# FINDING OUR PLACE

The Art of the invisible

#### Music at North

At North, our aim is to find our own voice, and discover where we fit onto the branches of this tree.



Tools of the trade:

At North we get to discover what our voices sound like through a variety of different instruments. We also know that instruments don't make music – the music comes from inside of us.









After all a trumpet is nothing more than a metal pipe that's been beaten into submission using fire and hammers.



There is no music in this picture. What is missing?



#### We are the music









## We are the music











Failure is always an option.

In music as in life, we will make mistakes, but remember, it is in those mistakes that we find the voice we are seeking and the knowledge of what it means to "be for real".

This is why we practice.



"Go into the arts. I'm not kidding. The arts are not a way to make a living. They are a very human way of making life more bearable. Practising an art, no matter how well or badly, is a way to make your soul grow. Sing in the shower. Dance to the radio. Tell stories. Write a poem to a friend, even a lousy poem. Do it as well as you possible can. You will get an enormous reward."

### "You will have created something"

Kurt Vonnegut

HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?V=IOWN5FQNZGK

Children we cannot have an assembly about music without music.

I am going to play you a piece of music that you have heard many times before. It is called *Lark Ascending* by the composer Ralph Vaughn- Williams. The violinist is Hilary Hahn.

I like all kinds of music – pop, classical, blues, jazz, opera, - but I do not like every piece of music. When I was your age I did not like everything. Nor will you. I just want you to listen to the music with an open ear and an open mind. Listen to the music with your ears and watch Hilary with your eyes. Look at her concentration. She started playing an instrument just like you. Years of practice means she can play her violin like this. At North we give you the opportunity to discover whether you have a love of playing music. You may not become as brilliant as Hilary but playing an instrument can give you a lifetime of pleasure.

Music gives us memories. You hear a piece of music and that will take you back somewhere. When you are 55 years old and you hear Accentuate The Positive, that song will take you back to North and the Friday certificate assembly. Whether you want to or not.

That is the power of music.

I have always loved Lark Ascending but it now means so much more. A few years ago Dave, a very dear friend of mine, died. This music played at his funeral. So now, whenever I hear this music I am reminded of all the special memories I have of Dave.

That is the beauty of music.

I hope you enjoy listening to the music and watching Hilary's performance.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IOWN5fQnzGk

#### THANK YOU FOR LISTENING TO MY ASSEMBLY

Work Hard.

Play nicely.

Be kind one to another.

Have a good week.

