

Maoin Cheoil na Gaillimhe

Newsletter August 2011 Issue 6

As the summer draws to a close we thought it appropriate to send out this newsletter to advise all parents and students of plans for the coming year. In particular we wanted to outline the schedule for the Open Day which is coming soon on Saturday, August 20th.

Colourstrings

It has been a busy and exciting time this summer for our Colourstrings program. Karen MacKenzie came to the school in early July and conducted a week long foundation course to train up new teachers. Colourstrings now looks set to begin in two new centres as we had participation from both Kerry and Sligo Schools of Music. For our own part we are now welcoming onto our teaching staff both Marsha Hyland and Katri Suominen. The timetables for Colourstrings class will be going up onto our web site later this week and we encourage all those looking to take classes this year to consult these schedules prior to booking.



On the instrumental front we are also delighted to announce that Hazel Collins has returned from Austria where she has been studying the Colourstrings approach to cello playing and instrumental teaching in general. Hazel will be available at Open Day if anyone wishes to discuss any aspect of this with her.

Theory and Musicianship

Timetables for these classes are also being developed and hopefully these will also appear on our site before too long. This will give all parents time to look at the classes and to try and organise instrumental lessons around the same time as the Musicianship classes if they so desire. For those still new to the school we always wish to emphasise that these lessons are provided by MCnG for no extra charge and they do bring a wealth of understanding to the students. It is strongly recommended to all parents that they encourage their own children to attend.

Open Day

As mentioned this will take place on August 20th starting at 11am and running until 4pm. This is an opportunity for new students to come and meet staff and view the school but it is also a chance for parents to register for lessons for next year. The format is a little different this year as we now have a working timetable in place which provides slots for individual teaching staff to work with. What this means for students is that the teacher will now register the student. So on the day those who have now pre-booked their class time with us for next year will simply have to pay their fee, but those who have not will need to secure their slot with a teacher before we accept payment.

Therefore, on arrival to the school, we recommend that each student will seek out their respective teacher and discuss lesson times and secure a place. They can then come to the

admin desk and make the relevant payment. Times will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

Some members of staff are unable to attend on the 20th due to other commitments so there will be volunteers there that will provisionally allocate time in accordance with teacher requests.

We will accept booking of slots for all existing students up to the 19th of August provided that this is accompanied by the registration fee of €30 per family.

Open day will also be an opportunity to come see some of the staff members perform as there will be a short recital by a representative number of staff beginning at 1pm.

There will be a number of promotional prizes etc in the run up to Open Day in the media so it is worth watching out for them.