

Arts at Lisvane

Drama

At Lisvane, we believe it is important to encourage boys and girls to experience the pleasures and rewards of creative work. Although drama is an integral element of the English curriculum, Lisvane pupils are presented with additional opportunities to pursue their love of drama outside the classroom.

The extra curricular programme provides a variety of 'clubs' during the week at lunchtime and after school that offer drama activities for all children across the age-range. On a biannual basis, the Junior School stages a large-scale musical production in the magnificently equipped *New Hall*. The last major production saw all the juniors involved in a musical based on *Alice in Wonderland*. Scarborough College senior pupils supported the children on stage and with backstage technical expertise in lighting and sound.

Music

It has been claimed that music is the most universal of all the arts. At Lisvane, we recognise that music is an integral part of our culture - a powerful, unique form of communication that can change the way pupils feel, think and act. The teaching of music develops pupils' ability to listen and appreciate musical form, leading to judgements being made about musical 'quality' and enabling musical preferences to be expressed. Class music teaching in the school encourages active involvement in different forms of music making, both individual and ensemble, helping to increase self-discipline and creativity.

The main aim of all the music teaching at the school is to ensure that listening, and applying knowledge and understanding, are developed through the interrelated skills of *performing, composing* and *appraising*.

Music in the *Infant Department* (Key Stage 1) sees pupils listening carefully and responding physically to a wide range of music. They play musical instruments and sing a variety of songs from memory, adding accompaniments and creating short compositions, with increasing confidence, imagination and control. They explore and enjoy how sounds and silence can create different moods and effects.

Music for the *Juniors* (Key Stage 2) requires pupils to sing songs and play instruments with increasing confidence, skill, expression and awareness of their own contribution to a group or class performance. They improvise, and develop their own musical compositions, in response to a variety of different stimuli with increasing personal involvement, independence and creativity. They explore their thoughts and feelings through responding physically, intellectually and emotionally to a variety of music from different times and cultures.

The broader musical curriculum

Many pupils at Lisvane elect to learn a musical instrument during the school week. A dedicated team of peripatetic teachers working at both the Junior School and Scarborough College is able to offer the pupils a wide range of instruments from which to learn. The expert and enthusiastic teaching on offer helps to lay firm foundations for a life filled with the joy of music making.

Lisvane has its own brass group, string group, orchestra and junior and infant choirs. The musical life of the school is flourishing and concerts and musical events are arranged throughout the year. These highly enjoyable events are often shared with Scarborough College - occasions that always enrich and lift the aspirations of our young Junior School musicians.