

# Music and Arts Newsletter for Schools



## Primary Edition Spring Term Two 2020

This issue includes Leeds 2023, free online resources from the British Library, Music CPD for Early Years teachers and much more!

### International Year of Culture - Leeds 2023

#### Creative Director meets with pupils at Cobden Primary School

**“I need your help to make it possible”** Kully Thiarai, Creative Director

Members of the School Council from Cobden Primary, met with the new Creative Director for [Leeds 2023](#), Kully Thiarai. The children asked Kully questions about 2023 and Kully listened to their ideas!

The pupils wanted to know ‘Why are we having a Year of Culture?’ Kully explained, "Everyone has a story. Arts and cultural experiences bring people together, to celebrate what is special and unique about us and the things we have in common. There will be lots of things to see and do for people who live in Leeds as well as visitors to the city."

The children learnt that planning a special event for the whole city, takes time. Kully asked them if they could be Ambassadors for 2023 to help spread the news to their classmates and families. Leeds 2023 activities will take place across Leeds, including communities. Pupils said that the events need to be affordable or free, so everyone can get involved.

Headteacher, Paula Head, said that Cobden is really enjoying being part of Year of Reading. Her hope is that Leeds 2023 will be something that all schools can

engage with. She also said that having a year of culture will open up new opportunities and experiences for her pupils.

Finally, Kully asked the pupils what impact they think the festival will have, to which they replied:

*“People might love art more than then they used to and do it more.”*

*“It will make Leeds a happier place .....with lots of colours.”*

*“It might inspire people to get off tech and explore the world.”*

ArtForms will be sharing regular 2023 updates with schools through our newsletter.



## News Round Up

### Discovering Children's Books - a new online resource!

Leeds teachers recently attended the launch of a new resource from the British Library: [Discovering Children's Books](#) at Leeds Central Library. The session showcased the range of resources and activities available on the website. There

was also the opportunity to see some of the amazing books from Leeds Central Library's 'Special Collections'.

On the website there are some useful cross curricular resources, which may be of interest to Art; D&T and Music subject leaders. The work of a range of illustrators is featured, including examples of sketchbooks (you can see how [Axel Scheffer](#) developed his depiction of the Gruffalo) and short films ([Viviane Schwarz](#) demonstrates how she develops her characters through drawing). There are some interesting examples of pop up books, including one from 1741, ideal for pupils to see mechanical systems in books from lots of different historical periods. There's also the opportunity for pupils to apply their musical skills in order to create a [sound track](#) for a story.

### Schools take part in Leeds Lit Fest!

Leeds Central Library hosted the school and family programme of the city wide Leeds Lit Fest 2020, welcoming 5 bestselling northern children's authors, 9 schools, 14 classes and hundreds of families into the beautiful Grade 2 listed Victorian building.

Schools from across Leeds participated in a range of exciting workshops. Pupils got to meet, and work with, some of their favourite authors and illustrators including:

- \* Fabric Lenny
- \* James Nicol (The Apprentice Witch, A Witch Alone and A Witch Come True).
- \* Kate Pankhurst (Fantastically Great Women series)
- \* Bethan Woollvin (Twisted fairy tales picture books)
- \* Chris Mould (Illustrated version of Ted Hughes 'The Iron Man')

The sessions were practical and explored character and story development using a range of materials and technology.

On Saturday 7 March, all the authors and illustrators returned for a fantastic family day of workshops taking over the whole building as well as welcoming the brand new [Story Buses](#) to Victoria Gardens for people to explore and listen to stories.

## Music in Early Years

ArtForms Music, through funding from the Leeds Music Education Partnership, have developed a new project: Tap! Ding! Clap Sing! The aim of the project is to support and develop the provision of music in EYFS in every school in Leeds. It is designed for Early Years teachers, who may not be music specialists.

As part of the project, every school in Leeds will receive a song book (with accompanying video footage); a full class set of percussion instruments and a CPD session. The CPD sessions are taking place in localities. For a full list of dates and locations, please visit the [ArtForms website](#). For any enquiries about the project, please contact [Sam Mercer](#).



## Music and Arts in Action

- Greenmount Primary pupils bring their school logo to life using textiles!
- Arts Rich Schools: a report from the RSA
- Reading Cafe at Ashfield Primary

## Upcoming Opportunities

Join the Leeds Singing Challenge and win £100 of singing resources!

Leeds Music Education Partnership is looking for schools to take part in its annual Singing Challenge!

Simply pick your favourite from the nine great songs in the [Singing Support Pack](#) and record yourselves singing it in a way or place that is fun and unusual for the chance to win £100 of 'Out of the Ark' singing resources, with £60 of resources for the runner-up.

For more information, please see the [flyer](#). You can also use #LeedsSingingChallenge2020 on your school's social media platforms to promote the event.

## Leeds Young Film

Leeds Young Film Festival is 21!

It is the UK's largest film event of its kind, where the whole family can watch, make and learn. Join over 13,000 children and their families between 30 March - 13 April and explore the world of film, animation and virtual reality through screenings, workshops and special events across the City. The full line-up for 2020 is available [here](#). You can follow LYFF on social media @leedsyoungfilm using #LYFF2020.

Please tell your families all about it!

## Where Have All the Boys Gone: CPD

The National Society for Education in Art and Design will be delivering CPD in Leeds during the Summer Term. Delivered by Susan Coles, the training will explore the gender gap in visual art and how schools can address it through their provision. For more details and to book, please see [here](#).

## Training Updates



Primary: Let's Dance (after school Dance Clubs)

17/03/2020 13:00 - 16:00



### Primary: Sketchbooks Made Simple

30/04/2020 15:00 - 16:30



### Primary: Teaching Craft in Art

10/06/2020 13:00 - 16:00



### Primary: Teaching Textiles through Design and Technology

20/05/2020 13:00 - 16:00



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](mailto:educ.artforms@leeds.gov.uk)