

Newsletter Summer 2012



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Norfolk County Council

Hello and welcome to our 2nd Newsletter. As ever we have had a rewarding and exhausting term, but our results speak for themselves. Thank you to all our partners, families and friends and we look forward to seeing you at our future events.

Norfolk Bassoon Day



What is thought to be the largest gathering of bassoons, ever, in Norfolk took place on Sunday 11th March at The Arc in Norwich. Thirteen bassoonists with David Cott and the Norfolk Music Service.

The Bassoon is regarded, nationally, as one of the 'endangered instruments', so Norfolk Music Service offers a Bursary scheme of instrument provision and tuition. Younger players start on the Tenoroon (a smaller version of the Bassoon) and transfer to the larger instrument as they grow.

Next workshops / residentials:

28/4/12 - Orchestra Experience Workshop

19/5/12 - Ukulele Family Day

15/6/12 - Junior String Orchestra Residential

4/5/12 - Norfolk Symphonic Wind Band Residential

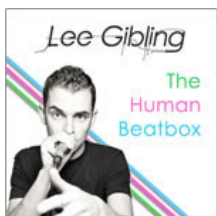
19/5/12 - Lower Strings Workshop

16/7/12 - Wind Band Workshop

Exam Week!

Eighty four nervous candidates passed through the doors to sit Associated Board and Trinity Guildhall exams on the flute, clarinet, saxophone, trombone, cello, violin, viola, bassoon, oboe and voice and all of them passed. Eleven gained a distinction and twenty two gained a merit. A fantastic team of music service staff meant that the session ran smoothly and candidates were put at ease. Both examiners commented on what a pleasant visit they had with us.

The next exam session will be the week beginning 16th July again at the PDC.



We are delighted to announce a new music service rock project every Wednesday afternoon at King Edward VII High school in Kings Lynn, with a beginners group at 16:00 and intermediate at 17:00. The session is run by Richard Hall – Keyboard, John McSkimming – guitar and David Collingsworth – drum kit. Recently the project hosted a workshop with the amazing local beat boxer Lee Gibling. Teachers and students were given a master class session on the basics of the technique. For more information on the rock project, or if you have a student who would like to be involved, please contact Ian Cooper at the Music Service.

CASMA St Andrew's Hall 19 - 23 March

A great success with over 900 young singers taking part over the five days from 28 schools. A number of Music Service Ensembles provided superb instrumental breaks between the choral items: Norfolk Guitar Ensemble, Norfolk County Youth Orchestra Strings, County Youth Orchestra Clarinet Quartet, Norfolk County Strings, NMS Recorder Orchestra. Additional items were provided by Thorpe St Andrew's Flute Choir and three student bands – The Flatfoot Trio; Tom Clay-Harris Quartet and Oskar Feeney-Mellor's Jazz Band.

CASMA and Norfolk Music Service are most grateful for all those who volunteered their services for the concert series.

On the first Sunday in March, approximately 100 young string players descended on St Andrews Hall for the climax of Fiddlesticks and Baroque strings series. Aimed at grades 1-4, each ensemble led by Alison Crocker and Alex Girdlestone respectively, performed in their own right before joining together to perform the premier of Mann O Mann by Tony Bailey. 'It just can't get any better' according to one child. One mum told us how wonderful she thought the Fiddlesticks experience was and how her daughter has really benefitted and blossomed from the opportunity.



Fiddlesticks 'cellos rehearsing



Fiddlesticks rehearsing



Baroque Strings rehearsing

Norfolk County Music Festival

Monday 5th March was the Percussion Class in the ARC auditorium at CNS. The adjudicator was Richard Burrows Head of Music at KES and ex professional percussionist. We had 26 percussionists taking part and 3 percussion ensembles. Also on that day the Norfolk Schools Woodwind Group conducted by Gillian Shaw with Andrew Murray and Martin Eaton participated in the Woodwind Ensemble Class, adjudicated by Paul Harris at the United Reformed Church Norwich.

On Wednesday 7th March the Intermediate Jazz Band, the Norwich Students' Jazz Orchestra (NSJO), the Norfolk Schools Wind Band (NSWB) and the Norfolk County Symphonic Wind Band all took part in the Wind Band Class held at the Salvation Army Citadel Norwich.

The NSWB were awarded Highly Commended Performance Plus and the NSJO Outstanding.



KES Primary School Rock Project

The Autumn term saw the formation of the KES Primary School rock project, staffed by Brian Eade and Tim Skinner.



This has been hugely popular with the schools and has been working its way around the cluster group and has so far involved Whitefriars, Eastgate, North Wootton and St Michaels Primary schools, with Greyfriars and South Wootton to follow later this term. Pupils from this project are offered the opportunity to join the Wednesday project at KES.

Adam Possener



Many congratulations to 11 year old Adam Possener for gaining a place in the National Children's Orchestra. Adam, who attends Town Close House

Preparatory School, also plays the violin and decided to learn the viola to widen his scope for playing in ensembles and for his audition for the NCO. Adam also plays the viola in Norfolk County Intermediate Youth Orchestra which he loves.

'I want to thank you so much at NCiYO as you give so many children chances to develop musically and gain confidence they, (Adam and his sister Rebecca) are both fizzing with enthusiasm which is a huge tribute to everyone who works with the Orchestra'.
Mrs Possener

If your school would like to feature in the next issue please contact:

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