MARCH NEWSLETTER 16 MARCH 2020

# Caroline's Keys

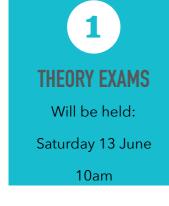
## **Spring News!**



## COVID-19

In the first instance I will do everything I can to continue lessons from my home as usual. I will ask all students to wash hands prior to the start of lessons and the piano keys will be cleaned between each student.

However, if there is an enforced school closure, I feel that the only responsible action is to cease with lessons from my home. In this instance, I would like to offer all students on line lessons. Obviously this will be very different both for the students, and for myself, but I am confident that we can make this work. I have access to Skype, FaceTime and Whats App video should the need arise.









**Spring Recital** Unfortunately, we have taken the decision to cancel the recital scheduled for the end of this month. As you can imagine, the recital takes a lot of planning and we felt it better to take the decision early, rather than have the decision forced upon us at the last minute. I am sorry if this causes disappointment but we will aim to hold a recital in the summer term for all pupils to display their talents and hard work.

## **My Music Staff**

If you require your access details again for MMS, please let me know and I will re-send them.

For my older students, if they have an email address, and you are happy for me to do so, please could you provide me with their details so that I can also add them to My Music Staff. I will be uploading as much studio licensed music as possible to the portal, as well as other, theory based activities. These will be available for all abilities. For the pre-school and early years pupils, I will make as many of the game cards that we use in lessons as possible available through the portal.



## **ABRSM Exam-A-Thon**

Exams in the summer term will running as planned, I will confirm with everyone over the next two weeks if I feel you are ready for your next exam.

Additionally, ABRSM are running an Exam-A-Thon, where pupils are able to gain sponsorship for extended practice hours during exam preparation, or for their exam results. As many of you know I also work closely with Acorn Pre-

School in Shefford. Acorn is a charity pre-school who are currently fundraising hard to upgrade their garden area. I would love for Caroline's Keys to be able to help with this fundraising effort through the Exam-A-Thon. If you would like a fundraising pack, please let me know.

#### **MUSIC THEORY**

Music Theory is a vital part of a well rounded music education and I am ensuring that aspects of theory are always covered through piano lessons. In addition, many of my students have individual theory books. Please could you help ensure that theory homework that is set is completed for each lesson. If there are any problems during the week, please feel free to contact me to discuss, I am happy to provide assistance between lessons if required. I would like all students who are currently working through an ABRSM workbook to consider sitting a theory exam in the next session. The theory exams are good practice for both school exams and to help to reduce anxieties around sitting the grade 5 theory, which is a pre-requisite for higher grade practical exams.

