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Tuesday 11th February 2025

Dear Choir Leaders,

Sutton Sings Festival 2025: 'Song Journey'
KS1: Monday 9th & Tuesday 10th June 2025
St. Andrew's United Reformed Church, Cheam (SM2 7HF)

We hope that preparations for our *Sutton Sings Festival* are going well and wanted to write to you with further details about how the concerts will work on the day.

KEY DEADLINES:

- Monday 10th March: song choices & sheet music
- Monday 5th May: programme information

Rehearsal Schedule:

Please see below the rehearsal schedule for both days. As you can see, each school has a 15-minute rehearsal slot for you to rehearse your school's individual items as well as a massed choir rehearsal. Please arrive promptly for your school/massed choir rehearsal.

Monday 9th June AM

- 9:15 Cheam Park Farm rehearsal (Sally King)
- 9:30 Manor Park Primary Academy rehearsal (Leanne McCormick)
- 9:45 Massed choir (full) rehearsal – **all AM schools must attend**
- 10:30 Seaton House rehearsal (Andrea Milne)
- 10:45 Shawley Community Primary Academy rehearsal (Lisa Robinson)
- 11:00 Doors open
- 11:15 Concert 1 starts
- 12:15 Concert 1 ends

Monday 9th June PM

- 13:00 Tweeddale Primary School rehearsal (Emma Gray)
- 13:15 Hackbridge Primary School rehearsal (Gabby Klein)
- 13:30 Massed choir (full) rehearsal – **all PM schools must attend**

14:15 Victor Seymour Infants' School rehearsal (Samantha Morrissy)
14:30 West Ashtead Primary Academy rehearsal (Sarah Parr)
14:45 Doors open
15:00 Concert 2 starts
16:00 Concert 2 ends

Tuesday 10th June AM

9:15 Cheam Common Infants' Academy rehearsal (Bianca Miles-Prouten)
9:30 Cheam Fields Primary Academy rehearsal (Sam Ranthe)
9:45 Massed choir (full) rehearsal – **all AM schools must attend**
10:30 Stanley Park Infants' School rehearsal (Kerry Dring)
10:45 Wood Field Primary School rehearsal (Jessica Bourne)
11:00 Doors open
11:15 Concert 3 starts
12:15 Concert 3 ends

Tuesday 10th June PM

13:00 Abbey Primary School rehearsal (Helen Foley)
13:15 All Saints Benhilton CofE Primary rehearsal (Victoria Mottram)
13:30 Massed choir (full) rehearsal – **all PM schools must attend**
14:15 Brookfield Primary Academy rehearsal (Michelle Underwood)
14:30 St. Elphege's RC Infant School rehearsal (Martin Jones)
14:45 Doors open
15:00 Concert 4 starts
16:00 Concert 4 ends

Satellite Vocal workshops

As explained at the CPD session, all choirs will have the opportunity to attend a 1.5 hour satellite vocal workshop, hosted at a local primary school at the end of April/May. You will have received an e-mail with the date, time and location of your workshop. The aim of the vocal workshop is to bring the choirs together and work on the massed choir songs in detail. There will not be time to teach the songs during this session so please make sure that your choir come prepared, ready to refine the songs, experiment with the harmony parts and have fun!

If your choir are unable to attend their allocated workshop, please contact me ASAP so that I can try to swap your choir with another.

Song choices

Many thanks to those of you who have already submitted your song choices. Just a little reminder that we would like your choir to prepare two individual items (max. 5 minutes in total), related to our over-arching theme 'Song Journey', to perform in the concert. For KS1, this will include songs about travel, transport – anything related to going on a journey! Please email me your song choices and sheet music/backing tracks by **Monday 10th March** to avoid repetition of pieces within the same concert.

There will be a house band (piano, drums, bass) available to accompany your choir on the day, but you are welcome to bring your own accompanist if you would prefer; please let me know. If you are struggling to source the sheet music for a particular song, please do not hesitate to contact me and I will do my best to help.

Supervision

As you will see from the rehearsal schedule, there will be some time when your choir are either waiting for the massed choir rehearsal or the concert to begin. During this time, your choir can have a short break and, depending on the weather, you are welcome to take them to the grass area outside to enjoy some fresh air! We recommend that your singers bring a packed lunch/snack, water bottle and a book to read during these breaks. Please note that although there will be several SMT staff members onsite, the responsibility for supervision of children during the rehearsal, breaks and concert lies with the individual schools.

Programme

We are producing a digital programme for the concert and require the following information from you by **Monday 5th May**:

- List of performers names
- Programme notes – a couple of lines of text about each solo piece your choir is performing

Tickets

Tickets are available to purchase via Ticket Source and are priced at £7.50 adults (16+), £4.50 child (6-15 years) and free for children aged 5 and under (under 5s will need to sit on parents'/carers' laps). Due to venue capacity, there are a limited number of tickets available for each concert. Tickets can be purchased from our online ticket store:

[Sutton Music Trust event tickets from TicketSource.](#)

As there are multiple performances, please ensure your parents know which concert your school are performing in so that they buy tickets for the correct one.

**Concert dress**

We ask that the choirs are dressed in smart school uniform for the event. This will enable us to identify individual schools on the day quickly and efficiently.

Once again, many thanks for taking part in our *Sutton Sings Festival*. We look forward to working with you and your choirs on what promises to be a really exciting event!

Best wishes,
Emily

Emily Murphy
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