

# ***Cranbrook Colourstrings School Newsletter***

**Summer 2009**

Hallo Everyone!

I hope you have had a restful Easter break and are ready to take part in lots more music-making and listening. We have several new recruits in the kindergarten this term and we wish them a very warm welcome. We have lots to look forward to this term, so make a note in your diaries!

## **EASTER CONCERT**

On 14<sup>th</sup> March all the children who are currently learning instruments with Colourstrings had the opportunity to perform to an enthusiastic audience of parents, siblings, friends and grandparents.

Everyone who heard them was thrilled to hear how much these young musicians had improved since they last heard them in the Christmas concert.



There were some lovely duets and trios performed and the ensemble group treated us to a particularly exciting rendition of 'London's Burning', displaying a great variety

of dynamics and sound effects. Well done to everyone!

## **INSTRUMENTAL DEMONSTRATIONS...**

Instrumental demonstrations to the after-school kindergarten children take place in the spring and summer terms each year. This is so that each child who may wish to take up an instrument with us can make an informed decision about which one s/he would prefer.

(It is very important that the child choose the instrument: the character of both the child and the instrument need to 'fit' if at all possible.)

Last term the children heard demos by a violinist, cellist and pianist who are currently in their second or third year of learning an instrument. They were delighted to hear the tunes of songs they could sing being played on these instruments and were very excited to have a try at playing the instrument under the supervision of the teacher. The children have had a second opportunity to have a go on the violin, cello and piano this term.

Not all children will be ready to start an instrument in September, especially in the 4-5's class. Do have a word with Ingrid if you would like to discuss the matter with her.

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## Dates for your Diary 2008

Wednesday 20th May 4.30pm

### **Concert Reviews** **+ Workshop**

This will be a lovely occasion when every Colourstrings instrumentalist will have the opportunity to play one or two of their favourite pieces to an audience of parents, friends and other students and senior teachers who will then give them (very positive) feedback in the form of a written report that will be discussed in the following week's lesson.

This is a prime opportunity to pass on congratulations and constructive advice to students and teachers.

We are very fortunate to have Laura Forbes, Head of Strings at the North London Colourstrings Centre, presiding over the Concert Reviews and then taking a workshop which will involve all the children. It is sure to be a fun and inspiring experience for everyone.

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Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 7.45–9.00pm

### **Parents' Meeting for New Instrumentalists for September 2009**

Venue: Church House, Cranbrook

Attendance is **mandatory** for all parents who wish their child to join the instrumental programme

**Please make a note of this date  
in your diary NOW!**

Ingrid will be talking about the Colourstrings approach to instrumental teaching and the commitment involved to ensure that your child's experience of learning an instrument is a positive and successful one.

We offer only the instruments that are the hardest to learn and require the best teachers for success – violin, 'cello and piano. There will be an opportunity to ask lots of questions and to hear what other parents' experiences have been.

Don't miss it! It's a journey that is not without challenges but it is an inspiration to most!

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Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 11-11.45am

### **"What is Colourstrings?"**

An entertaining talk by Ingrid Sellschop, with a chance to ask questions and learn more about this wonderful approach to learning music.

- \* Why is Colourstrings so successful?
- \* Why is it different from other music tuition?
- \* What are the differences between Colourstrings music classes for children and other local groups?
- \* Why do more musicians send their children to Colourstrings?

**Venue:** Church House, Cranbrook

If you know someone who is interested in finding out more about this inspiring method, do bring them along.

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> July 11am  
**Summer Concert**

**Venue: Cranbrook Primary School**

Absolutely everyone is welcome to this concert in which our 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3rd year instrumentalists will be delighted to share their musical achievements with you.

The concert will be very informal, so our youngest children in the Kindergarten are especially welcome. The opportunity to experience live music-making is not to be missed! It will make a great impression on them!

### **Music to listen to...**

Each week the children listen to a piece of classical music for a short period.

This term's listening music:

**J Haydn** Trumpet Concerto in E flat major  
3rd movement: Allegro

**Schubert** Impromptu No. 3 in G flat major D899  
(piano)

**Bela Bartok** Rhapsody No. 1 for Violin and Piano.  
Prima Parte : 'Lassu'

### **CDs for sale!!**

Listening to music can be such a pleasurable experience and you have an opportunity to buy some wonderful CDs by **The Helsinki Strings**. This orchestra is made up of 8-18 year olds, all of whom have been brought up with Colourstrings in Finland. It has an international reputation every bit as good, if not better than, a lot of professional chamber orchestras.

There are three CDs to choose from offering a wide variety of wonderful string music.

**Price: £13.50**

Ask Ingrid for more details.

### **SINGING RASCALS BOOKS and CDS**

These attractive, colourful books and their accompanying CDs/tapes form the **core repertoire** for our music kindergarten and instrumental programmes.

They are **EXCLUSIVE** to Colourstrings and are particularly well presented, musically. With a child singing each song, followed by a solfa rendition of the song and then a beautiful string orchestra arrangement.

**It is well worthwhile acquiring the set of 3 books and 2 CDs...**they will not only give hours of pleasure to children and parents alike but will also confer a thorough knowledge

of the songs that will bring myriad benefits to your children in their classes for years to come.

**Books: £7      CDs: £13**

All books and other materials are available from Ingrid.

## **Spread the word.....**

Our new 'Younger Under 3's class on Mondays at 9.30am is thriving. There are some spaces left in this class, so do tell your friends about it!

Our baby class on Mondays at 10.20am **needs babies**. This class provides a gentle introduction to music which builds on the parent-child bond and tends to be as much fun for the mums and dads as the babies, so do encourage any friends with babies from newborn upwards to come along.

### **Reminder! Reminder! Reminder!**

Please remember to attend the meeting on

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June**

if your child would like to start learning an instrument in September. A letter will be sent to all parents of children in the 4-7 year-old classes shortly.

Please keep it in a safe place!

## **Summer Term Dates**

**April 20<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> July**

*(Half-term 25<sup>th</sup> – 31st May)*

**NB** Term will finish on Monday 13th July for the Monday classes due to Bank holidays.

**Why not log onto our new website for the very latest information about Colourstrings?**

[www.cranbrookcolourstrings.co.uk](http://www.cranbrookcolourstrings.co.uk)

Have an enjoyable term!

*Ingrid Sellschop*

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