

Music Newsletter



A message from Mr Jones, Performing Arts Lead

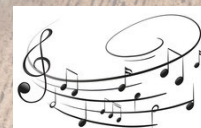
Spring 2 2026

It's amazing to think we're already halfway through the academic year, and once again music has brought the whole Lauriston community together. Every year group contributed something special to the festive season: Nursery delighted us with *The Nutcracker*, Reception shared a heartfelt *Snowman at Sunset*, Year 2 lifted spirits with *Ralph the Reindeer*, and Year 5 shone in their pantomime *A Hint of Snow White*. The wonderful playground singing from Years 1 & 3 and Years 4 & 6 made it truly feel like the entire school was part of the celebrations.

These performances showed just how strong our whole-school commitment to creativity and the arts is—every class, every member of staff and every family played a part. A huge thank you to all staff for their hard work and imagination, and to parents and carers for the support that makes these moments so special.

Looking ahead, Years 3 and 4 are already preparing their production of *Pirates Versus Mermaids* for just before Easter, and we can't wait to see the next chapter of our whole-school musical journey.

Spring Term Curriculum



Reception: Animal Kingdom

Singing, playing, moving and experimenting with sound, with a special focus on animals and birds, giving them a fun and imaginative way to explore musical ideas and develop their confidence as musicians.

Year 1: Football / The Sea

Learning a lively chant about football to inspire their own composing and improvising, and listening actively to music inspired by the sea to deepen their understanding of sound, mood, and musical storytelling.

Year 2: Grandma Rap / Rivers & Trains

Enjoying a fun rap that explores beat and rhythm work, then listening to and composing their own music based on the journeys of a river and the movement of trains, using these ideas to inspire creative soundscapes

Year 3: Enchanted Forest

Using a magical woodland narrative to spark the children's imagination while building strong foundations for expressive recorder playing. They are also learning the songs for their upcoming production.

Year 4: Monsters

Children will develop and extend their recorder skills, musicianship, and ensemble work through a dream-quest story of encountering and battling monsters. They are also learning the songs for their upcoming production.

Year 5: Madina tun nabi/Rhythmic Roots

Singing and developing their own accompaniment to *Madina tun Nabi*, a modern and catchy song from the Islamic tradition. In the second half term, the focus is on rhythm, strengthening their ability to follow musical instructions and to think and act like musicians.

Year 6: Calypso sole levey

Introducing children to a contemporary style of instrumental calypso through Calypso Solèy Levé, a lively performance piece featuring tuned and untuned percussion. It develops a wide range of musical skills, including steady-beat ostinatos, chord patterns, improvisation, and ensemble performance, while immersing pupils in the distinctive sound world of calypso.

Music & Performance



Wednesday 11 February marked our very first **Music Showcase**, and it was a fantastic celebration of talent and confidence. Four children in Year 5 performed at the end of singing assembly, each bringing something unique to the stage.

Tom opened the showcase with a beautifully played version of *Yesterday* by The Beatles, showing a lovely sense of expression and control at the piano. Abby followed with *Naughty* from *Matilda*, performing with real character and musical sensitivity. Rosa then delighted everyone with *In the Hall of the Mountain King*, demonstrating excellent focus, energy and flair. To finish, Orson performed *The Boxer* by Paul Simon, accompanying himself on the guitar with great skill and delivering a heartfelt and confident vocal performance.

Our next showcase will be **18th March 2026**. Children should see Mr Jones if they would like to take part!

Each performer shone in their own way, showing impressive musicality, courage and commitment. Their performances were a joy to listen to, and we are all extremely proud of them.

Sing it Loud! - Notes from the Lauriston Choirs

On Monday 26th January 2026, members of our KS2 Choir took to the stage at the magnificent St George's Cathedral, Southwark, performing alongside the acclaimed professional chamber choir Vox Urbane. This was no ordinary concert—our singers were part of Vox Urbane's inspiring Vox Roots project, an initiative dedicated to discovering and nurturing the choral stars of tomorrow by igniting a lifelong passion for singing.

In the lead-up to the event, the children took part in a series of dynamic workshops led by Helen Meyerhoff, Vox Urbane's Artistic Director. These sessions focused on developing vocal technique, confidence, and musicianship—and our choir rose brilliantly to the challenge.

The project culminated in a breathtaking joint performance titled **Ceremonies and Origins**, delivered to a huge and appreciative audience inside one of London's most beautiful venues. Our young singers performed the brand-new carol *Snow Days* (composed by Vox Urbane's Musical Director, Dan Ludford-Thomas) and two movements from Benjamin Britten's *A Ceremony of Carols: Procession* and *This Little Babe*, joined by choirs from three other London schools.

The children sang with power, professionalism, and joy—they were outstanding ambassadors for Lauriston and should feel incredibly proud of what they achieved. Audience members shared wonderfully positive feedback, and it was a day full of excitement, inspiration, and unforgettable memories.

A huge thank you to everyone who helped make this opportunity possible. We can't wait to see where our young singers' musical journeys take them next!



Pirates Versus Mermaids!

This year's Year 3 and Year 4 performances will be **Pirates Versus Mermaids**, a hilarious, adventure-filled musical where pirates and mermaids clash across the seven seas in a story bursting with laughter and unforgettable songs.

Year 3: Wednesday 25th March, 2.15pm

Year 4: Thursday 26th March, 2.15pm

(both days gates will open at 2.00pm)

All Year 3 and 4 families are invited, we look forward to seeing you there!