Whole School Music Appreciation Programme 2026-2027

Autumn B			
Week Beginning	**Artist/Composer**	**Featured Music**	**Musical and Cultural Connection**
9th November	Maurice Ravel	The Fairy Garden	Linking with Art Week by exploring how music, like visual art, can create pictures, moods and imaginative worlds. Through Ravel's colourful orchestral writing, pupils can listen for changes in dynamics, texture and tone colour and consider what images the music creates in their minds.
16th November	Coldplay	A Sky Full of Stars	Connecting with contemporary popular music through a song that combines pop and electronic influences. Pupils can explore its strong pulse, building layers of sound and uplifting musical character.
23rd November	Benjamin Britten	This Little Babe	Marking the 50th anniversary of Benjamin Britten's death, while exploring the work of one of Britain's most important composers through a dramatic choral piece from *A Ceremony of Carols*. Pupils can listen for layered voices, repeated musical ideas and contrasting dynamics
30th November	Beethoven v Pharrell Williams	Fur Elise v Happy	Linking directly to our Collective Worship theme of tolerance. Pupils compare two very different musical styles and consider how people can have different tastes and preferences while still listening respectfully and valuing one another's choices: different tastes, same respect.

7th December	Jeremy Smith (Dumbrocks) — performed by Andrusilla Mosley	Our Light Has Come	Linking music meaningfully to the Christian season of Advent through a contemporary song. Pupils can consider how music can communicate celebration, hope and the idea of light during a significant religious period.
14th December	Jeremy Smith (Dumbrocks) — performed by Chris Read	One Night (In a Backstreet Town)	Continuing the seasonal theme through a contemporary retelling of the Christmas story. Pupils can listen to how lyrics, melody and musical style are used to communicate a familiar story in a modern way.

Our Approach to Music Appreciation

Each week, one featured piece of music will be played as children enter collective worship. Across the year, pupils will experience a broad and varied range of high-quality music from different periods, genres, styles, traditions and cultures. The programme includes Western classical music, popular and contemporary music, traditional music from around the world, and music linked meaningfully to significant cultural and religious events. Through regular listening, we aim to broaden pupils' musical experiences, develop their musical knowledge and cultural capital, and nurture a lifelong curiosity and appreciation for music.