

Spring 1 - 2024 - Music

Year 1:

This half term, our music unit is called 'Vehicles'. We will focus on the musical dimensions of **dynamics** (volume) and **tempo** (speed). The children will learn the definitions of this musical vocabulary and will play instruments and sing songs with varying dynamics and tempo. Children will work as a whole class and in small groups to create compositions to represent different vehicles.

Year 2:

Our music unit this half term is called, 'Sea Sounds and Shanties'. We will focus on the musical dimensions of **structure** and **timbre**. We will sing various sea songs and shanties and discuss their structure, particularly looking at the use of repetition and verse/chorus and narrative structures. We will also create our own 'sea sounds' using percussion instruments and considering which timbres could make appropriate sounds in our compositions. We will take inspiration from our focussed listening of, 'Storm Interludes' from Peter Grimes, by Benjamin Britten.

Year 3:

This half term, our music will be inspired by 'In the Hall of the Mountain King' by Edvard Greig. We will focus on the musical dimensions of **duration** and **tempo**. To do this, we will explore steady beats using different meters (2, 3 and 4). We will initially use word patterns and then formal rhythm notation to record and compose rhythms using crotchets and quavers. We will practice following a conductor as the tempo and dynamics of the music are altered and then make decisions about how to alter these musical dimensions to create a dramatic effect.

Year 4:

In music this term, we will take inspiration from Holst's, 'Mars - the bringer of War' and 'Venus - the bringer of Peace'. We will consider how Roman Gods are represented in Holst's music and will use this to create our own compositions representing various Viking Gods. We will focus on the dimensions of tempo and dynamics and explore how these can be manipulated to create character and atmosphere. We will also refine our singing skills whilst rehearsing songs for our Viking performance.

Year 5:

In music this term, we will be singing and playing the recorder with a focus on the dimensions of pitch and structure. To link with the enquiry, we will explore crime and punishment through sea shanties. We will learn to sing various sea shanties and we will discuss their different structures using repetition, call and response and verse/chorus. We will also recap our previous learning on the recorder and then learn to play sea shanties as well as composing some of our own in a similar style.

Year 6:

This half term, our music unit will take inspiration from listening to, 'Short Ride in a Fast Machine' by John Adams. We will focus on **duration** and **structure**. As an example of minimalist music, this piece gives us the opportunity to explore simple, repetitive rhythmic and melodic patterns and how these can be combined for effect. Taking ideas from our listening, we will compose our own repeating patterns and experiment with altering and overlapping these patterns to vary the texture and structure of the music.