



Music

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Hello and welcome to our latest newsletter about the music curriculum and other musical opportunities 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 and enjoyable 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.

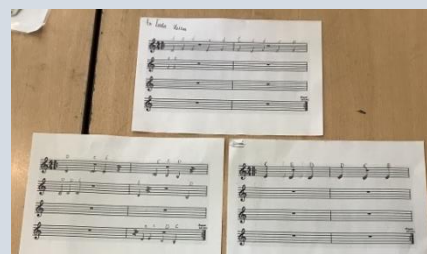
Music Teaching at Raddlebarn

Music is usually taught once a week in the classroom. Where possible, units of work link to the termly year group topics, our school values or themes. Each unit comprises the strands of musical learning laid out in the National Curriculum and the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) 2021. Throughout the units there are opportunities for:

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

Lessons are stimulating and fun. They are highly practical and full of music, supported with high quality, engaging resources from Charanga Musical School.

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, double bass, guitar, 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 in live concerts to family audiences and the wider community.

Strings Ensemble

Over the years we have built a strong working relationship with the Birmingham Music Service. At Raddlebarn we are very proud to be selected to set up a strings ensemble, supported by the Music Service. Once pupils are proficient, they can join the ensemble which meets weekly after school to practise together. It is a wonderful chance to play and collaborate with others!

Last month for the first time since the pandemic our ensemble performed to a live audience in the Area Gala Concert in the Elgar Concert Hall at Birmingham University.

Pupil Voice

Last term, some pupils in KS2 were interviewed about their music learning.

All of the comments were overwhelming positive and it is clear that pupils enjoy their music lessons in school. These are some of the comments made:

"It is fun because we get to sing in different tables and have a bit of a competition."

"It's fun because you get to sing and use the instruments."

"You hear different types of music. It's interesting how music is made."

"Music lessons are fun and relaxing. Music helps me with other subjects, like English."

"It's good to sing and play with other people. You feel good doing things together."

"Music is amazing. It helps me to feel calm."



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.

The choir are very excited to be invited to perform in the Youth Proms concert at Symphony Hall in July.



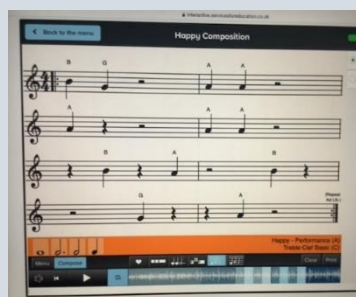
Events and Further Opportunities

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



Achievements and Aims

The teaching of music has been consistently re-embedded in the curriculum at Raddlebarn after a period of caution during the pandemic. Pupils are familiar with and enjoy the online resources and the wide variety of apps available to make music and progress is being made across the school.

Raddlebarn has been awarded the Silver Arts mark in recognition of the work being carried out in school across all the arts.

We have enabled pupils to participate in virtual music festivals to maintain the semblance of performing before an audience. However, many opportunities to perform live with others are now opening up and pupils are enjoying this experience again.

For the future, it is hoped that we will be able to re-establish our termly concerts and class assemblies in school, as well as inviting musicians into school for all to enjoy.



Music at Home

If you would like to explore music further at home, each Raddlebarn pupil has their own individual username and password, enabling them to use Yumu, which is Charanga's online learning space for students. Please ask if you need help with this.



<https://charanga.com/yumu/login>

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.