

So much has happened since our last newsletter!

During March, DASP Music students were involved in at least six different performances; from festivals, to fundraising concerts to masterclasses.

Our main focus for this term has been preparing for our Summer concert in July, however there is always more being planned, so read on to find out what else is in store!



Year 4 Singing Concert

Hanna Trevorrow  
DASP Music Coordinator

[www.daspmusic.co.uk](http://www.daspmusic.co.uk)

## News...

### Weymouth Music Festival



On 4<sup>th</sup> March, Training Windband, Brass Ensemble and DASP Youth Orchestra all took part in the annual Weymouth Music Festival at Budmouth College.

The adjudicators made some encouraging comments to the young performers and it was lovely for them to have the chance to perform to a large audience. It was also great to be able to hear some local adult groups perform at the same time, such as the Weymouth Concert Brass. Well done to all who took part.

**Tickets for DASP  
Music Summer  
Concert now on  
sale!**

### DASP Musical Theatre Workshop



Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March saw the Weymouth Pavilion taken over by over 100 students from the three DASP middle schools and THS, to take part in an exclusive musical theatre workshop. Students had prepared pieces in advance and during the workshop they were able to work on adding movement, characterisation and other performance attributes to the songs.

The workshop was run by four professionals who all work in London's West End.

The workshop leaders were fun and encouraging and really inspired our students to rise to the occasion.

During the evening, family and friends were invited to watch a

showcase of the day's work, which also included performances by the four professionals.

The day was made possible through funding from the national singing strategy. It was a fantastic day and one which many students will remember for a long time to come.

Photos and video of the event can be found under the Events tab of our website.

### Year 4 Singing Concerts



On 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> March, over 400 children from across the DASP first schools came together to perform at the annual DASP Year 4 Singing Concerts held at St Osmund's sports hall. Mrs Trevorrow had run workshops at

each school to prepare some large group pieces which the children came together to perform on the day. These included 'Lean on me', 'Zum Gali Gali' and 'Something Inside So Strong' – all sung in two part harmony.

In addition, each school prepared their own individual performance. These ranged from 'Ain't no Mountain High Enough', to 'You Raise Me Up' to a special 'mash-up' created especially for the performance.

Well done to all who took part and thank you to all of the staff involved.

Photos and video of the event can be found under the Events tab of our website.

### **Julia's House Fundraising Concert**



On Sunday 19th March, Stringalings, Flute Choir, Uke Troupe, Harmony, Classics and various small groups and soloists took part in a fundraising concert for Julia's House at the Dorchester Corn Exchange. The Mayor was in attendance and was greatly impressed by the wealth of talent on show by the DASP students. Over £600 was raised for the Julia's House Hospice charity. Well done to all involved!

### **Forthcoming Events...**

8<sup>th</sup> July – DASP Music Summer Concert @ Weymouth Pavilion (All DASP Ensembles)

11<sup>th</sup> November – Thomas Hardye Singers and Imperial College Orchestra Concert at St Mary's Church Dorchester (involving middle school students too)

25<sup>th</sup> November – DASP Young Musician of the Year Festival. More details to follow soon!

6<sup>th</sup> December – DASP Christmas Concert @ Thomas Hardye School (All DASP Ensembles)

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2018 – DASP Music Summer Concert 2018 @ Weymouth Pavilion (All DASP Ensembles) – put it in the diary!!

### **Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra Workshop Day**

We are all really looking forward to the BSO workshop day on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June. There are over 80 students signed up to be involved and it looks like it will be a very enjoyable day. With luck we will be able to showcase some of the work achieved on the day at the DASP Summer Concert on 8<sup>th</sup> July. We are very grateful to our supporters who have sponsored this event.

### **NEW!!!**

### **Colourstrings Music classes for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children**



We are really excited that from September we are able to offer after-school music sessions aimed at KS1 children.

Classes will be taught by Jo Pires (BA hon's Music; PGCE; Trinity College of Music, London).

Teaching is child-centred, building on each child's existing understanding. Children sing, listen & have fun in a warm & positive environment, barely aware of the enormous amount they are learning in a sensitive, stimulating, structured & above all enjoyable way.

Day: Wednesdays

Time: 3:45 – 4:30 (reception),

4:30 – 5:15pm (Years 1 & 2)

Venue: Damers First School

Classes will cost £40 per term (10 sessions).

To sign up, please visit

[www.daspmusic.co.uk](http://www.daspmusic.co.uk) or contact DASP Music on 01305 259721.

Application deadline for starting in September 2017 is **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July**.

### **Raffle donations needed!**

We are currently taking donations for prizes for the raffle at the Summer Concert on 8<sup>th</sup> July. If you have something suitable to donate, please bring it to the DASP Music office at The Thomas Hardye School or give it to Mrs Trevorrow at Music Night. We will be very grateful for all donations that we receive!

