

The Ridings' Federation Winterbourne International Academy
Jazz Band

13 October 2009

To students,

The Ridings Jazz Band has been very successful in the past due to the commitment of previous students who helped to run the group and rehearse regularly. This level of commitment is now needed from all members in order for us to maintain this high standard.

We apologise for the slow start as we adjust for a new season in Jazz Band. We have an array of plans that will hopefully help to improve everyone's individual and group musicianship and skills. We will be gaining new music from a range of sources, including music that previous Y13's have sent us, student arrangements and links that we have with professional musicians. There will be an open opportunity for people to freely suggest any music that they would like to perform in any concert. We are also hoping to include improvisation into the rehearsals, and give everyone an equal chance to take on some sort of solo role if they are happy to do so.

We will also be making sure that we get as many members to join the band as possible. It is really important that we have a strong commitment from everybody, as this will allow us to do some more interesting and challenging repertoire. A record will be kept of who we have playing which instruments and which parts, so that we can organise what we do when we haven't got all our members on any one particular rehearsal. We are also encouraging more brass plays to come along to build up this section, and provide a much fuller sounding ensemble. It is very important that everyone encourages other people to come along so that we have a much better chance of performing a successful concert programme.

There is now a website for the Jazz Band set up that will provide useful information about the group, including a rehearsal schedule that will be regularly updated, along with an opportunity for you to suggest music, let us know when you are going to absent from a rehearsal and full concert details. We also hope to provide an opportunity for members to be able to listen to recordings of the music and download spare instrument parts etc. The site address is: <http://www.ridingsjazzband.tk>. Everyone is free to make comments and let us know of any improvements that you think could be made.

Thank you for being a member of the Jazz Band, we look forward to seeing you Wednesday lunch times. Please fill out the short slip and hand it to either Aaron, Sophie or Miss Pound:

Please write your full name, tutor group and instrument(s) so that we can keep track of everyone we have in the group, and also you can be contacted about any Jazz Band news:

Name: _____ **T.G.** _____

Instrument(s): _____