



Music



What have we been learning about?

Nursery:

During the summer term, our pupils had fun exploring songs and rhythms in a unit called Travel and Movement. This topic focused on various ways of getting from one place to another, using music and tempo to spark creativity. They particularly enjoyed singing The Wheels on the Bus and Off We Go! (Down at the Station), which helped them to think about travel in exciting and imaginative ways.



Reception:

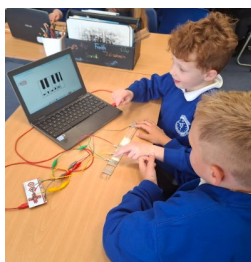
In Reception, the children thoroughly enjoyed exploring the traditional song Row, Row, Row Your Boat. As part of this unit, they discovered different ways to feel and follow the beat, identified and sang notes that moved by steps and leaps, created their own lyrics, and played a variety of percussion instruments. They also delighted in learning How to Make the Flowers Grow, which added a gentle, imaginative touch to their musical journey.



Year 1:

This term, Year 1 engaged with the song Come Dance with Me. Using this lively piece as their starting point, the children explored how movement can enhance a song, before going on to compose their own original lyrics and actions. The call-and-response structure of the song provided a perfect foundation for instrumental work, as pupils created their own percussive replies and performed simple rhythmic patterns using tuned instruments.



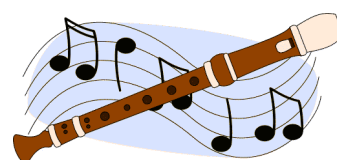


Year 2:

Year 2 have explored a unit called Tańczymy Labada. This unit is based around a welcoming Polish circle game with actions that become increasingly challenging, helping our pupils to develop their sense of beat and encouraging cooperative play. Alongside singing confidently in another language, the children took part in singing games, created accompaniments, and invented their own 4-beat body percussion patterns. They also explored traditional Polish dances and worked together to plan and rehearse a performance to share with others.

Year 3:

Year 3 continued developing their recorder skills this term through a unit called The Enchanted Forest. This piece helped pupils refine their tone, understand beat and structure, and think in musical phrases. They worked on holding the recorder correctly, using 'doo' to start notes, and controlling their breath. Pupils learnt to play B, A, and G, and explored rhythms such as semibreves, minims, crotchets, rests, and paired quavers. They also enjoyed experimenting with improvisation and musical conversations.



Year 4:

Year 4 continued their ukulele learning this term with a unit based around the song Favourite Song, a fast-paced folk-rock piece with a driving rhythm, similar in style to Mumford & Sons. Building on their spring term unit The Doot Doot Song, this piece introduced G major to the chords they had already learnt—C, F, and A minor. Pupils learnt to sing and play the song, developed skills on tuned percussion, and experienced performing as part of a class band. Their learning was supported by listening to a range of folk and folk-rock music, comparing and discussing different musical styles.



Year 5:

Year 5 have explored a unit called Kisne Banaaya, a song from India and Pakistan that reflects on how the world and its many creatures came to be. Pupils learnt choreography to deepen their understanding of the song, which is sung in Hindi, and explored different interpretations through listening and discussion. They also developed their musical skills by singing the piece and playing an instrumental accompaniment using tuned percussion.

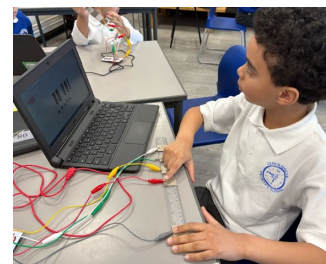
Year 6:

This term, Year 6 explored the song Ame Sau Vala Tara Bal, a Gujarati devotional piece with a melody based on the Bhairavi raga. Alongside learning to sing the song, pupils studied a range of Indian musical styles, focusing on bhangra, Bollywood, and classical traditions. They also composed their own rhythmic pieces using percussion instruments. In addition, this term gave pupils the chance to further develop their choral singing as they prepared for performances in their end-of-year production, Oliver: The Musical, and their Leavers' Assembly.



Greenland:

This term, Greenland have learned and performed the song "The Music Man." As part of the activity, they sang the lyrics and explored the different musical instruments mentioned in the song. They had the opportunity to play each instrument, helping them develop rhythm, coordination, and listening skills in a fun and engaging way.



What do the children think?

Nursery:

"I really like Music. I like playing instruments. My favourite is when we use the sticks to beat a rhythm. My favourite instrument is the drums but when I get older I want to play the trumpet!"

Reception:

"We also got to play instruments in Music. I really liked it when we sang Music Man because we got to use the drums and drum really fast. When you drum fast it can go really loud."

Year 1:

"We learn music because it teaches us to sing and it is fun when we sing songs. My favourite was the menu song because I could clap along to it."

"Music is fun. When we sing altogether we sound really good and we can be loud or quiet. Miss said we are going to be playing the Boomwhackers soon - I can't wait as I have never played one before. I like learning new things!"

Year 2:

"My favourite lessons this year in music were Creepy Castle. It was a longer song and we got to make spooky noises without voices as well. We can use what we learn in music to help us understand what other people like and what they feel. I really like music lessons because we get to play instruments and sing songs that make you feel happy and cheerful."

Year 3:

"Music is calming and relaxing; it helps me concentrate and think more clearly. Learning the ukulele has been both interesting and challenging, but also a lot of fun. I especially enjoy the times when we all get to play and sing together as a group."

Year 4:

"In Music I learnt that everyone can have their own opinion, nothing is wrong. It teaches you to enjoy different types of music by different musicians as well."

"In Music, we used different pitches and volumes. Music is important but also fun because one song can be changed every time you sing it depending on the pitch and rhythm and tempo you use."

Year 5:

"In Music we get to be inspired by other singers and musicians - especially those from other cultures. We get to learn about different singing styles, tones, dynamics and songs from around the world. My favourite Music unit has been the Macbeth songs - especially the killing round. It has lots of different rhythms and styles, including rap."

Year 6:

"We are taught Music because singing gives you confidence - the earlier you start the better and more confident you will be. I really liked singing the 'Throw, Catch' song, especially when it was made even more difficult and we had to sing in three harmonies, with actions!"

"Music lets us show our emotions and feelings. If we are listening we can say how it makes us feel but then we can try and show our own emotions by playing or singing our own songs. I really like it when we get to show our imagination when we compose our rhythms and lyrics."