



# WINTERFOLD

PREP • PRE-PREP • NURSERY

## MUSIC NEWSLETTER SPRING 2017

What a fantastic start we had to the Autumn Term and the new musical year! There was a real buzz in the air and once again Winterfold musical talent is really blossoming. Highlights have been the amazing range of instruments on display from the Junior Band; The Senior Brass Group playing Carols at Bewdley Museum; Carols 'a-la-Downton Abbey' around the Christmas tree in the main hall; the Groove Diggers rocking out at the Performance Platform; the antiphonal complexity of the Chamber Choir singing Benjamin Britten, and Mr Price trying to audition for a job at the Munich Christmas Beer Festival on his accordion!

With this breadth of talent on display, I am excited to say that we have a string of really exciting events and opportunities coming up for the children over the coming year, during which I will aim to involve as many children as possible. We are always keen to try out new ideas, and we hope to see you at the events taking place. These include the creation of a Saxophone group, the Chamber Choir performing at a National Festival and a Music Day at Cheltenham College.

Now that the Christmas dust has settled and the Xbox is no longer the pivot of your child's life, please do have a think about music practice! It is essential that 10 minutes a day is done at least 5 times a week for real progress to be made. Practicing for 7 days a week can lead to amazing results! The point here is on how little time a day is actually needed to succeed. Nearly all of the children in Year 3 now learn an instrument; imagine what they could achieve if this path was followed? Don't leave it too late!

### ABRSM RESULTS

Well done to all pupils who sat music exams last term. We had a 100% pass rate. A special 'well done' to **Rosie Brookes** who got a double distinction with Grade 3 violin at 140 and Grade 2 piano at 137. Well done to all the other candidates, the results are on the school website.

### THE SCHOOL MUSIC SHOP

The Music Shop was set up many years ago for a variety of reasons. These included to help drive the fundraising for the Performing Arts Centre, to provide a meeting hub and contact group for musical parents, and to sell sheet music and to allow for the re-sale of sheet music and instrumental supplies.

With the arrival of Amazon Prime etc. the need for sheet music to be ordered through the shop has depleted over the years. However we are still keen to offer the service to parents, and so we have decided to relocate to the other half of the School Uniform Shop. The great news is that the Music Shop and stock cupboard is now open 5 mornings a week and is going to be run by the ladies in the School Shop but still managed by a small team of parents. The shop should be open within the next couple of weeks. Please do keep on using it!

In the Music Shop we stock strings, resin, reeds, valve oil, shoulder rests, recorders etc. as well as second hand music. We are aiming to really expand this collection. We are also looking to sell more second hand instruments so if you have any unwanted or unused instruments or music that you wish to sell or donate please do bring them in.

## SPRING TERM EVENTS

### **INSTRUMENTAL DAY AT Cheltenham College Monday 20th February**

Cheltenham College has always had a wonderful music tradition and we used to enjoy singing at their annual choir day. This is a new venture by the college that we will be supporting with a large number of musicians. The coaching is to be led by members of the CBSO.

### **WINTERFOLD PERFORMANCE PLATFORM Tuesday 21st February**

A performance platform will be held to stage a wide range of solo and group items in the Performing Arts Centre. All are very welcome to attend.

### **Strings Day at Bromsgrove School Friday 24th February**

Some of the more experienced players in Years 7 and 8 will be travelling to Bromsgrove for a day of String Quartets and String Ensemble music. This should be a fantastic chance for the children to play and maybe to bring some ideas and pieces back with them!

### **DUDLEY FESTIVAL OF MUSIC Saturday 4th March**

The singers will be taking part in this very notable local music competition. There are many classes and categories into which children of many different ages from Winterfold will be taking part.

### **WINTERFOLD MUSIC COMPETITION Thursday 9th March**

There will be a clash of Brass, Strings, Keys and Voices in the annual Music Competition. As ever, there are two categories, with Years 3 & 4 starting the morning events and then the Seniors in the afternoon. We are pleased to welcome James McElvey, Head of Music at Bromsgrove over in his first official visit as a judge.

### **NATIONAL FESTIVAL OF YOUTH MUSIC Thursday 16th March**

Winterfold have done extremely well in this event over the last 4 years. We won two places in the finals, a National Jazz award and enjoyed performances at the Symphony Hall and Royal Albert Hall. A hard act to follow! However, this year the Chamber Choir, Senior Brass Group and Groove Diggers will be travelling to the CBSO Centre for the Regional Festival and we wish them a huge amount of luck.

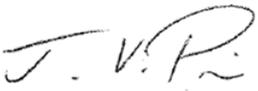
### **MUSIC AND COFFEE Every Friday Morning at 8.45am**

What could be better? (well at least at the time of day!). We plan to showcase some of our musical groups in the main hall, which has a lovely acoustics and will allow the children even more performing opportunities.

### **LOOKING FORWARD.....**

The Summer is always a wonderful season for music. We plan a trip to the Upton Jazz Festival as well as another huge Summer Concert before we break up for the Summer holidays.

As always, thank you to parents for your continued support of Music at Winterfold – I look forward to an exciting term ahead!



Jerry Price  
**Director of Music**

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