

Meridian Music of the Week!

Issue No. 28

Even though Meridian is currently closed for most children – our music newsletter will STILL come out each week! Just as before, there will be a new piece of music to listen to. But this time, there will also be some **ideas for activities** which children might want to try if they're at home – connected to the music in some way.

As always, all the music is available **free** on YouTube as well as paid services such as iTunes and Spotify.

This week's music...



‘Horn Concerto No. 4’ (3rd Movement - Rondo) by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1786)



To watch a video introduction to the whole piece, and listen to it, check out the short BBC videos which you can find [HERE](#).

I know, I know... **WE'VE DONE MOZART BEFORE!**

But that was way back in January – and as I think he was probably the greatest composer of all-time, I'd like us to listen to some more of his fabulous music! It's only 4 ½ minutes long – so why not?

The other reason I've chosen this music is that there's a cool activity on the BBC website you can maybe try that links to it. More details at the end of this newsletter...

I know I've talked to most of you in class about Mozart before, specially the amazing musical tricks he could do – even when he was a small child (see the picture from a film about him above). Remember I also told you he could play the piano **upside down**? Well, here's a couple of short videos to check out:



[An actor playing Mozart in a film upside down](#)



[A real pianist playing a Mozart sonata upside down!](#)

Amazing eh?

Obviously, there was more to Mozart (known as 'Wolfie' to his friends!) than just clever tricks, so if you want to hear more about his life – why not check out one of these two short videos?



[Key Stage 1 Mozart](#)



[Key Stage 2 Mozart](#)

So, this week's Mozart music isn't for the piano – it's a **concerto** for the French Horn. The word 'concerto' just means a piece of music for a particular solo instrument, accompanied by an orchestra. The idea is for the music to show off the soloist's musical skills. This piece is the third of three sections, or

continued/...

‘movements’ of the concerto – and it’s the most famous. The style of the music is called a **rondo** – which just means that it was structured in a particular way. The **tempo** (speed) of the music is **‘Allegro vivace’** – which is Italian for ‘Fast and lively’. Traditionally, in classical music, the tempo is always written in Italian. Don’t ask me why!

Mozart wrote this music for a friend of his named Joseph Leutgeb who was a well-known horn player at the time. Joseph Leutgeb actually met Mozart when little ‘Wolfie’ was only seven years old! But he didn’t write this piece of music for him until 23 years later.

Mozart used to play silly jokes and tease his friend Joseph (that was just like Mozart!) In one piece of music he composed for him, he wrote in the introduction to the music “...for Leutgeb - the donkey, ox and idiot!” – and when he wrote this week’s music, Mozart wrote all the different instrument parts in different, multi-coloured ink to try and confuse him!

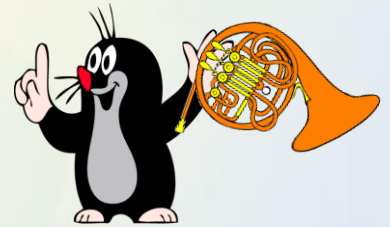
All the teasing was friendly though. In fact, Mozart’s dad once even lent Leutgeb money to buy a house – and ‘Wolfie’ often used to stay there and hang out with his friend.

Anyway, I’ve always loved this piece of music because it always cheers me up! 😊 Listen out for when the orchestra repeats the same tune that the horn has just played – it happens quite a lot.

Listen, enjoy and **stay safe!**

Mr. Mole

Music Teacher



Activity on the next page!

ACTIVITY



Create your own animation!

Watch and listen to the second video on [this web page](#) to find out about the activity (look for 'Strange Hill High animator Ric')...

Inspired by the Mozart Horn Concerto, animator Ric shows us how he made a simple animation to go along with the music! You can do it too just using a phone or an iPad. I know some of you have tried stop-frame animation in school. But if you haven't, it's not that difficult really! I've just started having ago and it's great fun!

There's a great example [HERE](#) where some Year 3 children from another school had a go at this activity – check it out!



There are lots of different apps you can use to make animations. Here's two I can recommend:



'StopMotion Studio' – it's free and should work on both Android phones as well as iPhones / iPads.



'I Can Animate Lite' – this one is also free but only works on iPhones and iPads.

Get filming! If you succeed, why not send your animation into school using the usual email address - office@meridian.e-sussex.sch.uk

We'd love to see them!