

LICHFIELD FESTIVAL

LEARNING & PARTICIPATION



IMPACT
REPORT
2024

CONTENTS

THE FOUR SEASONS
THE PROJECT
THE OUTPUTS
THE PRIMARY SCHOOLS
THEIR SEASONS
WHAT WE MADE
WHAT THEY SAID
THE FRIARY SEASONS
TEACHER TESTIMONIALS
STUDENT TESTIMONIALS
MONOLOGUE EXTRACT



THE FOUR SEASONS

THE PROJECT

inspired by the music of Vivaldi's FOUR SEASONS, hundreds of children from three Staffordshire Primary Schools and a cohort of teenagers from one Staffordshire Secondary School took part in two separate creative projects, led by Lichfield Festival.

THE OUTPUTS

- **Our Primary Schools:**

- **St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Jerome Primary & The John Bamford Primary**
- Two professional musicians from the Birmingham Conservatoire came to perform extracts from Vivaldi's FOUR SEASONS in an interactive assembly.
- KS1 took part in creative drawing workshops and created pieces of spoken word with the Learning and Participation Producer.
- KS2 took part in composition workshops. Their ideas inspired four brand new seasonal piece of music, later composed by Millicent James.
- The children were introduced to filmmaking. The workshops were captured by professional filmmakers: Tom Synnott-Bell and Luke Dell.
- We hosted a celebratory morning at Lichfield Cathedral in July to conclude the project. The project film was premiered and the compositions were performed by a string quartet for the first time, whilst the children's illustrations were projected above the stage. Children introduced each seasonal movement with a piece of spoken word, and before they left the Cathedral they even got to hear the organ play!

- **Our Secondary School:**

- **The Friary School**

- Teenagers worked alongside local Actor and Writer Katie Arnstein for several weeks, to create their own monologues from scratch, taking inspiration from the Four Seasons.
- They took part in workshops with Guest Practitioners, including Birmingham Poet Laureate Jasmine Gardosi, Calathea Arts' Charis McRoberts and Emily Summers from Bostin' Creative.
- The monologues were performed at the Hub at St Mary's in a showcase to an audience of family and friends, which was filmed.

JEROME PRIMARY

WINTER

IN WINTER...

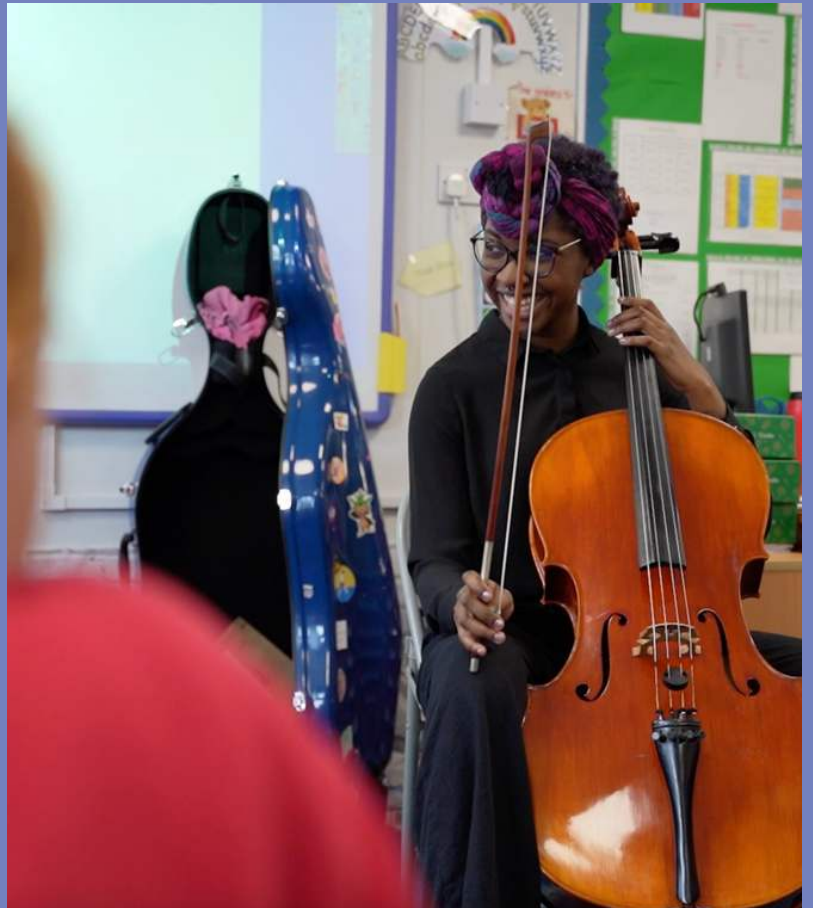
My house is full of love
Wrapping paper rustling...
Presents as far as the eye can see
Christmas lights in a tangle
Rainbows of colour...
Santa!
Snowflakes fly
Gingerbread men RUNNING
Snowball fights with my brother...
Sled on a string

