Tuning young people into lifelong love of music

Hundreds of children and young people from schools across Somerset got the chance to hear a professional orchestra - many of them for the first time.

The concerts at the Octagon Theatre in Yeovil were put on by the BBC and Somerset Sound Foundation, the county’s music education hub. It was part of the BBC’s 10 Pieces project.

Among those attending were pupils from Selworthy School (pictured).

Simon Roberts, Selworthy School Music Lead said pupils were left “in awe and emotionally touched”.

SSF provides a wide range of inclusive musical opportunities for all children including instrument tuition, singling lessons, ensembles, bands, orchestras, training for teaching music in schools, instrument hire, events and performance opportunities.

To find out more visit SFF.

Check out the Transitions booklet

During the summer term school staff teams tend to start thinking about transitions.

Here’s a handy reminder that there is a booklet in the Schools Inclusion Pack, on Professional Choices to give advice to schools about transitions and changes.

This co-produced booklet is called SMILE (Supporting Me in Learning and Education) – Transitions and Changes.

You can access a copy of it here.
Find out about the wide range of educational technology available to schools at a one day conference in Somerset this autumn.

Somerset County Council’s ICT Team is hosting the event on 2 October at Dillington House in Ilminster. Google, Microsoft and Apple will be delivering Key note presentations about how their technology can impact teaching and learning. There will also be workshops, presentations and trade stands from other leading industry exhibitors. Information and details of the programme here.

A special shout out to Avalon School in Street. The school made the finals of the Tes School Awards 2019. It was up against seven other schools from across England and Wales at the Grosvenor House Hotel in London on 21 June. They didn’t scoop the award this time but a massive well done for getting there.

It’s nearly the summer holidays!

If you’re a parent carer of a child or young person with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities you’ll soon be receiving your Summer Hols Activity and Calendar in the post.

You’ll also be getting your Activity Day Passes - there are some great new venues and offers available this year.

All these will soon be available to download here.

Don’t forget about the Short Breaks Family Fun Day on event on 6 July at Brookside Academy in Street – a great event for families to have fun and to get useful information on the Short Breaks services and what’s available, in one place on one day.

If you’re not receiving the Short Breaks Calendar and Newsletter in the post and wish to call 01823 358117.