

At Valley Road Primary, we desire to instil in the children a life-long love of music and foster an appreciation of music of diverse traditions, cultures and genres. Music reflects the cultures and society we live in and so the teaching and learning of music enables children to better understand the world they live in. Throughout the school year and across all age ranges we ensure that all children can enjoy music from around the World.

Our lessons regularly include Multicultural Songs. At Valley Road, we use our music lessons and assemblies to teach about diversity, using songs from around the world and likewise often use music from different cultures to embrace our differences. The catchment area for our school includes many families from Africa, Asia and The Middle East and we consider this element of our music curriculum to be of great importance.

In Key Stage Two, children research into the life and music of specific composers: Vivaldi, Brahms, and Tchaikovsky. We emphasise the different backgrounds of the composers and teach children about the countries they come from e.g. Brahms and Germany, Mozart and Austria etc.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zhhYIZJj6rk>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t894eGoymio>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CYFUiYoYPbg>

Children also learn about lesser-known composers from places as diverse as Peru and Poland.

As part of our Music, curriculum children work on musical themes that can feature in a range of traditional stories of and poems from around the World. Children in Key Stage One created sounds to represent moods and objects in the stories such as The Musicians of Bremen.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RwFL8rdZoQ4>

There was very much an international flavour in music as we took part in the World Book Day and in National Story Week.

We focus considerably on teaching children to appraise music using appropriate vocabulary. They have listened to songs for example from the U.S.A., Africa, France and Spain and have become very aware of a variety of international musical traditions.

Children from year 3 and 4 have been counting songs from around Europe i.e. French. Spanish (reception, Y1, Y2) and Welsh

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lsc3qLMaCu8>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8ydJr1Is8xI>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nGijk24-xJY>

Children explored how music is often used for a purpose in well-known films with an international theme e.g. The Empire of the Sun and The Sound of Music. It has been both fascinating and rewarding to see how the children have become so enthusiastic about international music; they would not normally have access to less commercial songs and tunes.

Children learn topic related songs from around the World to develop their geographical vocabulary. In Year Four for example, Music was linked to their Ancient China topic. Children learnt about Chinese singing, music, drumming and storytelling.

Brian Hastings 13th March 2017

At Valley Road, we love music so would you like to join us while singing some of the songs we have learnt this year?

China - Jasmine Flower song, a traditional song linked to the children's topic work in Year 4.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y7hdZ5rYd2E>

Year 3 children are exploring sounds from the nature as a way to get inspired while creating songs and melodies.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VjE0Kdfos4Y>



La Mer, Charles Trenet, covered in after school music club.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fztkUuunI7g>

Everybody is joining with various American folk tunes - music written and sung for a purpose i.e. Leadbelly, Willie Nelson, Patsy Cline and Woody Guthrie.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hbhEt_Aw7EM

Klezmer Jewish Music. Linked to a story When Jessie Came across the Sea. Year 6

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5f5GniIYCm4>

Songs from The Sound of Music performed in assemblies by all age groups.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PEodUg43Zpo>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bJJUG_Elt5g

You can also try the Spanish version

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UmYfxt6i0>

DON- es trato de varón

RES- selvático animal

MI- denota posesión

FAR- es lejos en inglés

SOL- ardiente esfera es

LA- al nombre es anterior

SI- asentimiento es

Y de nuevo viene el DO

DO-DO-DO

Some children learnt the African song Mwamba Ni yesu.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qvXJa3RCCMo>

Listen to the world!

No matter what culture we are from, everyone loves music at Valley Road.

Music helps us to explore our own identity but also to communicate across our cultural and linguistic diversity.

We understand that music is a universal language so we would like everybody to join us and explore with us 'the sounds of the world'. What do you think?



'We like to listen to music from different countries in our singing assemblies' By
Srilekka

You can sing and discover some of the songs we have been listening to in assembly by having a look to the following padlet.

You can even locate on the map the countries where the music is from...Come one! Don't be shy and share with us your favourite songs!

<https://www.zeemaps.com/map?group=2458385&add=1#>

