



Piano Summer 2026 Newsletter

Miranda Summers-Pritchard – Piano Teacher



Dear Student/Parent,

I hope you've had a fantastic summer so far and are feeling well-rested from your holidays!

Last term was a busy one exam-wise as students put their year's worth of effort to the test. Their results can be seen below. Also, as usual, I provide the annual exam stats at the bottom of this newsletter if you're interested in seeing the overall picture of student attainment.

Please note that your child's **end-of-year report** is available to view on their Google Docs lesson notes file (click on the Reports tab). This one is the more formal report of the year, and I have continued with the new assessment scale which is much easier to understand than the old one. Do take a moment to read it, and if you have any questions, comments or feedback, please either do so as a comment on the document or get in touch.

Summer Piano Ideas

We're now near the end of the holidays, you might have been away already and are now finding yourself at a loose end in the last week or so of the summer. Here are some ideas which aren't 'proper' practice but might get you back into piano ready for the new term:

- ★ Dig out your first piano-teaching book and work through it as if you're a complete beginner. I used to do this a lot when I was little and loved the feeling that I found it so easy when it had been a challenge the first time round.
- ★ Learn to play something from a YouTube video tutorial. It might be a chart hit, song from a musical or film theme or even a video game theme.
- ★ Create something – make up a song or a tune, it doesn't need to be long. You could experiment with chords to go with it. You could collaborate with a friend who could write some lyrics, sing or play another instrument. You could invent your own way to write it down so you remember it. You could perform it to family or friends.

Exam News!

The following students have worked super hard to gain successful results:

Aara Fuller	Grade 1	Sebby Tandon	Grade 2
George Duggan	Grade 2	Jessica La Plain	Grade 3
George Drury	Grade 2	Joseph Duggan	Grade 4
Maya Evans		Grade 6	





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Term and Holiday Dates:

Please make a note of these autumn term dates:

First Lesson: Monday 7th September

Last Lesson: Saturday 12th December (no lesson on Saturday 28th November)

Half Term: week commencing 26th October

Spring Term Starts: Monday 4th January

Deadline for notice of stopping lessons at the end of term: 6th November
(fees apply after this date)



Finally,

I hope you have an enjoyable last part of the holidays, and I look forward to hearing all about what you got up to soon!

See you in September!!

Miranda

Keep scrolling for full year's dates and exam stats!



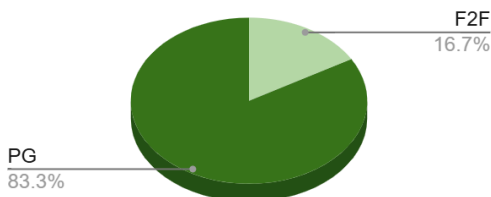
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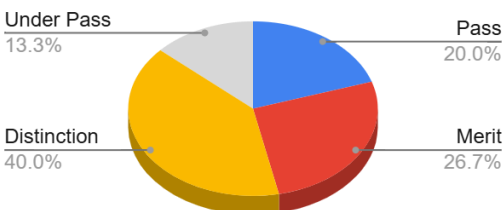
Exam Stats Academic Year 2025–2026

F2F vs PG



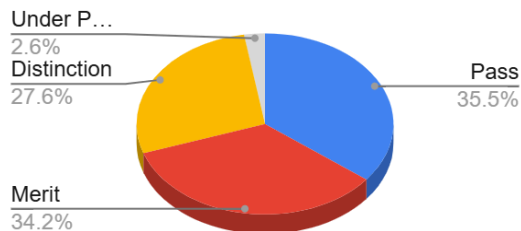
The Performance Grade exam, once again, has increased in popularity, with about 6% more students taking it than last year.

Result Overall (inc Gd 5 Theory)



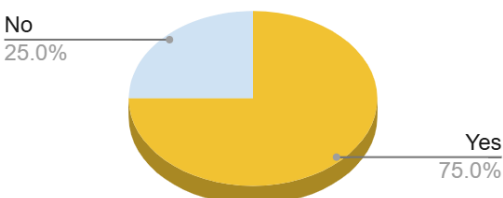
The majority of students (66.7%) gained a merit or distinction. Unfortunately, this year has seen a couple of Under Passes.

Overall Results Since 2021

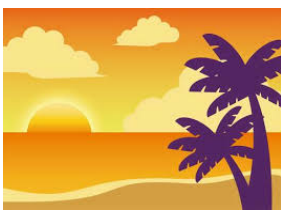


While exam standards are set high, the 5-year trend shows the overall pass rate remains exceptionally high at over 97%.

Passed all elements of the exam



This chart shows where, regardless of the overall mark (pass/merit/distinction) the student has gained a pass for each part of the exam. Sometimes, you can get a merit, even a distinction, but not pass part of the exam, like the sightreading. This shows that 75% of students got a perfect score card!



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Term and Series Dates – Academic Year 2026–2027

✓ Please take a moment to **add these dates to your calendars** now, so you have them on hand for the whole year.

Please note:

- Term dates and series dates are not the same, but the number of lessons given does equal the number of lessons charged over the academic year. Invoices are adjusted for students who start mid-year and bank holidays.
- Saturday students are billed for 11 lessons per series to allow an 'occasional day' for the teacher. A minimum of 2 weeks' notice will be given of the date of this cancelled lesson.
- Notice for stopping lessons is required 1 MONTH BEFORE THE LAST LESSON OF EACH SERIES. Charges will be applied for notice given later than this time (see below).

TERM DATES:	SERIES DATES (billing periods)
Autumn Term – 13 lessons: First Lesson: 7/9/26 Last Lesson: 12/12/26 Half Term: *26/10/26	Series1 – weeks 1–12: First Lesson: 7/9/26 Last Lesson: 5/12/26 Notice for stopping required by: 6/11/26
Spring Term – 11 lessons: First Lesson: 4/1/27 Last Lesson: 25/3/27 Half Term: *15/2/27	Series2 – weeks 13–25: First Lesson: 7/12/26 Last Lesson: 27/3/27 Notice for stopping required by: 28/2/27
Summer Term – 12 lessons (Monday students – 11 lessons**): First Lesson: 12/4/27 Last Lesson: 8/7/27 Half Term *31/5/27	Series3 – weeks 26–36: First Lesson: 12/4/27 Last Lesson: 8/7/27 Notice for stopping required by: 9/6/27
TOTAL LESSONS: 36 (Monday students: 35; Saturday students: 33) * Week commencing **Bank Holiday: 3/5/27 Monday students will receive a credit for the missed lesson on their 3 rd series invoice.	
TOTAL WEEKS: 36	



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Charges for late notice:

- **10% charge:** Notice given less than 1 month before the end of the Series but more than 1 month before the start of the next series – this scenario is only possible between Series 3 and Series 1 (summer break).
- **25% charge:** Notice given less than 1 month but more than 3 weeks before the start of the next Series – again, this is only likely to happen over the summer break.
- **50% charge:** Notice given less than 3 weeks but more than 2 weeks before the start of the next Series.
- **100% charge:** Notice given less than 2 weeks before the start of the next Series.

