



October 2017

Welcome to the Autumn 2017 edition of the Leicester-Shire Music Education Hub newsletter. It has been a busy period for the Hub with the beginning of a new Academic year, new School WCET Projects, Continuation activity, more Endangered Species work and the beginning of exciting partnership projects! We hope you enjoy reading up on what has been going on and what's on offer over the next 2 terms!

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Schools News

How Music has helped turn a struggling school around

Articles, studies and online posts about how Music can help young people learn, behave and communicate are commonplace, but it's not often that we hear about a real life example.

In 2011, Feversham Primary Academy in Bradford was in special measures, with decreasing staff, students, morale and results. In a new approach, each student was given greater access to music, which increased as positive results were observed such that today, as a bare minimum, each child has a 30-minute music lesson, a half-hour follow-up lesson, plus a one-hour music assembly with a guest musician and group singing. Songs are incorporated into other classes and pupils often sing about times tables or history.

Today Feversham is rated 'good' by Ofsted and is in the top 10% nationally for pupil progress in reading, writing and maths, according to the most recent data. In 2011, the school was 3.2 percentage points behind the national average in English. This

year 74% of its pupils achieved the expected standard in reading, writing and maths, against a national average of 53%. It is 7.1 points above the average for reading and 3.4 above for writing. In maths, the school was 2.4 and is now 6.5 above it, with results for disadvantaged pupils well above average.

The focus on creativity has improved results across the school, not just among the musically gifted, music coordinator Jimmy Rotheram says, adding that it is "demonstrably more effective than drilling Sats papers".

"My hope is that headteachers and people holding purse strings, possibly even the people who make important decisions in the government, will read about our school and realise that creative subjects are not mere add-ons but essential for the progress of all pupils."

To read the full article as featured in The Guardian Tuesday 3rd October 2017, please click [here](#)



Leicester-Shire pupils become DJs through pioneering Turntablism Unit – Now for Secondary and Primary!

Last year, we launched our pioneering Introduction to Turntablism Unit, piloting it across several secondary schools. We received a great deal of positive feedback from pupils and staff regarding how the unit helped to highlight previously unrecognised musical talent, as well as providing exceptionally high levels of musical engagement. During the summer term, Tim Clay, Head of Performing Arts at St Martin's Catholic Academy, delivered the unit across KS3 and KS4, reaching around 340 pupils.

When speaking of the training and impact, Tim said:

"The training I received was of the highest quality. I left feeling very confident and excited about teaching and delivering the unit...I wouldn't be surprised to see some students, as a result of this unit, considering taking GCSE Music and using the turntables as their instrument."

As well as feedback from schools, the national Music Teacher Magazine wrote a two page article on the project as part of their annual technology focused issue, released in May. Access to the article can be found on the LSMS [Turntablism page](#).

The unit consists of 6 fully planned lessons which are supported by easy to follow PowerPoint presentations, resource handouts and a vast selection of interactive tutorial video clips (featuring BBC Ten Pieces Turntablist – DJ Mr Switch) that demonstrate and guide every step of the learning. The unit comes with a training day and two mornings where Bradley, the course creator, comes in and teaches / supports the lessons in your school. Furthermore, by taking on any unit of Turntablism, schools qualify for an educational discount with our partnered supplier, Music Junkie, should they wish to purchase Turntablism equipment and support the legacy of the project in their school.

Building on the success and feedback from the Introduction to Turntablism unit, we are proud to announce that we have developed two new units of Turntablism. These new units have been designed and modelled around the Numark PT01 Turntable. This turntable is lightweight, versatile, completely portable (mains or battery powered) and uses a 7 inch record instead of a 12 inch record.

