



## Music

### In this issue:

- Curriculum aims
- How we teach Music
- Instrumental lessons
- Choir
- Events and Further Opportunities

Hello and welcome to our first newsletter about Music at Raddlebarn. Here you will find out more about the curriculum, how we are enhancing the children's experiences and also the contribution of music to children's lives.

Thank you for taking the time to read it and if you have any questions please feel free to get in touch.

Mrs Ravenhill.

### Curriculum aims

Here at Raddlebarn Primary School, music plays an important part in school life and we are committed to making music an enjoyable learning experience which is accessible to all. We aim to inspire our pupils to develop a love of music and nurture their talents as musicians.

The National Curriculum for Music aims to ensure that all pupils:

- Perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, including the works of the great composers and musicians.
- Learn to sing and to use their voices, to create and compose music on their own and with others, have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument, use technology appropriately and have the opportunity to progress to the next level of musical excellence.
- Understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated, including through the inter-related dimensions.

Music reflects the culture and society we live in. Therefore, the teaching and learning of music enables children to better understand the world they live in.

It is a unique means of communication which can inspire and motivate. It also has the potential to make a significant contribution to children's personal development: increasing confidence and self-esteem, developing leadership, promoting teamworking, concentration and problem-solving skills, developing identity, as well as improving social cohesion within school and wider community.

### Music Teaching at Raddlebarn

Music is taught once a week in the classroom. Where possible, units of work link to the termly year group topics, our school values and themes. Lessons are very practical and are supported with high quality, engaging resources from Music Express and, more recently, Charanga, which also successfully enabled us deliver fun music learning during remote learning.

Each unit comprises the strands of musical learning laid out in the National Curriculum and there are opportunities for:

- Listening and Appraising
- Singing
- Various musical activities in the form of games to identify pulse, rhythm, structure and pitch
- Playing instruments
- Improvisation
- Composing
- Performing

Knowledge is built upon and skills are developed as pupils work through the units and progress through school.



## Instrumental Lessons

Pupils are offered the opportunity to study a musical instrument with peripatetic teachers, organised by Birmingham Music Service. Currently, the instruments available to learn are violin, cello, guitar, djembe drum, flute, clarinet and brass instruments,

These lessons are normally taught in small groups during the school day and are in addition to the normal music teaching in school.

There is a small fee for these lessons but instruments are loaned free of charge to pupils.

Opportunities are taken to perform in class, in school assemblies and also to families and the wider community.

## Orchestra

At Raddlebarn we are very proud to be one of few schools in and around Birmingham with an orchestra. Once pupils feel ready, they can opt to join the orchestra which meets weekly after school to practise together with the music teachers. It is a wonderful chance to play and collaborate with others!



Music Mark



In recognition of the value we place on music and our dedication to offering and delivering a broad and balanced curriculum, in conjunction with the Music Service, we are a Music Mark School Member.



## Choir

Our children are invited to join either the KS1 or KS2 choir, which meet weekly to practise singing a range of songs. The choirs are taught by experienced volunteers and the children really enjoy their singing.

The choirs perform at school events and also represent our school at various local community events. Although at present restrictions prevent the choir from meeting, we hope and aim for our choirs to be able to resume singing again very soon.



## Events and Further Opportunities

We provide opportunities to watch live music performed by experienced musicians and through the Music Service, we have opportunities for pupils to participate in concerts, alongside other local schools.

We have strong links with local secondary schools who can perform and offer exciting learning opportunities.

In school each key stage has a weekly music assembly where children have the chance to listen to and learn about a wide range of musical genres and styles and also watch musicians performing. Our school website provides further suggestions and guidance.

Our Raddlebarn Rocks! end-of-year event provides all children in school with the opportunity to perform and show case their talents.

