

I can't believe that we are already nearly in December! We've had such a busy musical term, with lots of new projects underway and preparations for future ones being made. The term started with a huge vocal workshop at Hardyes with over 200 students from the middle schools and Hardyes taking part. We then started our ensembles for the term which included supporting new boys vocal groups at the middle schools. I've been working with music staff and 85 pupils over the last few weeks, busily preparing them for an exciting concert in Portsmouth Cathedral next week and I'm very much looking forward hearing the end result! This weekend, I was delighted to work with 50 Year 5 pupils revisiting our Songlines songs from last year, in order to create a recording which will be available at the Dorset Museum in the future. It's also been wonderful working with some of the pupils who are at the start of their musical journey on our TOPs project and I'm looking forward to some of them performing in our forthcoming Christmas concert on 7<sup>th</sup> December.

As the festive season approaches, I hope you all find an opportunity to enjoy some music to add to the festive cheer!

Hanna Trevorrow  
Head of DASP Music

## Vocal Workshop with Charles MacDougal



In September, we were delighted to invite professional singer, Charles MacDougal, to work with students from both Thomas Hardye School and the three middle schools. Charles was a founding member of the renowned VOCES8 vocal ensemble and currently does a lot of work with Voices Foundation and various London youth choirs. The students learnt several new pieces, in harmony, including a South African apartheid song and a riff-based piece by the Average White

Band. It was wonderful to hear voices filling the Hardye theatre again after the long covid-months of very little singing being allowed. This workshop kick-started the co-curricular offer in our schools and Hardyes have been particularly pleased that they now have over 150 students attending rehearsals every week.

[See a snippet of the workshop here!](#)

Dates for your diary:  
**7<sup>th</sup> December 2022** – DASP Christmas Concert  
**23<sup>rd</sup> February 2023** – Wessex MAT Schools Music Festival day  
**6<sup>th</sup> March 2023** – Musical Theatre Workshop  
**14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> March 2023** – Year 4 Concerts  
**22<sup>nd</sup> March 2023** – Hardyes Spring Fundraiser concert  
**20<sup>th</sup> May 2023** – DASP Arts Festival

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



Recording *Dorset Songlines* in the Dorset Museum

***Why not give the gift of music lessons this Christmas? Lessons can be booked online to start in January!***



The DASP Christmas Concert is taking place on 7<sup>th</sup> December. This will be the first large concert held in the Hardye theatre since covid and we are really looking forward to hearing all the students share their work with us. The concerts will feature most of the DASP and THS Ensembles.

We are not ticketing the event, but will be collecting donations at the end of the concert.

There will be two concerts; Concert 1 (mainly first school/middle school students) 5:30 – c.6:30pm, Concert 2 (mainly middle school/Hardyes students) 7pm – c9pm.

All are welcome to attend – we hope to see you there!

### Gabrieli Roar



On Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November, 85 students from Thomas Hardy and the three middle schools are taking part in a spectacular performance at Portsmouth Cathedral as part of the Gabrieli Roar project. We are really excited that we have been able to include our young singers in this project.

The project involves 3,000 young singers participating in eight performances across the country, alongside the Gabrieli Consort's world-class musicians. The concert, entitled 'In Dulci Jubilo', will be a Christmastide treat featuring the spectacular flamboyant polychoral music of Michael Praetorius in belated celebration of the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the great composer's death.

The project is free for all of the students involved, with transport being funded by DASP Music. We hope that this experience will be something very special that students will remember for a long time to come.

### Boys Vocal Groups

We are really pleased that we have been able to continue to fund some boys vocal groups at the middle schools this term, which take place at lunchtimes and are free for everyone to access. Mr Wilson has been visiting both St Osmund's and St Mary's middle schools and has some fantastic singers at each school. Dorchester Middle school hope to have a group set up soon – if you are interested in taking part, please contact DASP Music and we can put you in touch with the relevant person at each school.

### Dorset Songlines

Last year, all Year 4s in DASP took part in a project with composer, Geof Edge, called *Dorset Songlines*, which culminated in a large-scale performance in Maumbury Rings in June. Last weekend, 50 Year 5 pupils, joined 50 adults at the Dorset Museum to create a recording of the pieces that were created during the project. The plan is for the recordings to eventually be made available in the Natural Dorset gallery in the museum, for future generations to enjoy.

It was a long day for all involved, but the pupils all conducted themselves brilliantly and it was lovely to revisit the songs after all these months. [Hear a snippet of the recording session here!](#)

### TOPs Beginner Lessons Project

DASP Music started a new scheme this term called TOMORROW'S ORCHESTRA PROGRAMME (TOPs). This scheme currently involves 40 students in years 5 and 6, learning a selection of orchestral instruments in small groups and it is something that we hope to be able to offer again in the future. Some of the students have also started to access our beginner

after-school ensembles and we are really pleased that they will be joining us for our Christmas Concert next month. We very much hope many of them will enjoy playing their instruments for many years to come!

### Join a DASP Music Ensemble



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, DASP Music is also able to offer a selection of cross-school ensembles.

We are currently looking for new students to join our ensembles in January.

#### Weds

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

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

5pm - 6.00pm *DASP Youth Orchestra (approx Grade 2+) @THS*  
Thursday

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

#### Friday

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 form](#)

## Weymouth & Dorset Music Festival 2023

Saturday 4th March at St. Aldhelm's Church & Church Centre, Weymouth  
9am - 5pm

Entries are now open online at:  
[www.weymouthmusicfestival.co.uk](http://www.weymouthmusicfestival.co.uk)

### Play a Musical Instrument ? Sing?

Soloists, Duets, Groups & Choirs

Closing date for entries: 1st February 2023

Perform to an audience and get feedback from our expert adjudicators

The Festival is held all day 4th March 2023 and a Festival Concert on Friday 10th March at 7pm



FIND US AT:



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