Primary Introduction to Turntablism – We have developed a Primary Introduction to Turntablism which has been written for UKS2. The Primary unit teaches children how to perform 2 scratches, read and write notation for those two scratches and culminates with the children creating a partnered performance to the class. As well as experiencing a contemporary and cutting edge technology based music genre, the children learn a variety of skills to do with pulse, rhythm, graphic notation, composition, arrangement and performance. The unit comes fully planned with supporting PowerPoints, handout resources and is driven by interactive video clips.

Secondary Introduction to Turntablism (Original Unit and Light Unit) – As well as continuing to offer the introduction unit on the full size equipment (Introduction to Turntablism Original), we have developed a remodelled version of the introduction unit so that it can be delivered on the 7 inch lightweight turntables (Introduction to Turntablism Light). This helps to cater for schools that have space limitations and who don't require the full size standard DJ setup experience.

Secondary Compositional Turntablism – This unit moves pupils forward and builds on the skills learnt during the introduction unit. Pupils will interact with 7 inch turntables rhythmically and melodically, using the custom designed 7 inch records that contain minor and major blues scales, provided in a range of instrumental voices. Like the introduction unit, it consists of 6 fully planned lessons which are supported by easy to follow PowerPoint presentations, resource handouts and a vast selection of interactive tutorial video clips that demonstrate and guide every step of the learning.

Bookings are now being taken for the project in the next academic year. The cost to schools is £500 which includes a day's training, visits from a consultant, and transportation of the resources. To register interest for next year, please email bradley.smith@leics.gov.uk

Champion Primary School Headteachers

Our thanks go to the 6 Head teachers who work collaboratively with LSMS to champion music in both their school and with their family of schools. We are also extremely grateful for the advice they give to LSMS regarding ongoing work and piloting new projects.

A Champion school is offering pupils excellence in music and the Headteachers are keen to share their good practice with other schools.

We currently have a number of Champion Headteachers who work closely with LSMS.

- Hazel Maher – St Marys C of E Primary School, Bitterswell
- Andrew Pridmore – Elizabeth Woodville Primary School
- Dave Deacon - Ashmount School
- Chris Chorlton – Newtown Linford Primary School & Seagrave Village Primary School
- Sheila Crichton - Marriott Primary School
- Lisa Jones – Ratby Primary School

We currently meet twice a year and are always keen to hear from Head Teachers who would like to become a LSMS Champion Headteacher. If you would like further information please contact Sarah Share via email at sarah.share@leics.gov.uk

Additional Funding for Music Activity and Equipment

In response to feedback from schools regarding attracting additional funds for music activity and equipment, we would like to share the following links which may prove useful:

- Free funding guide that UCan Play has produced with its partners to help you and your schools raise much needed funds for music education. You'll find the guide [here](#).
- Please also see the recently published guide on how school music departments can access additional funding, available from [here](#).

LSMS Service & Staff News!

Staff in the Spotlight

This is a feature that we introduced last year and we are pleased to showcase Andy Wales as our third member of 'staff in the spotlight' for this term:

Hi, I'm Andy Wales and I'm Business Support Officer for LSMS. The main aspects of my job are editing and developing the Hub website, Group Membership, Performance administration, ICT and general service communications – but I do lots of other odds and ends too!

I began working for the service when it was still Arts in Education back in 2002 and have had a few changes to my job title and role since then! I think my background in music helped me get the job initially and I was (and still am) pleased to be working in a music based environment.

I grew up in the North West, where I found a passion and more importantly an enjoyment for playing musical instruments from an early age. Encouraged by my parents, I began playing recorder and joined the school choir. I soon began lessons on Piano

(eventually getting to Grade 5) and Cornet (Gr5) where I joined the school brass band and orchestra, before also joining a local youth brass band, (eventually becoming Principal Cornet and leading the band to several Area Contest prizes and European Tours).

When I was 11 I became obsessed by the guitar. From then on I spent as much time as I could teaching myself how to play, learning from listening to records, copying people I'd seen live, and just generally exploring. Since then I've performed with and/or recorded with over 150 different artists and bands and stopped counting when I played my 1000th gig some time ago.

