

Autumn 1: Rhythm and Tempo

We will understand the meaning of tempo by clapping and moving to the beat in a variety of pieces, including Ravel's Bolero, Woo's Hornpipe and Rossini's William Tell Overture. We will conduct duple and triple time, accelerando and ritenuto, and use Kodaly stick notation to both record rhythms we hear, and help us compose language-based rhythms of our own.



Autumn 2: Singing and Dance

This half-term we will be leading our Key Stage 1 Christmas Production and focussing on singing with accurate pitch, clear diction and precise choreography. We will split songs into two parts in canon and round, and develop techniques for memorising lyrics. We will also take the leading roles in acting out the production on stage.



Year 2 Music 2023-2024

Spring 1: Indonesian Gamelan

In the Spring, we will discover Gamelan timbres and instruments found traditionally in Indonesia. We will learn the pentatonic and slendro scales, understand the Gong Cycle and Balungan, and use dot notation to record melodies and show their changes in pitch. We will also compare Gamelan and Western time signatures and textures.



Spring 2: Rock and Roll

This popular module involves clapping, moving and accompanying famous Rock and Roll songs performed by Elvis Presley, Chuck Berry and Buddy Holly. We will play instruments to understand the 12 Bar Blues structure and improvise over walking bass lines and rhythmic ostinati.



Summer 1: Singing around the World

In summer, Year 2 have the chance to discover and perform folk songs from around the world, including Oceania, the Far East, Africa, the Americas and more. We learn the Kodaly curwen pitch hand signs and understand call and response and its central role in much world folk music.



Summer 2: Programme Music

Our focus in the final half-term is music that tells a story, analysing Anna Clyne's 'Night Ferry' and Rimsky-Korsakov's 'Flight of the Bumblebee' to learn how timbre, pitch, dynamics and tempo can be used to paint a musical picture. We will perform our own classroom versions of these pieces and of course notate and compose our own.

