



Music at St Mary's

*Growing, Loving and Learning
in the arms of Mary*



St Mary's Primary School Awarded Music Mark for 2024-25

We are thrilled to announce that St Mary's Primary School has been awarded the prestigious **Music Mark** for 2024-25! This national recognition is a testament to our commitment to providing high-quality music education for all our pupils.

The Music Mark is awarded to schools that demonstrate a dedication to developing and sustaining excellent music provision. At St Mary's, we believe that music is a vital part of a well-rounded education, inspiring creativity, confidence, and joy in every child.

This achievement highlights the efforts of our talented pupils, dedicated staff, and supportive community who work together to make music a vibrant and integral part of school life. From our weekly music lessons and lively school choir to our engaging performances and participation in local events, music truly brings our school community

together. Thank you to our music lead and the entire teaching team for their hard work and passion, as well as our families for their ongoing support of our musical initiatives.

Let's celebrate this exciting milestone and look forward to another fantastic year of music-making at St Mary's!



Music Across the Year Groups

Our Reception pupils shone brightly at the Summer Concert, showcasing their musical talents through vibrant singing and lively performances on percussion instruments. Their enthusiasm and joy were contagious as they engaged the audience with their creativity and energy. It was a delightful celebration of their hard work and love for music!



Our Year 1 children had a fantastic time using scarves to creatively respond to music. This engaging activity allowed them to explore rhythm, movement, and self-expression, all while developing their coordination and listening skills. It's wonderful to see their joy and imagination come to life as they connect with the music in such a colourful and playful way!



Our Year 2 children had the wonderful opportunity to perform at **Infantasia**, an event celebrating the musical and artistic talents of young children. Their enthusiasm and hard work shone through as they confidently took the stage, showcasing their growing skills and love for performance. Events like Infantasia provide a valuable platform for our pupils to develop their creativity, teamwork, and self-confidence, while also bringing joy to our school community. We are incredibly proud of their achievements and look forward to seeing their talents continue to flourish.

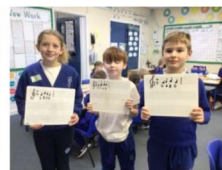
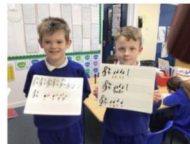


One of our talented Year 2 pupils showcased their violin skills during a recent lesson, displaying great progress and dedication. It's wonderful to see such enthusiasm for music at an early age, as they continue to develop both technique and confidence in their playing!



Our Year 3 pupils showcased their impressive composing skills on the glockenspiel, carefully crafting melodies and exploring different musical patterns. This hands-on practice allowed them to deepen their understanding of music theory while expressing their creativity. It's inspiring to see their confidence grow as they bring their compositions to life!

Year 4



Children learning staff notation . They could draw the treble clef and time signature . They could write G A and B in the correct position on the staff .

1 - Year 4

In Year 4, children are introduced to staff notation, an essential skill for reading and writing music. During these lessons, they learn how to draw key musical symbols such as the **treble clef** and **time signature**, which are foundational elements of music notation.

One of their primary tasks is to draw the **treble clef** accurately at the beginning of the staff, which helps identify the pitch of written notes. They also learn about time signatures, which determine the rhythmic structure of a piece of music. By drawing a basic time signature, such as **4/4**, students begin to understand how many beats are in each measure.

In addition to these symbols, Year 4 students practise writing specific notes—**G**, **A**, and **B** in their correct positions on the staff. These notes are found on the lines and spaces of the treble clef, and understanding where each note is placed helps pupils develop their ability to read and play simple melodies. By learning to identify and write these notes, they are taking

important steps toward becoming fluent in music notation, an essential skill for both instrumental and vocal performance.

This hands-on approach makes learning music both enjoyable and meaningful, laying a strong foundation for future musical studies.



During their composing lesson, our Year 5 pupils explored a variety of percussion instruments, using them to create unique rhythms and sounds. This hands-on experience not only deepened their understanding of musical composition but also encouraged teamwork and creativity. It's exciting to see their musical talents grow as they experiment and collaborate to bring their compositions to life!



What a superb performance by our Key Stage 2 children during the Christmas Nativity Play! Their incredible singing and heartfelt acting truly brought the story to life, captivating the audience with their talent and enthusiasm. It was a wonderful celebration of the season, showcasing the hard work and dedication of our pupils. Bravo to all involved!



Our children have shown remarkable dedication and progress in their cello lessons! Their hard work is truly paying off, as they continue to develop their skills and musicality. It's inspiring to see their passion for music flourish!

Strengthening Our Community Through Music

At St Mary's, we are proud to maintain strong connections with both St Aidan's Catholic Academy and St Anthony's. Our pupils have the exciting opportunity to attend performances at these schools, experiencing the vibrant world of secondary school music. In turn, we welcome their students to St Mary's, providing our children with a glimpse into the enriching music programmes offered at the secondary level.

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Year 6- Carols of Light Concert at Durham Cathedral

Year 6 pupils from St. Mary's had the opportunity to participate in the *Carols of Light* concert held at Durham Cathedral. This unique festive event brought together communities from across the region and celebrated the work of the Foundation of Light in Sunderland, South Tyneside, and County Durham.

Featuring performances by stars such as Kiki Dee, Rick Wakeman CBE, and Marty Wilde, the event raised nearly £100,000 with almost 1,000 guests in attendance. The concert included processional hymns by the Durham Cathedral Choir and special readings by notable figures, including the Right Reverend Paul Butler, Bishop of Durham. The proceeds from the evening will support Sunderland AFC's official charity, the Foundation of Light.





