

Music at St Peters' Autumn Update 2011

With lots of new things happening and being set up at school this term, I thought it best to give you a bit of information about the music provision at school as we move towards Christmas.

Wider opportunities whole class teaching KS2

I have begun teaching Ukulele to Year 3 and 4 and African Djembe drumming to Year 5 and 6 this term. These lessons use instruments either obtained through the local learning community or loaned from Devon Music. If children in these classes have their own instruments I would greatly appreciate them bringing them in as there aren't quite enough for a whole class yet. This instrumental teaching takes approximately half the weekly music lesson.

Extra-curricular clubs

As we have the above instruments I am running clubs for children to learn them at lunch time. Year 5 and 6 can access the Ukulele on Thursday lunchtime and Year 3 and 4 can access the Djembe drums on Monday lunchtime. These will be 30 minute sessions.

Choir

St Peter's school choir will get going again next Tuesday in the hall from 3:30 – 4:15 – all welcome. This term I will be joined by Mrs King, an acclaimed vocal and singing teacher to help prepare some great songs for a Christmas concert in the church. We will also learn some secular pop songs. Hopefully we will be able to get some 'gigs' around town singing as Christmas approaches.

I am still rubbish at the piano, so am still looking for anyone willing to volunteer to accompany the choir while I wave my arms around!! Please see me if you can help.

Peripatetic lessons

I am working my socks off to get lots of exciting musical opportunities this term and offer a wider range of individual or paired lessons at the school. All Devon Music lessons are £71 for 15 minute individual lesson or 30 minutes paired. £142 for 30 minutes individual – all for 10 weeks. Please see me if interested in any of the following;

Woodwind: Graham Pearson will be in the launch pad on Friday (starting this Friday) mornings teaching Flute, Saxophone and Clarinet as last year.

Guitar and Piano: Chris Reed will be in the launch pad on Wednesday (starting tomorrow) afternoons giving individual or paired lessons.

Singing and vocal coaching: Sue King will be joining St Peters' on Tuesday (starting next week) afternoons offering individual or paired lessons in the launch pad. I'm very excited by this as interest has been great! Sue will also be assisting me in choir after school to develop group singing skills.

African percussion and hand drumming: Steve Davies will also be joining us to offer small group (4 or 5) drumming lessons on Monday (starting next week) afternoons for the bargain price of £38.10 for 10 weeks! This will offer more sophisticated drumming techniques and rhythms than the Y5 and 6 children are learning in class.

Recorder and Clarinet ensembles: Building on the success of last year's class teaching of Recorder and Clarinet I'm looking to set up ensembles for Friday morning taken by Graham Pearson. This will only cost £15 a term if we get enough children (7). Please see me if you are interested.

Worship band: I will be compiling an 'invitation only' Worship band to learn and accompany the songs in Collective Worship. Interested children should see me so I can talk to them about what they could play.

Christmas Concert

At the end of this term there will be a Christmas concert to celebrate all the wonderful music made this term. Details are yet to be confirmed, but watch this space!!

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Many thanks,

Mr Perkins