

Music: The Wray Common Way!

'A high-quality music education should engage and inspire pupils to develop a love of music and their talent as musicians, and so increase their self-confidence, creativity and sense of achievement.'

We aim to ensure that all children:

- ✚ perform, listen to, review and evaluate music
- ✚ be taught to sing, create and compose music
- ✚ understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated.

At Wray Common, it is our intent to make music an enjoyable learning experience for all children. We aim to give them a firm understanding of what music is, through listening, singing, playing instruments, evaluating, analysing and composing across a wide variety of historical periods, styles, traditions and musical genres. This is embedded in the classroom activities as well as the weekly singing assemblies, various concerts and performances and the learning of instruments.

Building the confidence of all children is a specific focus and this is done by giving the children the opportunity to participate in a variety of musical experiences. Our teaching focuses on developing the children's ability to understand rhythm and follow a beat and, through singing songs, children learn about the structure and organisation of music. We teach them to listen and to appreciate different forms of music. Children develop descriptive language skills in music lessons when learning about how music can represent different feelings, emotions and narratives. We also teach technical vocabulary such as volume, pitch, beat and rhythm and encourage children to discuss music using these terms.

The Charanga Scheme is an online resource that we use to accompany our music teaching and this offers a fully comprehensive scheme of work focussing on Listening and Appraising, Creating and Exploring and Singing and Performing.

Our children begin their musical journey in Reception where they learn a large variety of songs, usually around the topic they are focussing on. Through singing, they learn the fundamentals of pitch and rhythm. In Year 1 and 2, the children build on these skills by using pitched and unpitched percussion instruments to accompany their singing. They also listen to and appraise music from a wide range of musical genres and begin very simple composition work. In Years 3 and 4, more complex musical language is introduced, such as timbre, dynamics and tempo and composition is built upon with the children using graphic notation to create a score. By the time they reach Years 5 and 6, all of the skills mentioned above are extended and more of a focus is put on performance and knowing the audience they are performing to. Traditional notation is introduced and composition and improvisation is taken to the next level.

Above all, Music brings so many opportunities to share and celebrate; rehearsing and performing with friends is satisfying and immensely rewarding!

MUSIC IN ACTION AT WRAY COMMON

