Curriculum Update

This edition is all about **MUSIC**

Music at Acomb

Music is currently taught in all classes by Miss Orrell from Sing Education who take a singing led approach to the curriculum – as you have probably noticed through the different songs your child may come home singing!

You may have noticed that some of the topics in music seem to have the same title or content. The teaching of music is based on a spiral curriculum: the children begin to explore and understand the interrelated dimensions of music in KS1. In each year, they will explore different genres of music and will apply the skills learned in KS1 with increasing skill and understanding to playing instruments (tuned and untuned); improvising; and creating their own compositions throughout their time at Acomb Primary School.

How can my child learn an instrument during their time at Acomb Primary School?

We have peripatetic music teachers who come into school and teach children a variety of different instruments.

- Ms Leach teaches piano and keyboard
- Mr Dawson teachers Rock and Pop, guitar, bass, keyboard and drums
- Ms Hanson teaches brass and woodwind (popular choices are often trumpet and clarinet)
- Mr Thwaite teaches guitar.

These lessons happen during the school day.

Please ask at the school office for further details about enrolling your child in these lessons.

Miss Orrell also currently runs a KS2 choir on a Wednesday after school and a KS1 recorder club on Friday after school.

Year	Areas covered over the year
EYFS	Nursery rhymes and songs; pulse and pitch matching activities; listening and moving to the music; exploring sounds – instruments and voice
Year 1	Pitch and pulse; exploring pulse and rhythm; exploring pitch
Year 2	Pitch and pulse; playing the glockenspiel; World music – Folk dancing
Year 3	Music around the world; playing the glockenspiel; making music
Year 4	Introduction to music – rhythms; reading music; playing the glockenspiel
Year 5	Percussion and rhythm; elements of music; playing the glockenspiel; exploring classical music
Year 6	Percussion and rhythm; elements of music; playing the glockenspiel; exploring classical music

What are the interrelated dimensions of music?

- Pulse: the steady beat of a piece of music
- Pitch: how high or low a note is
- Rhythm: the pattern of long and short sounds in a piece of music
- Dynamics: the volume of a piece of music.
- Tempo: the speed of a piece of music
- Timbre: the type, or quality, of a sound e.g. buzzing
- Texture: the layers of sound
- Structure: the way the music is organised

Musical performance opportunities at Acomb Primary School

So far this year, we have had:

- The Nativity in Reception
- Whoops-a-Daisy Angel in KS1
- Christmas Carols with Archbishop Holgate's School at York Minster for Year 5
- Young Voices in Year 6
- Crafternoon performances across the school
- Carols in the Courtyard with the whole school

How can I help my child's musical education?

- Listen to any piece of music and encourage them to listen to different genres of music too.
- Discuss if they can spot any of the interrelated dimensions of music e.g. When was it loud? Was the piece fast or slow? Was there a chorus in the song? Which instruments do you think you can hear in this piece?
- Car karaoke or a kitchen disco - sing along with your child to pieces of music that they enjoy or dance along with them. Just enjoy listening to music!

Did you know? ***The World's Longest Running Performance Will End in the 27th Century.*** A 639-year performance based on eccentric composer John Cage's "As Slow as Possible" (ASLSP) started in September 2001 and is still playing at St. Buchard Church in Germany. The performance by an automated organ plays so slowly that visitors have to wait months for a chord change, and is scheduled to end in 2640. The performance is so slow that the organ it's played on was not even completed before the concert began. Additional pipes were added before the notes and chords changed.