Outside of work, I still gig regularly with a variety bands but nowadays spend most of my time with my family and renovating our house, which needs a lot!

Music has shaped my life, the majority of my friendships have been made through music in one way or another, music was responsible for me moving to Leicester and not to mention meeting my wife!

personal reason for either Continuing or starting to play. The Classroom teachers collated the letters and wrote their own letter, summarising how the children felt and the benefits of music tuition.

Upon receiving the letters from students and staff, the Governors and PTA have reviewed the situation and made a commitment to focussed fund raising throughout the year specifically for WCET and Continuation, meaning that we now have around 55 children learning to play brass instruments who otherwise wouldn't be doing so.

"The children who have accessed WCET with Tony Rifugiato, or 'Mr R' as the children call him, have had the most wonderful experience. They have learnt a range of pieces which have been played in the local church, De Montfort Hall and in front of over 200 people at our leavers service in the summer. The children have grown in confidence each week, not only with their instrument, but also in their ability to try new things away from these sessions. Mrs Lander, the Year 4 class teacher, learnt



I am always pleased to hear from others about their music experience and stories they have to share – so if you have a story to share, want to put yourself, your music project or your students in the spotlight, then get in touch at lsms@leics.gov.uk

alongside her children and was pivotal in raising the volume of the pupil's voice with our Governors and the Friends of Great Dalby resulting in a moving set of letters which no stakeholder could ignore. Although the school budget is tight with the support of the Governing Body and 'Friends' Great Dalby Primary School now has a growing brass section ... and long may this continue!"

Lucy Anderson
Head teacher
Great Dalby Primary School

We welcome two new Trainee Music Leaders to our Music Leader team with Laura Moore teaching Brass & Woodwind and Bethany Thomas teaching Singing.

LSMS Staff continue to run network meeting for teachers – this is a great chance to meet other music specialists and coordinators and get advice and training from members of the Music Hub. The networks are free to attend and locations vary each term to accommodate all areas of the City and County. To find out more please visit the CPD section of the [Hub website](#).



All Things Instrumental!



The following story is from a young euphonium player who began playing Brass in her school whole class lessons before joining the Leicester-Shire Music and Cultural Trust Junior Concert Band. Lily's story is a great example of the importance of progression routes and about spotting potential and helping it to grow.

How I began playing the Euphonium – Lily Adams

I was first introduced to the baritone in primary school, in year 5, where Mr Goldsworthy taught the whole class how to play brass instruments such as the trombone, the cornet and the baritone. I really took an interest to the baritone as it was something new as I had only played woodwind instruments in the past. I progressed very quickly because I really enjoyed it and so, soon, I was blowing the baritone inside out! This is when I moved on to the Euphonium.

When I began high school, I started playing with the Junior Concert band. I had never played with a lot of different instruments before and it sounded wonderful! I think I was the first euphonium player but a few more joined. Later on in the year, the opportunity arose to upgrade our instruments for a higher quality one; there were four to choose from. We all had to test them out individually and vote for our favourite. I chose the Wessex in silver because it gave a lovely sound and it could produce a range of dynamics - perfect for the band!

I love playing in an ensemble because the sound of all the instruments is incredible. At concerts, I feel thrilled and even proud when I'm playing because the bass parts are quite important. Moreover, at the moment I'm learning a solo to play at De Montfort Hall! It's a spectacular experience and I hope to continue the euphonium for as long as I can!



philharmonia orchestra

Legend of the Sky

Join us for the world premiere of Legend of the Sky, a large-scale musical work commissioned by the Leicester-Shire Schools Music Service to celebrate their 70th birthday, from the Philharmonia Orchestra, composer Fraser Trainer and librettist Hazel Gould. Join over 250 young people from across the county; a large orchestral ensemble with steel pans, Indian classical musicians and members of the Philharmonia Orchestra for an epic musical reimagining of the ancient Leicestershire folk legend, The Griffin of Griffydham. The music narrates the tale of a griffin, a fabulous creature with the head and wings of an eagle and the body of lion who terrorised the villagers of Griffydham.

