

18<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Dear Students, Parents/Carers

### School of Rock Musical – important update and tickets

With the increasing number of COVID-19 cases impacting students within the school, this has subsequently impacted the rehearsal process in the lead up to the performances, a decision has been made to postpone School Of Rock until January 2022. This decision has not been something easily arrived at. Our students have done a fantastic job over the last few weeks both in rehearsals and in preparation at home, but we are aware of growing anxiety on the part of students with regards to the show amidst increasing numbers of students being absent. We are also unable to predict the landscape after October half-term, and the way in which student/cast self-isolation may impact the scheduled performances. Our cast, backstage crew, and pit band were all made aware of this decision on Friday morning.

As the directors of this whole-school production, it is our duty to make these difficult calls to ensure that our production of School of Rock – in January 2022 – will be a fantastic success for all of those students involved. This postponed date also provides the production with a slightly longer window to rehearse and to fit around other existing student commitments including Yr 11 November assessments and family engagements in December. In addition, we have factored in a small window to account for any self-isolation that may need to take place following Christmas also. Following the steps that we have taken we kindly ask for your support to ensure that this production can take place in January 2022 as re-scheduled.

An updated rehearsal schedule has been sent to you alongside this letter, and we would be grateful if you are able to check this schedule with your son/daughter and ensure they are aware of the dates they need to be available for. You will be able to see that there are no changes to the rehearsal schedule up to (and including Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> November), but after this date we will be rehearsing on a Monday afterschool between 3-6pm with some additional dates for early January. We do appreciate that this new schedule - and performance dates – may impact casting: please can you let Mr Newsome and/or Ms Seymour know as soon as possible.

### Ticket Sale (for the revised dates)

We are delighted to announce that tickets for our rescheduled performance of School Of Rock will be on sale through WisePay from Friday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2021 at 9am.

### Dates, Times and Prices of tickets

The dates and times of the performances are:

- Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2022, 7pm\*
- Friday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2022, 7pm\*
- Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2022, 7pm\*

\*For each evening performance, parking (in the Needham's car park, by the turning circle) will be available from 6.15pm, with doors to Needham's Hall opening at 6.30pm.

Tickets are priced as follows:

- £8 per adult (16 or older)
- £5 per child (under 16) and/or concession (65 or older)

Seating at this event will be unallocated.

### **Purchasing tickets through WisePay**

Tickets for this school production are available to be purchased through WisePay. When you log in, please select 'School of Rock' followed by the appropriate date that you wish to purchase tickets for. Please check that you have selected the correct ticket selection for the guests in your party.

We kindly request that each family does not purchase more than 6 tickets for a single performance, and that they only attend for one of the evenings. This is because there are limited tickets available across all three evenings, and we really want to enable as many students, families and staff to attend the performance as possible.

As we anticipate selling out each evening performance, there will be no tickets available on the door for any evening performance to purchase.

### **Collecting tickets on the evening**

All purchased tickets will be available for collection on the evening of the chosen performance at a table in the entrance to the Needham's building. You will then subsequently be asked to provide your ticket to the member of staff on the door as you enter Needham's Hall for the performance. Each member of your party must keep hold of this ticket for the duration of the show.

### **Programmes, Refreshments, Raffle – Card Only**

Non-alcoholic refreshments, programmes and a raffle will all available on the evening of each performance inside Needham's Hall. However, we will be running a cashless system so please be prepared to use debit/credit card only. Programmes can be pre-purchased through WisePay for £1 each and collected at the same time as tickets at the entrance to the Needham's building. If you do pre-purchase a programme(s) via WisePay, please make sure that you select the correct date that you have purchased tickets for.

### **COVID/Cancellation of Performances**

We kindly ask that all visitors onto the school site wear a face mask/covering for the entirety of their visit, and regularly use hand sanitiser. Spare face masks will be available on entry to the venue for visitors if required. In the unfortunate event where the school has to cancel an evening performance due to student/staff absence, a full refund for each ticket will be processed. However, if you (or a member of your party) are unable to attend a performance due to illness/COVID self-isolation, we are unable to offer a refund on these tickets.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. We are incredibly excited to share this production with you in the new year, so please purchase your tickets at your earliest convenience to avoid missing out!

Yours faithfully



Mr J Newsome  
Subject Lead Music



Ms C Seymour  
Subject Lead Drama

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