

Thorndown Music Week July 1st – 5th 2019

A week of musical extravaganzas...

...and what a week it was! Our first ever Thorndown Primary School Music Week launched with a whole school assembly hosted by myself and Mrs Patrick. The children were asked to look at a piece of artwork called 'Cosmic Dream' by Shawn Marie Hardy. They discussed what it made them imagine and what instruments they might use to re-create the image. Our Arts Mark Ambassadors also gave details of a competition which they were running during the week, which was to design a musical instrument cover. The winner of each Key Stage would receive a fabulous prize. I then introduced the music focus for the week and the visitors that I'd organised to come and perform to the children. They were all very excited!



Tuesday



We were extremely fortunate to have a performance by 'The Gentlemen of St. John's'. We were treated to an amazing vocal performance by The Gents who sang songs ranging from 'I'm a Believer' to 'Goodnight Sweetheart'. The children and staff loved every moment. Staff and children

alike were toe-tapping and finger clicking throughout the whole performance....some even got quite emotional. The Gents captivated the school and even managed a performance of Goodnight Sweetheart with the whole school joining in. Following the assembly, Year 4 were given the opportunity to work with The Gents in a smaller group. They absolutely loved the workshop, especially working on harmonies and word pronunciation to enhance their final performance of Goodnight Sweetheart. Here's some of what the children said "They blew my mind with their amazing singing!" "I want to be a Gent when I am older, they really inspired me to sing." We'd all like to say a huge thanks to The Gents for coming to Thorndown Primary School and to Mrs Boughey for helping organise this amazing morning.

Wednesday

Churen Li, a Singaporean pianist and music graduate from Wolfson College Cambridge came to perform to the school. She was absolutely incredible! I'm sure our well-loved school piano was very different to the usual type of piano she plays on for her concerts and recitals. She explained to the children that she began playing at the age of four and had to practice for eight hours a day. She also composed her first piece of piano music when she was just ten. She had never performed to a school before, but she did a great job. The children were amazed by her talent. We thank Churen Li for coming to perform for us.



Thursday

Well, this was definitely a day of the drums. In the morning we were treated to Mrs Peach and her African drummers. They were incredible as always. The drummers were joined by the choir, who sang their hearts out beautifully. 'Well Done' to them and also to Mrs Peach who does a fabulous job getting them all performance ready. In the afternoon, we had yet another visiting musician. This time it was the band 'Fred's House' whose drummer is none other than Mr Richards one of our school drumming teachers.



Mr Richards did a short drumming showcase and was then joined by Vicky who is the singer in the band. They performed a few of their own songs which the children loved and a few well-known tracks such as 'Rolling in the Deep' by Adele. The children were so lucky to have their own live gig in the school hall! A huge thank you goes out to Mr Richards and Vicky for coming and performing for us.

And if that wasn't enough of a musical extravaganza....as well as completing a whole host of musical activities during the week, the children were asked to create a class composition which they performed at our 'Open School Event'. I hope you enjoyed watching their fabulous creations.



Miss Medlow (Music Lead)