The concert will take place on **Saturday 3rd February 2018, 4.00pm** at De Montfort Hall, Leicester
Tickets £8.00 full price / £5.00 concession

Tickets go on sale Friday 1st December 2017 at the De Montfort Hall Box Office: 0116 233 3111. We look forward to seeing you there!



Celebrating Success!

Huge congratulations to Stephanie Addison, who has been offered a place at Chethams 6th form. She will take vocal as her first study, cello second and piano third. Stephanie has sung with LSMS Choirs for many years and last year sang a solo in our specially commissioned massed choral and orchestra piece 'The Last Plantaganet' which had its premiere at De Montfort Hall in Leicester.

LSMS Music Ensembles

Following our annual application and audition process, students have joined our ensembles and have now begun their weekly rehearsals. The students will also have course days where sectional staff will work with individual sections to work on the repertoire they are learning for their end of term performance.

Each of these events give students and parents the chance to see performances by other groups within the LSMS ensemble structure and also those given by our Hub partners including school groups.

Do you have students in your school or partnership projects who would benefit from playing in a larger high achieving music ensemble?

Although the majority of places in our senior groups are now filled, it's still worth contacting us to check on availability. We are always happy to welcome members to our more junior groups, particularly the Strictly Strings Ensemble and Junior Concert Band. Please visit our [website](#) for more details.

We also offer a wider range of after school music activities at various venues across the [City](#) and [County](#).

Grade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Brass	Junior Concert Band							
			Training Orchestra					
				Wind Orchestra				
				Concert Orchestra				
					Symphony Orchestra			
Woodwind	Junior Concert Band							
			Training Orchestra					
				Wind Orchestra				
				Concert Orchestra				
					Symphony Orchestra			
Steel pans								
	Strictly strings							
			Training Orchestra					
Strings			Concert Orchestra					
				Symphony Orchestra				
				Senior Strings				
Percussion	Junior Concert Band							
			Training Orchestra					
				Wind Orchestra				
				Concert Orchestra				
					Symphony Orchestra			
	Junior Percussion							
				Senior Percussion				

As many of you will be aware, 2018 is the 70th anniversary of our music service being founded by Eric Pinkett.

In celebration of this, we will be running a number of events throughout the year including, A massed instrumental and choral commission with the Philharmonia Orchestra, to be premiered at the De Montfort Hall, Leicester on 3rd February and a Grand Leicestershire Schools Symphony Orchestra reunion event on 24th March at Wigston College, Leicester, where players from the past 70 years have been invited to enjoy a day of reminiscing and good music. If you or someone you know were members of the LSSO and would like to attend, please [complete the survey](#).



We have also launched a competition for members of our ensembles to help create a new logo to celebrate our anniversary. The winning design/s will be chosen shortly and will be used on literature and communications for the whole of 2018 – look out for it in our next Newsletter!

We are now in the process of preparing for our Autumn Term performances and our ensembles are already working hard on their new pieces. Information about these performances can be found on our [Events page](#).

Performances

The Summer term saw a large number of performances providing ensembles with an opportunity to perform pieces they have worked on over the academic year. These featured over 5000 students from across the City and County and included three De Montfort Hall Summer Festivals, each with a matinee performance featuring our Whole Class Ensemble schools, along with many other performances.

Congratulations to all the fantastic young musicians involved.



CPD Courses



LSMS were really proud of the breadth and quality of the courses on offer last year and evaluation showed us that delegates thought it was great too. We are confident that we have come back this year with an even stronger array of CPD to inspire, resource, guide and advise you in your careers as music educators.

We have added courses that teachers told us they needed, teamed up with experts to offer specialist SEND CPD, doubled the singing CPD on offer and included many more FREE networking and twilight training sessions to improve accessibility and put you in touch with your colleagues across the City and County.

