



Dear Parent/Guardian

'Rock 2 the Beat'

Is your child the next George Ezra or Anne-Marie? If so, there is a fantastic opportunity to be involved in an exciting, collaborative rock project with Hampshire Music Service and Harestock Primary School called 'Rock 2 the Beat'. The project is for pupils in Years 4, 5 and 6 who are interested in playing in a rock band and having voice, electric guitar, bass guitar or drum lessons.

Rock 2 the Beat will provide the chance to learn an instrument in a fun and engaging environment, exploring a range of exciting popular music styles with friends and peers. The benefits of learning an instrument have been proven, through numerous research projects, to have a definite impact on many other vital classroom skills; improving the quality of group work, listening skills, organisation, fine motor skills and cognition to mention a few. Research has also recognised that there is a very real connection with improved performance in other subject areas.

As part of this exciting project, all instruments will be provided in school and the children will have the opportunity to practise at break times in the school day if they wish (as specified by the school). All children involved will have either an instrumental/vocal lesson or a band workshop each week which will always be on a Friday morning for 30 minutes

The Band and instrument skills sessions will alternate as determined by the tutors.

There are 2 phases to the Rock 2 the Beat Project:

Phase 1

This is for pupils in Year 4, 5 and 6 (from Sept 19) who are interested in being involved. Each child will start to learn an instrument, for which there are specially designed music resources for the project all of which will be accessible outside of the tutored sessions. Accessing and using the materials will be explained in the sessions and an information letter for parents will be sent home in the first week.

Phase 1 will consist of either an instrument skills lesson for 30 minutes or a 30-minute band workshop each week. The band session will be led by both tutors and will be a typical rock set up of drums, bass guitars, electric guitars and voice. The first 4 to 5 sessions of phase 1 will be instrument skills sessions as it is essential the children have a good technical grounding on the instrument of their choice before playing in a band situation.

There was an exciting launch concert featuring the Hampshire Music Service teachers who will be working with pupils on this project which took place on **Friday 12 July** at Harestock Primary School. You will be able to view the concert and tutors in action by clicking on a new link under the class blogs and events section - Rock2 the Beat (the video will shortly be on Harestock Primary School website only).

The Rock 2 the Beat programme will start the week beginning Monday 9 September with the first session on Friday 13 September. In week 10 on **Friday 22 November** there will be a celebration concert for all parents to attend to showcase the talents and skills of all the new Year 4, 5 and 6 instrumentalists. The concert will also be in conjunction with HMS teachers. This will take place in Harestock Primary School's main hall from 5:30pm.

Phase 2

In Phase 2 pupils will continue learning their instrument but the emphasis will shift to more work as a band as their individual skills develop. Learning for the children will continue throughout the spring and summer term in 10-week blocks. The cost to parents will be **£50 per term** which includes:

- weekly small group lesson or band workshop
- free use of an instrument in school
- the option to hire an instrument from HMS to take home.
- all teaching material

Details on how to book for phase 2 will be given out in the autumn term.

If Your Child Is Interested:

Please complete and return the form below to register your child's interest in joining the 'Rock 2 the Beat' project. You will notice that there is a preference regarding which instrument he/she would like to learn. We will try to provide all children with at least their first or second choice, although we will also need to ensure there is a balance of voice, electric guitar, bass guitar and drums in order to create the different bands. Numbers are limited so please book your place quickly **before Monday 22nd July**.

I am sure your child will find the project really exciting and engaging as well as benefiting from the range of skills that music naturally develops.

We look forward to working with your child.

Your sincerely



Shaun Riches

Senior Learning Leader for Schools and Curriculum
Hampshire Music Service



Hampshire
County Council

www.hants.gov.uk

Name: _____

Class: _____

I would like my child to take part in the Rock 2 the Beat project. I understand it is free for Phase 1 (Autumn term) and **I know and am willing to pay £50 per term for Phase 2 (Spring and Summer terms). I know the school will invoice me for this amount in January.**

I have listed his/her instrument preferences below and understand that he/she may not be able to have his/her first preferences

Please write in the number 1, 2, 3 or 4 in to the boxes below to show your child's instrument preference (number 1 will be the first choice of instrument and number 4 will be the final choice of instrument).

Voice

Electric Guitar

Bass Guitar

Drums

Signed: _____ Parent/Guardian