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11 October 2011

Dear Parent

**Re: 'Old Girls Reunited!' – Sunday 6 November at 3.00 pm in the Main Hall  
A concert performed by former students of Wycombe High School**

### **A Crescendo is Building – Play Your Part!**

As part of Wycombe High School's campaign to develop a new Performing Arts Centre and build a new Music Block, we will be staging some special concerts and events to showcase the musical talents of our students, past and present.

I should like to invite you to a concert to be held on Sunday 6 November at 3.00 pm which will be performed by former students of Wycombe High School who are now either successful professional musicians or continuing with post graduate studies at Music Conservatoires.

All of the performers distinguished themselves whilst at school and subsequently in their studies in higher education. The programme of music they will perform will contain something to suit all tastes – instrumental and vocal music, solos and chamber music items.

Admission to the concert is free. This is an opportunity to bring your family, friends and acquaintances who may not have previously had the opportunity to hear our talented musicians and 'Play Your Part' in our campaign to build a new, much needed Music Block. We hope you will join us during the interval for some home-made cakes and tea, and we will be asking you for a voluntary donation at the end of the concert towards the campaign fund.

Alexandra Reid – violin – was the leader of both the National Children's Orchestra and the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain and Northern Ireland before studying Music at Selwyn College, Cambridge. After gaining a first class degree, Alex undertook post graduate study at the Royal Academy of Music and is now a free-lance violinist, performing with leading orchestras such as the Britten Sinfonia and the English Chamber Orchestra, with whom she played at the Royal Wedding in April of this year.

Charlotte Reid – violin – also led the National Children's orchestra and the National Youth Orchestra. She was awarded a scholarship to study at the Royal Academy of Music where she gained a first class degree. She is currently completing her post graduate studies there and has made appearances in leading London orchestras including the Philharmonia. With her sister, Alex, Charlotte performs chamber music in a variety of venues and locations.

Susanna Fairbairn – soprano – is currently making a career as a solo soprano and as a member of the very prestigious Monteverdi Choir, one of the finest professional choirs in the world. After leaving school, Susanna studied Music at Magdalen College, Oxford followed by post graduate vocal studies at Trinity College of Music in London. Whilst at Trinity she was awarded the English Song prize in 2008.

Charlotte Fairbairn – violin – currently belongs to chamber music ensembles and is a free lance orchestral player. She was awarded a choral scholarship at King's College, London University where she gained her Bachelor of Music degree.

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**Fortiter Fideliter Feliciter**

Courageously Faithfully Joyfully



Esther King Smith (nee King) – Violin / Viola – left school to study music as an undergraduate and post graduate at the Royal College of Music. Whilst there, Esther distinguished herself as a chamber music player and received several prestigious prizes. Esther is currently active as a freelance musician. Recent concerts include a concert at the Purcell Room with the Orchestra of St Paul's, with whom she performs regularly.

Emma Lake – violin / viola – is currently at the Royal Academy of Music where she is a post graduate student studying baroque violin. Emma is also a very fine French Horn player. She gained her first degree at the University of York where she appeared as the soloist in Sibelius' Violin Concerto.

Charlotte Lake – viola. – is hoping to begin a post graduate course at a Conservatoire of Music in the very near future. Whilst at school, Charlotte was principal viola in the National Youth Orchestra. She left school to attend the University of Manchester, studying Pharmacology.

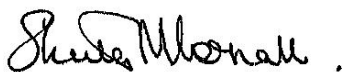
Our former students will be joined by some friends to complete the line-up as they will perform the wonderful Octet for Strings by Mendelssohn.

I hope you agree that this is a very impressive line up. Please come along and hear these wonderful musicians who gave such pleasure to us whilst they were students at WHS.

I should be grateful if you would complete the form below indicating how many seats you would like at the concert. These will not be reserved but will give us an indication as to how many seats we require in the Hall.

I look forward to a wonderful afternoon of music making on 6 November and hope that you will be able to join us at these very special events.

Yours sincerely



**Sheila Cornall**  
**Music Subject Leader**

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**'Old Girls Reunited!' – Sunday 6 November 2011**

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ VT Group: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of seats required

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(parent)

**Please return to the Development Office by Friday 21 October 2011**