



Help kids find their voice

<http://www.singup.org>

May 2009

Dear Colleagues,

Summer awaits and the singing calendar is busy! This news update is to remind you of some singing opportunities for pupils and staff coming up soon.

### **Sue Nicholls - KS1 - 24<sup>th</sup> April**

As expected, this course was very popular. 83 delegates were treated to a wealth of songs and activities to take back to the classroom. A variety of singing books suitable for KS1 were available to buy. The remaining books are still available for sale during the next 2 weeks. See attached information if you want to save P&P. Books will be sent in the school post.

### **Breakfast Club Music Pack**

All schools with breakfast clubs should be receiving a music pack written by Sue Nicholls with suggestions for linking with music. Worth looking out for.

### **Bath Spa University Regional Music Conference. Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2009**

You can now book your place at this very successful regional event. There are a variety of workshops including quite a few singing ones. Nursery/FS Linda Bance (co-author of 'Voiceplay' songs for 3 - 5 year olds). KS1/2 Tim Parker (signing and singing), KS2 - Sue Hollingworth – (conductor of the Sainsburys Junior choir of the year 2008) and a choral workshop for all from Kate Wooveridge from Welsh National Opera. For more information follow the links at [www.bathspa.ac.uk](http://www.bathspa.ac.uk). Schools will receive information via email and the schools post in the first week in May.

### **Sing Up Awards**

How are you getting on? It seems schools are collecting lots of evidence but struggling to find quality time to download it. If any schools would like support in any aspects of your journey towards a Sing Up Award please contact me or Kathleen Still (Sing Up Area Leader) to arrange a visit. [kathleen.still@singup.org](mailto:kathleen.still@singup.org). Kathleen (an ex Headteacher) is fully aware of the pressure for time. It is highly likely that you will have sufficient evidence for a Silver award – so go for it! Congratulations to Frampton Cotterell (Gold) Beacon Rise (Silver), and Longwell Green (Gold).

### **Lets Sing! Wider Opportunities KS2**

By the end of July 97% of all primary schools in South Gloucestershire will have received a 5 week singing package as part of the Wider Opportunities Programme. This programme will continue next year (Sept, 09/10) and will give opportunities for all of KS2 to be involved. It is hoped that that Sing Up will fund opportunities for KS1 from September.

### **KS2 Singing days 27<sup>th</sup> June & 2<sup>nd</sup> July**

Pupils will be invited to attend a whole day of opportunities to sing in a variety of styles plus the odd playground song! The intention is to provide the opportunity to increase pupil confidence and skills.

### **South Gloucestershire Choir**

There will be a new LA choir for pupils in Years 5,6, 7 & 8. Weekly rehearsals will take place at Little Stoke Primary School on Mondays from 6.00–7.30 There will be no auditions but pupils will be expected to be able to sing in tune and commit to a regular attendance. Details about the choir will be issued in term 6.

### **Playground Songs**

With the hopefully sunny warmer days ahead this is the time to encourage more singing in the playground. Useful tips and ideas can be found on the Sing Up Song Bank under Singing Games and of course Sue Nicholls 'Playground Games and Songs' book. Don't forget in Music Express Year 3 – Salt Pepper Vinegar & Mustard –a whole unit of work based on Playground games.

### **Song Bank**

I enclose a list of the top 10 favourites pupils have enjoyed singing last term. As the Song Bank gets larger (over 300 songs) you really need to use the advanced search to locate different themes etc.

### **Infant Music Festivals**

If you are not involved in a singing festival and want to join or host one in the Summer or Autumn – please contact me. Most of the festivals will be not be linked to a theme this year but a **Rock Around the Song Bank** with the essential dressing up of course!

Christine

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