



Shavington Primary School

Southbank Avenue, Shavington, Crewe, CW25BP

Executive Headteacher: Mr D Thomas

Head of School: Mrs R Nicholls

Tel: 01270 661527

Email: admin@shavingtonpri.cheshire.sch.uk



Young Voices Choir

21st September 2016

Dear Parents /Carers,

Welcome to Young Voices! Your child has expressed an interest in joining our Young Voices Choir, participating in one of the largest school choir concerts in the world. The **rehearsals** will take place **every Wednesday after school (3.30- 4.30)** from now until the end of January, unless you are informed otherwise. On the **Thursday 2nd February 2017** our choir will join thousands of other children from the North-West of England, to perform at the Manchester Arena. It is lovely to see so many new children choosing to participate, and we also welcome back children who loved Young Voices last year and want to do it all again!

We have participated in this event for the last three years and it has always been a huge success. The children involved thoroughly enjoy the unique and exciting experience of singing with so many others, including professional singers. The whole experience also forms bonds between children at school and we have seen many children develop their confidence. It is especially lovely to see the Year 6 children share a final experience together before moving on to High School, and to see friendships develop between children in different year groups. You also, will be singing and dancing your way through the next few months with your child as they practise! We are very lucky to have our singing teacher Lorraine to teach us all the songs, and Mrs Beavis, our parent helper, to show us all the moves!

Commitment of children and parents /carers

Obviously there needs to be a commitment from both children, to attend as many sessions as possible and to learn the words and moves, and parents, to ensure that their child is practising, in order to enjoy the experience fully. The more they can join in, the more they will enjoy it!

The children will be brought to the KS2 entrance at the end of rehearsals for you to collect. Please indicate, in writing, if your child will be walking home alone, and please inform us if there is a change of person collecting your child. It can get very dark in the winter months at the end of rehearsals, so we ask that you come to the door so we can sign your child directly over to you, ensuring our children remain safe. I appreciate this can be a slow and lengthy process, especially in bad weather, but the children's safety is our priority.

Further Information

We have a section on the school website for Young Voices which will have further information regarding how to access songs, lyrics and dance moves. I shall also keep you up to date at rehearsals of deadlines and new information. The Young Voices website is also a useful source of information and resources for practising.

www.youngvoices.co.uk

Arrangements and Costs

There are several deadlines fast approaching; these are for final choir numbers, t-shirt orders and audience tickets. Please complete the form below to confirm that your child will participate in the concert at the Manchester Arena.

Young Voices produce **T-shirts** for choir members costing £10. They are not compulsory, but previously all members have worn them. Otherwise a white school shirt is required. Please find attached an order form to be returned by **Wednesday 2nd November 2016** (the first rehearsal after the October half-term holiday).





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Audience tickets are available (there is no limit on numbers) in advance of general ticket sales. If you require tickets to come and watch the performance, please complete the attached order form and return to school, with payment by **Wednesday 2nd November 2016**. We will send the ticket orders to Young Voices in one batch, and the sooner they receive it, the better the seats you are allocated. Therefore, please be mindful of the deadline, as it is unfair for us to hold back everyone else's order whilst waiting for those who have missed the deadline. Audience members will have to make their own way to and from Manchester Arena.

The choir will go to the performance as a group, on a bus from school and will return on the bus, so parents can collect them from school. Young Voices do not allow children to leave school groups to go home with audience members, as there are literally thousands of children and adults. It is important to note that it is an evening performance, so a late return to school.

Other than the optional T-shirt purchase and audience tickets if requested, there is no charge for your child to participate in this experience. However, Young Voices are in the process of changing the format of how children can access materials for rehearsal, and as of yet we are unsure as to whether this will incur a cost (an optional practise CD for potentially £6). I have spoken to staff at YV this morning but received no further information. There will be plenty of opportunity to practise and we endeavour to keep costs as low as possible.

I appreciate this letter contains a lot of information, but as deadlines are approaching I felt it was necessary to provide you with an outline of arrangements and requirements. Further details and reminders will be given closer to events, but please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for taking the time to read this information, complete the necessary forms and for supporting your child throughout this exciting opportunity. Happy singing!

Mrs J Mills
(Teaching Assistant)

Please complete this slip and return to school

My Child will be participating in the evening performance at Manchester Arena on **Thursday 2nd February 2017**

The following person(s) will collect my child from rehearsals at school on Wednesdays at 4:30pm

..... relationship to my child

..... relationship to my child

..... relationship to my child

I give permission for my child to walk home alone.

Signed Relationship to child

