



St Clement Danes Church of England Primary School

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Headteacher: Miss Patricia Coxhead

Music at St Clement Danes Newsletter

Dear Parents / Guardians,

What a wonderful musical year it has been and such a great way to finish with our Wizard of Oz performance at the Peacock Theatre, the Summer Concert, the Leavers' Service and the Talent Show!

This year we have provided children with the opportunity to learn piano, violin, viola, cello, double bass, guitar, saxophone, flute and clarinet and drum kit. In September, our peripatetic tutors from the Tri- Borough Music Hub will be introducing their groups to a new scheme of performance and assessment called 'Music Medals'. **Music Medals** is a group teaching method devised by the **Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM)**.

Music Medals assessments provide motivational goals and tangible rewards for progress supported by a unique range of affordable and award-winning music for beginners.

The assessment will be made by me or the instrumental tutor and this is moderated by ABRSM. There are **five progressive levels** – Copper, Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum.

The candidate plays an individual line in an ensemble piece for two, three or four players. Each line must be performed by a single player. Only the Medal candidate is assessed, and not the other ensemble members. If there is a group of three children doing the same Music Medal, then the piece will have to be performed and recorded three times.

Group music making is a distinctive and essential part of Music Medals. Leading the ensemble, counting in, giving appropriate cues, listening, balancing and blending are all vital skills that the Ensemble component of the Medal helps to develop. There will also be the opportunity to take ABRSM Grade examinations for children receiving one to one tuition.



During my classroom lessons, children learnt how to read music, play African djembe drums, xylophones and metallophones, composing pieces and performing music from around the world.

Singing has been an integral part of school life with every child taking part at least once a day in assemblies or in the Choir. Orchestra rehearsals provided our aspiring musicians with a chance to perform classical, popular and jazz pieces. Music enhanced our church services and of course every child starred on the West End in the whole school production of the Wizard of Oz!

The Choir and Orchestra will continue next year. Children will be invited to attend these after school activities.

Twining Hall is being transformed into a performing arts space with the help of our generous PTA donations and we are always grateful for any donations (money or instruments) to the music department.

We require cushions, throws, wall hangings and materials to help the acoustics and any donations of these kind would be really appreciated.



Thank you once again for your fantastic support this year.

Have a wonderful summer.

Yours Sincerely,

Miss Lawson
Music Leader