We hope you will agree that we continue to bring the very best expertise into Leicestershire to share their knowledge with you. Please visit our website regularly as we will also promote special offers throughout the year, including the 'line-up' for our annual music educators' conference which takes place at College Court in 2018.

All bookings can now be completed online and if you are a NQT or NQT+1 please look out for the courses where supply cover costs are included with your booking.

Finally, if your school is part of a multi academy trust, please contact us for offers on multi-buy CPD packages that offer excellent savings and quality training for more members of your team.

All bookings can now be completed [online](#)



Any questions or suggestions? We would love to hear from you.

Email us at lsmstraining@leics.gov.uk

Music Educators' Conference - Curriculum Conducting: Making the musical journey count

Keynote Speaker 1: John Archer 'Comedy, magic and a little bit of ukulele.' John Archer is one of the best comedy magicians in the UK today and will share how we can overcome barriers to offer quality music education for all pupils. "One of the funniest men I know" Tim Vine - Comedian

Keynote Speaker 2: Dr Ally Daubney will speak at Key Stage specific sessions on giving all pupils the best opportunities in music education. National Researcher, Dr Ally Daubney, is currently a curriculum adviser for the new Key Stage 3 National Curriculum for Music and regularly publishes reviews for the Teacher Training Resource Bank.

A selection of workshops are also on offer including:

- Royal Opera House: Key Stage specific interactive training session packed full of user-friendly lesson ideas inspired by the ballet and opera repertoire.
- Music technology: Demystifying teaching Music Technology
- Resilience as a Music Teacher
- Why you need to know about Research
- Entry into conducting
- Improving confidence in conducting
- Practical session using Boomwhackers
- Plus networking time and trade stands

Thursday 1st February 2018, 9:30am-4:15pm
at College Court, Leicester, LE2 3TQ
Price: £180 / Early bird offer: £150 (if booked by 1st December 2017)

Further information can be found [here](#)

LSMS Music Quality Mark

Congratulations go to the following schools who have recently achieved the LSMS Music Quality Mark.

Ashmount School has been awarded **Gold**
Cedars Academy has been awarded **Silver**
Stokes C of E, Blaby has been awarded **Bronze**

If you would like to know more about achieving an LSMS Music Quality Mark - in recognition of the hard work you put in to giving your pupils the best opportunities in music - please contact sarah.share@leics.gov.uk

Partnership Working

Partnership working continues to be at the heart of Hub activity and this term is no exception.



The Mighty Creatives is a charity that believes that access to play, creativity and culture is vital, significantly affecting how children and young people do at school, their health, their life chances.

We exist to provide this access for children and young people aged 0-25. As the East Midlands Bridge Organisation for Arts Council England, we support schools, cultural organisations, teachers and artists to champion the arts across the region.

Take a look at the events we have coming up and for more information on how we can support you get in contact: 0116 2616834 | rosanna@themightycreatives.com

Landmarks of Cultural Education

Wednesday 29th November 2017 - Mansfield Library

An exciting chance to network with cultural organisations and find out more about their offer to schools. Teachers will be given exclusive access to Cultural Education.

Your chance to learn more

Between now and the end of 2017, The Mighty Creatives are hosting a wide range of training events:

- Establishing creative collaborations and fundraising
- How to apply for a Grant for the Arts
- How to Apply to the Heritage Lottery Fund; and
- Creative Schools Networks

Register with The Mighty Creatives and book on for these events. For more information visit the website: www.themightycreatives.com

Cultural Education Partnership Event

New Walk Museum and Art Gallery, Leicester.

City Classroom are looking for cultural ambassadors to join in exploring maths through a range of arts based workshops with professional artists.

This event is for years 4 and 5, SEN and their teachers, the day will support the young participants in gaining a Discover Arts Award, as well as providing CPD for teachers looking for exciting ideas to take back to the classroom.

