St George's Central CE Primary School and Nursery



Feedback from Upper Key Stage 2 children about Music (June 2022)

General questions about Music

Children from Upper Key Stage 2 have fedback on Music. Some of the questions asked may have been slightly re-worded so they were accessible to children of all ages

What is Music about?

- To learn how to play instruments.
- Sometimes it learning what a song it all about and learning how music can make you feel different things. Sometimes it can make you feel relaxed or happy. It can make you feel different types of emotions.
- We can learn the different types of notes like high notes and low notes.
- We also learn the meanings of different musical words and symbols.
- Having fun listening to different kinds of music.

Why is Music important?

- Without music, there would be no happiness. The world would be very boring.
- If you're down or upset sometimes listening to music can help you feel better.
- We can learn different things about different instruments.
- It's fascinating learning about the person who made it.
- It can change your ideas of what you want to be in the future.
- We learn about different musicians who might inspire us to see what types of music we like and what type of musician we want to be.

Tell me about your favourite piece of work in Music and tell me why you enjoyed learning about this

- I enjoyed playing the keyboards because I've never played on them before and I enjoyed learning how to play some chords.
- I enjoyed doing the guitars and keyboards because I learned how to play simple things.
- I liked learning some chords on the guitar because it reminded me of my Grandad but he's passed away now.
- I like playing on the xylophone because I think it is a unique instrument.
- My favourite was when we did the drumming because out of all the types of instruments, percussion is my favourite. It was good to make a beat as a class and then design our own beats.
- I enjoyed learning the guitar because I like the sound of it.

Are there any areas in Music that you are still unsure about?

- I don't really get how the saxophone is in the woodwind when it looks like a brass instrument.
- I haven't really had much struggle, but when I started learning the cornet it was hard.

How do you know if you are doing well in Music?

- You get praised or get team points if you're doing well.
- You know you're doing it right if the instrument sounds right.
- If you can play along to a song properly.

What happens if you are finding work difficult in Music?

- The teacher's will come and help.
- I'll break it down into smaller parts and learn a little bit at a time before putting it all back together again.
- When we're in a group, it's good how we work as a team and we help each other.

What do you need to do to improve your learning in Music?

- Dractice
- Maybe stop trying to memorise it and get used to reading the music more
- Take the time to come up with a team effort
- Listening to music more carefully with focus.
- If the teacher's asked you how it makes you feel, think deeply about this, stop getting easily distracted.

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In Spring 1, you completed some work on Indian music in Music, what can you tell me about it?

- A lady was singing something and then a person with an instrument...I think it was a sitar... was responding and copying the melody she was doing.
- It was good how they remembered the words and played the instrument to the melody.
- It was nice to listen to different types of music from different places and cultures it was new to me and I'd never really seen it before.
- Pop music is too energetic sometimes but this was nice and calm.
- We had the xylophones and someone did a melody on it and we had to copy like playing copy-cat.
- You had to play notes from a particular scale to make it sound like Indian music to try and keep the same idea.

If you were to complete this work again, what would you do differently?

- From the notes, it didn't sound quite right so I might change some of the notes to make it better.
- I might try using the notes from the scale in a different order.

Can you explain what some of this Music vocabulary means?

Call and response

• Where someone does something...it's like a conversation in music like someone asks a question and then someone answers but in music rather than with words.

Correct

Drone

• It's a really long note.

Partially right

Tuned percussion

You can play notes on this type of instrument. You can change the sound of the instrument. You are able to change how high and low they are.

Correct

Untuned percussion

• You can only make a rhythm but not a melody.

Partially right

Can you think where this learning link to things that you have learned before in Music?

• We were learning about the sitar and this is quite similar to the guitar which we learned because they are both stringed instruments.

Subject specific questions about Music

What are the different families of the orchestra and can you think of any instruments from each family?

- String guitar, violin, double bass, cello, harp
- Woodwind Flute, saxophone
- Brass cornet, trumpet, trombone, French horn, tube.
- Percussion drums, tringle, xylophone, glockenspiel, tambourines

What different listening activities have you done this year? Why do you think we do listening activities?

- It teaches us to describe what a song is like.
- So if we hear an instrument but we can't see it, it helps us to identify it.

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Can you name any classical composers?

Mozart, Beethoven, Queen.

When was the last time you composed in music? What were you composing?

- I think it was last half term. We had loads of different instruments and we used them to make our own melodies about 'The Firebird'. It had to be peaceful in parts for when The Firebird flew away.
- We made our own rhythms and melodies for the Firebird. We worked in groups to make these up and then played them to the rest of the class.

What skills do you think a musician needs to have to be successful?

- · Reading music
- Patience
- Concentration
- Time
- Knowing how to actually play the instruments
- Take it seriously
- Be focused
- Use your spare time to practise.

Action to take as a result of Upper Key Stage 2 Pupil Feedback on Music

- Continue to use listening activities as a way of exposing children to a wide variety of genres and styles of music within a range of cultures.
- Refer repeatedly to the names and time periods of composers within lessons.
- Continue to provide children with opportunities to use a range of different instrument for music making.

Next Pupil Feedback review: Spring Term 2023