

Joining the Junior Choir for the Music and Merriment Concert

A message from Anthony Hodson, manager of the concert.

The Junior Concert Choir is a regular and well-established feature of the big St Mary's Winkfield 'Music and Merriment' Christmas Concert on 6 December 2025, at 7:30pm.

We had a lot of fun at our last concert in this year. On the right is the Junior Choir of a few years back, after they had sung at the concert. Notice their glow-sticks!



Who can be in the Junior choir?

Any child - Y4 to Y7 is a guide – can join – no experience of music required – just keenness to sing with other children. Children will be trained by Lucy Head (who directed the choir in 2023) and what the children will

achieve in 5 rehearsals is amazing! Rehearsals are important

Each singer should if possible be at every rehearsal, but we can cope if it is necessary to miss one. Rehearsals are November Sunday evenings 6-7pm starting 9 November, plus a morning rehearsal 11am-12noon on the day of the concert, 6/12/25, that is:

Sundays 9/11 at 5:30-6:30pm; 16/11 5:30-6:30pm;; 23/11 5:30-6:30pm;; 30/11 5:30-6:30pm; and on Saturday the day of the concert, 6/12/25, 11am-12noon; The concert starts at 7:30pm. Please come by 7pm please, to be ready to sing.

What will the children do?

The children start the concert by processing up a darkened church holding glowsticks, while singing the first 2 verses of 'Once in Royal David's City'.

Later in the first part of the concert, they will perform three Christmassy pieces under Lucy's direction, accompanied by William Bishop, St Mary's Music Director, on the day of the concert.

In the second part of the concert, they sing one or two verses of an audience carol.

Rehearsals

Lucy will take rehearsals, with myself (Anthony Hodson) doing piano for rehearsals, and we will also have a lady member of the concert management team present to advise parents about plans. Many parents like to stay to watch rehearsals, so we will always have several responsible adults present for safe-guarding purposes. Lucy and Anthony have DBS certificates and have been directing the children's choirs for the concert for some years now.

The rehearsals will entail quite focussed work on singing and on the pieces, and children will benefit from singing at home between rehearsal to speed their learning.

On the day

There is a rehearsal in the morning, and the children arrive in good time for the concert. Junior Choir members, like all performers, come free to the concert. Each child brings one parent at the concession ticket price.. Ticketing available by the QR code or via www.fosmw.com



What do you do next?

Please provide some simple details, have your child take part in rehearsals, and in the concert, and then sit back and enjoy what the children can do! Your child can join by you writing to me or giving me details today. It helps us if you can email us a recent photo of your child, to help us to recognise them quickly, but that is absolutely optional.

Joining the Choir

Parents, all we need is basic details of you and your child, in any format that is convenient:

Your name:	
Your telephone number (optional)	
Your email address	
Your child(ren)'s full name(s):	
Age (date of birth), and school year: e.g.Y6	
Name of school:	
Any other information that we need to know (e.g.allergies)	

Please send this information to Anthony, by email if possible, or to Mrs Lesley.Philpot.

It is also useful for us to have a small photo of the child to help putting names to faces, but this is strictly optional.

All information supplied is kept confidential, in line with the GDPR policies of the Friends of St Mary's Winkfield.

Anthony's contact details

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A copy of this document can be found on the Friends of St Mary's Winkfield website www.fosmw.com – see red [Joining Junior Choir] button near top of any page.