

Music and Arts Newsletter for Schools



Primary Edition Autumn Term One 2019

Welcome to the Music and Arts Newsletter for primary schools.

Why extra curricular activities matter

The importance of extra-curricular activity is explored in this report from the Social Mobility Commission: [An Unequal Playing Field: Extra-Curricular Activities, Soft Skills and Social Mobility](#)

One of the best bits about childhood is doing the things you enjoy outside of the classroom. Yet research suggests that children and young people (C&YP) from disadvantaged backgrounds never get the chance. As a result they lose out on benefits including increased confidence; aspirations to go onto higher or further education; a sense of health and well being and belonging; and the development of 'soft skills'. Extra-curricular activities are also vital for C&YP to develop networks which those from affluent backgrounds may already have.

C&YP engaged in the research reported that extra-curricular activities give them the opportunity to have fun and relieve the stresses of their pressurised school lives. However, the research indicates that there is a direct link between household income and participation with children from the poorest households much less likely to take part in any extra-curricular activity.

The report makes 4 recommendations including increasing the organisational capacity of schools to support their extra-curricular provision and improve information on the availability of activity in local areas

In Leeds, there is a wealth of extra curricular activities for C&YP to access, much of which is free. The [Breeze Culture Network](#) (BCN) is a website which provides information about opportunities across the city.

News Round Up

Using drama to support reading

Drama can be an effective strategy to support pupils with reading ([Year of Reading](#)).

Experienced drama practitioners, Anthony Haddon and Pavla Beier, are available to deliver practical workshops in school, based on two popular books: Beowulf and Warriors and The Smartest Giant in Town. For more information, please follow this [link](#) and to book, please search 'Drama Alive' in the Leeds for Learning Store.

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For teachers interested in using drama in the classroom, National Drama, the subject association for Drama teachers and theatre educators, are coming to Leeds in October to deliver a CPD workshop.

The aims of the workshop are to:

- Introduce drama strategies to teachers who are new to drama;
- Experience Drama as a pedagogy to approach core subjects and topics;
- Highlight the learning potential when teacher and pupils work collaboratively in role;
- Engage teachers in a drama experience that deepens their knowledge of drama skills, conventions and form;
- Provide resources that can be used in the classroom

The CPD will take place on **Tuesday 8th October**, 1.15pm – 4.30pm at Manor Wood Primary School (previously known as Carr Manor Primary School). Delegate places cost £30. For further information and to book your place, please contact click [here](#).

Borrow a picture from the Picture Library

When it comes to discussing art, children are often more confident than adults in expressing their thoughts and opinions. Having original art in your classroom can create a talking point for pupils (and teachers!) and be a valuable tool for teaching and learning subjects across the curriculum.

From October 2019, Leeds Museums and Galleries are offering schools the opportunity to borrow original works of art from their [Picture Library](#). The offer is available to any school who is signed up to their [Primary School Membership](#)

[Scheme](#). Schools that are signed up to the Picture Library will be able to select their art work at special VIP sessions four times a year.

If you are interested in finding out more about the Picture Library, please contact schools.membership@leeds.gov.uk



Leeds Schools Music Association Christmas Concert 2019

The 2019 Leeds Schools Music Association (LSMA) Christmas concert will be held at Leeds Town Hall on Tuesday the 3rd of December at 7pm.

There will be the opportunity for children in Years 5 and 6 to take part in the Festival choir and for school staff to join the staff choir. Please look out for the invitation letter which will be arriving in your school in the next few days! This information and how to apply will also be on the [ArtForms web site](#). This concert provides an opportunity to sing alongside the City of Leeds Youth orchestra and the Leeds Schools and Youth choirs in a never to be forgotten experience.

The LSMA depends on a committee of volunteers to run concerts and events. The workload is not onerous. If you, or anyone from your school, would like to join this committee, please get in touch with diane.paterson@leeds.gov.uk.

Music and Arts in Action



Clapgate pupils curate art exhibition



Music Champion Schools

Out of School Opportunities

Ecobricks, Film and Movement Workshop

Dance Studio Leeds is running a FREE family community event on Sunday 22nd September on the topic of recycling and reducing plastic waste which includes a creative dance workshop, ecobrick making and crafts session, and a film screening of the Disney film Wall-E. More information about the event can be found [here](#). To book a place, please visit [Eventbrite](#).

Breeze Friday and Saturday Night Projects!

Children aged between 8 and 12 years can participate in weekly activities, including arts and crafts, multi-sports, games, music and much more, at the [Breeze Friday or Saturday Night Projects](#). These take place at Armley Leisure Centre (Saturday), Middleton Leisure Centre (Friday) and Pudsey Leisure Centre (Friday). Sessions are £1.50 or £1 with a [BreezeCard](#).

For more information, please contact: the Breeze Team on 0113 3783167



Child Friendly Leeds Awards 2020

It's nomination time for the Child Friendly Leeds Awards 2020, so if you know of anyone who is doing amazing work with children and young people in Leeds, please don't be shy and let the Children Friendly Team know about them. The closing date for nominations is the 25th October 2019.

Your nominations can be done [here](#).

Training Updates

Support for subject leaders

We offer support for primary subject leaders in Art, Dance, Design and Technology, and Music.

Schools can purchase packages of training in [Art](#), [Dance](#) and [Design and Technology](#). Buying a package makes it cheaper! Information about our training this term is listed below. This CPD can be purchased as part of a package or on a pay as you go basis.

The dates for **Music Connect**, the termly network for primary music leaders, are:

- Monday 21st October 2019
- Monday 3rd February 2020
- Monday 8th June 2020

All of the Music Connect meetings run from 2.30pm - 4.30pm and take place at Pudsey Civic Hall. The network is funded through the Leeds Music Education Partnership and is free for schools and academies to access.



Primary: Curriculum Planning - Art, Craft and Design

18/10/2019 09:00 - 16:00

Sunny Bank Mills, Farsley Town Street, Leeds, LS28 5UJ



Primary: Curriculum Planning - Dance

03/10/2019 09:00 - 16:00 |

Hillside Centre, Beeston Road, Leeds, LS11 8ND



Primary: Curriculum Planning - Design and Technology

26/11/2019 09:00 - 16:00

Sunny Bank Mills, Farsley Town Street, Leeds, LS28 5UJ



We hope you have enjoyed reading this newsletter. If you have any colleagues who would be interested in being added to the distribution list, please ask your school business manager to create a Leeds for Learning account for them. They will need to be registered as one of the following:

Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher, Art, Music or Drama Lead.

Please feel free to contact the ArtForms team with any feedback or queries at educ.artforms@leeds.gov.uk