

# ***Cranbrook Colourstrings School Newsletter***

## **Summer 2010**

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. Parents commented on how interesting it was to be able to hear the development in playing achieved between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year instrumentalists.



There were some lovely duets and trios performed and the musicians in the ensemble group demonstrated their considerable musicianship skills of holding independent lines whilst listening to each other by playing two canons simultaneously! Well done to everyone too for singing so magnificently!

## **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 and cellist who are in their 1<sup>st</sup> year of learning an instrument in our school. 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 will have a second opportunity to have a go on the violin and cello 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 2010

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> 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 Anna Salmi, who is a senior violin teacher 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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Friday 21<sup>st</sup> May 7.45–9.00pm

### **Parents' Meeting for New Instrumentalists for September 2010**

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 and 'cello. 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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Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2.30pm

### **Summer Concert**

### **Venue: Cranbrook Primary School**

Absolutely everyone is welcome to this concert in which our 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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:

**Corelli** Concerto Grosso No 2 in F major  
4<sup>th</sup> movement: Allegro

**Schubert** Octet D803  
Allegro

**Miklos Rozsa** North Hungarian Peasant Song and Dance Op5  
(violin and piano)

## 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: £16**

All books and other materials are available from Ingrid.

## Spread the word.....

Our Tuesday afternoon classes for 3-4, 4-5 and 5-7 year olds are all nearly full, but there are spaces in our Under 3 classes, so if you have a friend who you think would enjoy experiencing some lovely music-making with their child and make some new friends at the same time, please give them the enclosed leaflet and do encourage them to come along and give it a go.

<b>Reminder! Reminder! Reminder!</b>
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Please remember to attend the meeting on

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> May**

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**

**19<sup>th</sup> April – 9<sup>th</sup> July**

*(Half-term: 31<sup>st</sup> May – 6<sup>th</sup> June)*

**NB** Term will finish on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> July for the Monday classes due to Bank holidays.

**Why not log onto our 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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