## *Gillian Dibden*

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13th July 2018

**To: Head Teachers and Music Co-ordinators in all Primary Schools in Slough**

Dear Head Teacher

**RE: Multicultural Singing Celebration 2018**

I am writing to invite you once again to take part in our popular and successful annual singing event. Choirs, classes or singing groups of any size are welcome. It is for KS1 and KS2 groups; indeed, some schools bring both.

**Prep:** **Joint KS1 & KS2** T**eachers’ compulsory prep. meeting on Wednesday 19th September**

**Event: Key Stage 1 Multicultural Singing Celebration**

**Date: Tuesday 4th December 2018, with early morning rehearsals for 11am performance or late morning rehearsals for 1.45pm performance.**

**Venue: Windsor Parish Church of St. John the Baptist**, **High Street, Windsor, SL4 1LD**

**Event: Key Stage 2 Multicultural Singing Celebration**

**Date: Wednesday 5th December 2018, with morning rehearsals, returning for 6.30 pm performance, or afternoon rehearsals ending with 4.00pm performance.**

**Venue: Windsor Parish Church of St. John the Baptist**, **High Street, Windsor, SL4 1LD**

All Slough primary schools are invited to take part. The massed choirs will sing pieces together, and schools are encouraged if they wish, to perform on their own. We encourage you to think about different celebrations and singing cultures from around the world to inspire your individual items.

**Teachers’ Meeting: Wednesday 19th September, Beechwood School, Long Readings Lane, SL2 1QE.**

This meeting is really helpful to you and to me to meet together to discuss the logistics of the event, and to go through the music of the songs which we will sing together, so that you are able to teach them in your own schools, in the same way as each other, before bringing them together on the day. We prepare a CD recording of the songs for you, which will also assist you in your teaching. We will try to have this ready for you to collect at the Teachers’ Meeting. If you are unable to attend yourself, we are happy to see a colleague in your place.

**Tea/coffee will be served from 3.45pm and the meeting will start shortly after this, at around 4pm and will last for between 60 and 90 minutes.** You are then invited to adjourn to The Crown Inn**,** Crown Lane**,** Farnham Royal**,** SL2 3SQfor a music teaching socialto meet with other classroom music teachers and instrumental teachers.

I am delighted that, for this year, we are able to offer assistance with the cost of transport of up to £80 to participating schools travelling to the daytime rehearsals by coach - this should be claimed from Laura Lancaster, Head of Slough Music Service, who will require a receipt from your coach company.

Each school is invited to perform 1 or 2 of their own songs as solo items in addition to the songs everyone will sing together. A professional accompanist will be available for the rehearsals and concerts on the day. Schools may bring their own accompanists if they prefer. I will be available to visit your school and help with the preparation of the music at all stages, but it is important to book your appointments early. Please contact us as soon as possible to arrange these visits.

I have always enjoyed working with the Slough Schools for this project and do hope that you will want to take part this year. Previous events have been fulfilling and exciting. Please complete and return the enclosed reply slip to Slough Music Service: music.service[@slough.gov.uk](mailto:laura.lancaster@beechwood.slough.sch.uk) giving all the requested information.

If you have any questions that you would like to ask, do not hesitate to telephone me on 07799 413746. A warm welcome will be extended to new teachers to the area as well as those who have taken part before. This is an event which provides a friendly and supportive platform for everybody who takes part. I look forward to working with you all and to seeing you at the Teachers Meeting and social on Wednesday 19th September 2018.

With best wishes

Yours sincerely

Gillian Dibden

Freelance Vocal/Choral Specialist

Project Leader: Multicultural Singing Celebration 2018

Mobile: 07799 413746



**REPLY SLIP: MULTICULTURAL SINGING CELEBRATION 2018**

***Please return this reply slip as soon as possible to Gemma Cross, Slough Music Service, Slough Borough Council, 51 Bath Road, Slough SL1 3UF or to*** [gemma.cross@slough.gov.uk](mailto:gemma.cross@slough.gov.uk)

**Name of school ……………………………………………………………………………………..…………..............................................**

**Choir contact name ………………………………………………………………………………………….……………………………………........**

**Telephone number ……………………..…………………… Email address ………………………..……………………………...............**

**I would like to bring a key stage 1 and / or a key stage 2 group to join the Multicultural Singing Celebration**

*Delete as necessary*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **My preference for rehearsals / performance are:** | | | *Please delete as necessary* |
| **Key Stage 1:**  **4th Dec** | Morning rehearsals | 11am performance | Yes / No |
| Late morning rehearsals | 1.45pm performance | Yes / No |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Key Stage 2:**  **5th Dec** | Afternoon rehearsals | 4pm performance | Yes / No |
| Morning rehearsals | 6.30pm performance | Yes / No |

**Approximate number of pupils I wish to bring: ………………………….…….**

Please note that although we like to make this event accessible to as many pupils as possible due to venue capacity we may have to limit numbers from each school.

*Please delete as necessary*

**I will be able to attend the meeting at Beechwood School on Wednesday 19th September 2018.**

**A colleague ……………………………………………. will attend the meeting on the 19th September in my place**

**Signature …………………………………………………………………………………………………Date ……………………………………..…….**

Slough Music Service is proud to offer this music project at no cost to the school or pupils, however due to the financial implication of schools pulling out at short notice a cost may be incurred. In the event of the school not being able to attend the event with 4 weeks or less notice the school may be requested to pay a cancellation fee of £250. Please note that school staff accompanying the music trip, do not have to be music specialists.