Book your place now to avoid disappointment!

For further information/to book, please contact: Anna-Marie on annamarie@cityclassroom.org.uk Find out more about [The City Classroom](#)

Taiko Rhythms

Working with our partners Bullfrog Arts, we have developed the Taiko Rhythms programme. Through this we are delivering Taiko sessions for young people in mainstream primary and secondary schools as well as EBD Special Schools and targeted programmes for Looked After Children.

We're very pleased that Burton on the Wolds County Primary School, Greenfield Primary School and Carisbrooke Specialist Learning Centre are all starting



Children's Hospital School
Leicester

Hospital Schools

Leicester-Shire Music Education Hub recently worked on a project with the Children's Hospital School, in partnership with Soft Touch Arts. The project involved pupils at the school with mental health issues.

The overall aim of the sessions was to improve the mental health and well-being of pupils through the use of music-making. During the project pupils learned to play instruments, write lyrics, record their singing and playing and use music technology to manipulate their tracks. This culminated with all pupils receiving a CD of their songs.

The impact of this project far exceeded the initial expectations with all participants reporting an improvement in both their well-being and music making skills.

The Leicester-Shire Music and Cultural Trust are keen to broaden the offer of music-making experiences and further the opportunity to experience the power of music by inviting the pupils to whole day sessions at Soft Touch Arts.

If you would like to donate money specifically to furthering musical experiences among vulnerable children who suffer with mental health issues please visit www.leicestershiremusicshub.org and click on Support Us and follow the links. Donations are taken through [Parent Pay](#). Please mark your gift "Supporting children with mental health".

Thank you!

For more information please email sarah.share@leics.gov.uk





Mahogany Opera Group is a leading independent opera and music theatre company stretching the boundaries of what opera can be and who it is for. Last year they worked with 5 local authorities to produce five new 10 minute operas designed for and by KS2 children and this year Leicester- Shire Music Education Hub is lucky enough to part of the next stage of this exciting project.

Working in the Market Harborough area the team have already begun work in Bringham Primary School who will be creating their own snappy opera, working with a creative team led by Frederic Wake-Walker, Mahogany's artistic director and musical director and composer Stephen Deazley. The creative day was fantastic and the children came up with lots of great ideas for their opera – ideas around machines and smog trolls have now been taken away to be worked on by the team and then the children will have another day of input before the final opera is produced.

After Spring Half Term the team will be back again with 4 additional operas that have been written by other children from different parts of the country. Bringham and 4 other primary schools will then start to work on learning and staging the operas for a performance in March in Market Harborough and then again in June in the new Neville Holt Opera house.

"Today was interesting & fun because we were acting as machines & we're going to design our own machines & words for the opera"
"I really like it. It's exciting to know we are creating & choreographing our own opera to perform for people!"



SNAPPY OPERAS **M** MAHOGANY
Ten new mini-operas for children OPERA GROUP

CURVE

Well done to Hannah Matthews and Emily Sanderson who both successfully applied to play in the band for Oklahoma which was on at Curve Theatre in October half term. Hannah, on trumpet, and Emily, playing Flute and Piccolo, joined 6 professional players for the production. The Musical Director of the production and the professional players were very impressed with the standard of playing and we hope they both enjoyed the experience. Watch this space for further opportunities in partnership with Curve Theatre.



Shout about your Music! Share your Work!

If you have brilliant and innovative music education going on in your school or a partnership that is really working then why not shout about it!! We are currently gathering editorial for our next issue and would love to hear from you about what's happened or what's coming up. It might be that you have an opportunity you want to share or that you are involved in the Music Hub and how it has helped you... whatever it may be, let us know. Please email andy.wales@leics.gov.uk



For more information about the Leicester-Shire Music Education Hub, visit our website at www.leicestershiremusicHub.org

Don't forget to follow us

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