

Oxbridge Lane Primary School

Music Newsletter January—April 2025

May 2025

Dear Families,

Here at Oxbridge Lane, we pride ourselves in offering a rich and varied music curriculum. This term, the main focus has been improvisation and composition. As always, we have continued to read notation, play musical games, listen to and talk about music from different eras and cultures and also develop instrumental skills on the glockenspiel. It's been a creative term with lots of challenges and new learning.



Foundation Stage have been busy learning Old MacDonald had a Farm. They have practised keeping in time and adding actions. They even learnt a glockenspiel part to go with it, trying to play the note 'G' in the correct place. They listened to lots of pieces of music, dancing along and talking about what they liked or didn't like. Lastly, they practised copying rhythms and learning the names of different instruments, listening carefully to the sounds that they make.



Year 1 learnt a song about a Tyrannasaurus Rex and worked together as a class to add instruments to it to match the sounds that they make. They recorded their ideas graphically. They also learnt about some more percussion instruments, listening to their timbres and playing games. Using the glockenspiels, they have learnt about improvising, trying hard to make up their own melodies. They have also listened to lots of music, talking about it and trying to dance to the beat.

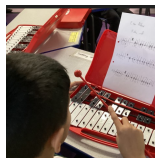


The children in Y2 created their own rhythms using kitchen items, inspired by Stomp Kitchen. They learnt all about improvising and practised their skills on glockenspiels, trying to create their own rhythms and melodies to fit a backing track. In addition to this, they have learnt about orchestras, listening to some instruments and learning their names. They also listened to orchestral music and talked about the stories they

thought it might be about.



In Y3 and Y4, the children applied their knowledge of notation to create their own short pieces. They organised long notes, short notes and rests to create different rhythms and Y4 even used C, D and E to change the pitch of their sounds. Lots of work was done developing beat keeping and also learning how to improvise using glockenspiels. In Y3, they listened to ballet music, talking about the timbres they heard and how the dynamics changed. In Y4, they learnt about Reggae, listening to some famous pieces and discussing them.



Music club have been developing their recorder skills and learning some new songs of their choice. They can't wait to share their progress with their adults soon! The 3 instrumental groups, Y2 recorders, Y3 ukuleles and Y4 keyboard players are making great progress and look forward to sharing what they have learnt in assembly.

Year 5 and 6 had a challenge. They were asked to compose for a purpose. Y5 developed radio jingles and Y6, new nursery rhymes. Though they didn't quite get finished, lots of learning took place, writing lyrics, creating rhythms to fit the lyrics then exploring different pitches. Y5 listened to pieces of Glam Rock, tuning in to the timbres, texture, tempo and dynamics and both years groups developed their ability to read musical notation.

Improvisation was a key skill that was taught and both Y5 and Y6 had lots of opportunity to develop their own melodies to fit given backing tracks.

