

# In Harmony Newcastle Gateshead

## your Geordie Symphony School



*Dear friends,*

*I am delighted to write to you with another update on the progress of In Harmony Newcastle Gateshead.*

I am constantly amazed and incredibly proud of the children in this project, particularly when they rise to an occasion such as performing at the Tyne Theatre and Opera House. To watch the children play alongside Royal Northern Sinfonia in such a beautiful building in the West End of Newcastle was an experience nobody can forget. This event was absolutely outstanding and a personal thanks to everyone who supported me in the organisation of it.

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All the children have progressed immensely over the last term, and as a result our sought-after Hawthorn Primary Symphony Orchestra has increased to 65 children! The orchestra will be concluding our **Hawthorn Primary School Music Festival** on **Monday 27<sup>th</sup> June**, which takes place from 12.30 – 3.30pm – please do come along, there will be performances throughout the afternoon as well as tea and scones!

West Newcastle Symphony Orchestra are also giving a bespoke performance at the Marie Curie Hospice in Elswick in the coming weeks; it is fantastic that the children can give back to their community and play in such a special venue. Our end of term concert will be on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> June at 5pm, at the beautiful Summerhill Church, again, in the heart of their own community.

Over the past few months, the children have performed in some pretty fantastic places to many of you, our kind supporters. Your donations and presence at our events is invaluable and we love having your support – thank you again from the bottom of our hearts.

Lorna Wright, In Harmony Activity Producer

## Performing with the professionals ...



Students from Hawthorn Primary School Orchestra performing with Royal Northern Sinfonia musicians in the beautiful Tyne Theatre & Opera House in Newcastle, in front of 150 parents, donors and music enthusiasts. Donations and ticket sales **raised an amazing £840.76**. Thank you to everyone.

## Learning every day ...

A Y2 violinist was so excited to take his violin home that he ended up playing it in the car!

His Dad was so impressed with his playing that he got him to stand and perform at the petrol station whilst filling up!



A Y2 viola player composed this piece of music, and then played it in her lesson!

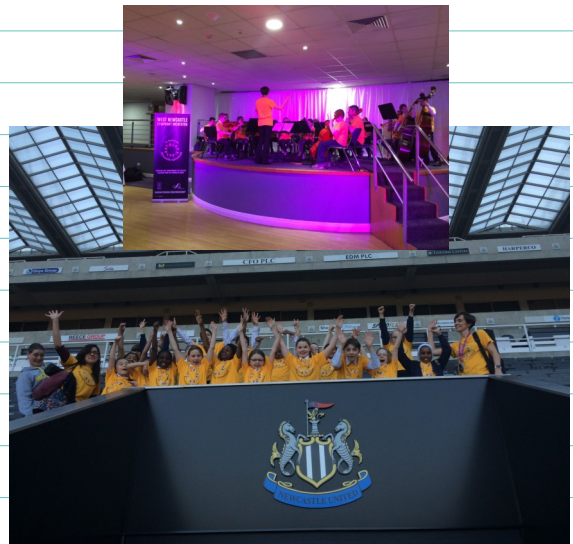
## Exam time ...

In July, 24 children from Year 6 will be taking their ABRSM exams, including 8 children taking Grade 2! This is the first time we have entered the children at Hawthorn into exams, but it'll be a fantastic achievement for the children before leaving Hawthorn to go to their secondary schools.

## And some awards ...

In March, In Harmony were invited to perform at the Newcastle Schools Achievement awards ceremony at St James' Park, home of Newcastle United. Whilst there, two of our children received a special award for Music.

To help them celebrate, the children from Hawthorn Primary School were treated to a stadium tour. Congratulations to everyone!



