

Cranbrook Colourstrings School Newsletter

Autumn 2017

Hallo Everyone!

We have had a lovely term, with much enjoyment in kindergarten, musicianship, instrumental and ensemble lessons. Our first year instrumentalists have been experiencing the challenges of playing an instrument for the first time and the rewards that regular practice can bring!

Concerts

Last year the children in the instrumental programme gave three concerts. The musicianship groups delighted us with their singing and the instrumental performances varied from charming to magnificent! The children displayed exceptional listening skills as well as conviction in their playing. We were treated to a musical feast of chamber music. Younger siblings who had been listening dutifully in the audience delighted in the opportunity to perform too as they lustily sang their favourite songs! As ever, each concert was rounded off with the audience joining the children for a final song or two. It was so rewarding to hear, during the course of the year's concerts, how much the children had progressed in their playing and their eagerness to share their musical achievements with the audience. We all came away feeling inspired by what we had heard! These performances were the culmination

of much dedication and hard work on the part of the children, their teachers and parents, so well done to everyone!

This year there will be three concerts for the instrumentalists. Do come along and listen, even if your child is still in kindergarten. Experiencing live music-making can make a great impression on children and help them decide what instrument they might like to play one day.

Sunday 10th December 2.30pm
Autumn Term Concert

**Venue: St George's Church
Benenden, TN17 4EF**

We are delighted to have the opportunity to perform in this lovely church again. It promises to be an enjoyable concert so do put the date in your diaries and come along.

Absolutely everyone is welcome to come to this concert There will be singing as well as playing and the concert will be very informal, with the audience joining in with some of the songs, so our youngest children in the Kindergarten are especially welcome. The concert will last for about an hour and will be followed by some well-deserved refreshments.

Music to listen to...

Each week the children listen to a piece of classical music for a short period. Over the course of the term we listen to three very contrasting pieces of music from different eras. Listed below are the pieces we have been listening to this term:

Corelli

Concerto Grosso No 8 in G minor
5th mvt: Allegro

Mozart

Serenade in B flat major
for 13 wind instruments
Menuetto : Allegretto

Arensky

Piano Trio No 1 in D minor
Scherzo: Allegro molto

Music Kindergarten Repertoire

Most of you have purchased the 'Singing Rascal' series of books and CDs which are EXCLUSIVE to Colourstrings and make up the core repertoire of our music kindergarten and instrumental programmes. I hope you are making the best possible use of them by playing them in the car, at bath, supper or bedtime! They will greatly enhance your child's Colourstrings experience. They are exceptionally well presented, musically, and will give hours of pleasure to child and parent alike. Children get to know the songs really thoroughly, which benefits them in the class and parents and siblings are able to sing along and enjoy the songs with them too.

As the children progress through the classes, we revisit all the songs, and our activities get increasingly sophisticated as the children develop their listening, pitching, reading and fine and gross motor skills, so you will find that these materials will last right through the music kindergarten years and into the instrumental years too. As such I think you will agree that they represent incredible value.

They will make great Christmas presents!

Books: £7 CDs: £7

Term Dates

Autumn term ends with our concert on Saturday 10th December

Spring term:

Monday 8th Jan – Thursday 29th March
(Half term: Mon 12th – Fri 16th Feb)

Have an enjoyable remainder of term!

Ingrid Sellschop

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