

Newsletter – June 2020

I hope that you, your families, and colleagues are all safe and well. We would like to take this opportunity to tell you all about the fabulous work that Edsential Musical Routes have been involved with during the past few months. Our team of hardworking, highly experienced musicians, teachers and office staff have been kept extremely busy during the lockdown period, providing online music lessons and resources for a large number of pupils across Cheshire West and Chester, and the Wirral.

Moving Online

Once schools began to close during March, we had to act quickly in order to get all of our instrumental and vocal lessons moved over to an online platform. This was not an easy challenge, but we are very proud to say that Edsential musicians have been successfully delivering high quality music lessons online to a large number of

Want to start
Music Lessons
with us?

For more info, please contact
music@edsential.co.uk
or 0151 541 2170

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www.edsential.com/online-music-activities

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We're Online!

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pupils across Cheshire West and Chester and the Wirral. With new pupils coming on board each week, we are finding that online instrumental and vocal teaching is really starting to take off. If you are interested in signing up for instrumental or vocal lessons with Edsential Musical Routes, or know somebody that would like to, please click the picture above or email us at music@edsential.co.uk for more information. We offer lessons on a range of instruments, starting from complete beginner to advanced level.

Once we were able to establish our online presence, we moved our attention towards how we could continue to work with all of our partner schools, music centres and ensembles in this new, online world.

We would now like to share with you some of the projects which we have been working on in order to engage, motivate and inspire our pupils to continue making music whilst schools remained closed.

First Access at Home

'First Access at Home' was created to help primary school aged pupils currently signed up to one of our in-school first access instrumental programmes. First Access is a weekly whole class instrumental lesson for children in Year 4, 5 or 6. Once schools began to close, we were faced with a big challenge. We had to think differently and change our approach in order to continue to help our pupils. In order to achieve this Edsential musicians planned and created a series of online, video-based lessons for a selection of different instruments including Trumpet, Clarinet, Violin, Guitar and Percussion. Click on the video link to watch a trailer for First Access at Home and see what we have been getting up to. If you are interested in having a look at these lessons, please do get in touch.

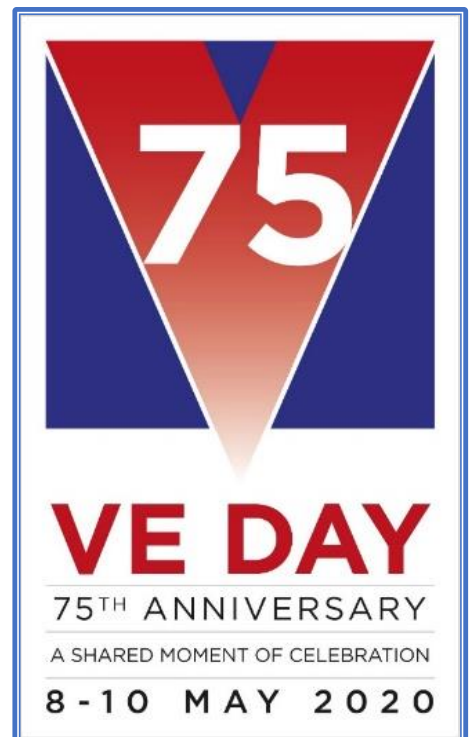


VE Day 75th Anniversary Project



To help commemorate the 75th anniversary of VE day, we decided to ask Edsential ensemble members to recreate the famous wartime song, originally recorded by Dame Vera Lynn, 'We'll Meet Again'. We all thought that this song worked perfectly to show

how we were all feeling and would help to bring our pupils closer together during a difficult time. We were absolutely amazed with the response from all of our pupils, with over 80 musicians taking part. Members were asked to record themselves either singing along or playing the piece on their instrument. The recordings were compiled and expertly edited to make the finished video. We would like to say a special thank you to all those involved in creating this video, a real team effort all round. Edsential Musical Routes are absolutely delighted to share with you our finished performance of 'We'll Meet Again'. Click on the video link to hear the finished video.



A Song for Our Time



At the start of lockdown, we sent out a template to all of our schools, asking for the children to send in their thoughts, observations, and emotions about the current situation. We had a great response and used the ideas to write a song, incorporating these. The idea is that when it is safe to do so, we will come together and perform this song at a concert.

In the meantime, we have recorded the song so that we can share it and celebrate the overwhelming positivity from the responses. It gives us great pleasure to be able to share this with you all.

We cannot wait until the time comes when we can come together and perform this song, but for now, we really hope you will enjoy listening. We would like to say a huge thank you to all those who contributed to make this song possible – click the video link to hear 'Song for Our Time'.



Thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter. We do hope to be back working in schools and music centres as soon as it is safe to do so, but in the meantime, we will be available online, for all your musical needs.



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