

Suffolk County Music Service  
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Enquiries to: Andrew Coles  
Tel: 01473 281866  
Email: county.musicsservice@suffolk.gov.uk



**To: All BSECMS Members, and their Parents/Carers**

## **Bury St Edmunds County Music School Newsletter**

### **Welcome Back**

Welcome back to the new term and year: we hope you have all had a lovely Christmas holiday. A particularly warm welcome to new KS2 Beginner Ensemble members joining Bury St Edmunds County Music School (BSECMS) for the first time.

There will be 10 sessions this term. You are reminded that there will not be a session on Saturday 11 February or 18 February (the Saturdays at the start and end of the half-term holiday). There will be an Open Morning and informal 'sharing' of the term's work for parents and families of members at our final session of this term on 25 March. Further details will be available later in the term.

### **End of Autumn Term Sharing: December 2016**

This was an excellent opportunity to celebrate the culmination of our Autumn Term's work at BSECMS.

There was a good crowd of parents and family represented to hear the musical mix on offer. Very entertaining performances were provided by all the ensembles, from Cygnets and 5-note Band through to Improvisation Group, Choir and Orchestra. West Suffolk Youth Guitar Ensemble also took part in the morning. It is always good to see the outcomes of the work that takes place at our activities.

Thank you to the *Friends of Bury St Edmunds County Music School* for organising refreshments and mince pies.

### **Registration and Fire Drill**

Please note that it is a requirement of membership that a completed, signed form for each member is returned to us at the start of each term, whether or not a fee is to be paid, in order that we can ensure our records are accurate and up to date. This is particularly important should we need to contact you in the event of an emergency, for example. New members should speak to a member of staff to ensure they have the correct membership form and ask their parent/carer to complete and sign both sides, and return it to the address shown as soon as possible.

It is essential that all members and their parents/carers sign in and out (if leaving before 12.00) so that we know exactly who needs to be accounted for in the event of an emergency.

A Fire Drill will be held at some point this term. Please familiarise yourself with the emergency evacuation procedures and make sure you know which member of staff you need to register with in the event of an emergency. If you are unsure about how the registration or Fire Drill process works, please speak to a member of staff who will be happy to explain.

### **Absence and emergency arrangements**

Members unexpectedly unable to attend Music School are asked to let us know, in advance if possible, by leaving a message on the West Suffolk Music Centre answerphone: 01284 723105 or by emailing county.musicsservice@suffolk.gov.uk (emails are accessed Monday-Friday until 5.30pm).

During the winter months it is not unusual for there to be some disruption to Suffolk Youth Music activities due to inclement weather. In the event of an unexpected closure of any of our activities we will do our best to get this information to you. Where possible, announcements will be made on the Suffolk County Council website ([www.suffolk.gov.uk](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk)), on BBC Radio Suffolk (103.9, 104.6, 95.5 and 95.9 FM), and our social media channels (see below).

## Safeguarding, Housekeeping and Practical Arrangements

The Library in the adjacent building to the Performing Arts Block is open on Saturday mornings and parents/carers are very welcome to wait there while their child is involved in activities. The *Friends of Bury St Edmunds County Music School* operate a fundraising coffee bar all morning and there is internet access available, so why not find a quiet corner to relax with a cuppa and catch up on the Saturday papers perhaps while your child is occupied? You are reminded that, in the interest of child protection and safety, parents may only wait in the Library, and not in the corridors around the Performing Arts Block.

## Friends of Bury St Edmunds County Music School

The *Friends of Bury St Edmunds County Music School* continue to work hard to support our activities, both on Saturdays by providing tuck and refreshments throughout the morning, and by providing support and catering for Suffolk Youth Music activities. All profits are used towards providing 'extras' for us, such as workshops, outings, and, occasionally, equipment. We are very grateful for the help they provide. The *Friends* will welcome any more volunteers who are able to give up the occasional Saturday for tuck shop duty. The *Friends* website [www.friendsofbcms.org.uk](http://www.friendsofbcms.org.uk) provides additional information about their activities.

## Concerts and Events

Please make a note of the following dates in your diaries:

### Saturday 25 March: open morning at West Suffolk Music Centre, Bury St Edmunds

Bury St Edmunds County Music School with West Suffolk Youth Guitar Ensemble

### Saturday 1 July concert at 10.00am at All Saint's Church, Bury St Edmunds

Bury St Edmunds County Music School with West Suffolk Youth Guitar Ensemble

### Planned events for other WSYM ensembles

#### Friday 24 March concert at 7.30pm at The Apex, Bury St Edmunds

West Suffolk Youth Orchestra and West Suffolk Youth Wind Band

#### Monday 27 March concert at 7.30pm at The Theatre Royal, Bury St Edmunds

West Suffolk Youth Jazz

#### Friday 12 May concert at 7.30pm at Tattersalls, Newmarket

West Suffolk Youth Orchestra, West Suffolk Youth Wind Band and West Suffolk Youth Jazz

#### Friday 30 June concert at 7.30pm at All Saint's Church, Bury St Edmunds

West Suffolk Youth Orchestra and West Suffolk Youth Wind Band

## Contact

Please speak with Mr Waters, Tutor in Charge, should you require further information on any of these matters. Alternatively, contact Mr Andrew Coles, Senior Manager by email to [county.musicservice@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:county.musicservice@suffolk.gov.uk)

Copies of SYM newsletters are available on our website:  
<http://www.suffolkmusicHub.co.uk/schools/county-music-schools>

Information regarding the full programme of Suffolk Youth Music activities and events can be found on our website [www.suffolkmusicHub.co.uk](http://www.suffolkmusicHub.co.uk), where you will also find news and updates about the work of the Suffolk Music Education Hub and the Suffolk County Music Service.

You may also consider following us on social media, where we share photographs, news and updates about music making in Suffolk and beyond.



/suffolkcountymusicservice  
/suffolkmusicHub



@suffolkcms @suffolkmusicHub