



St. Anne's C.E. (VC) Primary School

"Together with God, Making Learning a Life Long Friend"

We aspire to be guided in all that we do by our inclusive Christian ethos. We are enthusiastic about life-long learning and share wisdom in serving each other and our world. We encourage all to live lives of hope and aspiration, inspired through acquiring new skills and attributes. Dignity and respect are at the heart of our school.

15th July, 2020

FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE PERSON WITH PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

RE: INSTRUMENTAL LESSONS AT ST. ANNE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, BROWN EDGE
INFORMATION FOR PARENTS 2020/2021

WHICH INSTRUMENTS ARE AVAILABLE?

- Woodwind - Clarinet, Flute and Recorder
Strings - Violin, Viola and Cello
Brass - Trumpet and Cornet (perhaps leading to some of the other brass instruments such as Trombones, Tenor and French Horns, Euphoniums and Tubas).
Piano

IF YOUR CHILD IS INTERESTED IN LEARNING TO PLAY ANY OF THE ABOVE INSTRUMENTS OR POSSIBLY A DIFFERENT INSTRUMENT AND THERE IS ENOUGH INTEREST, WE MAY BE ABLE TO PUT ON EXTRA OR DIFFERENT SESSIONS - PLEASE REPLY TO THIS EMAIL.

To play clarinet, flute and brass instruments your child does need to have established his or her set of second teeth. **This is not necessary** for the Year 3 children, see below, as they will be using specially adapted "brass" instruments. Younger pupils may have difficulties with holding the clarinet or the flute. Violins and violas are available in smaller sizes so that they are easier to hold. The recorder, as well as being a fantastic instrument in its own right, is a good starting instrument for many other instruments because it is small and light; many of the basics of tonguing, fingering, blowing and music reading for other woodwind and brass instruments can be learnt. Children can then change to another instrument at a later stage (and/or keep playing the recorder). **Children from Year 1 can take part in these opportunities.**

As part of the Music Curriculum all Year 3 children will have a VIOLIN and weekly tuition as part of Key 2 Music. This will be funded from the School Budget.

STAFFORDSHIRE PERFORMING ARTS

Members of Staff from Entrust Music Service Staffordshire (EMSS) visit the school every week during term time to teach the children. Teachers from SPA work at the other Primary Schools in Endon and at

St Anne's C.E (V.C.) Primary School, Brown Edge, Stoke on Trent, Staffordshire ST6 8TA

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Endon High School. On Saturday mornings, teachers from SPA direct ensembles at Moorside High and Werrington Primary - this is known as Moorlands Music Centre (MMC).

PRACTISING

Learning to play a musical instrument does take patience and perseverance because of the different skills that have to be learnt and coordinated with each other. Therefore, if progress is to be made it is important that there is time for practising in your child's weekly routine. Sometimes he or she might need a little reminder about this!

Just like any other "homework", you need to offer support and show interest in your child's learning - it does not matter if you have any formal musical knowledge - your encouragement is much more important.

FINANCIAL MATTERS - INSTRUMENTS, LESSONS AND OTHER COSTS

The School charges an annual charge of £240; this may be paid termly, as a contribution to the cost of the lessons. This year it will be £80 per term. Recorders groups will be charged at £120 a year, £40 a term.

Please note that if you receive certain benefits all these charges are waived. Please check with Mrs. Rosson.

You will need to be prepared to purchase tutor books for the instrument your child is learning (about £10) and to purchase other music as your child progresses. Additionally, beginner clarinetists need to have new reeds at regular intervals to replace the old ones when they break or wear out. On violins, cellos and violas, strings do occasionally break and these may need replacing too (about £3).

FOR THOSE CHILDREN WHO ALREADY HAVE LESSONS WE WOULD ASK THAT YOU EMAIL THE OFFICE REATED ADVISING THAT YOU WISH YOUR CHILD TO CONTINUE WITH THEIR LESSONS.

LOOKING FURTHER AHEAD....

When your child has made some progress it may be that his or her teacher recommends joining one of the following Moorlands Performing Arts Centre Groups: Training Wind Band, Just Brass, Junior Strings. The MMC Choir and Percussion Ensemble are open to all children in the Moorlands Area, regardless of whether they play an instrument or not. Your child can then progress to the senior groups in the Performing Arts Centre and then maybe to the Staffordshire North Region Ensembles.

At Endon High School, there are Intermediate and Senior Orchestras and a Jazz Band. Membership of the Senior Orchestra usually makes children eligible (spaces permitting) for the annual residential trip to Barlaston. There are several other concerts and/or a production during the school year.

Yours sincerely,



Mr. E. Hobson
Headteacher

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