

Music Instrumental teachers at Barnes Primary School

Karen Warner joined us in September 2013 as the school's music teacher. For 13 years she worked as a full-time secondary school music teacher, during which time she developed a strong relationship with feeder primary schools, teaching class music lessons and providing professional development to teachers in the delivery of the music curriculum. Karen plays flute and piccolo in several ensembles, including principal flute in concert bands. She has made several recordings, including one album that reached the top 10 Classic FM music charts. She performs in concerts throughout the year in a variety of venues, including The Royal Albert Hall, Cadogan Hall, St George's Chapel at Windsor Castle, St James's Church Piccadilly, on centre court at Wimbledon Tennis Finals and further afield in Europe.

Steve Nelson was the music teacher at our school from 2005 until 2013. He has taught guitar to Key Stage 2 pupils, one day a week, since 2007. Steve is also a professional musician and songwriter and has performed with a variety of bands including Sadie and the Hotheads, fronted by American actress Elizabeth McGovern, and with his brother Simon, as The Nelson Brothers. Steve frequently helps out, playing guitar, at the school Harvest and Christmas concerts, with guitar ensembles at the Key Stage 2 Summer Concert, and with the Year 6 Production.

George Sleightholme is a clarinettist and teacher of woodwind, performing in a variety of styles, including contemporary and improvised music as well as classical music. He plays with chamber ensemble The Meritus Collective, currently resident at Lauderdale House; Brandenburg Sinfonia, contemporary ensemble; Dr K Sextet, and with Peter Wiegold and Notes Inegales, where he collaborates with guest artists from different musical traditions. He is currently working on a second album of original music with his group iyatraQuartet. Nigel Kennedy described their first album as '*Beautiful...full of space and truth*'. George conducts Surbiton RBL Marching Band and Palace Band, and teaches clarinet at City Lit and music performance at Brunel University. In his spare time he likes to play the didgeridoo and real tennis.

Tina Wilkinson joined Barnes as a violin and viola teacher in September 2018. Following a successful business career in IT, Tina decided to return to music which had been such a large part of her youth. She has now been teaching for over ten years, both privately and with several independent and state schools in Surrey. Tina is very enthusiastic about music education and the belief that everyone can learn to play an instrument with positive encouragement. In addition to teaching violin and viola Tina also teaches flute as a trained Suzuki Method Teacher. Tina plays in a trio, a flute choir and several bands and is librarian of Stoneleigh Youth Orchestra - in which a number of her pupils play. Just for fun Tina has recently started to learn to play the cello!

Rondo Music London

Natalia Alexa

Born in Hungary, Natalia started to play the horn when she was 8 years old and was raised with the Kodály method. She was 11 years old when she won the 2nd place at the County Horn Competition and took part in the National Horn Competition. She also won the Special Award in a Folk Song Competition in Mátészalka in 2003. She gained her BMus degree in 2005 at the University of Pécs with an outstanding result. During her school years she played in a variety of chamber groups, gained orchestral experience, took part in numerous national competitions and international horn masterclasses led by Peter Damm, and Ab Koster. Since 2005, Natalia has lived in London and worked as a musician in various orchestras. She performed in Britain's Got Talent and has performed Rosetti's double horn concerto with orchestra, as well as teaching her pupils. She established Rondo Music London with her husband. The company's mission statement is to provide gold standard music education to various primary schools and to private pupils. At Barnes Natalia used to teach recorder and brass until her baby was born. She now she leads Rondo Music and runs Little Voices for KS1.

Judit Bartha

Ms Judit Bartha was born in Hungary. She started to play the French horn when she was 10 years old and was raised with the Kodály method. Judit was 11 years old when she won 3rd place at the County Horn Competition; and took a part in the National Horn Competition where she won the Special Award in Kisujszallas. She also won the 2nd place at the County Horn Competition, and 1st place at the Folk Song Competition. Judit gained her BMus degree in 2010 at the University of Miskolc as a horn teacher and performer of chamber music. Her French horn teachers were Mr Zoltan Varga who has received the Ferenc Liszt award and Roland Szentpali, a world famous tuba artist who has received the Roger Bobo award. During Judit's school years she played in a variety of chamber groups, gained orchestral experience, took part in numerous national competitions.

She played in the University College Dublin Symphony Orchestra in Ireland in 2014. Since 2015 Judit has lived in London and started to work at the Rondo Music. Judit teaches recorder, horn and trumpet at our school.

Megan Burke

Megan is a qualified and experienced piano teacher from Ireland, where she studied Music, Media and Performance Technology at the University of Limerick. Megan has studied both keyboard and piano up to Exam Level 8 with the Royal Irish Academy of Music, the equivalent of ABRSM. Since then she has taught many students over the past 5 years. Megan has toured with the Co. Tipperary Ryan Youth Orchestra for four years, including performances at the National Concert Hall in Dublin, Ireland and the Lake Garda Music Festival in Italy. Since moving to London she has become a member of Meitheal Cheoil, an Irish Music group that performs at events around London. She joined Rondo Music London in 2017 and teaches piano at our school.