

# King Athelstan Primary School

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Headteacher: Emily Newton

8th September 2023

Dear Year 4 Families,

As part of your child's music curriculum this year, they will be learning to play the ukulele. At King Athelstan, we provide these lessons for the whole school year so that the children have a sustained period learning an instrument.

Each Y4 class will have a lesson every other week. Mr Thomas will notify all on Google Classroom when the dates have been sorted. Instruments will be provided on free loan- see below.

Children will be encouraged to take their instrument and its tuner home so that they can practise. We would ask that you help to support your child by encouraging them to do a short amount of practice each week and by ensuring they bring their instrument into school for their music lesson every alternate Friday.

In order for the children to take their allocated instrument home we request that you complete an agreement on this Google form: <https://forms.gle/qBCqBWBoBqyLBhwe8>. This asks you to take responsibility for the care of the instrument until the end of the school year. Each pupil will be allocated a specific numbered ukulele for the year. **If an instrument is damaged or not returned at the end of the year you will be asked to replace it or be charged the cost of a replacement (£24).** Children will not be permitted to take their instrument home until the Google form has been completed.

We know that some children already have their own ukulele, or families may wish to buy them one. Ukuleles are widely available from Amazon or other suppliers for about £20. Please let us know on the Google form if you do not wish to have a school ukulele on loan. The school accepts no responsibility for instruments brought from home.

Learning an instrument is an enjoyable, fun and very beneficial experience. Through the programme pupils will develop a variety of both musical and social skills and recent research has shown that these skills help children across the wider curriculum.

At the end of the year we will be encouraging pupils to continue their instrumental lessons and I will be writing to you again to make you aware of some of the options that are available.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S. J. Thomas". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line underneath the name.

Sam Thomas

Music Teacher

