

The Great Music Dig

Greetings volunteers (parents) and student archaeologists (students)! Here is the introduction to our Term 4 2010 and Term 1 2011 Theme:-

What is an archaeological dig?

Archaeology digs are conducted by universities, museums, cultural resource firms, and historical societies year-round all over the planet. Some digs take volunteers, some are limited to professionals or student archaeologists, and some are combinations. Some archaeology digs are long term, lasting for months, some are as short as a few days or weeks (taken from 'About.com').

Further advancements in archaeological field methodology arose in the late [19th century](#). One of the pioneering figures in this was [Augustus Pitt Rivers](#), who meticulously excavated on [Cranborne Chase](#) in southern England, emphasising that it was not only items of beauty or value that should be recorded, but mundane items as well (Wikipedia).

Tools needed for an Archaeological 'Dig'.

- 1) Trowels are used to level the ground and to scrape carefully around artefacts.
- 2) Clippers are used to cut around tree roots.
- 3) Measuring tapes are used to measure the site you are working on and to measure the depth and position you find your artefact.
- 4) A Level is used to map where you find your artefact.
- 5) Brushes/Paintbrushes are used to carefully brush away dirt around an artefact.
- 6) A Bamboo Pick is used to carefully pick dirt away from an artefact.
- 7) A File is used to sharpen your trowel or shovel.
- 8) A Wire Brush helps remove any dirt from your tools after a dig.
- 9) A Screen is used to sift through the soil/dirt to find small artefacts.
- 10) A Probe is used to dig a small hole to see if there are any changes in the colour of the soil (Called a 'stain').
- 11) Spikes mark off the area in which you are digging.
- 12) Shovel - digs into the dirt.

We are going to use music tools to help us in our archaeological journey.

Our music tools include:-

- Technique (legato, staccato, spiccato, detache etc).
- Dynamics (f loud, p soft, mf, mp, crescendo, diminuendo etc).
- Tempo (fast, slow, moderato, accelerando, rallentando etc).

We are also going to do the following over the next two terms with various pieces and activities:-

Prepare our Dig site.

Establish our Dig site

Perfect the artefacts

Close up the dig site and appreciate our efforts.

There will be some surprises along the way, Dig Site rules, magical musical things to discover and a whole heap of fun to be had.

I hope you can join me in our great archaeological music dig.