



MALCOLM SARGENT PRIMARY SCHOOL

Love To Learn

29 March 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

30 CHOIR – MUSIC FOR YOUTH REGIONAL FESTIVAL – CHRIST THE CORNERSTONE CHURCH, MILTON KEYNES - WEDNESDAY 3 APRIL - 1500-1800

Following on from our success at the Grantham Festival of Music this year, an adjudicator recommended that we apply for the Music for Youth Regional Festival. I applied on behalf of the choir and we are privileged to have been given a place to perform at the Music for Youth Festival, 300 Saxon Gate, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, MK9 2ES. This is a great opportunity, as this will be the furthest away from Stamford we have performed, showcasing the 30 choir.

The children should arrive at school in the morning and will have lunch at school. At 12:45 we will depart for Milton Keynes. The Festival will commence at 1500 and finish at 1800. The children will return to school at approximately 2000.

The Festival is non-competitive but rather is a platform for showcasing music in schools. There will be three adjudicators who will give each performance detailed feedback for improvement. Different music will be showcased from different age groups including vocal and instrumental

Your child will require a packed tea, snacks and plenty to drink. Healthy drinks and snacks only please, packed into a small rucksack.

Parents are warmly invited to watch and entrance is free of charge. Parents will need to make their own way to and from the Festival as all the children will travel on the coach with the attending staff.

As usual, the children should wear full school uniform for concerts with **no hoodies** for Year 6. Part of our feedback from the adjudicator from previous performances was how smart and uniformed we all looked.

Under the school's new Charging and Remissions Policy, this activity is classed as optional. That means that it is not a required activity under the national curriculum. In order to make the trip viable, we are requesting a voluntary contribution from parents to cover the cost of **£16.00 per child**. There is no obligation for parents to make a contribution and I would reassure you that no child will be excluded from this activity simply because their parents are unwilling or unable to pay. However, if insufficient voluntary contributions are raised to fund this activity, and the school cannot fund it via another source, the activity will be cancelled. **The deadline for payment to be received is 23 April 2019.** We have again extended the deadline for payment as there has been so little notice given to us for attendance. We hope that parents will pay even if their child has already attended the event so the school does not have to fund the children's attendance.

Remissions are available for this activity if parents are in genuine financial difficulty. However, funding is limited and there is no guarantee that all requests can be met. Parents in receipt of certain benefits, such as those applicable to Free School Meals, may request assistance with the costs of activities by contacting Mrs Town at the school office in confidence at the earliest opportunity. Decisions regarding funding will be made at the discretion of the Principal on a case by case basis.

Medication

If children require a travel sickness pill, please put it into a named envelope and hand it to Mrs Mills on the morning with clear instructions regarding when the pill should be taken. Any other medication that is needed should be clearly labelled and given to Mrs Mills. If your child has an epi-pen or inhaler in school, we will take those with us automatically.

And finally ...

The whole school is really proud of the choir's achievements. I hope you agree that this is a fantastic opportunity for your child to represent the school again.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Vicki Mills
Choir Director