

Please note, all trophies and certificates for categories and disciplines will be presented at the Finalé Concert. All winners and runners up are expected to attend the concert to receive their awards and certificates in person.

I am sure you will agree that the 2018 Music Festival offers an excellent opportunity for your son/daughter to develop as a musician and to gain inspiration from the great variety of visiting adjudicators. Thank you in advance for your support and I hope to see you at the Finalé Concert.

Yours faithfully,



Mr M. J. Cosadinos

Head of Music