



Dear Parents and Carers

15<sup>th</sup> October 2020

### **YUMU – An Online Scheme for Music Home Learning**

Following the launch of our interactive platform Wonde and Google Classroom to facilitate learning from home, I am delighted to introduce you to YUMU, which is an additional safe online space where children can go to learn, explore and develop their musicianship skills. YUMU is the home learning section within the Charanga scheme used to deliver our music sessions in class and is therefore well-placed to enhance alternative home learning and complement our in-school lessons. Music and singing are so important to our wellbeing and we really want to encourage our children to engage with both music and singing at home as much as possible.

#### **Getting Started**

Every child will receive a separate hard copy letter via their bookbag with their own login and password details to access YUMU online. Using this scheme staff can share a variety of musical activities with children and their families to access at home. Children from Reception to Year 6 can follow the half-termly units, which are the basis for our music lessons in the classroom, as well as other 'assignments' to engage with singing and musical skills. Nursery children will have a selection of nursery rhymes to enjoy.

#### **What's Available?**

When logging onto YUMU you will see icons for the activities set which will include the current half termly 'unit' that each year group is working on. Every unit is split into six 'steps' (lessons), and within each of these there are a variety of progressive activities including Listen and Appraise, Learn to Sing the Song, Music Games, Improvisation, Composition and Performance. Older children will be very familiar with the layout of these activities within the steps as they follow the same pattern for every unit. You will also notice some Covid-adapted activities; these have been added by the Charanga team due to the current restrictions around group singing inside - these adapted activities are the ones we will be using in class as an alternative to singing, but we do encourage children to sing the songs at home if they can as this will complement their in-school music sessions.

In addition to the half-termly units, there will be other activities available, for example, age appropriate songs - as previously mentioned singing is really important for children's wellbeing and, as we are currently unable to sing together inside at school, we do hope that children and their families will take the opportunity to sing some of these at home.

You will also see an 'Assignments' icon. Clicking on this will show further age appropriate activities to enrich the children's musical learning, for example, interactive activities to improve listening skills and instrumental knowledge, and short clips about the interrelated dimensions of music to help build musical vocabulary.

#### **When to use YUMU**

Children can use YUMU at any time to play and practise their musical skills alongside our in-school learning. In addition, teachers can set specific learning from home tasks to be completed within the units or assignments, in particular to enable remote learning for any individual or groups of children self-isolating at home. Staff are also able to see and monitor the individual activity of each child's interaction with the scheme.

We very much hope that our families will enjoy engaging with the musical adventures that YUMU offers.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Sarah Tate