

# Maoin Cheoil na Gaillimhe

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## Newsletter January 2013 Issue 15

### Dear Parent,

We do hope that this new year finds everyone rested after a peaceful and happy holiday period. This is a rather short newsletter, primarily to let everyone know that the school reopens next Monday for lessons. In terms of the academic year, next Monday, the 7<sup>th</sup> Jan is the beginning of the second semester for all Monday students. We had to do this to accommodate all of the bank holiday breaks that are set to befall us this coming semester. All other students will be completing the first semester and for them the second semester begins on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> Jan.

Largely because of the changeover in Administration but also because enrolment continued for the entire first semester with a huge surge in demand for piano in particular, we do still have a small handful of outstanding fees. For parents that find themselves in this position, we are obliged to inform them that lessons will not be offered for the second semester until full payment is complete for the first semester. For any parents in genuine difficulty we always encourage dialogue with the office.

### Galway Music Residency.



There is a certain gravity building up around the school of music, and a partnership that was established earlier this year in relation to our primary school program is now moving further forward. The Galway Music Residency will take up lodgings in St. Marys College from March of this year. There will be little initial impact felt in the school from this move, but the long term benefits that will likely accrue are huge. The work of the residency is a vital part of the musical fabric of the city, and we have had a number of very successful events already with them such as the Autumn school tutoring the Adult String orchestra conducted by Mr. David Clarke. We are really looking forward to further partnerships with them, and take this opportunity to welcome them formally to the school.

### Upcoming Events.

There are a good number of concerts and workshops planned for this semester but we have not yet been able to pin down the dates. Hopefully, we will have news on these in the next couple of weeks

so we do once more encourage all of those with a facebook account to keep an eye on the school page for more regular updates.

### **Drum Corps.**

It is planned to get this off the ground in the coming weeks, but there is some initial work still to be done. It is our hope to have something in place before midterm in February. We will let everyone know the minute we have the format settled. This project is being developed in tandem with the Galway Youth Orchestra and will have the backing of both organisations. This is the most fun you can have while learning impeccable drum technique. It is a core technique which makes all future percussion studies much simpler and more polished.

### **Bursaries**

As with previous years we are going to offer a small number of bursaries to the value of €128 for the second semester. The process is the same as before. We will be taking applications in the office over the next week and on Sat 12<sup>th</sup> Jan a draw will take place from those received. Three bursaries will be offered. Only the winners will be informed of the award and as always we only ask that those making an application are in genuine need of the bursary. All applications are treated in the strictest confidence and after the draw no record of the applications are stored in the office.

### **MCnG award**

A reminder to all parents about the award, and in particular to remind their teachers to keep all records up to date. Any concerts attended over the holiday period or musical activities? There will be a large number of opportunities in this semester to rack up credits so please keep individual teachers advised of all participation.