



With the festive season well and truly happening, my focus this week is on Music.

Last Friday, we had the delight to take both the Rainbow Review Choir and the IB Choir to the Kerry Hotel to perform for their Christmas tree lighting ceremony. The Rainbow Review Choir sang two pieces, *Away in a Manger* and *Walking in the Air*. With a jam-packed lobby, they performed brilliantly and parents and staff alike were very proud of each and every one of them. The IB Choir took to the stage directly afterwards and performed *O Little Town of Bethlehem*, *Christmas Joy* and *Silent Night*. Again, the performance was greeted very warmly and it was a delight to listen to a choir singing four-part harmony.

On Sunday at the Christmas Bazaar, we had all of our Choirs performing: Rainbow Review, Key Stage 2 Choir, IB Choir and Community Choir. Each performed their own small sets to a packed foyer, some with the help of a few professional brass players. Again all performances were fantastically well received and the comments from parents and staff afterwards were very complimentary.

This week sees all of these choirs performing again at the Carol Concert on Thursday (doors open at 6pm for festive refreshments), and then the IB and Key Stage 2 Choirs round off the festive season on Friday performing at the Ritz-Carlton at their tree lighting ceremony. It is wonderful that our pupils get these fantastic chances to perform and display how well they can sing.

Beauty and the Beast continues to move forward and is really starting to take shape well. Tickets will go on sale shortly after the holidays with the performances taking place from March 8-11. Students were very excited at the arrival of some of the costumes this week. New rehearsal schedules for after the holidays have been handed out; if anyone still needs a copy please come to the Music Office as soon as possible.

Phil Bailey
Director of Music and The Arts