My snowman wears a big purple hat...
His name is Gerald...

SANTA WEARS A HAT TOO!

Winter is cosy
Winter is WILD
And every snowflake is different...
Like me and you...

I feel happy in my heart...



YEAR 1

70

YEAR 5

70

TOTAL

140

THE JOHN BAMFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL

SPRING

SPRING HAS SPRUNG!

Butterflies flying

Cows mooing

Trees growing

Time lapse...!

Flowers blooming...

New life...

Lambs leap and chicks hatch!

A gentle breeze rushes through the air...

Fresh!

Raindrops fly!

Bees buzz

And bunnies hop...

The Easter Egg hunt starts NOW!



YEAR 1 & 2

85

YEAR 5 & 6

90

TOTAL

175

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

SUMMER

SUMMER TIME! It's Sports Day...

Freshly cut grass
The finish line waits...
But there are obstacles!
The Sun burns bright in the sky
Cars in the distance...
Dogs barking...
Birds natter
Crowds and faces
Parents chatter...



Tables full of trophies
Medals catch the light
Face paint, glitter
Ice cold drinks...waiting...
Cheers roar...
False start...
Let's go again...
Do your best!
3, 2, 1! BEGIN!



YEAR 1

30

YEAR 6

32

TOTAL

62

THE JOHN BAMFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL

AUTUMN

TRICK OR TREAT?!

Harvest begins

The days are darker

The sky is full of stars...

We sip hot chocolate

And stay in.

Witch? Ghost? Skeleton?!

Red, yellow, orange and gold...

The fire crackles

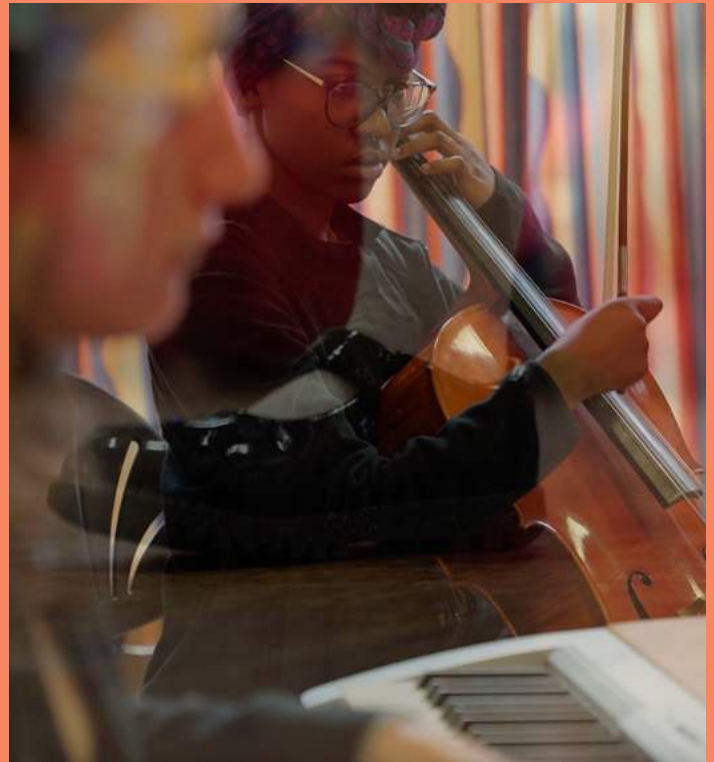
And leaves fall

To the ground

So we...

kick them to the sky!

