



NEWSLETTER No. 1 - October 2008

WELCOME!

We are now 4 weeks into the new Music Centre year and I'd like to welcome those of you who are new to the Centre and also welcome back all returning members.

I hope that you all have an enjoyable and worthwhile year at the Centre and gain some useful musical experience.

We have several new members of staff this year, although most of them will be familiar to you as they substituted towards the end of last year. Welcome to Martin Batchelar, keyboard teacher, Katie Walton, Music Roundabout teacher, Clare Patullo, Music Roundabout assistant and Barbara Agnew, office assistant.

CONGRATULATIONS!

To the following students who have passed various exams:

Theory:

Nathan ClarksonGrade 3 ..Pass 74 marks
Gugandeep RayatGrade 186 marks (merit)
Rosa WeinerGrade 3 ...Pass 72 marks
Rachel WilliamsGrade 1 ...87 marks (merit)

Violin:

Rachel O'GormanGrade 4merit

Well done to all of them and also to anyone else who I don't know about. Don't forget to let me know of any of our student's music exam results so that I can share them with the rest of the Centre.

SNACK BAR

I hope by now you will have discovered our Snack Bar in the school refectory. We have hot and cold drinks, sweets and toast available throughout the morning. All proceeds help to support the Music Centre by buying music, instruments, etc. If there is anything special you would like us to sell (e.g., vegetarian) just ask.

We can always use more volunteers in the Snack Bar so if you can spare a half hour during the morning please call into the Snack Bar and offer your services. We have a card available in the office and from the Snack Bar which you can fill in with your details.

On Saturday 15th November we will be holding a Cake Sale in aid of the NSPCC. You don't necessarily have to bring home baked cakes or pastries, donations of bought items are also welcome. If a Victoria sponge from M&S is good enough to win a prize at the Knapely W.I. then it's good enough for us!

Please bring your donations in early in the morning - there will be a table in the refectory for your donations - and also please come and buy!

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The Orchestra and Wind Band are holding a Concert, provisionally on Saturday 22nd November, here at Carr Manor High School. This is to help raise funds for the Orchestra's trip to Sneaton Castle, near Whitby, in February. As usual, a varied programme is planned and everyone is welcome. Tickets will be available after half term.

Our popular Christmas Carol gigs are spreading and this year we have four events taking place at Strikes Garden Centre, The Bracken Fox at Scarcroft, Thorner Village Green and Oakwood Clock. Dates are given below and we will let you know the times of these events after half term. You might also like to know that some members of the Music Centre will also be playing with the Palm Court Dance Orchestra at Strikes Garden Centre, off the A58, on Thursday 16th October, 6pm-8pm.

HALF TERM

We have two more meetings after this week, the 11th and 18th October, and then we are closed for two Saturdays for half term. We re-open on Saturday 8th November.

ENROLMENT

We still have a few places in some classes including Beginner Recorders, Clarinets and Flutes and most of our Ensembles and Orchestras will always take new members. So if you have any friends or family who would like to join please encourage them to come along. If you are a parent bringing your child to a class why not consider learning or re-learning an instrument yourself. Lots of parents do and they find we have a relaxed and pleasant atmosphere in which to play. We are more than happy for prospective members to "sit-in" for a couple of weeks to try out a class, free of charge. If you're not sure, then come and talk to one of the Office staff or talk to a teacher.

Finally, if you have any problems or concerns with our Music Centre, please feel free to come and talk to me any Saturday morning or email me at the address below.

Regards

Mervyn Manning
Head of Centre

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 25th October and 1st November	Closed for Half Term
Thursday 16th October.....	Open evening at Strikes Garden Centre <i>with the Palm Court Dance Orchestra</i>
Saturday 15th November	Cake Sale in aid of the NSPCC
Saturday 22nd November.....	Orchestra Concert
Thursday 27th November.....	Christmas Music at Strikes Garden Centre <i>(date to be confirmed)</i>
Saturday 6th December	Carols at The Bracken Fox, Scarcroft
Saturday 13th December	Christmas Concert and last day of term
Saturday 13th December	Carols at Thorner Village
Sunday 14th December	Carols at Oakwood Clock