

MUSIC AT PALACE WOOD PRIMARY

CRITICAL THINKING & COMMUNITY

CREATIVITY

VISION

Our vision for music at Palace Wood is for every pupil to be a musician. To be exposed to learning a variety of instruments throughout their school lives and an opportunity to compose at different points in the academic year.

ASPIRATION & INDEPENDENCE

Listening tasks allow them to hear a variety of music types that they can appreciate. We are working to build in more performances and trips hopefully for pupils to see professionals perform. We offer music lessons, guitar and drums at the moment with the idea of expanding these options. We also offer a rock band experience.

We are fortunate enough to have a class set of recorders, ukuleles and ocarinas. Where possible they work on their own. Throughout different units we visit composition.

The children are asked to give their opinions and to critically appraise their own and others work. This builds their skills of critical thinking. They have a listening activity to appreciate different genres at least once a term to build their understanding of different styles.

Palace Wood brings music into the community during our annual Young Voices project when we visit the o2 and also during our Carol singing. In the past we have visited old peoples home around the community as well as the local church.

The children are given opportunities to compose and are taught the skills needed to create their own music. The children are also taught a variety of instruments throughout their time with us which they have the opportunity to further enhance these skills at home.

PERFORMANCE

COMPOSITION

KNOWLEDGE

INSTRUMENT TEACHING

Opportunities for performance include Rocksteady concerts that happen every other term.

We do at least one performance to parents throughout the year but often year groups perform the music they have been working on in their end of term showcases.

The children also perform in front of each other in Singing assemblies.

Further opportunities for performance is something that we are currently trying to encourage and we hope to offer more opportunities for solo and ensemble performers.

Every other term the classes are encouraged to compose. Term 2 this is a song. Term 6 this is a piece of music inspired by artwork. They are encouraged to play with texture, dynamics and rhythms.

They begin by using basic graphic notation which then leads onto more formal notation.

After our last Ofsted inspection, knowledge of the elements of music became something we needed to work on. With this in mind we now have an entire term that is dedicated to learning about the elements of music.

We also ensure retrieval is a part of every music lesson and it also forms the introduction of singing assemblies.

Instrument teaching is an important aspect of our curriculum. We acknowledge the importance of practical music experiences as well as theory. We therefore offer Glockenspiel lessons to years 1 and 2. Ukuleles to years 3 and 4, Ocarina to year 5 and Recorders for year 6. We build on this practical experience in terms 1, 3 and 5 interspersed with theory lessons in terms 2, 4 and 6.