**FEBRUARY 2019**

 NEWSLETTER

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Follow us NOW on  friends of east renfrewshire school music

**Who are Friends of ERSM?** We are a Scottish registered charity (SC032346) dedicated to raising funds to support the work and aims of the Instrumental Music Service across East Renfrewshire. The committee comprises of parent volunteers whose children currently attend the Saturday Music Centre. We have provided funding for new specialised instruments, additional sheet music and hardship assistance for residential courses. We are always delighted to welcome new committee members and listen to any new innovative ideas. Meet us on Saturday mornings at Williamwood High School.

We rounded off an exciting year at the Christmas Open Day and are delighted to announce that we raised £1,190. A big thankyou to any of you who donated gifts for the tombola and raffle. A big thankyou also to the following:

David Lloyd Leisure Centre (Roukenglen), Linn UK, The New Turban Tandoori Restaurant, Asda, Tesco, Aldi, Waitrose and the Co-op who all donated raffle prizes including all the hamper ingredients! Congratulations also to all the prize winners.

Following discussions with East Renfrewshire Music Services, we are delighted to confirm that we are able to commit the following for this year:

£1500 - hire of music for the “West End…and beyond" concert and purchase of music for Lendrick Muir residential week.

£1000 - transportation of percussion for Gartmore and Lendrick Muir

£1000 - assisted places to attend Lendrick Muir residential week.

£500 - help towards the £2500 which is the cost of the bus transportation for both residential courses.

We can confirm that a concert in memory of Ena Millar will now take place on Thursday 7 March at 7.30pm in the New Auditorium at the Glasgow Royal Concert Hall. Tickets will be available from the Glasgow Royal Concert Hall ticket office nearer the time. The concert will, once again, bring together the East Renfrewshire Schools’ Symphony Orchestra and the Eastwood Choral Society. The Concert will be titled “The West End…and Beyond” and is sure to be a fabulous night!

Going forward, we will continue to sell our re-usable tea/coffee cups on Saturday mornings to reduce single cup usage alongside Bally’s ever popular fridge magnets. Please pop over to the desk. We would be delighted to see you.

We are also planning to hold another “Used Musical Instruments and Accessories Sale” on Saturday 16th March at the Music Centre, Williamwood School. This is the weekend prior to the Band Supplies event.

If you are selling or looking to buy a musical instrument, please give the details to a committee member at the Saturday Music Centre. We had a successful event last year, finding new homes for eight instruments. We will try our best to match buyers and sellers. We cannot give advice with regards to value but are happy to display the equipment on the day for you.

Finally…..the committee have worked extremely hard to raise funds to support the great work provided by Instrumental Music Service over a number of years. We urgently need additional people to help and to take on active roles within the committee. We have introduced a number of initiatives recently such as the quarterly newsletter and Twitter to raise awareness, but new committee members will always bring new ideas to help increase fund raising further. If you come along to Williamwood on a Saturday morning, please consider becoming involved.

