

A Grand Return To Polwhele House

Truro based independent school, Polwhele House, welcomed in both old and new yesterday April 16, making a grand entrance.

The new addition was a 6ft 11 Brodmann black grand piano - the latest investment into excellence in music at the school.

This beautiful instrument enabled a grand return for former student, Ben Comeau, who gave an opening recital for the children during assembly.

Ben attended Polwhele House from September 2000 to July 2006 as a chorister, followed by four years with South-West Music School, an initiative set up to provide specialist training for musically talented children. He is now a senior organ scholar at Girton College, Cambridge, having been accepted to the prestigious institution in 2011. He has diplomas in piano and organ, and won the inaugural Northern Ireland International Organ Competition 2011, performing movements from his own organ transcription of Stravinsky's Firebird.

Delighted to play for the children at Polwhele, Ben said:

“Polwhele House has a strong tradition of excellence in music and invests in the instruments and work needed to support this. Seeing so many young faces enjoying my performance reminded me of my determination at their age. My drive and the support from the school have enabled me to study music at one of the best establishments in the country. It was a pleasure to play a beautiful piano in such a meaningful location and I hope that all of the children go on to achieve their dreams”.

Polwhele House Headmaster, Alex McCullough said:

“At Polwhele, we are incredibly proud of our rich musical traditions. Having very recently purchased a brand new Brodmann piano to support this important area of school life, it seemed appropriate to invite a former pupil back to Polwhele to give the opening recital. Ben is a brilliant young organist and pianist and his performance this morning has inspired the next generation of Polwhele musicians.”

For further information about Polwhele House, please visit

<http://www.polwhelehouse.co.uk>