Autumn has come to call.



YEAR 1 & 2

85

YEAR 5 & 6

90

TOTAL

175

TEACHER TESTIMONIAL

“When we came back into the classroom all the children were talking about the different seasons...

They said they could really feel the music and how it made them feel - they were quite articulate about that. They really got it.

They were able to understand how music could tell the story of a season.”

WHAT WE MADE

4 PIECES OF
SPOKEN
WORD

217 PIECES
OF ART

A SHORT
FILM

4 NEW
PIECES OF
MUSIC



Lichfield Festival - St Mary's Newsletter

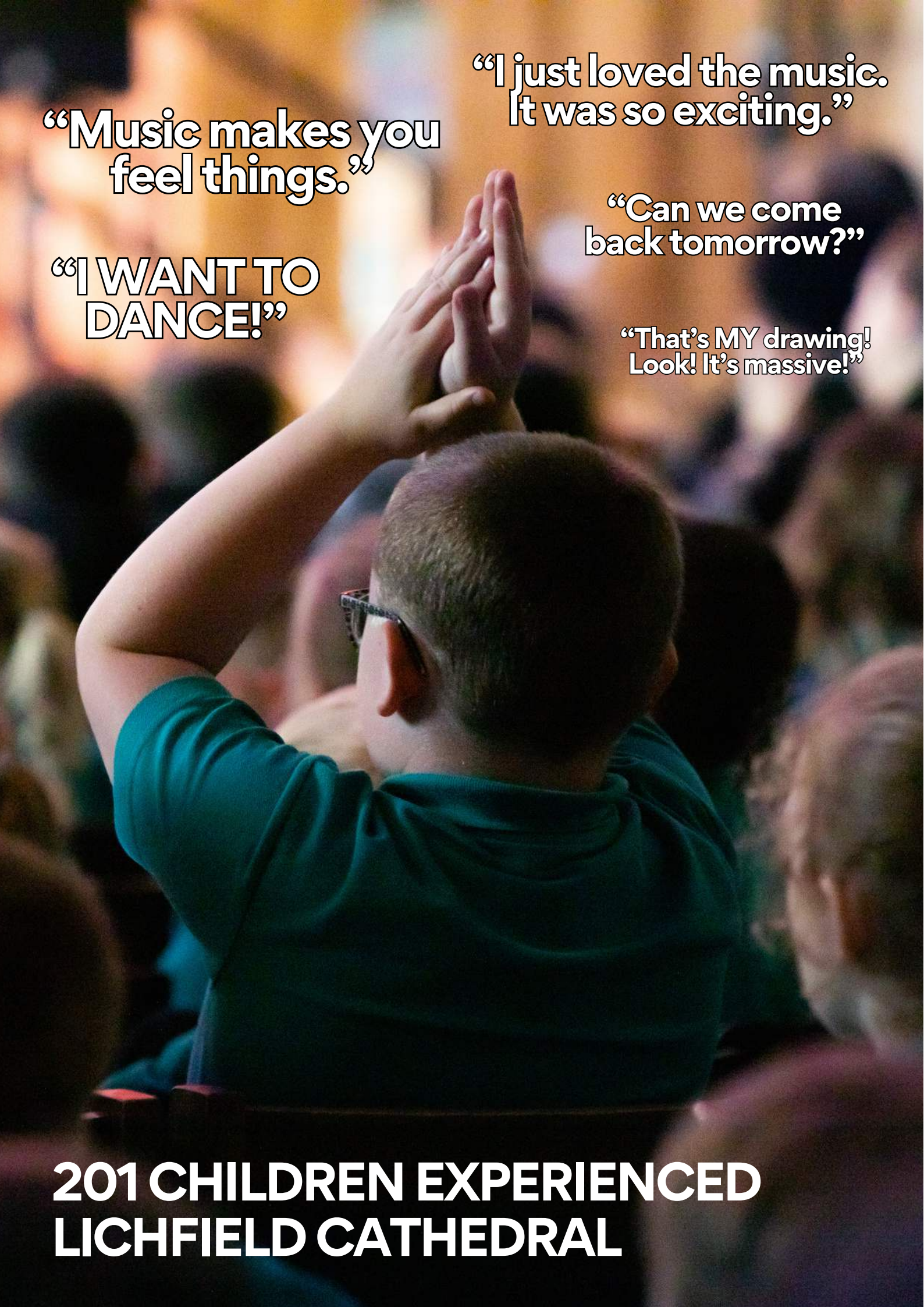
Year 1 and Year 6 had a fabulous morning at the Lichfield Festival this week. For many of the children there were many firsts!

