

## This week

- Tue 19 Apr: Pupils return to school for the summer term

## Dates further ahead

- Mon 2 May: May bank holiday: school closed
- w/b Mon 9 May: Year 6 Key Stage 2 National Tests

[A full calendar is available on our website](#)

## Notices and reminders

Pupils may wear our [optional summer uniform](#) when they return for the summer term. You can find details of our uniform on our website at [www.thomascoram.herts.sch.uk/uniform](http://www.thomascoram.herts.sch.uk/uniform)

Two weeks ago we marked [Autism Awareness Week](#) with activities in the classroom; children listened attentively to information given and engaged well with various activities during the week. Feedback from staff and pupils was very positive, and it was heartening to hear children talking openly and sensitively about friends and family members who have an Autistic Spectrum Condition. Special thanks go to the winners of the Autism Awareness T-shirts for their insightful contributions in class work: Emma G (Year 3), Amy B (Year 4), Nick A (Year 5) and Gracie S (Year 6); Mrs Wardle also received a T-shirt for her enthusiasm in her role as Thomas Coram's Autism Champion.

At the March [Full Governing Body](#) meeting, governors heard a presentation on science at Thomas Coram, discussed responses to pupil and parent questionnaires and considered how we collaborate with partner schools throughout Berkhamsted. There was also an in-depth Headteacher's report from Mr Halls. At a Management and Admissions meeting, governors reviewed the School Improvement Plan, updated the Emergency Plan and looked at revising the school's prospectus for new parents and pupils. They also looked at the school's Travel Plan, discussed their own concerns, and those raised by some parents and members of staff, about unsafe or inconsiderate parking and continued use of the staff car park by some parents at the end of the school day. They will be trialling actions to improve this early next term for the safety of our children.

## Recent letters

Last week we sent out these letters which are also available on our website:

- Friends of Thomas Coram Year 6 Hoodies
- New teacher for 3TG

## This week's attachments

Today we're attaching:

- End of term letter from the Headteacher
- Dacorum Music School Junior Wind Band Day

A reminder that school lunches cost £2.30 per day; please remember to [top up your child's Wisepay](#) (My Wise Account) over the break.

St Peter's Church has asked us to let you know that there will still be a [Third Sunday Service](#) on April 16 but that they are postponing the bring-and-share lunch planned for that day until May 15 when they hope to make it a bring-and-share barbecue (after Third Sunday Service) - more details to follow.



1 April 2016

Dear parents/carers

Years 4 and 5 have helped bring our spring term to a rousing close with their superb time travelling production of *The Keymaster*. The donations totalled an amazing £430 which will be donated to Great Ormond Street Hospital Children's Charity. Thank you for your generosity in supporting this worthwhile cause.

Although the end of a school term is a tiring and enjoyable time, it's also, often, a time when there are some staffing changes that will take effect in the following term.

I wrote to parents in 3TG on 23 March to let them know that Miss Gower has made the difficult decision to move to a school much closer to home. We're very sorry to be losing her, but know she will be an asset to her new school. I would like to thank Miss Gower for her contribution to our school for the past two years and for the impact she has made on the achievement and progress of so many pupils. I'm sure we wish her well for the future and thank her for all her hard work.

I am pleased to let you know that Miss O'Doherty will be joining us as a Year 3 teacher next term to replace Miss Gower. Miss O'Doherty has been in school this morning to spend time with 3TG to get to know them and for them to get to know her.

I appreciate a change of teacher can be unsettling for some children and parents, but please be assured that the rest of the Year 3 staff and the leadership team will help ensure a smooth transition.

I would also like to extend my sincerest thanks to all our staff for their hard work this term. Thomas Coram has an amazing team, of whom I am very proud. We aim to be more than just a place to learn and work, but a family.

