

Appreciation and understanding of music

Term and Week	Composer/ Musician	Focus
Spring 2 – week 1	Plink Plank Plunk – Leroy Anderson	Composed in 1951 – Orchestral piece - strings How did the music make you feel? What instruments can you hear?
Spring 2 – week 2	William Tell Overture – Rossini	What does the rhythm make you think of? What do you notice about the volume? What affect do the cymbals and triangle have on the music? Introduce the term Crescendo
Spring 2 – week 3	Fur Elise - Beethoven	Listen to the structure of the piece of music. What do you notice? Rondo form
Spring 2 – week 4	Spring from The Four Seasons Vivaldi	Programme music – this piece tells a story. Can you hear the Bird singing, the stream, the wind and the storm?
Spring 2 – week 5	Dance of the Cygnets – Tchaikovsky	What might this music be for? Ballet What instruments can you hear? Oboe, flutes, bassoons. What family of instruments do these belong to? What family of instruments take over the melody? Strings.
Spring 2 – week 6	The Syncopated Clock – Leroy Anderson	What instrument is making the tick-tocking of the clock? Woodblock It occasionally hiccups which is syncopation. Can you spot it? What happens when the alarm goes off?
EASTER		
Summer 1 – week 1	Thus Spake Zarathustra – R Strauss	At the very beginning listen out for the first note – what instruments do you think it might be played on? Then we hear a fanfare (introduce something or someone important) have we heard a fanfare before - yes in the William Tell overture- what instrument then takes over? - this passage played three times - what instrument is left playing after all the others have finished.
Summer 1 – week 2	Fantasia on Greensleeves – Vaughan Williams	VW collected folk music - Greensleeves was originally composed in Tudor times, possibly by King H VIII How does it make you feel. This music has two different themes ,we hear theme A, then B, then A again

		– like a musical sandwich (this is correctly called binary form)
Summer 1 – week 3	The Blue Danube – Johann Strauss	How does this music make you feel? This music was written for a ball, people would dance a waltz to it. It is named after the Danube, a river that flows through Europe hence its flowing style. The flow is interrupted by two notes playing a ‘cuckoo’ pattern – can you hear them? What instrument plays the tune/cuckoo sound?
Summer 1 – week 4	Zadok the Priest-Handel	What adjective would you give to this piece of music? It was written in 1727 for the coronation service of King George II- it is performed by a chamber choir and orchestra – chamber means small as these groups originally performed in rooms (as in French – chambre) What words and phrases can you hear that relate to the coronation?
Summer 1 – week 5	Thunder and Blazes – Julius Fucik	This piece is played by a band. What instruments can you hear – why is this group different to an orchestra? Listen to the rhythms of the snare drum What does the music remind you of?
MAY HALF TERM		
Summer 2 – week 1	The Surprise from Symphony 94 – Handel	The story behind the name the ‘surprise’ symphony came because Handel often had to compose music for people to listen to after dinner – and sometimes they fell asleep after their huge meal – so he put in a surprise to wake them up! What is the surprise? The tune may remind you of a famous nursery rhyme – listen to how Handel changes the tune each time it is repeated.
Summer 2 – week 2	Land of Hope and Glory – Elgar	The trumpets, drums and cymbals start this music – what is this type of introduction called? What group of instruments is playing this? Listen to the tune accompanied by the very rhythmic bass line. How does it make you feel? What does it remind you of.
Summer 2 – week 3	Short Ride in a Fast Machine – John Adams	Listen to this piece of music – when do you think it was written? Can you hear the beat throughout? What instrument is it played on? Listen for the trumpet fanfares and the high-

		pitched sounds come from what instruments?
Summer 2 – week 4	Horn Concerto No 4 – Mozart	Listen out for the tune on the French Horn. What is the name for the group of instruments that accompany it? This piece of music is in Rondo form – tune A, then tune B, then tune C, then it comes round (rondo) to tune A again
Summer 2 – week 5	Tocatta and Fugue in D minor – Bach	
Summer 2 – week 6	O Fortuna – Carl Orff	