



Music Newsletter



Well, spring is here, the daffodils are blooming and our wonderful pupils have been busy taking part in all sorts of fantastic musical activities this term. In addition to our music curriculum learning, we have had visits from an expert in African Drumming and a trumpet player from the famous Halle Orchestra and our amazing choir performed once more at the Young Voices concert.! Here at Birley, we work hard to ensure that all pupils have the opportunity to take part in a wide range of musical activities enabling them to: explore their interests, preferences and cultural heritage; to express themselves; to be creative; to develop teamwork skills; to develop resilience and to feel proud of their achievements. In addition, taking part in musical activities supports your child's language and mathematical development, listening skills and fine and gross-motor skills. As well as that, it is just good fun! I hope that you enjoy reading about some of the music that has taken place this term.

Our Music Curriculum

At Birley, all children from reception to year 6 participate in four active music making units each year. In addition, they explore a range of different music from medieval music to modern music and engage in a number of composition opportunities.

This term, some year groups have been focussing on exploring music through singing games, while others have focussed on using some of the elements of musical composition to create their own performances and pieces.

FS2: to explore the difference between singing and spoken voice; to take part in singing simple songs.

Y1: to explore dynamics and structure in music to develop an accompaniment.

Y2: to choose sounds carefully to match a moment in a story or a mood.

Y3: to explore how ideas in music can be organised using repetition or by developing a beginning , middle and end.

Y4: to develop the skill of making a sound on the pbuzz and to play simple tunes in time

Y5: to play their first sounds on the cornet and to play simple pieces as part of a group.



Rocksteady Hero of the Term

All of our Rocksteady children have once again amazed us with their dedication, enthusiasm and courage this term. They have continue to work hard each week to develop new skills and to prepare for two fantastic assemblies for pupils and family members.

Each term, we like to celebrate a particular young musician and bestow on them the title of Rocksteady Hero of the Term. This term, we would like to celebrate four young rockers: Bobby, Cassius, Tilly and Teagan who have all obtained an Ofqual regulated qualification from Rocksteady and Trinity College London for skills obtained in band lessons. A huge congratulations to you all on this achievement. We are super proud of all of you!



African Drumming

Earlier in the term, Year 3 and 4 pupils participated in an African Drumming workshop. The sessions were extremely well received by the pupils who learnt a little about the culture of Djembe drumming while learning to play different sounds and rhythm patterns on the drums.



Halle Orchestra Visit:

In March, our Y5, travelled to the City Hall to watch and take part in a special concert performed by the world renowned Halle Orchestra. Before this Tom Osborne, assistant principle trumpet player for the Halle Orchestra, came into school to work with our year 5 and 6 pupils.

He talked to them about his experience as a musician, demonstrated his playing and led the pupils in some musical games and activities. Feedback from children was very positive and they especially enjoyed watching one of their classmates taking on the role of conductor!



Learning to play a musical instrument at Birley Primary Academy

If your child would like to learn to play a musical instrument at school please scroll to the bottom of our weekly school Sway newsletters where you can find information about how to register your interest with the Sheffield Music Hub. With enough pupils interested, they can deliver high quality lessons on a wide range of instruments here in school. Alternatively, please contact Miss Ellis (susanellis@birleyprimaryacademy.co.uk).