



## NEWSLETTER No. 1 - 3rd October 2009

### WELCOME!

Welcome to all our new members and also to those of you returning to the Music Centre. We aim to promote an enjoyable environment in which to learn and play music and we hope you all have a good year here at North Leeds. Please take a few minutes to read this newsletter so that you know where to find more information about the Centre, dates of events and concerts, etc.

Information about the Centre appears in these newsletters (usually once or twice a term), on our notice board (situated just outside B block) and on our website, [northleedsmusic.org](http://northleedsmusic.org).

If you have any other questions please contact either me or any of our staff. Our office staff are situated in the school library and the office is open every Saturday morning from about 9am to 1pm. Also in the office is a small shop selling reeds, strings, etc and some of the books that your teacher may ask you to buy. You can also enquire about other classes and ensembles and orchestras. We encourage our students to join an ensemble or orchestra as soon as they are at the required standard. If in doubt, ask your teacher. We also welcome parents and other family members and friends especially if you used to play an instrument years ago and want to relearn it or if you want to learn a new instrument. We have a range of special offers and fees for students and families taking up more than one class.

### NEW STAFF

Towards the end of last term, Julian Walls became the new brass teacher and starting this term, Jo Heaton is teaching keyboards and cello. Our registrar, Graham Agnew, is teaching the bass guitar and double bass classes and Matthew Furniss will be helping with office work and helping to make sure that classes have the right equipment at the right times. A warm welcome to all of them.

### NEW CLASSES

I am pleased to say that several new classes have started this term and all are doing well. We now have cello lessons, bass guitar and double bass lessons and have a Brass Ensemble and a Find Your Voice group. All other classes and ensembles and orchestras are also thriving. The World Music, in conjunction with SAA, has already kicked-off with a **Bhangra** dance group each week in the Drama Studio and we are taking names of people who are interested in the **Boarderline Beats World Percussion** and hope to start this very soon. We also have a number of people interested in **Ballroom Dancing** and hope that we will get that off the ground in the next few weeks.

### CONGRATULATIONS and WELL DONE!

To the following students who have had recent exam results:

Leo Horton-Koku..... Trumpet Grade 1 with Merit

Jennifer Lobo..... Theory Grade 5 with Distinction

## SNACK BAR

I hope by now you will have discovered our Snack Bar in the school refectory. We have hot and cold drinks, sweets and toast available throughout the morning. All proceeds help to support the Music Centre by buying music, instruments, etc. If there is anything special you would like us to sell (e.g., vegetarian) just ask.

We can always use more volunteers in the Snack Bar so if you can spare a half hour during the morning please call into the Snack Bar and offer your services. We have a card available in the office and from the Snack Bar which you can fill in with your details.

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The Orchestra and Wind Band will be performing in a Concert early in the New Year at Venerable Bede Church in Staningley, the date and more details will be available soon. The Jazz Orchestra also have a number of gigs and details are available from their conductor, Martin Townshend.

We have several Christmas gigs taking place at Strikes Garden Centre, Thorner Village Green and Oakwood Clock. Dates are given below and we will let you know the times of these events after half term. Some members of the Music Centre will also be playing with the Palm Court Dance Orchestra at Strikes Garden Centre, off the A58, on Thursday 15th October, 6pm-8.30pm.

## HALF TERM

We have two more meetings after this week, the 10th and 17th October, and then we are closed for two Saturdays for half term. We re-open on Saturday 7th November.

Regards

**Mervyn Manning**

*Head of Centre*

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## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

24th and 31st October .....	Closed for Half Term
Thursday 15th October .....	Open evening at Strikes Garden Centre <i>with the Palm Court Dance Orchestra</i>
Thursday 26th November .....	Christmas Music at Strikes Garden Centre
Saturday 5th December .....	Last meeting for autumn term
Saturday 5th December, evening .....	Music Centre Concert, at Carr Manor School
Saturday 12th December, pm .....	Carols at Thorner, Millennium Green
Sunday 13th December, pm .....	Carols at Oakwood Clock
Saturday 9th January 2010 .....	New term starts