

Music and Arts Newsletter for Schools



Primary Edition Autumn Term Two 2019

Welcome to the Music and Arts Newsletter for primary schools.

The Impact of culture and the arts on young people's mental health

In June 2019, The Cultural Institute at the University of Leeds hosted a [conference](#) for delegates from NHS, community healthcare, education, academia, arts and culture to consider how the arts and cultural participation can help improve mental health outcomes for children and young people.

The keynote address was made by Dame Benny Refson, founder and president of schools' mental health charity *Place2Be*. Young people from a range of backgrounds and experiences shared their perspectives. Chaired by Kimberley Robinson, from mental health charity *Keep Real*, the panellists discussed accessibility to arts activities, especially outside mainstream education, and the erosion of the arts curriculum in schools. Several of the young people spoke about how cultural participation had contributed to their own better mental health. Conference attendees participated in artist led workshops which shared information and provided opportunities for hands-on experiences.

Health and wellbeing is a priority for **Leeds Cultural Education Partnership**, a strategic network of arts, cultural, educational and community organisations, which aims to grow the aspirations and talents of children and young people through access to arts and cultural opportunities.

The Leeds Arts, Health and Wellbeing Network (LAHWN) has recently been launched. The network aims to connect clinicians and public health bodies with a

range of organisations and arts professionals who are engaging in arts and health activities in Leeds.



News Round Up

Leeds Schools Music Association Christmas Festival Concert 2019

On the 3rd Dec at 7.00 at Leeds Town Hall over 400 children and young people from across the city of will be performing Christmas music, new and old, in the Leeds Schools Music Association Christmas Festival Concert.

Year 5 and 6 children from 35 Leeds primary schools have been rehearsing the songs for several weeks as part of the Festival Choir. They will be joined by the City of Leeds Youth Orchestra and Wind Orchestra, along with the Schools and Youth Choirs, a staff choir and the Silver Steel Sparrows. Tickets are available from the [Leeds Town Hall Box office](#).

Durham Commission on Creativity and Education: report on the promotion of creativity

In October 2019, the [Durham Commission on Creativity and Education](#) launched a report about the promotion of creativity in England.

The Durham Commission was set up in 2018 to gather evidence and research the impact of creativity and creative thinking, with the aim of influencing national policy. It is a collaboration between the Arts Council England (ACE) and Durham University. The Commissioners include a number of high profile individuals from across the arts, education and business sectors.

This report makes it clear that creativity is different from the arts. However, recognises that the arts 'make an invaluable contribution to the development of creativity in young people'. They acknowledge the role of schools in developing children and young people's creativity, highlighting the importance of teacher training and CPD in arts subjects. The Cultural Learning Alliance have summarised the report's main recommendations; key themes and what's next, which can be found [here](#).

2020 marks 50 years since the Leeds Theatre In Education Company (TIE) began!

Over the last 50 years, school from across Leeds have enjoyed performances by Leeds Theatre in Education Company (TIE) To commemorate their anniversary they are documenting the development of their latest programme, [The Witch's House](#) . This programme will explore issues around knife crime, hate crime and

domestic violence and will include a participatory play, post play discussions, workshops and teaching support materials.

The company have secured funding, but are crowdfunding to raise the final £5k. Everyone who makes a donation will be invited to a showcase performance of The Witch's House so they can see what they've helped to make. To donate, please visit their [website](#) and click on the 'Donate' button.

Alongside this project they want to record the history of Leeds TIE and are inviting people to share their memories of their work. If you would like to contribute with your memories, please get in touch by emailing theatreineducation@hotmail.com

Music and Arts in Action

We love to share all the great arts activity that takes place in your school! If you would like us to feature your school, please get in touch by emailing jane.zanzottera@leeds.gov.uk.



Roots Alive



Pupils at Allerton CE Primary on Leeds Local TV celebrating Black History Month

Seasonal Opportunities

Baubilize: A Leeds Art Gallery festive workshop with a difference

This is a fun workshop for KS1 and 2 pupils, inspired by the current exhibition, Slow Painting. Pupils will work in groups to make large festive baubles using just three colours. They will explore painting materials that differ in consistency, texture and finish. The workshop will last 1 hour and there will be time to explore the gallery before or after the session.

Booking and further information: telephone 0113 378 8880 or email

art.gallery@leeds.gov.uk

Cost: £45



Hansel and Gretel show

Room 700 at Leeds Central Library is the venue for this seasonal performance of Hansel and Gretel, devised and performed by theatre company, wrongsemble. There is an offer for schools, which can be found [here](#). Alternatively, there are shows at weekends and during the Christmas holidays. Last year, their performance of 'The Princess and the Sprout' sold out, so get your tickets [booked!](#)

New Year! New Hobby!

Will you, your staff, your pupils or their families get a ukulele for Christmas (or a banjo, clarinet, trombone, cello)? If so, why not join a class or ensemble at a Music Centre? Music is so much better when shared, and all of our Music Centres are open to all ages and abilities. To find out what is available next term, contact your [local Centre](#).

Training Updates



Primary: Teaching Design in Art

05/02/2020 13:00 - 16:00

To be confirmed



Primary Music Leaders Network Session 2

03/02/2020 14:30 - 16:30

Pudsey Civic Hall (Dawsons Corner, Leeds / LS28 5TA), Dawsons Corner,
Leeds, LS28 5TA



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