First time in Lichfield Cathedral.

First time listening to live classical music!

First time really enjoying classical music!

And of course...the first time on a double decker bus! I'm not sure who was most excited the Year 1 pupils on their first school coach outing or Year 6 on the top deck!

A young boy with short brown hair, wearing a green t-shirt and glasses, is seen from behind, clapping his hands. He is in a crowd of people, with the background blurred. The lighting is warm, suggesting an indoor event.

**“Music makes you
feel things.”**

**“I just loved the music.
It was so exciting.”**

**“I WANT TO
DANCE!”**

**“Can we come
back tomorrow?”**

**“That’s MY drawing!
Look! It’s massive!”**

**201 CHILDREN EXPERIENCED
LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL**

TEACHER TESTIMONIAL

“They were absolutely thrilled to see all of their pictures up on the screen. It was so exciting you could see the buzz in their faces when theirs was up.

They loved the music, one of our children said “I want to learn to play the cello too!” This project - this trip, it’s just been absolutely wonderful.”

THE FRIARY SEASONS



13

MONOLOGUES

10

WORKSHOPS

1

SHOWCASE



TEACHER TESTIMONIAL

“It’s been fantastic for them to be involved in workshops with guest practitioners. They’ve built a fabulous relationship with Katie and for that to be punctuated with other creatives has been brilliant...”

I’ve been delighted with this process. Writing their own monologues, the pressure of performing them, sharing them for the first time. Positive praise, constructive criticism and helping each other to grow.

Seeing how they’ve responded to today - to the venue, the lights, the last minute changes. It’s been a really rewarding experience for them.”

STUDENT TESTIMONIALS

“We’re still developing – it’s good to have these experiences. It’s so fun. Next time – you’ll know what to do!”

“There’s been a lot of creative thinking – more than I’ve done before... With this you create your own script, everybody gives an idea in – we all get on well as a group.”

“I felt nervous to start with but after the rehearsals I was more confident. I was proud of myself afterwards because I realised it pushed me out of my comfort zone for the better.”

“I thought the workshops were so much fun and it was useful to meet different guests with different styles.”

STUDENT TESTIMONIALS

“I’m super happy with how it went however I tripped up on my words because of nerves. It’s something I can work on through confidence.”

“I’ve written my first monologue, which was something I had never done before, but really enjoyed!”

“It’s made me more comfortable performing in front of a closer and more intimate audience.”

“It has allowed me to become more creative, more collaborative.”

WELL SAMANTHA, IF YOU COULDN'T TELL, I'VE BEEN STUCK LIKE THIS FOR A HOT MINUTE...

WHEN THEY TOLD YOU THAT THE NEXT FEW MONTHS OF YOUR LIFE WERE GONNA BE DIFFICULT... WELL YEAH HAHA!! TRUST ME THEY WERE NOT KIDDING.

YOU WAIT THROUGHOUT THE SEASONS TO MEET THIS SUPPOSED BEAUTY AND YOU'RE MET WITH A WRINKLY GREMLIN HALF OF THE TIME.

THAT'S WHEN YOU REALISE... THAT FOREST GUMP WAS IN FACT CORRECT AND LIFE ACTUALLY IS LIKE A BOX OF CHOCOLATES.

BECAUSE YOU TRULY NEVER KNOW WHICH ONE YOU'RE GONNA GET.

EMILY RICE