



# St Thomas Becket

Catholic Primary School

Birchanger Road  
London SE25 5BN

Headteacher

Noel Campbell

Tel: (020) 8654 3006

16<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

We would like to offer your child the opportunity of learning to play an instrument with the Croydon Music Service *SoundStart* programme. This is a fantastic opportunity for your child to be able to develop their musicality by learning to play either a guitar or a ukulele. One class will learn guitar and the other will learn Ukelele to ensure instruments are not mixed between classes.

The course, which begins on Monday 21 September, is for one year during school time with 10 sessions each for the Autumn, Spring and Summer terms. Children will learn in a group, taught by a specialist teacher.

Towards the end of the year we will let you know about the opportunities for continuing with instrument tuition in Year 5.

Whilst tuition is free, the school is asking for a voluntary contribution of £50.00 for the hire and maintenance of the instruments. This works out at a very competitive, less than, £2.00 per week. Instalments may be paid over the year or in one block via Parentpay. We rely on parental support for this valuable opportunity to learn an instrument and without it we may not be able to continue with Soundstart in the future.

After the first few lessons your child will bring the instrument home and will need to spend some time practising what has been learnt in lessons. It is suggested three times a week for 20 minutes. Your help in finding the time and space for practice and to encourage your child at home is an important part of the course. We expect full commitment from the children. We find that each year the children make tremendous progress with their instrument and benefit greatly from this opportunity.

**Your child will need to remember to bring the instrument back to school every Monday. There are no spare instruments if your child forgets.**

**Please be aware parents bear the responsibility for the safe keeping of the instrument while it is in your child's care.**

Please note that only school instruments can be used in the programme.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Haywood-White and Miss McDonald  
Year 4 Teachers

Seesaw and Charanga Music are where we post work for the students to practice. We will not be handing out printed music to keep things safer for pupils. Also pupils can interact with us and post recordings of work practiced which helps with assessment and progress. Staff will be invited to join the class and so can parents. I have attached our current digital programme notes.

E-mail: [admin@thomasbecket.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@thomasbecket.croydon.sch.uk)

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