

This is the last newsletter that I will be sending you under the heading of 'DASP Music'. As I'm sure you are aware, many of the schools in our area have, over the last few years, joined the Wessex Multi-Academy Trust. Whilst the Wessex MAT does not currently include all of the previous 'DASP' schools, the aim of Wessex MAT is very much to work with a similar ethos to DASP and keep the same focus on collaboration and shared values across our local schools. We are very much a family of schools working together for the benefit of all young people in our local area. DASP Music (which is currently an independent charity) will soon be officially dissolved and from next term onwards, will be operating under the Wessex MAT umbrella (as 'Wessex Schools Music'). This decision is partly logistical and partly because I have a new role as Wessex MAT Music Lead, where I will not only be supporting the schools with their co-curricular provision, but also with their curriculum music.

All arrangements for the coordination of instrumental/vocal lessons in the 'DASP' schools will remain the same and we will still offer the same cross-school ensembles. We will also bring you the same opportunities with regards to concerts, workshops and events for all children in the local area. In essence, nothing will change for you (except our name, email and bank details!).

There have been many fantastic music events going on this term, across the schools. It's lovely to hear about all the school concerts and musicals that are being prepared, ready to perform in the last few weeks of term. From my perspective, we have had one main event this term; the DASP Arts Fest. This was such a joyous day with children and adults of all ages and musical abilities taking part in music, drama and dance.

As another school-year closes, I want to thank you for supporting music education in our area in the way that you do, and I wish you all a relaxing summer.

Hanna Trevorrow

Head of DASP Music



Students taking part in the 'street band' at DASP Arts Fest 2023

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

(From September, we will have a new web address, but this one is still live for the moment!)

Our new email address is  
[wessexmusic@wessex.ac](mailto:wessexmusic@wessex.ac)

(Please note that our old @thomas-hardye.net email addresses no longer work)

## Sing for the King!



On Saturday 6th May (the King's Coronation day!), children from Prince of Wales School, Manor Park First School, Milborne St Andrew First School, Broadmayne First School and Puddletown Middle School, joined together to form a massed choir and sang at the Dorchester Town Council's Beacon Lighting event at Salisbury Fields. The children sang three songs; Sing for the King, I just can't wait to be King and Sing! Mr

Spracklen, Headteacher at the Prince of Wales school, sported a wonderful Union Jack suit and even managed a quick change into a Lion costume as the children sang 'I just can't wait to be King' from the Lion King. It was a fun way to celebrate the new monarch - and the rain held off (just about!!)

## DASP Arts Fest 2023



On 20th May, we held our first DASP Arts Fest. Over 200 students took part in the day which featured performances and workshops of music, dance and drama. We also welcomed people of all ages at a variety of workshops and drop-in sessions including our 'murder mystery' workshop, samba workshop, SEND workshop, vocal workshop, Lindy-Hop dance workshop, pre-school music and dance sessions and our Come and Try instrument sessions. Not forgetting our wonderful BBQ, sweets and cakes stalls. There

was so much going on! Thanks to all who helped to organise and run things.

For a summary video of the event, [click here!](#)

## St Mary's join with Wessex Youth Orchestra



On Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July, a group of students from St Mary's Middle School joined forces with the prestigious Wessex Youth Symphony Orchestra (based in Lytchett Minster) at Poole Lighthouse, for a concert featuring a variety of classical hits. The children sang in two pieces; Do Re Mi from The Sound of Music and The Children's Chorus from Carmen. The children were sat directly behind the percussion section of the orchestra and it was a truly inspiring experience for them to see the orchestral instruments so close-up! Thank you to Miss Rogers for facilitating them to take part.

### Join a Wessex Schools Music Ensemble in September!

Students who play in groups often make quicker progress than those who don't, and also benefit from developing other musical and social skills. There are many instrumental and vocal ensembles available in the middle schools and at Hardyes (there are groups of various different genres suitable for all instruments, including guitars, drummers and pianists!). In addition to the free offer of ensembles available in the schools, Wessex Schools Music is also able to offer a selection of cross-school ensembles. We are currently looking for new students to join our ensembles in September!

#### Wednesdays

4pm - 4.50pm Stringalings (Training Strings) (Grade 0-2) @THS

4pm - 4.50pm Bandemonium (Training Windband) (Grade 0-2) @THS

5pm - 6.00pm Dorchester Children's Orchestra (formerly DASP Youth Orchestra) (approx Grade 2+) @THS

#### Thursdays

3:45 - 4:30pm Skylarks Choir (Years 2-4) @ Prince of Wales

#### Fridays

4pm - 5pm Nightingales Choir (Years 5-8) @ THS

If you think your child might be interested in joining one of these groups, please complete an online application:

<https://forms.gle/AQNano3SAoe1VM1k9>