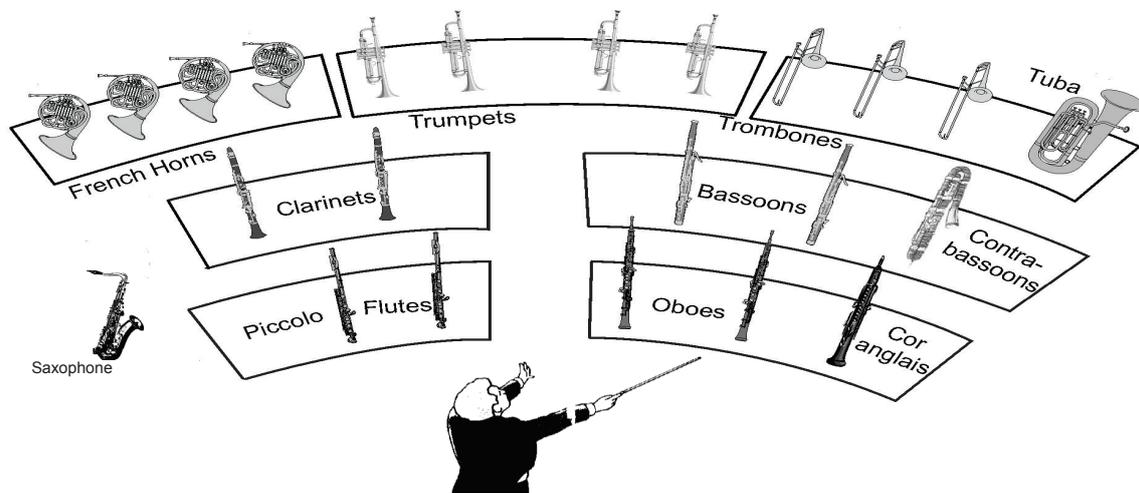
I wish you a happy Easter break and look forward to seeing everyone back, renewed and refreshed, on Tuesday 19 April.

Yours sincerely

Mr R Halls  
Headteacher

# Junior Wind Band Day

Thursday 9th June 2016



9.30AM - 3.00PM

FOR YEAR 3 AND ABOVE

At  
**St John's Church**  
Station Road  
Hemel Hempstead  
Hertfordshire  
HP1 1JY

**Cost: £18**

PLEASE APPLY BY :  
THURSDAY 26th May 2016

Please turn over for details:

Hertfordshire Music Service  
[www.hertsmusicservice.org.uk](http://www.hertsmusicservice.org.uk)



March 2016



# JUNIOR WIND AND BRASS DAY

Thursday 9th June 2016

Dacorum Music School is running a Junior Wind Band Day for all Wind and Brass players at primary school in Year 3 and above, with at least a term of lessons. Saxophone players are welcome. Please see the details below:

**Venue:** St John's Church, Station Road, Boxmoor, Hemel Hempstead, Herts, HP1 1JY

**Phone Number:** 01442 214599 **Email:** dacorummusicenquiries@hertfordshire.gov.uk

**Time:** 9.30am – 3.00pm **Registration:** from 9.10am **Cost:** £18.00

**Concert for family and friends:** 2.45pm

(Please make cheques payable to '**Hertfordshire County Council**' and return, with form, to Dacorum Music School, Heath Barn, St John's Road, Hemel Hempstead, HP1 1NP).

**Closing Date for applications:** Thursday 26th May 2016

Places on the course are limited so please apply as soon as possible.

Please note that in cases of hardship, no child will be refused a place; remission of fees is possible if applications are made in good time.

Please assume that your application has been accepted **unless we contact you.**

Children will need a packed lunch and school uniform is not required.

It is difficult to park in the streets around the site. Please leave plenty of time for parking.

***We will require a number of parent helpers to supervise children at lunchtime (12.00 – 12.45pm), if you are able to help, please indicate on the application form.***

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## Dacorum Junior Wind Band Day

I enclose a cheque for **£18.00** made payable to **Hertfordshire County Council** for the **Dacorum Music School Junior Wind Band Day on Thursday 9th June 2016.**

**Name (please print)**..... **Year Group**.....

**Instrument:** ..... **Grade/Time learning:** ..... **Teacher:** .....

**Home Tel. No.**.....**Daytime Tel. No.**.....

**Email:** .....

**School**..... **Headteacher Name**.....

**Headteacher's Signature**..... **(Applications will not be accepted without Headteacher's signature)**

**Parent's Name (please print)**..... **Parent's Signature**.....

**I would like to be a parent helper**                      **YES**                      **NO**

**Please inform us if your child has any medical conditions we should know about**

**Hertfordshire Music Service**  
**Dacorum Music School**  
Heath Barn  
St John's Road, Hemel Hempstead  
Hertfordshire, HP1 1NP  
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email: dacorummusicenquiries@hertfordshire.gov.uk  
www.hertsmusicsservice.org.uk

