

April 2020

## The RGS String Scheme

Dear Parents and Children of the String Scheme,

I hope you have managed some good times in this strange season and, perhaps, have played your violin or cello a few times during the holidays? In this letter you will find arrangements for repairing instruments, a play list for our videos, and information below about possible concerts and our activities.

Your team of staff have been busy preparing for this term and we hope we have put together the best of what we can manage at a distance, so that you can both play along and enjoy your music, as well as learn some new songs. Before the Easter holidays, we uploaded for you some '*play along with us*' tunes that you already know from your lessons in school. Now, we have uploaded some new material for you; this is broken down into short videos of around 3 minutes each, and each video gives the title of the piece, which line we are learning, and whether or not it is the violin or 'cello version. It doesn't matter which order you learn these songs, but a good idea might be to follow the order of the book (if you still have it). Don't learn Summertime Calypso just yet – we have popped a performance on video for you, but not the teaching videos for the time being. At the end of this letter you will find a complete list of songs in the order we think you should tackle them. These have all been uploaded to our YouTube channel and can be found here:

### String Scheme Videos

But we also wanted to inspire you! So our staff have been making little concert performances for you to just watch, and be amazed by. Not all staff will teach in your school, so look out for the people you know and enjoy their playing. Mr Callaghan (Boxgrove) plays extracts from all four of Vivaldi's Seasons, Miss Frith (St Thomas and Sandfield) plays bits from the 'Lion King' and other show tunes and Mr Chambers shows you that you don't just have to play the violin in your house, you can play up a tree, or on a trampoline. We also have uploaded a video of a Year 5 pupil who started on the string scheme just to inspire you.

If we do ever get back to school we have summer concerts at the RGS with all of you planned for Thursday 25 June (Boxgrove School) and Friday 3 July (St Thomas and Sandfield). These concerts are at 1330 at the RGS and last just over the hour. The children will be at the RGS for most of the morning and will have lunch with us. So, keep playing and enjoy yourselves!



Dale Chambers

## List of Videos (as of 16 April 2020)

### *Released for the Easter Holidays*

How to tune your instrument at home

E for Elephant and Muddy Hippos (versions for violin and cello separately)

I like chocolate (violin and cello together)

Cheetah in a tree (versions for violin and cello separately)

I want Ice Cream and Jaw Snapping Crocodile (violin and cello together)

Jungle Drums and Mary had a Kangaroo (versions for violin and cello separately)

Fingers and Feet (versions for violin and cello separately)

Slithering Scales (versions for violin and cello separately)

Twinkle Twinkle little star (versions for violin and cello separately)

### **New for April**

Introduction to the Summer Term for parents and children

Monkeys swinging from a tree (Violin and Cello together)

1. Introduction
2. Lines 1 & 2
3. Lines 3 & 4
4. Performance

### Hungry Lions

1. Violin part line 1 & 2
2. Violin part line 3
3. Violin part last line
4. Cello part line 1 & 2
5. Cello part line 3
6. Cello part last line
7. Performance in a canon with violin and cello

### Summertime Calypso

1. Performance with violin and cello playing separate parts

### Fun things

1. Mr Callaghan plays Vivaldi Four Seasons (Spring)
2. Mr Callaghan plays Vivaldi Four Seasons (Summer)
3. Mr Callaghan plays Vivaldi Four Seasons (Autumn)
4. Mr Callaghan plays Vivaldi Four Seasons (Winter)
5. An introduction to the viola
6. Bach up a tree (not bark up a tree).
7. Miss Frith plays show tunes
8. Winnie (ex String Scheme now Year 5) plays the violin and answers questions

## Arrangements for the tuning and repair of instruments

There is the possibility that parents are not able to tune the instruments, or that something may have broken over the course of social distancing. We are able to offer the following solution, but please make sure that you follow the guidelines below in order to stay within the advice on social distancing currently in force.

If you need to get your child's instrument looked at by Mr Chambers, this is what to do:

On the normal day on which your child has String Scheme please bring your instrument to your child's school between the times noted below. Send Mr Chambers an email ([dhc@rgsg.co.uk](mailto:dhc@rgsg.co.uk)) to notify him that it is there and, if possible, a brief description of the problem. Then please collect the instrument on the same day at the times set out below.

### **Boxgrove - Tuesdays**

Please leave instruments either just outside the reception area (under the porch) or, if you are able to, just inside the lobby area. Please arrive between 0900 – 1130. You may collect your instrument between 1400-1500 from the same place. Don't forget to send an email to Mr Chambers to let him know it is there.

### **St. Thomas - Fridays**

Please leave instruments either just outside the reception area (under the porch) or, if you are able to, just inside the lobby area. Please arrive between 0900 – 1130. You may collect your instrument between 1400-1500 from the same place. Don't forget to send an email to Mr Chambers to let him know it is there.

### **Sandfield - Fridays**

Please leave instruments at the RGS main reception. The front door will be open at the times below and you can leave the instruments to the left of the door, inside. Please arrive between 0900 – 1130. You may collect your instrument between 1330 - 1430 from the same place. Don't forget to send an email to Mr Chambers to let him know it is there.