



Friday 12 July 2019

Dear Parents / Carers,

### **Violin and Piano Lessons for Year 2 - Year 6**

In the music assembly this week, we enjoyed performances by our pupils who have been learning to play the piano or violin with our external music teacher, Anna Sawyer-Jones. In September limited spaces will be available for more pupils to begin learning the violin or piano.

*"My name is Anna Sawyer-Jones. I am a violin and piano teacher based in the area. I started playing the violin when I was 7 years of age and the piano since 10 years of age. After finishing my A Levels I was offered a place at The London College of Music, where I gained my degree in music (Bmus Performance). I have been teaching for over 15 years in local schools, through music services and privately. I have experience of teaching all ages from as young as 3 years to adults.*

*Learning a musical instrument has many benefits. It can help to build a child's confidence and express their emotion. It is also proved to help with their academic studies. I have always found great enjoyment from playing the violin. It is an instrument that can be played alone or in a group, offering many social opportunities.*

*There are just a couple of considerations I would like you to be aware of if you would like to sign up for lessons:*

**Pianos:** *You will need (or be prepared to buy) a piano or keyboard at home. Of course pianos are expensive and you may wish to take some time to see whether your child takes to lessons before embarking on such a big purchase. However, there are many digital keyboards available that are perfectly adequate for the initial stages and give you time to see how things go (an ideal Christmas present!)*

**Violins:** *You will need to be prepared to hire a violin. Of course violins are expensive and you may wish to take some time to see whether your child takes to lessons before embarking on purchasing their own instrument.*

**Practice:** *Your child should be prepared to practise for 10 minutes, 5 times a week. If your child starts lessons, they will be issued with a small 'contract' on their first lesson to sign up to doing this. If practice lapses then progress gets very slow, this leads to boredom and maybe giving up altogether, so it is best to maintain a regular practice schedule from the outset. I will provide an exercise book where I will write down the week's work so you can easily track what your child has been doing in the lesson."*



Executive Head Teacher:  
Head of School:  
Chair Governors:  
Safeguarding/Attendance:

Emma Smith  
Michelle Pollard  
Janet Willcox  
Fiona Allen

### Costs of lessons

The cost for the lessons are £13.50 for a 20 minute session and £20 for a 30 minute session. Any piano or violin books that your child requires will cost extra. Once you have secured a space for your child, Anna will invoice you for each half term and arrange payment procedures with you. If your child is in one of the younger years, she suggests a 20 minute lesson to start with but if your child is older and happy moving at a faster pace then you could consider the 30 minute lesson. With the violin lessons, Anna can offer 30 minute group lessons with another child where they receive their lesson together at £12 per lesson, this can be one way to make it more affordable. However these lessons are only offered subject to availability.

If you are interested in your child taking violin or piano lessons, please respond to Anna Sawyer-Jones by email at [stringsoftalent@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:stringsoftalent@yahoo.co.uk) by **Friday 19 July**. We have a few available slots for September 2019, so if you are successful in securing a place, Anna Sawyer-Jones will contact you via email to confirm the start date of your child's lessons. When responding to Anna Sawyer-Jones via email please include the following information:

- Your child's name
- Your child's year group in September 2019
- The instrument your child wants to learn
- Is your child a beginner or had experience playing the chosen instrument? What level did they receive?
- Which lesson time you would like to commit to? (20 minutes, 30 minutes or 30 minute group violin lesson)
- Parents name, contact number and email address

Yours sincerely,

Laura Tubby  
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Anna Sawyer-Jones  
Piano Teacher  
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