



# EYS September 2009 Newsletter

"Aiming for a greater understanding and enjoyment of music"



## Dear Friends and Colleagues,

First of all here's a welcome back for the new term. The groups seem finally settled in at **The Maria Montessori School** in **St Leonards** and lessons have started with a vengeance. (We all know who practised over the summer holidays, don't we?!) The new term brings the usual mix of formal and less formal events and hopefully there is an event coming up that will suit everyone's taste.

## Congratulations

Congratulations go to

**Ella Norwich** who passed **grade 1 violin with merit**

**Gabriel Costello** who passed **grade 2 violin**

**Faye Windsor** who passed **grade 2 violin**

**Amanda Herring** who passed **grade 2 violin**

**Ben Jackson** who passed **grade 3 violin with merit**

**Hannah Willson** who passed **grade 5 theory**

**Maya Shankla** who passed **grade 5 cello**

**Nathalie Straker** who passed **grade 7 cello**

## Forthcoming Events

### Workshop

A workshop for parents and teachers interested in the **Violinbabies** and **Cellobabies** teaching method is being planned. For those of us who remember our first music lessons as an occasion to bash extremely loudly on a glockenspiel or wood block, this is a gentle, structured start to the art of playing stringed instruments. **Kay Tucker** who is the originator of the **violin/cellobabies** programme will be there to run the workshop. The details will be posted on the **EYS blog** and on our **events page** as soon as they have been finalized. Please look out for them so that you can register your interest.

### Coffee Morning

The fabled **EYS coffee morning** is an opportunity for budding performers to hone their skills in front of an appreciative audience. The next event will be held at **Belmont Community Hut** in **Belmont Park, Exeter** on **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October** from 10 -12. Please bring cakes and other tasty sweetmeats if you can. Help with serving the drinks is much appreciated too.

### EYS Gala Concert

This event is to be held on **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> November**, South Street Baptist Church, Exeter. The concert will start at **3.30pm** and refreshments will be provided. This is an opportunity for performers to showcase their skills in a slightly more formal setting. The various Wednesday groups also perform and, based on last year's extravaganza, it is great fun with a high standard of musical performance.

## Christmas Carols

I know it is unpopular to mention the “C” word when thoughts of the beach linger at the front of our minds and we despair at the gradual darkening of the nights, but we need a light at the end of the tunnel and what more could you want but the **EYS carol concert!** Last year we played in the **Harlequins Shopping Centre** to great festive effect and this year we are planning a repeat performance. The date of the performance has been pencilled in as the weekend of Sat 12<sup>th</sup>/Sun 13<sup>th</sup> of December.

## Christmas Card Competition

For all the budding artists out there we are running our **Christmas Card** competition again. Design a **Christmas Card** by the **22<sup>nd</sup> October** and your design could be one of the two chosen to go on our Christmas Cards this year! Please use paper up to A4 portrait size and sign your name and age in the corner of the design.

We look forward to seeing your artwork. Any not chosen will appear on the website for Christmas. Good Luck!

## Other News

Beacon Heath Community Fund - The Beacon Learning Community\*\* has funding for children aged 5 – 16 who are eligible for free school meals or who are “looked after” to take part in out of school activities. The scheme will typically fund up to 2 hours of activity a week in term time and 30 hours over the holidays.

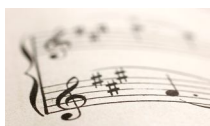


Examples of activities that we can fund are:

- **After-school clubs**
- **Holiday play schemes & activities**
- **Languages, homework/revision clubs**
- **Scouts/Cubs/Brownies/Guides/Sea Cadets, St John’s Ambulance, etc.**
- **Arts & crafts, dance, drama and music activities including music lessons – guitar, piano, flute, etc.**
- **Activities at Leisure or Sports Centres - eg. swimming lessons, street dance classes, etc.**
- **Sports clubs and coaching – eg. football, netball, basketball, boxing, tennis, cricket, etc.**
- **Outdoor pursuits – eg sailing, fishing, rock climbing, canoeing, etc.**

\*\* Schools in the Beacon Learning Community are: St James’ School; St Luke’s Science & Sports College; St Peter’s Church of England Aided School; Stoke Hill Infant School; Stoke Hill Junior School; St Michaels Church of England (VA) Primary School; Ladysmith Infant & Nursery School; Ladysmith Junior School; St Nicholas Catholic Primary School; Whipton Barton Infants School; Whipton Barton Junior School; Willowbrook Primary School; Pinhoe Church of England Primary School; Ellen Tinkham School. Children have attend one of these schools to be eligible for the funding.

For more information please contact Mark Drew on 07833 297011 or email [mark.drew@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:mark.drew@blueyonder.co.uk)



## Friends of Exeter Young Strings for 2009

Become a friend of and support our young musicians.

For just £15 you will receive a monthly newsletter, tickets at members prices and priority booking for events for all of 2009. Please phone **01392 460444** or email [exeteryoungstrings@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:exeteryoungstrings@yahoo.co.uk) if you are interested.

You will be helping to keep our members fees as low as possible meaning more of Exeter's children and teenagers will be able to take part.



From Kirsty and Staff

Cost of printing this newsletter was paid for by Devon Strings

### **ESTA Workshop**

The details below are for a workshop run by the European String Teachers Association. On this occasion the workshop is aimed at grade 5+ players and would be really worth going to by any of our members in Col Legno and Accent, staff and any parents at this level!