

Music at Thorndown Primary School

Music plays an important part in the life of our school; it is an expressive subject and pupils are encouraged to be creative through music making. At Thorndown we make music an enjoyable learning experience. Our music curriculum engages and inspires pupils to develop a love of music and their talent as musicians, so aims to increase the self-confidence of all children. We aim to encourage and develop the children's understanding and enjoyment of music through active involvement in singing, performing, composing, listening and appraising different forms of music.

There are opportunities throughout the year to perform in class assemblies, year group productions and times of celebration such as Harvest, Easter and Christmas.

Our singing assembly takes place every Tuesday and gives everyone the chance to exercise his or her vocal chords to great effect. Children are encouraged to put a song suggestion in the 'Suggestion Box' and if deemed suitable, these may be sung in singing assembly. We also learn songs that celebrate special occasions, celebrate special people and have great fun singing the odd silly song too.

We are currently working alongside Cambridgeshire Music, which allows our children the opportunity to choose an instrument they would like to learn to play. Both Key Stages, at various terms in the academic year are supported by a specialist teacher in whole class music lessons. Key Stage 2 children have the opportunity to learn to play the African drums. This proved to be so popular with the children that a drumming club is run after school on a Thursday for Key Stage 2.

Children are encouraged to develop their talents and enthusiasm through extra-curricular activities. We have an active choir who meet after school once a week. During their session they prepare for the Young Voices Concert which is held at the O2 Arena as well as learning pieces which are performed at a range of community concerts and in-school events. The whole school are usually treated to a performance in which they can show off their amazing work.

Music is also playing a key role, alongside Art, in helping our school to achieve the 'Art's Mark'.