

Fosbrook Folk Education Trust

Providing music, dance and song opportunities for

'YOUNG FOLK' IN THE NORTH WEST

Based at: **Banks Lane Junior School, Hemphshaw Lane, Offerton, Stockport SK1 4PR**

Office Address: **'The Tidy House', 2 Highgate Rd., Hayfield, High Peak. SK22 2JL.**

tel: **01663 746089** (Evenings, Sundays & Mondays) • email: **fosbrooks@btinternet.com**

Dear All,

EASTER

First of all I would like to thank you all for your wonderful support for the Easter Exchange events. I was really pleased with the Easter Show and - despite being exhausted, feel very positive about our successful liaison with the group from Cugand. I will be producing an illustrated review of the week and will publish this as a Pdf on the Banks Lane website in the near future rather than printing it out.

THE NEW TERM

We are now into the new term of activities and all classes have started again. Sadly we wave a temporary goodbye to Helen Fosbrook who is having a baby in May, and welcome Carla Sousa who will be replacing her for flute, some piano and for theory lessons. Helen has been a brilliant part of our team here at Banks Lane and has run large theory groups with great success. I have been particularly pleased with the results she has achieved with the flautists. I stay late on a Thursday and am always delighted to hear them play so well.

FUND RAISING

Our fund raising is ongoing as we are a self supporting organisation. To help our funds we are organising a Grand Draw this term which will be drawn on Saturday 9th July when it is our Summer Fair. *(We are actively seeking volunteers to help with this event.)*

Please do your best to sell some tickets for us.

PERFORMANCES

One of the aspects of the Easter Exchange I was particularly pleased with was how well the different sections of the group were represented in the show. Since I changed the main practice day from Wednesday to Friday I have enjoyed seeing how talented youngsters can progress more effectively through our 'banded' system. This has given me a new lease of life and have found the progress of the different groups a real pleasure recently. The students who make the maximum progress are those who attend their classes on both days so that they practice the repertoire on Friday and learn new tunes and steps on Saturday.

JUNIOR BAND SHOWCASE

I was delighted with the juniors in the Easter Show and want to continue to work towards polished performances with this group so that they can entertain us again this summer. Some of the juniors have moved up and are now working through new repertoire in the 4.30pm to 5pm band session.

TRAINING BAND

This is an important term for the 'Training Band'. These are the back lines from the 5pm to 5.30 band. I need the members to make rapid progress so as to be proficient enough to represent Fosbrooks at Ireby, and also to move on to form part of the senior band



in 2017. I am hoping that these members will assist me with the July residential too as they will be the 'trainees' of the future.

SENIOR BAND

This group are very proficient now and have lots of performances in the pipeline at the Bridgewater Hall, Stockport and Middlewich Folk Festivals, Band on the Wall, 'Festival on the Field' and at Plozevet International Festival in Brittany this summer.

IREBY FESTIVAL

We will be taking a 'limited' size of group to Ireby Festival on Friday 27th May. The lanes are too small for coach travel so we will be taking one 17 seater minibus and a crew van for the luggage. I will need a small core group of experienced musicians and dancers plus ten or 12 'Training Band' people

Here is a diary list to help you plan this term:

Thursday April 21st Fosbrooks back in for weekly theory, piano and flute classes.

Friday 22nd April. First of the weekly Friday classes begin for the new term.

Saturday 23rd April. First of the weekly Headstart Saturday class.

Sunday 24th April Fosbrook Seniors at the Bridgewater Hall as part of the entertainment to celebrate the event called 'Echoes of a Mountain Song'. There is a 3.15 performance in the foyer and then at 5.15 there will be a massed 'sing in' of 'The

Manchester Rambler'.

Saturday April 30th. Second of the weekly Headstart Saturday classes. 'Grand Draw Tickets' to go out if they are back from the printers.

Sunday 1st May. Fosbrook Seniors and a few of the 5pm band in Stockport for the Stockport Folk Festival. Set up at 1.30 and performance for 45 mins at 2pm.

Saturday May 7th. Headstart 3.

May 9th to May 13th Sats Week at Banks Lane. Everything will be as normal for Fosbrooks.

Saturday 14th May. Headstart 4

May 16th to May 20th. Lakeside Week for Year Six

Saturday 21st May. Fifth and final Headstart for Term.

Friday 27th May. Banks Lane break up for Whit. Junior classes on until 4.30 and all music classes will be on too. Some of the 5pm band will be going to Ireby Festival in the Lake District after the rush hour. More details on the Ireby letter which the 5pm group will be receiving fairly soon.

12th June. 2.30pm. Fosbrook Seniors at 'Band On The Wall' Manchester. This is towards the end of the Whit holidays.

There will be another newsletter with the final dates for the academic year on it. However I am including this note for next half term : **The first Headstart is on June 25th.** (I am having the first Saturday of the half term off as it is my birthday.) Liza



Fosbrooks have a regular audience of over 500 visitors from all over the world who drop in regularly to their Facebook page.



<https://www.facebook.com/Fosbrook-Folk-Education-Trust-118971291519100/timeline/>