

To the parents/carers of all members of
*West Suffolk Youth Music and Bury St
Edmunds County Music School*

Philip Shaw
Head of Service
Suffolk County Music Service
Northgate Arts Centre
Sidegate Lane West
Ipswich
Suffolk
IP4 3DF

Enquiries to:
Tel: 01473 281866
Fax: 01473 286068
Email: county.musicsservice@suffolk.gov.uk

Date: 21 January 2013

Dear Parent/carer

STOMP–style Percussion Workshops with Adele Thompson

I am delighted to inform you that the *Friends of Bury St Edmunds County Music School* have arranged for two percussion workshops to be delivered at West Suffolk Music Centre on Sunday 28 April. The workshops will be delivered by Adele Thompson, one of the founder members of the original *STOMP* production and an internationally renowned choreographer and dance animateur. Adele's workshops are intensely physical and rhythmically challenging and she will deliver two different workshops: one designed for students in KS2/3 and one for students in KS4/5.

Members attending the workshops will need to wear loose, comfortable clothing (jeans will not be suitable) and substantial trainers or similar, not dance shoes; and will need a good supply of water. Students should expect a high intensity of physical activity, and also to work in complex rhythmic styles. In order for participants to get the most out of these workshops we will unfortunately have to limit numbers at each session.

While Adele will tailor the morning session to KS2/3 particularly, I can assure older students that the afternoon workshop will be very suitable for their age group. I have participated in adult workshops Adele has delivered and there is an appropriate level of challenge for all. The workshops will take place in the drama studio at County Upper School. The KS2/3 workshop will be from 9.30 a.m. until 12.45 p.m. including a 15 minute break and the KS4/5 workshop will be 1.45– 5.00 p.m. again including a break.

The total number of participants in the morning workshop will be limited to 40, and in the afternoon to 30. Places for each workshop will therefore be allocated on a first come, first served basis, and we will then operate a waiting list. Please complete the consent form if you would like your son/daughter to take part in this activity and return it to your child's tutor/ensemble leader as soon as possible.

I have put a photograph of Adele engaged in this type of work professionally on the notice board in West Suffolk Music Centre, and we will be collecting cans over the next few weeks for members to use during the workshops, so please could I ask you all to save steel food cans (empty, clean, ring-pull type without sharp edges) and bring them to Music School activities where there will be a box for collection.

Continued overleaf

The Friends of Bury St Edmunds County Music School

It has only been possible to organise this workshop because of the efforts of the *Friends of Bury St Edmunds County Music School*. Their fund-raising activities, and particularly the proceeds from the tuck shop, will pay for the workshops. Unfortunately, we are having problems finding enough volunteers to staff the tuck shop on a weekly basis, both on a Friday evening and Saturday morning, and we are also short of volunteers to staff the front desk on Saturdays. If you are able to volunteer to help with any of these activities we would be extremely grateful as, if we do not have volunteers to run it every week, the tuck shop will unfortunately have to close on the weeks when we have no one, which will affect the students but also the *Friends'* income to pay for additional exciting events such as the one offered in this letter. If you feel you would be able to offer even just one Saturday per term please leave your name and contact details at the front desk or with a member of staff.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hilary Turner', written in a cursive style.

Hilary Turner
Senior Manager (West)