## BBC TV Documentary follow up to Geordie Symphony School



Matthew Cummings @Matt\_Colliers · Mar 7

@InHarmonyNE @InsideOutCJ Just watched the piece on Inside Out. Inspirational. You can all be very proud of what you've achieved 😊



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## Contact:

Follow us on Twitter: @InHarmonyNE

For more information about In Harmony and its activities, please ring 0191 443 4562 or email the team on [inharmony@sagegateshead.com](mailto:inharmony@sagegateshead.com). Alternatively, write to us at Sage Gateshead, St Mary's Square, Gateshead, NE8 2JR. Website: [sagegateshead.com/about-us/in-harmony/](http://sagegateshead.com/about-us/in-harmony/)



## It's instrumental!

Back in 2012, when the In Harmony project received its first tranche of funding from Arts Council England, most of the money was used to buy a large bank of instruments – strings, brass and wind – enough for every child in the school. It was an amazing (and slightly chaotic!) day when the delivery van arrived with them all.

Since then, your donations have been helping with their ongoing upkeep, including providing new strings. Rising pupil numbers at Hawthorn Primary have also meant extra instruments have been needed to ensure every child has access to an instrument. Some of these have been purchased while others have been generously gifted to In Harmony by the public.

Recently, In Harmony's Activity Producer Lorna Wright was contacted by Friends of Royal Northern Sinfonia member Anne Creedy (both pictured right), with the offer of two violins - one a  $\frac{1}{2}$  size, the other a  $\frac{3}{4}$  size. They had belonged to Anne's daughter Imogen, who came through Sage Gateshead's Centre of Advanced Training for talented musicians and is now studying music performance at Leeds University. Anne was keen to help other young players develop their talents and was delighted to hear that both donated violins had been put to good use the very next day!



## Pop Up Performance Success

In February, the children of Hawthorn Primary School gave a performance at Newcastle's Central Station in front of a crowd of commuters, train travellers and onlookers, with tunes including Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, Star Wars and the specially commissioned Tuba Train. The appreciative audience donated their pennies and pounds, helping to raise a further £70.29.

**"The concert was delightful, and so good to see the enthusiasm and effort of the Hawthorn musicians. What a wonderful occasion!"**



**Dr. Kitty Porteous** @kittymusicrm · Feb 29

@InHarmonyNE You really did sound fabulous! Well done everyone for brightening up a cold Monday afternoon!! :)



[View conversation](#)

## You're invited .... come hear the children perform

We'd love for you to come and see the progress of our amazing children. Here are details of their upcoming public performances:

### **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> June at St. Matthew's Church, Summerhill Street, 5pm**

Join the West Newcastle Symphony Orchestra (WNSO) - In Harmony's after hours orchestra - when they take to the stage in the heart of their community to perform their Summer concert at St. Matthew's Church, Summerhill Street, Newcastle NE4 6EJ.

The parishioners of St. Matthew's Church have kindly offered to host a fundraising concert with all proceeds going towards the In Harmony programme. The orchestra will perform as a whole and also as small chamber groups too. Following the hour-long concert the church are kindly hosting refreshments for performers, audience and the community.

Tickets are free and available on the day at the church or in advance from Sage Gateshead Ticket Office on 0191 443 4661. Donations accepted.



### **Monday 27<sup>th</sup> June at Hawthorn Primary School, In Harmony Summer Music Festival 12.30 – 3.30pm**

Every child in Hawthorn Primary School as well as guests from Wallbottle Campus and Excelsior Academy (many of which came through the In Harmony programme), and performers working with Gem Arts, will perform all afternoon in a festival of music to celebrate the end of term. The music will be played simultaneously in various locations around school, accompanied by tea and scones! The afternoon will conclude with the newly-expanded 65 strong Hawthorn Primary Symphony Orchestra performing some new works!



#### **How to find the School:**

Hawthorn Primary School, Park Close, Elswick, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 6SB

Parking at the school is limited. The school is wheelchair accessible.

## London bound ...

At the end of June, twenty children in Year 5 are lucky enough to be travelling to London to participate in a workshop and concert with the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment at Kings Place. They will join with other schools and have an opportunity to showcase their talent in both singing and instrumental playing. The trip is being made extra special as the children are going to see The Lion King, the musical in the evening.



## About In Harmony ...

Set up in 2012, In Harmony is a national programme that aims to inspire and transform the lives of children in deprived communities in the UK, using the power and disciplines of community-based orchestral music-making.