**NEW!!!****DASP Young Musician  
of the Year Festival**

We are excited to announce that on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November, we will be holding our first ever DASP Young Musician of the Year Festival. The festival will be aimed at students of approximately grade 4 standard and above and will provide performance and feedback opportunities for students in a friendly and supportive environment. More information will be available shortly and we will be asking students to apply early in the new academic year. Watch this space!

**DASP Jazz Band Gig**

The DASP Jazz band are excitedly preparing for their first proper 'gig' at Tom Brown's pub in Dorchester at 5pm on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June. All are welcome to come along and support the band. This band has been a huge success since its formation two years ago, and the students have gained in confidence at soloing and playing in a jazz style. We are really keen to recruit new players to this band in September to fill the gaps that may be left by students moving on, in order to allow this group to continue in the future. Anyone from about grade 1 standard and above is welcome to join!

**Over £200 raised so  
far through  
Easyfundraising.org!****easyfundraising**  
.org.uk

Our supporters have been busy shopping to support DASP Music – thank you! It's easy to support us in this way and doesn't cost you a penny. Just visit [easyfundraising.org](http://easyfundraising.org) and sign up for an account. Every time you shop online and access the websites that you want (e.g. Amazon) through easyfundraising, they donate 1-

5% of whatever you spend to us. You can even earn us funds by buying your summer holiday this way!

**Please sign up now!****NEW Middle Schools'  
Choir**

From September, we are launching a new Middle Schools' Choir to replace the Harmony and Classics choirs that currently operate. Whilst these choirs have been very successful over the years, financial pressures mean that we need to slim down provision slightly and combine groups to make them more viable.

We are looking forward to Mrs Brind starting this new choir which will sing a mixture of pop and classical pieces with a focus on harmony singing.

The group will meet on a Friday at 4-5pm at The Thomas Hardye School. Please contact us now if you are interested in your son/daughter taking part!

**Thank you!**

We are grateful to all of our supporters who have contributed to DASP Music financially or through giving their time over the past year. Many of the opportunities that we are able to provide to the young people in Dorchester and surrounding area would not be possible without your support.

If you think you might be interested in supporting us financially or through volunteering for us in the future, please get in touch. We are always on the look-out for people/businesses to sponsor events or volunteers to help with our ensembles.

A huge thank you also to our young DASP Music Mentors. These students attend ensembles every week to help to support younger students. If you think you might like to become a DASP Music Mentor in the future, please get in touch!

**Instruments for hire**

DASP Music now has a small selection of instruments available to hire at very competitive prices. These instruments have been donated to DASP Music and then money raised through fundraising has been used to service the instruments to a playable standard.

If you are interested in hiring an instrument from us, please get in touch.

If you have old instruments lurking at home that you think might be better used by students within DASP Music, we would be very pleased to make use of them. Please spread the word!

## DASP Music Ensembles – Join in September!

DASP Music runs the only weekly music centre for young musicians in West Dorset. We have 15 weekly ensembles, most of which meet at our Wednesday 'Music Night' at The Thomas Hardy School. We have groups, both for complete beginners and those for more advanced players. If you play an instrument, why not come along and give one of our sessions a go? **We are particularly keen to recruit new members in our Orchestra and Jazz Band!** Apply now for September, via our website.

### Wednesday 'Music Night'

4pm: **Stringendos, Clariphones, Brass Ensemble, Flute Choir** (all grade 2+), **Training Windband, Stringalings** (both grade 0-2)

5pm: **DASP Youth Orchestra** (grade 1+), **Uke Troupe Beginners**

5.30pm: **Uke Troupe Intermediate**

6.15pm – 7pm: **Jazz Band** (grade 1+)

### Other Groups

**Treblemakers Boys Vocal Group** – Tuesdays, 3.45-4.45pm @ Dorchester Middle School (boys years 4-8)

**Middle Schools' Choir** - Fridays, 4-5pm @ Thomas Hardy School (years 5-8)

**Skylarks Choir** – Thursdays 3.45-4.30pm @ Manor Park First School (years 2-6)

**Guitar Ensemble** – Tuesdays 4-5pm @ The Thomas Hardy School (years 5+)

## Instrumental/Vocal Lessons in September

The final application deadline for students wishing to start instrumental/vocal lessons in September is Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June. Applications received after this date will probably need to wait until after October half term to start lessons.

We are just dealing with allocations of lessons for September at the moment. If you have applied but not heard anything from us yet, you will do within the next couple of weeks. Those students who currently have lessons, but who are moving schools will also find out who their new teacher is within the next couple of weeks.