



Knowledge Organiser for Foundation Subjects in St Margaret Mary's Catholic Junior School

Subject: Music		Topic: Blues	
Year Group: Year 6		Term: Autumn	
Vocabulary bank		Key facts	
Vocabulary	Definition	Layout of a Keyboard/Piano	
Tempo	How slow or fast a piece of music is.	<p>A piano or keyboard is laid out with WHITE KEYS and Black Keys (see section G). C is to the left of the two Black Keys and the notes continue to G then they go back to A again. Notes with the same letter name/pitch are said to be an OCTAVE apart. MIDDLE C is normally in the centre of a piano keyboard.</p>	
Melody	A pattern of long and/or short sounds or notes.		
Rhythm	A pattern of long and/or short sounds or notes.		
	Dynamics How loud or quiet a piece of music or instrument is.	<p>Perform the 12 Bar Blues with your partner choosing the difficulty of the piece. Show your knowledge of Blues music by including a walking bass line and improvisation based on the Blues scale</p>	
Walking Bass	<i>The bass part in the blues it walks up and down the chord creating a walking bass line.</i>		

Keyboard:

An electric instrument played like the piano. It has a range of pre-recorded sounds.

12 bar Blues

A traditional style of music using 3 chords over a 12 bar cycle.

Syncopation

When music is played on the off beat of the bar rather than the main beat.

Improvisation

When music is made up on the spot by the performer often on a given chord or scale.

Chord

More than two notes played at the same time.

Instruments

Strings	A Double Bass or Bass Guitar is used to play the Bass Line. Guitar plays chords and melodies
Woodwind	Saxophones are sometimes used for melody.
Brass	The Trumpet is often used for melody.
Percussion	The Drum kit is used to strengthen the rhythm of a blues song.
Voices	Soprano/Alto/Tenor/Bass—any kind of voice can sing the blues
Keyboards	The Piano is often used to play the chords bass line and/or melody.

The Blues Scale

The Blues scale in C
The melody of a Blues piece uses a special scale - The Blues scale is built using the flattened 3rd, 5th and 7th notes.



The 12-Bar Blues in C Major

C / / / C+E+G	C / / / C+E+G	C / / / C+E+G	C / / / C+E+G
F / / / F+A+C	F / / / F+A+C	C / / / C+E+G	C / / / C+E+G
G / / / G+B+D	F / / / F+A+C	C / / / C+E+G	C / / / C+E+G

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Loving, learning, growing together with Jesus