

Music at Heronsgate

We are very lucky at Heronsgate to have a well-resourced and active Music Department.

All children are taught music each week as well as optional activities, such as our very popular choir, H2S (Here to Sing) and individual instrumental lessons, organised within MKET.

Music at Heronsgate covers all aspects of the National Curriculum, with each year group having opportunities in performance, improvisation and composition, using a range of instruments and their voices. Children are able to develop these skills as they progress through the school.

Singing is a very important part of our music culture at Heronsgate: we regularly sing in our music lessons and each week we all take part in a Singing Assembly.

Children are given the opportunity to listen to and evaluate music across a range of musical periods, genres, styles, countries and traditions, both in music lessons and assemblies.

All music lessons start with a circle; often with fun games that develop our rhythm skills.

Much of our work in year three is based on units from the online Resource, Charanga. A favourite is the unit based on 'Three Little Birds' by Bob Marley. There is a great deal of singing and children are introduced to Glockenspiels and untuned percussion.

Year four spend the whole year learning how to play the keyboard. As part of this, we also develop an understanding of how to read and write traditional music notation.

Year 5 Cover Jazz and Hip Hop, which includes beatboxing and rap. We also go on a Space Journey, creating a class composition based ON Gustav Holst's Planets Suite.

Year 6 further their understanding of the different forms of Jazz, exploring its roots and extending our improvisation skills. We look closely at Blues, exploring its history and use iPads to compose our own blues music. We do an exciting unit of drumming: our focus being on cyclic patterns and call and response. Much of the summer is devoted to rehearsing songs for the leavers production.

