



REMUERA
INTERMEDIATE
SCHOOL
RELIABILITY INTEGRITY SERVICE

2024 RI Singers Information for Year 7 Students

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Thank you for your interest in the 2024 RI Singers. The 'RI Singers' is the official school choir, where a group of up to 100 of the best singers are selected to represent our school through the art of choral singing.

The choir is taken by Pip Faulknor - a Year 8 Teacher & Team Leader at our school. Miss Faulknor has an extensive background in singing - as a trained Opera & Musical Theatre singer, under the tutelage of Janice Webb, earning her ATCL in classical singing, Musical Theatre & Rock & Pop Contemporary singing, and currently working towards her LTCL in classical singing; and chorally - singing in choirs her whole life, including representing our country as a member of the NZ Graduate Choir for close to a decade, under Terence Maskell - a group that included singers who have now gone on to have amazing careers including Cameron Barclay (Australian Ten Tenors); Julien Van Mellarts (runner up for the Lexus Song Quest); Isabella Moore (Lexus Song Quest Winner); Pene Pati (Sol3 Mio; Opera NZ) & Amitai Pati (Sol3 Mio; Lexus Song Quest Winner).

The RI Singers rehearse during school time, on Fridays 11.20am-12.30pm weekly in the school hall. Rehearsals include learning vocal and choral singing techniques and songs for performances. The main performances for the choir this year include our term Awards Assemblies and other performances for the school.

Additionally there is a possibility for the choir's participation in a local 'Central Zone' Music Festival to replace the APPA Music Festival, which sadly has become a casualty of our times due to the costs associated with the Festival making it completely unsustainable. If the new Festival is confirmed, all members of the RI Singers may be required to pay a one off Tuition Fee of no more than **\$40**. This will cover expenses for the choir's participation, such as bus costs. However, if the festival doesn't eventuate there will not be any charge. If you have any queries regarding payments please contact Margaret Khoong - our Business Manager directly at admin@remint.school.nz

Permission for these rehearsals and inclusion in the RI Singers is covered by the schoolwide permission slip given to all students from the office staff at the beginning of the year.

The RI Singers is a lot of fun, but it is also a great deal of work. Singers need to be available for rehearsals Fridays 11.20am-12.30pm and be prepared to make time for extra rehearsals if required (this is very rare). They need to be available and attend all performances during school time and in the evenings unless a prior arrangement is made. Singers need to be sure that their reasons for joining are about singing and make a commitment from the start of the year. Please understand that any students who are un-focussed in rehearsals, cause disruptions or are consistently off task and disorganised will be asked to leave the group.

Y7 RI Singers Audition Information

Students interested in participating in the RI Singers will need to audition - a timetable for auditions will be sent to teachers on Thursday next week and posted in the school daily notices on Friday.

- ★ **PLEASE HELP** by filling in the form provided - which you can find attached separately with this email OR by clicking on this link [2024 Y7 RI Singers Expression of Interest](#)

NOTE: In order for us to organise the timetable for auditions - and get the choir itself started as quickly as is possible - please have this form completed by **9am on Monday 12 February** so we can accurately gauge the number of students interested

Students will audition in groups of 3-4, no one will have to sing alone.

- ★ **Song:** NZ National Anthem - the Maori verse is preferable due to the vowels being cleaner.
- ★ **Ear Test:** At the completion of one verse of the anthem they will each be required to do a simple ear test, with Miss Faulknor playing notes they will be asked to sing back.
- ★ **NOTE:** if any student misses their scheduled audition date this will not mean they will miss out - if your child is absent due to illness OR you know they will be unable to attend due a conflicting commitment, please contact Pip Faulknor to let her know so she can organise an alternative time

Students will be informed if they have been selected the week after the auditions are completed via lists which will be sent to all classes.

Information for Students from Rooms 15-18

Rooms 15, 16, 17 & 18 have Specialist classes on Friday's Block 2, which is the same time as the RI Singers rehearsals. So for any students who are from these classes:

- If they are interested in being in the group they should audition
- IF they make it into the group they will then have time to talk with their parents about what is the best choice for them in 2024.
- If they decide not to take up their position in the choir this year, their place will be held for them in 2025.

Yours sincerely

Pip Faulknor
Remuera Intermediate School
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